Appendix B Biological Resources Technical Report

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Biological Resources Technical Report

Christ's Church of the Valley - Etiwanda Campus

City of Rancho Cucamonga, San Bernardino County, California

FINAL REPORT

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CADRE Environmental

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INTRODUCTION

The following biological resources technical report describes a detailed assessment of potential sensitive natural resources located within and/or immediately adjacent to the Etiwanda Campus – Christ's Church of the Valley project site (Project Site). The report has been prepared to support compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documentation including the preparation of an Initial Study (IS), Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) or Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and environmental review process conducted by the City of Rancho Cucamonga, California. As discussed below, the assessment included a thorough literature review, site reconnaissance characterizing existing conditions (including floral, faunal and dominant vegetation communities), impact analysis, and development of proposed mitigation measures to reduce impacts to a level of less than significant, as warranted.

PROJECT LOCATION

The 9.82-acre Project Site (0.04-acre offsite area) is located within the eastern region of the City of Rancho Cucamonga, San Bernardino County, California, as shown in Figure 1, *Regional Location Map*. Specifically, the Project Site extends east of Victoria Park Lane and west of 7576 Etiwanda Avenue as shown in Figure 2, *Project Site Map*. The 0.04-acre offsite area (City of Rancho Cucamonga right-of-way) extends west from the northwest corner of the Project Site to Victoria Park Lane.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed project will include the construction of a new auditorium building, children's building, and parking improvements on the existing Etiwanda campus of Christ's Church of the Valley focused in the western and central portions of the campus. A new driveway will also be constructed, extending west to Victoria Parkway from the northwest corner of the Project Site. The auditorium building—which will serve as the main sanctuary for Sunday services and other events will encompass 36,000 square feet, be two stories in height, and have a seating capacity of 1,200 (600 more seats than the existing auditorium housed within the existing banquet building onsite). In addition to the auditorium, other uses in the building will include a nursery; pastoral and counseling offices; security and video control rooms; restrooms; a loading dock; and janitorial, storage, and electrical rooms. The single-story children's building will encompass 11,000 square feet and it will be located between the existing banquet and temple buildings.

The parking improvements will include modifications to the existing parking lot on the western half of the campus as well as development of a new, 200-space parking lot. Other proposed campus improvements and features are an entry plaza for the auditorium building, a fellowship plaza with seating and landscaping, pedestrian walkways, and various hardscape and landscape improvements. Site demolition will involve the removal of a covered 'lunch shelter', a small single-story office building, existing parking lot asphalt, and various hardscape improvements.

The proposed project will be developed in three (3) phases. Phase one will include construction of the children's building and related improvements. Phase two will include

construction of the new parking lots/areas and related improvements to provide parking when the existing parking areas are demolished and cleared for construction of the auditorium building. Phase three will entail construction of the new auditorium building and related improvements.

APN 109-040-101

Figure 1 - Regional Location Map

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Christ's Church of the Valley - Etiwanda Campus

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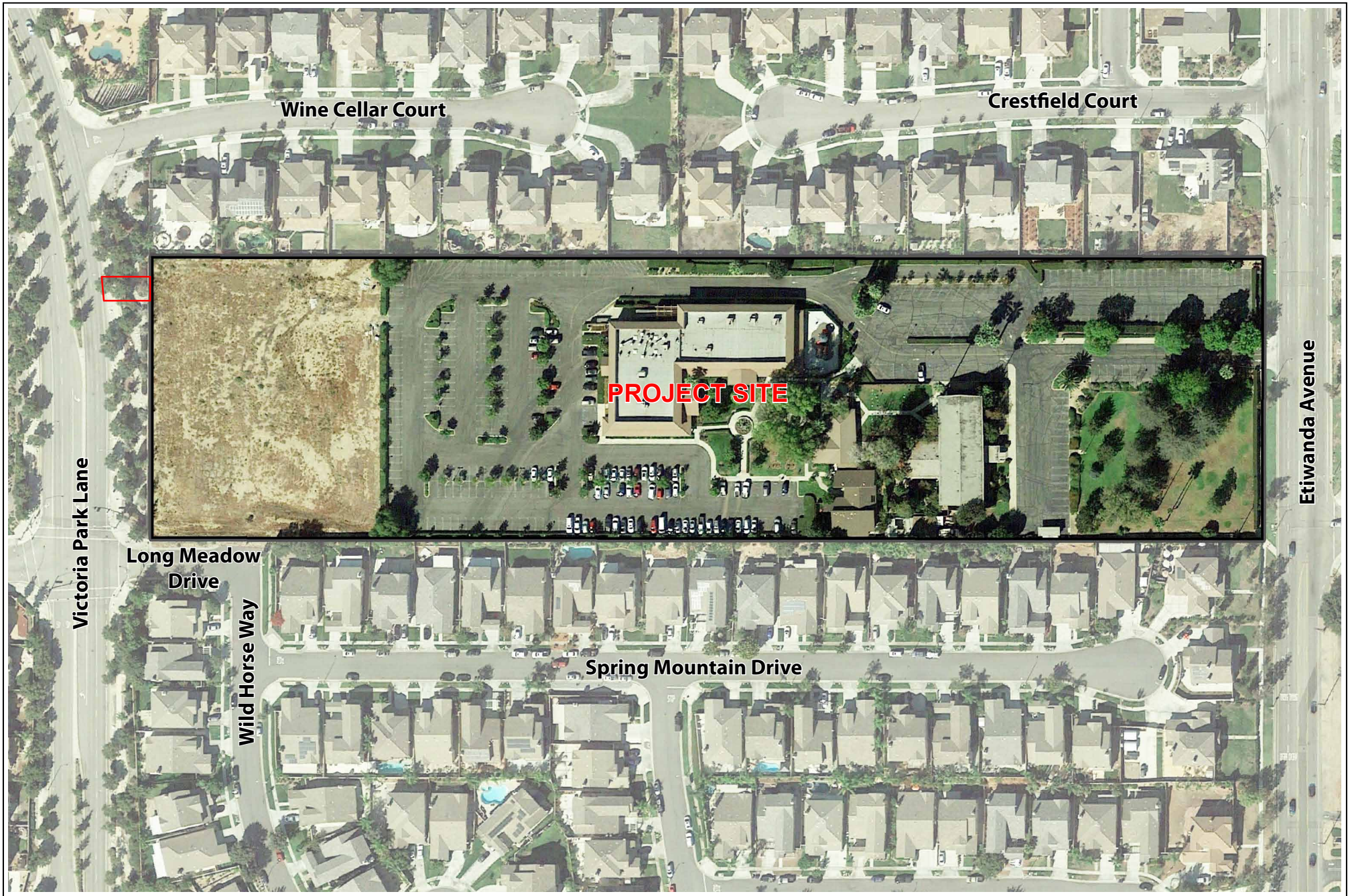
N not to scale



APN 109-040-101 Offsite Impact Area (City of Rancho Cucamonga Property)

Figure 2 - Project Site Map

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1 inch = 150 ft.

