

Larry Woods Subdivision Map Project

(APN: 035-280-008, 035-300-040)

Biological Resources Assessment

Prepared for:

Lenore Gardner & Larry Woods Trust, Property Owner
19559 Donovan Road
Penn Valley, CA 95946

Prepared by:

Greg Matuzak, Principal Biologist
Greg Matuzak Environmental Consulting LLC
P.O. Box 2016
Nevada City, CA 95959
Email: gmatuzak@gmail.com

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Greg Matuzak, a Nevada County and City of Grass Valley Biological Resources Consultant, conducted a reconnaissance-level biological resources survey and required background research related to biological resources in order to develop this Biological Resources Assessment (BRA). In addition, potential California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and United States Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) jurisdiction within the subject parcel was assessed. The proposed Larry Woods Subdivision Project (Project) would be developed within the following subject parcels: APN 035-280-008, 5.44 Acres and APN 035-300-040, 0.18 acres (see attached Parcel Reports). The total Project area is therefore approximately 5.62 acres (see the attached Project Subdivision Map).

The proposed development within the subject parcels would include the creation of twenty (20) individual subdivision lots ranging from 5,433 square feet (~0.12 acres) to 15,140 square feet (~0.35 acres) in size each. Access to the Project area will be directly off of West Olympia Drive within the eastern section of the Project area and off of Glenbrook Drive within the southwestern section of the Project area. The Grass Valley Ditch, specifically referred to as the Grass Valley Canal, is a part of the Nevada Irrigation District (NID) system. It's a key component in NID's water delivery system, providing water to the City of Grass Valley and other NID customers and it runs along the western edge of Lots #10, #11, and #12 as well as along the western edge of Lot D and Lot E. See Appendix A for the parcel reports for both APNs making up the Project area and see Appendix B for the Project Subdivision Map.

For the purposes of this BRA, the background research and the site visits and reconnaissance-level biological resources survey conducted within the Project area were intended to determine the potential for sensitive biological resources to occur within the subject parcels and overall Project area, and to conduct an assessment of such resources to ensure the City of Grass Valley complies with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as part of the Project review as it relates to sensitive and protected biological resources. The attached appendices include the following: parcel reports (Appendix A), a Site Plan (Subdivision Map attached in Appendix B), Photo Log of the Project area and overall subject parcels (attached in Appendix F), list of plant and wildlife species identified during the site visits and reconnaissance-level biological resources survey conducted (attached in Appendix E), and the results of the database searches for such sensitive biological resources per the CA state and federal databases. The appendices are attached to this report.

The purpose of the BRA is to identify the location and extent of sensitive biological resources within the subject parcel, including special-status plant and wildlife species, and the presence of drainage and wetland features that could potentially meet the Corps' criteria as a "waters of the United States," pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act

(CWA), and streams that could be under the jurisdiction of the California Fish and Wildlife Code Section 1600 *et. seq.* The BRA also satisfies the City of Grass Valley Development Code and General Plan requirements.

2.0 REGULATORY OVERVIEW AND DEFINITIONS

Federal Regulations

Section 404 of the Clean Water Act

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ("Corps") and the Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") regulate the discharge of dredge or fill material into "waters of the U.S." under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. "Waters of the U.S." include wetlands and lakes, rivers, streams, and their tributaries. Wetlands are defined for regulatory purposes as areas "...inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated solid conditions" as specified in 33 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 328.3, 40 CFR 230.3.

Generally, wetlands include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas. Lakes, rivers, and streams are defined as "other waters of the U.S." Jurisdictional limits of these features are typically noted by the Ordinary High Water Mark ("OHWM"). The OHWM is the line on the shore established by the fluctuations of water and indicated by physical characteristics such as mark a clear, natural line impressed on the bank, shelving, changes in the character of soil, destruction of terrestrial vegetation, the presence of litter and debris, or other appropriate means that consider the characteristics of the surrounding areas (33 CFR 328 and 33 CFR 329).

Isolated ponds or seasonal depressions had been previously regulated as waters of the U.S. However, in *Solid Waste Agency of Northwestern Cook County (SWANCC) v. USACE et al.* (January 8, 2001), the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that certain "isolated" wetlands (e.g., non-navigable, isolated, and intrastate) do not fall under the jurisdiction of the CWA and are no longer under the jurisdiction of the Corps. Some circuit courts (e.g., *U.S. v. Deaton*, 2003; *U.S. Rapanos*, 2003; *Northern California River Watch v. City of Healdsburg*, 2006), though, have ruled that SWANCC does not prevent CWA jurisdiction if a "significant nexus" such as a hydrologic connection exists, whether it be man-made (e.g., roadside ditch) or natural tributary to navigable waters, or direct seepage from the wetland to the navigable water, a surface or underground hydraulic connection, an ecological connection (e.g., the same bird, mammal, and fish populations are supported by both the wetland and the navigable water), and changes to chemical concentrations in the navigable water is present due to water from the wetland.

Areas considered to be non-jurisdictional waters include non-tidal drainage and irrigation ditches excavated on dry land, artificially-irrigated areas, artificial lakes or ponds used for irrigation or stock watering, small artificial water bodies such as swimming pools, and water-filled depressions with no outlet for drainage (33 CFR, Part 328).

The *Clean Water Rule* is a 2015 regulation published by the EPA and Corps to clarify water resources management in the United States under a provision of the CWA. The regulation defined the scope of federal water protection in a more consistent manner, particularly over streams and wetlands, which have a significant hydrological and ecological connection to traditional navigable waters, interstate waters, and territorial seas. It is also referred to as the *Waters of the United States* rule, which defines all bodies of water that fall under U.S. federal jurisdiction. The rule has been contested in litigation and in 2017 the Trump administration announced its intent to review and rescind or revise the rule. Following a Supreme Court ruling on January 22, 2018 that lifted a nationwide stay on the rule, the Trump administration formally suspended the rule until February 6, 2020, thereby giving the EPA time to issue a draft proposal of replacement water regulatory requirements.

On October 22, 2019, the EPA and the Corps published a final rule to repeal the 2015 Clean Water Rule: Definition of "Waters of the United States" ("2015 Rule"), which amended portions of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), and to restore the regulatory text that existed prior to the 2015 Rule. The final rule will become effective on December 23, 2019. The EPA and the Corps will implement the pre-2015 Rule regulations informed by applicable agency guidance documents and consistent with Supreme Court decisions and longstanding agency practice.

However, on April 21, 2020, the EPA and the Corps published the Navigable Waters Protection Rule to define "Waters of the United States" in the *Federal Register*. For the first time, the agencies have streamlined the definition so that it includes four simple categories of jurisdictional waters, provides clear exclusions for many water features that traditionally have not been regulated, and defines terms in the regulatory text that have never been defined before. Congress, in the CWA, explicitly directed the Agencies to protect "navigable waters." The Navigable Waters Protection Rule regulates traditional navigable waters and the core tributary systems that provide perennial or intermittent flow into them.

Under the final rule, four clear categories of waters are federally regulated:

- The territorial seas and traditional navigable waters,
- Perennial and intermittent tributaries to those waters,
- Certain lakes, ponds, and impoundments, and
- Wetlands adjacent to jurisdictional waters

Therefore, as of June 22, 2020, the final rule details 12 categories of exclusions, features that are not "waters of the United States," such as features that only contain water in direct response to rainfall (e.g., ephemeral features); groundwater; many ditches; prior converted cropland; and waste treatment systems. The final rule clarifies key elements related to the scope of federal CWA jurisdiction, including:

- Providing clarity and consistency by removing the proposed separate categories for jurisdictional ditches and impoundments.
- Refining the proposed definition of “typical year,” which provides important regional and temporal flexibility and ensures jurisdiction is being accurately determined in times that are not too wet and not too dry.
- Defining “adjacent wetlands” as wetlands that are meaningfully connected to other jurisdictional waters, for example, by directly abutting or having regular surface water communication with jurisdictional waters.

The Navigable Waters Protection Rule is the second step in a two-step process to review and revise the definition of “waters of the United States” consistent with the February 2017 Presidential Executive Order entitled “Restoring the Rule of Law, Federalism, and Economic Growth by Reviewing the ‘Waters of the United States.’” This final rule became effective on June 22, 2020 and will replace the Step One Rule published in October, 2019 as outlined above.

However, the 2023 Updated Water of the United States (WOTUS) Rule reversed the 2020 ruling such that only perennial aquatic resources with documented connections to navigable waterways are currently regulated under the CWA. Therefore, the Project area does not contain any “waters of the U.S.” including wetlands, given the lack of perennial streams or drainages with a direct connection to a navigable waterway. Therefore, the Project area does not include any waters subject to regulation under the CWA.

Section 401 of the Clean Water Act

CWA Section 401 compliance is required for any project requiring a federal action (i.e. Corps permit or federal funding) with construction that could have an impact to surface water quality. Project proponents must obtain a permit from the Corps for all discharges of fill material into waters of the U.S., including wetlands, before proceeding with a proposed action. The Project area does not contain any “waters of the U.S.” including wetlands, and therefore, the Project area does not include any waters subject to regulation under the CWA.

Endangered Species Act of 1973

For the proposed Project site, consultation with the USFWS would be necessary if a proposed action may affect suitable habitat for a federally listed species. This consultation would proceed under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) if a federal action is part of the proposed action or through Section 10 of the ESA if no such nexus were

available (USFWS, 1973). There are two federally protected plant species listed under the ESA within the Grass Valley USGS Quad (CDFW 2025). Stebbins morning-glory (*Calystegia stebbinsii*) and Pine Hill flannelbush (*Fremontodendron decumbens*) are ESA listed species as Endangered; however, the Project area does not provide suitable habitat for either of these species and therefore, neither species would be impacted by the development of the proposed Project. Additionally, within the Grass Valley USGS Quad the California spotted owl (*Strix occidentalis occidentalis*) has previously been identified (CDFW 2025). However, the woodland and existing understory do not contain the required habitat and microhabitats for the presence of the California spotted owl within the Project area.

Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 and Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) (16 USC Section 703-711) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BAGEPA) (16 USC Section 668) protect certain species of birds from direct "take" (i.e. harm or harassment as described above). The MBTA protects migrant bird species from take through setting hunting limits and seasons and protecting occupied nests and eggs (USFWS, 1918). BAGEPA prohibits the take or commerce of any part of the bald or golden eagles (USFWS, 1940). The USFWS administers both Acts and reviews actions that may affect species protected under each Act.

State Regulations

California Endangered Species Act

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has jurisdiction over plant and wildlife species listed as threatened or endangered under section 2080 of the CDFW Code. The California Endangered Species Act (CESA) prohibits take of state-listed threatened and endangered species. The state Act differs from the federal Act in that it does not include habitat destruction in its definition of *take*. The CDFW defines *take* as "hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill." The CDFW may authorize *take* under the CESA through Sections 2081 agreements. If the results of a biological survey indicate that a state-listed species would be affected by the project, the CDFW would issue an Agreement under Section 2081 of the CDFW Code and would establish a Memorandum of Understanding for the protection of state-listed species. CDFW maintains lists for Candidate-Endangered Species and Candidate-Threatened Species.

Stebbins morning-glory (*Calystegia stebbinsii*), Scadden Flat checkerbloom (*Sidalcea stipularis*), willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii*), greater sandhill crane (*Antigone canadensis tabida*), and California black rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus*) are CESA listed species and these species have been known to occur within the Grass Valley USGS Quad. Additionally, Pine Hill flannelbush (*Fremontodendron decumbens*) is considered Rare by CDFW and the State of California (CDFW 2025). The Project area does not provide suitable habitat for any CESA protected species.

Streambed Alteration Agreements: CDFG Code Section 1600 et seq.

CDFW has jurisdictional authority over wetland resources associated with rivers, streams, and lakes under Sections 1600–1616. CDFW has the authority to regulate all work under the jurisdiction of the State of California that would substantially divert, obstruct, or change the natural flow of a river, stream, or lake; substantially change the bed, channel, or bank of a river, stream, or lake; or use material from a streambed.

In practice, CDFW marks its jurisdictional limit at the top of the stream or lake bank, or the outer edge of the riparian vegetation (where present) and extends its jurisdiction to the edge of the 100-year floodplain. The Project area does not contain any stream related features that would be regulated by CDFW. The Grass Valley Ditch/Canal that runs along the western edge of the lots within the southwestern section of the Project area is not a designated stream, nor is it regulated by CDFW.

Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act & Section 1601 – Section 1607 of CDFG Code

These acts and codes pertain to projects with potential impacts to water quality or waterways. The proposed subject parcels and Project area do not contain waters of the State as defined by the State Water Resources Board (State Board 2014) and therefore, would not be subject to a report of waste discharge requirement. The Grass Valley Ditch/Canal that runs along the western edge of the lots within the southwestern section of the Project area is not a designated stream, nor is it regulated by CDFW or the State of California.

California Department of Fish and Game Code Sections 3503, 3503.5, and 3800:
Nesting Migratory Bird and Raptors

Sections 3503, 3503.5, and 3800 of the CDFG Code prohibit the take, possession, or destruction of birds, their nests or eggs. Implementation of the take provisions requires that project-related disturbance within active nesting territories be reduced or eliminated during critical phases of the nesting cycle (approximately March 1 – August 31). Disturbance that causes nest abandonment and/or loss of reproductive effort (e.g. killing or abandonment of eggs or young), or the loss of habitat upon which birds are dependent, is considered "taking", and is potentially punishable by fines and/or imprisonment (LCC 2013). Such *taking* would also violate federal law protecting migratory birds (e.g. MBTA above).

California Special Species of Concern, Fully Protected, and Special Status Species

California designates Species of Special Concern (SSC) as species of limited distribution, declining populations, diminishing habitat, or unusual scientific, recreational or educational values. These species do not have the same legal protection as listed species but may be added to official lists in the future (CDFW 2014). For example, the coast

horned lizard (*Phrynosoma blainvillii*) is designated as SSC and the species is evaluated as part of this BRA since the species has been previously identified within the Grass Valley

USGS Quad where the proposed Project is located.

