

# **DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

for the

## **CORONA ROAD SEWER EXTENSION PROJECT**

Prepared for:



Carmel Area Wastewater District

3945 Rio Road  
Carmel, CA 93923

Prepared by:



Denise Duffy & Associates

947 Cass Street, Suite 5  
Monterey, CA 93940

March 3, 2023

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## CHAPTER 1. PROJECT DATA COVER SHEET

1. **Project Title:** Corona Rd. Sewer Extension Project (proposed project)
2. **Lead Agency Name and Address:** Carmel Area Wastewater District, 3945 Rio Road, Carmel, CA 93923
3. **Contact Person and Phone Number:** Rachél Lather, MS, PE, Principal Engineer, Carmel Area Wastewater District (831) 257-0423 or 624-1248 ex. 203.
4. **Project Proponent:** Carmel Area Wastewater District (CAWD or the District)
5. **Project Location:** The proposed project is located along Corona Road, Corona Way, and a portion of State Route (SR) 1 in Monterey County, California (**Figure 1**). The proposed project is located within the service area of the District.
6. **Project Description:** The proposed project involves formation of an assessment district and construction of a wastewater service extension to the Corona Road area of Carmel Highlands. The proposed project would involve the installation of a sanitary sewer pipeline and construction of an associated pump station (**Figure 2**). The proposed project would result in the installation of three separate gravity mains and a total of 4,400 feet of new pipeline. The proposed project's pump station would have the capacity to pump up to 0.01 million-gallons-per-day (MGD) of wastewater, with an anticipated daily flow of 0.006 MGD. All pipeline components of the proposed project would be located underground and within the roadway and/or public right-of-way. The proposed project does not include any wastewater connections to individual parcels.

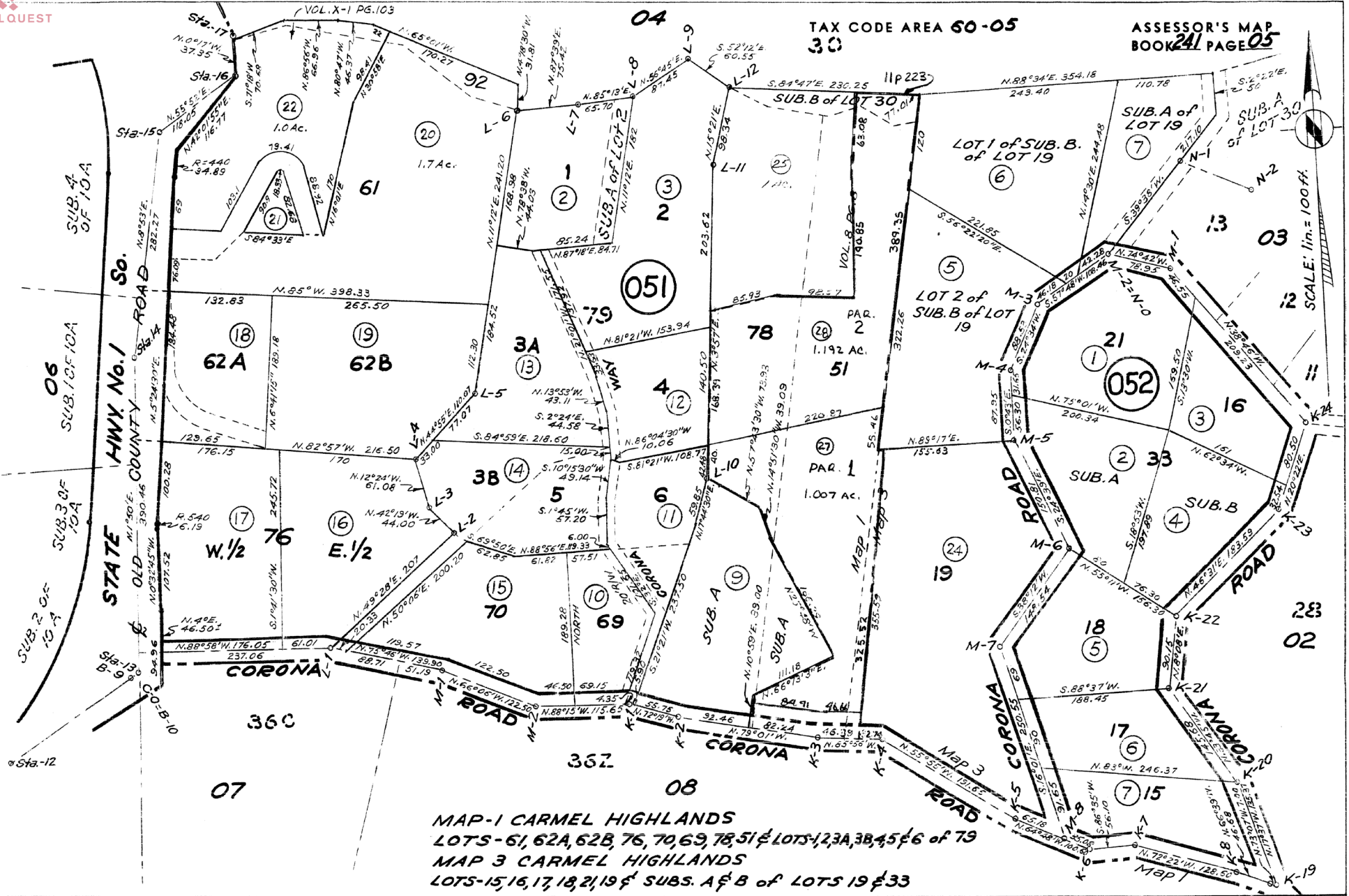


# Location Map

Corona Rd. Sewer Extension Project  
Initial Study

Figure  
**1**





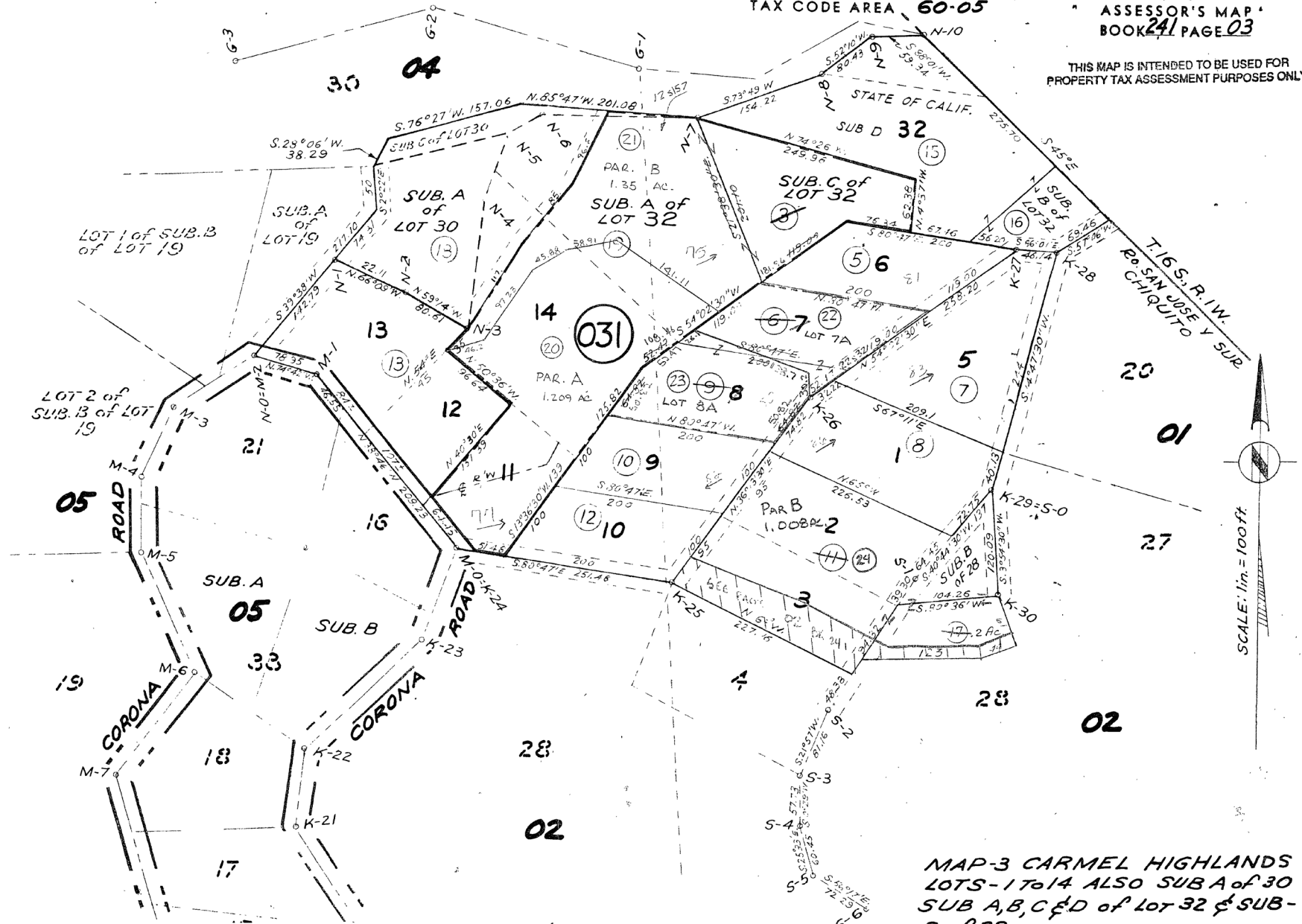
Source: Monterey County Assessor, September 2021

# APN Map - Corona Rd. and Corona Way

Figure  
**2a**

Corona Rd. Sewer Extension Project  
Initial Study

THIS MAP IS INTENDED TO BE USED FOR  
 PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT PURPOSES ONLY.



**MAP-3 CARMEL HIGHLANDS  
 LOTS-17 to 14 ALSO SUB A of 30  
 SUB A, B, C & D of Lot 32 & SUB-**

Source: Monterey County Assessor, September 2021

# APN Map - Corona Road (East Portion)

Corona Rd. Sewer Extension Project  
 Initial Study

Figure  
**2b**

## CHAPTER 2. INTRODUCTION AND PROJECT DESCRIPTION

### 2.1 INTRODUCTION

This Supplemental Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) has been prepared by Carmel Area Wastewater District (CAWD or District), as the Lead Agency, pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq.) and the State CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations Section 15000 et seq.). The subject of this IS/MND is the Corona Road Sewer Extension Project, which includes formation of an assessment district and extension of CAWD wastewater service to the Corona Road area. This document describes the proposed extension of wastewater service along Corona Road and Corona Way in the unincorporated community of Carmel Highlands, Monterey County (**Figure 1 and 2**).

CAWD is acting as the Lead Agency pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15050(a) and is responsible for approving the proposed project. As the Lead Agency, CAWD has prepared this Supplemental IS/MND in accordance with State CEQA Guidelines §15063, §15070, and §15152. Pursuant to §15070, a “public agency shall prepare...a proposed negative declaration or mitigated negative declaration...when: (a) The Initial Study shows that there is no substantial evidence...that the project may have a significant impact on the environment, or (b) The Initial Study identifies potentially significant effects but revisions to the project plans or proposal are agreed to by the applicant and such revisions would reduce potentially significant effects to a less-than-significant level.” The extension of service to this area was evaluated in a 2020 IS/MND entitled *2020 Carmel Area Wastewater District Sphere of Influence Amendment and Annexation Proposal* (2020 CAWD IS/MND). However, several key features were not fully addressed or developed in the 2020 CAWD IS/MND; these features, including pipeline extension and pump station location, comprise the major components of the Corona Road Project (proposed project).

### 2.2 PUBLIC REVIEW

The purpose of this document is to present to decision-makers and the public information about the environmental consequences of implementing the proposed project. This document serves as a basis for soliciting comments and input from members of the public and public agencies regarding the proposed project. **The Draft Supplemental IS/MND will be available for a 20-day public review period from March 3, 2023 to March 22, 2023, during which period comments concerning the analysis contained in the Supplemental IS/MND should be sent to:**

**Rachél Lather, ME, PE, Principal Engineer  
CAWD, 3945 Rio Road, Carmel, CA 93923**

**E-mail comments may be addressed to: [downstream@cawd.org](mailto:downstream@cawd.org)**

**If you wish to send written comments (including via e-mail), they must be received by 5:00 P.M. on March 22, 2023.** After comments are received from the public and reviewing agencies, CAWD may (1) adopt the Supplemental IS/MND and approve the proposed project; (2) undertake additional environmental studies; or (3) revise or abandon the proposed project. A hardcopy version of the Draft Supplemental IS/MND is also available for review at CAWD offices and online at: <https://www.cawd.org/ceqa-notice>.

This Supplemental IS/MND has been prepared for the proposed Project pursuant to the rules for supplemental environmental review under Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 21166 and State CEQA Guidelines Section 15163. This Initial Study analyzes whether proposed changes to the 2020 Project would

result in any new or substantially more severe significant environmental impacts than those analyzed in the prior CEQA documents or whether any of the other standards requiring further environmental review under CEQA are met.

## 2.3 PROJECT BACKGROUND

CAWD was formed on July 8, 1908, under the name “Carmel Sanitary District” to service the community of Carmel-by-the-Sea prior to the city’s incorporation in 1916. The District was reorganized in 1934 under the name “Carmel Sanitation District”. More recently, the name was changed to the “Carmel Area Wastewater District”.<sup>1</sup>

The District serves an area bounded by Carmel Bay to the west, Carmel Highlands to the south and Del Monte Forest to the north. Service extends as far east as Quail Meadows and Del Mesa Carmel. The jurisdictional boundaries consist of the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea and outlying County areas including Carmel Woods, Hatton Fields, portions of lower Carmel Valley, Carmel Meadows, Hacienda Carmel, Del Mesa Carmel, Quail Meadows, Pacific Meadows and to the south the Highlands Inn, Tickle Pink Inn, Highlands Sanitary Association, and several individual lots in the vicinity. The total jurisdictional boundaries have a permanent population of approximately 11,000 people.

The District owns, operates, and maintains sewer collection lines within its boundaries. The District’s collection facilities consist of approximately 83 miles of sewer lines, five (5) miles of force mains, and seven (7) pump stations. The District currently has 6,671 sewer connections, 6,298 of which are residential. Wastewater is conveyed to the District’s treatment plant, which is located south of Carmel on State Route (SR) 1 between the Crossroads area and the Carmel Meadows residential development (LAFCO, 2016). The District operates a treatment facility for wastewater collected by the District and the adjacent Pebble Beach Community Services District. In addition to its wastewater collection and treatment services, the District partners with the adjacent Pebble Beach Community Services District to make reclaimed wastewater available for landscape irrigation to reduce use of local potable water resources.

In 2013, the District adopted a Capital Improvements Program 15-Year Master Plan for wastewater treatment and demonstrated that the District has adequate capacity to meet existing and projected future wastewater treatment needs. The wastewater treatment plant capacity is 3.0 MGD (approximately 10.7 acre-feet per day). Current demand is 1.8 MGD (approximately 6.6 acre-feet per day), which is well below its permitted capacity.

Residential properties located in the Corona Road area rely on individual septic systems that have been subject to failures, and which have been overwhelmed during rain events. The County of Monterey Department of Environmental Health has identified concerns about individual sewage disposal in the Corona Road area. In 2009, the County approved the Carmel Highlands Onsite Wastewater Management Plan and an associated study identifying alternatives to septic systems in the Carmel Highlands area due to potential system failures. The study cited potential impacts to coastal resources from discharges of effluent to groundwater through the area’s fractured granitic bedrock, citing septic system failures of some systems have some of which has made its way to the Pacific Ocean.

A December 2, 2022 California Coastal Commission Staff report notes that the “septic systems in the proposed annexation area currently pose a significant risk to water quality, coastal resources, and human health. To address these issues, property owners within the Corona Road area have been active in forming an assessment district to connect to District sewer facilities on the west and east side of SR 1, near Corona

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<sup>1</sup> The District conforms to the provisions of the California Health and Safety Code (Sections 6400-6924).



Road to serve existing residential development. CAWD has also applied for funding from the State under State Revolving Fund (SRF) construction program grant.

In 2020, the District approved a sphere of influence and annexation that included the Corona Road area, identified as North Carmel Highlands (Area 3). As a result, the Corona Road project area is now within the service area of the District. In addition, a petition to form an assessment district was circulated in 2020 and signed by the majority of property owners within the area. The proposed assessment district would collect charges from property owners to pay capital costs associated with provision of wastewater service to the area by the District, as described below.

## **2.4 EXISTING SETTING**

The proposed project site is located in the Carmel Highlands. The Carmel Highlands is an unincorporated community within the County of Monterey, located south of the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea and north of Big Sur (see **Figure 1**). The Corona Road area is located adjacent to the existing CAWD jurisdictional boundaries to the north (Point Lobos Recreation Area) and south. The proposed project site is generally surrounded by residential uses, though some visitor serving commercial uses are also present. Residential uses are located to the west, north, east, and south of the site. The proposed project is located in the coastal zone. Site photos of the existing conditions in the project area are provided in **Figure 3**.

## **2.5 PROJECT OBJECTIVES**

The primary objective of the proposed project is to eliminate septic systems within the project area and to provide wastewater service from the District to the Corona Road parcels where there is critical need for such services. The proposed project includes formation of an assessment district and potential State funding to extend CAWD's existing sanitary sewer collection system from Highway 1 to a proposed linear pipeline alignment along Corona Road and Corona Way.

The proposed extension of CAWD's sanitary sewer service will facilitate the transition of the identified parcels from onsite private septic to public sewer service. The extension of service would correct deficient septic systems within existing developed residential communities.

Hookups to District's wastewater service (laterals to serve individual parcels) in the Corona Road area would be installed on an individual basis as a future phase of the proposed project. The proposed project is planned to meet existing demand for wastewater service for developed homes and parcels located along Corona Road, SR 1, and Corona Way.

## **2.6 PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The proposed project involves formation of a new assessment district and construction of a wastewater service extension to the Corona Road area of Carmel Highlands. The new assessment district would consist of property owners located in the service area of the new pipeline proposed by the project. The assessment district would collect charges from customers in the project area solely to fund the capital costs associated with the proposed extension of wastewater service to the area. The proposed project is also seeking funds in the form of a construction loan from the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) State Revolving Fund (SRF). The SRF loan would cover upfront costs associated with the implementation of the proposed project and would be repaid using charges collected by the assessment district.

The proposed project includes the installation of a new sanitary sewer transmission pipeline and an associated pump station (**Figure 2**). The proposed sanitary sewer collection system will consist of four (4)

separate gravity mains made of Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) pipe. The longest main will be approximately 3,500 feet in length, beginning at the east side of SR 1, north of the intersection of Corona Road and SR 1, and will extend south along the east side of SR 1, and then east and upward along Corona Road. Another branch of the gravity main in Corona Way will extend approximately 600 feet north and upward from Corona Road. The third branch of the gravity main will be approximately 300 feet in length and will be constructed along the east side of SR 1 northerly and upward. The installation of the three (3) separate gravity mains would result in the installation of 4,400 feet of new pipeline (**Figure 2**). The final gravity main would be installed beneath Highway 1 and would connect to a new pump station located on the west side of Highway 1, as described below. Pipeline will be installed in the disturbed right-of-way and roadway throughout the entirety of the alignment. No trees would be removed as a result of installation of the pipeline. All pipeline would be installed via trenching in paved areas. The proposed design includes 24 manholes and three (3) clean-outs.

The proposed pipeline alignment is presented in **Figure 4**. Lateral connections from the proposed pipeline alignment to private parcels along the alignment would be installed under a future phase of the proposed project upon application by individual property owners for abandonment of their septic system and hook up to the extended CAWD sanitary sewer system. This future phase of the proposed project is not analyzed in this environmental document and would be subject to the appropriate level of environmental review under CEQA at the time these improvements are proposed.

Staging areas for the proposed project would be located at the District’s existing wastewater treatment plant and the pump station site, with an additional equipment laydown area located on APN 241-052-001 (74 Corona Road).

The proposed project would extend potential future wastewater collection service to the following APNs.

- |               |               |               |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| ▪ 241-011-002 | ▪ 241-051-009 | ▪ 241-052-002 |
| ▪ 241-012-018 | ▪ 241-051-010 | ▪ 241-052-003 |
| ▪ 241-031-005 | ▪ 241-051-011 | ▪ 241-052-004 |
| ▪ 241-031-007 | ▪ 241-051-012 | ▪ 241-052-005 |
| ▪ 241-031-008 | ▪ 241-051-013 | ▪ 241-052-006 |
| ▪ 241-031-010 | ▪ 241-051-014 | ▪ 241-052-007 |
| ▪ 241-031-012 | ▪ 241-051-015 | ▪ 241-061-001 |
| ▪ 241-031-013 | ▪ 241-051-016 | ▪ 241-061-002 |
| ▪ 241-031-018 | ▪ 241-051-017 | ▪ 241-061-004 |
| ▪ 241-031-020 | ▪ 241-051-018 | ▪ 241-061-005 |
| ▪ 241-031-021 | ▪ 241-051-019 | ▪ 241-061-011 |
| ▪ 241-031-022 | ▪ 241-051-020 | ▪ 241-061-014 |
| ▪ 241-031-023 | ▪ 241-051-021 | ▪ 241-061-015 |
| ▪ 241-031-024 | ▪ 241-051-022 | ▪ 241-071-004 |
| ▪ 241-051-002 | ▪ 241-051-024 | ▪ 241-071-005 |
| ▪ 241-051-003 | ▪ 241-051-025 | ▪ 241-071-006 |
| ▪ 241-051-005 | ▪ 241-051-027 | ▪ 241-072-002 |
| ▪ 241-051-006 | ▪ 241-051-028 | ▪ 241-072-003 |
| ▪ 241-051-007 | ▪ 241-052-001 |               |





Photo #1: Location of Pump Station on the west side of State Route 1.



Photo #2: Pipeline alignment from Corona Road.



Photo #3: Pipeline alignment from Corona Way.



Photo #4: Pipeline alignment from Corona Road.

## Site Photos





Photo #5: Pipeline alignment from Corona Road.



Photo #6: Pipeline alignment from Corona Road.



Photo #7: Pipeline alignment from Corona Road.



Photo #8: Pipeline alignment from Corona Road.

## Site Photos





Photo #9: Location of Pump Station on the west side of State Route 1.



Photo #10: Location of Pump Station on the west side of State Route 1.



Photo #11: Location of Pump Station on the west side of State Route 1.



Photo #12: View of State Route 1 from access road adjacent to Pump Station Site.

## Site Photos





Photo #13: Staging Area from Corona Road looking south.



Photo #14: Staging Area from Corona Road looking south.



Photo #15: Staging Area from Corona Road looking east.

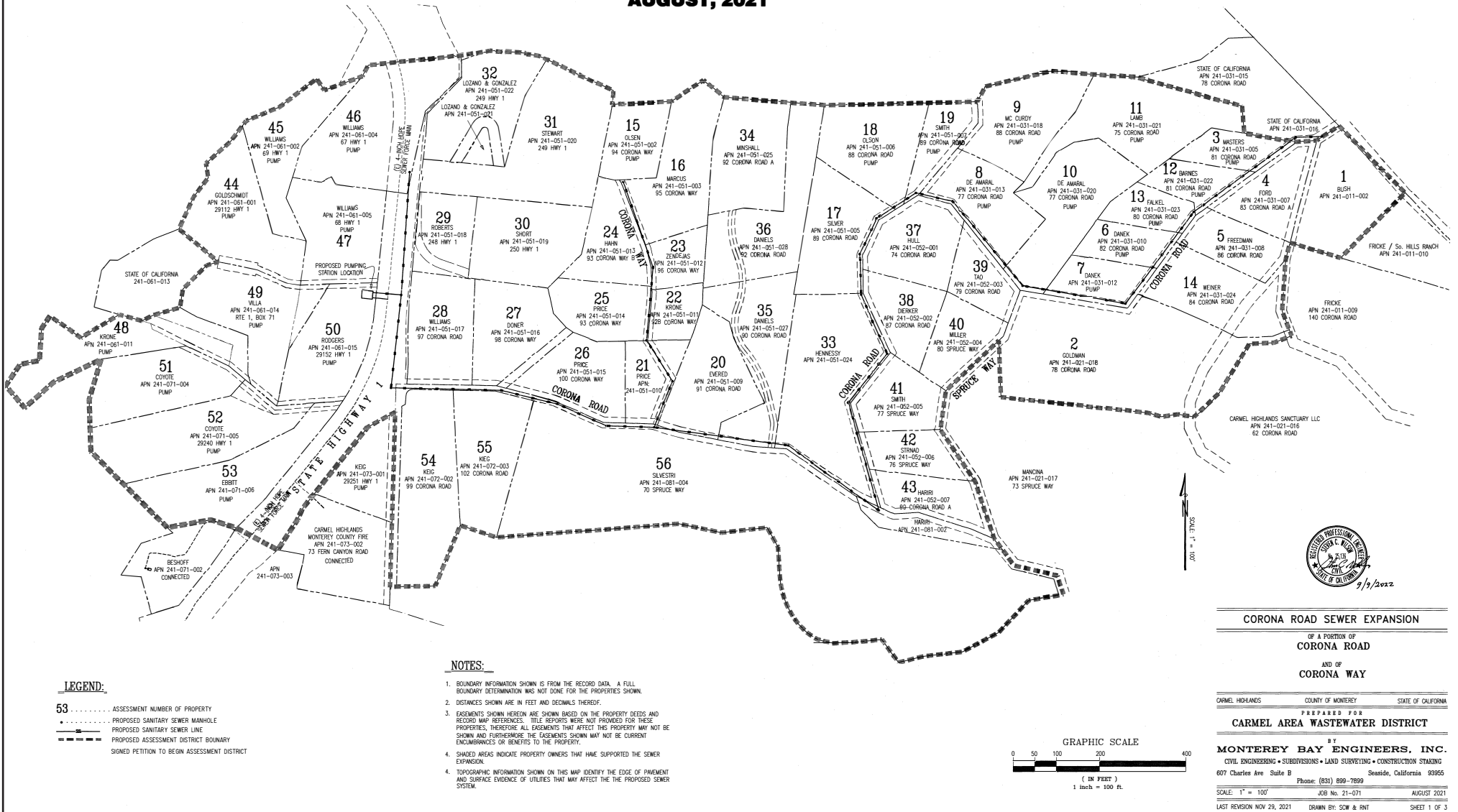


Photo #16: Staging Area from Corona Road looking northeast.

## Site Photos



**PROPOSED SEWER MAIN EXPANSION  
CORONA ROAD CONCEPTUAL PLANS**  
PREPARED FOR  
**CARMEL AREA WASTEWATER DISTRICT**  
AUGUST, 2021



**CORONA ROAD SEWER EXPANSION**  
OF A PORTION OF  
**CORONA ROAD**  
AND OF  
**CORONA WAY**

CARMEL HIGHLANDS COUNTY OF MONTEREY STATE OF CALIFORNIA

PREPARED FOR  
**CARMEL AREA WASTEWATER DISTRICT**

BY  
**MONTEREY BAY ENGINEERS, INC.**  
CIVIL ENGINEERING • SUBDIVISIONS • LAND SURVEYING • CONSTRUCTION STAKING  
607 Charlies Ave Suite B Seaside, California 93955  
Phone: (831) 890-7899

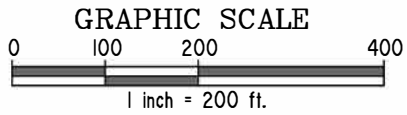
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JOB No. 21-071 AUGUST 2021  
LAST REVISION NOV 29, 2021 DRAWN BY: SCW & RNT SHEET 1 OF 3

Source: Monterey Bay Engineers, September 2022

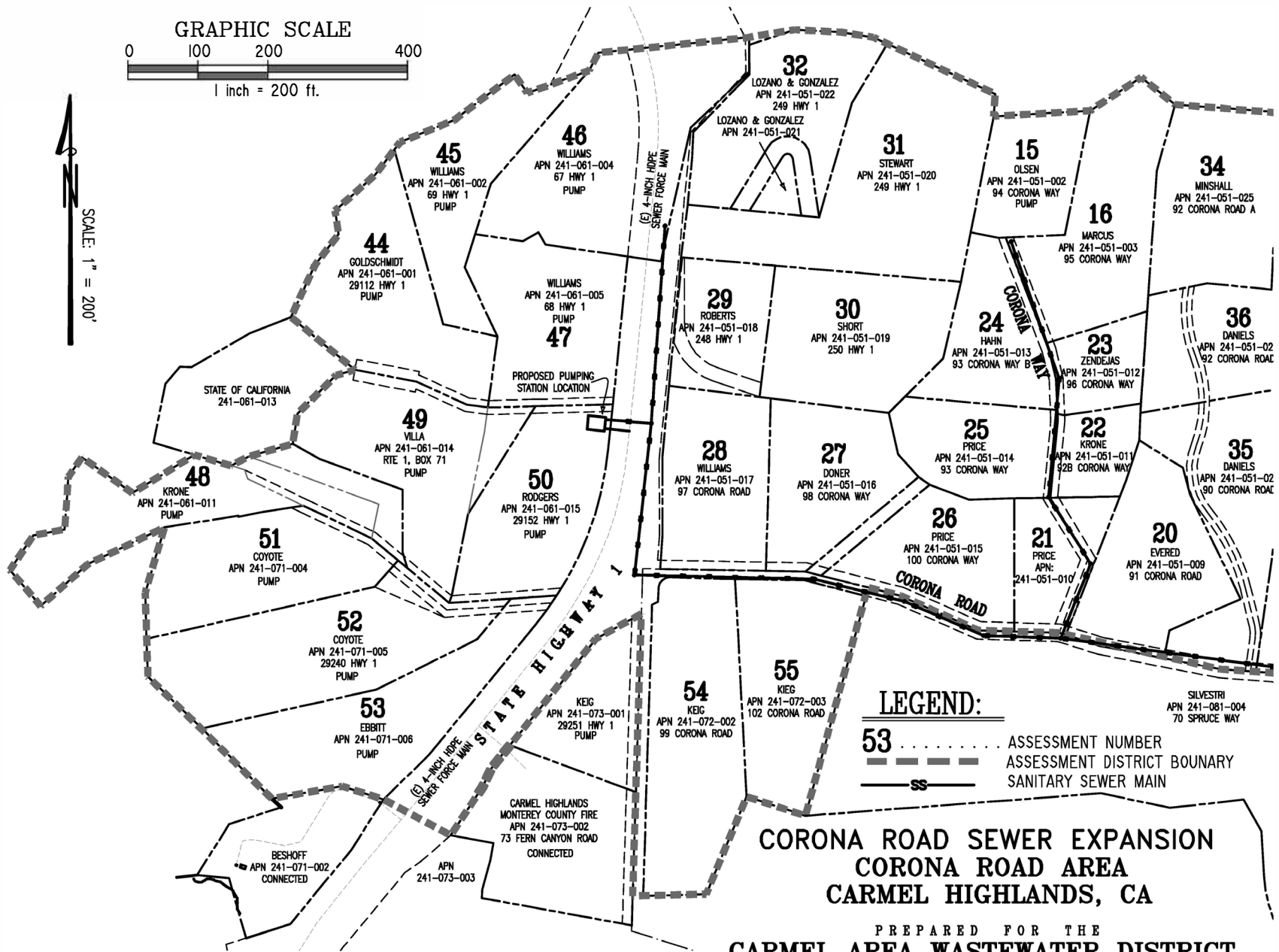
Pipeline Alignment Plan - Complete

Figure  
**4a**

Corona Rd. Sewer Extension Project  
Initial Study



SCALE: 1" = 200'



**LEGEND:**  
 53 ..... ASSESSMENT NUMBER  
 - - - - - ASSESSMENT DISTRICT BOUNDARY  
 SS ——— SANITARY SEWER MAIN

**CORONA ROAD SEWER EXPANSION  
 CORONA ROAD AREA  
 CARMEL HIGHLANDS, CA**  
 PREPARED FOR THE  
**CARMEL AREA WASTEWATER DISTRICT**  
 BY  
**MONTEREY BAY ENGINEERS, INC.**

EXHIBIT "A"  
 SHEET 2 OF 2

Source: Monterey Bay Engineers, January 2023

Pipeline Alignment Plan - West Portion

Figure  
**4b**  
 Corona Rd. Sewer Extension Project  
 Initial Study



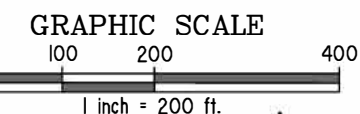
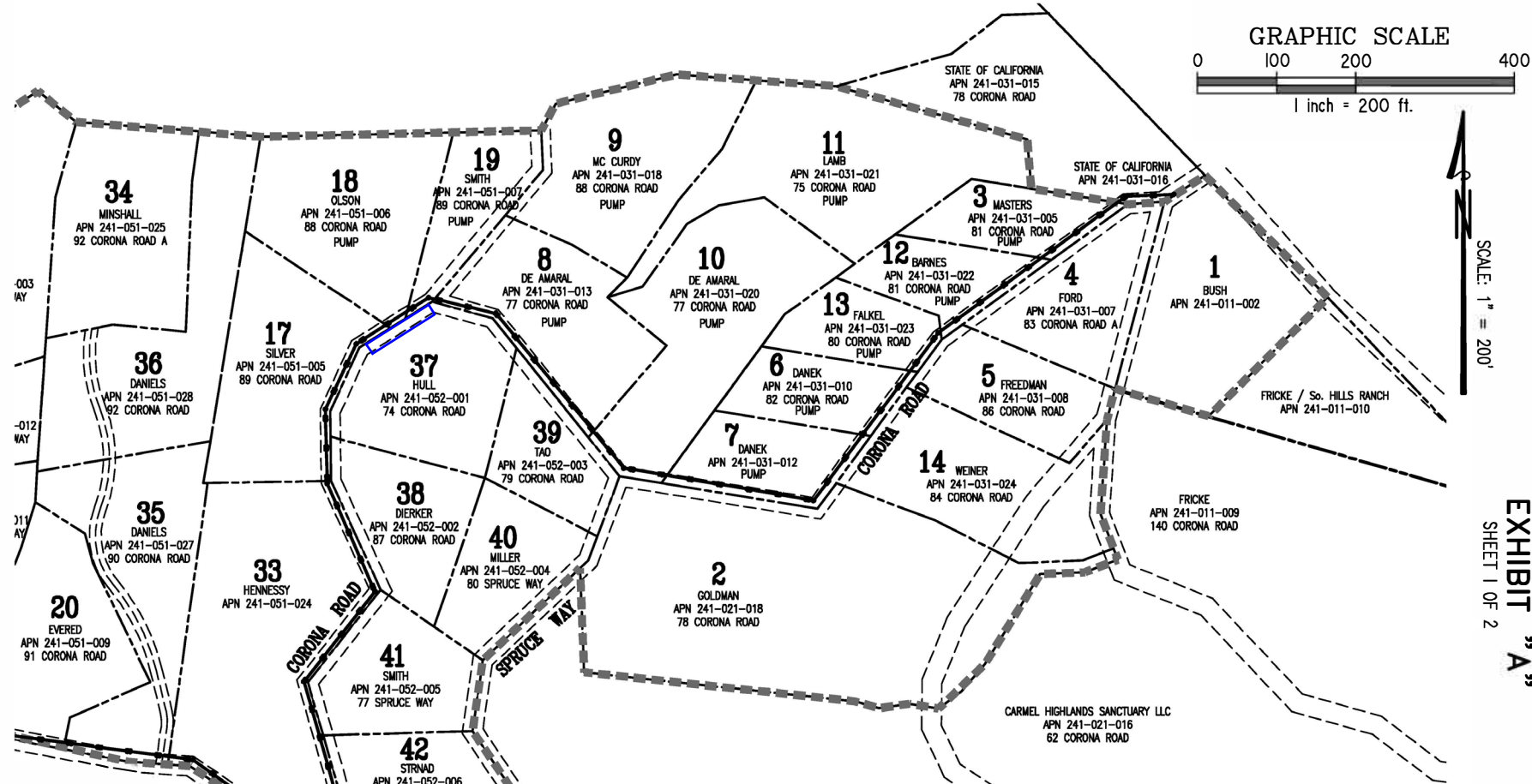