METHODOLOGY

The following section details the methods implemented prior and during the reconnaissance survey conducted throughout the Project Site.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Existing biological resource conditions within and adjacent to the Project Site were initially investigated through review of pertinent scientific literature. Federal register listings, protocols, and species data provided by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) were also reviewed in conjunction with anticipated federally listed species potentially occurring within the region of the Project Site. The California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) (CDFW 2018a), a California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Natural Heritage Division species account database, was also reviewed for all pertinent information regarding the locations of known occurrences of sensitive species in the vicinity of the property. In addition, numerous regional floral and faunal field guides were utilized in the identification of species and suitable habitats. Combined, the reviewed sources provided an excellent baseline from which to inventory the biological resources potentially occurring in the area. Other sources of information included the review of unpublished biological resource letter reports and assessments. Other CDFW reports and publications consulted include the following:

- Special Animals (CDFW 2017a);
- State and Federally Listed Endangered and Threatened Animals of California (CDFW 2017b);
- Special Vascular Plants and Bryophytes List (CDFW 2018b); and
- Endangered, Threatened, and Rare Plants of California (CDFW 2018c).
- Christ's Church of the Valley Children Center Project – Specimen Tree Preservation, Conservation and Analysis (Jim Borer 2018)

FIELD SURVEY

A reconnaissance survey of the Project Site was conducted by Ruben Ramirez of Cadre Environmental (USFWS Permit 780566-14, CDFW Permit 02243) on March 7th, 2018 in order to characterize and identify potential sensitive plant and wildlife habitats, and to establish the accuracy of the data identified in the literature search. Geologic and soil maps were examined to identify local soil types that may support sensitive taxa. Aerial photograph, topographic maps, vegetation and rare plant maps prepared for previous studies in the region were used to determine community types and other physical features that may support sensitive plants/wildlife, uncommon taxa, or rare communities that occur within or adjacent to the Project Site. Habitat assessments were conducted for, but not limited to, the following target species/groups.

- Coastal California gnatcatcher – FT/SSC
- Least Bell's vireo – FE/SE
- Burrowing owl - SSC
- Southwestern willow flycatcher – FE/SE
- San Bernardino kangaroo rat – FE/SSC

- Sensitive plants
- Protected trees (City of Rancho Cucamonga Municipal Code, Chapter 17, Tree Preservation – Chapter 17.80)

Vegetation Communities/Habitat Classification Mapping

Natural community names and hierarchical structure follows the "*Manual of California Vegetation*" (Sayer and Keeler-Wolf 2009) classification system, which has been refined and augmented where appropriate to better characterize the habitat types observed onsite.

Floristic Plant Inventory

A general plant survey was conducted throughout the Project Site during the reconnaissance in a collective effort to identify all species occurring onsite.

All plants observed during the survey efforts were either identified in the field or collected and later identified using taxonomic keys. Plant taxonomy follows Hickman (1993). Scientific nomenclature and common names used in this report generally follow Roberts et al. (2004) or Baldwin et al. (2012) for updated taxonomy. Scientific names are included only at the first mention of a species; thereafter, common names alone are used.

Wildlife Resources Inventory

All animals identified during the reconnaissance survey by sight, call, tracks, scat, or other characteristic sign were documented. In addition to species actually detected, expected use of the site by other wildlife was derived from the analysis of habitats on the site, combined with known habitat preferences of regionally occurring wildlife species.

Vertebrate taxonomy followed in this report is according to the Center for North American Herpetology (2018 for amphibians and reptiles), the American Ornithologists' Union (1988 and supplemental) for birds, and Baker et al. (2003) for mammals. Both common and scientific names are used during the first mention of a species; common names only are used in the remainder of the text.

Jurisdictional Resources Assessment

The Project Site was assessed for jurisdiction by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), CDFW, and Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). Non-wetland waters of the United States were assessed based on the limits of the Ordinary High-Water Mark (OHWM) as determined by erosion, the deposition of vegetation or debris, and changes in vegetation and soil characteristics. The assessment utilized the methodology for routine wetland determination according to the methods outlined in the USACE Wetland Delineation Manual (Environmental Laboratory 1987) and the Arid West Wetland Delineation Supplement and updated regulatory guidance letters (USACE 2008). Wetlands are identified by the presence of three characteristics: hydrophytic vegetation, wetland hydrology, and hydric soils. If any of

these criteria were met, one or more transects were run to determine the extent of the wetland. Specifically, the presence of wetland hydrology was evaluated throughout the Project Site by recording the extent of observed surface flows, depth of inundation, depth to saturated soils, and depth to free water in the soil pits, where applicable. In addition, indicators of wetland or riverine hydrology were recorded, including water marks, drift lines, rack, debris, and sediment deposits, as warranted. Any indicators of hydric soils, such as redoximorphic features, buried organic matter, organic streaking, reduced soil conditions, gleyed or low-chroma soils, or sulfidic odor were also recorded.

EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The following section presents the existing conditions of the Project Site assessment area. The Project Site is generally flat with elevations ranging from 1,278 ft. above mean sea level (AMSL) and 1,265 ft. AMSL and substrates are characterized as Tujunga loamy sand and Tujunga gravelly loam (USDA 2018). The property is bordered by high traffic roads and high density residential development.

VEGETATION COMMUNITIES

The 9.82-acre Project Site (0.04 offsite area) is dominated by disturbed and developed/ornamental vegetation communities as described in this report, and illustrated in Figure 3, *Vegetation Communities Map*, and Figures 4 and 5, *Current Project Site Photographs*. Natural community names and hierarchical structure follows the "*Manual of California Vegetation*" (Sayer and Keeler-Wolf 2009) classification system, which has been refined and augmented where appropriate to better characterize the habitat types observed.

Developed/Ornamental

The majority of the Project Site is developed 7.81 acres (80%), Etiwanda campus of Christ's Church of the Valley, and dominated by ornamental shrubs, trees and turf. No native vegetation is located within the Project Site. Ornamental vegetation includes but is not limited to palms, Peruvian pepper (*Schinus molle*), and magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*) trees.

The 0.04 offsite area is characterized as developed (sidewalk) and ornamental vegetation.

Disturbed

Disturbed areas are concentrated in the western region of the Project Site, are generally devoid of vegetation and represent 2.01-acres (20%). Scattered ruderal non-native plant species documented within this region include filaree (*Erodium* sp.), black mustard (*Brassica nigra*), horehound (*Marrubium vulgare*), London rockets (*Sisymbrium irio*), Russian thistle (*Kali tragus*), horseweed (*Conyza canadensis*), Mediterranean schismus (*Schismus barbatus*), and fountain grass (*Pennisetum setaceum*). Native species documented onsite and commonly associated with disturbed habitats include telegraph weed (*Heterotheca grandiflora*), and doveweed (*Croton setigerus*).

APN 109-040-101 ◉ Existing Flood Control Screened Drainage Culvert ▭ Offsite Impact Area (City of Rancho Cucamonga Property)

Figure 3 - Vegetation Communities Map

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1 inch = 150 ft.

PHOTOGRAPH 1 - Northeast view of the Project Site from the southwest corner adjacent to Long Meadow Drive. The western region of the property is heavily disturbed.

PHOTOGRAPH 2 - Southeast view of the Project Site from the northwest corner adjacent to Victoria Park Lane. No native vegetation communities occur onsite.

Figure 4 - Current Project Site Photographs

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PHOTOGRAPH 3 - Eastward view from disturbed habitat. The majority of the Project Site is developed with scattered ornamental landscaped trees, shrubs and turf.

PHOTOGRAPH 4 - An existing screened flood control culvert is located in the southwest corner of the Project Site near Long Meadow Drive.

Figure 5 - Current Project Site Photographs

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Table 1 – Project Site Vegetation Community Acreages

Vegetation Community	Onsite Acres	Offsite Acres
Developed/Ornamental	7.81	0.04
Disturbed	2.01	0.00
TOTAL	**9.82**	**0.04**

Source: Cadre Environmental 2018.

GENERAL PLANT & WILDIFE SPECIES

General plant species documented within the Project Site area are presented in the previous section.

General wildlife species documented onsite or within the vicinity during the site assessment include but are not limited to mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*), Anna's hummingbird (*Calypte anna*), black phoebe (*Sayornis nigricans*), Say's phoebe (*Sayornis saya*), American crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*), northern mockingbird (*Mimus polyclottos*), white-crowned sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*), killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*), house finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*), and California ground squirrel (*Otospermophilus beecheyi*).

JURISDICTIONAL WETLAND RESOURCES

No wetlands or jurisdictional resources regulated by the USACE, CDFW, or RWQCB were documented within or immediately adjacent to the Project Site.