In the 1960's California created a designation to provide additional protection to rare species. This designation remains today and is referred to as "Fully Protected" species, and those listed "may not be taken or possessed at any time" (CDFW 2014). The California black rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus*) for instance has been previously documented within Nevada County and has been previously identified within the Grass Valley USGS Quad as well as the greater sandhill crane, though the Project area does not contain suitable habitat for either of these species. Both of these species are designated as Fully Protected by the State of California.

California special-status species are identified by the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) and includes those species considered to be of greatest conservation need by CDFW.

California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines Section 15380

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines section 15380(b) provides that a species not listed on the federal or state list of protected species may be considered rare or endangered if the species can be shown to meet certain specific criteria. This section was included in the guidelines to deal primarily with situations in which a public agency is reviewing a project that may have a significant effect on, for example a "candidate species" that has not yet been listed by the USFWS or CDFW. CEQA, therefore, enables an agency to protect a species from significant project impacts until the respective government agencies have had an opportunity to list the species as protected, if warranted (CNRA 2012).

Plants appearing on the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR) are considered to meet CEQA's Section 15380 criteria. Ranks include: 1A) plants presumed extirpated in California and either rare or extinct elsewhere, 1B) plant rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere, 2A) plants presumed extirpated in California, but more common elsewhere, and 2B) plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California, but more common elsewhere. Impacts to these species would therefore be considered "significant" requiring mitigation.

State Oak Woodland Regulations

State laws that regulate protection of oak woodlands include Professional Forester's Law (PFL) and CEQA according to Public Resources Code Section 21083.4. Oak woodlands are defined as areas having 10% oak canopy cover or greater. "Oaks" are defined in Public Resources Code Section 21083.4 as a native tree species in the genus *Quercus*, that is 5 inches diameter at breast height (DBH) or greater. The Oak Woodlands Conservation Act (SB 1334) provides funding for the conservation and protection of oak woodlands in California. Oak woodland habitats are protected under both the State and the Nevada County General Plan.

City of Grass Valley Tree Ordinance

The City of Grass Valley acknowledges the importance of trees to the community's health, safety, welfare, and tranquility. Trees increase property values, provide visual continuity, provide shade and cooling, decrease wind velocities, control erosion, conserve energy, reduce stormwater runoff, filter airborne pollutants, reduce noise, provide privacy, provide habitat and food value, and release oxygen. In December 2005, the City Council adopted the Tree Ordinance, Chapter 12.36 of the Municipal Code, to ensure that the community trees would be prudently protected and managed so as to ensure these multiple civic benefits.

What Types of Trees Are Protected Under This Ordinance?

- **Tree:** Any woody plant having a trunk ten (10) caliper inches or larger in Diameter at Breast Height (DBH) (54" above ground height) and as further defined within the definitions section of the Tree Preservation and Protection Ordinance, Chapter 12.36.
- **Significant Tree:**
Any tree which measures twenty-four (24) caliper inches or larger in Diameter at Breast Height (DBH) (54" above ground height).
- **Heritage Trees:**
Any tree listed on the official City of Grass Valley heritage tree list adopted by the City Council due to distinctive form, size, age, location, species, unique qualities, or historical significance.
- **Street Trees:**
Any tree within the public right-of-way.

When Are Permits Required?

The pruning or removal of any of the types of protected trees listed above (including the modification of surrounding area) may require review and/or permitting, depending on the nature of the proposed work. The matrix on the opposite side of this page presents the basic review process for tree permits in the City of Grass Valley. It is the responsibility of property owners and/or residents of the City of Grass Valley to be aware of tree-related regulations before engaging in any planning or activity that may require new tree planting or removal; or may impact existing trees. The City of Grass Valley is not responsible for location of trees marked for removal. All property lines should be verified before submitting your application. It shall be the responsibility of all licensed tree cutters or any other person who is removing the tree to have a copy of the applicable tree permit, a valid city business license and any required state licenses in his or her possession and available for inspection upon request.

City of Grass Valley Development Code 17.50 Creek and Riparian Resource Protection

The City of Grass Valley Development Code 17.50 for Creek and Riparian Resource Protection states that a Resource Management Plan must be prepared for encroachment within the 30-foot stream setback, "and shall include measures which will minimize impacts to the watercourse and enhance runoff filtration." The measure should include: enhancement and/or restoration of the riparian vegetation area; removal of non-native vegetation; decompaction of soils and/or incorporation of organic material to improve runoff filtration; incorporation of bioswales in drainage plans to filter parking areas and other impervious surfaces; and, incorporation of other Best Management Practices (BMP's) which provide long-term protection of the water quality.

City of Grass Valley 2020 General Plan

The Conservation and Open Space Elements were combined in the 2020 Grass Valley General Plan Update. Both are mandatory General Plan Elements under State law. The Conservation/Open Space Element addresses those aspects of conservation and open space determined most important to Grass Valley. It supplements, but does not replace, the Mineral Resources Element adopted by the City in 1993.

Conservation/Open Space Goals and Objectives

- 1-COSG Provide a balance between development and the natural environment, protecting and properly utilizing Grass Valley's sensitive environmental areas/features, natural resources and open space lands.
 - 1-COSO Inventory of sensitive environmental areas and features.
 - 2-COSO Multi-purpose open space lands, accommodating the needs and requirements of open space/conservation, habitat, recreation, and aesthetics.
 - 3-COSO Protection of rare and endangered animals and plants.
 - 4-COSO Reduction of urban development impacts on native vegetation, wildlife and topography.
 - 5-COSO Encouragement of wildlife through habitat protection.
 - 6-COSO Assurance of appropriate resource conservation and environmental protection measures as prerequisites to development.
- 2-COSG Protect, enhance and restore hydrologic features, including stream corridors, flood plains, wetlands, and riparian zones.
 - 7-COSO Development of an extensive trail network providing recreational and educational opportunities.
 - 8-COSO Minimize interference with the natural functions of flood plains and naturally flood-prone areas.
- 3-COSG Ensure the protection of Grass Valley's trees and forested areas.
 - 9-COSO Identification of heritage trees for special recognition and protection.
 - 10-COSO Identification of significant groves and groupings of trees for permanent open space designation.
- 4-COSG Protect and enhance town entryways, visual corridors and important viewsheds including ridgelines.

- 11- COSO Identification of particular corridors and views requiring protection or enhancement.
- 12- COSO Identification of specific aesthetic considerations important to the protection/enhancement of particular corridors and views.
- 5- COSG Maintain close relationships with public agencies and private organizations regarding conservation, open space and environmental protection.
- 13- COSO Ongoing communication of information, plans, and concepts
- 14- COSO Creation of joint efforts and shared funding responsibilities.
- 6- COSG Assure compliance with and understanding of air and water quality regulations and standards.
- 15- COSO Protection of ground- and surface water quality.
- 16- COSO Inclusion of air and water quality considerations in land use decisions rendered by the Planning Commission and City Council.

Conservation/Open Space Policies

- 1- COSP Continue to identify mineral resources and to develop policies addressing their protection from competing land uses, minimizing impacts on mining activities, in compliance with State law.
- 2- COSP Establish an active program of land/development rights acquisition in order to protect sensitive environmental areas and features.
- 3- COSP Encourage clustering, density averaging, and other techniques in larger-scale new developments, as means of preserving open space and natural systems.
- 4- COSP Establish standards for inclusion and management of permanent open space in new developments.
- 5- COSP Carefully regulate development on steep slopes.
- 6- COSP Prevent excessive alteration of the natural topography.
- 7- COSP Recognize and reinforce Grass Valley's public park system.
- 8- COSP Study the potential for inter-jurisdictional transfer of development rights.
- 9- COSP Carefully regulate development for location in flood hazard areas.
- 10- COSP Establish a city trail network program for friendly acquisition, development and administration of a natural trails system.
- 11- COSP Return to open space, areas within which flooding poses a clear danger to life and property.
- 12- COSP Enhance the City's tree ordinance addressing tree maintenance and protection both within new developments and elsewhere in the City.
- 13- COSP Assist property owners wishing to preserve and protect heritage trees and significant groves.
- 14- COSP Establish a program to identify and administer a viewshed/view corridor protection program.

- 15- Cosp Assign responsibility for the viewshed/view corridor program.
- 16- Cosp Incorporate viewshed/view corridor standards into the Design Element of the General Plan, City Design Guidelines and other appropriate developmental documents.
- 17- Cosp Utilize the services and expertise of organizations involved in resource conservation and open space protection.
- 18- Cosp Develop and achieve agreement with the County of Nevada on a strategy for conservation and open space protection within the Grass Valley Planning Area and City's Sphere of Influence.
- 19- Cosp Enlist the interest and efforts of appropriate state and federal agencies and private foundations regarding conservation and open space protection.
- 20- Cosp Establish, in cooperation with Nevada County, an urban limit line beyond which urban land uses, densities, facilities and services will not extend.
- 21- Cosp Continue to implement water quality improvement plans, including storm water separation and sewage treatment plant expansion.
- 22- Cosp Implement circulation/transportation measures designed to reduce reliance on the automobile.
- 23- Cosp Respond appropriately to state and federal air and water quality policies and policy changes, understanding the implications of regulations and standards, and maintaining a continuing public education program.

3.0 METHODS

In order to evaluate the subject parcel and proposed Project area for the presence of any sensitive biological resources, baseline information from databases and reporting for similar projects in the City of Grass Valley and Nevada County was collected and reviewed prior to conducting reconnaissance-level field biological surveys. The database searches, background research, and habitat level field surveys characterized the baseline conditions of the subject parcel and proposed Project area.

Based on the baseline conditions of the subject parcels and the proposed development outlined within the attached Site Plan/Subdivision Map (Appendix B), an assessment was implemented to determine if any special-status plant or wildlife species have the potential to use the subject parcels and overall Project area at any time during their life cycle. The baseline conditions identified the presence of any sensitive habitat or communities, if they were identified within the subject parcels and the overall Project area.

Sensitive Biological Resources

The following information was used to identify potential special-status plant and wildlife species within the Project region that could be found to use the subject parcels and Project area:

- California Department of Fish and Wildlife's California Natural Diversity Database records search of the USGS Grass Valley Topo Quad where the Project area is located (CDFW, 2025);
- The California Native Plant Society's online Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants of California for the USGS Grass Valley Topo Quad where the Project area is located Project area and Nevada County (CNPS, 2025);
- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service list of endangered, threatened, and proposed species for the Project area (USFWS, 2025);
- National Wetland Inventory (NWI, 2025);
- United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Soils Mapper (USDA, 2025);
- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Hydric Soils List for Nevada County (NRCS, 2025); and
- City of Grass Valley 2020 General Plan (Quad-Knopf, 1999).

Reconnaissance-level Biological Resources Field Survey

An initial site visit and reconnaissance-level biological field survey was conducted on foot of the entire 5.62 acres making up the Project area by Greg Matuzak, Principal Biologist with Greg Matuzak Environmental Consulting and a Qualified Biologist on the City of Grass Valley's list of such qualified biologists. The Project site visit and reconnaissance-level survey of the two parcels was initially conducted on March 6, 2025. A follow up site visit and reconnaissance-level survey of the two parcels was also conducted on April 2, 2025. A Photo Log is included in the attachments, which documents the parcels during the site visits and field survey.

4.0 RESULTS

Environmental Setting

The 5.62 acres covering both parcels (Project area) lie in the Sierra Nevada foothills. The general topography of the subject parcel is characterized as relatively moderately sloping from the middle of the Project area to the west, east, and south given the highest altitude within the Project area is within the middle of the Project area approximately 2,850 feet above mean sea level (MSL). The small southwestern parcel allows for access along Glenbrook Drive as the main access into the Project area is along the eastern edge of the Project area along West Olympia Drive. The subject parcels are located in an area best characterized as a combination of non-native annual grassland and mixed conifer forest dominated by ponderosa pine and incense cedar trees. Ponderosa pines dominate the tree community along with scattered incense cedar trees throughout the subject parcels.

Average elevation within the Project area is approximately 2,750 feet above MSL with the highest elevation within the central section of the Project area (approximately 2,850 feet above MSL) and with the lowest elevation within the southwestern section of the Project area along West Olympia Drive (approximately 2,725 feet above MSL).

The subject parcels are located within a developed area of Nevada County; however, the subject parcels are adjacent to/nested within fragmented mixed conifer forest and annual grassland habitat. Directly south and east of the subject parcels contain commercial and residential development, with larger, partially developed parcels and a more rural setting to the north and west of the Project area. The Fowler Center is located directly to the east of the Project area and commercial development associated with Brunswick Basin is located to the south and southwest of the Project area. State Route (SR) 49 runs to the east/southeast of the Project area. Therefore, there is little potential for wildlife corridors, deer fawning areas, or potential for special-status wildlife or other species to occur within the Project area.

Drainage and Aquatic Resources

There are no streams or wetlands mapped under the National Wetland Inventory (NWI) within or immediately adjacent to the subject parcels except for the Grass Valley Ditch, which is an NID canal managed for local water deliveries and would not be regulated by state or federal agencies (see attached NWI maps in the Appendix D with one zoomed into the site and another zoomed out to show a larger coverage area). The majority of the Project area drains to the south and southwest and enters into the City of Grass Valley stormwater system that flows underground before daylighting with Olympia Creek located to the southeast of the Project area on the other side of SR 49.

Soil Types Mapped within the Project Area

Five soil types were identified within the overall Project area with Sites silt loam, 15 to 30 percent slopes, N low montane being the dominant soil type within the Project area. Along the edges of the overall Project area, the Sites silt loam, 2 to 9 percent slopes, N low montane occurs as well as Aiken loam, 15 to 30 percent slopes and 2 to 9 percent slopes, N low-mid montane, and alluvial land, clayey. None of these soil types are listed as hydric soils on the Nevada County NRCS Hydric Soils List except for the alluvial land, clayey soil type; however, the area mapped with this soil type is within the northeastern corner of the Project area and does not contain wetland vegetation. Hydric soils are considered wetland associated soils. See the attached soils map in the attachments and the further discussion regarding the lack of jurisdictional drainages, streams, and wetlands within the Project area below.