EXHIBIT "A"  
SHEET 1 OF 2

- LEGEND:**
- 53 ..... ASSESSMENT NUMBER
  - ASSESSMENT DISTRICT BOUNDARY
  - S— SANITARY SEWER MAIN
  - STAGING AREA

**CORONA ROAD SEWER EXPANSION**  
**CORONA ROAD AREA**  
**CARMEL HIGHLANDS, CA**  
 PREPARED FOR THE  
**CARMEL AREA WASTEWATER DISTRICT**  
 BY  
**MONTEREY BAY ENGINEERS, INC.**

Source: Monterey Bay Engineers, January 2023

# Pipeline Alignment Plan - East Portion

Figure  
**4c**  
 Corona Rd. Sewer Extension Project  
 Initial Study

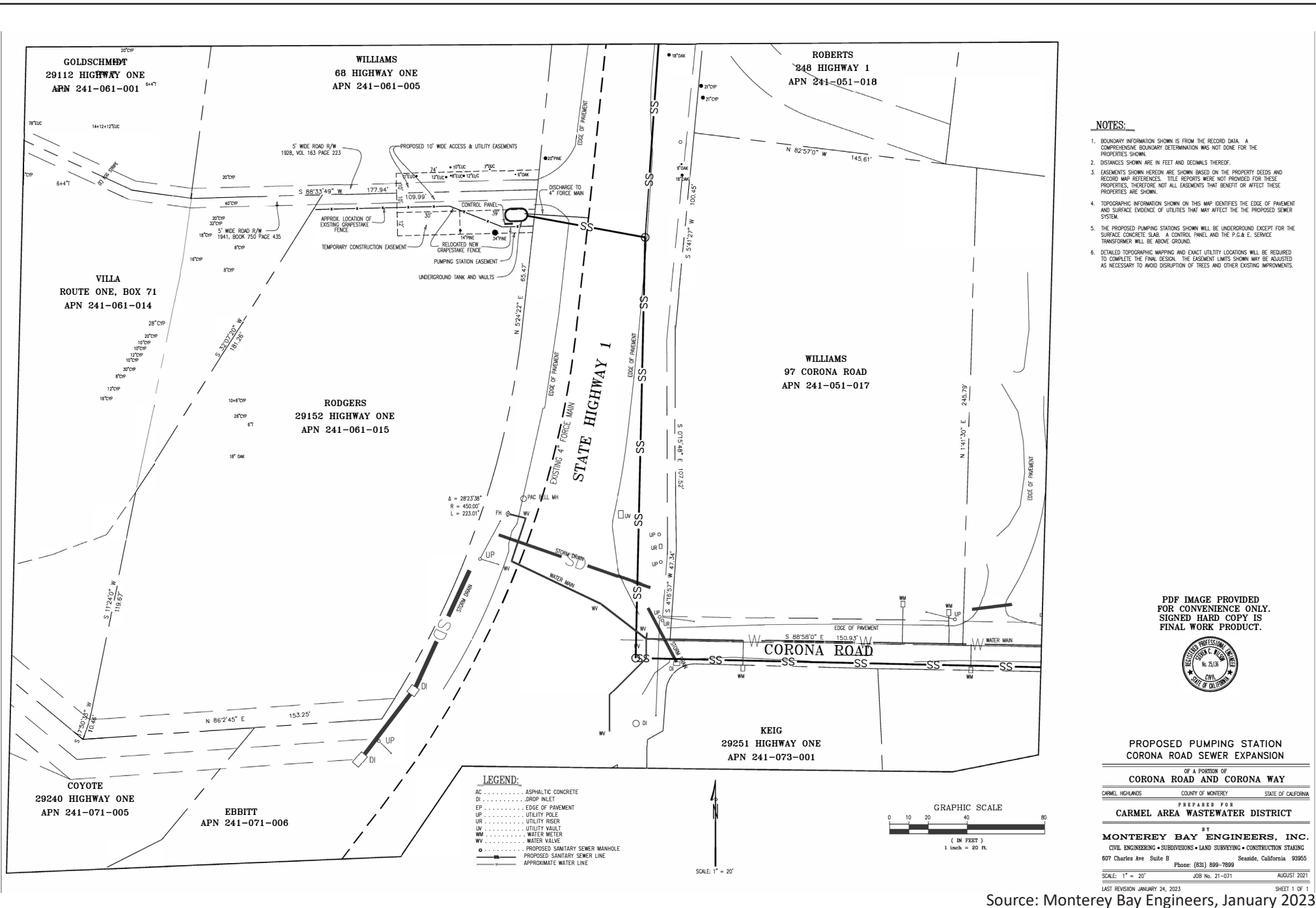
A pump station is proposed within the northeastern portion of the “Rodgers' property” located at 29152 Highway 1 (APN 241-061-015) on the west side of SR 1 (**Figure 5**) and has been sited so as to avoid tree removal and other impacts to existing trees. The pump station would be located on a 468 square foot easement and will be housed beneath two concrete slabs measuring approximately 100 square feet in total. The pump station will be constructed with pre-cast concrete sections and placed entirely underground, with the concrete slab laid on top, except for the Pacific Gas & Electric Company's (PG&E's) electrical service facilities, a vent pipe, and the pump station control panel. Electrical power will be furnished via a new service from PG&E. The pump station would have the capacity to pump up to 0.01 million-gallons-per-day (MGD) of wastewater and a projected flow of 0.006 MGD. The pump station will receive raw sewage from the gravity collection mains as described above and will have a wet well with a capacity of 3,000 gallons to temporarily store the raw sewage from the collection system in the times between pump operations and during power outages. The pump station would include a connection for a backup generator; however no backup generators would be installed permanently at the site. The pump station will discharge into the existing 4-inch sanitary sewer force main in SR 1 at a discharge rate of approximately 50 gallons per minute. The existing 4-inch force main in SR 1 was evaluated by the project engineers and determined to be capable of transmitting the sewage introduced as a result of the proposed project.

A 600 square foot construction staging area for the pump station would be located off-site at CAWD's treatment plant. A 360 square foot construction easement/staging area for the pump station would be located immediately west of the pump station site. A new 10-foot wide access easement is also proposed at the mouth of the private road on the west side of Corona Road to ensure safe access to the pump station and to residents. In addition, a construction laydown area for pipeline installation and small construction equipment parking would also be established at 74 Corona Road (APN 241-052-001).

## **2.7 PROJECT ACTIONS**

The proposed project includes the following approvals and potential permits:

- Carmel Area Wastewater District: Board approval of the formation of the proposed assessment district, application for funding through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund grant program, and this environmental document.
- California Department of Transportation (Caltrans): Encroachment Permit/Authorization for sanitary sewer pipeline within the public right-of-way (adjacent to and crossing underneath SR 1).
- County of Monterey: Coastal Development Permit.
- Coastal Commission: Administrative Permit if required.
- County of Monterey: Encroachment Permit for work in public right-of-way, Grading Permit, and Forest Management Plan (if required).
- Future permits from Monterey County Division of Environmental Health for removal of individual septic systems.



- NOTES:**
- BOUNDARY INFORMATION SHOWN IS FROM THE RECORD DATA. A COMPREHENSIVE BOUNDARY DETERMINATION WAS NOT DONE FOR THE PROPERTIES SHOWN.
  - DISTANCES SHOWN ARE IN FEET AND DECIMALS THEREOF.
  - EASEMENTS SHOWN HEREON ARE SHOWN BASED ON THE PROPERTY DEEDS AND RECORD MAP REFERENCES. TITLE REPORTS WERE NOT PROVIDED FOR THESE PROPERTIES, THEREFORE NOT ALL EASEMENTS THAT BENEFIT OR AFFECT THESE PROPERTIES ARE SHOWN.
  - TOPOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SHOWN ON THIS MAP IDENTIFIES THE EDGE OF PAVEMENT AND SURFACE EVIDENCE OF UTILITIES THAT MAY AFFECT THE PROPOSED SEWER SYSTEM.
  - THE PROPOSED PUMPING STATIONS SHOWN WILL BE UNDERGROUND EXCEPT FOR THE SURFACE CONCRETE SLAB. A CONTROL PANEL AND THE P.G.& E. SERVICE TRANSFORMER WILL BE ABOVE GROUND.
  - DETAILED TOPOGRAPHIC MAPPING AND EXACT UTILITY LOCATIONS WILL BE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE THE FINAL DESIGN. THE EASEMENT LIMITS SHOWN MAY BE ADJUSTED AS NECESSARY TO AVOID DISRUPTION OF TREES AND OTHER EXISTING IMPROVEMENTS.

PDF IMAGE PROVIDED FOR CONVENIENCE ONLY. SIGNED HARD COPY IS FINAL WORK PRODUCT.



PROPOSED PUMPING STATION  
CORONA ROAD AND CORONA WAY

OF A PORTION OF  
CORONA ROAD AND CORONA WAY

CARMEL HIGHLANDS COUNTY OF MONTEREY STATE OF CALIFORNIA

PREPARED FOR  
CARMEL AREA WASTEWATER DISTRICT

BY  
MONTEREY BAY ENGINEERS, INC.  
CIVIL ENGINEERING • SUBDIVISIONS • LAND SURVEYING • CONSTRUCTION STAKING  
607 Charles Ave Suite B Seaside, California 93955  
Phone: (831) 899-7899

SCALE: 1" = 20' JOB No. 21-071 AUGUST 2021  
LAST REVISION JANUARY 24, 2023 SHEET 1 OF 1

Source: Monterey Bay Engineers, January 2023

# Site Plan - Pump Station

Corona Rd. Sewer Extension Project  
Initial Study

Figure  
**5**

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### CHAPTER 3. ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a “Potentially Significant Impact” or “Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated” as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural Resources        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Quality                        |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Energy  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geology and Soils               | <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas                | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards and Hazardous Materials               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology and Water Quality     | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use and Planning         | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources                             |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Noise                | <input type="checkbox"/> Population and Housing        | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tribal Cultural Resources          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities and Service Systems   | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire                      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |

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## CHAPTER 4. DETERMINATION

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a “potentially significant impact” or “potentially significant unless mitigated” impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Rachél Lather

Signature

3/3/2023

Date

Rachél Lather, Principal Engineer

Carmel Area Wastewater District

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## CHAPTER 5. INITIAL STUDY ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

This Initial Study evaluates the following resource sections within *Section 5.2. Environmental Setting and Impacts*: aesthetics, agricultural and forestry resources, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, energy, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use and planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation, tribal resources, utilities and service systems, and wildfire.

### 5.1 EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

The following describes how the proposed project's impacts to resource areas will be analyzed in this Initial Study in accordance with CEQA. Each resource section includes: 1) existing setting and applicable regulatory background, 2) CEQA impact checklist for the resource area, and 3) impact discussion in response to the questions in the checklist and mitigation where warranted. The impact discussion will identify the level of environmental effect from the proposed project. An explanation or discussion is required for all answers to the resource impact checklist as follows.

1. A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
2. All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
3. Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. "Potentially Significant Impact" is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that any effect may be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is required.
4. "Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated" applies where incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from "Earlier Analyses" as described in (5) below, may be cross-referenced).
5. Earlier Analysis may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or another CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case a discussion should identify the following:
  - a. Earlier analysis used. Identify earlier analyses and state where they are available for review.
  - b. Impacts adequately addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.

- c. Mitigation measures. For effects that are "Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated," describe the mitigation measures, which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
6. Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.
7. Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.
8. This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's environmental effects in whatever format is selected.
9. The explanation of each issue should identify:
  - a. the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
  - b. the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significant.

## **5.2 PREVIOUS CEQA DOCUMENTATION AND APPROACH TO ANALYSIS**

The project area is within the jurisdiction of the County of Monterey. Planning and development within the area are governed by the policies outlined in the 1982 Monterey County General Plan and the Carmel Area Land Use Plan. These documents recognize CAWD as the primary public wastewater service provider for the area. The 2020 CAWD Municipal Services Review approved by LAFCO and the adopted Initial Study/Negative Declaration for the 2020 SOI Amendment and Annexation (2020 CAWD IS/MND) provides background information for the proposed project, as described below.

*Section 5.3.11 Land Use and Planning* provides a general overview of pertinent planning documents and prior environmental review which govern development within the proposed project area. It is important to note that this Supplemental IS/MND uses previously prepared EIRs and planning documents for background information and setting as discussed throughout.

### **Use of Earlier Analyses**

The Monterey County General Plan was updated in 2010. However, because the proposed project site is within the coastal zone, it is under the purview of the Carmel Area Land Use Plan. Within the coastal areas of unincorporated Monterey County, the 1982 General Plan policies apply where the Local Coastal Program ("LCP") is silent. This typically is limited to noise policies as the LCP policies contain the majority of development standards applicable to development in the coastal areas. This Initial Study utilizes the Carmel Area Land Use Plan and the 1982 Monterey County General Plan as the basis for the analysis for regional setting, land use and water and wastewater service provision. As such, this Initial Study "tiers" off the Carmel Area Land Use Plan and the 1982 Monterey County General Plan for addressing regional issues in accordance with State CEQA Guidelines section 15152, which encourages lead agencies to use an EIR prepared for a general plan or other program or ordinance, when the later project is pursuant to or consistent with the program or plan. The Carmel Area Land Use Plan and the 1982 Monterey County General Plan addresses future development and wastewater and water demand within the region, including the proposed project area.

The 2020 CAWD IS/MND included a sphere of influence amendment and annexation of territory into the district's service area, including the proposed project area. While the 2020 IS/MND did not include a

specific development proposal, it did contain mitigation measures that would apply to future wastewater service expansion within the expanded service area. As a result, the mitigation proposed in the 2020 CAWD IS/MND would also apply to the proposed project. The conclusions reached in the Supplemental IS/MND are based on the Carmel Area Land Use Plan and the 1982 Monterey County General Plan, the 2020 CAWD IS/MND, as well as the setting, analysis and CEQA checklist discussion provided in *Section 5.3 Environmental Setting and Impacts*.

**Relationship of the Proposed Project to Prior Environmental Review**

This Supplemental IS/MND evaluates the environmental impacts of the proposed project and compares the findings with the conclusions in the prior environmental documentation described above to identify whether the proposed project would result in any new or substantially more severe impacts than those analyzed in the 2020 CAWD IS/MND or whether the proposed project would result in new impacts or any of the other conditions requiring further environmental review under CEQA.

**5.3 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING AND IMPACTS**

The following section describes the environmental setting and identifies the environmental impacts anticipated from implementation of the proposed project. The criteria provided in the CEQA environmental checklist was used to identify potentially significant environmental impacts associated with the proposed project.

**5.3.1 AESTHETICS**

**Setting**

The coastal landscape of Monterey County is aesthetically rich and visually diverse, and some areas, such as the Monterey Peninsula and Carmel Bay, are widely recognized and highly regarded for their aesthetic quality. The proposed project is located within the Coastal Zone and is governed by the Carmel Area Land Use Plan (LUP). Views in and around the proposed project site area include the entrance to the Big Sur coast and notable views of the Pacific Ocean, as well as views from Corona Road, a primarily rural residential viewshed. Views offered within the project area offer a variety of scenic vistas in nearly every direction.

Portions of SR 1 along the California coastline are either designated as a State Scenic Highway or eligible for State Scenic Highway’s designation (Caltrans, 2022). The section of SR 1 in the vicinity of the proposed project is designated State Scenic Highway. The State Scenic Highways Program is designed to protect and enhance the natural scenic beauty of California highways and adjacent corridors through special conservation treatment. The section of SR 1 that is included in the proposed project offers views of existing residential properties and vegetation. In addition, the County General Plan designates the Carmel Highlands area as a highly sensitive viewshed.

<b>Would the project:</b>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact	New Significant Impact Compared to 2020 IS/MND?
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No

<b>Would the project:</b>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact	New Significant Impact Compared to 2020 IS/MND?
outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?					
c) In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage points). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No

**Prior Environmental Analysis**

The 2020 CAWD IS/MND determined that the SOI and Annexation would have a less than significant impact related to scenic vistas or damage to scenic resources within a State scenic highway. The 2020 CAWD IS/MND determined that the SOI and Annexation would have a less than significant impact related to changes in visual quality and character of non-urbanized area and no impacts related to light and glare.

**Discussion/Conclusion/Mitigation**

a-b) **Scenic Vista/Scenic Resources: Less-than-Significant Impact.** Visual resources are classified into two categories: scenic vistas and scenic resources. Scenic vistas are typically broader viewsheds such as mountain ranges, valleys, and ridgelines. Broader elements of a viewshed can be seen from a range of viewpoints, often along a roadway or corridor. Scenic resources are specific features of a viewing area (or viewshed) such as trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings. The proposed project is located within developed areas, in a residential neighborhood located in the Carmel Highlands. As discussed above, the General Plan designates the Carmel Highlands area as being a visually sensitive viewshed. However, the proposed project would be largely underground, with the exception of the pump station control panel, electrical infrastructure, and a vent, and would not have a substantial adverse effect on the aesthetic resources within this area, as described below.

The proposed project would consist of the formation of an assessment district, the installation of a sanitary sewer pipeline, and construction of a pump station. Construction activities associated with pipeline installation would be temporary and limited to occur within roadways and rights of ways to the extent feasible. Construction of the proposed project would not significantly change or disrupt the visual character of the surrounding areas. All temporarily disturbed areas would be restored to their pre-project conditions following the completion of construction. All pipeline installation associated with the proposed project would be conducted below-ground and would not be visible following the conclusion of construction activities.

The proposed project's pump station would be located on the west side of SR 1, as described in **Chapter 2. Project Description**. The proposed pump station would be designed for underground installation, with aboveground components of the facility limited to pump station control panel, electrical infrastructure, and a vent. Aboveground components of the proposed pump station would be sited to minimize visibility from SR 1 and other public viewpoints, including nearby scenic vistas. Moreover, the pump station would be located in an area that is vegetated and therefore provided natural screening from the public. The pump station would include a connection for a backup generator; however, no backup generators would be installed permanently at the site. In addition, no other aboveground equipment is proposed.

For the reasons discussed above, the proposed project would have a less-than-significant indirect impact to scenic resources or result in substantial damage to scenic vistas or scenic resources within a state scenic highway.

- c) **Existing Visual Character: Less-Than-Significant Impact.** The proposed project consists of the formation of an assessment district, the installation of sanitary sewer pipelines, and construction of a pump station. Aboveground components of the proposed project would be limited to PG&E equipment and infrastructure and a control panel for the pump station. These aboveground components would be located on the west side of SR 1. Under current conditions, the pump station site is located on a lot that is partially developed with residential land uses and landscaping. Public views of the aboveground component, consisting of a control panel, of the pump station site may be available from SR 1. However, aboveground components of the proposed pump station would be sited to minimize visibility from SR 1. SR 1 has a speed limit of 45 miles per hour within the vicinity of the project site, and, as a result, potential views of the pump station site would be limited in duration.

The proposed project would not result in the removal of trees. Pipelines would be installed entirely within the roadway and within road right of ways. The proposed project would be subject to tree protection measures (see **5.2.4 Biological Resources** for further discussion). With adherence to applicable County of Monterey regulations, this represents a less than significant impact.

For these reasons, the proposed project would not degrade existing visual character or quality of public views of the site or its surroundings. This represents a less than significant impact.

- d) **Light or Glare: No Impact.** The proposed project would be located in an area with residential development in the vicinity of a State Highway. Construction of the proposed project would not require nighttime lighting. Operation of the proposed sanitary sewer pipeline would be located completely underground and would have no effect on lighting or glare conditions. The proposed project would include a new, above-ground pump station on the east side of SR 1. Operation of the proposed pump station would be fenced and shielded from view and would not produce a substantial source of lighting or glare. Moreover, no exterior lighting is proposed at the pump station. Thus, no new sources of substantial light or glare which could adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area would occur. No impact would occur.

**Sources: (1, 2, 4, & 18)**

**Conclusion:** Based upon the analysis above, the proposed project would not result in new impacts or substantially increase the severity of impacts compared to the conclusions of the prior 2020 CAWD IS/MND. No additional analysis is required.

### 5.3.2 AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES

#### Setting

In California, agricultural land is given consideration under CEQA. Public Resources Code §21060.1, identifies “agricultural land” as Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance, or Unique Farmland as defined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture land inventory and monitoring criteria, as modified for California. The California Department of Conservation, under the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP), produces maps and statistical data that are used for analyzing impacts on California’s agricultural resources. The FMMP produces Important Farmland Maps, which identify five agricultural-related categories plus two non-agricultural listings, each category is summarized below:

- Prime Farmland is land that has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for crop production. It has the soil quality, growing season, and moisture needed to produce sustained high yields of crops when appropriately treated and managed.
- Farmland of Statewide Importance is land other than Prime Farmland that has a good combination of physical and chemical characteristics for crop production.
- Unique Farmland is land that does not meet the criteria for Prime Farmland or Farmland of Statewide Importance which has been used for the production of specific high economic value crops.
- Farmland of Local Importance is either currently producing crops, or has the capacity of production, and does not meet the criteria of the categories above.
- Grazing Land is land which the existing vegetation, grown naturally or through management, is suited for the grazing of livestock.
- Urban Land is land which is currently occupied by structures with a building density of at least 1 unit to 1.5 acres, or approximately 6 structures to a 10-acre parcel.
- Other Land is land not included in any mapping category which may be low density rural developments; brush, timber, wetland, and riparian areas not suitable for livestock grazing; confined livestock, poultry or aquaculture facilities; strip mines and borrow pits; and water bodies smaller than forty acres. Vacant and non-agricultural land surrounded on all side by urban development and greater than 40 acres is mapped as Other Land.
- CEQA also requires consideration of lands that are under Williamson Act contract.

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact	New Significant Impact compared to 2020 IS/MND?
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	☐	☐	☐	■	No
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	☐	☐	☐	■	No

<b>Would the project:</b>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact	New Significant Impact compared to 2020 IS/MND?
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 1220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No

### Prior Environmental Analysis

The 2020 CAWD IS/MND determined that the SOI and Annexation would have less than significant impacts related to conversion of Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance and involving changes in the existing environment resulting in the conversion of farmland to non-agricultural use or forest land to non-forest land. The 2020 CAWD IS/MND determined that the SOI and Annexation would have a no impacts related to conflicting with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract, conflicting with existing zoning or rezoning of forest land, and loss of forest land.

### Discussion/Conclusion/Mitigation

- a) **Important Farmland: No Impact.** The entirety of the proposed project site is designated as “Urban or Built Up Land” on the Important Farmlands Map for Monterey County. The proposed project site is not zoned for agricultural use and is not located on or near land mapped as Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance under the California Department of Conservation’s (DOC) Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (DOC, 2018). As a result, the proposed project would not result in the conversion of farmland to non-agricultural use and no impact would occur.
- b) **Williamson Act: No Impact.** There are no known Williamson Act contracts in the proposed project area or within the project vicinity. Thus, the proposed project would not lead to conflicts with Williamson Act contracts and would result in no impact.
- c - d) **Forest Land: No Impact.** The project site does not contain any forest land as defined in Public Resources Code § 12220(g), timberland as defined by Public Resources Code § 4526, or property zoned for Timberland Production as defined by Government Code § 51104(g). As a result, there would be no impact related to the loss of forest resources, the rezoning of forest land or timberland, or the conversion of forest land to non-forest use.
- e) **Conversion of Farmland: No Impact.** As discussed above, the proposed project area does not include any parcels designated as Farmland. The proposed project consists of the formation of an assessment district, installation of sanitary sewer pipelines, and construction of a pump station. As a result, the proposed project would have no impact related to other changes in the existing

environment which could result in conversion of farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use.

**Sources (1, 2, 4, & 5)**

**Conclusion:** Based upon the analysis above, the proposed project would not result in new impacts or substantially increase the severity of impacts compared to the conclusions of the prior 2020 CAWD IS/MND. No additional analysis is required.

**5.3.3 AIR QUALITY**

**Setting**

The federal Clean Air Act and the California Clean Air Act mandate the control and reduction of certain air pollutants. Under these Acts, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the California Air Resources Board have established ambient air quality standards for specific "criteria" pollutants. These pollutants include carbon monoxide (CO), ozone (O<sub>3</sub>), sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>), particulate matter less than 10 microns in diameter (PM<sub>10</sub>), lead, and particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>). The proposed project site is located within the North Central Coast Air Basin (NCCAB), which is comprised of Santa Cruz, San Benito, and Monterey Counties, and is regulated by the Monterey Bay Air Resources District (MBARD)<sup>2</sup>.

The NCCAB is in attainment for all National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and for all California Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS) except O<sub>3</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>. The primary sources of O<sub>3</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> in the NCCAB are from automobile engine combustion. To address exceedance of these CAAQS, the MBARD has developed and implemented several plans including the 2005 Particulate Matter Plan, the 2007 Federal Maintenance Plan, and the 2012-2015 Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP), which is a revision to the 2012 Triennial Plan. NCCAB Attainment Status to National and California Ambient Air Quality standards can be found in **Table 1** below.

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<sup>2</sup> Formerly known as the Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District



Table 1 North Central Coast Air Basin Attainment Status – January 2015		
Pollutant	State Standards <sup>1</sup>	National Standards
Ozone (O <sub>3</sub> )	<b>Nonattainment</b> <sup>2</sup>	Attainment/Unclassified <sup>3</sup>
Inhalable Particulates (PM <sub>10</sub> )	<b>Nonattainment</b>	Attainment
Fine Particulates (PM <sub>2.5</sub> )	Attainment	Attainment/Unclassified <sup>4</sup>
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	Monterey Co. – Attainment San Benito Co. – Unclassified Santa Cruz Co. – Unclassified	Attainment/Unclassified
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO <sub>2</sub> )	Attainment	Attainment/Unclassified <sup>5</sup>
Sulfur Dioxide (SO <sub>2</sub> )	Attainment	Attainment <sup>6</sup>
Lead	Attainment	Attainment/Unclassified <sup>7</sup>
<b>Notes:</b>		
1) State designations based on 2010 to 2012 air monitoring data.		
2) Effective July 26, 2007, the ARB designated the NCCAB a nonattainment area for the State ozone standard, which was revised in 2006 to include an 8-hour standard of 0.070 ppm.		
3) On March 12, 2008, EPA adopted a new 8-hour ozone standard of 0.075 ppm. In April 2012, EPA designated the NCCAB attainment/unclassified based on 2009-2011 data.		
4) This includes the 2006 24-hour standard of 35 µg/m <sup>3</sup> and the 2012 annual standard of 12 µg/m <sup>3</sup> .		
5) In 2012, EPA designated the entire state as attainment/unclassified for the 2010 NO <sub>2</sub> standard.		
6) In June 2011, the ARB recommended to EPA that the entire state be designated as attainment for the 2010 primary SO <sub>2</sub> standard. Final designations to be addressed in future EPA actions.		
7) On October 15, 2008 EPA substantially strengthened the national ambient air quality standard for lead by lowering the level of the primary standard from 1.5 µg/m <sup>3</sup> to 0.15 µg/m <sup>3</sup> . Final designations were made by EPA in November 2011.		
8) Nonattainment designations are highlighted in <b>Bold</b> .		

MBARD has issued criteria for determining the level of significance for project-specific impacts within their jurisdiction. Emissions generated by a project are compared to MBARD’s posted thresholds for both construction and operational emissions to determine whether a significant air quality impact would occur. A project would be considered to have a cumulatively considerable impact with regard to cumulative air quality impacts if it is found to be inconsistent with MBARD’s AQMP, which would occur if:

- Population growth generated by a project would cause the population of Monterey County to exceed the population forecast for the appropriate five-year increment utilized in the 2016 AQMP, or
- Construction and operational emissions of ozone precursors would exceed the significance thresholds established by MBARD, which are intended to set the allowable limit that a project can emit without impeding or conflicting with the AQMP’s goal of attainment ambient air quality standards.

The proposed project could result in a potentially significant impact if it were inconsistent with the criteria of MBARD’s AQMP, or if air pollutants resulting from the proposed project would exceed the thresholds identified in **Table 2**, below, for either the construction or operation phases.

Table 2 Criteria Pollutant Thresholds of Significance		
Pollutant/ Precursor	Maximum Construction Emissions (lbs/day)	Maximum Operational Emissions (lbs/day)
VOC/NO <sub>x</sub>	N/A	137
CO	N/A	550
		LOS at intersection/road segment degrades from D or better to E or F or V/C ratio at intersection/road segment at LOS E or F increases by 0.05 or more or delay at intersection at LOS E or F increases by 10 seconds or more or reserve capacity at unsignalized intersection at LOS E or F decreases by 50 or more
SO <sub>x</sub>	N/A	150
PM <sub>10</sub>	82*	82**

\* Applies only if construction is located nearby or upwind of sensitive receptors. A significant impact from PM<sub>10</sub> emissions could occur if a project utilizes construction equipment not designated as "typical" in Section 5.3 of MBARD's CEQA Air Quality Guidelines.  
\*\* MBARD's operational PM<sub>10</sub> threshold applies only to on-site emissions.  
Source: MBARD 2008

Air Quality modeling for the proposed project was prepared by AMBIENT Air Quality & Noise Consulting based on construction and operational information based on the methodology recommended by MBARD's AQMP. The CalEEMod results for the proposed project are presented as **Appendix A**.

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact	New Significant Impact compared to 2020 IS/MND?
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
b) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
d) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No

### Prior Environmental Analysis

The 2020 CAWD IS/MND determined that the SOI and Annexation would have less than significant impacts related to exposure of sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations or creating objectional odors affecting a substantial number of people. The 2020 CAWD IS/MND determined that the SOI and Annexation would have no impacts related to conflicting with or obstructing implementation of applicable air quality plans.

The 2020 CAWD IS/MND found that the SOI and Annexation could result in significant impacts related to cumulatively considerable net increases of criteria pollutants. As a result, the 2020 CAWD IS/MND identified the following mitigation measure to reduce this impact to a less than significant level.

#### **MM AQ-1: Air Quality Evaluation**

Consistent with guidance from MBARD and County construction standards, CAWD shall require the following Best Management Practices (BMPs) to be implemented during installation and construction of pipelines and associated improvements at construction sites to control emissions:

- Water all active construction areas as required with non-potable sources to the extent feasible; frequency should be based on the type of operation, soil, and wind exposure and minimized to prevent wasteful use of water.
- Prohibit grading activities during periods of high wind (over 15 mph).
- Cover all trucks hauling soil, sand, and other loose materials and require trucks to maintain at least 2 feet of freeboard.
- Hand sweep daily within paved areas.
- Sweep streets daily (with water sweepers) if visible soil material is carried onto adjacent public streets.
- Enclose, cover, or water daily exposed stockpiles (dirt, sand, etc.).
- Replant vegetation in disturbed areas as quickly as possible.
- Provide stabilized construction entrance/exit to limit sediment tracking from construction sites, as appropriate.

#### **Discussion/Conclusion/Mitigation**

- a) **Conformance with Air Quality Plan: No Impact.** CEQA Guidelines §15125(b) requires that a project be evaluated for consistency with applicable regional plans, including the AQMP. MBARD's most recent update to their AQMP is the 2012-2015 AQMP, which was approved in March of 2017. This plan incorporates the County's General Plan and population forecasts in its preparation of regional air quality plans. The AQMP accommodates growth by projecting growth in emissions based on population forecasts prepared by the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) and other indicators. Population-generating projects that are within the AQMP population forecasts are considered consistent with the plan. The proposed project consists of the formation of an assessment district, installation of a new sanitary sewer pipeline, and construction of a pump station. The proposed project is necessary to meet both the 2013 Capital Improvement Program Master Plan (as discussed in **Chapter 2. Project Description**), and to address the failing septic systems used by existing residential properties in the Corona Road area. The proposed project would not result in population growth that has not previously been included in population forecasts. Moreover, the proposed project does not include any new residential development that would result in a population increase (see **Section 5.2.14 Population and Housing** for further discussion). As a result, the proposed project does not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the AQMP and would not result in an impact.

- b) **Cumulatively Considerable Emissions: Less-Than-Significant Impact.** The proposed project would result in generation of air quality emissions associated with construction and operation, as discussed below.

**Construction Emissions**

Construction generated emissions are shown below in **Table 3**. The proposed project would not result in construction generated emissions for PM<sub>10</sub> in exceedance of MBARD’s established emissions thresholds. The proposed project would generate an estimated 10.9 pounds per day (lbs./day) of PM<sub>10</sub>. With implementation of standard dust control measures, as identified below, these emissions would be reduced to 5.5 lbs./day of PM<sub>10</sub> (a 50% reduction). All other construction generated air quality emissions would be below the thresholds established by MBARD.

Table 3 Estimated Maximum Construction Unmitigated Daily Emissions (lbs./day)						
	Maximum Emissions					
	ROG	NO <sub>x</sub>	CO	SO <sub>2</sub>	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>
Daily Emissions - Summer	0.27	2.45	3.01	<0.005	10.9	1.14
Daily Emissions - Winter	0.14	1.39	1.65	<0.005	10.9	1.14
<b>Maximum Daily Emissions</b>	0.27	2.45	3.01	<0.005	10.9	1.14
MBARD Thresholds	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	82	N/A
<b>Threshold Exceeded?</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	N/A

**Best Management Practices<sup>3</sup>**

Consistent with guidance from MBARD and County construction standards, CAWD shall require the following Best Management Practices (BMPs) to be implemented during installation and construction of pipelines and associated improvements at construction sites to control emissions:

- Water all active construction areas as required with non-potable sources to the extent feasible; frequency should be based on the type of operation, soil, and wind exposure and minimized to prevent wasteful use of water.
- Prohibit grading activities during periods of high wind (over 15 mph).
- Cover all trucks hauling soil, sand, and other loose materials and require trucks to maintain at least 2 feet of freeboard.
- Hand sweep daily within paved areas.
- Sweep streets daily (with water sweepers) if visible soil material is carried onto adjacent public streets.
- Enclose, cover, or water daily exposed stockpiles (dirt, sand, etc.).
- Replant vegetation in disturbed areas as quickly as possible.
- Provide stabilized construction entrance/exit to limit sediment tracking from construction sites, as appropriate.

<sup>3</sup> These best management practices identified by MBARD correspond with those recommended in **Mitigation Measure AQ-1** of the 2020 CAWD IS/MND – however, as a project specific evaluation was prepared for the proposed project, this mitigation measure is not applicable to the proposed project.

With the implementation of the BMPs identified above, the proposed project would have a less than significant impact with respect to construction period air quality emissions.

### **Operational Emissions**

Operation of the pump station component of the proposed project would require electricity. Electricity is provided to the project area by PG&E. However, criteria pollutant emissions from electricity use are associated with the pollutant emissions produced by power plants and not individual projects. Therefore, air quality emissions related to electricity use from the proposed project are not discussed further.

The primary source of emissions associated with operation of the proposed project would be visits to the pump station for inspection and maintenance. The need and frequency for these visits has not been determined at this time. However, these visits would be infrequent and would be limited to single-vehicle trips to perform inspections. The pump station would include a connection for a backup generator; however no backup generators would be installed permanently at the site. The operational period air quality emissions would be minimal and would not exceed MBARD's established thresholds. The proposed project would have a less than significant impact with respect to operational period air quality emissions.