An existing flood control screened drainage culvert is located in the southwest region of the Project Site within the disturbed habitat as illustrated in Figure 3, *Vegetation Communities Map*. The culvert currently receives surface runoff from the existing Etiwanda campus of Christ's Church of the Valley development.

Impacts to water quality would be less than significant during both construction and operation (i.e., compliance with NPDES permit and MS4 code provisions would ensure no impacts to species, and compliance with County of San Bernardino Phase 1 Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit requirements and LID manual would also ensure no impacts to species).

SENSITIVE BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

The following discussion describes the plant and wildlife species present, or potentially present within the property boundaries, that have been afforded special recognition by federal, state, or local resource conservation agencies and organizations, principally due to the species' declining or limited population sizes, usually resulting from habitat loss. Also discussed are habitats that are unique, of relatively limited distribution, or of particular value to wildlife. Protected sensitive species are classified by state and/or federal resource management agencies, or both, as threatened or endangered, under provisions of the state and federal endangered species act. Vulnerable or "at-risk" species that are proposed for listing as threatened or endangered (and thereby for protected status) are categorized administratively as "candidates" by the USFWS. CDFW uses various terminology and classifications to describe vulnerable species. There are additional sensitive species classifications applicable in California. These are described below.

Sensitive biological resources are habitats or individual species that have special recognition by federal, state, or local conservation agencies and organizations as endangered, threatened, or rare. The CDFW, USFWS, and special groups like the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) maintain watch lists of such resources. For the purpose of this assessment sources used to determine the sensitive status of biological resources are:

Plants: USFWS (2018), CNDDB (CDFW 2018a), CDFW (2018b), CNPS (2018), and Skinner and Pavlik (1994),

Wildlife: California Wildlife Habitat Relationships (2008), USFWS (2018), CNDDB (CDFW 2018a), and CDFW (2017a, 2017b).

Habitats: CNDDB (CDFW 2018a).

FEDERAL PROTECTION AND CLASSIFICATIONS

The Federal Endangered Species Act of 1973 (FESA) defines an endangered species as "any species that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range..." Threatened species are defined as "any species which is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range." Under provisions of Section 9(a)(1)(B) of the FESA it is unlawful to "take" any listed species. "Take" is defined as follows in Section 3(18) of the FESA: "...harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct." Further, the USFWS, through regulation, has interpreted the terms "harm" and "harass" to include certain types of habitat modification as forms of a "take." These interpretations, however, are generally considered and applied on a case-by-case basis and often vary from species to species. In a case where a property owner seeks permission from a federal agency for an action that could affect a federally listed plant and animal species, the property owner and agency are required to consult with USFWS. Section 9(a)(2)(b) of the FESA addresses the protections afforded to listed plants. Recently, the USFWS instituted changes in the listing status of former candidate species. Former C1 (candidate) species are now referred to simply as

candidate species and represent the only candidates for listing. Former C2 species (for which the USFWS had insufficient evidence to warrant listing at this time) and C3 species (either extinct, no longer a valid taxon or more abundant than was formerly believed) are no longer considered as candidate species. Therefore, these species are no longer maintained in list form by the USFWS, nor are they formally protected. However, some USFWS field offices have issued memoranda stating that former C2 species are henceforth to be considered Federal Species of Concern. This term is employed in this document but carries no official protections. All references to federally protected species in this report (whether listed, proposed for listing or candidate) include the most current published status or candidate category to which each species has been assigned by USFWS.

For purposes of this assessment, the following acronyms are used for federal status species:

FE	Federal Endangered
FT	Federal Threatened
FPE	Federal Proposed Endangered
FPT	Federal Proposed Threatened
FC	Federal Candidate for Listing

The designation of critical habitat can also have a significant impact on the development of land designated as "*critical habitat*." The FESA prohibits federal agencies from taking any action that will "*adversely modify or destroy*" critical habitat (16 U.S.C. § 1536(a)(2)). This provision of the FESA applies to the issuance of permits by federal agencies. Before approving an action affecting critical habitat, the federal agency is required to consult with the USFWS who then issues a biological opinion evaluating whether the action will "*adversely modify"* critical habitat. Thus, the designation of critical habitat effectively gives the USFWS extensive regulatory control over the development of land designated as critical habitat.

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 (MBTA) makes it unlawful to "*take*" any migratory bird or part, nest, or egg of such bird listed in wildlife protection treaties between the United States and Great Britain, the Republic of Mexico, Japan, and the Union of Soviet States. For purposes of the MBTA, "*take*" is defined as to pursue, hunt, capture, kill, or possess or attempt to do the same.

The Bald Eagle and Golden Eagle Protection Act explicitly protects the bald eagle and golden eagle and imposes its own prohibition on any taking of these species. As defined in this act, take means to pursue, shoot, shoot at, poison, wound, kill, capture, trap, collect, or molest or disturb. Current USFWS policy is not to refer the incidental take of bald eagles for prosecution under the Bald Eagle and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668-668d).

STATE PROTECTION AND CLASSIFICATIONS

California's Endangered Species Act (CESA) defines an endangered species as "...a native species or subspecies of a bird, mammal, fish, amphibian, reptile, or plant which

is in serious danger of becoming extinct throughout all, or a significant portion, of its range due to one or more causes, including loss of habitat, change in habitat, overexploitation, predation, competition, or disease." The State defines a threatened species as "...a native species or subspecies of a bird, mammal, fish, amphibian, reptile, or plant that, although not presently threatened with extinction, is likely to become an endangered species in the foreseeable future in the absence of the special protection and management efforts required by this chapter. Any animal determined by the commission as rare on or before January 1, 1985 is a threatened species." Candidate species are defined as "...a native species or subspecies of a bird, mammal, fish, amphibian, reptile, or plant that the commission has formally noticed as being under review by the department for addition to either the list of endangered species or the list of threatened species, or a species for which the commission has published a notice of proposed regulation to add the species to either list." Candidate species may be afforded temporary protection as though they were already listed as threatened or endangered at the discretion of the Fish and Game Commission. Unlike FESA, CESA does not include listing provisions for invertebrate species.

Article 3, Sections 2080 through 2085, of CESA addresses the taking of threatened or endangered species by stating "No person shall import into this state, export out of this state, or take, possess, purchase, or sell within this state, any species, or any part or product thereof, that the commission determines to be an endangered species or a threatened species, or attempt any of those acts, except as otherwise provided..." Under CESA, "take" is defined as "...hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill." Exceptions authorized by the state to allow "take" require "...permits or memorandums of understanding..." and can be authorized for "...endangered species, threatened species, or candidate species for scientific, educational, or management purposes." Sections 1901 and 1913 of the California Fish and Game Code provide that notification is required prior to disturbance.

Additionally, some sensitive mammals and birds are protected by the State as Fully Protected Mammals or Fully Protected Birds, as described in the California Fish and Game Code, Sections 4700 and 3511, respectively. SSC ("special" animals and plants) listings include special status species, including all state and federal protected and candidate taxa, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and US Forest Service (USFS) sensitive species, species considered to be declining or rare by the CNPS or National Audubon Society, and a selection of species which are considered to be under population stress but are not formally proposed for listing. This list is primarily a working document for the CDFW's CNDDB project. Informally listed taxa are not protected per se, but warrant consideration in the preparation of biotic assessments. For some species, the CNDDB is only concerned with specific portions of the life history, such as roosts, rookeries, or nest sites.

For the purposes of this assessment, the following acronyms are used for State status species:

SE	State Endangered
ST	State Threatened
SCE	State Candidate Endangered

SCT	State Candidate Threatened
SFP	State Fully Protected
SP	State Protected
SR	State Rare
SSC	California Species of Special Concern
CWL	California Watch List

The CNPS is a private plant conservation organization dedicated to the monitoring and protection of sensitive species in the State. This organization has compiled an inventory comprised of the information focusing on geographic distribution and qualitative characterization of rare, threatened, or endangered vascular plant species of California (Tibor 2001). The list serves as the candidate list for listing as threatened and endangered by CDFW. The CNPS has developed five categories of rarity (CRPR):

CRPR 1A	Presumed extinct in California.
CRPR 1B	Rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere.
CRPR 2	Rare, threatened, or endangered in California, but more common elsewhere.
CRPR 3	Plants about which we need more information – a review list.
CRPR 4	Species of limited distribution in California (i.e., naturally rare in the wild), but whose existence does not appear to be susceptible to threat.