Plant Communities

Plant communities have been classified based on the California Wildlife Habitat Relationships System developed by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). The CDFW also manages the California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDB), which is a database inventory of the locations of rare and endangered plants, wildlife, and natural communities in California. A list of plants and wildlife documented during the field survey are attached in Appendix E of this BRA.

The dominant forested plant community within the Project area is Mixed Conifer Forest with a Ponderosa Pine and Incense Cedar Alliance. Within the open areas within the Project area and dominating the proposed Project disturbance areas, non-native annual grassland is the dominant habitat type. Within a majority of the two parcels making up the Project area, the dense trees make up the dominant habitat within the Project area.

Mixed Conifer Forest Habitat

A mixed conifer forest habitat, or Ponderosa pine-incense cedar Alliance (CDFG, 2010), comprises the forested vegetation community throughout the Project area. The understory is dominated by upland grasses and forbs, both native and non-native. The overall composite of plant species observed within the Project area during the March 6, 2025 and April 2, 2025 field surveys are identified in the attached appendices along with wildlife species observed (see Appendix E).

Mixed conifer forests can expand over broad ranges of topography and elevation and consist of a diverse assemblage of vegetation. The species within this alliance type create varying structures and spatial patterns. Tree species found in mixed conifer forests exhibit a wide range of tolerance to shade and low-impact fire. Water availability is a major driver of mixed conifer forest ecosystem distributions and conditions, as well as topography, soil (depth and texture), and solar insolation (Safford, 2013). In moisture limited forests, uncharacteristic increases in tree density commonly facilitate bark beetle (family Scolytinae), mistletoe (*Phoradendron* spp.), and root disease mortality. Additionally, mixed conifer forests have been significantly impacted by logging, fire suppression, gold mining, and population growth (Evans et al. 2011).

Non-Native Annual Grasslands

Non-native annual grassland species occur within the open sections of the Project area. This habitat type is dominated by wild oats (*Avena fatua*), ripgut brome (*Bromus diandrus*), soft chess (*Bromus hordeaceus*), medusa head (*Taeniatherum caput medusae*), and filaree (*Erodium cicutarium*). Orchard grass (*Dactylis glomerata*), wild rye (*Elymus glaucus*), and tall fescue (*Festuca arundinacea*), among other native and non-native grasses, were also identified in these areas of the Project area. Non-native grasslands are known to out-compete native grasses and forbs throughout the valley and foothill regions. Given the disturbance within the overall Project area and adjacent heavy development to the east, south, and southwest, the Project area contains a degraded annual grassland habitat that is dominated by non-native and invasive species.

Drainage Features

The Grass Valley Ditch, specifically referred to as the Grass Valley Canal, is a part of the NID water conveyance system. It's a key component in NID's water delivery system, providing water to the City of Grass Valley and other NID customers and it runs along the western edge of Lots #10, #11, and #12 as well as along the western edge of Lot D and Lot E. See Appendix A for the parcel reports for both APNs making up the Project area and see Appendix B for the Project Subdivision Map. As seen in Images 9, 10, 11, and 12 in the Photo Log in Appendix F, there is little to no vegetation associated with the NID canal.

However, some sparse common rush species are noted and the California black oak (*Quercus kelloggii*) is the only tree growing along the edges of the ditch. Therefore, there is no riparian or wetland associated vegetation within or adjacent to the NID ditch. There are no other drainage or stream features within the Project area and there are no wetlands associated with the overall Project area. Overall, the natural drainage within the Project area enters into the Grass Valley Ditch and NID delivers that water to customers or natural runoff heads east or south and enters into the City of Grass Valley stormwater management system that connects with Olympia Creek to the southeast of the Project area on the other side of SR 49.

Protected Trees by the City of Grass Valley

There are no heritage trees or street trees located within or directly adjacent to the Project area; however, the Project area does contain trees that meet the City of Grass Valley definition of a tree and some that meet the definition of a significant tree. As part of the tree removal process with the City of Grass Valley, a discussion with the City Planner should include whether a tree removal permit for any trees to be removed is required.

SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES

Special-status species were considered for this BRA is based on a current review of the California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDB) and database information provided by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service for the Project area. The database searches did reveal twenty-four (24) species. Of these species, seven (7) of them are CNPS List 3 and 4 species and based on the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15380 (see Section 2.0 above for details), which provides that only impacts to CNPS Ranks 1 and 2 species would therefore be considered "significant" requiring mitigation.

Therefore, Project related impacts to CNPS List 3 and 4 species would not be considered "significant" and would not require mitigation measures to reduce a significant impact to less than significant. These species (CNPS List 3 and 4 species) are watchlist species and do not need to be discussed formally as part of any CEQA analysis. Impacts to CNPS List 3 and 4 species requiring mitigation lack any potential to be upheld in a legal finding that evaluates a level of significance under CEQA that would require mitigation for those species. CNPS is not a regulatory agency and therefore, only state and federal agencies have regulatory authority of special-status species.

See Appendix G for a list of special-status species previously identified within the Grass Valley USGS Quad where the proposed Project is located. None of these species was observed during field surveys. Additionally, there is no federally mapped Designated Critical Habitat (DCH) within the Project area (USFWS 2025 – see Appendix G). The following species are included in the BRA analysis for special-status species given they have at least a low likelihood of potentially occurring within the Project area based on habitat and previous documentation of such species in relation to the Project area (all other species have no likelihood of occurring within the Project area, see attached species list for all 24 species identified within the database searches):

- Brandegee's Clarkia (*Clarkia biloba ssp. brandegeae*) – California Native Plant Society List 4.
- Sierra foothills brodieae (*Brodieae sierrae*) – California Native Plant Society List 4.3
- Scadden Flat Checkerbloom (*Sidalcea stipularis*) – Federally and CA State Endangered and California Native Plant Society List 1B.1
- Stebbins' morning-glory (*Calystegia stebbinsii*) – CA State and Federally Endangered and California Native Plant Society List 1B.1

- Pine Hill Flannelbush (*Fremontodendron decumbens*) – Federally Endangered and CA State Rare and California Native Plant Society List 1B.2
- Dubious Pea (*Lathyrus sulphureus* var. *argillaceus*) – California Native Plant Society List 3
- Finger Rush (*Juncus digitatus*) – California Native Plant Society List 1B.1
- Brownish Beaked-Rush (*Rhynchospora capitellata*) – California Native Plant Society List 2B.2
- California Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis coturiculus*) – CA State Threatened
- Coast Horned Lizard (*Phrynosoma blainvillii*) – CA State Species of Concern
- Townsend's Big-eared Bat (*Corynorhinus townsendii*) – CA State Species of Concern

Brandeggee's Clarkia (*Clarkia biloba* ssp. *brandegeeae*) – California Native Plant Society List 4.2

Brandeggee's clarkia inhabits chaparral, cismontane woodland, and lower montane coniferous/mixed conifer forest habitats. It is most often found in road cuts between 75 and 915 meters above MSL. The species has been documented within the list of CNDDDB species previously identified in the Grass Valley USGS Quad. During the field surveys this species was not identified within the subject parcels and no suitable habitat for this species is located within the subject parcels. Given that this species is most likely found on or near road cuts on north facing slopes, the likelihood of this species occurring within the subject parcels is considered very low given the subject parcel does not include any road cuts.

Sierra Foothills Brodiaea (*Brodiaea sierrae*) – California Native Plant Society List 4.3

Sierra brodiaea is known to occur on serpentinite or gabbroic soils in chaparral, cismontane woodland, lower montane coniferous forests. It is known from Butte, Nevada and Yuba Counties at elevations ranging between 164 and 3,215 feet above MSL. Sierra brodiaea is a perennial bulb that blooms May through August. It is an herbaceous plant, with a broad umbel of purple, fluted flowers. The species has been documented within the list of CNDDDB species previously identified in the Grass Valley USGS Quad; however, it was not identified within the Project area during the March and April 2025 surveys covering the Project area. Given the lack of chaparral habitat within the Project area, the likelihood of this species being located within the Project area is considered very low. Therefore, the development proposed within the Project area would have no impact on this species.

Scadden Flat Checkerbloom (*Sidalcea stipularis*) – Federally and CA State Endangered and California Native Plant Society List 1B.1

Scadden Flat checkerbloom inhabits marshes and swamps. It is found in wet montane marshes fed by springs, normally between 700 and 740 meters above MSL. The species has been documented within the list of CNDDDB species previously identified in the Grass Valley USGS Quad. The species was not identified during the field surveys and suitable habitat for this species does not occur within the subject parcels given that marsh and swamp habitat does not occur within the Project area. Therefore, the development proposed within the Project area would have no impact on this species.

Stebbins' morning glory (*Calystegia stebbinsii*) – CA State and Federally Endangered and California Native Plant Society List 1B.1

Stebbins' morning glory inhabits chaparral and cismontane woodland. It is found in red clay soils of the pine hill formation on gabbro or serpentine soils in open areas, normally between 980 and 4,330 feet above MSL. The blooming period for this species is April to July. The species has been documented within the list of CNDDDB species previously identified in the Grass Valley USGS Quad. Given the lack of chaparral habitat within the Project area, the likelihood of this species being located within the Project area is considered nil. Therefore, the development proposed within the subject parcels would have no impact on this species.

Pine Hill Flannelbush (*Fremontodendron decumbens*) – Federally Endangered and CA State Rare and California Native Plant Society List 1B.2

Pine Hill flannelbush inhabits rocky ridges on gabbro and serpentine soils within chaparral and cismontane woodlands. This species is endemic to these soil types and is normally documented between 425 and 760 meters above MSL. The species has been documented within the list of CNDDDB species previously identified in the Grass Valley USGS Quad. The species was not identified during the field survey and suitable habitat for this species does not occur within the Project area given a lack of required soils and habitat for this species within the Project area. Therefore, the development proposed within the Project area would have no impact on this species.

Dubious Pea (*Lathyrus sulphureus* var. *argillaceus*) – California Native Plant Society List 3

Dubious pea inhabits lower and upper montane coniferous forest and cismontane woodlands, normally between 150 and 930 meters above MSL. The species has been documented within the list of CNDDDB species previously identified in the Grass Valley USGS Quad. However, the species was not identified during the field survey and suitable habitat for this species is considered less than marginal within the Project area. Therefore, the development proposed within the Project area would have no impact on this species.

Finger Rush (*Juncus digitatus*) – California Native Plant Society List 1B.1

Finger rush inhabits open chaparral habitat surrounded by mixed oak/conifer woodland on low gradient, north-facing, and vernal moist slopes. This species also associates with sandy clay loam soil within substrates underlain by granitic bedrock. The species has been documented within the list of CNDDDB species previously identified in the Grass Valley USGS Quad. However, the species was not identified during the field surveys and suitable habitat for this species does not occur within the Project area. Therefore, the development proposed within the Project area would have no impact on this species.

Brownish Beaked-Rush (*Rhynchospora capitellata*) – California Native Plant Society List 2B.2

Brownish beaked-rush inhabits meadows and seeps, marshes and swamps, and it is found in upper and lower montane coniferous forests, normally between 45 and 2000 meters above MSL. This species is normally identified on mesic sites and has been documented within the list of CNDDDB species previously identified in the Grass Valley USGS Quad. The species was not identified during the field surveys and suitable habitat for this species does not occur within the Project area. Therefore, the development proposed within the subject parcels would have no impact on this species.

California Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis coturiculus*) – CA State Threatened

California black rail inhabits freshwater marshes, wet meadows and shallow margins of saltwater marshes bordering larger bays. The species requires water depths of about 1 inch that does not fluctuate during the year and dense vegetation for nesting habitat. The species has been documented within the list of CNDDDB species previously identified in the Grass Valley USGS Quad. The species was not identified during the field surveys and suitable habitat for this species does not occur within the subject parcels. Therefore, the development proposed within the Project area would have no impact on this species.

Townsend's Big-eared Bat (*Corynorhinus townsendii*) – CA State Species of Concern

This species inhabits lower montane coniferous and mixed conifer forest habitats where abandoned buildings and structures occur for roosting. The species has been documented within the list of CNDDDB species previously identified in the Grass Valley USGS Quad. However, the species was not identified during the field surveys and suitable habitat for this species does not occur within the Project area given there are no abandoned structures within the subject parcels. Therefore, the proposed Project within the subject parcels would have no impact on this species.

Coast Horned Lizard (*Phrynosoma blainvillii*) – CA State Species of Concern

The coast horned lizard occurs in open sandy areas, scattered low bushes, chaparral, manzanita, and oak woodland habitats. It is found in the Sierra Nevada foothills from Butte County to Kern County and throughout the central and southern California coast. Coast horned lizards forage on the ground in open areas, usually between shrubs and often near ant nests. The species relies on camouflage for protections. Predators and extreme heat are avoided by burrowing into loose soil. Periods of inactivity and winter hibernation are spent burrowed in the soil under surface objects such as logs or rocks, in mammal burrows, or in crevices (Zeiner et al. 2000). They inhabit mostly open country, especially sandy areas, washes, flood plains and wind-blown deposits in a wide variety of habitats and can be found at elevations up to 8,000 feet (2,438 meters) (CaliforniaHerps, 2014).

There is a lack of potential suitable habitat within the Project area for the coast horned lizard given the lack of rockier and sandy areas that this species requires. The species has been documented within the list of CNDDB species previously identified in the Grass Valley USGS Quad. Given the Project area does not contain open areas with scattered oak trees with rockier and sandy areas, it is not likely this species would occur within the Project area. No coast horned lizards were observed during the March or April 2025 site visits.