- c) **Sensitive Receptors: Less-Than-Significant Impact.** The MBARD's 2008 CEQA Air Quality Guidelines state that a project would have a significant impact to sensitive receptors if it would cause a violation of any CO, PM<sub>10</sub> or toxic air contaminant standards at an existing or reasonably foreseeable sensitive receptor. Sensitive receptors may include population groups (e.g., children, senior citizens, acutely or chronically ill people) and/or facilities where these more susceptible population groups tend to reside or spend time (e.g., schools, retirement homes, hospitals). Sensitive receptors in the vicinity of the proposed project consist of residences along Corona Road, Corona Way, and at the access road 27960 along SR 1. The proposed project consists of the formation of an assessment district, installation of sanitary sewer pipelines, and construction of a pump station. Construction of the proposed project would involve temporary trenching and grading; the use of construction equipment for these activities would result in temporary increases in the release of air pollutants in proximity to sensitive receptors; therefore, the proposed project would introduce new sources of air pollutant emissions during construction. These emissions would be temporary and would cease upon completion of project construction. The proposed project would be required to comply with applicable MBARD regulations, including, but not limited to, Rule 402,<sup>4</sup> which would minimize potential nuisance impacts to occupants of nearby land uses. Operation of the proposed project would not result in a substantial increase in air pollutant emissions. The sanitary sewer pipeline would be below ground and would not result in operational emissions. The pump station would be supplied energy from PG&E, but would not result in substantial emissions. In addition, when electrical power is not available (e.g., during a power outage) a generator would be brought to the site and connected to the pump station. This emergency generator would be powered by diesel fuel but would only be used temporarily on an as-needed basis; and therefore, would result in a negligible amount of emissions. As discussed

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<sup>4</sup> MBARD Rule 402 "Nuisance" states, "A person shall not discharge from any source whatsoever such quantities of air contaminants or other material which cause injury, detriment, nuisance, or annoyance to any considerable number of persons or to the public, or which endanger the comfort, repose, health or safety of any such persons or the public, or which cause, or have a natural tendency to cause, injury or damage to business or property. The provisions of this rule shall not apply to odors emanating from agricultural operations necessary for the growing of crops or the raising of fowl or animals."

above, operational emissions related to the pump station would primarily result from maintenance vehicles. These emissions would be minimal and infrequent.

For these reasons, the proposed project would have a less-than-significant impact due to exposure of sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations.

- d) **Odors: Less-Than-Significant Impact.** During construction activities, the proposed project would emit odors from oil and diesel fuel resulting from the use of heavy equipment. In addition, the proposed project would generate odors related to asphalt paving. These odors would be temporary and limited to the construction period of the proposed project. In addition, the adjacent sensitive receptors would only be exposed to construction-generated odors for a short period of time because the pipeline would be constructed in segments. Construction activities would move along the alignment at a rate of approximately 150-200 feet per day. Construction of the entire proposed project would last approximately four (4) months). As a result, construction-related odor impacts would be less than significant.

The pipeline component of the proposed project would carry wastewater to the pump station during operation. The pipeline would be located entirely underground and would not generate odors during operation. In addition, the pump station component of the proposed project would be electrically powered and would also be located underground. Wastewater would not be exposed to the air during pumping and would not release odors to nearby receptors. As a result, operation-related odor impacts would be less than significant.

#### **Sources (1, 2, 6, 7, & 12)**

**Conclusion:** Based upon the analysis above, the proposed project would not result in new impacts or substantially increase the severity of impacts compared to the conclusions of the prior 2020 CAWD IS/MND. No additional analysis is required.

#### **5.3.4 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES**

##### **Setting**

There are numerous federally listed endangered and threatened species and other CEQA defined special-status species in the County. More than 70,000 acres in the County are designated as critical habitat by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). As described in the Monterey County 2010 General Plan, the two most common types of natural habitat in the proposed project area are oak woodland grasslands.

The Monterey County 2010 General Plan and EIR identifies potential impacts to special status species, sensitive natural communities, riparian habitat and wetlands, and wildlife movement corridors with future development in the County. Numerous policies are included in the General Plan and Coastal Plans/Implementation Programs, which relate to protection of habitat and other biological resources. In the Coastal Zone Planning Area of Monterey County, all land use proposals are subject to provisions set forth by CEQA, the Coastal Act and the Monterey County General Plan. Under CEQA, all development proposals that have the potential to impact environmental features are subject to review. If development proposals have the potential to disturb special habitat areas or special status species, permitting through federal, state or local protocols is required.

A biological assessment was prepared for the proposed project and is presented in **Appendix B**. In addition, an arborist report was prepared for the proposed project and is presented in **Appendix C**. The findings of these reports are discussed below.

<b>Would the project:</b>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact	New Significant Impact compared to 2020 IS/MND?
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or US Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No

**Prior Environmental Analysis**

The 2020 CAWD IS/MND was found to have a less than significant impact related to conflicting with local policies/ordinances protecting biological resources. The 2020 CAWD IS/MND was found to have no impact related to conflicting with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan. The 2020 CAWD IS/MND determined that the SOI and Annexation would have a potentially significant impact related to having a substantial adverse effect on special-status species, riparian habitats, federally protected wetlands, and interfering with the movement native wildlife species.

The 2020 CAWD IS/MND identified **Mitigation Measures BIO-1** through **BIO-7** to reduce these impacts to a less than significant level, as shown below: (Note: These measures continue to be applicable to the proposed project.)

**MM BIO-1 from the 2020 IS/MND: Prepare Biological Report**

A qualified biologist shall prepare a biological report prior to review and implementation of any project outside paved areas or within 100 feet of any sensitive habitat area, riparian corridor, bluffs, sea cliffs, or wetlands. As a result, each future CAWD service extension project, including on-street and off-street projects, would need to be evaluated to determine if it is within 100 feet of a sensitive habitat. A biological report would be prepared for any project that occurred within 100 feet of a sensitive habitat. These biological reports would include measures to protect sensitive natural communities and special-status plant species.

If the biological report identifies that future CAWD service extension projects are located in or adjacent to sensitive plant species habitat, a qualified biologist shall work with the District and/or contractor to designate the work area and any staging areas with high-visibility orange construction fencing if deemed applicable by the qualified biologist. Disturbance to vegetation shall be kept to the minimum necessary to complete the project activities. Protective fencing should be in place prior to any site grading or other disturbances. All grassland or sensitive habitat areas outside the limits of work shall be preserved. When all site construction is complete, the temporary fencing can be removed.

**MM BIO-2 from the 2020 IS/MND : Surveys for Special-Status Plant Species**

The biological report identified in **MM BIO-1** shall recommend plant surveys for special-status plant species. Surveys shall be conducted prior to approval of any future CAWD service extension project with ground disturbing activities at off-street project locations where suitable habitat for such species is present. The measure shall require a qualified botanist to conduct focused botanical surveys according to CNPS (CNPS 2001), CDFW (CDFW 2018c), and USFWS (USFWS 2002) at the proper time(s) of year during reported blooming periods when the plants are identifiable. The biological report identified in **MM BIO-1** shall identify avoidance measures for special plant species where appropriate. The qualified botanist shall prepare a survey results report for submittal to the District. The report shall include, but shall not be limited to, the following: (1) a description of the survey methods; (2) a discussion of the survey results; (3) a map showing the project area and the location of any special-status plants encountered, and (4) recommended measures to avoid impacts to special-status plant species.

**2020 MM BIO-3: Biological Report for Sensitive Habitats**

MM BIO-1 from the 2020 IS/MND requires that a qualified biologist prepare a biological report prior to constructing any project within 100 feet of any sensitive habitat area, riparian corridor, bluffs, sea cliffs, or wetlands. As a result, a biological report would be prepared for any project that occurred within or adjacent to sensitive habitat, including habitat for special-status animal species. The biological report shall include measures to protect any special-status animal species when the biological report identifies that future CAWD service extension projects are within or adjacent to suitable habitat for special-status animal species to avoid harming special-status wildlife species.

**MM BIO-4 from the 2020 IS/MND: Protection of Special-Status Animal Species**

The following measures shall be required to protect any special-status animal species when the biological report identifies that future CAWD service extension projects are within or adjacent to



suitable habitat for special-status animal species. These measures to avoid harming special-status wildlife species will be superseded by site-specific surveys and reports.

- Prior to initiation of any construction activities within the vicinity of sensitive habitat for special-status animal species, a qualified biologist shall clearly delineate the limits of construction work and equipment access.
- Protective fencing should be in place prior to any site grading or other disturbances.
- A qualified biologist shall conduct an employee education program prior to any construction. The education program shall consist of a brief presentation to explain biological resources concerns to contractors, their employees, and any other personnel involved in construction of the project.
- A qualified biologist shall conduct a pre-construction survey within the construction area for the presence of Special-Status Species, as identified or required in the biological report for the site-specific projects. The survey(s) will be conducted immediately prior to the initial onset of construction activities. If special-status, species are found, work will not commence until the appropriate state and/or federal resource agencies are contacted and avoidance and mitigation measures are in place.
- If an animal is found at the work site and is believed to be a protected species, work shall be halted, and a qualified biologist shall be contacted for guidance. Care must be taken not to harm or harass the species. No wildlife species shall be handled and/or removed from the construction area by anyone except agency-approved biologists.

**MM BIO-5 from the 2020 IS/MND: Restoration of Disturbed Areas**

Areas disturbed by construction shall be restored and replanted, depending on the community and habitat type, i.e., disturbed grasslands shall be seeded with a native erosion control seed mix suitable to the project area.

**MM BIO-6 from the 2020 IS/MND: Construction Best Management Practices**

CAWD shall ensure future construction projects and contractors implement the following BMPs and protective measures listed below to avoid indirect impacts to wetlands, riparian areas and other sensitive habitats identified within the construction area.

- No materials shall be allowed to enter into aquatic resources within the vicinity. All storm drain inlets and culvert inlets and outlets shall be protected (e.g., filter fabric, straw wattles, and/or silt fencing) in order to prevent debris or construction materials from entering in these areas. At the end of project construction, all materials trapped by the barriers and excess materials such as dirt, rock, asphalt and concrete pavement, or debris shall be collected using dry sweep methods and removed from the project locations. No materials shall be allowed to enter into aquatic resources within the vicinity.
- A litter control program shall be instituted at each project location. All workers ensure that food scraps, paper wrappers, food containers, cans, bottles, and other trash from the project area are deposited in covered or closed trash containers. The trash containers shall be removed from the area at the end of each working day.
- All leaks, drips and spills shall be immediately cleaned up to prevent entry into aquatic resources within the vicinity. All workers shall be informed of the importance of preventing spills and of the appropriate measures to take should a spill occur.

The 2020 IS/MND determined that with the implementation of **MM BIO-1 -6** and **MM BIO-7** below, as well as BMPs, reasonably foreseeable indirect biological impacts of future wastewater projects would be less-than-significant. The 2020 IS/MND also found that future environmental review and project level biological assessments will be required at the time actual future potential wastewater projects are proposed.

#### **MM BIO-7 from the 2020 IS/MND: Construction Scheduling to Avoid Nesting Season**

To avoid potential impacts to nesting migratory birds and raptors, schedule construction to avoid the nesting season to the extent feasible, which is typically from March 1 to August 1. If construction cannot be scheduled outside this area, a qualified biologist shall conduct surveys for nesting birds no more than two weeks prior to onset of tree pruning and construction with heavy equipment. If nesting birds are observed within the project corridor, postpone construction along that portion of the project until the biologist confirms that all young have fledged from the nest. The qualified biologist shall determine buffers required depending on the bird species. For most birds a 50-foot buffer zone is adequate to protect the nest; a raptor nest will require a 250-foot buffer.

The following discussion provides impact analysis and specific mitigation measures to address the current, project-level impacts.

#### **Discussion/Conclusion/Mitigation**

- a - b) **Habitat Modification/Special Status Species: Less-Than-Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated.** The proposed project consists of the formation of an assessment district, installation of a sanitary sewer pipeline, and construction of a pump station. As described in **Appendix B**, a field survey of the project area was conducted for the proposed project site. The field survey determined that a total of four habitat types were located within the survey area, consisting of Disturbed Monterey Pine Forest (3.00 acres), Disturbed Oak Woodland (0.57 acres), Riparian (0.12 acres), and Roadside Ditch (0.02 acres). Of these, a 0.04-acre portion of Disturbed Monterey Pine Forest, a listed habitat type on the CDF *List of Vegetation Alliances and Associations*, is the only habitat type to appear in the approximate area of disturbance.

As described in **Appendix B**,<sup>5</sup> published occurrence data within the survey area and surrounding USGS quadrangles were evaluated to compile a table of special-status species known to occur in the vicinity of the survey area. Each of these species was evaluated for their likelihood to occur within and immediately adjacent to the survey area. One special-status plant species, Monterey pine, was observed within the survey area and two others, Yadon's piperia and Pacific Grove clover, have been determined to have a moderate potential to occur. No special-status wildlife species were observed or have the potential to occur within the survey area. However, raptors and other protected avian species have the potential to nest within trees present within and adjacent to the survey area. Species with the potential to occur within the proposed project area, as well as the potential for the proposed project to impact these species, are discussed below.

##### *Monterey Pine*

Monterey pine is a CNPS List 1B species. This evergreen tree occurs in closed-cone coniferous forests at elevations from 82-607 feet. Only four native stands of this species exist in the world. One stand is found on Guadalupe Island off Baja California. The other three stands are all within California at Ano Nuevo, Cambria, and the Monterey Peninsula. Monterey pines are introduced

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<sup>5</sup> A project specific Biological Assessment was conducted for the proposed project in accordance with **Mitigation Measures BIO-1** through **BIO-3** of the 2020 CAWD IS/MND.

in many areas, including in New Zealand where it is used as a plantation crop. Only one-half of the species' historical extent remains undeveloped on the Monterey Peninsula. Monterey pines are threatened by development, genetic contamination, pine pitch canker disease, and forest fragmentation, especially in the Del Monte Forest on the Monterey Peninsula. The CNDDDB reports two occurrences of Monterey pine within the quadrangles evaluated, one of which is mapped generally as the historic range of the Point Lobos/Carmel Highlands population and includes the entire survey area. This species is present within and adjacent to the survey area. While no tree removal is proposed, construction activities have the potential to result in significant impacts to Monterey Pines adjacent to the proposed project. These impacts would be reduced to a less than significant level with incorporation of **Mitigation Measure BIO-A**.

**Impact BIO-1 – Impacts to Trees:** The proposed project would involve construction activities that have the potential to impact trees adjacent to the proposed project.

### **Mitigation Measures**

#### **MM BIO-A: Tree Protection**

The following protection measures would apply to the proposed project:

- An Arborist Report for the Corona Road Sewer Extension Project (DD&A, 2023, **Appendix C**) was prepared to identify potential trees that may be impacted during construction of the project, recommend measures to avoid or minimize potential project-related impacts to trees, and identify regulatory requirements for tree removal and protection within the site. All recommendations and mitigation measures provided in the Arborist Report (**Appendix C**, pages 24-26) shall be implemented throughout the duration of construction to avoid and minimize impacts to Monterey pine forest and other trees within the survey area (see **MM BIO-E**).
- Following construction, all temporarily disturbed areas within Monterey pine forest habitat shall be restored to pre-project contours to the maximum extent possible and revegetated using locally occurring native species, per the recommendations of a qualified biologist.

With implementation of **Mitigation Measure BIO-A**, the proposed project would have a less than significant impact on Monterey Pines.

#### *Yadon's Piperia*

Yadon's piperia is a federally endangered, CNPS CRPR 1B species. This perennial herb in the Orchidaceae family blooms from May to August and is found in closed-cone coniferous forest, maritime chaparral on sandy soils, and coastal bluff scrub at elevations from 10-510 meters. Overall, this species favors a well-drained, sandy soil substrate with podzolic conditions, and areas that retain moisture during the rainy season but are not subject to inundation (V. Yadon in litt. 2002). As in some other plant taxa, individual orchids that flower in one year may not have the necessary energy reserves to flower in the following year. As a result, an unknown proportion of a population may be dormant in any given year, thus making it difficult to track population dynamics through monitoring of population size (Wells 1981, Rasmussen 1995, A. Graff in litt. 2002). However, it would be expected that some percentage of a resident population would flower in any given year. While it may be difficult to track population dynamics in any given year, determining presence or absence for a specific area is not. The CNDDDB reports 18 occurrences of Yadon's piperia within the quadrangles evaluated, the nearest of which is located less than 350 feet north of the survey area. Suitable habitat for Yadon's piperia may be present within the

Monterey pine forest habitat within the survey area. Additional surveys would be required to confirm this species' presence or absence within the survey area.

#### *Pacific Grove Clover*

Pacific Grove clover is a CNPS CRPR 1B species in the Fabaceae family. This annual herb is found in closed-cone coniferous forest, coastal prairie, meadows, seeps, and mesic areas in valley and foothill grassland at elevations of 5-120 meters. The blooming period is from April-June. The CNDDDB reports 15 occurrences of Pacific Grove clover within the quadrangles evaluated, the nearest of which is located approximately 0.7 mile north from the survey area. Suitable habitat for Pacific Grove clover may be present within the disturbed Monterey pine forest habitat within the project site. Additional surveys would be required to confirm this species' presence or absence within the survey area.

Yadon's piperia and Pacific Grove clover have the potential to occur within the survey area. Grading and vegetation removal at the project site may result in direct mortality of individuals, if present at the time of construction. This would be a potentially significant impact that can be reduced to a less-than-significant level with implementation of **Mitigation Measure BIO-B**.

**Impact BIO-2 – Impacts to Special-Status Plant Species:** The proposed project would involve construction activities that have the potential to Yadon's piperia and Pacific Grove clover within the vicinity of the proposed project.

#### **Mitigation Measures**

##### **MM BIO-B: Focused Botanical Surveys**

Focused botanical surveys shall be conducted within the survey area during the appropriate blooming period to determine the presence or absence of special-status plant species, prior to the initiation of construction.

- If no special-status plants are found on the site, no additional mitigation is required.
- If special-status plants are found on the site, these species should be avoided to the greatest extent feasible. If avoidance is not feasible, a restoration plan shall be prepared by a qualified biologist prior to development. The plan shall include, but is not limited to, a detailed description of restoration areas, plant source material, planting specifications, and a monitoring program that describes annual monitoring efforts which incorporate success criteria and contingency plans if success criteria are not met.

With implementation of **Mitigation Measure BIO-B**, the proposed project would have a less than significant impact on special-status plant species.

#### *Raptors and Other Protected Avian Species*

Raptors, their nests, and other nesting birds are protected under California Fish and Game Code. While the life histories of these species vary, overlapping nesting and foraging similarities allow for their concurrent discussion. Most raptors are breeding residents throughout most of the wooded portions of the state. Stands of live oak, riparian deciduous, or other forest habitats, as well as open grasslands, are used most frequently for nesting. Breeding occurs February through September, with peak activity May through July. Prey for these species include small birds, small mammals, and some reptiles and amphibians. Many raptor species hunt in open woodland and habitat edges. Various species of raptors, such as red-tailed hawk, red-shouldered hawk (*Buteo lineatus*), American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*), great horned owl (*Bubo virginianus*), and turkey

vulture (*Cathartes aura*), have a potential to nest within the trees present within and adjacent to the survey area.

Nesting raptors and other protected avian species have the potential to occur within the project site. Construction activities may result in direct mortality of individuals, disturbance of nests, and loss of habitat, which would represent a potentially significant impact. This potentially significant impact would be reduced to a less-than-significant level with implementation of **Mitigation Measures BIO-C**.

**Impact BIO-C – Impacts to Nesting Avian Species:** The proposed project would involve construction activities that have the potential to impact nesting raptors and other nesting avian species adjacent to the proposed project.

### **Mitigation Measures**

#### **MM BIO-C: Pre-Construction Nesting Avian Surveys**

The following survey requirements would apply to the proposed project:

- To avoid and reduce impacts to nesting raptors and other nesting avian species, construction activities can be timed to avoid the nesting season period. Specifically, construction activities can be scheduled after September 1 and before January 31 to avoid impacts to these species. Alternatively, if avoidance of the nesting period is not feasible, a qualified biologist shall be retained to conduct pre-construction surveys for nesting raptors and other protected avian species within 250 feet of proposed construction activities if construction occurs between February 1 and August 31. Pre-construction surveys will be conducted no more than 14 days prior to the start of construction activities during the early part of the breeding season (February through April) and no more than 30 days prior to the initiation of these activities during the late part of the breeding season (May through August). Because some bird species nest early in spring and others nest later in summer, some breed multiple times in a season, surveys for nesting birds may be required to continue during construction to address new arrivals. The necessity and timing of these continued surveys will be determined by the qualified biologist based on review of the final construction plans.
- If raptors or other protected avian species nests are identified during the pre-construction surveys, the qualified biologist will notify CAWD/project contractor and an appropriate no-disturbance buffer will be imposed within which no construction activities or disturbance should take place as determined by the qualified biologist to ensure avoidance of impacts to the individuals. The buffer will remain in place until the young of the year have fledged and are no longer reliant upon the nest or parental care for survival, as determined by a qualified biologist.

With implementation of **Mitigation Measure BIO-C**, the proposed project would have a less than significant impact on nesting avian species.

In addition, the following mitigation measures from the 2020 CAWD IS/MND would apply to the proposed project:

## Mitigation Measures

### MM BIO-5: Restoration of Disturbed Areas

Areas disturbed by construction shall be restored and replanted, depending on the community and habitat type, i.e., disturbed grasslands shall be seeded with a native erosion control seed mix suitable to the project area.

- c) **Federally Protected Wetlands: Less-Than-Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated.** The proposed project consists of the formation of an assessment district, installation of a sanitary sewer pipeline, and construction of a pump station. A 0.02-acre roadside ditch is located at the southwestern end of Corona Road consisting of a small manmade rut along the road which diverts stormwater from the roadway, adjacent to the proposed pipeline alignment. Surface water was present in the ditch at the time of the November 2022 survey. The ditch is dominated by wetland adapted plants including common rush (*Juncus effusus*), nut sedge (*Cyperus* sp.), and watercress (*Rorippa* sp.). The roadside ditch provides low quality wildlife habitat due to its small size, dominance of non-native plant species, and ephemeral presence of surface water. Due to the dominance of wetland plant species, this area is a coastal wetland under the jurisdiction of the CCC. This area may also be under the jurisdiction of the ACOE and/or RWQCB (see **Appendix B**). The pipeline component of the proposed project would be installed entirely within existing roadways and would not directly impact wetlands. The pump station component of the proposed project is located outside of all mapped wetland areas. Additionally, impacts to wetlands could occur if an accident during construction were to result in the release of hazardous materials into the adjacent sensitive habitats. While none of the components of the proposed project are located within this habitat, construction activities occurring outside of the proposed work limits or construction activities resulting in erosion and/or sedimentation to these adjacent sensitive habitats could occur as part of the proposed project. This would represent a potentially significant impact. Implementation of **Mitigation Measure BIO-D** would reduce these impacts to a less than significant level.

**Impact BIO-D – Impacts to Wetlands:** The proposed project would involve construction activities that have the potential to impact potential wetlands adjacent to the proposed project.

## Mitigation Measures

### MM BIO-D: Wetland Protection

The following protection measures would apply to the proposed project:

- Prior to construction activities, the project proponent shall retain a qualified biologist to conduct an Employee Education Program for the construction crew. The biologist shall meet with the construction crew at the project site at the onset of construction to educate the construction crew on the following: a) a review of the project boundaries; b) all sensitive habitats that may be present and all special-status species that may be present, their habitat, and proper identification; c) the specific mitigation measures that will be incorporated into the construction effort; d) the general provisions and protections afforded by the regulatory agencies; and e) the proper procedures if a special-status animal is encountered within the project site.
- Prior to construction, exclusionary fencing shall be placed around all potential wetlands and the riparian area to preclude construction vehicles and personnel from impacting potential wetlands and other waters of the U.S. and/or state. A qualified biologist or biological monitor shall supervise the installation of exclusionary fencing and monitor at

least once per week until construction is complete to ensure that the protective exclusionary fencing remains intact.

- Stationary equipment such as motors, generators, and welders located within 100 feet of potential wetlands and other waters of the U.S. and/or state shall be stored overnight at a designated staging area and shall be positioned over drip pans.
- Any hazardous or toxic materials deleterious to life that could be washed into adjacent sensitive habitats shall be contained in watertight containers.
- Refueling of equipment shall take place within designated staging areas or at least 100 feet from potential wetlands and other waters of the U.S. and/or state.
- All construction debris and associated materials stored in staging area shall be removed from the work site upon completion of the project.

In addition, the following mitigation measure from the 2020 CAWD IS/MND would apply to the proposed project:

**MM BIO-6: Construction Best Management Practices**

The following additional construction best management practices identified in the 2020 CAWD IS/MND would apply to the proposed project:

- No materials shall be allowed to enter into aquatic resources within the vicinity. All storm drain inlets and culvert inlets and outlets shall be protected (e.g., filter fabric, straw wattles, and/or silt fencing) in order to prevent debris or construction materials from entering in these areas. At the end of project construction, all materials trapped by the barriers and excess materials such as dirt, rock, asphalt and concrete pavement, or debris shall be collected using dry sweep methods and removed from the project locations. No materials shall be allowed to enter into aquatic resources within the vicinity.
- A litter control program shall be instituted at each project location. All workers ensure that food scraps, paper wrappers, food containers, cans, bottles, and other trash from the project area are deposited in covered or closed trash containers. The trash containers shall be removed from the area at the end of each working day.
- All leaks, drips and spills shall be immediately cleaned up to prevent entry into aquatic resources within the vicinity. All workers shall be informed of the importance of preventing spills and of the appropriate measures to take should a spill occur.

With the implementation of the mitigation measures identified above the proposed project would have a less than significant impact on federally protected wetlands.

- d) **Wildlife Movement: Less-than-Significant-Impact.** Wildlife movement corridors are defined as connecting avenues between habitat patches that allow for physical and genetic exchange between otherwise isolated animal populations. This includes migration corridors, wherein animals periodically move away from an area and then subsequently return. Other wildlife corridors may be important as dispersal avenues for young animals.

The proposed project consists of formation of an assessment district, the installation of a sanitary sewer pipeline, and construction of a pump station. The majority of this work would occur in previously disturbed areas that do not provide habitat for wildlife corridors. While wildlife corridors may be present in the surrounding area, they would not be affected by construction or operation of the proposed project. As a result, the proposed project would not: 1) interfere

substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or, 2) impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites.

- e) **Conflict With Local Policies: Less-Than-Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated.** The proposed project is located within the Coastal Zone and is governed by the Carmel Area LUP, which is part of the Monterey County 1982 General Plan. The Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Element of the Carmel Area LUP provides goals, policies, and objectives relevant to biological resources that may be affected by the proposed project (County of Monterey 1983). Natural Resources Goal 7 of the 1982 Monterey County General Plan is focused on the preservation of the diversity and conservation of the County's native vegetation. The associated policies with this goal include the promotion of development sited to avoid sensitive plant communities and protection of sensitive plant communities via conservation easement dedications. Natural Resources Goal 9 of the 1982 Monterey County General Plan is focused on the preservation of wildlife. The associated policies with this goal include careful planning of development in habitat areas. Natural Resources Goal 11 of the 1982 Monterey County General Plan is focused on conservation of habitats for native plant and animal species and to promote preservation of rare and endangered plant and animal species. The associated applicable policies with this goal include consulting with the CDFW and CNPS to protect endangered species and habitat and Areas of Special Biological Importance and controlling waste discharges. The proposed project would not conflict with these or other policies of the 1982 Monterey County General Plan.

The Carmel Area LUP also identifies various biological resources related-policies that are applicable to the proposed project. This includes Key Policy 2.3.2, which is intended to promote conservation of environmentally sensitive habitats. In addition, various general policies are identified, including General Policy 2.3.3.1, which states that development shall be avoided in sensitive habitat areas, General Policy 2.3.3.2, which states that land uses adjacent to environmentally sensitive habitats be compatible with long-term maintenance of these resources, General Policy 2.3.3.7, which restricts the removal of native vegetation, and General Policy 2.3.3.8, which requires use of appropriate native species in proposed landscaping. The proposed project would not conflict with these or other policies of the Carmel Area LUP.

Resource types that are afforded protection through local ordinances include trees, riparian corridors, and environmentally sensitive habitats. The County of Monterey Zoning Ordinance 21.64.260 calls for the protection and preservation of oaks and other types of native trees. To the extent feasible, pipeline would be installed in the disturbed right-of-way and roadway; however, due to existing water distribution lines, this is not achievable for the entire length of the pipeline. The Carmel Area LUP identifies policies specific to tree removal. This includes Specific Policy 2.2.4.10.e, which states that existing trees should be retained to the maximum extent possible. General Policies 2.5.3.2 and 2.5.3.8 state that cutting or removal of trees shall be consistent with the overall objectives of the Carmel Area LUP. General Policy 2.5.3.3 encourages the removal of non-native tree species. Per the requirements of the Carmel Area LUP, a Forest Management Plan (FMP) would need to be developed to support acquisition of a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) if tree removal is required over the course of a project within the coastal zone. An arborist report was conducted for the proposed project and is provided as **Appendix C**. The proposed project would not require the removal of existing trees as described in **Appendix C**. The pump station site has been chosen to avoid tree removal, while the pipeline would be installed within the existing paved roadways. If final construction design determines that one or more trees would have to be removed, an FMP and CDP would be required, and further environmental review would be



required to evaluate new impacts. To prevent impacts to trees as a result of construction, the **Mitigation Measure BIO-E** would be incorporated into the project:

**Impact BIO-E – Impacts to Sensitive Resources During Construction:** The proposed project would involve construction activities that have the potential to result in unforeseen impact trees adjacent to the proposed project.

### **Mitigation Measure**

#### **Mitigation Measure BIO-E: Biological Monitoring**

The District shall retain a qualified arborist or biological monitor who shall be on site during initial ground-disturbing activities, including vegetation removal. Following initial ground-disturbing activities, the arborist or biological monitor shall monitor at least once per week throughout construction to ensure that the following tree protection measures are being implemented:

Prior to the commencement of construction activities:

- Trees located adjacent to the construction area shall be protected from damage by construction equipment by the use of temporary fencing in combination with wrapping of trunks with protective materials wherever there may be construction present.
- Fencing shall consist of chain link, heavy duty snowdrift or plastic mesh, hay bales, or field fence. Portions of existing fencing may also be used.
- Fencing is not to be attached to the tree but free standing and self-supporting so as not to damage trees. Fencing shall be rigidly supported both vertically and horizontally and shall stand a minimum of height of six feet above grade.
- Soil compaction, parking of vehicles or heavy equipment, stockpiling of construction materials, and/or dumping of materials is not allowed adjacent to trees on the property especially within fenced areas.
- Fenced areas and the trunk protection materials shall remain in place during the entire construction period.

During grading and excavation activities:

- Trenching located adjacent to any tree should be done by hand where practical and any roots greater than 1.5 –inches diameter should be bridged or pruned appropriately.
- Any roots that must be cut should be cut by manually digging a trench and cutting exposed roots with a saw, vibrating knife, rock saw, narrow trencher with sharp blades, or other approved root pruning equipment.
- Any roots damaged during grading or excavation should be exposed to sound tissue and cut cleanly with a saw.

During pruning of existing trees:

- In general trees will be assessed then pruned first for safety, next for health, and finally for aesthetics. No more than 25% of the tree overall crown will be pruned in one season.
- Type of pruning is determined by the size of branches to be removed. General guidelines for branch removal are:
  - Fine Detail pruning-limbs under two (2) inch diameter are removed.
  - Medium Detail Pruning–Limbs between two (2) and four (4) inch diameter.

- Structural Enhancement—limbs greater than four (4) inch diameter.
- Broken and cracked limbs-removed will be removed in high traffic areas of concern.

If crown thinning<sup>6</sup> is required:

- All trees will be pre-assessed on how the tree will be pruned from the top down.
- Tree trimmers will favor branches with strong, U-shaped angles of attachment and where possible remove branches with weak, V-shaped angles of attachment and/or included bark.
- Lateral branches will be evenly spaced on the main stem of young trees and areas of fine pruning.
- Branches that rub or cross another branch will be removed where possible.
- Lateral branches will be no more than one-half to three-quarters of the diameter of the stem to discourage the development of co-dominant stems where feasible.

As designed, the proposed project would not require tree removal. With incorporation of **Mitigation Measure BIO-E** as identified above, the proposed project would result in a less than significant impact related to conflict with local policies.

- f) **Habitat Conservation Plans: No Impact.** Monterey County does not have an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan or Natural Community Conservation Plan in the project area. Therefore, the proposed project would not conflict with Monterey County’s adopted biological resources policies or conservation plans. This would result in no impact.

**Sources (1, 2, 4, 13, & 14)**

**Conclusion:** Based upon the analysis above, the proposed project would not result in new impacts or substantially increase the severity of impacts compared to the conclusions of the prior 2020 CAWD IS/MND. No additional analysis is required.

**5.3.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES**

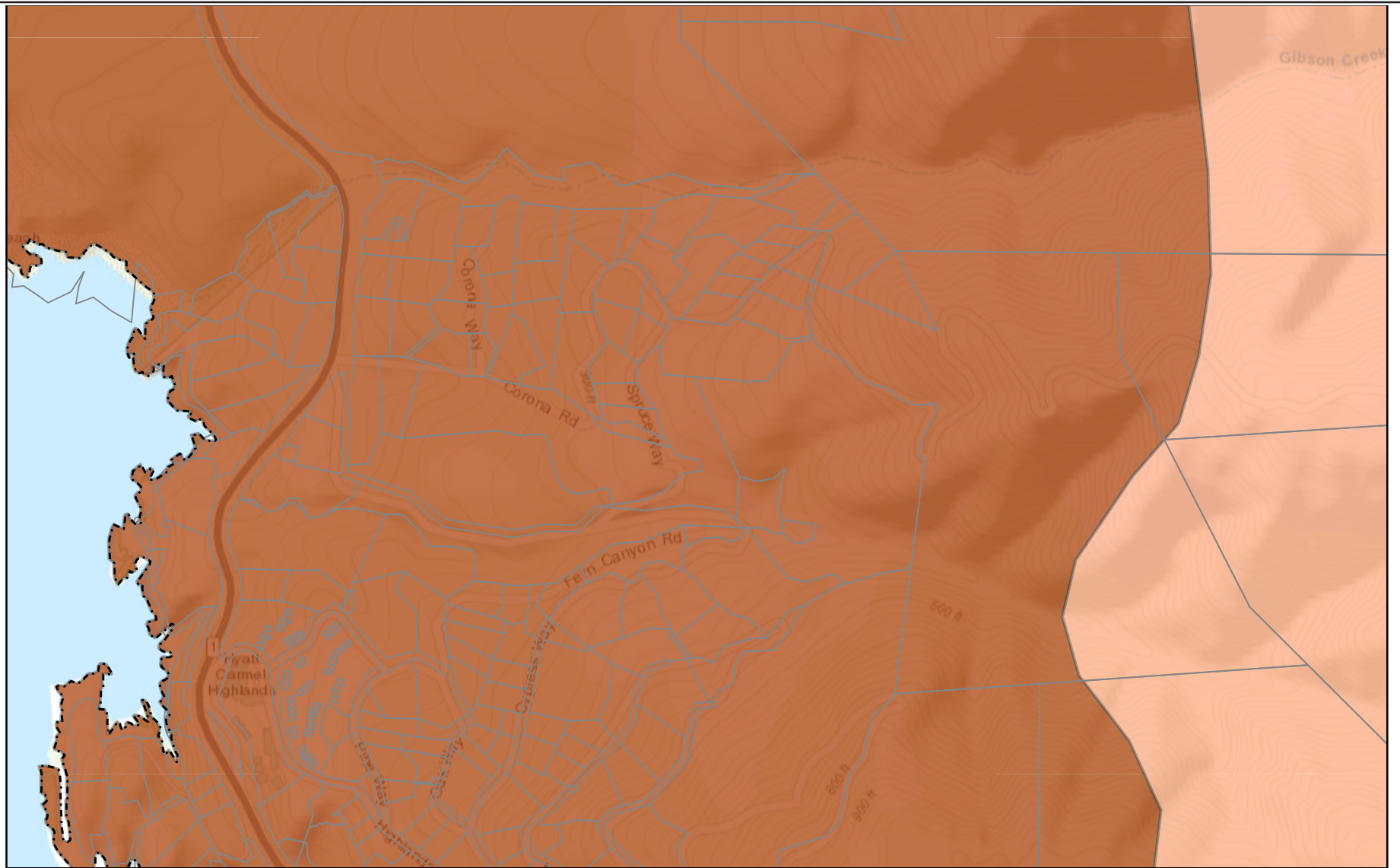
**Setting**

Monterey County was first inhabited by the Costanoan and then Esselen people. Spanish explorers first landed in Monterey Bay in the early 1600s; however, Franciscan missionaries did not establish missions in the county until the late 1700s. Americans began settling in the county in the 1800s during the Mexican period and especially after the Gold Rush of 1849. The Monterey County General Plan identified several historic sites within the proposed project area as well as areas of high to moderate archaeological sensitivity (**Figure 6, Archaeological Sensitivity**). However, the soils mapped within the APE are Pleistocene and Cretaceous in age and are unlikely to harbor deeply buried precolonial archaeological sites.