As stated by the CNPS:

> "*Threat Rank is an extension added onto the California Rare Plant Rank and designates the level of endangerment by a 1 to 3 ranking with 1 being the most endangered and 3 being the least endangered. A Threat Rank is present for all California Rare Plant Rank 1B's, 2's, 4's, and the majority of California Rare Plant Rank 3's. California Rare Plant Rank 4 plants are seldom assigned a Threat Rank of 0.1, as they generally have large enough populations to not have significant threats to their continued existence in California; however, certain conditions exist to make the plant a species of concern and hence be assigned a California Rare Plant Rank. In addition, all California Rare Plant Rank 1A (presumed extinct in California), and some California Rare Plant Rank 3 (need more information) plants, which lack threat information, do not have a Threat Rank extension."* (CNPS 2018)

0.1	Seriously threatened in California (over 80% of occurrences threatened / high degree and immediacy of threat)
0.2	Fairly threatened in California (20-80% occurrences threatened / moderate degree and immediacy of threat)
0.3	Not very threatened in California (<20% of occurrences threatened / low degree and immediacy of threat or no current threats known)

COUNTY PROTECTION AND CLASSIFICATION

As stated by the City of Rancho Cucamonga:

> "*The County of San Bernardino Code of Ordinances (Title 8, Division 8, Chapter 88.01: Plant Protection and Management) provides regulations and guidelines for managing plant resources in the unincorporated areas of the County on property or combinations of property under private or public ownership. A Tree or Plant Removal Permit is required for the removal of regulated trees and plants. Regulated trees and plants are identified in Section 88.01.070(b) (Regulated Trees) and Section 88.01.080(b) (Regulated Riparian Plants). Trees protected by Section 88.01.070(b) include (1) any living, native tree with a 6-inch or greater stem diameter or 19 inches in circumference measured 4.5 feet above natural grade level and (2) 3 or more palm trees in linear plantings which are 50 feet or greater in length within established windrows4 or parkway plantings. Riparian plants are regulated in riparian areas located on private land within unincorporated areas of the County and on public land owned by the County, unless exempt. Section 88.01.080(b) applies to the removal of vegetation within 200 feet of the bank of a stream5 or in an area indicated as a protected riparian area on an overlay map or Specific Plan*." (City of Rancho Cucamonga 2010)

LOCAL PROTECTION AND CLASSIFICATIONS

As stated by the City of Rancho Cucamonga:

> "*The City's Tree Preservation Ordinance in the Municipal Code (Title 19, Environmental Protection - Chapter 19.08) states that eucalyptus, palm, oak, sycamore, pine, and other trees growing within the City are a natural aesthetic resource and are worthy of protection. A permit is required for the removal, relocation, or destruction of a Heritage Tree*." (City of Rancho Cucamonga 2010)

A specimen tree preservation and conservation analysis was conducted within a portion of the Project Site by Jim Border, certified arborist #496 (Jim Borer 2018). The assessment was conducted within the vicinity of the Etiwanda Campus of Christ's Church of the Valley's children center project area. A total of twenty (20) heritage trees, as defined by the City of Rancho Cucamonga's tree ordinance were documented within the assessment area. As stated by Mr. Jim Borer:

> "*There are 20 'heritage Trees' within the immediate vicinity of the proposed Children's Center. The 'heritage Trees'. Referred to within the attached Excel spreadsheet, include the following: 9-Evergreen ash, Fraxinus uhdei, 6-American sweetgum, Liquidambar styracaflua, 1-Deodar cedar, Cedrus deodara, 1-California fan palm, Washingtonia filifera, 1-Southern magnolia, Magnolia grandiflora, 1-Hollywood twisted juniper, Juniperous tolulosa, 1-Douglas fir, Tsudotsuga meziess*." (Jim Borer 2018)

SENSITIVE HABITATS

As stated by CDFW:

> "*One purpose of the vegetation classification is to assist in determining the level of rarity and imperilment of vegetation types. Ranking of alliances according to their degree of imperilment (as measured by rarity, trends, and threats) follows NatureServe's Heritage Methodology, in which all alliances are listed with a G (global) and S (state) rank. For alliances with State ranks of S1-S3, all associations within them are also considered to be highly imperiled*" (CDFW 2017c)

No sensitive or undisturbed native habitats were documented within the Project Site. The Project Site is characterized as disturbed and developed/ornamental.

SENSITIVE PLANTS

The Project Site was assessed to determine the potential for thirty-six (36) sensitive plant species known to occur within the region, to occur onsite, as presented in Table 2, *Sensitive Plant Species Assessment*. No suitable habitat for sensitive plant species including those listed as federal or state threatened/endangered was documented within the Project Site. No sensitive plant species listed in Table 2 or undisturbed native habitats were documented within the Project Site. The Project Site is characterized as disturbed and developed/ornamental.

Table 2. Sensitive Plant Species Assessment

Species Name (*Scientific Name*) Status	**Habitat Description**	**Comments**
Singlewhorl burrobrush (*Ambrosia monogyra*) CRPR 2B.2	Perennial shrub which generally blooms from August to November within chaparral or Sonoran Desert scrub in sandy substrates (CNPS 2018)	Not observed or expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.
Nevin's barberry (*Berberis nevinii*) CRPR 1B.1 FE/SE	Perennial evergreen shrub which generally blooms from February to June within chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, and riparian scrub in sandy, gravelly substrates (CNPS 2018)	Not observed onsite.

Species Name (*Scientific Name*) Status	**Habitat Description**	**Comments**
Slender mariposa lily (*Calochortus clavatus var. gracilis*) CRPR 1B.2	Perennial bulbiferous herb which generally blooms from June to July within coastal bluff scrub, chaparral (maritime), lower montane coniferous forest (CNPS 2018)	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.
Plummer's mariposa-lily (*Calochortus plummerae*) CRPR 4.2	Perennial bulbiferous herb which generally blooms from May to June within chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, lower montane coniferous forest, and grassland habitats with granite and rocky substrates. (CNPS 2018)	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.
Smooth tarplant (*Centromadia pungens* ssp. l*aevis*) CRPR 1B.1	Annual herb which generally blooms from April to September within chenopod scrub, meadows and seeps, playas, riparian woodland, valley and foothill grassland (alkaline substrates). (CNPS 2018)	Not observed or expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.
Catalina mariposa-lily (*Calochortus catalinae*) CRPR 4.2	Perennial bulbiferous herb which generally blooms from March to June within chaparral, cismontane woodland, valley grassland, and coastal sage scrub (CNPS 2018)	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.
Peninsular spineflower (*Chorizanthe leptotheca*) CRPR 4.2	Annual herb which generally blooms from May to August within chaparral, coastal scrub, lower montane coniferous forest in alluvial fan, granitic substrates. (CNPS 2018)	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat and disturbed conditions documented onsite.
Parry's spineflower (*Chorizanthe parryi var. parryi*) CRPR 1B.1	Annual herb which generally blooms from April to June within chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub and grassland habitats with sandy and/or rocky openings. (CNPS 2018)	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.