Nesting raptors and other migratory birds species - Protected under MBTA, Protected under CA State DFG Code Sections 3503, 3503.5, and 3800

There is a low potential for nesting raptors and other nesting migratory bird species protected under the MBTA to occur within the Project area given the high level of development and disturbance within and adjacent to the subject parcels and proposed Project area. The Project area represent degraded potential habitat for bird species protected under the MBTA, such as tree nesting species (raptors) and ground nesting species like the spotted towhee (*Pipilo maculatus*) and dark-eyed junco (*Junco hyemalis*). However, active and inactive nests within and adjacent to the proposed areas to be developed within the Project area were not identified during field survey. If development within the Project area will occur during the nesting season for raptors and ground nesting MBTA protected birds (March 1st through August 31st), a pre-construction survey should be conducted if such development activities pose a risk to nest abandonment prior to the fledging of young from such nests.

Critical Deer Habitat

Known migratory deer ranges outlined in the Nevada County General Plan was reviewed for deer migration corridors, critical range, and critical fawning areas. The subject parcels are not located in any known major deer corridors, known deer holding areas, or critical deer fawning area. Per the Migratory Deer Ranges Nevada County General Plan map, the subject parcels are located in an area of potential Deer Winter Range. The field surveys did not record any observations of deer. The Project area does not contain any known major deer migration corridors, known deer holding areas, nor critical deer fawning areas given the high levels of disturbance and development within and adjacent to the subject parcels and proposed Project area. Therefore, the proposed development within the Project area would have no potential to impact sensitive deer habitat.

5.0 CONCLUSION

The Project area is located within an increasingly developed area of the City of Grass Valley and Nevada County. The Project area is located adjacent to/nested within fragmented Mixed Conifer Forest habitat with open areas being dominated by non-native annual grassland and invasive species. The 5.62 acres covering both parcels (Project area) lie within a mostly developed area of Nevada County; however, the Project area is adjacent to/nested within fragmented mixed conifer forest and annual grassland habitat. Directly south, east, and west of the Project area contains commercial and residential development, with larger, partially developed parcels and a more rural setting to the north of the Project area.

Therefore, the subject parcels and overall Project area is isolated and heavily disturbed and surrounded by commercial and residential development, so any site disturbance within the 5.62-acre Project area would have an overall low potential to impact sensitive wildlife and other biological resources given the low likelihood of such species to occur within the subject parcels and overall Project area.

Impacts to Aquatic Resources

The proposed Project disturbance areas within the Project area does not contain any jurisdictional wetlands or “waters of the U.S.” and they do not contain any stream or related riparian habitat that would be regulated by CDFW. The Grass Valley Ditch located within the western edge of the Project area would not meet the Corps criteria for being regulated under the Clean Water Act (CWA). The 2023 Updated Water of the United States (WOTUS) Rule reversed the 2020 ruling such that only perennial aquatic resources with documented connections to navigable waterways are currently regulated under the CWA (See Section 2.0 above under the Section 404 of the Clean Water Act for details). Therefore, the Project area does not contain any “waters of the U.S.” including wetlands, given the lack of perennial streams and wetlands with a direct connection to a navigable waterway. Therefore, the Project area does not include any waters subject to regulation under the CWA.

Furthermore, CDFW would not regulate the NID ditch/canal given it is a water conveyance system that NID uses to deliver water to customers. Overall drainage within the Project area runs to the east and south of the Project area overland and either enters into the NID ditch or enters into the existing City of Grass Valley Stormwater Management System, which is not defined as a regulated stream under the California Fish and Game. Additionally, given the drainage is not a regulated stream or wetland, Project related disturbance within 30 feet of the NID Grass Valley Ditch would not require a Resources Management Plan per the City of Grass Valley Development Code 17.50 Creek and Riparian Resource Protection.

Impacts to Protected Nesting Birds

The subject parcels and trees within the subject parcels (see Photo Log in the appendices attached) contain marginal suitable habitat for nesting raptors and MBTA protected nesting bird species. The breeding season for most protected birds in the vicinity of the Project area is generally from March 1st to August 31st. Vegetation clearing or tree removal outside of the breeding season for such bird species would not require the implementation of any avoidance, minimization, or mitigation measures. However, construction or development activities during the breeding season could disturb or remove occupied nests of migratory birds or raptors and could require the implementation of a pre-construction survey within 250 feet of the disturbance area within the subject parcels for nesting migratory birds and raptors prior to development.

If any nesting raptors or migratory birds are identified during surveys, active nests should be avoided and a no-disturbance buffer should be established around the nesting site to avoid disturbance or destruction of the nest site until after the breeding season or after a wildlife biologist determines that the young have fledged. The extent of these buffers would be determined by a wildlife biologist and would depend on the special-status species present, the level of noise or construction disturbance, line of sight between the nest and the disturbance, ambient levels of noise and other disturbances, and other topographical or artificial barriers. These factors should be analyzed to make an appropriate decision on buffer distances.

Impacts to Special-Status Plants and Terrestrial Wildlife

Given the Project area is surrounded by commercial and residential development as well as the lack of required soil and habitat types for special-status plant and wildlife species previously recorded within the Grass Valley USGS Quad, there is a very low potential for such special-status plant and wildlife species to occur within the Project area. Furthermore, suitable habitat for species listed under the federal and State of California Endangered Species Acts (ESAs) is not located within the Project area or within the proposed areas of disturbance. Therefore, no threatened or endangered species would occur within the Project area and would not be impacted by site development.

Known occurrences of special-status plants and wildlife have been documented and listed within the Grass Valley USGS Quad (see Appendix G) where the Project area is located; however, the Project area does not contain suitable habitat for any known special-status species, including CNPS List 3 and List 4 species that are watch list species and would not require mitigation if they were to be impacted by site development. Furthermore and as stated within this BRA, CNPS List 3 and List 4 species impacts are not considered "significant" and therefore, would not require mitigation if they were impacted by the Project related disturbance.

Given the lack of such suitable habitat for special-status plant and wildlife species, the proposed development within the Project area would have no impact on any special-status species or sensitive habitats. Specifically, the proposed Project would have no potential to impact endangered, rare, or otherwise threatened species or their habitat since the level of disturbance within the Project area is considered high and suitable habitat for such species is not available within the Project area.

Impacts to Tree Resources

Based on site specific field survey, the Project area does not contain any heritage trees or street trees as defined by the City of Grass Valley. However, the Project area does contain trees and significant trees as defined by the City of Grass Valley Tree Ordinance. A DBH of greater than 24 inches defines a tree as a Significant Trees and a tree with a DBH between 10 and 24 inches defines them as Trees under the City of Grass Valley Municipal Code 12.36. A Tree Removal Permit would be required for the removal of any native tree that is 10 inches or greater in diameter at breast height within the Project area. As part of any tree removal process with the City of Grass Valley, a discussion with the City Planner should include whether a tree removal permit for any trees to be removed is required as part of the proposed development within the Project area.

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Appendix A

Parcel Reports

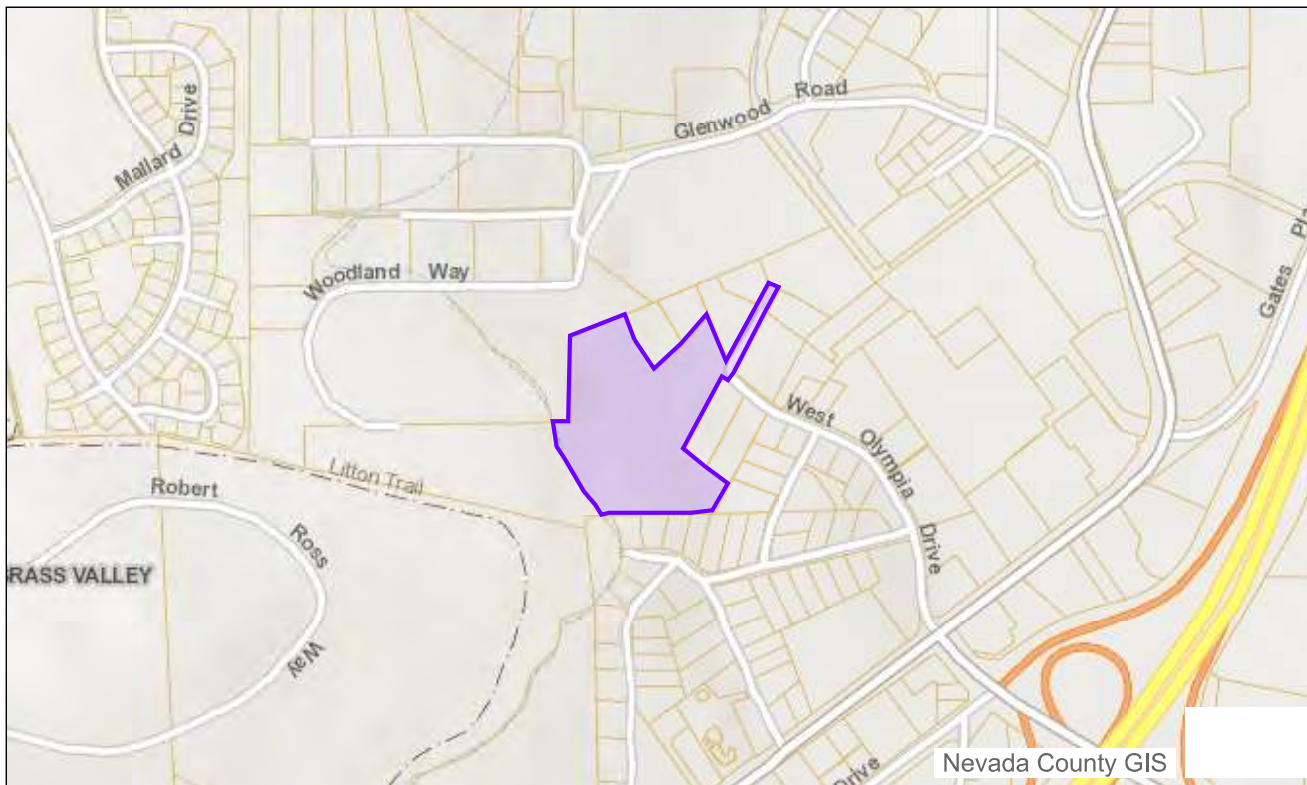


County of Nevada

Nevada County, CA Parcel Report
Data current as of: 4/17/2025

Description: The Parcel Report displays information from a variety of sources – Assessor, Building, Code Enforcement, Environmental Health, and Planning departments to list a few. The report is maintained by the County GIS Division.

Search by Assessor's Parcel Number (APN): **035-280-008-000**



[View Assessor's Parcel Map PDF](#)

[Site Information](#)

[Property Details](#)

[Districts](#)

[Permits](#)

[Unrecorded Maps](#)

[Corner Records](#)

Site Address

262 WEST OLYMPIA DRIVE

Jurisdiction

GRASS VALLEY CITY

Legal Description

PTN SEC 23-16-8

Public Land Survey System

T16N-R8E-23

Property Summary

Assessor's Parcel Number	Acreage	Land Value	Improvement Value	Tax Rate Area
035-280-008-000	5.44	\$58,581.00	\$0.00	001-056

Property Context

Zoning	Zoning District Map	General Plan	Census Tract	Census Block Group	Max Elevation	Ground Snow Load (lbs/sqft)	Climate Zone	Wind Exposure
R-1 GVCity	52c	ULD GVCity	5.01	2	2,762	51	11	C



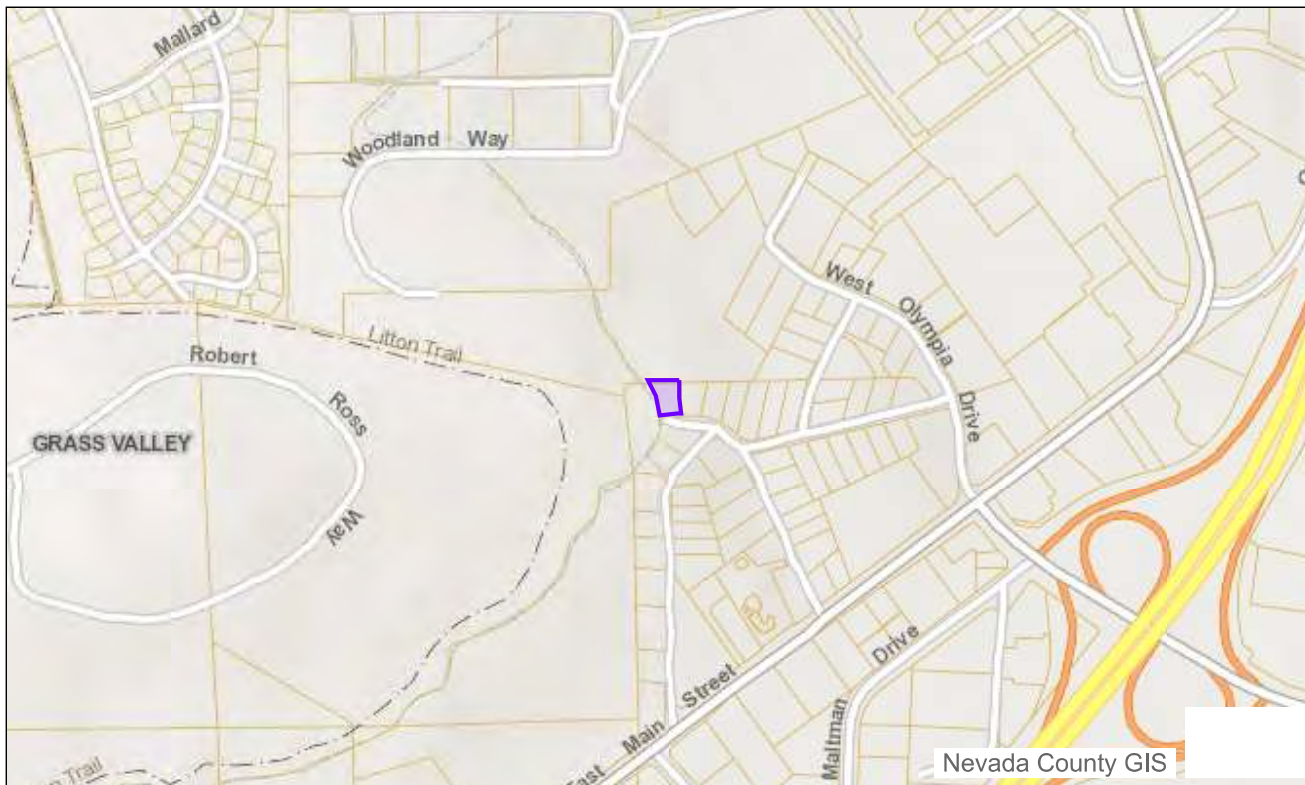
County of Nevada

Nevada County, CA Parcel Report
Data current as of: 4/17/2025

Description: The Parcel Report displays information from a variety of sources – Assessor, Building, Code Enforcement, Environmental Health, and Planning departments to list a few. The report is maintained by the County GIS Division.