A Phase I Cultural Resource Inventory was prepared for the proposed project by Albion Environmental (January 2023). The findings of this report are discussed below. Due to the potentially confidential nature of the findings, this report is not included as an appendix to this document.

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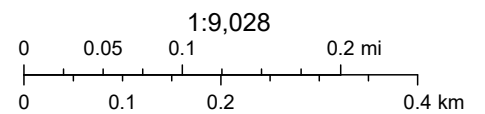
<sup>6</sup> Crown thinning is the cleaning out of or removal of dead diseased, weakly attached, or low vigor branches from a tree crown.



6/7/2022, 8:36:49 AM

Archeological Sensitivity  Moderate  Parcels

High  MoCo Boundary



Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri

Monterey County RMA  
Source: Monterey County, June 2022

# Archaeological Sensitivity Map

Corona Rd. Sewer Extension Project  
Initial Study

Figure  
**6**

<b>Would the project:</b>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact	New Significant Impact compared to 2020 IS/MND?
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in 15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to 15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No

**Prior Environmental Analysis**

The 2020 CAWD IS/MND was found to have a less than significant impact related to disturbance of human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries. The 2020 CAWD IS/MND determined that the SOI and Annexation would have a potentially significant impact related to causing a substantial adverse change in the significance of archaeological and historical resources. The 2020 CAWD IS/MND identified **Mitigation Measures CR-1** and **CR-2** to reduce these impacts to a less than significant level, as shown below:

**MM CR-1 from the 2020 IS/MND: Cultural Resources Report and Monitoring<sup>7</sup>**

The following protection measures will be required for potential future projects if ground disturbance is located in areas deemed as potentially sensitive archeological sites by the Monterey County General Plan (Monterey County, 2010):

- CAWD shall require the preparation of an archaeological resource report by a Professional Archaeologist for improvement projects involving ground disturbance in areas of high likelihood of containing archaeological resources.
- During ground disturbance of native soils (soils not consisting of artificial fill) for the construction of the project, a Professional Archaeologist and a local Native American monitor shall be retained to observe construction activities within the project site. If, during initial monitoring, the Professional Archaeologist determines that the construction activities have little or no potential to impact cultural resources, the Professional Archaeologist, in consultation with the Native American monitor, may recommend that monitoring be reduced or eliminated. If cultural resources are identified during initial monitoring, work within 50 feet of the find shall halt and **Mitigation Measure CR-2** shall be implemented.

**MM CR-2 from the 2020 IS/MND: Cultural Resources Protection Measures**

- If the Professional Archaeologist determines that any cultural resources exposed during construction constitute a historical resource and/or unique archaeological resource under CEQA, he/she shall notify CAWD and other appropriate parties of the evaluation and

<sup>7</sup> A project specific Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment was conducted for the proposed project in accordance with Mitigation Measure CR-1.

recommend mitigation measures to mitigate to a less-than-significant impact in accordance with California Public Resources Code Section 15064.5. Mitigation measures may include avoidance, preservation in-place, recordation, additional archaeological testing and data recovery among other options. The completion of a formal *Archaeological Monitoring Plan* (AMP) and/or *Archaeological Treatment Plan* (ATP) that may include data recovery may be recommended by the Professional Archaeologist if significant archaeological deposits are exposed during ground disturbing construction. Development and implementation of the AMP and ATP and treatment of significant cultural resources will be determined by the CAWD in consultation with any regulatory agencies.

- The treatment of human remains and any associated or unassociated funerary objects discovered during any soil-disturbing activity within the APE shall comply with applicable state laws in regard to Native American burials (Chapter 1492, Section 7050.5 to the Health and Safety Code, Sections 5097.94, 5097.98 and 5097.99 of the Public Resources Code). This shall include immediate notification of the appropriate county Coroner/Medical Examiner and the CAWD.
- A *Monitoring Closure Report* shall be filed with CAWD at the conclusion of ground disturbing construction if archaeological and Native American monitoring of excavation was undertaken.

The 2020 IS/MND determined that project-level cultural assessments would be required at the time actual wastewater projects were proposed. The following discussion provides information from impact analysis and specific mitigation measures to address the current project-level impacts.

#### **Discussion/Conclusion/Mitigation**

a – b) **Historical/Archaeological Resources: Less-Than-Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated.** Historic resources may consist of resources in the built environment, including buildings and structures, roads, and bridges, which are greater than fifty years in age. The Carmel Valley and coastal areas of the County contain eligible historic resources including properties on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and/or California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR). The proposed project consists of the formation of an assessment district, the installation of a sanitary sewer pipeline, and construction of a pump station. The proposed project would be placed underground, with the exception of some aboveground components of the pump station. The proposed project would not impact listed historic structures and historical resources, as the majority of the work would take place within the existing roadways and public-right-of-way, to the extent feasible. However, a historic district associated with Highway 1 is located within the project’s Area of Potential Effect (APE). The proposed project would involve work within Highway 1 in order to connect the sewer line on the east side of Highway 1 to the pump station located on the west side of Highway 1. This portion of Highway 1 is considered to be a historic district. Any disturbances to Highway 1 would be restored to their pre-project state following completion of the proposed project components located within the Highway. In addition, the portion of Highway 1 where work would occur does not contain contributing elements associated with the historic district. As a result, the proposed project would have a less than significant impact related to historic resources.

The northern portion of pipeline alignment adjacent to Highway 1 was determined to be within a precolonial archaeological resource. During field reconnaissance, Albion staff identified cultural materials associated with this resource within both the APE and the Area of Direct Impact (ADI)

for the proposed project. These materials included abalone shell fragments on the west and east sides of Highway 1. No additional archaeological materials were identified during the survey; however, ground visibility was noted to be poor due to heavy vegetation cover and existing development. As stated above, the soils mapped within the APE are Pleistocene and Cretaceous in age and are unlikely to harbor deeply buried precolonial archaeological sites. However, given the area's sensitivity for precolonial deposits closer to the surface and evidence of archaeological materials, potentially significant cultural materials could be located within the APE and ADI. This represents a potentially significant impact. The proposed project would implement the following mitigation measures to reduce this impact to a less than significant level.

**Impact CR-A – Archaeological Resources:** The proposed project would involve subsurface work within areas known to be archaeologically sensitive.

### **Mitigation Measure**

#### **MM CR-A: Conduct Phase II Subsurface Testing for Cultural Resources**

Phase II Subsurface testing shall be conducted for the proposed project, as outline below:

- Prior to the initiation of ground disturbing activities, the lead agency will commission a qualified consultant to perform a Phase II subsurface testing to evaluate the proposed project's potential to impact cultural resources under Section 106 and CEQA. The Phase II subsurface testing would occur during earthmoving activities within the identified range of archaeological deposits within the project's APE and ADI. The Phase II subsurface testing would (1) aim to define the vertical and horizontal extent of the resource and variability within the Project APE, and (2) collect sufficient data to assess the site's integrity and data potential and thus eligibility under both NHPA Section 106 (36 CFR Part 800) and CEQA (Public Resources Code §21084.1, CEQA Guidelines §15064.5). A Tribal representative should be present to monitor any archaeological work carried out.
- If the Phase II subsurface testing determines that the proposed project site is eligible under Section 106 or CEQA, a Cultural Resources Treatment Plan (CRTP) would be prepared. The CRTP would include mitigation to mitigate adverse impacts (per Section 106) and reduce impacts to less than significant (per CEQA). The CRTP will include, at a minimum, a detailed description of the proposed project and its subsurface impacts, description of the environmental setting and precolonial/historic-era background of the area, detailed field strategy used to record, avoid, or recover eligible resources, analytical methods, reporting requirements, curation plans, and appendices. The CRTP shall be developed and implemented in consultation with the local Native American community.

In addition, the proposed project would incorporate **Mitigation Measure CR-2** from the 2020 CAWD IS/MND, as described below:

#### **MM CR-2: Cultural Resources Protection Measures**

- If the Professional Archaeologist determines that any cultural resources exposed during construction constitute a historical resource and/or unique archaeological resource under CEQA, he/she shall notify CAWD and other appropriate parties of the evaluation and recommend mitigation measures to mitigate to a less-than-significant impact in accordance with California Public Resources Code Section 15064.5. Mitigation measures may include avoidance, preservation in-place, recordation, additional archaeological testing and data recovery among other options. The completion of a formal *Archaeological Monitoring Plan (AMP)* and/or *Archaeological Treatment Plan (ATP)* that

may include data recovery may be recommended by the Professional Archaeologist if significant archaeological deposits are exposed during ground disturbing construction. Development and implementation of the AMP and ATP and treatment of significant cultural resources will be determined by the CAWD in consultation with any regulatory agencies.

- The treatment of human remains and any associated or unassociated funerary objects discovered during any soil-disturbing activity within the APE shall comply with applicable state laws in regard to Native American burials (Chapter 1492, Section 7050.5 to the Health and Safety Code, Sections 5097.94, 5097.98 and 5097.99 of the Public Resources Code). This shall include immediate notification of the appropriate county Coroner/Medical Examiner and the CAWD.
- A *Monitoring Closure Report* shall be filed with CAWD at the conclusion of ground disturbing construction if archaeological and Native American monitoring of excavation was undertaken.

With the implementation of the mitigation measures described above, the proposed project would have a less-than-significant impact with respect to causing a substantial adverse change in an archaeological resource or a historic resource.

- c) **Disturbance of Human Remains: Less-than-Significant Impact.** The proposed project site is not known to contain any human remains. However, the discovery of previously unknown human remain is possible during ground disturbing activities. In the result of an inadvertent discovery of human remains during ground-disturbing activities, California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that no further disturbance shall occur. The County Coroner would be immediately notified, and ground disturbance shall not resume until has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. If the human remains are determined to be prehistoric, the coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission, which will determine and notify a most likely descendant (MLD). The MLD shall complete the inspection of the site and provide recommendations for treatment to the landowner within 48 hours of being granted access.

Adherence to the requirements set forth in Public Resources Code Section 5097.98 would ensure that any potential disturbance to previously undiscovered human remains would be handled appropriately. This represents a less than significant impact.

### Sources (1, 2, 4, & 15)

**Conclusion:** Based upon the analysis above, the proposed project would not result in new impacts or substantially increase the severity of impacts compared to the conclusions of the prior 2020 CAWD IS/MND. With the implementation of the mitigation measures described above, the proposed project would have a less-than-significant impact with respect to causing a substantial adverse change in an archaeological resource, historic resource or disturbance of human remains. No additional mitigation is required.

### 5.3.6 ENERGY

#### Setting

The State's 100 Percent Clean Energy Act of 2018 sets a State policy that eligible renewable energy and zero-carbon resources supply 100 percent of all retail sales of electricity in California by 2045. An Executive

Order (EO) was also issued in September 2018, EO B-55-18, established a new statewide goal to achieve “carbon neutrality as soon as possible, and no later than 2045, and achieve and maintain net negative emissions thereafter.”

Beginning in 2018, all PG&E customers within Monterey, San Benito, and Santa Cruz Counties were automatically enrolled in Central Coast Community Energy (3CE, originally called Monterey Bay Community Power). 3CE is a locally controlled public agency providing carbon-free electricity to residents and businesses. Formed in February 2017, 3CE is a joint powers authority, and is based on a local energy model called community choice energy. 3CE partners with PG&E, which continues to provide billing, power transmission and distribution, customer service, grid maintenance services and natural gas services to Monterey County. 3CE’s standard electricity offering is carbon free and is classified as 31 percent renewable (3CE, 2022).

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact	New Significant Impact compared to 2020 IS/MND?
A) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No

**Prior Environmental Analysis**

The 2020 CAWD IS/MND determined that the SOI and Annexation would have less than significant impacts related to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources and conflicting or obstructing a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency.

**Discussion/Conclusion/Mitigation**

a) **Energy Resources: Less-than-Significant Impact.** The proposed project consists of the formation of an assessment district, installation of a sanitary sewer pipeline, and construction of a pump station to extend CAWD wastewater service to properties along Corona Road and Corona Way. Operation of the proposed project would result in increased energy consumption compared to existing conditions. However, the proposed project has been designed with energy efficiency in mind and operation of the proposed project would not result in wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources. The proposed project would be served by existing PG&E infrastructure located in the vicinity of the proposed project. In addition, when electrical power is not available (e.g., during a power outage) a generator would be brought to the site and connected to the pump station. This emergency generator would be powered by diesel fuel but would only be used temporarily on an as-needed basis; and therefore, would result in a negligible amount of emissions.

Construction of the proposed project would result in the consumption of energy to install the project components. Energy demand would primarily be in the form of diesel and gasoline for construction equipment and trucks. Construction activities requiring energy would include activities such as trenching, excavating, backfilling, and repaving for the 4,400 feet of sanitary sewer pipeline, and excavating, installing equipment, and laying down the concrete slab for the



pump station. While the overall construction schedule is not known at this time, it is anticipated that the sanitary sewer pipeline would be installed at a rate of 150-200 feet per day. The construction schedule would be designed with fuel and cost efficiency in mind, which would minimize wasteful, inefficient, and unnecessary consumption of fuel or other energy resources. This represents a less-than-significant impact.

- b) **Renewable Energy: Less-than-Significant Impact.** Senate Bill (SB) 100 mandates that the State of California utilizes 100-percent clean electricity by 2045. The proposed project would include a pump station that would be connected to the existing electricity grid. As a result, the proposed project would utilize clean energy by 2045 as mandated by SB 100 and would not conflict with this statewide energy plan. In addition, the proposed project site is served by 3CE, which provides carbon-free electricity (3CE, 2022). CAWD has not adopted any specific renewable energy or energy efficiency plans that would apply to the project. As a result, the proposed project would not conflict with or obstruct applicable plans for renewable energy, resulting in a less than significant impact.

### Sources (1, 2, 8, & 12)

**Conclusion:** Based upon the analysis above, the proposed project would not result in new impacts or substantially increase the severity of impacts compared to the conclusions of the prior 2020 CAWD IS/MND. No additional analysis is required.

## 5.3.7 GEOLOGY AND SOILS

### Setting

Geologic structure in Central California is primarily the result of tectonic events that have occurred during the past 30 million years. It is widely believed that the numerous faults in this area are related to movements along the boundary between the Pacific and North American tectonic plates. The relative motion between these two tectonic plates is taken up largely along the northwest-trending San Andreas Fault system, which defines the regional boundary between the two plates. Changes in sea level and tectonic uplift resulted in a complicated depositional environment that produced the complex geology of the Monterey Bay region. Faulting and folding have deformed and displaced the geologic units in the region, and the granitic basement and overlying tertiary deposits have been juxtaposed along many of the northwest/southeast-trending faults.

According to the Monterey County General Plan, the County is located in one of the most seismically active regions in the world. The largest earthquake fault in the region is the San Andreas, a major active fault which traverses the eastern portion of the County and located about 34 miles east of the proposed project area. As a result, many areas within the County are susceptible to seismic hazards such as strong ground shaking, liquefaction, and earthquake-induced landslides.

Soil and geologic conditions in Carmel Highlands present moderate to severe constraints for septic systems due to the characteristically shallow (2 to 4-foot deep) sandy loam surface soils overlying slowly permeable weathered (decomposed) granite bedrock, which transitions with depth to dense, fractured granitic rock. The conditions are further complicated by steep topography, as more than 60 percent of the area has slopes greater than 30%. Additionally, perched seasonal groundwater commonly forms at the contact between the surface soils and underlying decomposed granite, and has been responsible for wet season “flooding” and failure of septic systems in some localized areas, including Corona Road.

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact	New Significant Impact compared to 2020 IS/MND?
A) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:					
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
iv) Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No

**Prior Environmental Analysis**

The 2020 CAWD IS/MND determined that the SOI and Annexation would have less than significant impacts related to directly or indirectly causing potential substantial adverse effects as a result of earthquake fault rupture, strong seismic ground shaking, liquefaction, and landslides. In addition, the 2020 CAWD IS/MND determined that the SOI and Annexation would have less than significant impacts related to soil erosion or the loss of topsoil, being located on a n unstable geologic unit, and being located on expansive soils. The 2020 CAWD IS/MND determined that the SOI and Annexation would have no impacts related to

having soils incapable of supporting septic systems or directly or indirectly destroying a unique paleontological resource.

### **Discussion/Conclusion/Mitigation**

- ai-aii) **Exposure to Seismic Ground Shaking/Fault Rupture: Less-Than-Significant Impact.** The San Andreas Fault System is approximately 34 miles to the east of the proposed project site. In addition, the Palo Colorado-San Gregario Fault zone and the Monterey Bay-Tularcitos Fault zone occur within the County and are approximately 34 miles northeast from the proposed project. The proposed project site could be subject to strong seismic ground shaking during the lifespan of the proposed project. The proposed project would consist of formation of an assessment district, installation of sanitary sewer pipelines and construction of a pump station. The proposed project would be designed and constructed to conform to the current seismic design provisions of the California Building Code (CBC), which would minimize the risk of damage related to seismic activity to the extent feasible. However, a large seismic event that result in seismic shaking, ground failure, or fault rupture, could potentially result in breakage of the pipeline, joint failure, and/or underground leakage during operation of the proposed project. In the event that a component of the proposed project be damaged by a seismic event, CAWD would temporarily suspend operation of the proposed project and conduct emergency repairs. As a result, the proposed project would not expose people or structures to substantial adverse effects related to strong seismic ground shaking or fault rupture. This represents a less-than-significant impact.
- aiii) **Liquefaction: Less-Than-Significant Impact.** The proposed project is located within an area identified with a low potential for liquefaction (County of Monterey, 2021). The proposed project would not involve any activities such as fracking or mining that could trigger an earthquake that could lead to damage from liquefaction. As a result, the proposed project would not have direct or indirect adverse effects related to seismic ground failure or liquefaction. This represents a less-than-significant impact.
- aiv) **Landslides: Less-Than-Significant Impact.** The proposed project is located within an area identified as having a low potential for landslide hazards (County of Monterey, 2021). However, portions of the sanitary sewer pipeline component of the proposed project are located on or near hillside areas which may have some risk of landslides. The proposed pipeline would be located within the existing right-of-way, to the extent feasible, in areas that are not steeply sloped, and the pump station site is in a flat area with elevations ranging from approximately 120 feet above sea level. Therefore, landslides are not expected within the project site. In addition, with the exception of an operational panel and utility hookups, the proposed project would be located entirely underground. The proposed project does not involve the construction of habitable structures and as a result would not expose people to loss injury, or death as a result of landslides. This represents a less-than-significant impact.
- b) **Erosion: Less-Than-Significant Impact.** The proposed project is located within an area identified as having high potential for erosion (County of Monterey, 2021). Soil erosion and/or loss of topsoil typically occurs when soils are disturbed but are not secured or restored. Wind and rain events may then mobilize disturbed soils, which results in transport off of the proposed project site. To the extent feasible, pipeline would be installed in the disturbed right-of-way and roadway; however, due to existing water distribution lines, this is not achievable for the entire length of the pipeline. No significant erosion or loss of topsoil is anticipated as result of the proposed project, as areas disturbed as a result of pipeline installation would be repaved or otherwise restored upon the conclusion of construction activities.

Construction of the proposed pump station would occur on currently undeveloped land, which could result in some soil erosion during ground disturbing activities. Compliance with Monterey County Code (MCC) Chapter 16.12, Erosion Control, would require the project to prepare an Erosion Control Plan and minimize runoff from the project site. In addition, construction would require a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Construction General Permit and the submittal a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) pursuant to MCC Chapter 16.14, Urban Stormwater Quality Management and Discharge Control. The SWPPP is intended to minimize the amount of sediment and other pollutants associated with construction sites which are discharged in stormwater runoff. The SWPPP would include BMPs for erosion control, such as preventing runoff from unprotected slopes, keeping disturbed areas to a minimum, and installing check berms and desilting basins during construction activities, as necessary. With adherence to the contractor specifications and required SWPPP, potential adverse impacts associated with erosion and loss of topsoil would be less than significant.

- c) **Soils Stability: Less-Than-Significant Impact.** As described in responses aiii) and aiv), above, the project site is located in an area identified as having low potential for hazards related to soil liquefaction and landslides (County of Monterey, 2021). As discussed under response b), the proposed project would involve trenching for installation of the sanitary sewer pipeline located primarily within the previously disturbed roadways and public right of way. Trenched areas would be repaved or otherwise restored to their pre-project conditions following completion of construction. The proposed pump station would be located on a developed portion of a parcel located on the west side of SR 1. The pump station would not be constructed on or adjacent to a hillside or other unstable natural feature. In addition, in accordance with MCC Section 16.08.110, Permit—Soil engineering and engineering geology reports, the project would be required to furnish a soil engineering and geology report that would include conclusions and recommendations for grading procedures and design criteria given the site’s geologic conditions, which would inform project design and permit requirements. As a result, the proposed project would not significantly affect soil stability or increase potential for local or regional landslides or liquefaction. This represents a less-than-significant impact.
- D) **Expansive Soils: Less-Than-Significant Impact.** Soils within the proposed project site are composed of San Andreas fine sandy loam, 15 to 30 percent slopes and San Andreas fine sandy loam, 30 to 75 percent slopes (U.S. Department of Agriculture, 2021). Soils in the San Andreas range are described as hard, friable, sticky and plastic (USDA, 1999). As discussed under impact c), the project would be required to furnish a soil engineering and geology report that would include conclusions and recommendations for grading procedures and design criteria given the site’s geologic conditions, including an evaluation of expansive soils. All excavations associated with ground disturbing activity would be backfilled with excavated native soils in conformance with the requirements of Monterey County Code Chapter 15.24. Conformance with this regulation, as well as all recommendations of the project-specific geotechnical report, would reduce impacts from expansive soils to a less than significant level. Furthermore, the proposed project does not include construction of any habitable structures that could expose occupants to risk from expansive soils. All impacts related to expansive soils would be less than significant.
- e) **Soils Incapable of Septic Disposal: No Impact.** The proposed project would not result in any potential adverse effects due to soils being incapable of supporting septic disposal since the proposed project would not involve the construction of septic systems. The proposed project consists of the formation of an assessment district, installation of sanitary sewer pipelines, and construction of a pump station. The proposed project would provide future wastewater service

for properties that currently rely on septic systems or alternative wastewater disposal systems. For these reasons, there would be no impact.

- f) **Paleontological Resource: No Impact.** There are no known paleontological resources or unique geologic features within the proposed project area. The project site is not listed within an area identified as containing paleontological resources nor is it located in close proximity to any known paleontological resources. Excavation activities associated with the project would be limited to six (6) feet in depth. It would be unlikely to encounter any paleontological resources. Additionally, excavation would take place primarily within the previously disturbed existing roadways and public right-of-way. The proposed project would not impact any paleontological resources or unique geological features, since none are known in the project area.

#### **Sources (1, 2, 4, & 16)**

**Conclusion:** Based upon the analysis above, the proposed project would not result in new impacts or substantially increase the severity of impacts compared to the conclusions of the prior 2020 CAWD IS/MND. No additional analysis is required.

### **5.3.8 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS**

#### **Setting**

Various gases in the earth's atmosphere, classified as atmospheric greenhouse gases (GHGs), play a critical role in determining the earth's surface temperature. Solar radiation enters the atmosphere from space and a portion of the radiation is absorbed by the earth's surface. The earth emits this radiation back toward space, but the properties of the radiation change from high-frequency solar radiation to lower-frequency infrared radiation. Greenhouse gases, which are transparent to solar radiation, are effective in absorbing infrared radiation. As a result, the radiation that otherwise would have escaped back into space is retained, resulting in a warming of the atmosphere known as the greenhouse effect. Among the prominent GHGs contributing to the greenhouse effect, or climate change, are carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), ozone (O<sub>3</sub>), water vapor, nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O), and chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs). Human-caused emissions of these GHGs in excess of natural ambient concentrations are responsible for enhancing the greenhouse effect. In California, the transportation sector is the largest emitter of GHGs.

The proposed project is located in the NCCAB, where air quality is regulated by MBARD. Neither the state, MBARD, or Monterey County have adopted GHG emissions thresholds or a GHG emissions reduction plan that would apply to the proposed project. However, it is important to note, that other air districts within the State of California have adopted recommended CEQA significance thresholds for GHG emissions. For instance, on March 28, 2012 the San Luis Obispo Air Pollution Control District (SLOAPCD) approved thresholds of significance for the evaluation of project-related increases of GHG emissions. The SLOAPCD's significance thresholds include both qualitative and quantitative threshold options, which include a qualitative threshold that is consistent with the AB 32 scoping plan measures and goals and a quantitative bright-line threshold of 1,150 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MTCO<sub>2e</sub>) per year. The GHG significance thresholds are based on AB 32 GHG emission reduction goals, which take into consideration the emission reduction strategies outlined in the California Air Resources Board's Scoping Plan. Development projects located within these jurisdictions that would exceed these thresholds would be considered to have a potentially significant impact on the environment which could conflict with applicable GHG-reduction plans, policies and regulations. Projects with GHG emissions that do not exceed the applicable threshold would be considered to have a less-than-significant impact on the environment and would not be anticipated to conflict with AB 32 GHG emission reduction goals. Given that the MBARD

has not yet adopted recommended GHG significance thresholds, the above thresholds are relied upon for evaluation of projects.

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact	New Significant Impact compared to 2020 IS/MND?
A) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No

### Prior Environmental Analysis

The 2020 CAWD IS/MND determined that the SOI and Annexation would have a less than significant impact related to generating emissions of greenhouse gas. The 2020 CAWD IS/MND determined that the SOI and Annexation would have no impacts related to conflicting with an applicable plan or policy adopted to reduce the emissions of greenhouse gas.

### Discussion/Conclusion/Mitigation

- a) **Greenhouse Gas Emissions: Less-Than-Significant Impact.** The proposed project would result in generation of GHG emissions associated with construction and operation, as discussed below.

#### Construction Emissions

Construction of the proposed project would result in the generation of GHG emissions from the operation of construction equipment, construction vehicles, and worker trips to and from the site. Construction emissions would be temporary and would cease upon completion of the proposed project. As shown below in **Table 4**, the proposed project would result in total GHG emissions of 11.2 MT/year of CO<sub>2</sub>e over the construction period and approximately 0.45 MT/year when amortized over a 25-year period.

Emission Source	Project Emissions (MT/year CO <sub>2</sub> e)
Linear, Grubbing & Land Clearing	1.20
Linear, Grading & Excavation	5.22
Linear, Drainage, Utilities, & Sub-Grade	2.85
Linear, Paving	0.65
Linear, Trenching	1.30
<b>Total Construction Emissions</b>	<b>11.2</b>
<b>Total Per Year Amortized over 25 Years</b>	<b>0.45</b>

#### Operational Emissions

Operation of the proposed project would generate GHG emissions from electricity use and regular maintenance activities. The electricity use of the pump station is not known at this time; however the overall energy use is expected to be minor. In addition, when electrical power is not available

(e.g., during a power outage) a generator would be brought to the site and connected to the pump station. This emergency generator would be powered by diesel fuel but would only be used temporarily on an as-needed basis; and therefore, would result in a negligible amount of emissions. The pipeline component of the proposed project would not generate new demand for electricity. The proposed project would require regular visits for maintenance. The need and frequency for these visits has not been determined at this time. However, these visits would be infrequent and would be limited to single-vehicle trips to perform inspections. The overall GHG emissions associated with site visits for maintenance would be minimal.

### **Combined Annual Emissions**

As stated above, the construction GHG emissions for the proposed project are estimated to be 11.2 MT/year of CO<sub>2</sub>e, while the operational GHG emissions are expected to be minor but are not known at this time. The threshold of significance for annual emissions of CO<sub>2</sub>e is 690 MT/year. The proposed project would not exceed this threshold. The proposed project would not generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that would have a significant impact on the environment. Therefore, this is considered a less-than-significant impact.

- b) **Conflict With Applicable Plans: No Impact.** As described in **Section 5.3.6. Energy**, SB 100 sets a mandate of 100 percent clean electricity for the State of California by 2045. Because the proposed project would be powered by the existing electricity grid, the project would eventually be powered by renewable energy mandated by SB 100. Project emissions due to vehicle trips would be minimal and would be below the threshold of significance designed to be consistent with the 40 percent reduction from 1990 emissions levels, per AB 32. Monterey County has not adopted GHG emissions thresholds or a GHG emissions reduction plan that would apply to the proposed project. The project is not expected to generate GHG emissions that would exceed applicable thresholds. The proposed project would not conflict with any applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases as described above, resulting in no impact.

**Conclusion:** Based upon the analysis above, the proposed project would not result in new impacts or substantially increase the severity of impacts compared to the conclusions of the prior 2020 CAWD IS/MND. No additional analysis is required.

### **Sources (1, 2, 6, 7, & 12)**

## **5.3.9 HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**

### **Setting**

Hazardous materials, as defined by the California Code of Regulations, are substances with certain physical properties that could pose a substantial present or future hazard to human health or the environment when improperly handled, disposed, or otherwise managed. Hazardous waste is any hazardous material that is discarded, abandoned, or slated to be recycled. Hazardous materials and waste can result in public health hazards if improperly handled, released into the soil or groundwater, or through airborne releases in vapors, fumes, or dust. Soil and groundwater having concentrations of hazardous constituents higher than specific regulatory levels must be handled and disposed of as hazardous waste when excavated or pumped from an aquifer. The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) EnviroStor Database indicates that there were 28 contaminated sites in Monterey County that are listed in federal or state databases. None of these listings occur within or near the project site (DTSC, 2022).

<b>Would the project:</b>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact	New Significant Impact compared to 2020 IS/MND?
A) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No

**Prior Environmental Analysis**

The 2020 CAWD IS/MND determined that the SOI and Annexation would have less than significant impacts related to creating a significant hazard related to routine transport use, or disposal of hazardous materials, release of hazardous materials into the environment, and emitting hazardous materials within a quarter-mile of an existing or proposed school. In addition, the 2020 CAWD IS/MND determined that the SOI and Annexation would have less than significant impacts related to exposure of people or structures to significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires. The 2020 CAWD IS/MND determined that the SOI and Annexation would have no impacts related to being located on a site listed on a hazardous materials list, safety hazards/excessive noise from public airports, and impairment of implementation of an emergency response or evacuation plan.



## Discussion/Conclusion/Mitigation

- a) **Routine Transportation of Hazardous Materials: Less-Than-Significant Impact.** Construction of the proposed project would result in a temporary increase in the transport and use of hazardous materials in the project area through the operation of vehicles and construction equipment. Potential substances may include diesel fuel, oil, solvents, and materials brought onto the construction site for use and storage during the construction period. These materials would be contained within vessels specifically engineered for safe storage and would only be transported, stored, or used according to the manufacturers' specifications. Hazardous construction materials would not be used in quantities which would pose a significant hazard to the public or construction workers. Furthermore, project construction would require the excavation and transport of paving materials (e.g., asphalt, concrete, roadbed fill materials) and soils which could possibly be contaminated by vehicle-related pollution (e.g., oil, gasoline, diesel, and other automotive chemicals). All such paving, roadbed materials, and soils removed during construction would be transported and disposed of in accordance with applicable codes and regulations to ensure no significant hazard to construction workers or the surrounding community would occur.

No hazardous materials are anticipated to be stored on site during operation of the proposed project. The proposed project would include a connection for a back-up generator in the event of an electrical service outage or other disruption to the pumps. However, the backup generator would not permanently be installed at the proposed project site. The potential use of the generator would be temporary and would not require the storage of fuel on site. As a result, the proposed project would have a less than significant impact related to the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials.

- b) **Accidental Release of Hazardous Materials: Less-Than-Significant Impact.** As discussed above, the proposed project would temporarily utilize, transport, and require storage of hazardous materials during construction activities. These materials may include fuel for construction equipment, oil, solvents, or paints. Storage and use of hazardous materials at construction sites and staging areas could potentially result in the accidental release of small quantities of hazardous materials, which could pose a risk to construction workers and the environment, such as degradation of soil and groundwater quality and/or surface water quality. Hazardous materials used during project construction would be disposed of offsite in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations, including but not limited to the California Building and Fire Codes, as well regulations of the federal and State Occupational Safety and Health Administrations. As a result, the proposed project would have a less than significant impact related to the release of hazardous materials during construction of the proposed project.

Operation of the proposed project would involve the conveyance of wastewater and would not necessitate the use, storage, or disposal of hazardous materials. The proposed project includes a pump station with a connection for a backup generator in the event of power failure to the system. However, the backup generator would not be permanently installed on the site, which would eliminate the need to store fuel on site during operation of the proposed project. Operation of the backup generator, when required, would be performed in conjunction with all manufacturer recommendations and safety practices. As a result, the proposed project would have a less than significant impact related to the release of hazardous materials during construction of the proposed project.

- c) **Hazards to Schools: Less-Than-Significant Impact.** Bay School, a combined preschool and adult education facility, is located at 27612 Cabrillo Highway, about 1.25 miles north of the proposed project site. No other schools are located within a ¼-mile radius of the proposed project. As a

result, there would be no impact related to emissions of hazardous materials, substances, or waste within a ¼-mile of an existing or proposed school.

- D) **Hazardous Sites: No Impact.** The proposed project site does not include any locations listed on the list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5.5. There would be no impact in connection with the proposed project.
- e) **Airport Safety: No Impact.** There are no airports or private airstrips within the project vicinity. The Monterey Municipal Airport is located approximately 7.2 miles northeast of the proposed project site. The proposed project is not located within two miles of any airports or private airstrips and would not create a safety hazard for people residing in the project area. There would be no impact in connection with the proposed project.
- f) **Emergency Response Plans: Less than Significant Impact.** The major evacuation route in the vicinity of the proposed project is SR 1. Construction of the proposed project would require temporary road closures along Corona Road and Corona Way. All road closures would be temporary and are anticipated to last 1-2 days per every 200 feet of pipeline. Closures would be localized to the segment of pipeline being actively constructed. A Traffic Control Plan (TCP) for the proposed project would be required as part of the encroachment permit approval process with the County of Monterey. The TCP would identify project-specific traffic control measures for construction activities. In addition, the TCP would address any issues related to the proposed project's interference with an emergency response plan during construction.

Operation of the proposed project would not result in any interference with emergency response or conflict with emergency response plans. The pipeline component of the proposed project would be entirely underground, while the pump station component would be located in an aboveground area on an existing parcel that would not obstruct emergency access to structures or roadways. As a result, the proposed project would have a less than significant impact with respect to interfering with an emergency response plan.

- g) **Wildland Fire Hazards: Less-Than-Significant Impact.** Based on a review of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's (CAL FIRE) fire hazard severity zone maps for Monterey County, the entire proposed project site is located within a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (FHSZ) that is also designated as a State Responsibility Area.