Species Name (*Scientific Name*) Status	**Habitat Description**	**Comments**
White-bracted spineflower (*Chorizanthe xanti var. leucotheca*) CRPR 1B.2	Annual herb which generally blooms from April to June within coastal scrub (alluvial fans), Mojavean desert scrub, pinyon and juniper woodland in sandy or gravelly substrates. (CNPS 2018)	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat and disturbed conditions documented onsite.
California saw-grass (*Cladium californicum*) CRPR 2B.2	Perennial rhizomatous herb which generally blooms from June to September within meadows, seeps, marshes and swamps in both alkaline and freshwater. (CNPS 2018)	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.
Peirson's spring beauty (*Claytonia lanceolata var. peirsonii*) CRPR 3.1	Perennial herb which generally blooms from March to June within subalpine coniferous forest and upper montane coniferous forest. (CNPS 2018)	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.
Paniculate tarplant (*Deinandra paniculata*) CRPR 4.2	Annual herb which generally blooms from March to November within coastal sage scrub, valley foothill grassland and vernal pools with sandy substrates. (CNPS 2018)	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.
Slender-horned spineflower (*Dodecahema leptoceras*) CRPR 1B.1 FE/SE	Annual herb which generally blooms from April to June within chaparral, cismontane woodland and coastal scrub (alluvial fan) with sandy substrates. (CNPS 2018)	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.
Many-stemmed dudleya (*Dudleya multicaulis*) CRPR 1B.2	Perennial herb which generally blooms from April to July within chaparral, coastal scrub and valley and foothill grassland often associated with clay substrates. (CNPS 2018)	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.
Santa Ana River woollystar (*Eriastrum densifolium ssp. sanctorum*) CRPR 1B.1 FE/SE	Perennial herb which generally blooms from April to September within chaparral, coastal scrub (alluvial fan) in sandy and gravelly substrates. (CNPS 2018)	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat and disturbed conditions documented onsite.

Species Name (*Scientific Name*) Status	**Habitat Description**	**Comments**
Vanishing wild buckwheat (*Eriogonum evanidum*) CRPR 1B.1	Annual herb which generally blooms from July to October within chaparral, cismontane woodland, lower montane coniferous forest, and pinyon and juniper woodland in sandy and gravelly substrates. (CNPS 2018)	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat
San Gabriel bedstraw (*Galium grande*) CRPR 1B.2	Perennial deciduous shrub which generally blooms from January to July within broad-leafed upland forest, chaparral, cismontane woodland and lower montane coniferous forest habitats. (CNPS 2018)	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.
Mesa horkelia (*Horkelia cuneata ssp. puberula*) CRPR 1B.1	Perennial herb which generally blooms from February to September within chaparral (maritime), cismontane woodland and coastal scrub with sandy or gravelly substrates. (CNPS 2018)	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.
Southern California black walnut (*Juglans californica*) CRPR 4.2	Perennial deciduous tree which generally blooms from March to August in chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, and riparian woodland in alluvial soils. (CNPS 2018)	Not observed onsite.
Robinson's pepper-grass (*Lepidium virginicum var. robinsonii*) CRPR 4.3	Annual herb which generally blooms from January to July within chaparral and coastal sage scrub habitats. (CNPS 2018)	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.
Lemon lily (*Lilium parryi*) CRPR 1B.2	Perennial bulbiferous herb which generally blooms from July to August within lower montane coniferous forest, meadows and seeps, riparian forest, and upper montane coniferous forest (CNPS 2018)	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.
San Gabriel linanthus (*Linanthus concinnus*) CRPR 1B.2	Annual herb which generally blooms from April to July within chaparral, lower/upper montane coniferous forest in rocky openings. (CNPS 2018)	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.

Species Name (*Scientific Name*) Status	**Habitat Description**	**Comments**
Parish's desert-thorn (*Lycium parishii*) CRPR 2B.3	Perennial shrub generally blooms from March to April within coastal scrub and Sonoran Desert scrub. (CNPS 2018)	Not observed or expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.
Hall's monardella (*Monardella macrantha ssp. hallii*) CRPR 1B.3	Perennial rhizomatous herb which generally blooms from June to October within broadleaf upland forest, chaparral, cismontane woodland, lower montane coniferous forest, valley and foothill grassland. (CNPS 2018)	Not observed or expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat
California spineflower (*Mucronea californica*) CRPR 4.2	Annual herb which generally blooms from March to August within chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal dunes, coastal scrub, valley and foothill grassland in sandy substrates. (CNPS 2018)	No observed or expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat
California muhly (*Muhlenbergia californica*) CRPR 4.3	Perennial rhizomatous herb which generally blooms from June to September within mesic, seeps and streambanks, coastal scrub, chaparral, lower montane coniferous forest and meadows. (CNPS 2018)	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.
Prostrate vernal pool navarretia (*Navarretia prostrata*) CRPR 1B.1	Annual herb which generally blooms from April to July coastal sage scrub, meadows and seeps, valley and foothill grassland (alkaline), vernal pools. (CNPS 2018)	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.
Woolly mountain-parsley (*Oreonana vestita*) CRPR 1B.3	Perennial herb which generally blooms from March to September within lower montane coniferous forest, subalpine coniferous forest, upper coniferous forest within gravel or talus substrates (CNPS 2018)	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.
Rock Creek broomrape (*Orobanche valida ssp. valida*) CRPR 1B.2	Perennial herb (parasitic) which generally blooms from May to September within chaparral and pinyon and juniper woodland in granitic substrates. (CNPS 2018)	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.

Species Name (*Scientific Name*) Status	**Habitat Description**	**Comments**
Brand's star phacelia (*Phacelia stellaris*) CRPR 1B.1 FC	Annual herb which generally blooms from March to June within coastal dunes and coastal scrub habitats. (CNPS 2018)	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.
White-rabbit tobacco (*Pseudognaphalium leucocephalum*) CRPR 2B.2	Perennial herb which generally blooms from July to August within chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, and riparian woodland with sandy or gravelly substrates. (CNPS 2018)	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.
Sanford's arrowhead (*Sagittaria sanfordii*)	Perennial rhizomatous herb which generally blooms from May to November near marshes and swamps. (CNPS 2018).	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.
Salt spring checkerbloom (*Sidalcea neomexicana*) CRPR 2.2	Perennial herb which generally blooms from March to June within chaparral, coastal scrub, lower montane coniferous forest, Mojavean desert scrub, and playas within alkaline and mesic substrates gravelly substrates. (CNPS 2018)	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.
Laguna Mountains jewelflower (*Streptanthus bernardinus*) CRPR 4.3	Perennial herb which generally blooms from May to August within chaparral, lower montane coniferous forest. (CNPS 2018)	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.
San Bernardino aster (*Symphyotrichum defoliatum*) CRPR 1B.2	Perennial rhizomatous herb which generally blooms from July to November near ditches, streams, springs in cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, lower montane coniferous forest, meadows and seeps, marshes and swamps, and valley and foothill grassland (vernally mesic). (CNPS 2018).	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.

Species Name (*Scientific Name*) Status	Habitat Description	Comments
Greata's aster (*Symphyotrichum greatae*) CRPR 1B.3	Perennial rhizomatous herb which generally blooms from June to October within broad-leaved upland forest, chaparral, cismontane woodland, lower montane coniferous forest and riparian woodland habitats. (CNPS 2018)	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.

California Native Plant Society (CNPS): California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR)
CRPR 1A – plants presumed extinct in California
CRPR 1B – plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California, but more common elsewhere
CRPR 2 – plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California, but more common elsewhere
CRPR 3 – Plants about which we need more information, a review list
CRPR 4 – Plants of limited distribution, a watch list
.1 – Seriously endangered in California
.2 – Fairly endangered in California
.3 – Not very endangered in California

Federal (USFWS) Protection and Classification
FE – Federally Endangered
FC – Federal Candidate for Listing

State (CDFW) Protection and Classification
SE – State Endangered

SENSITIVE WILDLIFE

The Project Site was assessed to determine the potential for twenty-eight (28) sensitive wildlife species known to occur within the region, to occur onsite, as presented in Table 3, *Sensitive Wildlife Species Assessment*. No suitable habitat for species listed as federal or state threatened/endangered was documented within the Project Site. No sensitive wildlife species or undisturbed native habitats were documented within the Project Site. The Project Site is characterized as disturbed and developed/ornamental.