Search by Assessor's Parcel Number (APN): **035-300-040-000**

Search



[View Assessor's Parcel Map PDF](#)

Site Information

Property Details

Districts

Permits

Unrecorded Maps

Corner Records

Site Address

281 GLENBROOK DRIVE

Jurisdiction

GRASS VALLEY CITY

Legal Description

PTN LT 6,7 BLK C GLENBROOK HTS

Public Land Survey System

T16N-R8E-23

Subdivision

Glenbrook Heights Annex

Property Summary

Assessor's Parcel Number	Acreage	Land Value	Improvement Value	Tax Rate Area
035-300-040-000	0.18	\$73,560.00	\$75,127.00	001-056

Property Context

Zoning	Zoning District Map	General Plan	Census Tract	Census Block Group	Max Elevation	Ground Snow Load (lbs/sqft)	Climate Zone	Wind Exposure
R-1 GVCity.	52c	ULD GVCity.	5.01	2	2,752	51	11	C

Appendix B

Tentative Subdivision Map

OWNER
LENORE GARDNER & LARRY WOODS TRUST
19559 DUNDAS RD
PENNY VALLEY, CA 95946
CONTACT: LARRY WOODS

SITE ADDRESS
262 WEST OLYMPIA DR,
GRASS VALLEY, CA 95945

PLANNING/ENGINEERING
322 PLANNING & ENGINEERING, INC.
140 LITTON DRIVE, SUITE 240
GRASS VALLEY, CA 95945
(530) 272-5941
CONTACT: MARTIN WOODS, P.L.S. or JASON BARNUM, P.E.

FIRE PROTECTION
CITY OF GRASS VALLEY
125 E. MAIN STREET
GRASS VALLEY, CA 95945
(530) 274-4382
CONTACT: SHARON HUTCHINS

WATER
NEVADA IRRIGATION DISTRICT
1636 WEST MAIN STREET
GRASS VALLEY, CA 95945
(530) 273-6180
CONTACT: TRICIA PANOCK
WATER SYSTEM APPROVED FOR CONSTRUCTION BY:

DOUG ROEBROCK
ENGINEERING MANAGER
NEVADA IRRIGATION DISTRICT
DATE:

*APPROVAL IS HEREBY CONDITIONED THAT AN APPROVED CONVEYANCE AGREEMENT MUST BE FULLY
EXECUTED WITHIN 60 DAYS FROM THE ACCEPTANCE DATE ABOVE. ALL WORK SHALL CONFORM TO THE
DISTRICT STANDARDS AS SHOWN AT THE NID WEBSITE

SEWAGE DISPOSAL
CITY OF GRASS VALLEY
125 E. MAIN STREET
GRASS VALLEY, CA 95945
CONTACT: CATHERINE OWENS, P.E.

ELECTRICAL
PG&E
788 TAYLORVILLE ROAD
GRASS VALLEY, CA 95949
(530) 477-3280
CONTACT: LEE WELLS

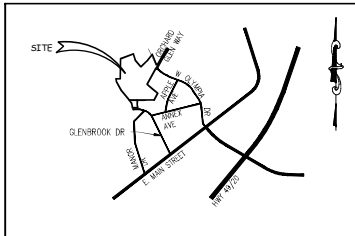
GAS
PG&E
788 TAYLORVILLE ROAD
GRASS VALLEY, CA 95949
(530) 477-3280
CONTACT: LEE WELLS

ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBER
035-280-008; 035-300-040

ACREAGE
5.82 ± ACRES

ZONING
R-1

BASIS OF BEARINGS
THE BASIS OF BEARING FOR THIS SURVEY IS GRID NORTH BASED ON THE CALIFORNIA STATE PLANE COORDINATE
SYSTEM, ZONE 2, AND WAS ESTABLISHED BETWEEN NGS POINT DONNER AND NGS POINT TRUCKEE, THE BEARING OF
WHICH IS SOUTH 89°23'15" EAST.



VICINITY MAP
N.T.S.



SHEET INDEX

C1.0 COVER SHEET
C2.0 TOPOGRAPHY AND TREE REMOVAL PLAN
C3.0 SITE AND SNOW STORAGE PLAN
C4.0 UTILITY PLAN

TENTATIVE SUBDIVISION MAP
LARRY WOODS
COVER SHEET



GRASS VALLEY
(530) 878-8841
TRUCKEE
(530) 582-4045



C1.0

Appendix C

USDA Soils Map

Soil Map—Nevada County Area, California



**Natural Resources
Conservation Service**

Web Soil Survey
National Cooperative Soil Survey

3/3/2025
Page 1 of 3

MAP LEGEND

Area of Interest (AOI)

 Area of Interest (AOI)

Soils

 Soil Map Unit Polygons

 Soil Map Unit Lines

 Soil Map Unit Points

Special Point Features



Blowout



Borrow Pit



Clay Spot



Closed Depression



Gravel Pit



Gravelly Spot



Landfill



Lava Flow



Marsh or swamp



Mine or Quarry



Miscellaneous Water



Perennial Water



Rock Outcrop



Saline Spot



Sandy Spot



Severely Eroded Spot



Sinkhole



Slide or Slip



Sodic Spot



Spoil Area



Stony Spot



Very Stony Spot



Wet Spot



Other



Special Line Features

Water Features



Streams and Canals

Transportation



Rails



Interstate Highways



US Routes



Major Roads



Local Roads

Background



Aerial Photography

MAP INFORMATION

The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:24,000.

Warning: Soil Map may not be valid at this scale.

Enlargement of maps beyond the scale of mapping can cause misunderstanding of the detail of mapping and accuracy of soil line placement. The maps do not show the small areas of contrasting soils that could have been shown at a more detailed scale.

Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for map measurements.

Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service

Web Soil Survey URL:

Coordinate System: Web Mercator (EPSG:3857)

Maps from the Web Soil Survey are based on the Web Mercator projection, which preserves direction and shape but distorts distance and area. A projection that preserves area, such as the Albers equal-area conic projection, should be used if more accurate calculations of distance or area are required.

This product is generated from the USDA-NRCS certified data as of the version date(s) listed below.

Soil Survey Area: Nevada County Area, California

Survey Area Data: Version 17, Aug 30, 2024

Soil map units are labeled (as space allows) for map scales 1:50,000 or larger.

Date(s) aerial images were photographed: Jun 3, 2023—Sep 8, 2023

The orthophoto or other base map on which the soil lines were compiled and digitized probably differs from the background imagery displayed on these maps. As a result, some minor shifting of map unit boundaries may be evident.

Map Unit Legend

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
AfB	Aiken loam, 2 to 9 percent slopes, N Low-Mid Montane	0.6	5.6%
AfD	Aiken loam, 15 to 30 percent slopes, N Low Mid Montane	0.8	7.4%
Ao	Alluvial land, clayey	0.9	8.9%
SIB	Sites silt loam, 2 to 9 percent slopes, N low montane	0.8	7.5%
SID	Sites silt loam, 15 to 30 percent slopes, N low montane	7.3	70.7%
Totals for Area of Interest		10.3	100.0%

Appendix D

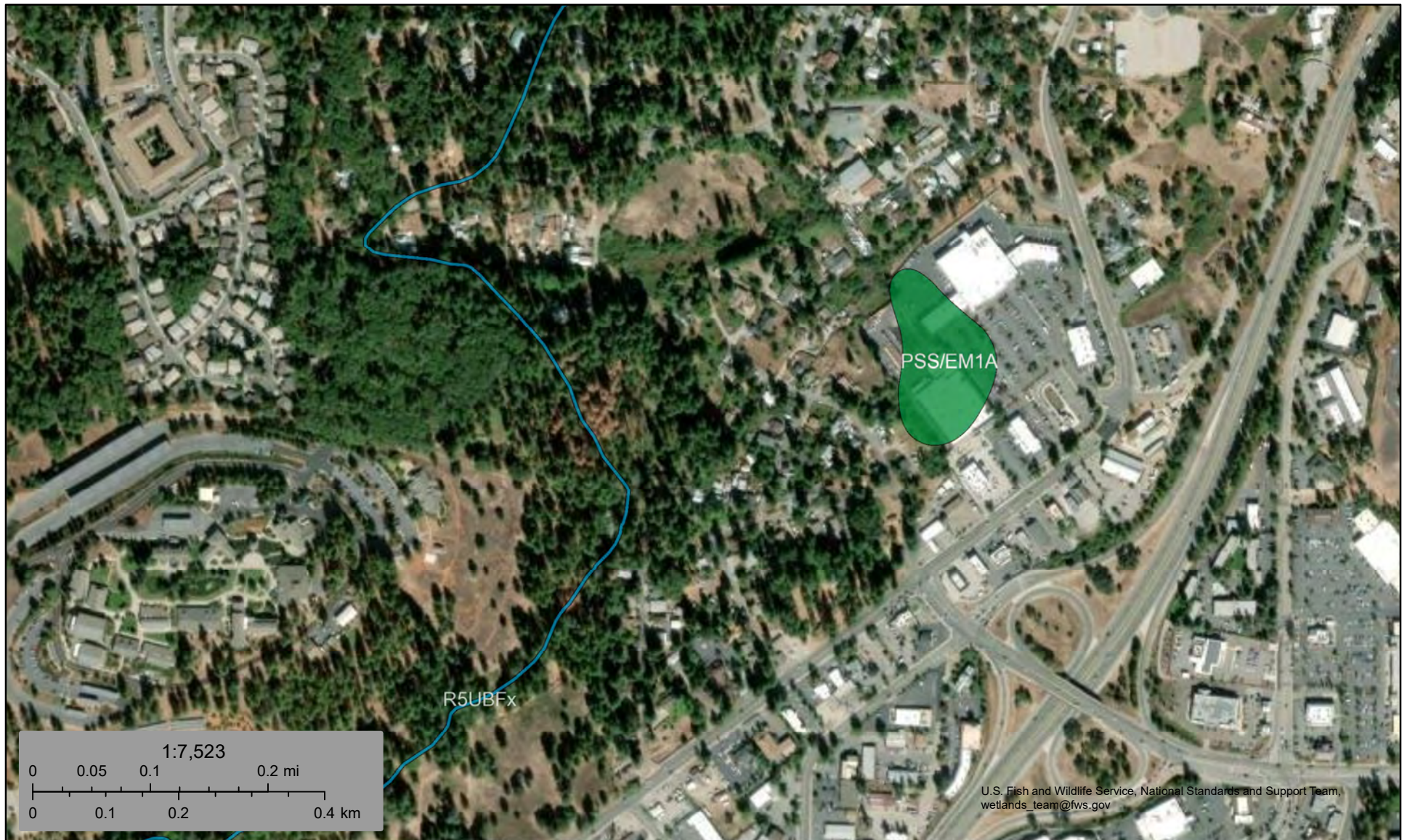
National Wetland Inventory Database Maps



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

National Wetlands Inventory

262 W. OLYMPIA DR Zoomed Out



March 3, 2025

Wetlands

- Estuarine and Marine Deepwater
- Estuarine and Marine Wetland

- Freshwater Emergent Wetland
- Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland
- Freshwater Pond

- Lake
- Other
- Riverine

This map is for general reference only. The US Fish and Wildlife Service is not responsible for the accuracy or currentness of the base data shown on this map. All wetlands related data should be used in accordance with the layer metadata found on the Wetlands Mapper web site.



March 3, 2025

Wetlands

	Estuarine and Marine Deepwater		Freshwater Emergent Wetland		Lake
	Estuarine and Marine Wetland		Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland		Other
			Freshwater Pond		Riverine

This map is for general reference only. The US Fish and Wildlife Service is not responsible for the accuracy or currentness of the base data shown on this map. All wetlands related data should be used in accordance with the layer metadata found on the Wetlands Mapper web site.