During construction activities associated with the proposed project, the use of spark-producing construction equipment could potentially create hazardous fire conditions and expose people to the risks of wildland fires. However, all construction equipment would be required to comply with California Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 4442, which mandates the use of spark arrestors on earth-moving and portable construction equipment with internal combustion engines and which are intended for operation on any forest-covered, brush-covered, or grass-covered land. As a result, compliance with applicable regulations would ensure that impacts related to the potential risk of loss, injury, or death associated with wildland fires are less than significant. Operation of the proposed project would not introduce any elements that could potentially increase the risk of wildland fires. Overall, this represents a less-than-significant impact.

#### **Sources (1, 2, 4, 24, & 25)**

**Conclusion:** Based upon the analysis above, the proposed project would not result in new impacts or substantially increase the severity of impacts compared to the conclusions of the prior 2020 CAWD IS/MND. No additional analysis is required.

### 5.3.10 HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

#### Setting

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) divides surface watersheds in California into ten Hydrologic Regions (HRs). The proposed project is located in the Central Coast HR and is subject to the authority of the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (CCRWQCB). The region depends heavily on groundwater, which makes up the vast majority of available water supply, but recycled water is becoming a more plentiful supplemental source for agricultural and other non-potable uses. The DWR subdivides HRs into Hydrologic Units (Hus) that are commonly known as watersheds. The proposed project is located within the Santa Lucia HU.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) established the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) in order to reduce flooding on private and public properties. The program provides subsidized flood insurance to communities that comply with FEMA regulations protecting development in floodplains.

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact	New Significant Impact compared to 2020 IS/MND?
A) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would:					
i) Result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
ii) Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
iii) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
iv) impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact	New Significant Impact compared to 2020 IS/MND?
e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?	☐	☐	■	☐	No

**Prior Environmental Analysis**

The 2020 CAWD IS/MND determined that the SOI and Annexation would have less than significant impacts related to hydrology.

**Discussion/Conclusion/Mitigation**

- a) **Water Quality/Waste Discharge: Less-Than-Significant Impact.** The proposed project involves the formation of an assessment district, installation of sanitary sewer pipelines, and construction of a pump station, and would not violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade water quality.

Additionally, the proposed project would be subject to mandatory water quality standards implemented through NPDES permit requirements. Earth-disturbing activities during construction would be subject to the NPDES Permit Program, administered by the CCRWQCB, which helps control pollution in stormwater by regulating sources of pollution at construction sites that would result in the discharge of pollutants into the stormwater and subsequent receiving waters during both construction and operations activities. As required by NPDES process, the proposed project would be required to obtain coverage under the General Permit for Discharges of Storm Water Associated with Construction Activity (Construction General Permit Order 2009-0009-DWQ). The NPDES Construction General Permit identifies limits on what can be discharged, monitoring and reporting requirements, and other provisions to ensure that the discharge does not hurt water quality or people’s health. Construction activities subject to the Construction General Permit include clearing, grading, and other ground-disturbing activities such as stockpiling or excavation. The Construction General Permit requires development and implementation of a SWPPP and BMPs such as maintaining or creating drainages to convey and direct surface runoff away from bare areas, and installing physical barriers such as berms, silt fencing, waddles, straw bales, and gabions.

The proposed project would not result in discharges that would potentially violate water quality standards or waste discharge requirements. As described above, the proposed project consists of the formation of a new assessment district, installation of a sanitary sewer pipeline, and construction of a pump station to transfer wastewater to the CAWD treatment plant for processing according to applicable water quality standards. The proposed project would be required to comply with the provisions of the Construction General Permit, including preparation of a SWPPP and implementation of all identified BMPs, which would ensure short-term construction impacts associated with water quality standards and waste discharge requirements would be minimized. This represents a less than significant impact.

- b) **Groundwater: Less-Than-Significant Impact.** The proposed project would consist of the formation of an assessment district and construction of wastewater collection infrastructure (consisting of sanitary sewer pipelines and a pump station) to convey wastewater to the CAWD

Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). To the extent feasible, pipeline would be installed in the disturbed right-of-way and roadway; however, due to existing water distribution lines, this is not achievable for the entire length of the pipeline. No significant reduction of groundwater recharge would occur as a result of the pipeline installation as all surfaces would be restored to their existing pre-project conditions after completion. The construction of the pump station would increase impervious surface by roughly 500 square feet. This would minimally reduce groundwater recharge and would not, therefore, substantially interfere with groundwater recharge. In addition, the proposed project is not underlain by a groundwater basin and would not utilize groundwater supplies during construction or operation.

- ci – iv) **Drainage: Less-Than-Significant Impact.** The proposed project would consist of expanding the wastewater system through underground pipelines and a pump station which would be located within a portion of an existing developed lot adjacent to SR 1. The proposed project would not alter the course of a stream or river as pipelines are not proposed to be located within the vicinity of any such waterways.

Construction activities for pipeline installation would involve possible trenching and other pipeline installation methods that would temporarily disturb both paved roadways and unpaved land within the project site. All construction activities would be required to comply with Monterey County's Construction Site BMP Handbook and the Construction BMPs-Plan Sheet which would reduce impacts related to erosion, surface runoff, dust control, and waste/material management (County of Monterey 2015). Following completion of construction, the proposed project area would be restored to its original condition. Any drainage pattern(s) within the right-of-way would be returned to existing conditions following the conclusion of construction activities. No substantial erosion or siltation would occur on or off site as a result of the project.

The development of the pump station would incrementally increase impervious surface in the immediate vicinity through the construction of 100 square feet of concrete slab. The areas surrounding the proposed pump station would remain in their pre-project state. Development of the pump station would add minimal additional impervious surfaces and would not result in substantial erosion or siltation on or off site. The increase in impervious surfaces at the pump station site would incrementally increase runoff flows in the area; however, runoff would continue to be directed to the existing stormwater drainage system on SR 1. The project would include a connection for a back-up generator and in the event of an electrical service outage or other disruption to the pumps, a generator would be temporarily brought to the site to operate the pump station. The temporary use of a backup generator would not require the storage of fuel on site. Development and operation of the pump station would be required to comply with all applicable local regulations which would include implementation of BMPs and design features to control stormwater runoff quality.

The construction of the pipeline component of the project would take place within the existing disturbed roadways and public right-of-way, to the extent feasible. As discussed above, according to the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps, the entire pipeline alignment is located within an area of minimal flood hazard (Zone X). Since the entire pipeline and the majority of the pump station would be located underground, the proposed project would not risk release of pollutants due to project inundation. All pipelines would be undergrounded, designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration, and would not increase impervious surfaces in a manner which would impede or redirect flood flows. Aboveground components of the pump station would be limited to a control panel and PG&E equipment. The aboveground components of the pump station would also be

located within Flood Zone X. The proposed project would have a less than significant impact related to drainage.

- d) **Flood Hazard, Tsunami, or Seiche Zones: Less-Than-Significant Impact.** The proposed project site is not located in an area subject to seiche or tsunami (Monterey County, 2021). The proposed project is located entirely in areas designated as areas of minimal flooding hazard (Zone X) by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) flood maps. This is considered a less-than-significant impact.
- e) **Water Quality: Less-Than-Significant Impact.** In September 2014, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) was enacted to provide a framework for sustainable management of groundwater supplies by local authorities, with a limited role for intervention when necessary to protect the resource. The proposed project area is not located within a mapped groundwater basin according to the Department of Water Resources (DWR, 2022). As a result, the proposed project would not conflict with or obstruct a groundwater basin management plan or water quality control plan, since none have been adopted for the area. This represents a less-than-significant impact.

#### **Sources (1, 2, 4, & 17)**

**Conclusion:** Based upon the analysis above, the proposed project would not result in new impacts or substantially increase the severity of impacts compared to the conclusions of the prior 2020 CAWD IS/MND. No additional analysis is required.

### **5.3.11 LAND USE AND PLANNING**

#### **Setting**

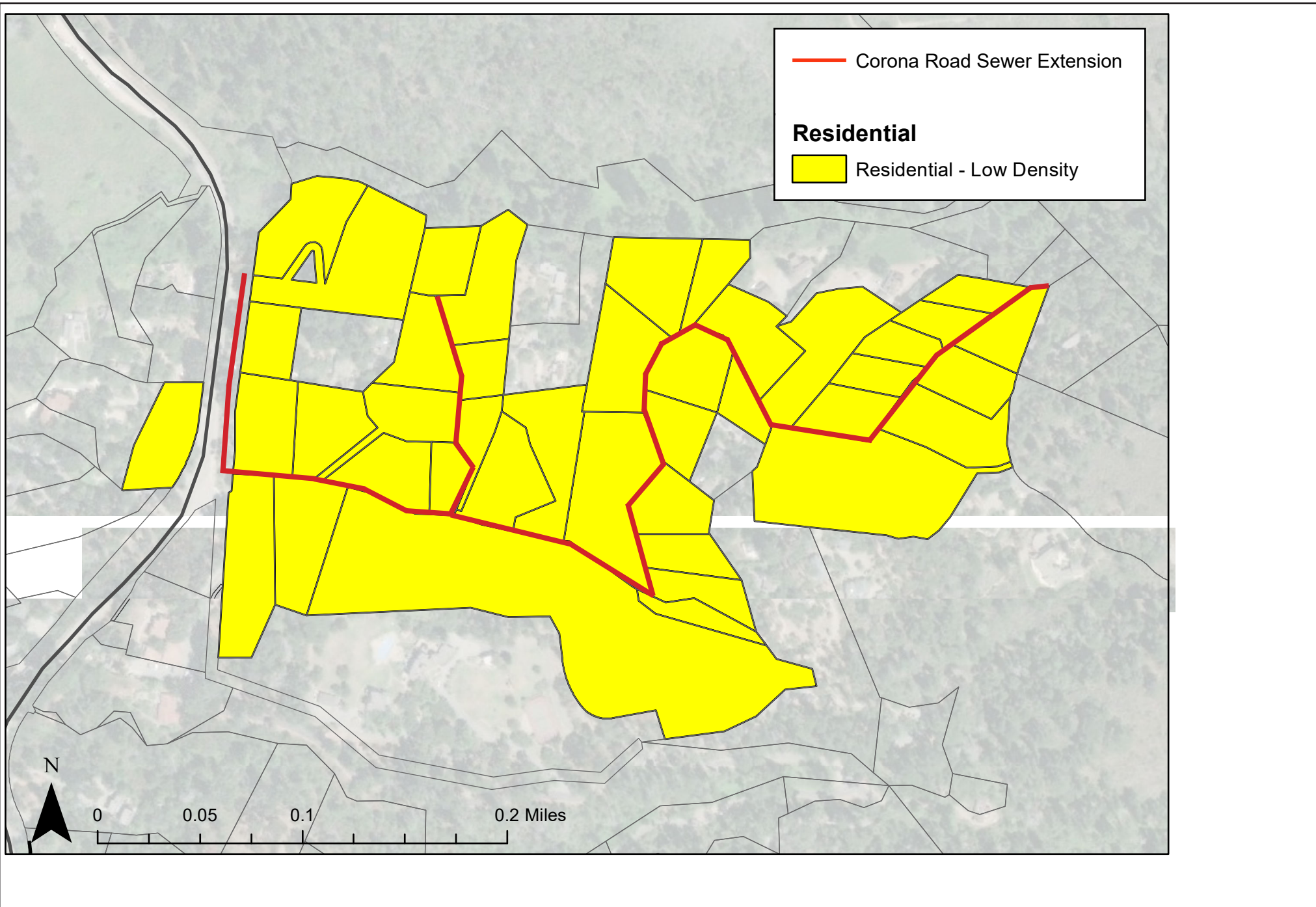
The proposed project is located within unincorporated Monterey County. The largest land use in Monterey County is agricultural land, followed by public and quasi-public lands (consisting mostly of federal and state lands). Urban development is primarily located along Monterey Bay and in the Salinas Valley. Rural and semi-rural development is scattered throughout the County (Monterey County, 2010). Implementation of policies in Monterey County General Plan and Land Use Plans govern the planning and development of the District and proposed project area. Underlying land use designations within the proposed project area are shown in **Figure 7**. A general overview of pertinent planning documents and prior environmental review is provided below.

#### **Regional/Local Relevant Planning Documents**

The 1982 Monterey County General Plan, Carmel Area Land Use Plan, and Part 4 of the Monterey County Coastal Implementation Plan contain a variety of policies related to land use, as discussed below.

1982 Monterey County General Plan. The County Board of Supervisors adopted the 1982 Monterey County General Plan on September 30, 1982. Within the coastal areas of unincorporated Monterey County, the 1982 General Plan policies apply where the Local Coastal Program (“LCP”) is silent. This typically is limited to noise policies as the LCP policies contain the majority of development standards applicable to development in the coastal areas.

Carmel Area Land Use Plan. The Project site is located in the Carmel Area LUP, Local Coastal Program (certified 1983). The LUP implements the policies of the Coastal Act for the Carmel Area of Monterey County. The LUP provides policies concerning environmental resources within the LUP including specific policies for development in the Coastal Zone, including protection of sensitive habitats and resources.



# Land Use Map

Monterey County Coastal Implementation Plan. Part 4 of the Monterey County Coastal Implementation Plan establishes regulations, standards, and procedures for implementation of the Carmel Area Land Use Plan. Specific implementation practices for policies in the Carmel Area Land Use Plan are identified and described.

California Coastal Commission/CAWD. In 1981, the California Coastal Commission (CCC) approved a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) which authorized a series of treatment plant improvements and upgrades needed to ensure compliance with ocean discharge water quality requirements of the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). The CDP approval also authorized construction of on-site facilities and off-site distribution pipelines needed for water recycling. The approval also included a series of conditions addressing the Treatment Plant’s operations and improvements. As part of this consideration, the CCC addressed CAWD’s service area boundaries. CCC conditions provided limitations for annexations extending CAWD’s jurisdiction boundaries that would extend services. Essentially, the conditions limited CAWD’s wastewater service boundary within the coastal zone to the District of Carmel and adjacent unincorporated neighborhoods. At that time, there was also a required that a CCC CDP amendment would be required to modify the District boundaries, and that the treatment plant capacity would be limited to plant treatment capacity (in order to reserve treatment plant capacity specifically for new Coastal Act priority land uses).

The CDP has been amended nine times since its initial approval to authorize various changes, including to accommodate the construction of new wastewater treatment structures (e.g., new laboratory building, aeration basin, maintenance shop, digester, sodium bisulfite/hypochlorite facility, stormwater pump station, and an electrical service pad), a change in plant configuration (to relocate a previously approved open reservoir equalization basin on adjacent State Park-owned land to an onsite enclosed concrete structure), upgraded recycled water operations, and an increase in plant capacity (from 2.4 million gallons per day (mgd) to 4.0 mgd, with a 3 mgd dry weather capacity limit). The Coastal Commission considered Proposed CDP Amendment CDP 3-82-199 to allow for expansion of CAWD’s service area to add approximately 326 mostly low-density residential-zoned parcels. This annexation approval covers the Corona Road Project area. This CDP Amendment was approved on 12/16/2022.<sup>8</sup>

<b>Would the project:</b>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact	New Significant Impact compared to 2020 IS/MND?
a) Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No

**Prior Environmental Analysis**

The 2020 CAWD IS/MND determined that the SOI and Annexation would have a less than significant impact as a result of conflicting with applicable land use plans, policies or regulations adopted to avoid or mitigate an environmental effect. The 2020 CAWD IS/MND determined that the SOI and Annexation would have no impacts related to physically dividing an established community. The CDP for the

<sup>8</sup> California Coastal Commission, Central Coast District, Central Coast District Director’s Report for December 2022. Available at: <https://documents.coastal.ca.gov/reports/2022/12/F16/F16-12-2022-report.pdf>



annexation (CDP 3-82-199), which expanded CAWD's service area to add approximately 326 residential-parcels over 302 acres within the coastal zone, including the project area, was approved on 12/16/2022.

### Discussion/Conclusion/Mitigation

- a) **Divide a Community: No Impact.** As described above, the proposed project consists of the formation of an assessment district, installation of sanitary sewer pipelines, and construction of a pump station. The pipeline components of the proposed project would be located primarily within the existing disturbed roadways and public right-of-way, to the extent feasible. The pump station would be located on a new easement created from an existing, privately owned parcel. However, construction of the pump station would occur on a small footprint and would not divide an established community. The approval of the proposed project would extend wastewater services and would not change the area's General Plan land use designations or impact an established community. As a result, no impact related to the division of an established community would result with implementation of the proposed project.
- b) **Conflict with Plan or Policy: Less-Than-Significant Impact.** Per California Government Code 53091, zoning and building ordinances of a city or a county do not apply to the construction of facilities intended for the production, storage, or transmission of water, wastewater, or electrical energy by a local agency. Applicable land use plans, policies, or regulations that apply to a portion or the whole of the proposed project site include those contained within the 1982 Monterey County General Plan and the Carmel Area Land Use Plan. CAWD, as a wastewater treatment agency, does not possess land use authority over the proposed project site.

The sanitary sewer pipeline component of the proposed project would be constructed primarily below existing roadways and public rights-of-way and would not conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the proposed project. The pump station component of the proposed project would be considered a "public utility facility" per section 20.14.050 of Title 20 and would be consistent with the *Residential-Low Density* land use classification of the site (County of Monterey, 2021).

#### *Monterey County General Plan*

The proposed project would be consistent with the following applicable goals, policies, and objectives of the 1982 Monterey County General Plan (County of Monterey, 1982):

- **Policy 9.2.1:** Land use practices which could result in siltation and pollution of inland and marine waters shall be carefully managed in order to assure a clean and productive habitat.
- **Policy 11.1.3:** Land uses shall be carefully controlled and waste discharges shall be prohibited in order to protect water quality in state designated Areas of Special Biological Significance.
- **Policy 15.1.10:** All structures and private utility lines shall be designed and constructed to conform to the standards of the latest adopted Uniform Building Code.
- **Policy 15.1.13:** The County shall require septic leach fields and drainage plans to direct runoff and drainage away from unstable slopes.
- **Policy 15.1.15:** Side castings from the grading of roads and building pads shall be removed from the site unless they can be distributed on the site so as not to change the natural landform. An exception to this policy will be made for those cases where changes in the natural landform are required as a condition of development approval.

- **Policy 15.2.5:** The County should encourage utility companies to institute orderly programs of installing cut-off devices on utility lines, starting with the lines that appear to be most vulnerable and those which serve the most people. Adequate emergency water supplies should be established and maintained in areas dependent upon water lines which cross active fault zones.
- **Policy 21.3.1:** The County should support sewage treatment projects that reduce contamination of surface and groundwater to acceptable levels.
- **Policy 21.3.5:** Wastewater treatment facilities shall not be sited in, or allowed to expand into, environmentally sensitive habitat areas unless environmental impacts can be mitigated.
- **Policy 22.2.1:** The County shall require new development to conform to the noise parameters established by Table 6, Land Use Compatibility for Exterior Community Noise Environments.
- **Policy 56.2.1:** The County shall, in accordance with the Monterey County Subdivision Ordinance, require that all new utility lines be placed underground.

*Carmel Area Land Use Plan*

In addition, the proposed project would be consistent with all of the applicable goals, policies, and objectives of the Carmel Area Use Plan (County of Monterey, 1999), including the following policies:

- **General Policy 2.2.7:** Structures shall be located and designed to minimize tree removal and grading for the building site and access road. Where earth movement would result in extensive slope disturbance or scarring visible from public viewing points and corridors, such activity will not be allowed. Extensive landform alteration shall not be permitted.
- **Specific Policy 2.2.10.e:** Existing trees and other native vegetation should be retained to the maximum extent possible both during the construction process and after the development is completed. Landscape screening may be used wherever a moderate extension of native forested and chaparral areas is appropriate. All new landscaping must be compatible with the scenic character of the area and should retain existing shoreline and ocean views.
- **Key Policy 2.3.2:** The environmentally sensitive habitats of the Carmel Coastal Segment are unique, limited and fragile resources of statewide significance, important to the enrichment of present and future generations of County residents- and visitors; accordingly, they shall be protected, maintained and, where possible, enhanced and restored. All categories of land use, both public and private shall be subordinate to the protection of these critical areas.
- **Policy 2.3.1:** Development, including vegetation removal, excavation, grading, filling, and the construction of roads and structures, shall be avoided in critical and sensitive habitat areas, riparian corridors, wetlands, sites of known rare and endangered species of plants and animals, rookeries and major roosting and haul-out sites, and other wildlife breeding or nursery areas identified as critical. Resource-dependent uses, including nature education and research, hunting, fishing, and aquaculture, shall be allowed within environmentally sensitive habitats and only if such uses will not cause significant disruption of habitat values. Only small-scale development necessary to support the resource-dependent uses may be located in sensitive habitat areas if they can not feasibly be located elsewhere.

Wetlands are defined as lands which may be covered periodically or permanently with shallow water and include saltwater marshes, fresh water marshes, open or closed brackish water marshes, swamps, mudflats and fens.

- **Policy 2.3.2:** Land uses adjacent to locations of environmentally sensitive habitats shall be compatible with the long-term maintenance of the resource. New land uses shall be considered compatible only where they incorporate all site planning and design features needed to prevent habitat impacts and where they do not establish a precedent for continued land development which, on a cumulative basis, could degrade the resource.
- **Policy 2.3.5:** Where private or public development is proposed in documented or expected locations of environmentally sensitive habitats – particularly those habitats identified in General Policy No. 1 – field surveys by qualified individuals or agency shall be required in order to determine precise locations of the habitat and to recommend mitigating measures to ensure its protection. This policy applies to the entire segment except the internal portions of Carmel Woods, Hatton Fields, Carmel Point (Night heron site excluded), Odello, Carmel Meadows, and Carmel Riviera. If any habitats are found on the site or within 100 feet from the site, the required survey shall document how the proposed development complies with all the applicable habitat policies.
- **Policy 2.3.7:** Where development is permitted in or adjacent to environmentally sensitive habitat areas, the County, through the development review process, shall restrict the removal of indigenous vegetation and land disturbance (grading, excavation, paving, etc.) to that needed for the structural improvements themselves.
- **Policy 2.3.8:** The County shall require the use of appropriate native species in proposed landscaping.
- **Wetlands and Terrestrial Waters Policy 2.3.9:** Development on parcels adjacent to intertidal habitat should be sited and designed to prevent percolation of septic runoff and deposition of sediment.
- **General Policy 2.4.5:** The use of on-site wastewater management systems that reduce the risk of failure or groundwater contamination and are approved by the County Health Department should be encouraged.
- **General Policy 2.5.2:** All cutting or removal of trees shall be in keeping with the broad resource protection objectives of this plan. Specific policies, criteria and standards of other sections of this plan shall govern both commercial and noncommercial tree removal.
- **General Policy 2.5.3:** Restoration of native forest resources is encouraged for public agencies and residents as a means of maintaining and enhancing the Carmel area’s natural character. Removal of non-native tree species is encouraged except where such vegetation provides important wildlife habitat.
- **General Policy 2.5.8:** In addition to compliance with forestry and soils resources policies, all developments, forest management activities and tree removal shall specifically conform to the LCP policies regarding water and marine resources, sensitive habitat area and coastal visual resources.
- **General Policy 2.8.2:** Whenever development is to occur in the coastal zone, the Archaeological Site Survey Office or other appropriate authority shall be contacted to determine whether the property has received an archaeological survey. If not and the parcel are in an area of high archaeological sensitivity, such a survey shall be conducted to determine if an archaeological site exists. The Archaeological Survey should describe the sensitivity of the site and recommend appropriate levels of development and mitigation consistent with the site’s need for protection.

- **Policy 3.1.4:** Appropriate areas of Highway 1 should be designated for construction of paved turnoffs for slow-moving vehicles. The unpaved turnoffs south of Point Lobos Reserve may be appropriate for such improvement. The turnoffs should be signed to notify approaching vehicles in time to pull over.
- **Policy 3.3.1:** The County should support the wastewater reclamation project proposed by the Carmel Sanitary District. The development of new facilities shall avoid damage of riparian habitat and conversion of prime agricultural land.
- **Policy 3.3.2:** The County Department of Environmental Health should continue the surveillance of septic systems in Carmel Highlands-Riviera to determine the extent of the present and future public health problem. If such a survey indicates the need for corrective action, then the County should first evaluate whether the problem can be adequately resolved through measures other than sewerage (e.g., monitoring and maintenance program).
- **Policy 3.3.3:** Installation of sewage treatment facilities to serve the developments south of the Carmel River shall be considered only to eliminate a public health hazard and shall be sized to serve only the projected build-out of this area as allowed by this plan.
- **Policy 3.3.6:** In conjunction with any permit request to extend main wastewater collection pipelines in the segment, the County shall require that (1) any accompanying service district formation and/or expansion within the segment be within the urban boundary or rural enclaves and (2) the permittee agree not to assess for or guarantee sewer service in areas outside sewer districts within the segments (application of reclaimed wastewater outside sewer districts is permitted).

As noted throughout this document, the proposed project would result in either no impact, less than significant impacts, or less than significant impacts with mitigation incorporated for all impact areas evaluated. As a result, the proposed project would be consistent with the above-listed policies of the Monterey County 2010 General Plan and Carmel Area Use Plan, resulting in a less-than-significant impact.

In addition, as the site lies within the Coastal Zone, tree removal undertaken as part of the proposed project would require a Coastal Development Permit and a Forest Management Plan for removal of trees greater than 12 inches (see **Appendix C**). No tree removal is anticipated as a result of the proposed project. Acquisition of a Coastal Development Permit and preparation of a Forest Management Plan would ensure the proposed project's compliance with applicable policies and regulations and represents a less than significant impact.

**Sources (1, 2, 4, 10, & 18)**

**Conclusion:** Based upon the analysis above, the proposed project would not result in new impacts or substantially increase the severity of impacts compared to the conclusions of the prior 2020 CAWD IS/MND. No additional analysis is required.

**5.3.12 MINERAL RESOURCES**

**Setting**

Historic mineral production in Monterey County included sand and gravel mining for construction materials, mining for industrial materials (diatomite, clay, quartz, and dimension stone) and metallic minerals (chromite, placer gold, manganese, mercury, platinum, and silver). The Carmel Area LUP

identifies mineral resource extraction projects as being inappropriate for the plan area. As a result, no mineral resource extraction or related activities occur within the vicinity of the proposed project.

<b>Would the project:</b>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact	New Significant Impact compared to 2020 IS/MND?
A) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No

### Prior Environmental Analysis

The 2020 CAWD IS/MND determined that the SOI and Annexation would have no impacts related to mineral resources.

### Discussion/Conclusion/Mitigation

a, b) **Loss of Mineral Resources: No Impact.** No known mineral resources in Monterey County are within the existing CAWD’s jurisdictional boundaries or near the proposed project area. In addition, the Carmel Area LUP determined that mineral extraction projects would be inappropriate within the plan area. Further, the proposed project area is not located in an area underlain by a known mineral resources as shown on the Department of Conservation’s Mineral Land Classification Maps. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in: 1) the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and residents of the state or 2) the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resources recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan. The proposed project would have no impact on mineral resources.

### Sources (1 & 2)

**Conclusion:** Based upon the analysis above, the proposed project would not result in new impacts or substantially increase the severity of impacts compared to the conclusions of the prior 2020 CAWD IS/MND. No additional analysis is required.

### 5.3.13 NOISE

#### Setting

Existing sources of noise in Monterey County include highways, airports, railroads, industrial areas, agricultural areas and recreational venues. The predominant source of noise in the County is vehicular traffic on roads and highways. The 1982 Monterey County General Plan and EIR identified noise impacts on future development related to exposure to noise, including transportation and construction noise. However, with implementation of the policies contained in the General Plan, impacts were found to be less-than-significant.

Would the project result in:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact	New Significant Impact compared to 2020 IS/MND?
A) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No

**Prior Environmental Analysis**

The 2020 CAWD IS/MND determined that the SOI and Annexation would have potentially significant impacts related to generating substantial temporary or permanent increases in noise levels and generation of excessive groundborne vibration. As a result, the 2020 CAWD IS/MND identified the following mitigation measure to reduce this impact to a less than significant level.

**MM NOI-1: Construction Noise Reduction Measures**

During construction, the project contractor shall implement the following measures to minimize construction noise impacts:

- Place construction equipment and equipment staging areas to be located at the furthest distance as possible from nearby noise-sensitive receptors.
- Choose construction equipment that is of quiet design, has a high-quality muffler system, and is well-maintained.
- Install superior intake and exhaust mufflers and engine enclosure panels wherever possible on gas diesel or pneumatic impact machines.
- Limit construction to 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday.
- Eliminate unnecessary idling of machines when not in use.
- Locate all stationary noise-generating construction equipment, such as portable power generators, as far as possible from nearby noise-sensitive receptors.
- Utilize the quickest equipment options to accomplish the tasks, in accordance with local, state, and federal regulatory requirements.

The 2020 CAWD IS/MND also determined that the SOI and Annexation would have no impacts related to exposure of people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise from a public airport.



## Discussion/Conclusion/Mitigation

- a – b) **Increase Ambient Noise or Groundborne Vibrations: Less-Than-Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated.** The proposed project involves the formation of an assessment district, installation of sanitary sewer pipelines, and construction of a pump station. Operation of this new wastewater infrastructure would not generate temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels or groundborne vibration, due to the underground location of the majority of project components, including the majority of pump station equipment (storage tank, pump, vaults, etc.). The underground nature of these project components would insulate nearby receptors from noise as a result of operation of the proposed project.

Construction of the proposed project would result in a temporary increase in the ambient noise levels in the project area and would result in a temporary increase in vibration and nearby receptors. Construction of the proposed project will be subject to Carmel Area LUP and 1982 Monterey County General Plan policies that limit noise impacts through CEQA compliance and permitting. Potential indirect impacts due to noise from construction activities would be temporary and can be regulated by standard mitigation practices, conditions of approval and best management practices that are imposed as part of a permit process. Nevertheless, since the proposed project is located within an area predominantly characterized by low density residential uses, significant indirect noise impacts which could occur during construction of the proposed project. With implementation of **Mitigation Measure NOI-1**, as identified in the 2020 CAWD IS/MND, these impacts would be reduced to a less than significant level.

**Impact NOI-1 – Construction Noise:** The proposed project is located within an area predominantly characterized by low density residential uses. Construction of the proposed project could result in significant temporary indirect noise impacts.

### Mitigation Measure

#### MM NOI-1: Construction Noise Reduction Measures

During construction, the project contractor shall implement the following measures to minimize construction noise impacts:

- Place construction equipment and equipment staging areas to be located at the furthest distance as possible from nearby noise-sensitive receptors.
- Choose construction equipment that is of quiet design, has a high-quality muffler system, and is well-maintained.
- Install superior intake and exhaust mufflers and engine enclosure panels wherever possible on gas diesel or pneumatic impact machines.
- Limit construction to 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday.
- Eliminate unnecessary idling of machines when not in use.
- Locate all stationary noise-generating construction equipment, such as portable power generators, as far as possible from nearby noise-sensitive receptors.
- Utilize the quickest equipment options to accomplish the tasks, in accordance with local, state, and federal regulatory requirements.

With incorporation of **Mitigation Measure NOI-1**, the proposed project would not result in:  
1) generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the

vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies; or, 2) generate excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels.

- c) **Airport Noise: No Impact.** The proposed project is not located within the jurisdiction of an adopted airport land use plan. The nearest airport (Monterey Regional Airport) is over seven miles away. As a result, there would be no impact.

**Sources (1, 2, 4 & 10)**

**Conclusion:** Based upon the analysis above, the proposed project would not result in new impacts or substantially increase the severity of impacts compared to the conclusions of the prior 2020 CAWD IS/MND. No additional analysis is required.

**5.3.14 POPULATION AND HOUSING**

**Setting**

In 2020, AMBAG published a new regional growth forecast that project future population for Monterey County. Accordingly, AMBAG projects a population in 2025 of 452,761 persons and a population in 2035 of 476,028 persons. The proposed project consists of the formation of an assessment district, installation of a sanitary sewer pipeline, and construction of a pump station to meet the objectives of the 2013 Capital Improvement Program 15-year Master Plan for wastewater treatment within the District and to alleviate the existing septic systems in the surrounding residential area. The proposed project would not include any new housing or result in the need for any new housing.

<b>Would the project:</b>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact	New Significant Impact compared to 2020 IS/MND?
A) Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No

**Prior Environmental Analysis**

The 2020 CAWD IS/MND determined that the SOI and Annexation would have a less than significant impact as a result of directly or indirectly inducing substantial population growth. The 2020 CAWD IS/MND determined that the SOI and Annexation would have no impacts related to displacing substantial numbers of people or existing housing.

**Discussion/Conclusion/Mitigation**

- a) **Induce Substantial Unplanned Population Growth Directly or Indirectly: Less-Than-Significant Impact.** Under CEQA, a project can have direct and/or indirect growth inducement potential. A

project would directly induce growth by resulting in construction of new housing that would result in new residents in the project area. A project may indirectly induce growth in a number of ways, including:

- Substantial stimulation of economic activity which would result in the need for additional housing and services to support new employment demand; and/or
- Removal of an obstacle to additional growth and development, such as removing a constraint on a required public utility or service; for example, construction of a major sewer line with excess capacity through an undeveloped area.

Typically, the growth-inducing potential of a project would be considered significant if it fosters growth or a concentration of population above what is assumed in local and regional land use plans, or in projections made by regional planning authorities.

Induce substantial unplanned population growth directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses). As stated, the proposed project consists of the formation of an assessment district, installation of a sanitary sewer pipeline, and construction of a pump station in a developed area and would not result in direct impacts to population growth such as development of new homes, commercial uses or the modification or expansion of existing land uses). Furthermore, the proposed project would not result in the conversion of land use designations under applicable local jurisdiction General or Area Plans or require a zoning change. Currently, the areas proposed for service by the sanitary sewer pipeline are developed with existing residential land uses. Connection to CAWD's wastewater collection system to allow for future wastewater provision would not, by itself, promote or foster development of existing lots of record, extension of existing uses, and similar purposes that could result in a population increase. As a result, the proposed project would not directly induce population growth.

Induce substantial unplanned population growth indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure). Under CEQA, the District is required to analyze indirect or secondary effects which are later in time or farther removed but still reasonably foreseeable. Indirect or secondary effects may include growth-inducing effects and other effects related to induced changes in the pattern of land use, population density, or growth rate, and related effects on water and other natural systems. Currently, the parcels that could potentially connect to the proposed project are developed with existing residential land uses. The proposed project would allow the District to provide future wastewater collection services to this area and would not likely promote or foster development of existing lots of record, extension of existing uses, and similar purposes. There is currently a major constraint for water available for new residential or commercial subdivisions, new large-scale commercial development, and projects that are inconsistent with existing site zoning and general plan designations. However, the Coastal Commission's staff report for approval of CDP 3-82-199 concluded that the annexation of the project area would not result in significant impacts under CEQA. In addition, the majority of the parcels that would be served by the new sanitary sewer pipeline are already developed. The proposed project would eliminate use of septic systems on these parcels, which have been acknowledged to potentially contribute pollutants to groundwater. Future development that does receive the necessary local jurisdiction approvals would be able to connect to wastewater treatment infrastructure rather than individual septic systems.

This represents a less-than-significant impact due to existing limitations on development under current County and Coastal regulations.

- b) **Displace Individuals: No Impact.** The proposed project would not displace any individuals or result in the requirement of replacement housing elsewhere in the community. The proposed project involves the formation of an assessment district, installation of sanitary sewer pipelines, and construction of a pump station, and does not involve any new housing or infrastructure, nor does it propose any activities that would change, or otherwise affect regional communities, populations, or residences. As a result, there would be no impact related to the displacement of individuals or replacement of existing housing.

**Conclusion:** The proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impacts to population and housing.

**Sources (1, 2, 3, 4, & 19)**

**Conclusion:** Based upon the analysis above, the proposed project would not result in new impacts or substantially increase the severity of impacts compared to the conclusions of the prior 2020 CAWD IS/MND. No additional analysis is required.