Table 3. Sensitive Wildlife Species Assessment

Species Name (*Scientific Name*) Status	Habitat Description	Comments
INVERTEBRATES		
Delhi Sands flower-loving fly (*Rhaphiomidas terminatus abdominalis*) FE	Restricted to Delhi sand formations in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties.	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable soils.

Species Name (*Scientific Name*) Status	**Habitat Description**	**Comments**
AMPHIBIANS		
Arroyo toad (*Anaxyrus californicus*) FE/SSC	Shallow, slow moving active and braided stream channels with sandy substrates for breeding, bench and terrace habitats for foraging and aestivation, willow scrub, coastal sage scrub and riparian/oak woodlands.	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable breeding and upland habitat.
Southern Mountain yellow-legged frog (*Rana muscosa*) FE/SE/CWL Southern California Distinct Population Segment	Occurs in close proximity to lakes, streams, pools in rocky tributaries and canyons.	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable breeding habitat.
REPTILES		
Coast horned lizard (*Phrynosoma blainvillii*) SSC	The horned lizard occurs primarily in scrub, chaparral, and grassland habitats.	Not observed or expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat and disturbed conditions onsite.
BIRDS		
Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*) SSC	Cooper's hawk is most commonly found within or adjacent to riparian/oak forest and woodland habitats. This uncommon resident of California increases in numbers during winter migration.	Cooper's hawks occasionally nest in large pines and Eucalyptus trees. No nests were documented onsite and the majority of ornamental trees are small in stature and not expected to be utilized for nesting.
Sharp-shinned hawk (*Accipiter striatus*) CWL	Potential habitat for the sharp-shinned hawk includes montane coniferous forest for potential breeding areas and riparian scrub, woodland, and forest habitat, oak woodland and forest, chaparral, coastal sage scrub, desert scrub, and Riversidean alluvial fan sage scrub for foraging.	Not expected to breed onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.

Species Name (*Scientific Name*) Status	**Habitat Description**	**Comments**
Southern California rufous-crowned sparrow (*Aimophila ruficeps canescens*) CWL	Southern California rufous-crowned sparrow is a non-migratory bird species that primarily occurs within sage scrub and grassland habitats and to a lesser extent chaparral sub-associations. This species generally breeds on the ground within grassland and scrub communities in the western and central regions of California.	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of observations and suitable habitat.
Golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) CWL, SFP	Within southern California, the species prefers grasslands, brushlands (coastal sage scrub and chaparral), deserts, oak savannas, open coniferous forests, and montane valleys.	Not expected to breed onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.
Burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia)* SSC	The burrowing owl uses predominantly open land, including grassland, agriculture (e.g., dry-land farming and grazing areas), playa, and sparse coastal sage scrub and desert scrub habitats. Some breeding burrowing owls are year-round residents and additional individuals from the north may winter throughout the region.	Suitable burrows were documented onsite in the disturbed region of the Project Site. All burrows are currently occupied by California ground squirrel and no owls or characteristic sign such as white-wash, feathers, tracks, or pellets were detected within the Project Site. The species does not currently occupy the site. However, the site represents low quality habitat for the species.
Northern Harrier (*Circus cyaneus*) SSC	The northern harrier frequents open wetlands, wet and lightly grazed pastures, old fields, dry uplands, upland prairies, mesic grasslands, drained marshlands, croplands, shrub-steppe, meadows, grasslands, open rangelands, desert sinks, fresh and saltwater emergent wetlands and is seldom found in wooded.	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.

Species Name (*Scientific Name*) Status	**Habitat Description**	**Comments**
Western yellow-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus occidentalis*) FT/SE	The western yellow-billed cuckoo inhabits dense riparian and shrub communities.	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable riparian habitat.
White-tailed kite (*Elanus leucurus*) SFP	The white-tailed kite is found in riparian, oak woodlands adjacent to open spaces including grasslands, wetlands, savannahs and agricultural fields. This non-migratory bird occurs in lower elevations of California.	Not expected to breed onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.
Southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) FE/SE	The southwestern willow flycatcher breeds in dense riparian and shrub communities where exposed water is present including rivers, wetlands and reservoirs.	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable riparian habitat.
Merlin (*Falco columbarius*) CWL	Transient in the spring and fall and may occasionally winter within the area. It does not require specific conditions or locations for nesting because it does not nest in the region.	Not expected onsite. Breeds in the northern Great Plains.
Prairie falcon (*Falco mexicanus*) CWL	Habitat use of the prairie falcon includes annual grasslands to alpine meadows. The prairie falcon is associated primarily with perennial grasslands, savannahs, rangeland, some agricultural fields during the winter season, and desert scrub areas, all typically dry environments of western North American where there are cliffs or bluffs for nest sites.	Not expected to breed onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.

Species Name (*Scientific Name*) Status	**Habitat Description**	**Comments**
American peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus anatum*) SFP	Throughout the species' range, peregrine falcons are found in a large variety of open habitats, including tundra, marshes, seacoasts, savannahs and high mountains.	Not expected to breed onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.
Yellow-breasted Chat (*Icteria virens*) SSC	The yellow-breasted chat is associated with riparian woodland and riparian scrub habitats.	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable riparian habitat
Coastal California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*) FT/SSC	The coastal California gnatcatcher is a non-migratory bird species that primarily occurs within sage scrub habitats in coastal southern California dominated by California sagebrush.	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.
Yellow Warbler (*Setophaga petechia*) SSC	Habitat characteristics of the yellow warbler are well known to include riparian scrub, forest and woodland vegetation.	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable riparian habitat
Least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*) FE/SE	Least Bell's vireo reside in riparian habitats with a well-defined understory including southern willow scrub, mulefat, and riparian forest/woodland habitats.	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable riparian habitat.
MAMMALS		
Pallid bat (*Antrozous pallidus*) SSC	Roosts in rocky areas and forages in grassland, shrublands, and woodlands.	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat
Northwestern San Diego pocket mouse (*Chaetodipus fallax fallax*) SSC	The northwestern San Diego pocket mouse occurs in coastal sage, upland sage scrubs, and alluvial fan sage scrub, sage scrub/grassland ecotones, chaparral, and desert scrubs at all elevations up to 6,000 feet.	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat

Species Name (*Scientific Name*) Status	**Habitat Description**	**Comments**
San Bernardino kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys merriami parvus*) FE/SSC	Prefers alluvial scrub, coastal sage scrub habitats with sandy and gravelly substrates.	Although suitable soils were documented onsite, the species is not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat and extensively disturbed and isolated conditions of the Project Site.
Western mastiff bat (*Eumops perotis californicus*) SSC	Roosts in rocky areas and forages in grassland, shrublands, and woodlands.	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.
Western yellow bat (*Lasiurus xanthinus*) SSC	Roosts in the skirts of palm trees and forages in adjacent habitats.	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable foraging habitat within the vicinity of the Project Site.
San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit (*Lepus californicus bennettii*) SSC	The San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit in open habitats, primarily including grasslands, sage scrub, alluvial fan sage scrub, and Great Basin sage scrub.	Not observed or expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat and sign of burrow structures.
Desert San Diego woodrat (*Neotoma lepida intermedia*) SSC	The San Diego desert woodrat is found in sage scrub and chaparral wherever there are rock outcrops, boulders, cactus patches and dense undergrowth.	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.
Los Angeles pocket mouse (*Perognathus longimembris brevinasus*) SSC	Low elevation grassland alluvial sage scrub and coastal sage scrub habitats.	Not expected to occur onsite based on a lack of suitable habitat.

Federal (USFWS) Protection and Classification
FE – Federally Endangered
FC – Federal Candidate for Listing

State (CDFW) Protection and Classification
SE – State Endangered
SSC – State Species of Special Concern
CWL – California Watch List
SPF – State Fully Protected

The Project Site does not occur within or adjacent to a USFWS designated critical habitat for any federally listed threatened or endangered species.