Appendix E: Plant and Wildlife Species Observed during the Survey of the Subject Parcels on **March 19th** and **April 4th**, 2025, Grass Valley, California

Common Name	Scientific Name	Species Status
Plants		
wild oats	<i>Avena</i> spp.	Not FESA, CESA, or CNPS listed
brome spp.	<i>Bromus</i> spp.	Not FESA, CESA, or CNPS listed
buttercup spp.	<i>Ranunculus</i> spp.	Not FESA, CESA, or CNPS listed
California wild rose	<i>Rosa californica</i>	Not FESA, CESA, or CNPS listed
California black oak	<i>Quercus kelloggii</i>	Not FESA, CESA, or CNPS listed
greenleaf Manzanita	<i>Arctostaphylos patula</i>	Not FESA, CESA, or CNPS listed
common mouse ear chickweed	<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	Not FESA, CESA, or CNPS listed
common mullein	<i>Verbascum Thapsus</i>	Not FESA, CESA, or CNPS listed
common mustard	<i>Brassica rapa</i>	Not FESA, CESA, or CNPS listed
common periwinkle	<i>Vinca minor</i>	Not FESA, CESA, or CNPS listed
common sheep sorrel	<i>Rumex acetocella</i>	Not FESA, CESA, or CNPS listed
cyptanth spp.	<i>Cryptantha</i> spp.	Not FESA, CESA, or CNPS listed
dandelion spp.	<i>Agoseris</i> spp.	Not FESA, CESA, or CNPS listed
English plantain	<i>Plantago lanceolate</i>	Not FESA, CESA, or CNPS listed
everlasting pea	<i>Lathyrus latifolius</i>	Not FESA, CESA, or CNPS listed
honeysuckle spp.	<i>Lonicera</i> spp.	Not FESA, CESA, or CNPS listed

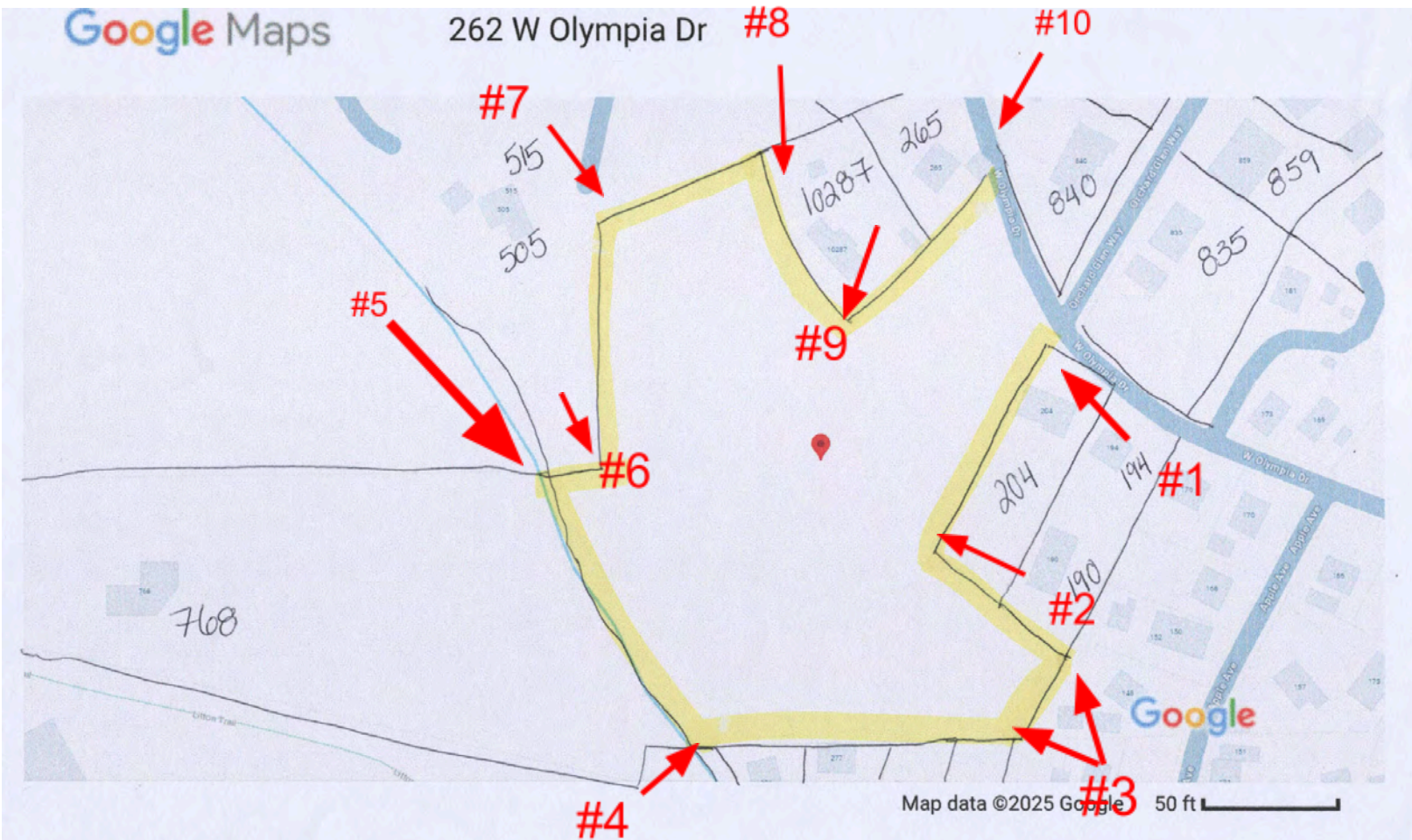
Common Name	Scientific Name	Species Status
incense cedar	<i>Calocedrus decurrens</i>	Not FESA, CESA, or CNPS listed
interior live oak	<i>Quercus wislizeni</i>	Not FESA, CESA, or CNPS listed
iris spp.	<i>Iris</i> spp.	Not FESA, CESA, or CNPS listed
mountain misery	<i>Chamaebatia foliolosa</i>	Not FESA, CESA, or CNPS listed
mountain violet	<i>Viola purpurea</i>	Not FESA, CESA, or CNPS listed
ponderosa pine	<i>Pinus ponderosa</i>	Not FESA, CESA, or CNPS listed
ripgut brome	<i>Bromus diandrus</i>	Not FESA, CESA, or CNPS listed
rush spp.	<i>Juncus</i> spp.	Not FESA, CESA, or CNPS listed
Himalayan blackberry	<i>Rubus armeniacus</i>	Not FESA, CESA, or CNPS listed
St. John's wort; Klamath weed	<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	Not FESA, CESA, or CNPS listed
shamrock clover	<i>Trifolium dubium</i>	Not FESA, CESA, or CNPS listed
stork's bill spp.	<i>Erodium</i> spp.	Not FESA, CESA, or CNPS listed

Common Name	Scientific Name	Species Status
Birds		
American robin	<i>Turdus migratorius</i>	Not CESA or FESA listed. Migratory (active nests protected)
dark-eyed junco	<i>Junco hyemalis</i>	Not CESA or FESA listed. Migratory (active nests protected)
house finch	<i>Haemorhous mexicanus</i>	Not CESA or FESA listed. Migratory (active nests protected)
mourning dove	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	Not CESA or FESA listed. Migratory (active nests protected)
northern flicker	<i>Colaptes auratus</i>	Not CESA or FESA listed. Migratory (active nests protected)
turkey vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	Not CESA or FESA listed. Migratory (active nests protected)
western scrub-jay	<i>Aphelocoma californica</i>	Not CESA or FESA listed. Migratory (active nests protected)

Appendix F

Photo Log

262 W Olympia Drive



Key: (Corners of the parcel)

- #1: Bottom left W Olympia Dr. entrance.
- #2: First left corner of the property.
- #3: Top left corner of the property.
- #4: Top left corner of the property.
- #5: Top right corner of the property.
- #6: Second, top right corner near the top of the property.
- #7: Middle, right corner of the property.
- #8: Middle, bottom right corner of the property.
- #9: Bottom right corner of the property.
- #10: Bottom right W Olympia Dr. entrance.

Photos:



Image 1: Bottom, left corner of the property, #1. (Photo taken while standing on the road).



Image 2: Bottom, left corner of property, #1. (Looking towards the right side of the lower property).



Image 3: #2 corner. Looking down towards the entrance of the property.



Image 4: #2 corner. Looking left towards #3 corners.



Image 5: #3 corner. Looking towards 204 W Olympia Drive. (Lot to the left of 262).



Image 6: #3 corner. Looking up towards #4 corner.



Image 7: Corner #4. Looking down towards corners #7 & #8.



Image 8: Corner #4. Looking straight across to corner #5.



Image 9: Corner #4. Looking down towards corners #6 & #7.



Image 10: Ditch. In between corners #4 and #5.



Image 11: Top right corner, corner #5. Looking towards corner #4.



Image 12: Corner #5. Looking up towards 768 Woodland Way.



Image 13: Corner #6. Looking up towards the ditch.



Image 14: Corner #6. Looking towards corners #1 & #2.



Image 15: Corner #6. Looking towards corners #7 & #8.



Image 16: Corner #7. Looking towards corners #1 & #10.



Image 17: Corner #9. Looking up towards corners #4 & #5.



Image 18: Corner #9. Looking down towards corners #1 & #2.



Image 19: Middle of the property looking directly up towards the ditch. Between corners #4 & #5.



Image 20: South from corner #9. Looking towards corners #9 & #10.



Image 21: Looking down towards W Olympia Drive. Corners #9 & #10.



Image 22: In between corners #1 & #10, looking north of the parcel.

Appendix G

CNDDDB & **CNPS** Grass Valley USGS Quad List and USFWS iPac Report

Element_Type	Scientific_Name	Common_Name	Element_Code	Federal_Status	State_Status	CDFW_Status	CA_Rare_Plant_Rank	Quad_Code	Quad_Name	Data_Status	Taxonomic_Sc
Animals - Birds	Antigone canadensis canadensis	lesser sandhill crane	ABNMK01011	None	None	SSC	-	3912121	GRASS VALLEY	Unprocessed	Animals - Birds Gruidae - Antigone canadensis canadensis
Animals - Birds	Antigone canadensis tabida	greater sandhill crane	ABNMK01014	None	Threatened	FP	-	3912121	GRASS VALLEY	Unprocessed	Animals - Birds Gruidae - Antigone canadensis tabida
Animals - Birds	Icteria virens	yellow-breasted chat	ABPBX24010	None	None	SSC	-	3912121	GRASS VALLEY	Mapped	Animals - Birds Icteriidae - Icter virens
Animals - Birds	Setophaga petechia	yellow warbler	ABPBX03010	None	None	SSC	-	3912121	GRASS VALLEY	Unprocessed	Animals - Birds Parulidae - Setophaga petechia
Animals - Birds	Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus	California black rail	ABNME03041	None	Threatened	FP	-	3912121	GRASS VALLEY	Mapped	Animals - Birds Rallidae - Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus
Animals - Birds	Strix occidentalis occidentalis	California Spotted Owl	ABNSB12013	Proposed Endangered; Proposed Threatened	None	SSC	-	3912121	GRASS VALLEY	Mapped	Animals - Birds Strigidae - Strix occidentalis occidentalis
Animals - Birds	Contopus cooperi	olive-sided flycatcher	ABPAE32010	None	None	SSC	-	3912121	GRASS VALLEY	Unprocessed	Animals - Birds Tyrannidae - Contopus coop
Animals - Birds	Empidonax traillii	willow flycatcher	ABPAE33040	None	Endangered	-	-	3912121	GRASS VALLEY	Unprocessed	Animals - Birds Tyrannidae - Empidonax trail
Animals - Mammals	Corynorhinus townsendii	Townsend's big-eared bat	AMACC08010	None	None	SSC	-	3912121	GRASS VALLEY	Mapped	Animals - Mammals - Vespertilionidae Corynorhinus townsendii
Animals - Reptiles	Phrynosoma blainvillii	coast horned lizard	ARACF12100	None	None	SSC	-	3912121	GRASS VALLEY	Mapped and Unprocessed	Animals - Reptiles - Phrynosomatidæ - Phrynosoma blainvillii
Plants - Vascular	Allium sanbornii var. sanbornii	Sanborns onion	PMLIL02212	None	None	-	4.2	3912121	GRASS VALLEY	Unprocessed	Plants - Vascular - Alliaceae - Allium sanborni var. sanbornii
Plants - Vascular	Perideridia bacigalupii	Bacigalupis yampah	PDAP11N020	None	None	-	4.2	3912121	GRASS VALLEY	Unprocessed	Plants - Vascular - Apiaceae - Perideridia bacigalupii
Plants - Vascular	Calycadenia spicata	spicate calycadenia	PDAST1P090	None	None	-	1B.3	3912121	GRASS VALLEY	Mapped	Plants - Vascular - Asteraceae - Calycadenia spicata
Plants - Vascular	Calystegia stebbinsii	Stebbins morning-glory	PDCON040H0	Endangered	Endangered	-	1B.1	3912121	GRASS VALLEY	Mapped and Unprocessed	Plants - Vascular - Convolvulaceae

											- Calystegia stebbinsii
Plants - Vascular	Carex xerophila	chaparral sedge	PMCYP03M60	None	None	-	1B.2	3912121	GRASS VALLEY	Mapped and Unprocessed	Plants - Vascular - Cyperaceae - Carex xerophila
Plants - Vascular	Rhynchospora capitellata	brownish beaked-rush	PMCYP0N080	None	None	-	2B.2	3912121	GRASS VALLEY	Mapped	Plants - Vascular - Cyperaceae - Rhynchospora capitellata
Plants - Vascular	Arctostaphylos mewukka ssp. truei	Trues manzanita	PDERI040Q2	None	None	-	4.2	3912121	GRASS VALLEY	Unprocessed	Plants - Vascular - Ericaceae - Arctostaphylos mewukka ssp. truei
Plants - Vascular	Lathyrus sulphureus var. argillaceus	dubious pea	PDFAB25101	None	None	-	3	3912121	GRASS VALLEY	Mapped	Plants - Vascular - Fabaceae - Lathyrus sulphureus var. argillaceus
Plants - Vascular	Juncus digitatus	finger rush	PMJUN013E0	None	None	-	1B.1	3912121	GRASS VALLEY	Mapped and Unprocessed	Plants - Vascular - Juncaceae - Juncus digitatus
Plants - Vascular	Lilium humboldtii ssp. humboldtii	Humboldt lily	PMLIL1A071	None	None	-	4.2	3912121	GRASS VALLEY	Unprocessed	Plants - Vascular - Liliaceae - Lilium humboldtii
Plants - Vascular	Fremontodendron decumbens	Pine Hill flannelbush	PDSTE03030	Endangered	Rare	-	1B.2	3912121	GRASS VALLEY	Mapped	Plants - Vascular - Malvaceae - Fremontodendron decumbens
Plants - Vascular	Sidalcea stipularis	Scadden Flat checkerbloom	PDMAL110R0	None	Endangered	-	1B.1	3912121	GRASS VALLEY	Mapped	Plants - Vascular - Malvaceae - Sidalcea stipularis
Plants - Vascular	Clarkia biloba ssp. brandegeae	Brandegees clarkia	PDONA05053	None	None	-	4.2	3912121	GRASS VALLEY	Mapped and Unprocessed	Plants - Vascular - Onagraceae - Clarkia biloba ssp. brandegeae
Plants - Vascular	Brodiaea sierrae	Sierra foothills brodiaea	PMLIL0C0J0	None	None	-	4.3	3912121	GRASS VALLEY	Unprocessed	Plants - Vascular - Themidaceae Brodiaea sierrae