**5.3.15 PUBLIC SERVICES**

**Setting**

Several public service agencies and utility providers serve the unincorporated areas of Monterey County. These agencies and providers include nearly 20 fire protection agencies, the Monterey County Sheriff’s Office, three dozen school districts, various County departments, and multiple water and wastewater districts (Monterey County, 2010). The Carmel Area LUP and the 1982 Monterey County General Plan, the policies of which apply to the proposed project site, identified all impacts related to public services and utilities as less-than-significant and would not require mitigation beyond implementation of the polices outlined in the 1982 Monterey County General Plan.

Would the project result in:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact	New Significant Impact compared to 2020 IS/MND?
Substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:					
a) Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
b) Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
c) Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
d) Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
e) Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No

**Prior Environmental Analysis**

The 2020 CAWD IS/MND determined that the SOI and Annexation would have no impacts related to public services.

**Discussion/Conclusion/Mitigation**

a – e) **Public Services: No Impact.** See **Section 5.2.14 Population and Housing.** The proposed project would not result in new population growth or demands for provision of or new government structures. The proposed project consists of the formation of an assessment district, installation of sanitary sewer pipelines, and construction of a pump station and does not involve new habitable structures and would not bring new students to the area, require new school facilities, or impact parks/recreation facilities or other governmental services. As a result, there would be no impact related to expansion of public services.

**Sources (1, 2, 3, 4, & 19)**

**Conclusion:** Based upon the analysis above, the proposed project would not result in new impacts or substantially increase the severity of impacts compared to the conclusions of the prior 2020 CAWD IS/MND. No additional analysis is required.

**5.3.16 RECREATION**

**Setting**

Multiple federal, state, county governments and local districts own and operate parks, recreational facilities, and open spaces in Monterey County. Management agencies include the U.S. National Parks Service (NPS), the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), California State Parks (CSP), Monterey County, and local park agencies and districts. The County parks system encompasses about 10% of Monterey County’s total park acreage (Monterey County, 2010). Trails in the county include the Monterey Bay Coastal Trail, which spans 29 miles of the coast between the City of Marina and the community of Pebble Beach (Monterey County, 2010). The 1982 Monterey County General Plan identified potential impacts on recreational resources associated with future development, however with the policies and mitigations outlined in the General Plan and EIR these potential impacts are reduced to less-than-significant. The Carmel Area LUP also provides various policies related to recreation and public access within its jurisdiction.

<b>Would the project:</b>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact	New Significant Impact compared to 2020 IS/MND?
A) Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
b) Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No

**Prior Environmental Analysis**

The 2020 CAWD IS/MND determined that the SOI and Annexation would have no impacts related to recreation.

**Discussion/Conclusion/Mitigation**

a – b) **Recreation: No Impact.** The proposed project would not include development of any residential components. Rather, the proposed project would provide future wastewater service to an area developed with existing residences. No neighborhood or community parks are planned as part of the proposed project. The proposed project consists of formation of an assessment district, installation of sanitary sewer pipelines, and construction of a pump station and would not result in increased use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities. No construction or expansion of recreational facilities is included as part of the proposed project. As a result, there would be no impact related to recreational facilities.

**Sources (1 & 2)**

**Conclusion:** Based upon the analysis above, the proposed project would not result in new impacts or substantially increase the severity of impacts compared to the conclusions of the prior 2020 CAWD IS/MND. No additional analysis is required.

**5.3.17 TRANSPORTATION**

**Setting**

According to the Monterey County 2010 General Plan, Monterey County owns and maintains 1,240 miles of roads. In addition, there are 575 miles of private roads, two minor highways (25 and 146), and five (5) major highways that include Highways 1, 68, 101, 156, and 183. Public transit services are provided by Monterey-Salinas Transit (MST) which services the greater Monterey and Salinas areas plus routes to Carmel Valley and North County. The Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC) is designated as the Congestion Management Agency responsible for development and implementation of the Congestion Management Program in the project area. The Carmel Area LUP and the 1982 Monterey County General Plan, the policies of which apply to the proposed project site, identified potential significant impacts related to increased traffic volumes exceeding level of service standards, and future needed improvements. The Carmel Area LUP and the 1982 Monterey County General Plan established policies to mitigate or reduce these impacts. These policies encourage alternative modes of travel including public transit, bicycle, and pedestrian modes to reduce the use of automobiles. They encourage compact, mixed-use, and transit-oriented development in developed areas in patterns that have been demonstrated to reduce traffic.

<b>Would the project:</b>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact	New Significant Impact compared to 2020 IS/MND?
A) Conflict with program plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
b) Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No



Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact	New Significant Impact compared to 2020 IS/MND?
intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?					
d) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No

### Prior Environmental Analysis

The 2020 CAWD IS/MND determined that the SOI and Annexation would have less than significant impacts as a result of conflicting with a program, plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system or being inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3, subdivision (b). The 2020 CAWD IS/MND determined that the SOI and Annexation would have no impacts related to substantially increasing hazards due to a geometric design feature or incompatible uses or resulting in adequate emergency access. The proposed project identified a new less than significant impact related to emergency access, as discussed below.

### Discussion/Conclusion/Mitigation

a) **Conflict with Program, Plan, or Ordinance: Less-Than-Significant Impact.** Construction of the proposed project would result in temporary transportation impacts. Construction of the proposed project would require temporary road closures to allow subsurface work within or adjacent to the right-of-way. In addition, temporary staging areas would be located along the roadways in tandem with the pipeline installation. Affected roadways are expected to include Corona Road, Corona Way, and the portion of SR 1 between the pump station and Corona Road. It is anticipated that the pipeline installation would proceed at a rate of 150-200 feet of pipeline installed per day.

Pursuant to Chapter 14 of the Monterey County Municipal Code, the proposed project would require an encroachment permit from the County Department of Public Works. The application process for an encroachment permit would include the preparation of a Transportation Control Plan (TCP) for work undertaken within County roadways. The TCP is required to include the following elements (MCC 14.04.080):

- A general description of the event including location, date, and time of duration;
- Maps showing the routes, starting and ending points, location of road closures, all routes proposed to be used as detours, and placement of directional, warning and informational signs;
- Appropriate signing, signal reciting, and traffic control;
- A discussion of impacts on all County highways including side roads, partial and total road closures, intersecting local roads, on and off ramps requiring closure, and other traffic control;
- Information on the number and kind of event participants, including vehicle types, and, where applicable, support facilities and spectator facilities;
- The agency who will provide traffic control;
- Advance warning signs and traffic control devices for all road closures or restrictions of County highway. Such signs and devices shall conform to the "CALTRANS Manual of Traffic Controls."

- Provision for well-functioning communications equipment to be supplied by the permittee in sufficient quantity for use by all organizations involved in the event.
- Evidence that all ingress and egress to the closed portion of any by participants and spectators shall be only as approved by the Public Works Director, the CHP, or Sheriff.
- The signature of a licensed traffic engineer when the plan requires detours or road or ramp closures.
- Other pertinent information, which will enable the County to confirm the availability of the County's facilities, determine the need for any preliminary meetings, and establish appropriate guidelines to be considered by the applicant in planning the event and that will assist in evaluating whether the permit should be granted, modified, or denied.

With implementation of a TCP containing the elements described above, the proposed project would have a less than significant impact on traffic flow impacts during construction. Traffic flow impacts would be temporary and would cease by the end of construction of the proposed project.

The proposed project would consist of the formation of an assessment district, installation of sanitary sewer pipelines, and construction of a pump station, which would not result in a conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs addressing the circulation system, including bicycle, pedestrian, and public transit facilities. The proposed sanitary sewer pipeline would be placed underground along an existing roadway, while the pump station would be located on the west side of SR 1. Project operation would involve regular maintenance trips, which would represent an incremental increase in base traffic volumes along SR 1. As a result, operational transportation impacts would be less than significant.

- b) **Conflict with CEQA: Less-Than-Significant Impact.** Section 15064.3(b) identifies criteria for conduction evaluation of transportation impacts through the use of Vehicle Miles Travelled (VMT). A significant impact may occur if a project exceeds an applicable VMT threshold of significance as adopted by a local agency with jurisdiction over the project. Section 15064.3(b) allows a lead agency to include a qualitative analysis of construction and operational traffic if existing models or methods are not available to estimate the VMT for a project. The qualitative analysis would be required to evaluate factors such as availability of transit and proximity to other destinations. Neither the County of Monterey nor CAWD have established VMT thresholds. The 2018 Monterey County Active Transportation Plan includes Policy C-2.4, which encourages a reduction in the number of VMT per person (TAMC, 2018).

A VMT calculation is typically conducted on a daily or annual basis, for long-range planning purposes. Traffic on local roadways would be temporarily increased during project construction due to worker trips and the necessary transport of construction vehicles and equipment to the proposed project site. All VMT increases resulting from construction would be temporary in nature.

Operation of the proposed project would require regular site visits for maintenance activities. However, such visits would be combined with CAWD's existing maintenance schedule and consolidated to reduce the overall amount of VMT associated with overall system maintenance. As a result, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact associated with VMT.

- c) **Increase Hazards due to Geometric Design Feature: No Impact.** The proposed project would consist of the formation of an assessment district, installation of sanitary sewer pipelines, and construction of a pump station. Installation of sanitary sewer pipelines would occur within the existing Corona Road, Corona Way, and SR 1 rights-of-way, and a pump station west of SR 1. The

proposed project does not include the reconfiguration of any roadways or intersections that could result in a substantial increase in traffic hazards. As a result, there would be no impact.

- d) **Result in Inadequate Emergency Access: Less-Than-Significant Impact.** The proposed project would involve construction within active roadways. As a result, the proposed project may cause temporary lane closures and other potential traffic impacts, which would have the potential to impede emergency response to the project area, or to areas accessed via the roadway. As discussed under response a) of this section, the proposed project would implement a TCP in coordination with the County of Monterey to maintain existing traffic flows and prioritize emergency vehicle access to the construction area. As a result, impacts related to emergency access during project construction would be less than significant.

Operation and maintenance of the proposed project would not introduce any new activities that could result in inadequate emergency access. As a result, impacts related to emergency access during operation of the proposed project would be less than significant.

### Sources (1 & 2)

**Conclusion:** Based upon the analysis above, the proposed project would not result in new impacts or substantially increase the severity of impacts compared to the conclusions of the prior 2020 CAWD IS/MND. No additional analysis is required.

## 5.3.18 TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

### Setting

California Assembly Bill (AB) 52, which has been in effect since July 2015, provides CEQA protections for tribal cultural resources. All lead agencies approving projects under CEQA are required, if formally requested by a culturally affiliated California Native American Tribe, to consult with such tribe regarding the potential impact of a project on tribal cultural resources before releasing an environmental document. Under California Public Resources Code §21074, tribal cultural resources include site features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places, or objects that are of cultural value to a tribe and that are eligible for or listed on the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) or a local historic register, or that the lead agency has determined to be of significant tribal cultural value. However, due to the State Revolving Fund federal funding component of the proposed project, tribal consultation was also separately conducted under the National Environmental Policy Act and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (36 CFR Part 800) on behalf of the lead agency.

On November 3, 2022, CAWD and Albion contacted the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) to request a search of the Sacred Lands File of Native American cultural resources and the current list of Native American contacts for the project location in order to initiate consultation under both AB 52 and Section 106. The NAHC responded on December 2, 2022 that the search of the Sacred Lands File for the immediate area of the project resulted in two resources within the project area and several other resources within the ½ mile radius of the proposed project.

CAWD contacted the 12 Native American groups and/or individuals identified by NAHC in fulfillment of AB 52 requirements. CAWD sent letters to these contacts via certified USPS mail on January 30, 2023. A sample letter is presented in **Appendix D**. These letters consisted of the project description and objective, a summary of the historical records search, and a project location map. The parties contacted were asked to consider the letter and project information as notification of a proposed project as required under CEQA and AB 52. Comments were requested in writing within 30 days. Return contact information was provided to facilitate multiple options for responses by letter, fax, email, or phone. Representatives from

the Esselen Tribe of Monterey County contacted CAWD on February 5, 2023 with a request to consult on the proposed project. A consultation call was held on February 27, 2023 to address concerns with the proposed project, as described below under impact b). As of the date of publication of this document, no additional requests for tribal consultation under AB 52 were received for the proposed project.

CAWD and Albion also contacted the same 12 Native American groups and/or individuals via a letter sent by certified USPS mail on December 14, 2022 in fulfillment of Section 106 consultation. Information in the letter included the project description and objective, a summary of the historical records search, and a project location map. The parties contacted were asked to consider the letter and project information as notification of a proposed project as required under the National Environmental Policy Act and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (36 CFR Part 800). Comments were requested in writing within 30 days. Return contact information was provided to facilitate multiple options for responses by letter, fax, email, or phone. No responses were received within the 30-day window. Copies of the Section 106 outreach letters are considered confidential and are not included in this published document.

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact	New Significant Impact compared to 2020 IS/MND?
Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, define in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:					
a) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1 (k), or (Source: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 15)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
b) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe. (Source: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 15)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No

**Prior Environmental Analysis**

The 2020 CAWD IS/MND was found to have a less than significant impact related to historic resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1 (k) or otherwise listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources. The 2020 CAWD IS/MND determined that the SOI and Annexation would have a potentially significant impact related to resources considered to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. The 2020 CAWD IS/MND identified **Mitigation Measures CR-1** and **CR-2** to reduce these impacts to a less than significant level, as shown below:

### **MM CR-1: Cultural Resources Report and Monitoring<sup>9</sup>**

The following protection measures will be required for potential future projects if ground disturbance is located in areas deemed as potentially sensitive archeological sites by the Monterey County General Plan (Monterey County, 2010):

- CAWD shall require the preparation of an archaeological resource report by a Professional Archaeologist for improvement projects involving ground disturbance in areas of high likelihood of containing archaeological resources.
- During ground disturbance of native soils (soils not consisting of artificial fill) for the construction of the project, a Professional Archaeologist and a local Native American monitor shall be retained to observe construction activities within the project site. If, during initial monitoring, the Professional Archaeologist determines that the construction activities have little or no potential to impact cultural resources, the Professional Archaeologist, in consultation with the Native American monitor, may recommend that monitoring be reduced or eliminated. If cultural resources are identified during initial monitoring, work within 50 feet of the find shall halt and **Mitigation Measure CR-2** shall be implemented.

### **MM CR-2: Cultural Resources Protection Measures**

- If the Professional Archaeologist determines that any cultural resources exposed during construction constitute a historical resource and/or unique archaeological resource under CEQA, he/she shall notify CAWD and other appropriate parties of the evaluation and recommend mitigation measures to mitigate to a less-than-significant impact in accordance with California Public Resources Code Section 15064.5. Mitigation measures may include avoidance, preservation in-place, recordation, additional archaeological testing and data recovery among other options. The completion of a formal *Archaeological Monitoring Plan (AMP)* and/or *Archaeological Treatment Plan (ATP)* that may include data recovery may be recommended by the Professional Archaeologist if significant archaeological deposits are exposed during ground disturbing construction. Development and implementation of the AMP and ATP and treatment of significant cultural resources will be determined by the CAWD in consultation with any regulatory agencies.
- The treatment of human remains and any associated or unassociated funerary objects discovered during any soil-disturbing activity within the APE shall comply with applicable state laws in regard to Native American burials (Chapter 1492, Section 7050.5 to the Health and Safety Code, Sections 5097.94, 5097.98 and 5097.99 of the Public Resources Code). This shall include immediate notification of the appropriate county Coroner/Medical Examiner and the CAWD.
- A *Monitoring Closure Report* shall be filed with CAWD at the conclusion of ground disturbing construction if archaeological and Native American monitoring of excavation was undertaken.

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<sup>9</sup> A project specific Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment was conducted for the proposed project in accordance with **Mitigation Measure CR-1**, which included Native American outreach.

## Discussion/Conclusion/Mitigation

- a) **Historic Resources: Less-than-Significant Impact.** As indicated above in *Section 5.3.5 Cultural Resources*, the proposed project would involve work beneath Highway 1, the portion of which within the proposed project's APE is considered a historic district. The proposed project would involve work within Highway 1 in order to connect the sewer line on the east side of Highway 1 to the pump station located on the west side of Highway 1. Any disturbances to Highway 1 would be restored to their pre-project state following completion of the proposed project components located within the Highway. In addition, the portion of Highway 1 where work would occur does not contain contributing elements associated with the historic district. As indicated above in *Section 5.3.5 Cultural Resources*, the proposed project would have a less than significant impact related to historic resources.
- b) **Tribal Consultation: Less-than-Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated.** As discussed in *Section 5.3.5 Cultural Resources*, the northern portion of the pipeline alignment on the east side of Highway 1 would be located within a sensitive precolonial resource. Field surveys within this portion of the APE found evidence of abalone shell fragments on either side of Highway 1. The proposed project would involve ground disturbance within this mapped archaeological resource. Thus, there is the possibility of inadvertently uncovering archaeological or tribal cultural resources during construction activities associated with the proposed project. This would be considered a potentially significant impact. This impact can be mitigated to a less-than-significant level with the implementation of **Mitigation Measure CR-1** and **CR-2**, *Section 5.3.5 Cultural Resources*.

Pursuant to Section 106 and AB 52, the District is required to provide formal notification to the designated or tribal representative of traditionally and culturally affiliated California Native American tribes that have requested notice. The list obtained from the NAHC included nine Native American groups and indicated a positive result for sacred lands. Separate notices in fulfillment of Section 106 and AB 52 requirements were distributed to all identified contacts via certified USPS mail. As a result, the lead agency fulfilled consultation requirements for the proposed project under both AB 52 and Section 106.

Albion, acting on behalf of the District, provided formal notification under Section 106 to the affected tribes on December 14, 2022 by written correspondence, which included a description of the proposed project, results of the Sacred Lands search, a summary of the historical records search, and a project location map. CAWD, as the lead agency, provided formal notification under AB 52 to the affected tribes on January 30, 2023 by written correspondence, which also included the results of the Sacred Lands search, a summary of the historical records search, and a project location map. The parties contacted were asked to consider the letter and project information as notification of a proposed project as required under CEQA, specifically Public Resources Code 21080.3.1 and Chapter 532 Statutes of 2014 (AB 52) and Section 106.

No responses were received during the 30-day consultation window for Section 106. Due to the known presence of precolonial resources within the APE and ADI, Albion recommended continued consultation attempts with the listed Native American contacts to coordinate a Phase II Subsurface study to fulfill all requirements related to Section 106, as described in **Mitigation Measure CR-A**. These requirements would be fulfilled during subsurface work within the identified resource area.

As described above, CAWD received a request for consultation from representatives of the Esselen Tribe of Monterey County on February 5, 2023, and conducted a consultation call with the interested parties on February 27, 2023. The representatives for the Esselen Tribe of



Monterey County recommended Phase II Subsurface Testing for Cultural Resources at the pump station site and the northern portion of the pipeline alignment, consistent with the recommendations of **Mitigation Measure CR-A**. In addition, the Esselen Tribe of Monterey County recommended tribal monitoring along the entirety of the project pipeline and alignment and pump station during all ground disturbing activities, and hand augering tests at the pump station site and the northern portion of the pipeline alignment. The proposed project would incorporate the following mitigation measure in response to the recommendations offered by the Esselen Tribe of Monterey County during consultation under AB 52.

**Impact TCR-A – Tribal Resources:** Portions of the northern pipeline alignment are located in areas with known significance to Native American groups. In addition, excavation at the pump station site have the potential to disturb tribal resources.

### **Mitigation Measure**

#### **MM TCR-A: Implement Recommendations from AB 52 Consultation**

Based on the recommendations of the Esselen Tribe of Monterey County during tribal consultation under AB 52, the following measures would be taken to prevent impacts to tribal resources.

- Prior to the initiation of construction, CAWD shall retain a qualified archaeological consultant to conduct hand augering tests at the pump station site and the northern portion of the pipeline alignment to determine the potential for presence of subsurface tribal resources at these locations. Augering depth shall be consistent with the depth of excavation for the project components at each location. The results of the hand augering tests shall be documented in the Phase II Cultural Resources Report, along with any recommendations for further protection of tribal resources to be implemented during ground disturbing activities.
- Prior to initiating construction, CAWD shall coordinate with Esselen Tribe of Monterey County to have an approved tribal monitor present for all ground disturbing activities associated with the proposed project.

This is considered a less-than-significant impact with mitigation incorporated.

### **Sources (1, 2, 4, & 15)**

**Conclusion:** Based upon the analysis above, with incorporation of mitigation, the proposed project would not result in new impacts or substantially increase the severity of impacts compared to the conclusions of the prior 2020 CAWD IS/MND. No additional analysis or mitigation is required.

## **5.3.19 UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS**

### **Setting**

Utilities and services are furnished to the project area by the following providers:

- Wastewater Treatment: CAWD
- Water Service: California American Water (CalAm)
- Solid Waste: Monterey Regional Waste Management District
- Natural Gas & Electricity: 3CE, PG&E

*Wastewater and Water*

The District’s WWTP was originally designed and built in 1939 with a capacity of 0.8 mgd. The Plant has had numerous improvements over the years which authorized system capacity expansions and tertiary treatment to produce recycled water for golf courses on the Monterey Peninsula. Today the District’s WWTP, which serves the communities of Carmel Valley, Del Monte Forest, and the District of Carmel-by-the-Sea, has an average dry weather treatment capacity of 1.8 mgd and produces 1.0 mgd of recycled water during the summer months. The project area is served by CalAm water distribution.

*Solid Waste*

Waste Management, Inc. provides waste and recycling services to the proposed project area. Solid waste generated by the project would be transported and disposed of at the Monterey Peninsula Landfill and Recycling Facility north of the City of Marina, which is operated by the Monterey Regional Waste Management District (“MRWMD”). The landfill has a permitted capacity of 3,500 tons per day of solid waste; currently, the landfill receives approximately 1,100 tons per day. The remaining landfill capacity is approximately 48 million tons or 72 million cubic yards. At current rates of disposal, the landfill will continue to serve the present service area for approximately 150 years.

*Natural Gas and Electricity*

Beginning in 2018, all PG&E customers within Monterey, San Benito, and Santa Cruz Counties were automatically enrolled in Central Coast Community Energy (3CE, originally called Monterey Bay Community Power). 3CE is a locally controlled public agency providing carbon-free electricity to residents and businesses. Formed in February 2017, 3CE is a joint powers authority, and is based on a local energy model called community choice energy. 3CE partners, with PG&E who continues to provide billing, power transmission and distribution, customer service, grid maintenance services and natural gas services to Monterey County. 3CE’s standard electricity offering is carbon free and is classified as 31 percent renewable (3CE, 2022).

<b>Would the project:</b>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact	New Significant Impact compared to 2020 IS/MND?
A) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, or wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
c) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project’s projected demand in addition to the provider’s existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
d) Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No

<b>Would the project:</b>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact	New Significant Impact compared to 2020 IS/MND?
infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?					
e) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No

**Prior Environmental Analysis**

The 2020 CAWD IS/MND determined that the SOI and Annexation would have potentially significant impacts related to requiring the relocation or construction of new or expanded utility infrastructure. No specific mitigation measures were proposed; instead, these impacts were determined to be reduced to a less than significant level with incorporation of mitigation measures identified in the 2020 CAWD IS/MND. As discussed below, the proposed project involves the formation of an assessment district, installation of sanitary sewer pipelines, and construction of a pump station, which would not require the relocation of any existing infrastructure or new or expanded infrastructure; this represents a less than significant impact.

The 2020 CAWD IS/MND determined that the SOI and Annexation would have a less than significant impact related to adequate capacity for wastewater treatment at existing facilities. The 2020 CAWD IS/MND determined that the SOI and Annexation would have no impacts related to having sufficient available water supplies, generation of solid waste, and compliance with federal, state, and local statutes related to solid waste. The proposed project identified a new less than significant impact related to generation of solid waste, as discussed below.

**Discussion/Conclusion/Mitigation**

- a) **Require or Result in Relocation or Construction of New or Expanded Utility Infrastructure. Less-Than-Significant Impact.** The proposed project involves the formation of an assessment district, installation of sanitary sewer pipelines and construction of a pump station. An analysis of the proposed project’s impacts on relocation or construction of new or expanded utility infrastructure is discussed below:

**Water**

The proposed project would not expand the potable water system or increase potable water pipeline capacity to serve additional customers. The proposed project involves the formation of an assessment district, installation of sanitary sewer pipelines, and construction of a pump station in anticipation of providing future wastewater service to parcels along Corona Road and the surrounding area. Limited water use would occur during construction as part of dust suppression practices on disturbed areas. However, this water use would be temporary and would cease upon conclusion of construction. No changes to the potable water system are included in the proposed project. The proposed project would have no impact related to relocation or construction of new water facilities or infrastructure.

**Wastewater**

The District collects and processes wastewater from Carmel-by-the-Sea and surrounding areas. The District provides collection, treatment, and disposal of wastewater for 11,000 residents within

its service area and treatment. In addition, the District provides wastewater disposal for an additional 4,500 people in Del Monte Forest through a contract agreement with Pebble Beach Community Services District. CAWD maintains 81 miles of sewers within the existing service area, comprised of approximately 5.5 square miles (CAWD 2020a).

The proposed project would extend sewer service to the existing developed parcels located along Corona Road, Corona Way, and SR 1. These individual developed parcels are currently served by septic systems. Developed parcels along the proposed pipeline alignment would have the opportunity to connect to the municipal sewer system following completion of the proposed project. Following completion of construction of the proposed pipeline and pump station, wastewater would be conveyed through the existing collection system to the CAWD Water Pollution Control Plant, which has a design capacity of 4.0 million gallons per day (MGD), a permitted capacity of 3.0 MGD, and an average dry weather flow of 1.2 MGD (CAWD 2020b). The plant has a remaining permitted capacity of 1.8 MGD.

The connection of the new pipeline would serve approximately 60 total parcels. The District's most recent Municipal Services Review (MSR) was published by the Monterey County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) in 2021 as part of a service area annexation and sphere of influence amendment. The MSR estimated the WWTP has surplus capacity to accommodate the additional 1,800 residents within the expanded service area, which includes the pipeline alignment (LAFCO, 2021). Therefore, the District has adequate capacity to treat the wastewater generated by the maximum 60 additional connections that could feasibly added to the proposed project. Further, the additional conveyance of wastewater to the CAWD treatment plant could provide for additional reclaimed water available for landscape irrigation, thereby reducing the strain on the local potable water resources. Therefore, impacts to wastewater treatment and demand would be less than significant.

### **Stormwater Drainage**

As discussed in **Section 5.2.10 Hydrology and Water Quality**, construction of the proposed project would not significantly increase the amount of impervious surface along the pipeline alignment. To the extent feasible, pipeline would be installed in the disturbed right-of-way and roadway; however, due to existing water distribution lines, this is not achievable for the entire length of the pipeline. However, all disturbed areas would be repaved or otherwise restored to their pre-project state following completion of construction. As a result, the proposed project would not result in an alteration to the drainage pattern along the pipeline alignment and would not increase stormwater flow such that new or expanded stormwater drainage systems would be necessary.

Construction of the pump station component of the proposed project would result in a minor increase in the amount of impervious surface by about 500 square feet. The increase in impervious surfaces on site would incrementally increase runoff flows in the area; however, the increase in runoff would be directed to existing stormwater systems in the project area. The increase in runoff would negligible and would be adequately handled by existing facilities. Therefore, the project would not create or contribute runoff water such that new or expanded stormwater drainage systems would be necessary, and impacts would be less than significant.

### **Electric Power and Natural Gas**

The pump station component of the proposed project would require power to operate that would be provided by PG&E, the electricity provider for the area. Operation of the pump station would consume electricity, as discussed in **Section 5.2.6, Energy**. The pump station component of the proposed project would be served by existing PG&E infrastructure, including transmission lines

currently available within the right-of-way adjacent to the project area. The proposed project would not require natural gas service to operate. No new electric or gas infrastructure would be required that could cause significant environmental effects due to the proximity of existing connections. The proposed project would have a less-than-significant impact related to relocation or construction of new water facilities or infrastructure.

#### **Telecommunications**

The proposed project would require telecommunications equipment to remotely monitor the operations of the pump station. However, the requisite telecommunication infrastructure would be constructed as part of the proposed project and would not involve the relocation of existing telecommunications facilities. Therefore, no further impact related to telecommunications facilities would occur.

- b) **Availability of Sufficient Water Supplies. No Impact.** The proposed project consists of the formation of an assessment district, installation of a sanitary sewer pipeline, and construction of a pump station and does not require water service or water service extension. As a result, the proposed project would have no impact to water supplies.
- c) **Determination of Adequate Wastewater Capacity. Less-Than-Significant Impact.** The CAWD, the project proponent, is the wastewater provider for the surrounding area, and has determined that their wastewater treatment plant has excess capacity to service the increased wastewater generated by the proposed project. This represents a less-than-significant impact.
- d) **Generation of Solid Waste in Excess of State or Local Standards. Less-than-Significant-Impact.** Construction of the proposed project would result in temporary generation of solid waste, which would be disposed of in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local regulations. While most soil is expected to be reused as backfill material within the project area, roughly 225 cubic yards of soils would be disposed of at the Johnson Canyon Landfill. The landfill had a remaining capacity of 12,590,000 cubic yards as of 2021 (CalRecycle 2022). Due to the temporary nature of construction and minimal amount of construction waste anticipated to require disposal, the project would not generate quantities of solid waste that would account for a substantial percentage of the total daily regional permitted capacity available at Johnson Canyon Landfill. Operation of the proposed project would not generate solid waste as the facility would not require on-site personnel. The proposed project would have a less-than-significant impact related to generation of solid waste in excess of State or local standards.
- e) **Compliance with Federal, State, and Local Regulations. Less-then-Significant Impact.** The proposed project would comply with all applicable laws and regulations related to solid waste generation, collection, and disposal. The proposed project would result in a short-term and temporary increase in solid waste generation during construction but would not substantially affect standard solid waste operations of Johnson Canyon Landfill or any other landfill accepting waste. Recycling and reuse activities during construction of the proposed project would comply with the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (AB 939). Once operational, the proposed project would not require on-site personnel and would not generate solid waste. As a result, the proposed project would comply with federal, state, and local regulations related to solid waste, resulting in a less-than-significant impact.

**Sources (1, 2, 3, 4, 10, 21, & 22)**

**Conclusion:** Based upon the analysis above, the proposed project would not result in new impacts or substantially increase the severity of impacts compared to the conclusions of the prior 2020 CAWD IS/MND. No additional analysis is required.

### 5.3.20 WILDFIRE

#### Setting

The proposed project is located within a State Responsibility Area (SRA) and is designated as very high fire risk, as designated by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE, Fire Hazard Severity Maps, 2022).

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact	New Significant Impact compared to 2020 IS/MND?
If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project:					
a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No

#### Prior Environmental Analysis

The 2020 CAWD IS/MND determined that the SOI and Annexation would have less than significant impacts related to wildfire.

#### Discussion/Conclusion/Mitigation

- a) **Impairment of Emergency Response or Evacuation Plan: Less-Than-Significant Impact.** As stated above in *Section 5.3.9 Hazards and Hazardous Materials*, the proposed project would not substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. This represents a less-than-significant impact.
- b) **Exacerbation of Wildfire Risk: Less-Than-Significant Impact.** The proposed project would require the use of heavy-duty construction equipment during pipeline installation and construction of the pump station, which would have the potential to produce sparks that may ignite nearby vegetation. However, as discussed previously under response g) in *Section 5.2.9 Hazards and Hazardous Materials*, section California PRC Section 4442 mandates usage of spark arrestors for

construction activities involving the use of equipment with internal combustion engines on lands with forest, brush, or grass covering. This would prevent the emission of flammable debris from the exhausts of portable construction and earth-moving equipment. In addition, PRC Sections 4427 and 4431 provide standards for construction activities on days when a burning permit is required, and PRC Section 4428 requires construction contractors to maintain fire suppression equipment during the highest fire danger period (April 1<sup>st</sup> to December 1<sup>st</sup>) when operating on lands with forest, brush, or grass covering. The proposed project would comply with all applicable PRC provisions, and as a result would not exacerbate wildfire risk.

The proposed project involves the formation of an assessment district, installation of sanitary sewer pipelines, and construction of a pump station. The proposed project does not include the construction of housing or other habitable structures. Design of all aboveground components of the proposed project would be designed to minimize potential for ignition of surrounding vegetation in the event of an electrical equipment malfunction during operation. In addition, the pump station would be subject to ongoing maintenance to ensure proper operation of equipment, further reducing potential fire risk. As a result, the proposed project would not exacerbate existing fire hazards or increase the exposure of people to fire hazards, resulting in a less-than-significant impact.

- c) **Installation of Infrastructure: Less-Than-Significant Impact.** The proposed project would involve the construction of a sanitary sewer pipeline primarily within the existing roadway and public right-of-way. The proposed project would not require the installation of any fire prevention infrastructure, such as new roads or fuel breaks. As a result, the proposed project would not exacerbate existing fire hazards, resulting in a less-than-significant impact.
- D) **Exposure of People or Structures to Significant Risks: Less-Than-Significant Impact.** The proposed project involves the formation of an assessment district, installation of sanitary sewer pipelines, and construction of a pump station and would not add residents or visitors to the project site. The proposed project would not add any new structures that would increase wildfire exposure or hazards. To the extent feasible, pipeline would be installed in the disturbed right-of-way and roadway; however, due to existing water distribution lines, this is not achievable for the entire length of the pipeline. The pump station component would be paved to make way for the pump station and is located on a flat area, with an approximate elevation of approximately 130 feet above sea level. Construction of the proposed project would take approximately 16 weeks, after which the surfaces above the pipeline and surrounding the pump station would be restored to stable conditions reflective of their pre-project state. As a result, impacts would be temporary in nature and would not substantially result in increased hazards or exposure of people or structures to flooding or landslides as a result of post-fire runoff, slope instability, or drainage changes. Furthermore, neither component of the proposed project include habitable structures that would expose people to risk of injury or death as a result of wildfires. This represents a less-than-significant impact.

#### **Sources (1, 2, 4, & 25)**

**Conclusion:** Based upon the analysis above, the proposed project would not result in new impacts or substantially increase the severity of impacts compared to the conclusions of the prior 2020 CAWD IS/MND. No additional analysis is required.



**5.3.21 MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE**

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact	New Significant Impact compared to 2020 IS/MND?
<b>Does the project:</b>					
A) Have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
b) Have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (“Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
c) Have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No

**Discussion/Conclusion/Mitigation**

a) **Less-Than-Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated.** Based on the analysis provided in this Supplemental IS/MND, and the 2020 IS/MND the proposed project would not have the potential to: 1) degrade the quality of environment, 2) substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, 3) cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, 4) threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, 5) reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or 6) eliminate important examples of major periods of California history or prehistory. The proposed project consists of the formation of an assessment district, installation of a sanitary sewer pipeline, and construction of a pump station. The 2020 IS/MND determined that impacts to biological and cultural resources would be less than significant with implementation of the mitigation measures previously identified for Biological and Cultural Resources in the 2020 IS/MND. As discussed throughout this document, the pipeline component of the proposed project would be installed entirely with the existing roadway. The pump station component would be constructed on a small site that has been chosen to avoid impacts to trees and other sensitive resources. As shown in the discussion above, environmental impacts associated with the proposed project are localized and can be reduced to less than significant through implementation of mitigation measures identified in the 2020 IS/MND or project-specific mitigation measures, identified herein. Mitigation measures and standard permit conditions identified within this document for air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, noise, and tribal cultural resources, would reduce these effects to a less-than-significant level. Therefore, with implementation of mitigation, the potential for the proposed project to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause

a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of rare or endangered plants or animals, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory would be less than significant. With implementation of these mitigation measures, no new impacts or substantially more severe significant impacts would occur.