JURISDICTIONAL WETLAND RESOURCES

No wetlands or jurisdictional resources regulated by the USACE, CDFW, or RWQCB were documented within or immediately adjacent to the Project Site.

An existing flood control screened drainage culvert is located in the southwest region of the Project Site within the disturbed habitat. The culvert currently receives surface runoff from the existing Etiwanda Campus of Christ's Church of the Valley development.

Impacts to water quality would be less than significant during both construction and operation (i.e., compliance with NPDES permit and MS4 code provisions would ensure no impacts to species, and compliance with County of San Bernardino Phase 1 Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit requirements and LID manual would also ensure no impacts to species).

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

The following section includes an analysis of the direct and/or indirect impacts of the proposed action on sensitive biological resources. This analysis characterizes the project related activities that are anticipated to adversely impact the species, and when feasible, quantifies such impacts. Direct effects are defined as actions that may cause an immediate effect on the species or its habitat, including the effects of interrelated actions and interdependent actions. Indirect effects are caused by or result from the proposed actions, are later in time, and are reasonably certain to occur. Indirect effects may occur outside of the area directly affected by the proposed action.

THRESHOLD OF SIGNIFICANCE

The environmental impacts relative to biological resources are assessed using impact significance criteria which mirror the policy statement contained in the CEQA at Section 21001 (c) of the Public Resources Code. This section reflects that the legislature has established it to be the policy of the state to:

> "*Prevent the elimination of fish and wildlife species due to man's activities, ensure that fish and wildlife populations do not drop below self-perpetuating levels, and preserve for future generations representations of all plant and animal communities*…"

The following definitions apply to the significance criteria for biological resources:

- "*Endangered*" means that the species is listed as endangered under state or federal law.

- "*Threatened*" means that the species is listed as threatened under state or federal law.

- "*Rare*" means that the species exists in such small numbers throughout all or a significant portion of its range that it may become endangered if its environment worsens.

- "*Region*" refers to the area within southern California that is within the range of the individual species.

- "*Sensitive habitat*" refers to habitat for plants and animals (1) which plays a special role in perpetuating species utilizing the habitat on the property, and (2) without which there would be substantial danger that the population of that species would drop below self-perpetuating levels.

- "*Substantial effect*" means significance loss or harm of a magnitude which, based on current scientific data and knowledge, (1) would cause a species or a native plant or animal community to drop below self-perpetuating levels on a statewide or regional basis or (2) would cause a species to become threatened or endangered.

Also, the determination of impacts has been made according to the federal definition of "*take*". FESA prohibits the "*taking*" of a member of an endangered or threatened wildlife species or removing, damaging, or destroying a listed plant species by any person (including private individuals and private or government entities). FESA defines "*take*" as "*to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, would, kill, trap, capture or collect*" an endangered or threatened species, or to attempt to engage in these activities.

DIRECT IMPACTS

Specifically, the biological resources assessment report addresses the following CEQA Environmental Checklist items.

Environmental Issues	**Potentially Significant Impact**	**Less than Significant with Mitigation**	**Less than Significant Impact**	**No Impact**
Would the Project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modification, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?		**X**		
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?				**X**

Environmental Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?				**X**
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?		**X**		
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?			**X**	
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Native Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?				**X**

a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the CDFW or USFWS?

Less than Significant with Mitigation. The proposed project would not have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any plant or wildlife species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the CDFW or USFWS. No native undisturbed suitable habitat or sensitive plant/wildlife species observations were documented within the Project Site. The Project Site is characterized as disturbed and developed/ornamental.

Suitable burrowing owl burrows were documented onsite in the disturbed region of the Project Site. All burrows were occupied by California ground squirrel and no burrowing owl or characteristic sign such as white-wash, feathers, tracks, or pellets were detected within the Project Site. The species does not currently occupy the site. However, the site represents low quality habitat for the species and there is a possibility of owl colonization within the Project Site prior to site grading within the disturbed region of the property. To ensure that no direct loss of individuals occurs, preconstruction surveys will

be conducted prior to initiation of on-site grading activities within the disturbed region of the Project Site. A preconstruction survey for resident burrowing owls shall be conducted by a qualified biologist within 14-days of project initiation.

Implementation of BIO-MM1 Burrowing Owl Preconstruction Survey will ensure compliance with CDFW and USFWS species protection regulations and reduce impacts to less than significant.

b) *Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by CDFW or USFWS*?

No Impact. No riparian, sensitive or undisturbed native habitats were documented within or adjacent to the Project Site as outlined in Table 4, *Project Site Vegetation Community Impacts,* and Figure 6, *Vegetation Communities Impact Map*. The Project Site is characterized as disturbed and developed/ornamental vegetation. Therefore, no mitigation is required or proposed.

Table 4 – Project Site Vegetation Community Impacts

Vegetation Community	Onsite Acres	Offsite Acres	Permanent/ Temporary Impact Acres
Developed/Ornamental	7.81	0.04	5.01
Disturbed	2.01	0.00	2.01
TOTAL	**9.82**	**0.04**	**7.02**

Source: Cadre Environmental 2018.

c) *Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the CWA (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?*

No Impact. No wetlands or jurisdictional resources regulated by the USACE, CDFW, or RWQCB were documented within or immediately adjacent to the Project Site. Therefore, no mitigation is required or proposed.

d) *Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?*

Less than Significant with Mitigation. The Project Site is largely disturbed/developed and surrounded by urbanized uses and does not represent a wildlife movement corridor or route between open space habitats. However, the non-native ornamental vegetation, trees and shrubs within the Project Site including adjacent offsite ornamental landscaping are expected to potentially provide nesting habitat for raptors and migratory birds protected under the federal MBTA. Mitigation for potential direct/indirect impacts to common and sensitive bird and raptor species will require compliance with the federal MBTA. Construction outside the nesting season (between February 16th to August 31st) does not require MBTA preconstruction nesting bird surveys. If construction is

proposed between February 16th and August 31st, a qualified biologist must conduct a preconstruction nesting bird survey(s) no more than three (3) days prior to initiation of grading to document the presence or absence of nesting birds or raptors within or directly adjacent (100 feet) to the Project Site.

Loss of an active nest would be considered a potentially significant impact. Implementation and compliance with BIO-MM2 Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act will ensure compliance with the MBTA and reduce potential impacts to nesting birds to less than significant.

e) *Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?*

Less than Significant with Mitigation. the County of San Bernardino's and City of Rancho Cucamonga's tree preservation ordinances regulate the removal of western sycamore and oak trees. Oak woodlands are also protected by State law (SB 1334-California Oak Woodland Law). The City's Tree Preservation Municipal Code (Chapter 17, Tree Preservation – Chapter 17.80) states that eucalyptus, palm, oak, sycamore, pine and other trees growing within the City are a natural aesthetic resource and are worthy of protection. Prior to removal of a heritage tree within the City limits, a tree removal permit shall be obtained from the Planning Director and replacement trees may be required consistent with the City code. As stated by the City of Rancho Cucamonga:

> "*All "heritage trees" are protected under the City's ordinance, including those on private property. "Heritage trees" means any tree, shrub, or plant that meets at least one of the following criteria: 1. All Eucalyptus windrows; or 2. All woody plants in excess of 30 feet in height and having a single trunk circumference of 20 inches or more, as measured four and a half feet (4.5') from ground level; or 3. Multi-trunk tree(s) having a total circumference of 30 inches or more, as measured 24 inches from ground level; or 4. A strand of trees the nature of which makes each dependent upon the others for survival; or 5. Any other tree as may be deemed historically or culturally significant by the Planning Director because of size, condition, location, or aesthetic qualities*. (City of Rancho Cucamonga 2017)"