CNPS Rare Plant Inventory



Search Results

14 matches found. Click on scientific name for details

Search Criteria: , Quad is one of [3912121]

▲ SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	FAMILY	LIFEFORM	BLOOMING PERIOD	FED LIST	STATE LIST	GLOBAL RANK	STATE RANK	CA RARE PLANT RANK	CA ENDEMIC	DATE ADDED	PHOTO
<i>Allium sanbornii</i> <i>var. sanbornii</i>	Sanborn's onion	Alliaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	May-Sep	None	None	G3T4?	S3S4	4.2		1994-01-01	 ©2018 Steven Perry
<i>Arctostaphylos mewukka</i> ssp. <i>truei</i>	True's manzanita	Ericaceae	perennial evergreen shrub	Feb-Jul	None	None	G4?T3	S3	4.2	Yes	1984-01-01	 © 2008 George W. Hartwell

<i>Brodiaea sierrae</i>	Sierra foothills brodiaea	Themidaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	May-Aug	None	None	G3	S3	4.3	Yes	2012- 11-20	 © 2006 George W. Hartwell
<i>Calycadenia spicata</i>	spicate calycadenia	Asteraceae	annual herb	May-Sep	None	None	G3?	S3	1B.3		2023- 04-05	 © 2023 Christopher Bronny
<i>Calystegia stebbinsii</i>	Stebbins' morning- glory	Convolvulaceae	perennial rhizomatous herb	Apr-Jul	FE	CE	G1	S1	1B.1	Yes	1980- 01-01	 Steven Perry
<i>Carex xerophila</i>	chaparral sedge	Cyperaceae	perennial herb	Mar-Jun	None	None	G2	S2	1B.2	Yes	2016- 06-06	 © 2023 Steven Perry
<i>Clarkia biloba ssp. brandegeae</i>	Brandegee's clarkia	Onagraceae	annual herb	(Mar)May- Jul	None	None	G4G5T4	S4	4.2	Yes	2001- 01-01	No Photo Available

<i>Fremontodendron decumbens</i>	Pine Hill flannelbush	Malvaceae	perennial evergreen shrub	Apr-Jul	FE	CR	G1	S1	1B.2	Yes	1974-01-01	 Steven Perry
<i>Juncus digitatus</i>	finger rush	Juncaceae	annual herb	(Apr)May-Jun	None	None	G1	S1	1B.1	Yes	2009-01-02	 Image by Wendy Boes
<i>Lathyrus sulphureus</i> var. <i>argillaceus</i>	dubious pea	Fabaceae	perennial herb	Apr-May	None	None	G5T1T2Q	S1S2	3	Yes	1994-01-01	No Photo Available
<i>Lilium humboldtii</i> ssp. <i>humboldtii</i>	Humboldt lily	Liliaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	May-Jul(Aug)	None	None	G4T3	S3	4.2	Yes	1994-01-01	 © 2008 Sierra Pacific Industries
<i>Perideridia bacigalupii</i>	Bacigalupi's yampah	Apiaceae	perennial herb	Jun-Aug	None	None	G3	S3	4.2	Yes	1974-01-01	No Photo Available

<i>Rhynchospora capitellata</i>	brownish beaked-rush	Cyperaceae	perennial herb	Jul-Aug	None	None	G5	S2	2B.2		1974-01-01	 ©2004 Dean Wm. Taylor
<i>Sidalcea stipularis</i>	Scadden Flat checkerbloom	Malvaceae	perennial rhizomatous herb	Jul-Aug	None	CE	G1	S1	1B.1	Yes	1980-01-01	No Photo Available

Showing 1 to 14 of 14 entries

Go to top

Suggested Citation:

California Native Plant Society, Rare Plant Program. 2025. Rare Plant Inventory (online edition, v9.5.1). Website <https://www.rareplants.cnps.org> [accessed 3 March 2025].
}

IPaC resource list

This report is an automatically generated list of species and other resources such as critical habitat (collectively referred to as *trust resources*) under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) jurisdiction that are known or expected to be on or near the project area referenced below. The list may also include trust resources that occur outside of the project area, but that could potentially be directly or indirectly affected by activities in the project area. However, determining the likelihood and extent of effects a project may have on trust resources typically requires gathering additional site-specific (e.g., vegetation/species surveys) and project-specific (e.g., magnitude and timing of proposed activities) information.

Below is a summary of the project information you provided and contact information for the USFWS office(s) with jurisdiction in the defined project area. Please read the introduction to each section that follows (Endangered Species, Migratory Birds, USFWS Facilities, and NWI Wetlands) for additional information applicable to the trust resources addressed in that section.

Location

Nevada County, California



Local office

Sacramento Fish And Wildlife Office

☎ (916) 414-6600

📅 (916) 414-6713

Federal Building

2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605

Sacramento, CA 95825-1846

Endangered species

This resource list is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an analysis of project level impacts.

The primary information used to generate this list is the known or expected range of each species. Additional areas of influence (AOI) for species are also considered. An AOI includes areas outside of the species range if the species could be indirectly affected by activities in that area (e.g., placing a dam upstream of a fish population even if that fish does not occur at the dam site, may indirectly impact the species by reducing or eliminating water flow downstream). Because species can move, and site conditions can change, the species on this list are not guaranteed to be found on or near the project area. To fully determine any potential effects to species, additional site-specific and project-specific information is often required.

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act **requires** Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of such proposed action" for any project that is conducted, permitted, funded, or licensed by any Federal agency. A letter from the local office and a species list which fulfills this requirement can **only** be obtained by requesting an official species list from either the Regulatory Review section in IPaC (see directions below) or from the local field office directly.

For project evaluations that require USFWS concurrence/review, please return to the IPaC website and request an official species list by doing the following:

1. Draw the project location and click CONTINUE.
2. Click DEFINE PROJECT.
3. Log in (if directed to do so).
4. Provide a name and description for your project.
5. Click REQUEST SPECIES LIST.

Listed species¹ and their critical habitats are managed by the [Ecological Services Program](#) of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the fisheries division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries²).

Species and critical habitats under the sole responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are **not** shown on this list. Please contact [NOAA Fisheries](#) for [species under their jurisdiction](#).

1. Species listed under the Endangered Species Act are threatened or endangered; IPaC also shows species that are candidates, or proposed, for listing. See the [listing status page](#) for more information. IPaC only shows species that are regulated by USFWS (see FAQ).
2. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

The following species are potentially affected by activities in this location:

Mammals

NAME	STATUS
Gray Wolf <i>Canis lupus</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4488	Endangered

Birds

NAME	STATUS
California Condor <i>Gymnogyps californianus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8193	EXPN
California Spotted Owl <i>Strix occidentalis occidentalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7266	Proposed Threatened

Reptiles

NAME	STATUS
------	--------

Northwestern Pond Turtle *Actinemys marmorata*

Proposed Threatened

Wherever found

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1111>

Amphibians

NAME

STATUS

California Red-legged Frog *Rana draytonii*

Threatened

Wherever found

There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2891>

Insects

NAME

STATUS

Monarch Butterfly *Danaus plexippus*

Proposed Threatened

Wherever found

There is **proposed** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743>

Flowering Plants

NAME

STATUS

Pine Hill Flannelbush *Fremontodendron californicum* ssp. *decumbens*

Endangered

Wherever found

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4818>

Stebbins' Morning-glory *Calystegia stebbinsii*

Endangered

Wherever found

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3991>

Critical habitats

Potential effects to critical habitat(s) in this location must be analyzed along with the endangered species themselves.

There are no critical habitats at this location.

You are still required to determine if your project(s) may have effects on all above listed species.

Bald & Golden Eagles

Bald and Golden Eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act ² and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) ¹. Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to Bald or Golden Eagles, or their habitats, should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate avoidance and minimization measures, as described in the various links on this page.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Management <https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incident-take-migratory-birds>
- Nationwide avoidance and minimization measures for birds <https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf>

- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC <https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action>

There are Bald Eagles and/or Golden Eagles in your [project](#) area.

Measures for Proactively Minimizing Eagle Impacts

For information on how to best avoid and minimize disturbance to nesting bald eagles, please review the [National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines](#). You may employ the timing and activity-specific distance recommendations in this document when designing your project/activity to avoid and minimize eagle impacts. For bald eagle information specific to Alaska, please refer to [Bald Eagle Nesting and Sensitivity to Human Activity](#).

The FWS does not currently have guidelines for avoiding and minimizing disturbance to nesting Golden Eagles. For site-specific recommendations regarding nesting Golden Eagles, please consult with the appropriate Regional [Migratory Bird Office](#) or [Ecological Services Field Office](#).

If disturbance or take of eagles cannot be avoided, an [incidental take permit](#) may be available to authorize any take that results from, but is not the purpose of, an otherwise lawful activity. For assistance making this determination for Bald Eagles, visit the [Do I Need A Permit Tool](#). For assistance making this determination for golden eagles, please consult with the appropriate Regional [Migratory Bird Office](#) or [Ecological Services Field Office](#).

Ensure Your Eagle List is Accurate and Complete

If your project area is in a poorly surveyed area in IPaC, your list may not be complete and you may need to rely on other resources to determine what species may be present (e.g. your local FWS field office, state surveys, your own surveys). Please review the [Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles](#), to help you properly interpret the report for your specified location, including determining if there is sufficient data to ensure your list is accurate.

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to bald or golden eagles on your list, see the "Probability of Presence Summary" below to see when these bald or golden eagles are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

Review the FAQs

The FAQs below provide important additional information and resources.

NAME

BREEDING SEASON

Bald Eagle *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*

Breeds Jan 1 to Aug 31

This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.

Probability of Presence Summary

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read "[Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles](#)", specifically the FAQ section titled "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

Probability of Presence (■)

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. (A year is represented as 12 4-week months.) A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort (see below) can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score. One can have higher confidence in the presence score if the corresponding survey effort is also high.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

1. The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.
2. To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is $0.25/0.25 = 1$; at week 20 it is $0.05/0.25 = 0.2$.
3. The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

To see a bar's probability of presence score, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

Breeding Season (■)

Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

Survey Effort (|)

Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps. The number of surveys is expressed as a range, for example, 33 to 64 surveys.

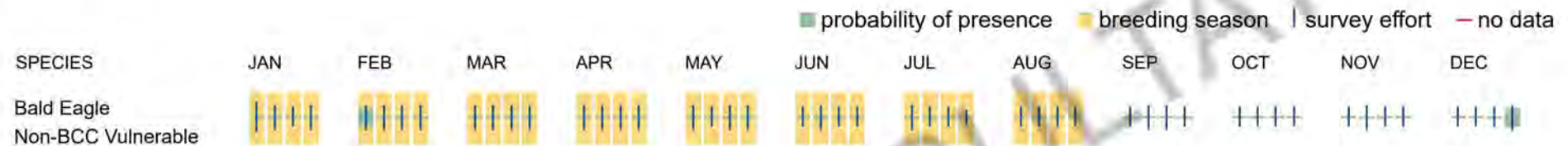
To see a bar's survey effort range, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

No Data (—)

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

Survey Timeframe

Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.



Bald & Golden Eagles FAQs

What does IPaC use to generate the potential presence of bald and golden eagles in my specified location?

The potential for eagle presence is derived from data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#) and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are an eagle ([Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) requirements may apply).

Proper interpretation and use of your eagle report

On the graphs provided, please look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical line) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal line). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort line or no data line (red horizontal) means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list is not perfect; it is simply a starting point for identifying what birds have the potential to be in your project area, when they might

be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list and associated information help you know what to look for to confirm presence and helps guide you in knowing when to implement avoidance and minimization measures to eliminate or reduce potential impacts from your project activities or get the appropriate permits should presence be confirmed.

How do I know if eagles are breeding, wintering, or migrating in my area?

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating, or resident), you may query your location using the [RAIL Tool](#) and view the range maps provided for birds in your area at the bottom of the profiles provided for each bird in your results. If an eagle on your IPaC migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it (indicated by yellow vertical bars on the phenology graph in your "IPaC PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY" at the top of your results list), there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe specified. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

Interpreting the Probability of Presence Graphs

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.

To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is $0.25/0.25 = 1$; at week 20 it is $0.05/0.25 = 0.2$.

The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

Breeding Season ()

Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

Survey Effort ()

Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps.

No Data ()

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

Survey Timeframe

Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.

Migratory birds

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) ¹ prohibits the take (including killing, capturing, selling, trading, and transport) of protected migratory bird species without prior authorization by the Department of Interior U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service). The incidental take of migratory birds is the injury or death of birds that results from, but is not the purpose, of an activity. The Service interprets the MBTA to prohibit incidental take.

1. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
2. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Management <https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds>
- Nationwide avoidance and minimization measures for birds
- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC <https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action>

Measures for Proactively Minimizing Migratory Bird Impacts

Your IPaC Migratory Bird list showcases [birds of concern](#), including [Birds of Conservation Concern \(BCC\)](#), in your project location. This is not a comprehensive list of all birds found in your project area. However, you can help proactively minimize significant impacts to all birds at your project location by implementing the measures in the [Nationwide avoidance and minimization measures for birds](#) document, and any other project-specific avoidance and minimization measures suggested at the link [Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds](#) for the birds of concern on your list below.