- b) **Less-Than-Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated.** As evidenced in this Initial Study, the proposed project would not result in significant cumulative impacts, nor would it result in substantial adverse effects on human beings, directly or indirectly. The proposed project consists of the formation of an assessment district, installation of sanitary sewer pipelines, and construction of a pump station for future connection to developed residential properties. The potential for cumulative impacts occurs when the independent impacts of the project are combined with impacts of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects to result in impacts that are greater than the impacts of the project alone. All potentially significant impacts identified were determined to be less-than-significant based on compliance with regulatory requirements, implementation of project design features such as BMPs, and mitigation measures identified in this Initial Study.

Further, future connection of individual parcels to the proposed project would be subject to CEQA compliance to address any subsequent project-level impacts to environmental quality of the specific site. A cumulative impact is an impact that is created as a result of the combination of the proposed project together with other similar projects causing related impacts. No known utility improvement projects that could contribute to a cumulative impact scheduled to occur within the project area during project construction. The proposed project thus would not create cumulative impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable.

As shown in the discussion above, environmental impacts associated with the proposed project can be reduced to less than significant through implementation of mitigation measures identified in the 2020 IS/MND or project-specific mitigation measures, identified herein. Furthermore, the impacts relevant to the proposed project are localized and confined to the immediate project area. Given that the potential project-related impacts are less than significant and geographically limited and the project site is developed, with no current known future projects scheduled for development within the project area, implementation of the proposed project would not result in impacts that are cumulatively considerable when evaluated with the impacts of other current projects, or the effects of probable future projects. No new impacts or substantially more severe significant impacts would occur.

- c) **Less-Than-Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated.** The proposed project would not have environmental effects of a magnitude which would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly. The proposed project consists of the formation of an assessment district, installation of a sanitary sewer pipeline, and construction of a pump station. The pipeline component of the proposed project would be installed within the existing roadway and would not subject human beings to substantial adverse impacts. While the proposed pump station is located aboveground, it is not located in close proximity to any habitable structures and would not involve operations that would subject human beings to substantial adverse impacts. Compliance with applicable regulations and the identified mitigation measures within this Initial Study would reduce potential indirect impacts to less than significant. In addition, impacts to human beings would be further reduced by adherence to requirements within the land use policies, programs and ordinances of the County of Monterey General Plan, 1982 Monterey County General Plan, Carmel Area LUP, Monterey County Coastal Implementation Plan, and

zoning ordinance. As shown in the discussion above, environmental impacts, including those that may have a direct or indirect adverse effect on humans (i.e., air quality and greenhouse gas emissions, noise, hazardous materials), that are associated with the proposed Project can be reduced to less-than-significant levels through the implementation of mitigation measures identified from the 2020 IS/MND or project-specific mitigation measures, identified herein. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in environmental effects which would cause a substantial adverse effect on human beings either directly or indirectly. With implementation of mitigation measures, no new impacts or substantially more severe significant impacts would occur.

**Conclusion:** The proposed project would have a less-than-significant impact on the CEQA mandatory findings of significance with the incorporation of mitigation measures, compliance with applicable plans, and implementation of standard permit conditions, as identified in this document.

No new impacts or substantially more severe significant impacts would occur.

## CHAPTER 6. DOCUMENT PREPARATION/REFERENCES

### LEAD AGENCY

#### Carmel Area Wastewater District

Rachél Lather, MS, PE Principal Engineer

### REPORT PREPARATION

#### Denise Duffy & Associates, Inc.

Denise Duffy	Principal/Project Manager
Matthew Johnson	Senior Environmental Scientist
Patric Krabacher	Senior Environmental Scientist/Arborist
Robyn Simpson	Associate Planner
Oliviya Wyse	Associate Planner
Troy Lawson	Assistant Planner

### PERSONS CONTACTED

Steven C. Wilson, Monterey Bay Engineers, Inc.

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**Appendix A**  
**CalEEMod Results**

# Carmel Wastewater II Summary Report

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# 1. Basic Project Information

## 1.1. Basic Project Information

Data Field	Value
Project Name	Carmel Wastewater II
Lead Agency	—
Land Use Scale	Project/site
Analysis Level for Defaults	County
Windspeed (m/s)	2.80
Precipitation (days)	27.6
Location	36.506452318722964, -121.93240503377484
County	Monterey
City	Unincorporated
Air District	Monterey Bay ARD
Air Basin	North Central Coast
TAZ	3207
EDFZ	6
Electric Utility	Pacific Gas & Electric Company
Gas Utility	Pacific Gas & Electric

## 1.2. Land Use Types

Land Use Subtype	Size	Unit	Lot Acreage	Building Area (sq ft)	Landscape Area (sq ft)	Special Landscape Area (sq ft)	Population	Description
User Defined Linear	0.87	Mile	0.94	0.00	—	—	—	—

## 1.3. User-Selected Emission Reduction Measures by Emissions Sector

Sector	#	Measure Title
Construction	C-2*	Limit Heavy-Duty Diesel Vehicle Idling
Construction	C-5	Use Advanced Engine Tiers
Construction	C-10-A	Water Exposed Surfaces
Construction	C-10-B	Water Active Demolition Sites
Construction	C-10-C	Water Unpaved Construction Roads
Construction	C-11	Limit Vehicle Speeds on Unpaved Roads

\* Qualitative or supporting measure. Emission reductions not included in the mitigated emissions results.

## 2. Emissions Summary

### 2.1. Construction Emissions Compared Against Thresholds

Criteria Pollutants (lb/day for daily, ton/yr for annual) and GHGs (lb/day for daily, MT/yr for annual)

Un/Mit.	TOG	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	PM10E	PM10D	PM10T	PM2.5E	PM2.5D	PM2.5T	BCO2	NBCO2	CO2T	CH4	N2O	R	CO2e
Daily, Summer (Max)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unmit.	0.32	0.27	2.45	3.01	< 0.005	0.10	10.8	10.9	0.09	1.09	1.14	—	482	482	0.02	0.01	0.12	483
Mit.	0.15	0.13	1.30	3.20	< 0.005	0.03	10.8	10.9	0.03	1.09	1.10	—	482	482	0.02	0.01	0.12	483
% Reduced	53%	51%	47%	-7%	—	66%	—	< 0.5%	65%	—	3%	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Daily, Winter (Max)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unmit.	0.17	0.14	1.39	1.65	< 0.005	0.06	10.8	10.9	0.06	1.09	1.14	—	325	325	0.01	0.01	< 0.005	329
Mit.	0.08	0.07	0.54	1.74	< 0.005	0.02	10.8	10.9	0.02	1.09	1.10	—	325	325	0.01	0.01	< 0.005	329
% Reduced	52%	52%	61%	-5%	—	69%	—	< 0.5%	69%	—	3%	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Average Daily (Max)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unmit.	0.04	0.03	0.33	0.38	< 0.005	0.01	1.04	1.05	0.01	0.10	0.12	—	67.3	67.3	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.01	67.9
Mit.	0.02	0.02	0.16	0.40	< 0.005	0.01	1.04	1.04	< 0.005	0.10	0.11	—	67.3	67.3	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.01	67.9
% Reduced	46%	45%	52%	-5%	—	62%	—	1%	62%	—	7%	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Annual (Max)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unmit.	0.01	0.01	0.06	0.07	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.19	0.19	< 0.005	0.02	0.02	—	11.2	11.2	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	11.2
Mit.	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.03	0.07	< 0.005	< 0.005	0.19	0.19	< 0.005	0.02	0.02	—	11.2	11.2	< 0.005	< 0.005	< 0.005	11.2
% Reduced	46%	45%	52%	-5%	—	62%	< 0.5%	1%	62%	< 0.5%	7%	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Exceeds (Daily Max)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Threshold	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	82.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unmit.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	No	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mit.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	No	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Exceeds (Average Daily)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Threshold	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	82.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unmit.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	No	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mit.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	No	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

## 6. Climate Risk Detailed Report

### 6.2. Initial Climate Risk Scores



Climate Hazard	Exposure Score	Sensitivity Score	Adaptive Capacity Score	Vulnerability Score
Temperature and Extreme Heat	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Extreme Precipitation	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Sea Level Rise	1	0	0	N/A
Wildfire	1	0	0	N/A
Flooding	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Drought	0	0	0	N/A
Snowpack	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Air Quality	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

The sensitivity score reflects the extent to which a project would be adversely affected by exposure to a climate hazard. Exposure is rated on a scale of 1 to 5, with a score of 5 representing the greatest exposure.

The adaptive capacity of a project refers to its ability to manage and reduce vulnerabilities from projected climate hazards. Adaptive capacity is rated on a scale of 1 to 5, with a score of 5 representing the greatest ability to adapt.

The overall vulnerability scores are calculated based on the potential impacts and adaptive capacity assessments for each hazard. Scores do not include implementation of climate risk reduction measures.

### 6.3. Adjusted Climate Risk Scores

Climate Hazard	Exposure Score	Sensitivity Score	Adaptive Capacity Score	Vulnerability Score
Temperature and Extreme Heat	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Extreme Precipitation	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Sea Level Rise	1	1	1	2
Wildfire	1	1	1	2
Flooding	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Drought	1	1	1	2
Snowpack	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Air Quality	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

The sensitivity score reflects the extent to which a project would be adversely affected by exposure to a climate hazard. Exposure is rated on a scale of 1 to 5, with a score of 5 representing the greatest exposure.

The adaptive capacity of a project refers to its ability to manage and reduce vulnerabilities from projected climate hazards. Adaptive capacity is rated on a scale of 1 to 5, with a score of 5 representing the greatest ability to adapt.

The overall vulnerability scores are calculated based on the potential impacts and adaptive capacity assessments for each hazard. Scores include implementation of climate risk reduction measures.

## 7. Health and Equity Details

### 7.3. Overall Health & Equity Scores

Metric	Result for Project Census Tract
CalEnviroScreen 4.0 Score for Project Location (a)	1.00
Healthy Places Index Score for Project Location (b)	91.0
Project Located in a Designated Disadvantaged Community (Senate Bill 535)	No
Project Located in a Low-Income Community (Assembly Bill 1550)	No
Project Located in a Community Air Protection Program Community (Assembly Bill 617)	No

a: The maximum CalEnviroScreen score is 100. A high score (i.e., greater than 50) reflects a higher pollution burden compared to other census tracts in the state.

b: The maximum Health Places Index score is 100. A high score (i.e., greater than 50) reflects healthier community conditions compared to other census tracts in the state.

### 7.5. Evaluation Scorecard

Health & Equity Evaluation Scorecard not completed.

**Appendix B**  
**Biological Assessment**

# Corona Road Sewer Extension Project Biological Resource Report

**February 2023**

*Prepared by*



Denise Duffy & Associates, Inc.  
947 Cass St. Suite 5  
Monterey, California 93940

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Project Description

Denise Duffy & Associates, Inc. (DD&A) was contracted by the Carmel Area Wastewater District (District) to assess the biological resources within and adjacent to the Corona Road Sewer Extension Project (proposed project or project) site. The primary objective of the proposed project is to eliminate septic systems within the project area and to provide wastewater service from the District to the Corona Road parcels where there is critical need for such services. The proposed project involves formation of a new assessment district and construction of a wastewater service extension to the Corona Road area of Carmel Highlands, in Monterey County, California (**Figure 1**). The new assessment district would collect charges from customers in the project area solely to fund the capital costs associated with the proposed extension of wastewater service to the area. The proposed project involves the installation of a new sanitary sewer transmission pipeline and an associated pump station (**Figure 2**).

The proposed sanitary sewer collection system will consist of four (4) separate gravity mains, made of Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) pipe. The longest main will be approximately 3,500 feet in length, beginning at the east side of State Route (SR) 1, north of the intersection with Corona Road, and will extend south along the east side of SR 1, and then east and upward along Corona Road. Another branch gravity main in Corona Way will extend approximately 600 feet north and upward from the intersection with Corona Road. The third branch gravity main will be approximately 300 feet in length and will be constructed along the east side of SR 1 from the pump station northerly and upward. The installation of the three separate gravity mains would result in the installation of a total of 4,400 feet of new pipeline. The final gravity main would be installed beneath Highway 1 and would connect to a new pump station located on the west side of SR 1, as described below. Lateral connections from the proposed pipeline alignment to private parcels along the alignment would be installed under a future phase of the proposed project. This future phase of the proposed project is not analyzed in this environmental document and would be subject to the appropriate level of environmental review under CEQA at the time these improvements are proposed. Pipeline will be installed in the disturbed right-of-way and roadway throughout the entirety of the alignment. No trees would be removed as a result of installation of the pipeline. All pipelines would be installed via trenching in paved areas. The proposed design includes 22 manholes and three (3) clean-outs.

A pump station is proposed within the northeastern portion of the “Rodgers' property” located at 29152 Highway 1 (APN 241-061-015) on the west side of SR 1 and has been sited so as to avoid tree removal and other impacts to existing trees. The pump station would be located on a 468 square foot easement and will be housed beneath two concrete slabs measuring approximately 100 square feet in total. The pump station will be constructed with pre-cast concrete sections and placed entirely underground, with the concrete slab laid on top, except for the Pacific Gas & Electric Company's (PG&E's) electrical service facilities, a vent pipe, and the pump station control panel. Electrical power will be furnished via a new service from PG&E. The pump station would include a connection for a backup generator; however, no backup generators would be installed permanently at the site. The approximate project disturbance area and the survey area (approximately 25 feet from centerline of the project) are shown on **Figure 2**.

A 600 square foot construction staging area for the pump station would be located off-site at CAWD's treatment plant. A 360 square foot construction easement/staging area for the pump station would be located immediately west of the pump station site. A new 10-foot wide access easement is also proposed

at the mouth of the private road on the west side of Corona Road to ensure safe access to the pump station and to residents. In addition, a construction laydown area for pipeline installation and small construction equipment parking would also be established at 74 Corona Road (APN 241-052-001).

This report presents the findings of a biological resource assessment conducted by DD&A for the project. The emphasis of this study is to describe existing biological resources, identify any special-status species and sensitive habitats, assess potential impacts that may occur to biological resources within and adjacent to the survey area, and recommend appropriate avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures necessary to reduce those impacts to a less-than-significant level in accordance with local and state ordinances, including the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

## 1.2 Summary of Results

The survey area consists of four habitat types: disturbed Monterey pine forest, disturbed coast live oak woodland, riparian, and roadside ditch. The survey area also includes areas of development consisting of paved roadways and driveways. Monterey pine forest and Arroyo willow thicket (riparian) are listed as sensitive on the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW's) *California Natural Communities List* (CDFW, 2022a). Additionally, Monterey pine forest is considered an Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Area (ESHA) under the California Coastal Act (CCA). No critical habitat for special-status species occur within the survey area; however, the roadside ditch may support potentially jurisdictional wetlands and/or other waters of the U.S. and/or state.

No special-status wildlife species were observed within the survey area. One special-status plant species, Monterey pine (*Pinus radiata*), was observed within the survey area and two additional species, Yadon's piperia (*Piperia yadonii*) and Pacific Grove clover (*Trifolium polyodon*), have the potential to occur adjacent to the project impact area based on the presence of suitable habitat. Additionally, trees within and adjacent to the survey area may provide suitable nesting habitat for protected avian species. Avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures are included within this document to avoid or reduce impacts to these sensitive biological resources to a less than significant level under CEQA. All other species evaluated have a low potential to occur, are assumed unlikely to occur, or were determined not present within the survey area for the species-specific reasons presented in **Appendix A**.



0 1.5 3 Miles N



Project Location



# Project Location



**Denise Duffy & Associates, Inc.**  
Planning and Environmental Consulting

Date  
1/26/2023

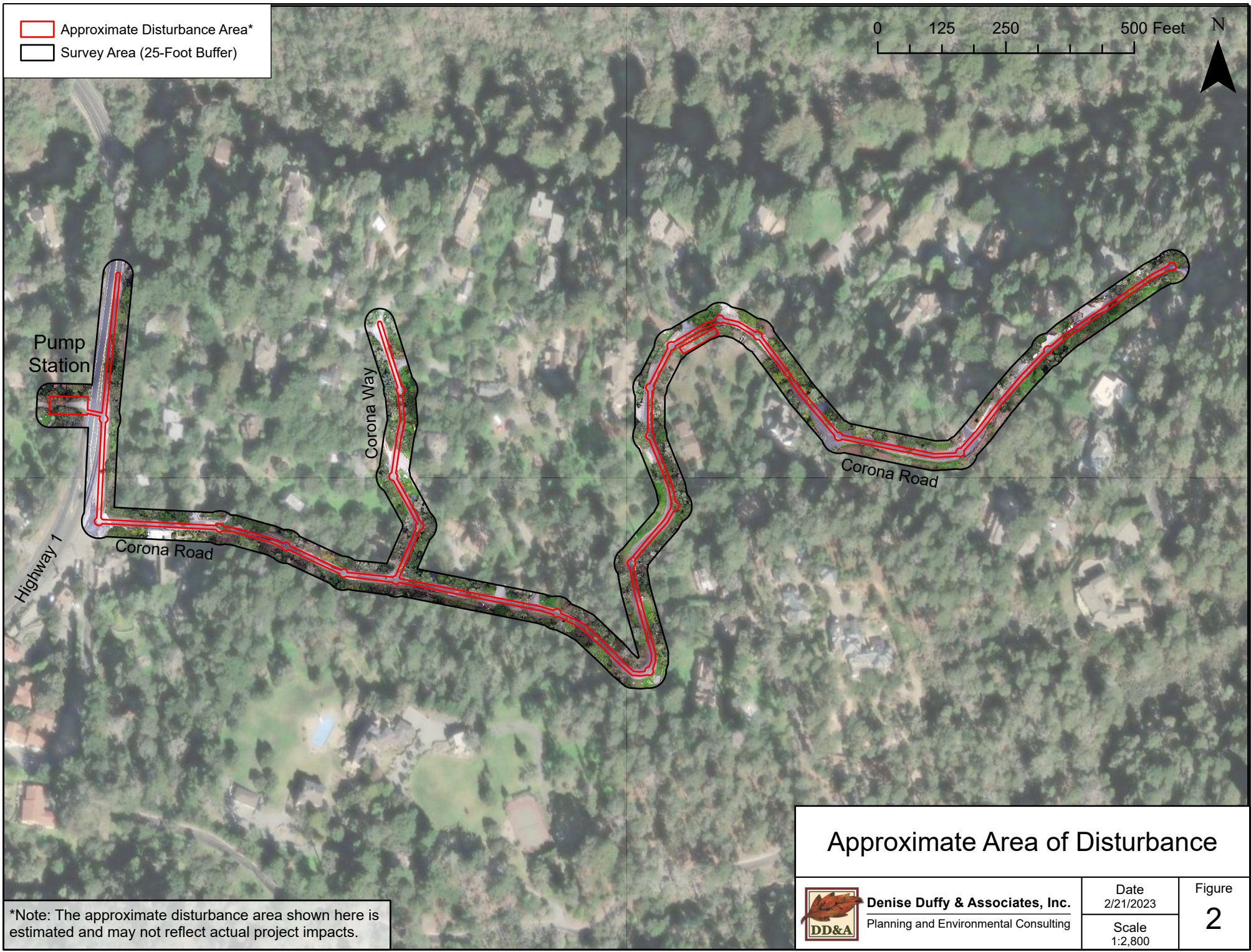
Scale  
1:85,000

Figure  
**1**



Approximate Disturbance Area\*  
 Survey Area (25-Foot Buffer)

0 125 250 500 Feet



\*Note: The approximate disturbance area shown here is estimated and may not reflect actual project impacts.

<h2>Approximate Area of Disturbance</h2>		
 <b>Denise Duffy &amp; Associates, Inc.</b> Planning and Environmental Consulting	Date 2/21/2023	Figure <b>2</b>
	Scale 1:2,800	

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## **2.0 METHODS**

### **2.1 Personnel and Survey Dates**

DD&A biologists evaluated accessible portions of the survey area on November 21 and December 9, 2022. Survey methods included walking the project alignment to identify general and sensitive vegetation types, identifying all plant species with the appropriate blooming period to the intraspecific taxon necessary to eliminate them as being special-status species, and identifying potential habitat for special-status plant species. Some areas were evaluated from the road as fencing and private property prevented access to portions of the survey area. Concurrently, reconnaissance-level wildlife habitat surveys were conducted to identify suitable habitat and observe any special-status wildlife species. Data collected during the surveys were used to assess the environmental conditions of the survey area and its surroundings, evaluate environmental constraints at the site and within the local vicinity, and provide a basis for recommendations to minimize and avoid impacts.

The survey area was evaluated for botanical resources following the applicable guidelines outlined in: *Guidelines for Conducting and Reporting Botanical Inventories for Federally listed, Proposed and Candidate Plants* (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service [USFWS], 2000), *Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Natural Communities* (CDFW, 2021), and *CNPS Botanical Survey Guidelines* (California Native Plant Society [CNPS], 2001).

### **2.2 Special-Status Species**

Special-status species are those plants and animals that have been formally listed or proposed for listing as endangered or threatened or are candidates for such listing under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) or the California Endangered Species Act (CESA). Listed species are afforded legal protection under the ESA and CESA. Species that meet the definition of rare or endangered under the CEQA Section 15380 are also considered special-status species. Animals identified as “species of special concern” on CDFW’s “Special Animals List” (most of which are species whose breeding populations in California may face extirpation if current population trends continue) meet this definition and are typically provided management consideration through the CEQA process, although they are not legally protected under the ESA or CESA. Additionally, the CDFW also includes some animal species that are not assigned any of the other status designations on their “Special Animals” list; however, these species have no legal or protection status.

Plants listed as rare under the California Native Plant Protection Act (CNPPA) or included in CNPS California Rare Plant Ranks (CRPR; formerly known as CNPS Lists) 1A, 1B, 2A, and 2B are also treated as special-status species as they meet the definitions of Sections 2062 and 2067 of the CESA and in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15380. In general, the CDFW requires that plant species on CRPR 1A (Plants presumed extirpated in California and Either Rare or Extinct Elsewhere), CRPR 1B (Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere), CRPR 2A (Plants presumed extirpated in California, but more common elsewhere); and CRPR 2B (Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California, but more common elsewhere) of the CNPS *Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California* (CNPS, 2022) be fully considered during the preparation of environmental documents relating to CEQA. In addition, species of vascular plants, bryophytes, and lichens listed as having special-status by the CDFW are considered special-status plant species (CDFW, 2022b). CNPS CRPR 4 species (plants of limited distribution) may, but generally do not, meet the definitions of Sections 2062 and 2067 of the CESA, and are not typically considered in environmental documents relating to

CEQA. While other species (i.e., CRPR 3 or 4 species) are sometimes found in database searches or within the literature, these were not included within the analysis as they did not meet the definitions of Section 2062 and 2067 of the CESA.

Raptors (e.g., eagles, hawks, and owls) and their nests are protected in California under Fish and Game Code Section 3503.5. Section 3503.5 states that it is “unlawful to take, possess, or destroy the nest or eggs of any such bird except otherwise provided by this code or any regulation adopted pursuant thereto.” In addition, fully protected species under the Fish and Game Code Section 3511 (birds), Section 4700 (mammals), Section 5515 (fish), and Section 5050 (reptiles and amphibians) are also considered special-status animal species. Species with no formal special-status designation but thought by experts to be rare or in serious decline may also be considered special-status animal species in some cases, depending on project-specific analysis and relevant, localized conservation needs or precedence.

### 2.3 Sensitive Habitats

Sensitive habitats include riparian corridors, wetlands, habitats for legally protected species, areas of high biological diversity, areas supporting rare or special-status wildlife habitat, and unusual or regionally restricted vegetation types. Vegetation types considered sensitive include those listed on the CDFW’s *California Natural Communities List* (i.e., those habitats that are rare or endangered within the borders of California) (CDFW, 2022a), those that are occupied by species listed under the ESA or are critical habitat in accordance with the ESA, and those that are defined as ESHA under the CCA. Specific habitats may also be identified as sensitive in city or county general plans or ordinances. Sensitive habitats are regulated under federal regulations (such as the Clean Water Act [CWA] and Executive Order [EO] 11990 – Protection of Wetlands), state regulations (such as CEQA and the CDFW Streambed Alteration Program), or local ordinances or policies (such as city or county tree ordinances and general plan policies).

### 2.4 Data Sources

The primary literature and data sources reviewed in order to determine the occurrence or potential for occurrence of special-status species within the survey area are as follows:

- Current agency status information from USFWS and CDFW for species listed, proposed for listing, or candidates for listing as threatened or endangered under the ESA or CESA, and those considered CDFW “species of special concern”, including:
  - California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) occurrences reports from the Monterey quadrangle and the seven surrounding quadrangles, including Marina, Salinas, Seaside, Spreckels, Soberanes Point, Mt. Carmel, and Carmel Valley (CDFW, 2022b; **Appendix B**);
  - USFWS IPaC Resource List (USFWS, 2022; **Appendix C**)
  - National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Species Directory for the West Coast (NMFS, 2022)
  - CDFW’s Special Animals List (CDFW, 2022c); and
- The CNPS *Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California* (CNPS, 2022).

From these resources, a list of special-status plant and wildlife species known or with the potential to occur in the vicinity of the survey area was created (**Appendix A**). This list presents these species along with their legal status, habitat requirements, and a brief statement of the likelihood to occur.

In addition, the following literature and data sources were reviewed to determine the occurrence or potential for occurrence of other sensitive natural resources within the survey area:

- *California Natural Communities List* (CDFW, 2022a);
- The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Web Soil Survey (USDA-NRCS, 2022);
- The National Wetlands Inventory Wetlands Mapper (USFWS, 2022b); and
- The National Hydrography Dataset (U.S. Geologic Survey [USGS], 2022).

#### **2.4.1 Botany**

Vegetation types identified in *A Manual of California Vegetation* (Sawyer et al., 2009) were utilized to determine if vegetation types identified as sensitive on CDFW's *California Natural Communities List* (CDFW, 2022a) are present within the project parcel. Information regarding the distribution and habitats of local and state vascular plants was also reviewed (Howitt and Howell, 1964 and 1973; Munz and Keck, 1973; Baldwin et al., 2012; Matthews and Mitchell, 2015; Jepson Flora Project, 2022). All plants with the appropriate blooming period observed within the survey area during the evaluation were identified to species or intraspecific taxon necessary to eliminate them as being special-status species using keys and descriptions in *The Jepson Manual: Vascular Plants of California, Edition 2* (Baldwin et al., 2012) and *The Plants of Monterey County an Illustrated Field Key* (Matthews and Mitchell, 2015). Scientific nomenclature for plant species identified within this document follows Baldwin, et. al, (2012); common names follow Matthews and Mitchell (2015). A full botanical inventory was recorded for the survey area and the dominant species within each habitat were noted. Dominant plant species are those which are more numerous than its competitors in an ecological community or makes up more of the biomass; generally, the species that are most abundant. Most ecological communities are defined by their dominant species.

The California Invasive Plant Council (Cal-IPC) Inventory (Cal-IPC, 2022) was reviewed to determine if any invasive plant species are present within the project parcel.

#### **2.4.2 Wildlife**

The following literature and data sources were reviewed: CDFW reports on special-status wildlife (Remsen, 1978; Williams, 1986; Jennings and Hayes, 1994; Thelander, 1994); California Wildlife Habitat Relationships Program species-habitat models (Zeiner et al., 1988 and 1990); and general wildlife references (Stebbins, 1972, 1985, and 2003).

### **2.5 Regulatory Setting**

The following regulatory discussion describes the major laws that may be applicable to the project.

#### **2.5.1 Federal Regulations**

##### *Federal Endangered Species Act*

Provisions of the ESA of 1973 (16 USC 1532 et seq., as amended) protect federally listed threatened or endangered species and their habitats from unlawful take. Listed species include those for which proposed and final rules have been published in the Federal Register. The ESA is administered by USFWS or NMFS. In general, the NMFS is responsible for the protection of ESA-listed marine species and anadromous fish, whereas other listed species are under USFWS jurisdiction.



Section 9 of ESA prohibits the take of any fish or wildlife species listed under ESA as endangered or threatened. Take, as defined by ESA, is “to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or attempt to engage in any such conduct.” Harm is defined as “any act that kills or injures the fish or wildlife...including significant habitat modification or degradation that significantly impairs essential behavioral patterns of fish or wildlife.” In addition, Section 9 prohibits removing, digging up, and maliciously damaging or destroying federally listed plants on sites under federal jurisdiction. Section 9 does not prohibit take of federally listed plants on sites not under federal jurisdiction. If there is the potential for incidental take of a federally listed fish or wildlife species, take of listed species can be authorized through either the Section 7 consultation process for federal actions or a Section 10 incidental take permit process for non-federal actions. Federal agency actions include activities that are on federal land, conducted by a federal agency, funded by a federal agency, or authorized by a federal agency (including issuance of federal permits).

#### *Clean Water Act*

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulate discharge of dredged and fill material into waters of the U.S. under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA). Waters of the U.S. are defined broadly as waters susceptible to use in commerce (including waters subject to tides, interstate waters, and interstate wetlands) and other waters (such as interstate lakes, rivers, streams, mudflats, sandflats, wetlands, sloughs, prairie potholes, wet meadows, playa lakes, or natural ponds) (33 CFR 328.3). Potential wetland areas are identified as “those areas that are 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 soils conditions.”

Under Section 401 of the CWA, any applicant receiving a Section 404 permit from the ACOE must also obtain a Section 401 Water Quality Certification from the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). A Section 401 Water Quality Certification is issued when a project is demonstrated to comply with state water quality standards and other aquatic resource protection requirements.

#### *Migratory Bird Treaty Act*

The MBTA of 1918 prohibits killing, possessing, or trading migratory birds except in accordance with regulation prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior. Most actions that result in taking or in permanent or temporary possession of a protected species constitute violations of the MBTA. The Service is responsible for overseeing compliance with the MBTA and implements Conventions (treaties) between the United States and four countries for the protection of migratory birds – Canada, Mexico, Japan, and Russia. The Service maintains a list of migratory bird species that are protected under the MBTA, which was updated in 2010 to: 1) correct previous mistakes, such as misspellings or removing species no longer known to occur within the United States; 2) add species, as a result of expanding the geographic scope to include Hawaii and U.S. territories and new evidence of occurrence in the United States or U.S. territories; and 3) update name changes based on new taxonomy.

### 3.5.2 State Regulations

#### *California Endangered Species Act*

The CESA was enacted in 1984. The California Code of Regulations (Title 14, §670.5) lists animal species considered endangered or threatened by the state. Section 2090 of CESA requires state agencies to comply with endangered species protection and recovery and to promote conservation of these species. Section 2080 of the Fish and Game Code prohibits "take" of any species that the commission determines to be an endangered species or a threatened species. "Take" is defined in Section 86 of the Fish and Game Code as "hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill." A Section 2081 Incidental Take Permit from the CDFW may be obtained to authorize "take" of any state listed species.

#### *California Native Plant Protection Act*

The CNPPA of 1977 directed CDFW to carry out the legislature's intent to "preserve, protect and enhance rare and Endangered plants in the State." The CNPPA prohibits importing rare and Endangered plants into California, taking rare and Endangered plants, and selling rare and Endangered plants. The CESA and CNPPA authorized the Fish and Game Commission to designate endangered, threatened, and rare species and to regulate the taking of these species (§2050-2098, Fish and Game Code). Plants listed as rare under the CNPPA are not protected under CESA; however, these plants may not be taken or possessed at any time and no licenses or permits may be issued for their take except for collecting these species for necessary scientific research.

#### *California Fish and Game Code*

Birds. Section 3503 of the Fish and Game Code states that it is "unlawful to take, possess, or destroy the nest or eggs of any such bird except as otherwise provided by this code or any regulation adopted pursuant thereto." Section 3503.5 prohibits the killing, possession, or destruction of any birds in the orders Falconiformes or Strigiformes (birds-of-prey). Section 3511 prohibits take or possession of fully protected birds. Section 3513 prohibits the take or possession of any migratory nongame birds designated under the federal MBTA. Section 3800 prohibits take of nongame birds.

Fully Protected Species. The classification of fully protected was the state's initial effort in the 1960's to identify and provide additional protection to those animals that were rare or faced possible extinction. Lists were created for fish (§5515), mammals (§4700), amphibians and reptiles (§5050), and birds (§3511). Most fully protected species have also been listed as threatened or endangered species under the more recent endangered species laws and regulations. Fully protected species may not be taken or possessed at any time and no licenses or permits may be issued for their take except for collecting these species for necessary scientific research and relocation of the bird species for the protection of livestock.

Species of Special Concern. As noted above, the CDFW also maintains a list of wildlife "species of special concern." Although these species have no legal status, the CDFW recommends considering these species during analysis of project impacts to protect declining populations and avoid the need to list them as endangered in the future.

#### *California Coastal Act*

The California Coastal Commission (CCC) was established by voter initiative in 1972 (Proposition 20) and later made permanent by the California State Legislature through adoption of the CCA of 1976. The

CCC, in partnership with coastal cities and counties, plans and regulates the use of land and water in the coastal zone. California's coastal zone generally extends 1,000 yards inland from the mean high tide line. In significant coastal estuarine habitat and recreational areas, it extends inland to the first major ridgeline or five miles from the mean high tide line, whichever is less. In developed urban areas, the boundary is generally less than 1,000 yards. Development activities, which are broadly defined by the CCA to include (among others) construction of buildings, divisions of land, and activities that change the intensity of use of land or public access to coastal waters, generally require a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) from either the CCC or the local government if a Local Coastal Program (LCP) has been certified. After certification of a LCP, coastal development permit authority is delegated to the appropriate local government, but the CCC retains original permit jurisdiction over certain specified lands (such as tidelands and public trust lands). The Commission also has appellate authority over development approved by local governments in specified geographic areas as well as certain other developments. A CDP is required in addition to any other permit required from resource agencies.

The CCC or the local government may designate areas of rare or unique biological value, such as wetland and riparian habitat and habitats for special-status species, as ESHA. Section 30107.5 of the CCA defines an "environmentally sensitive area" as any area in which plant or animal life or their habitat are either rare or especially valuable because of their special nature or role in an ecosystem and which could be easily disturbed or degraded by human activities and developments. Development is restricted within the coastal zone and prohibited within designated ESHA, unless the development is coastal dependent and does not have a significant effect on the resources. Section 30240 of the CCA states that "environmentally sensitive habitat areas shall be protected against any significant disruption of habitat values, and only uses dependent on those resources shall be allowed within those areas." This section also states that "development in areas adjacent to environmentally sensitive habitat areas and parks and recreation areas shall be sited and designed to prevent impacts which would significantly degrade those areas and shall be compatible with the continuance of those habitat and recreation areas."

The survey area is located within the boundaries of the Monterey County Carmel LCP. The Carmel Land Use Plan (LUP) identifies the land use category of the survey area as "Residential – Low Density." The development and resource policies of the LUP guide landowners in assuring that development is compatible with the appropriate land use designation.

#### *Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act*

The Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act of 1969 (Porter-Cologne) is California's statutory authority for the protection of water quality and applies to surface waters, wetlands, and groundwater, and to both point and nonpoint sources. Under the Porter-Cologne, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) has the ultimate authority over State water rights and water quality policy. However, Porter-Cologne also establishes nine RWQCBs to oversee water quality on a day-to-day basis at the local/regional level. The Project Study Area is located within Region 3 – Central Coast RWQCB. Porter-Cologne incorporates many provisions of the federal CWA, such as delegation to the State Board and RWQCBs of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting program.

Under Porter-Cologne, the state must adopt water quality policies, plans, and objectives that protect the state's waters for the use and enjoyment of the people. Regional authority for planning, permitting, and enforcement is delegate to the nine RWQCBs. The regional boards are required to formulate and adopt water quality control plans for all areas in the region and establish water quality objectives in the plans.

The Porter-Cologne sets forth the obligations of the State Board and RWQCBs to adopt and periodically update water quality control plans (basin plans). The act also requires waste dischargers to notify the RWQCBs of such activities through filing of Reports of Waste Discharge (RWD) and authorizes the State Board and RWQCBs to issue and enforce waste discharge requirements (WDRs), NPDES permits, Section 401 water quality certifications, or other approvals. The RWQCBs also have authority to issue waivers to RWD requirements and WDRs for broad categories of “low threat” discharge activities that have minimal potential for adverse water quality effects, when implemented according to prescribed terms and conditions.