A total of twenty (20) heritage trees, as defined by the City of Rancho Cucamonga's ordinance were documented within the vicinity of the children's center region of the Project Site. The report recommended removal of 10 heritage trees based on their locations relative to the proposed campus improvements; health conditions of some of the trees; and the potential for some of the trees to be affected by diseases.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 17.16.080 (Tree Removal Permit) of the City's Municipal Code, the 10 heritage trees identified for removal requires City issuance of a tree removal permit. The purpose of a tree removal permit is to provide a City review process for the removal of heritage trees that are considered to be a community resource. As stated in Section 17.16.080.D.2, "*No tree removal permit shall be issued for the removal of any heritage tree on any lot associated with a proposal for development, unless all discretionary approvals have been obtained from the city*." In

accordance with Section 17.16.080, the project applicant submitted a tree removal permit (DRC2018-00843) for removal of the 10 heritage trees identified above. Heritage trees would only be removed after approval of such a permit being issued by the City. Through the City's review process (which includes Planning Commission review and consideration of the tree removal permit), the City would ensure that impacts to identified heritage trees have been adequately analyzed in accordance with the City's established provisions for impacts to heritage trees. Furthermore, the proposed project would provide a greater number of new trees (approximately 100) than currently exist. The proposed project's landscape plan would include a variety of new trees, including but not be limited to camphor, myrtle, magnolia, and Brisbane box trees. Based on the preceding, the proposed project would not result in a conflict with the City's tree preservation ordinance. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant and no mitigation measures are necessary.

f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Native Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?

No Impact. There is no habitat conservation plan, natural community conservation plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan in the City of Rancho Cucamonga. Therefore, implementation of the project would not result in a conflict with the provisions of an adopted habitat conservation plan and no impact would occur. Therefore, no mitigation is required or proposed.

INDIRECT IMPACTS

Potential indirect impacts include hydrological modification, discharges, lighting, and construction noise. Compliance with all the following guidelines will ensure that the proposed project will not result in significant indirect impacts to habitats and associated floral and faunal species within and/or adjacent to the Project Site.

Water Quality

Impacts to water quality would be less than significant during both construction and operation (i.e., compliance with NPDES permit and MS4 code provisions would ensure no impacts to species, and compliance with County of San Bernardino Phase 1 Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit requirements and LID manual would also ensure no impacts to species).

Toxics

Toxic sources within the Project Site would be limited to those commonly associated with facility developments such as pesticides, insecticides, herbicides, fertilizers, and vehicle emissions. In order to mitigate for the potential effects of these toxics, the project will incorporate structural BMPs, as required in association with compliance with the NPDES permit system, in order to reduce the level of toxins introduced into the drainage system. Water quality measures will be implemented and no significant impacts are anticipated.

Figure 6 - Vegetation Communities Impact Map

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Christ's Church of the Valley - Etiwanda Campus

CADRE Environmental

1 inch = 150 ft.

Lighting

Impacts related to lighting would be less than significant during both construction and operation. No native habitat is located adjacent to the Project Site and no indirect impacts to wildlife species will occur. No significant impacts are anticipated.

Noise

Indirect temporal noise impacts may occur to nesting bird species located adjacent to the Project Site during project construction. Noise and vibration associated with the use of heavy equipment during project construction has the potential to disrupt bird nesting, foraging and breeding behavior within and adjacent to sensitive receptor sites. Biological Mitigation Measure BIO-MM2, has been incorporated into the project to collectively contribute to reducing potential indirect noise impacts to nesting bird species located within and adjacent to the Project Site to the level of less than significance.

No significant impacts are anticipated.

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

The temporary direct and/or indirect impacts of the project would not result in significant cumulative impacts (CEQA Section 15310) to environmental resources within the region of the Project Site. Cumulative impacts refer to incremental effects of an individual project when assessed with the effects of past, current, and proposed projects. The project represents the enhancement (redevelopment) and development of previously disturbed and developed habitats within its approximately 9.82-acre project area and therefore will not result in an adverse cumulative impact.

MITIGATION MEASURES

The following biological mitigation measures address the adverse impacts determined to be potentially significant or are relevant to the protection of biological resources to the extent practicable as part of ensuring all potential impacts are mitigated to a level of less than significant.

BIO-MM1 Burrowing Owl Preconstruction Survey

There is a possibility of owl colonization within the Project Site prior to site grading within the disturbed region of the property. To ensure that no direct loss of individuals occurs, mitigation will be carried prior to initiation of on-site grading activities within the disturbed region of the Project Site. A preconstruction survey for resident burrowing owls shall be conducted by a qualified biologist. The survey shall be conducted 14 days prior to construction activities within the disturbed region of the Project Site. If ground-disturbing activities are delayed or suspended for more than 14 days after the preconstruction survey, the site shall be resurveyed for owls. A final report of the findings, prepared by a qualified biologist, shall be submitted to the City of Rancho

Cucamonga prior to the initiation of construction-related activities that have the potential to disturb any burrowing owls.

If owls are determined to be present within the construction footprint, they shall be captured and relocated. The preconstruction survey and any relocation activity shall be conducted in accordance with the CDFW Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation, 2012. According to CDFW guidelines, mitigation actions will be conducted from September 1st to January 31st, which is prior to the nesting season. However, burrowing owl nesting activity is variable, and as such the time frame will be adjusted accordingly. Should eggs or fledglings be discovered in any owl burrow, the burrow cannot be disturbed (pursuant to CDFW guidelines) until the young have hatched and fledged (matured to a stage that they can leave the nest on their own). Occupied burrows shall not be disturbed during the nesting season (February 1st through August 31st) unless a qualified biologist approved by CDFW verifies through non-invasive methods that either: a) the adult birds have not begun egg-laying and incubation; or b) the juveniles from the occupied burrows are foraging independently and are capable of independent survival. If a biologist is unable to verify one of the above conditions, then no disturbance shall occur within 300 feet of the burrowing owls nest during the breeding season to avoid abandonment of the young.

BIO-MM2 Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act

Prior to the commencement of any proposed actions (e.g., site clearing, demolition, grading) during the breeding/nesting season (February 16 through August 31), a qualified monitoring biologist contracted by Christ's Church of the Valley shall conduct a preconstruction nesting bird survey(s) to identify any active nests in and adjacent to the project site no more than three days prior to initiation of the action. If the biologist does not find any active nests that would be potentially impacted, the proposed action may proceed. However, if the biologist finds an active nest within or directly adjacent to the action area (within 100 feet) and determines that the nest may be impacted, the biologist shall delineate an appropriate buffer zone around the nest using temporary plastic fencing or other suitable materials, such as barricade tape and traffic cones. The buffer zone shall be determined by the biologist in consultation with applicable resource agencies and in consideration of species sensitivity and existing nest site conditions, and in coordination with the construction contractor. The qualified biologist shall serve as a construction monitor during those periods when construction activities occur near active nest areas to ensure that no inadvertent impacts on these nests occur. Only specified activities (if any) approved by the qualified biologist in coordination with the construction contractor shall take place within the buffer zone until the nest is vacated. Activities that may be prohibited within the buffer zone by the biologist may include but not be limited to grading and tree clearing. Once the nest is no longer active and upon final determination by the biologist, the proposed action may proceed within the buffer zone.

The monitoring biologist shall prepare a survey report/memorandum summarizing his/her findings and recommendations of the preconstruction survey. Any active nests observed during the survey shall be mapped on a current aerial photograph, including documentation of GPS coordinates, and included in the survey report/memorandum. The completed survey report/memorandum shall be submitted to the City of Rancho

Cucamonga Planning Department prior to the commencement of construction-related activities that have the potential to disturb any active nests during the nesting season.

Implementation of Mitigation Measures BIO-MM1 and BIO-MM2 would reduce all potential significant unavoidable impacts on biological resources below a level of significance.

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Certification "*I hereby certify that the statements furnished above and in the attached exhibits present the data and information required for this biological evaluation, and that the facts, statements, and information presented are true and correct to the best of my knowledge".*

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