Ensure Your Migratory Bird List is Accurate and Complete

If your project area is in a poorly surveyed area, your list may not be complete and you may need to rely on other resources to determine what species may be present (e.g. your local FWS field office, state surveys, your own surveys). Please review the [Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles document](#), to help you properly interpret the report for your specified location, including determining if there is sufficient data to ensure your list is accurate.

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, see the "Probability of Presence Summary" below to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

Review the FAQs

The FAQs below provide important additional information and resources.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
American Dipper <i>Cinclus mexicanus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA	Breeds Mar 21 to Aug 21
Bald Eagle <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.	Breeds Jan 1 to Aug 31
Black-throated Gray Warbler <i>Setophaga nigrescens</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA	Breeds May 1 to Jul 20
California Thrasher <i>Toxostoma redivivum</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds Jan 1 to Jul 31

Calliope Hummingbird *Selasphorus calliope*

Breeds May 1 to Aug 15

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9526>

Cassin's Finch *Haemorhous cassinii*

Breeds May 15 to Jul 15

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9462>

Evening Grosbeak *Coccothraustes vespertinus*

Breeds May 15 to Aug 10

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

Hermit Warbler *Setophaga occidentalis*

Breeds May 5 to Jul 15

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA

Lewis's Woodpecker *Melanerpes lewis*

Breeds Apr 20 to Sep 30

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9408>

Oak Titmouse *Baeolophus inornatus*

Breeds Mar 15 to Jul 15

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9656>

Olive-sided Flycatcher *Contopus cooperi*

Breeds May 20 to Aug 31

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3914>

Wrentit *Chamaea fasciata*

Breeds Mar 15 to Aug 10

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

Probability of Presence Summary

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read ["Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles"](#), specifically the FAQ section titled "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

Probability of Presence (■)

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. (A year is represented as 12 4-week months.) A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort (see below) can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score. One can have higher confidence in the presence score if the corresponding survey effort is also high.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

1. The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.
2. To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is $0.25/0.25 = 1$; at week 20 it is $0.05/0.25 = 0.2$.
3. The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

To see a bar's probability of presence score, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

Breeding Season (■)

Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

Survey Effort (I)

Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps. The number of surveys is expressed as a range, for example, 33 to 64 surveys.

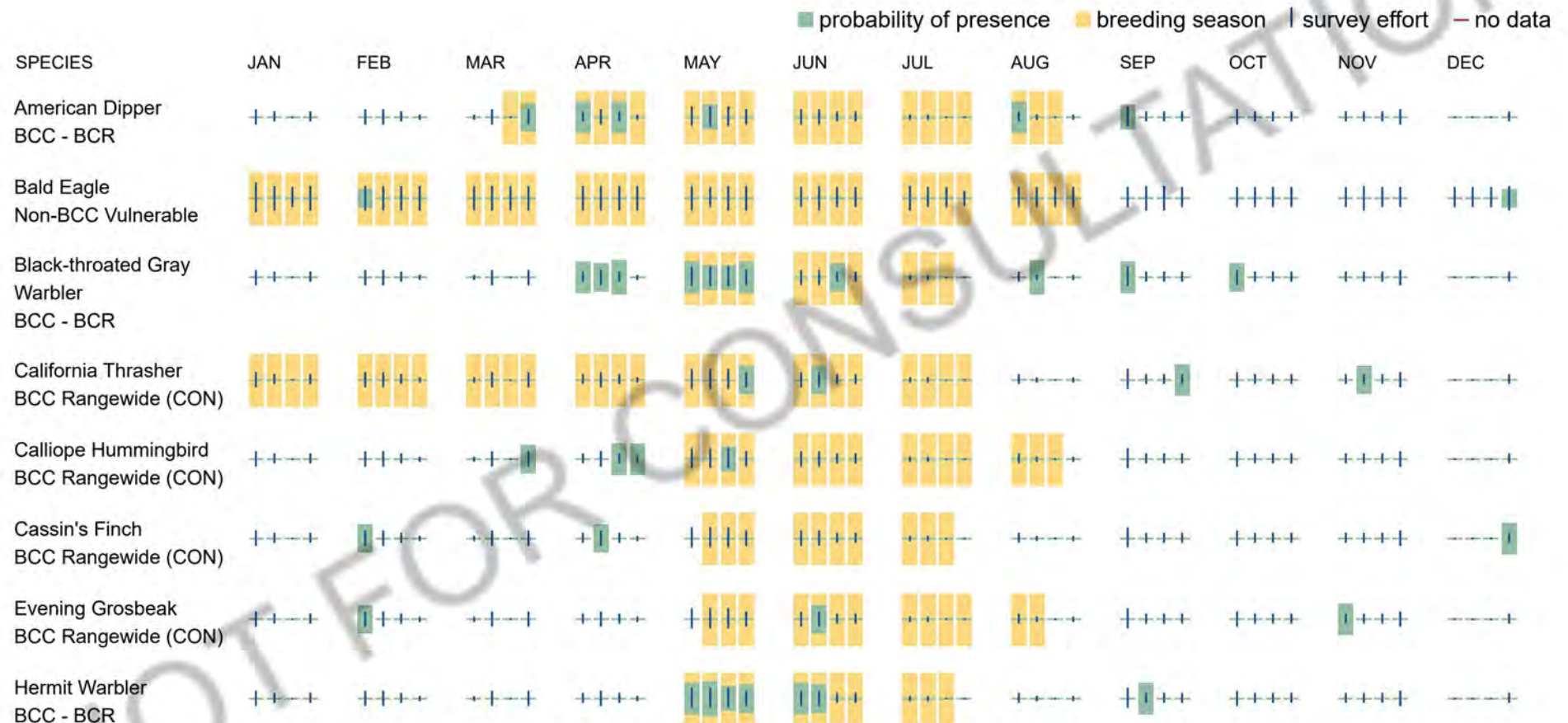
To see a bar's survey effort range, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

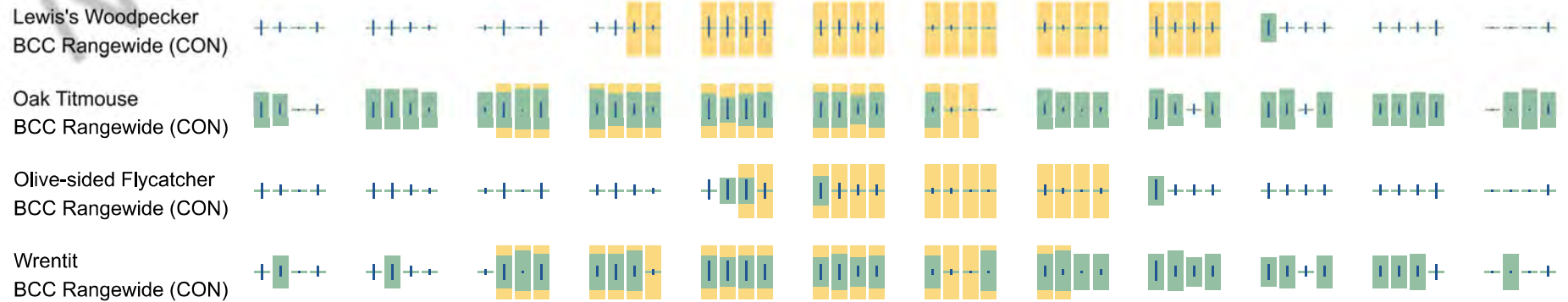
No Data (-)

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

Survey Timeframe

Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.





Migratory Bird FAQs

Tell me more about avoidance and minimization measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds.

[Nationwide Avoidance & Minimization Measures for Birds](#) describes measures that can help avoid and minimize impacts to all birds at any location year-round. When birds may be breeding in the area, identifying the locations of any active nests and avoiding their destruction is one of the most effective ways to minimize impacts. To see when birds are most likely to occur and breed in your project area, view the Probability of Presence Summary. [Additional measures](#) or [permits](#) may be advisable depending on the type of activity you are conducting and the type of infrastructure or bird species present on your project site.

What does IPaC use to generate the list of migratory birds that potentially occur in my specified location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of [Birds of Conservation Concern \(BCC\)](#) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location, such as those listed under the Endangered Species Act or the [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) and those species marked as "Vulnerable". See the FAQ "What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?" for more information on the levels of concern covered in the IPaC migratory bird species list.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#) and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) with which your project intersects. These species have been identified as warranting special attention because they are BCC species in that area, an eagle ([Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, and to verify survey effort when no results present, please visit the [Rapid Avian Information Locator \(RAIL\) Tool](#).

Why are subspecies showing up on my list?

Subspecies profiles are included on the list of species present in your project area because observations in the AKN for **the species** are being detected. If the species are present, that means that the subspecies may also be present. If a subspecies shows up on your list, you may need to rely on other resources to determine if that subspecies may be present (e.g. your local FWS field office, state surveys, your own surveys).

What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs for the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?

The probability of presence graphs associated with your migratory bird list are based on data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). This data is derived from a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#).

Probability of presence data is continuously being updated as new and better information becomes available. To learn more about how the probability of presence graphs are produced and how to interpret them, go to the Probability of Presence Summary and then click on the "Tell me about these graphs" link.

How do I know if a bird is breeding, wintering, or migrating in my area?

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating, or resident), you may query your location using the [RAIL Tool](#) and view the range maps provided for birds in your area at the bottom of the profiles provided for each bird in your results. If a bird on your IPaC migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it (indicated by yellow vertical bars on the phenology graph in your "IPaC PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY" at the top of your results list), there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe specified. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?

Migratory birds delivered through IPaC fall into the following distinct categories of concern:

1. "BCC Rangewide" birds are [Birds of Conservation Concern](#) (BCC) that are of concern throughout their range anywhere within the USA (including Hawaii, the Pacific Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands);
2. "BCC - BCR" birds are BCCs that are of concern only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA; and
3. "Non-BCC - Vulnerable" birds are not BCC species in your project area, but appear on your list either because of the [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) requirements (for eagles) or (for non-eagles) potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities (e.g. offshore energy development or longline fishing).

Although it is important to avoid and minimize impacts to all birds, efforts should be made, in particular, to avoid and minimize impacts to the birds on this list, especially BCC species. For more information on avoidance and minimization measures you can implement to help avoid and minimize migratory bird impacts, please see the FAQ "Tell me more about avoidance and minimization measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds".

Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects

For additional details about the relative occurrence and abundance of both individual bird species and groups of bird species within your project area off the Atlantic Coast, please visit the [Northeast Ocean Data Portal](#). The Portal also offers data and information about other taxa besides birds that may be helpful to you in your project review. Alternately, you may download the bird model results files underlying the portal maps through the [NOAA NCCOS Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf](#) project webpage.

Proper interpretation and use of your migratory bird report

The migratory bird list generated is not a list of all birds in your project area, only a subset of birds of priority concern. To learn more about how your list is generated and see options for identifying what other birds may be in your project area, please see the FAQ "What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location". Please be aware this report provides the "probability of presence" of birds within the 10 km grid cell(s) that overlap your project; not your exact project footprint. On the graphs provided, please look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical line) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal line). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort bar or no data bar means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list does not represent all birds present in your project area. It is simply a starting point for identifying what birds of concern have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list and associated information help you know what to look for to confirm presence and helps guide implementation of avoidance and minimization measures to eliminate or reduce potential impacts from your project activities, should presence be confirmed. To learn more about avoidance and minimization measures, visit the FAQ "Tell me about avoidance and minimization measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds".

Interpreting the Probability of Presence Graphs

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.

To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is $0.25/0.25 = 1$; at week 20 it is $0.05/0.25 = 0.2$.

The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

Breeding Season ()

Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

Survey Effort ()

Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps.

No Data ()

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

Survey Timeframe

Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.

Facilities

Wildlife refuges and fish hatcheries

Refuge and fish hatchery information is not available at this time

Wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)

Impacts to [NWI wetlands](#) and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District](#).

Please note that the NWI data being shown may be out of date. We are currently working to update our NWI data set. We recommend you verify these results with a site visit to determine the actual extent of wetlands on site.

This location overlaps the following wetlands:

RIVERINE
[R5UBFx](#)

A full description for each wetland code can be found at the [National Wetlands Inventory website](#)

NOTE: This initial screening does **not** replace an on-site delineation to determine whether wetlands occur. Additional information on the NWI data is provided below.

Data limitations

The Service's objective of mapping wetlands and deepwater habitats is to produce reconnaissance level information on the location, type and size of these resources. The maps are prepared from the analysis of high altitude imagery. Wetlands are identified based on vegetation, visible hydrology and geography. A margin of error is inherent in the use of imagery; thus, detailed on-the-ground inspection of any particular site may result in revision of the wetland boundaries or classification established through image analysis.

The accuracy of image interpretation depends on the quality of the imagery, the experience of the image analysts, the amount and quality of the collateral data and the amount of ground truth verification work conducted. Metadata should be consulted to determine the date of the source imagery used and any mapping problems.

Wetlands or other mapped features may have changed since the date of the imagery or field work. There may be occasional differences in polygon boundaries or classifications between the information depicted on the map and the actual conditions on site.

Data exclusions

Certain wetland habitats are excluded from the National mapping program because of the limitations of aerial imagery as the primary data source used to detect wetlands. These habitats include seagrasses or submerged aquatic vegetation that are found in the intertidal and subtidal zones of estuaries and nearshore coastal waters. Some deepwater reef communities (coral or tubercid worm reefs) have also been excluded from the inventory. These habitats, because of their depth, go undetected by aerial imagery.

Data precautions

Federal, state, and local regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over wetlands may define and describe wetlands in a different manner than that used in this inventory. There is no attempt, in either the design or products of this inventory, to define the limits of proprietary jurisdiction of any Federal, state, or local government or to establish the geographical scope of the regulatory programs of government agencies. Persons intending to engage in activities involving modifications within or adjacent to wetland areas should seek the advice of appropriate Federal, state, or local agencies concerning specified agency regulatory programs and proprietary jurisdictions that may affect such activities.