The term “Waters of the State” is defined by Porter-Cologne as “any surface water or groundwater, including saline waters, within the boundaries of the state.” The RWQCB protects all waters in its regulatory scope but has special responsibility for wetlands, riparian areas, and headwaters, including isolated wetlands, and waters that many not be regulated by the USACE under Section 404 of the CWA. Waters of the State are regulated by RWQCB under the State Water Quality Certification Program.

### ***2.5.3 Local Regulations***

#### *Preservation of Oak and Other Protected Trees*

The County regulates the removal or significant trimming of some native trees, per the provisions in County Code Chapter 16.60 (Preservation of Oak and Other Protected Trees). Removal of a protected tree as defined in the Code requires a tree removal permit from the County. The removal of more than three protected trees requires a forest management plan.

The survey area lies within the County’s Carmel Area Land Use Plan. Protected trees within this planning area include native trees (not defined) greater than 12 inches or more in diameter at breast height.

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## 3.0 RESULTS

### 3.1 Habitat Types

The survey results include mapping and quantification of the acreage of four habitat types within the survey area (**Figure 3**). A portion of the survey area is also developed (paved road). As described above, all disturbance associated with installation of the pipeline alignment will occur within the disturbed right-of-way and roadway; however, approximately 0.07 acres of disturbed Monterey pine forest will be impacted by the project. The following is the acreage of each habitat within the survey area and approximate area of disturbance:

Habitat Type	Approximate Disturbance Area Acreage	Survey Area Acreage
Disturbed Monterey Pine Forest	0.07	3.00
Disturbed Oak Woodland	0	0.57
Riparian	0	0.12
Roadside Ditch	0	0.02
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.07</b>	<b>3.71</b>

A brief description of each of these habitat types can be found below. A generalized nomenclature for habitat types is used within this document for ease of reference; however, each habitat type description also lists the *Manual of California Vegetation* (Sawyer et.al., 2009) vegetation type(s) in order to provide a crosswalk to the *List of Vegetation Alliances and Associations* (CDFW, 2022a).

#### **Disturbed Monterey Pine Forest**

- A Manual of California Vegetation classification(s): Monterey cypress – Monterey pine woodland stand (*Hesperocyparis macrocarpa* – *Pinus radiata* forest and woodland alliance)
- California Natural Communities List: Sensitive
- ESHA: Yes

The majority of the survey area consists of disturbed Monterey pine forest (**Figure 3**). This habitat is highly disturbed and fragmented by private residences; however, pockets of intact habitat occur adjacent to the survey area which are dominated by Monterey pine, toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*), California blackberry (*Rubus ursinus*), and poison oak (*Toxicodendron diversilobum*). Understory areas within and adjacent to private residences are landscaped with various non-native trees, shrubs, and ground-covering plants including acacia (*Acacia longifolia*), pride of madeira (*Echium candicans*), big leaf periwinkle (*Vinca major*), and planted Monterey cypress (*Hesperocyparis macrocarpa*). Much of the area is inaccessible due to fences and private property and the understory could not be evaluated; however, disturbed understory areas along the road support primarily escaped ornamental plants and ruderal vegetation, including Bermuda buttercup (*Oxalis pes-caprae*), cat's ear (*Hypochaeris* sp.), panic veldt grass (*Ehrharta erecta*), weedy cudweed (*Pseudognaphalium luteoalbum*), and non-native annual grasses.



Approximate Disturbance Area\*

Survey Area (25-Foot Buffer)

Habitat Types

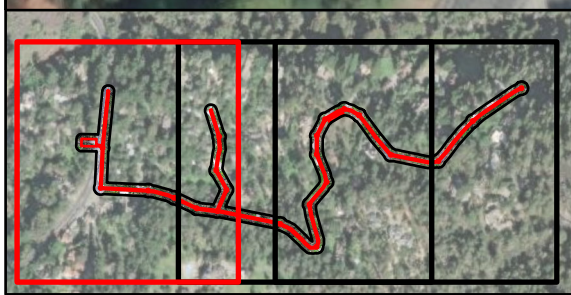
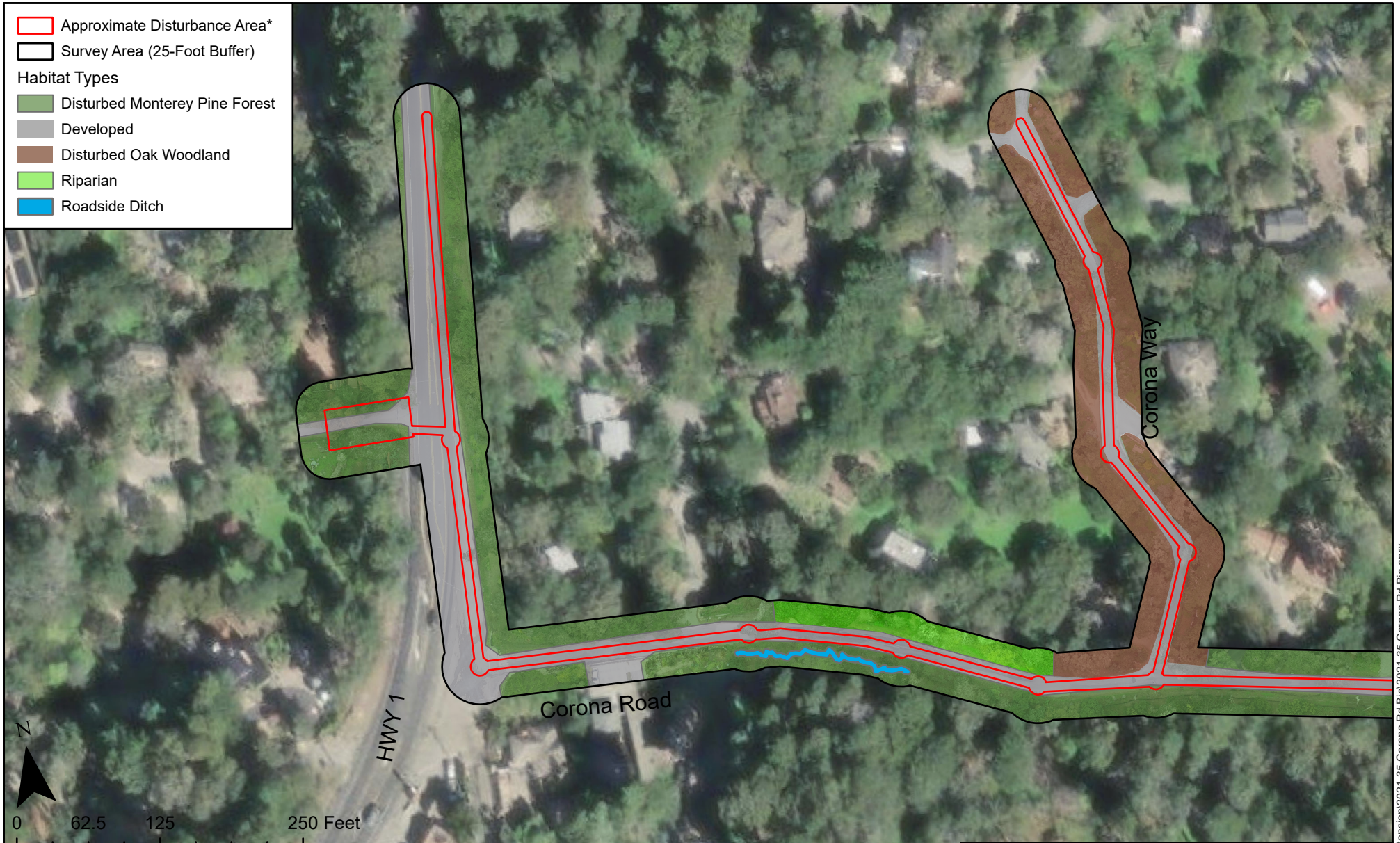
Disturbed Monterey Pine Forest

Developed

Disturbed Oak Woodland

Riparian

Roadside Ditch

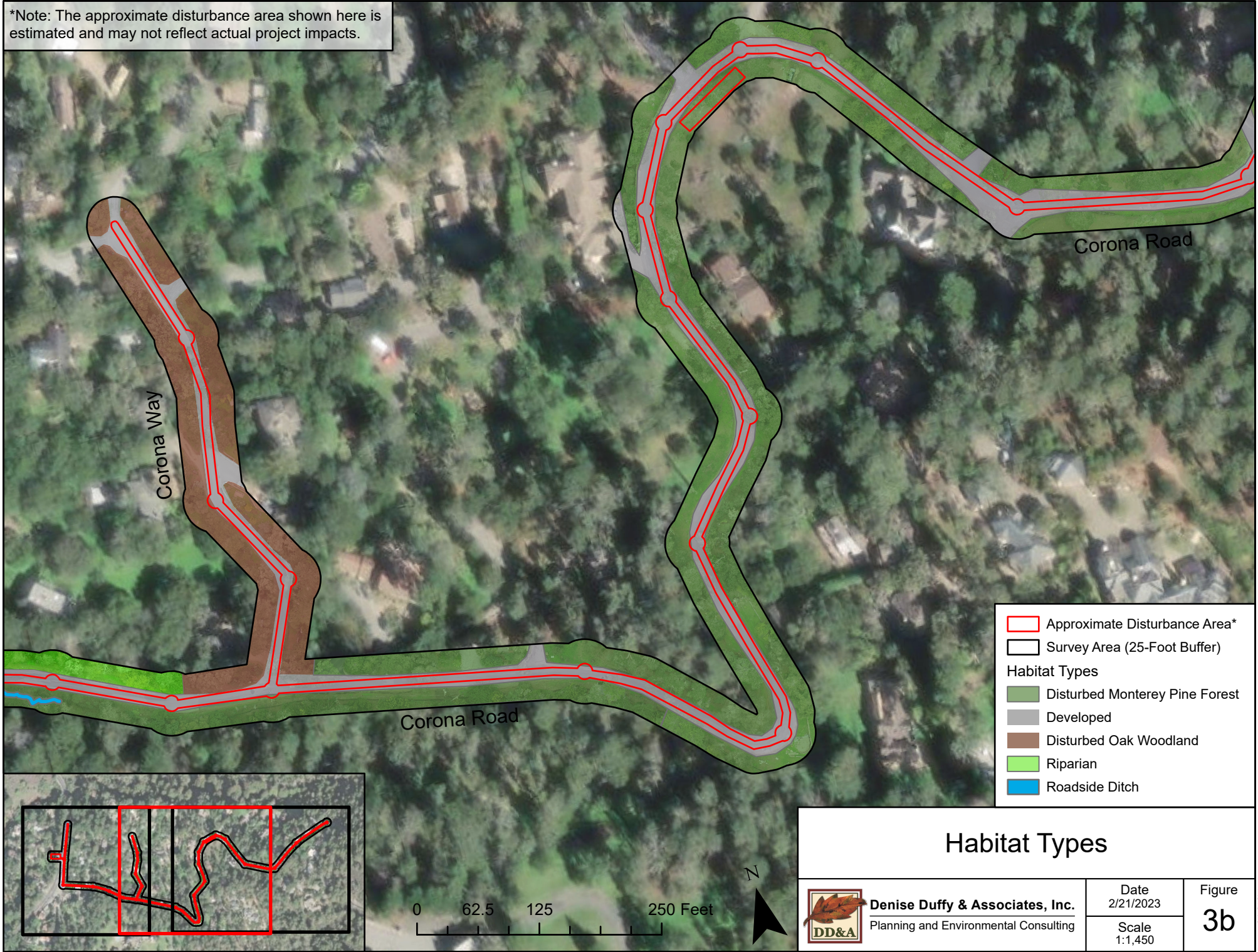


\*Note: The approximate disturbance area shown here is estimated and may not reflect actual project impacts.

 <b>Denise Duffy &amp; Associates, Inc.</b> Planning and Environmental Consulting		Date 2/21/2023	Figure <b>3a</b>
		Scale 1:1,400	



\*Note: The approximate disturbance area shown here is estimated and may not reflect actual project impacts.



**Approximate Disturbance Area\***

**Survey Area (25-Foot Buffer)**

**Habitat Types**

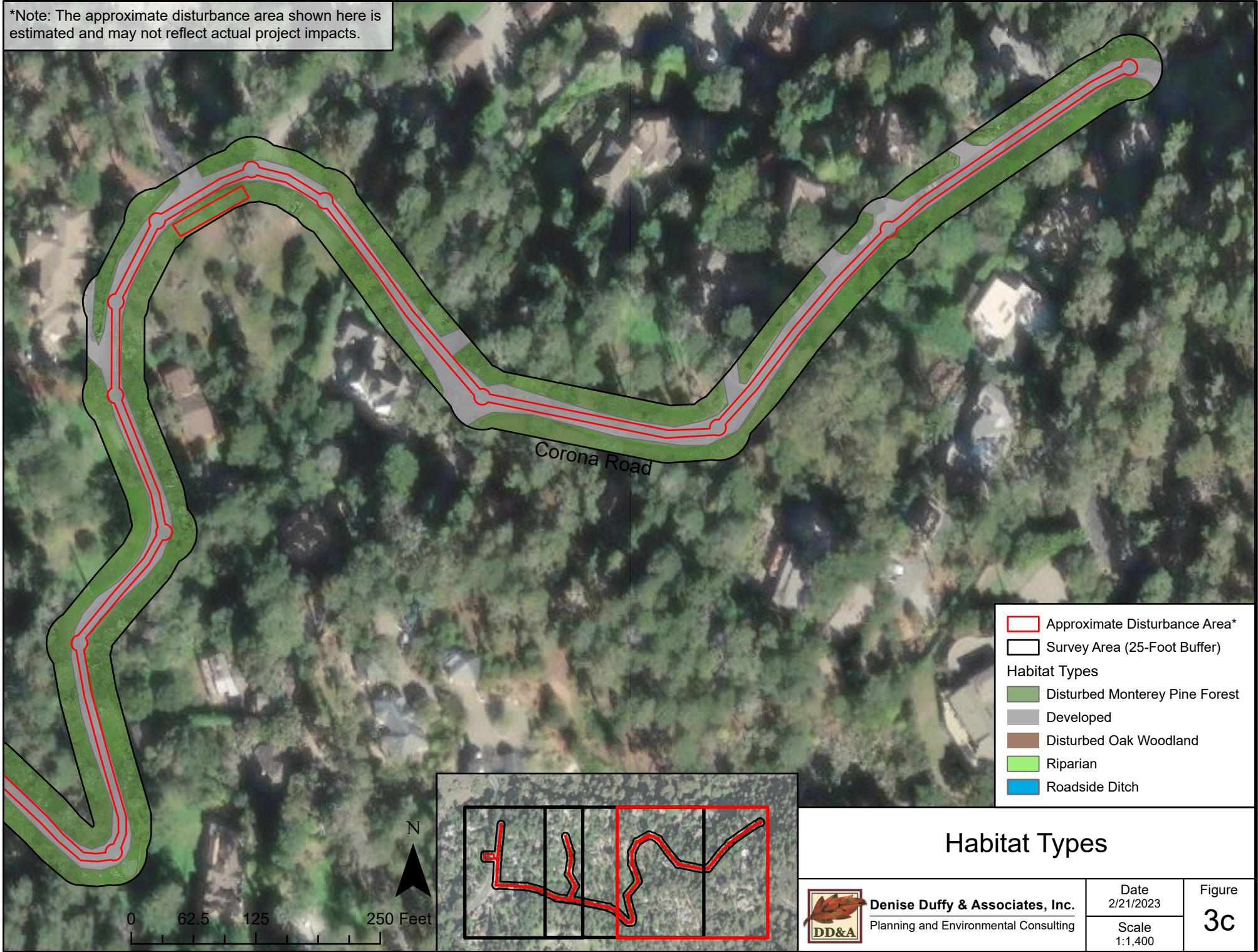
- Disturbed Monterey Pine Forest
- Developed
- Disturbed Oak Woodland
- Riparian
- Roadside Ditch

### Habitat Types

 <b>Denise Duffy &amp; Associates, Inc.</b> Planning and Environmental Consulting	Date 2/21/2023	Figure <b>3b</b>
	Scale 1:1,450	



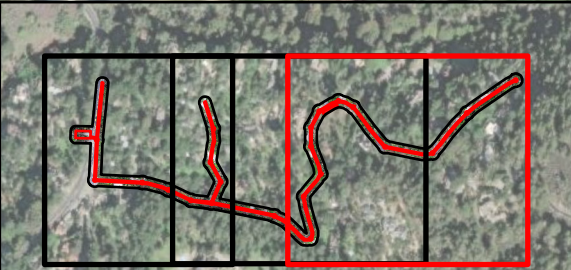
\*Note: The approximate disturbance area shown here is estimated and may not reflect actual project impacts.



- Approximate Disturbance Area\*
- Survey Area (25-Foot Buffer)
- Habitat Types**
- Disturbed Monterey Pine Forest
- Developed
- Disturbed Oak Woodland
- Riparian
- Roadside Ditch

### Habitat Types

0 62.5 125 250 Feet



**Denise Duffy & Associates, Inc.**  
 Planning and Environmental Consulting

Date  
 2/21/2023

Scale  
 1:1,400

Figure  
**3c**

The more intact areas of Monterey pine forest adjacent to the survey area may provide suitable habitat for mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*), raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), Monterey dusky-footed woodrat (*Neotoma macrotis luciana*), red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*), scrub jay (*Aphelocoma californica*), chestnut-backed chickadee (*Poecile rufescens*), and American robin (*Turdus migratorius*). However, disturbed and ruderal areas are considered to have low biological value as they are generally dominated by non-native plant species and consist of relatively low-quality habitat from a wildlife perspective. Common wildlife species which do well in urbanized and disturbed areas include the America crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*), California ground squirrel (*Otospermophilus beecheyi*), raccoon, striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*), western scrub jay (*Aphelocoma californica*), European starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*), coast range fence lizard (*Sceloporus occidentalis bocourtii*), and rock pigeon (*Columba livia*). The habitat value of Monterey pine forest habitat within the survey area is likely reduced as a result of the surrounding development. Approximately 3.00 acres of disturbed Monterey pine forest is present within the survey area.

Monterey pine forest is a sensitive habitat as identified on CDFW's *California Natural Communities List* and is considered ESHA under the jurisdiction of the CCC.

### **Developed**

- A Manual of California Vegetation classification(s): None
- California Natural Communities List: Not listed
- ESHA: No

Developed areas within the survey area include paved roads, roadway shoulders, and private driveways (**Figure 3**). Generally, no vegetation is present within these areas, and they are considered to have little to no biological value. Approximately 2.07 acres of developed habitat is present within the survey area.

### **Disturbed Oak Woodland**

- A Manual of California Vegetation classification(s): Coast live oak woodland (*Quercus agrifolia* woodland alliance)
- California Natural Communities List: Not sensitive
- ESHA: No

Coast live oak woodlands occur in the more mesic areas of coastal California from Sonoma County south into Baja California. They are dominated by open to nearly closed canopies of coast live oak. Disturbed oak woodland habitat within the survey area is located along Corona Way and is highly disturbed and fragmented by private residences. This habitat is dominated by an open canopy of coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*) and an understory of ruderal plant species consistent with those described above in the disturbed Monterey pine forest (**Figure 3**).

Coast live oak woodland is important habitat to many wildlife species. Oaks provide nesting sites for many avian species and cover for a variety of mammals. Acorns provide an important food source for acorn woodpecker (*Melanerpes formicivorus*), western scrub jay, and mule deer. Other common wildlife species found in coast live oak woodland are Monterey dusky-footed woodrat, Nuttall's woodpecker (*Picoides nuttallii*), northern flicker (*Colaptes auratus*), bobcat (*Lynx rufus*), and coyote (*Canis latrans*). However, the habitat value of oak woodland habitat within the survey area is likely reduced as a result of



the surrounding development. Approximately 0.57 acres of disturbed oak woodland habitat is present within the survey area.

### **Riparian**

- A Manual of California Vegetation classification(s): Arroyo willow thicket (*Salix lasiolepis* shrubland alliance)
- California Natural Communities List: Sensitive
- ESHA: Yes

Riparian habitats are those plant communities supporting woody vegetation found along rivers, creeks, streams, canyon bottom drainages, and seeps. They can range from a dense thicket of shrubs to a closed canopy of large mature trees. A small riparian area is present along the northwestern segment of Corona Road (**Figure 3**). This habitat is dominated by arroyo willow (*Salix lasiolepis*) with an understory of non-native plants including cape ivy (*Delairea odorata*), big leaf periwinkle, Calla lily (*Zantedeschia aethiopica*), and panic veldt grass. No surface water was present within the riparian area during the November 2022 survey; however, sediment deposits and wrack line indicate the presence of ephemeral water during storm events.

Riparian areas provide habitat for many wildlife species, particularly birds and herpetofauna. Common species that may be found within the riparian habitat include Sierran treefrog (*Pseudacris sierra*), Monterey ensatina (*Ensatina eschscholtzii eschscholtzii*), and song sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*). However, the small size of this area and dominance of non-native plant species may lessen the habitat value of riparian vegetation within the survey area. Approximately 0.12 acres of riparian habitat is present within the survey area.

### **Roadside Ditch**

- A Manual of California Vegetation classification(s): No matching alliance
- California Natural Communities List: Not Sensitive
- ESHA: Yes

A 0.02-acre roadside ditch is located at the southwestern end of Corona Road consisting of a small manmade rut along the road which diverts stormwater from the roadway (**Figure 3**). Surface water was present in the ditch at the time of the November 2022 survey. The ditch is dominated by wetland adapted plants including common rush (*Juncus effusus*), nut sedge (*Cyperus* sp.), and watercress (*Rorippa* sp.). The roadside ditch provides low quality wildlife habitat due to its small size, dominance of non-native plant species, and ephemeral presence of surface water.

Due to the dominance of wetland plant species, this area is a coastal wetland under the jurisdiction of the CCC. This area may also be under the jurisdiction of the ACOE and/or RWQCB. See “Sensitive Habitats” below.

## 3.2 Sensitive Habitats

### 3.2.1 Monterey Pine Forest

Monterey pine forest and Arroyo willow thicket are sensitive habitats listed on the CDFW *List of Vegetation Alliances and Associations* (CDFW, 2022a). Additionally, Monterey pine forest is ESHA under the jurisdiction of the CCA. As identified above, approximately 3.00 acres of Monterey pine forest is present within the survey area and 0.07 acre is present within the approximate disturbance area.

### 3.2.2 Wetlands and Other Waters

The roadside ditch and riparian habitat within the survey area may be considered wetlands or other waters of the U.S. and/or state subject to the jurisdiction of the ACOE and the RWQCB under Sections 404 and 401 of the CWA and CDFW under Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code. The USFWS's National Wetlands Inventory Wetlands Mapper (USFWS, 2022b) does not indicate any wetlands or waters within the project site; however, the USGS's National Hydrogeographic Dataset (USGS, 2022) identifies the roadside ditch as an ephemeral stream. A wetland delineation in accordance with state and federal procedures would be necessary to determine the presence or absence of potentially jurisdictional wetlands or waters of the U.S. and/or state.

*The Field Guide for Wetland Delineation: 1987 Corps of Engineers Manual* (Wetland Training Institute, 1995) describes the three environmental parameters used in delineating jurisdictional wetlands. The three parameters are: vegetation, soil, and hydrology. The presence of all three parameters are required for an area to be a wetland under federal jurisdiction. However, the presence of only one of the three parameters is used to delineate wetlands under CCC jurisdiction. Due to the dominant presence of wetland plant species, these areas would qualify as a wetland as defined by the CCA. As defined in Section 30107.5 of the CCA wetlands represent ESHA, and therefore are under the jurisdiction of the CCC.

## 3.3 Special-Status Species

Published occurrence data within the survey area and surrounding USGS quadrangles were evaluated to compile a table of special-status species known to occur in the vicinity of the survey area (see "Methods"). Each of these species was evaluated for their likelihood to occur within and immediately adjacent to the survey area (**Appendix A**). One special-status plant species, Monterey pine, was observed within the survey area and two others, Yadon's piperia and Pacific Grove clover, have been determined to have a moderate potential to occur. No special-status wildlife species were observed or have the potential to occur within the survey area. However, raptors and other protected avian species have the potential to nest within trees present within and adjacent to the survey area. These species are discussed further below. All other species are assumed unlikely to occur or have a low potential to occur based on the species-specific reasons presented in **Appendix A**, are therefore unlikely to be impacted by the project, and are not discussed further.

### 3.3.1 Special-Status Wildlife Species

#### *Raptors and Other Protected Avian Species*

Raptors, their nests, and other nesting birds are protected under California Fish and Game Code. While the life histories of these species vary, overlapping nesting and foraging similarities allow for their concurrent discussion. Most raptors are breeding residents throughout most of the wooded portions of the state. Stands of live oak, riparian deciduous, or other forest habitats, as well as open grasslands, are used most frequently for nesting. Breeding occurs February through September, with peak activity May

through July. Prey for these species include small birds, small mammals, and some reptiles and amphibians. Many raptor species hunt in open woodland and habitat edges.

Various species of raptors, such as red-tailed hawk, red-shouldered hawk (*Buteo lineatus*), American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*), great horned owl (*Bubo virginianus*), and turkey vulture (*Cathartes aura*), have a potential to nest within the trees present within and adjacent to the survey area.

### **3.3.2 Special-Status Plant Species**

#### *Monterey Pine*

Monterey pine is a CNPS List 1B species. This evergreen tree occurs in closed-cone coniferous forests at elevations from 82-607 feet. Only four native stands of this species exist in the world. One stand is found on Guadalupe Island off Baja California. The other three stands are all within California at Ano Nuevo, Cambria, and the Monterey Peninsula. Monterey pines are introduced in many areas, including in New Zealand where it is used as a plantation crop. Only one-half of the species' historical extent remains undeveloped on the Monterey Peninsula. Monterey pines are threatened by development, genetic contamination, pine pitch canker disease, and forest fragmentation, especially in the Del Monte Forest on the Monterey Peninsula.

The CNDDDB reports two occurrences of Monterey pine within the quadrangles evaluated, one of which is mapped generally as the historic range of the Point Lobos/Carmel Highlands population and includes the entire survey area. This species is present within and adjacent to the survey area.

#### *Yadon's Piperia*

Yadon's piperia is a federally endangered, CNPS CRPR 1B species. This perennial herb in the Orchidaceae family blooms from May to August and is found in closed-cone coniferous forest, maritime chaparral on sandy soils, and coastal bluff scrub at elevations from 10-510 meters. Overall, this species favors a well-drained, sandy soil substrate with podzolic conditions, and areas that retain moisture during the rainy season but are not subject to inundation (V. Yadon in litt. 2002). As in some other plant taxa, individual orchids that flower in one year may not have the necessary energy reserves to flower in the following year. As a result, an unknown proportion of a population may be dormant in any given year, thus making it difficult to track population dynamics through monitoring of population size (Wells 1981, Rasmussen 1995, A. Graff in litt. 2002). However, it would be expected that some percentage of a resident population would flower in any given year. While it may be difficult to track population dynamics in any given year, determining presence or absence for a specific area is not.

The CNDDDB reports 18 occurrences of Yadon's piperia within the quadrangles evaluated, the nearest of which is located less than 350 feet north of the survey area. Suitable habitat for Yadon's piperia may be present within the Monterey pine forest habitat within the survey area. Additional surveys would be required to confirm this species' presence or absence within the survey area.

#### *Pacific Grove Clover*

Pacific Grove clover is a CNPS CRPR 1B species in the Fabaceae family. This annual herb is found in closed-cone coniferous forest, coastal prairie, meadows, seeps, and mesic areas in valley and foothill grassland at elevations of 5-120 meters. The blooming period is from April-June.

The CNDDDB reports 15 occurrences of Pacific Grove clover within the quadrangles evaluated, the nearest of which is located approximately 0.7 mile north from the survey area. Suitable habitat for Pacific Grove clover may be present within the disturbed Monterey pine forest habitat within the project site. Additional surveys would be required to confirm this species' presence or absence within the survey area.

### **3.4 Protected Trees**

As described in **Section 2.5**, the County regulates the removal or damage of native trees over 12 inches in diameter at breast height. Removal of protected trees would require a tree removal permit from the County, and removal of more than three native trees would also require a forest management plan.

Excluding the proposed pump station location, the project footprint is confined to existing paved roads. Therefore, no tree removal is anticipated as a result of the project. If tree removal is proposed as a result of modifications during construction, CAWD must prepare a Forest Management Plan and obtain a Coastal Development Permit prior to tree removal within the project site.

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## 4.0 IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

### 4.1 Sensitive Habitats

**Potential Impact 1:** *Special-status Monterey pine trees are present throughout the project site within the disturbed Monterey pine forest habitat. Removal of Monterey pine trees during vegetation removal, grading, and excavation activities associated with construction would be considered a potentially significant impact that can be reduced to a less-than-significant level with implementation the mitigation measures provided below.*

**Mitigation Measure 1a:** *The Arborist Report for the Corona Road Sewer Extension Project (DD&A, 2023) was prepared to identify trees that may require removal to facilitate construction of the project, recommend measures to avoid or minimize potential project-related impacts to trees, and identify regulatory requirements for tree removal within the site. All recommendations and mitigation measures provided in the Arborist Report shall be implemented throughout the duration of construction to avoid and minimize impacts to Monterey pine forest and other trees within the survey area.*

**Mitigation Measure 1b:** *Following construction, all temporarily disturbed areas within Monterey pine forest habitat shall be restored to pre-project contours to the maximum extent possible and revegetated using locally occurring native species, per the recommendations of a qualified biologist.*

**Potential Impact 2:** *Wetlands of the U.S. and/or state potentially subject to the jurisdiction of the ACOE and the RWQCB as well as a riparian area potentially subject to the jurisdiction of CDFW occur within the survey area. All trenching will be confined to existing roadways; therefore, no direct impacts to these resources are expected to occur. Impacts to wetlands could occur, however, if construction activities occur outside of the proposed work limits or if construction activities result in erosion and sedimentation to these adjacent sensitive habitats. Additionally, impacts to wetlands could occur if an accident during construction were to result in the release of hazardous materials into the adjacent sensitive habitats. Implementation of standard County-required erosion control measures and Mitigation Measures 2a through 2f would ensure avoidance of impacts during construction to wetlands located adjacent to the project site.*

**Mitigation Measure 2a:** *Prior to construction activities, the project proponent shall retain a qualified biologist to conduct an Employee Education Program for the construction crew. The biologist shall meet with the construction crew at the project site at the onset of construction to educate the construction crew on the following: a) a review of the project boundaries; b) all sensitive habitats that may be present and all special-status species that may be present, their habitat, and proper identification; c) the specific mitigation measures that will be incorporated into the construction effort; d) the general provisions and protections afforded by the regulatory agencies; and e) the proper procedures if a special-status animal is encountered within the project site.*

**Mitigation Measure 2b:** *Prior to construction, exclusionary fencing shall be placed around all potential wetlands and the riparian area to preclude construction vehicles and personnel from impacting potential wetlands and other waters of the U.S. and/or state. A qualified biologist or biological monitor shall supervise the installation of exclusionary fencing and monitor at least*

once per week until construction is complete to ensure that the protective exclusionary fencing remains intact.

**Mitigation Measure 2c:** Stationary equipment such as motors, generators, and welders located within 100 feet of potential wetlands and other waters of the U.S. and/or state shall be stored overnight at a designated staging area and shall be positioned over drip pans.

**Mitigation Measure 2d:** Any hazardous or toxic materials deleterious to life that could be washed into adjacent sensitive habitats shall be contained in watertight containers.

**Mitigation Measure 2e:** Refueling of equipment shall take place within designated staging areas or at least 100 feet from potential wetlands and other waters of the U.S. and/or state.

**Mitigation Measure 2f:** All construction debris and associated materials stored in staging area shall be removed from the work site upon completion of the project.

#### 4.2 Special Status Species

**Potential Impact 3:** *Yadon's piperia and Pacific Grove clover have the potential to occur within the survey area. Grading and vegetation removal at the project site may result in direct mortality of individuals, if present at the time of construction. This would be a potentially significant impact that can be reduced to a less-than-significant level with implementation of Mitigation Measure 3.*

**Mitigation Measure 3:** Focused botanical surveys shall be conducted within the survey area during the appropriate blooming period to determine the presence or absence of special-status plant species.

- If no special-status plants are found on the site, no additional mitigation is required.
- If special-status plants are found on the site, these species should be avoided to the greatest extent feasible. If avoidance is not feasible, a restoration plan shall be prepared by a qualified biologist prior to development. The plan shall include, but is not limited to, a detailed description of restoration areas, plant source material, planting specifications, and a monitoring program that describes annual monitoring efforts which incorporate success criteria and contingency plans if success criteria are not met.

**Potential Impact 4:** *Nesting raptors and other protected avian species have the potential to occur within the project site. Construction activities may result in direct mortality of individuals, disturbance of nests, and loss of habitat. This is a potentially significant impact that can be reduced to a less-than-significant level with implementation of the mitigation measures recommended below.*

**Mitigation Measure 4:** To avoid and reduce impacts to nesting raptors and other nesting avian species, construction activities can be timed to avoid the nesting season period. Specifically, construction activities can be scheduled after September 1 and before January 31 to avoid impacts to these species. Alternatively, if avoidance of the nesting period is not feasible, a qualified biologist shall be retained to conduct pre-construction surveys for nesting raptors and other protected avian species within 250 feet of proposed construction activities if construction occurs between February 1 and August 31. Pre-construction surveys will be conducted no more than 14 days prior to the start of construction activities during the early part of the breeding season (February through April) and no more than 30 days prior to the initiation of these activities during the late part of the breeding season (May through August). Because some bird species nest early

in spring and others nest later in summer, some breed multiple times in a season, surveys for nesting birds may be required to continue during construction to address new arrivals. The necessity and timing of these continued surveys will be determined by the qualified biologist based on review of the final construction plans.

If raptors or other protected avian species nests are identified during the pre-construction surveys, the qualified biologist will notify CAWD/project contractor and an appropriate no-disturbance buffer will be imposed within which no construction activities or disturbance should take place as determined by the qualified biologist to ensure avoidance of impacts to the individuals. The buffer will remain in place until the young of the year have fledged and are no longer reliant upon the nest or parental care for survival, as determined by a qualified biologist.

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## **APPENDIX A**

Special-Status Species Table



## Appendix A. Special-Status Species Table

*Carmel Valley, Spreckels, Seaside, Salinas, Marina, Monterey, Mt. Carmel, and Soberanes Point Quadrangles*

Species	Status (USFWS/CDFW/CNPS)	General Habitat	Potential Occurrence within or Adjacent to the Survey Area
<b>MAMMALS</b>			
<i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i> Townsend's big-eared bat	-- / CSC / --	Found primarily in rural settings from inland deserts to coastal redwoods, oak woodland of the inner Coast Ranges and Sierra foothills, and low to mid-elevation mixed coniferous-deciduous forests. Typically roost during the day in limestone caves, lava tubes, and mines, but can roost in buildings that offer suitable conditions. Night roosts are in more open settings and include bridges, rock crevices, and trees.	<b>Unlikely</b> No suitable roosting habitat within or adjacent to the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is approximately 1.5 miles south of the survey area from 1948.
<i>Eumetopias jubatus</i> Steller sea lion (Eastern DPS)	FT & MMPA / -- / --	Colder temperate to sub-arctic waters of North Pacific Ocean. Año Nuevo Island is the southernmost breeding area for this species; rarely seen at other haul-out sites in the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Formerly abundant at Point Lobos State Reserve, but no longer occurs there.	<b>Unlikely</b> No suitable habitat within or adjacent to the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is 1.5 miles west of the survey area from 2017.
<i>Neotoma macrotis luciana</i> Monterey dusky-footed woodrat	-- / CSC / --	Forest and oak woodland habitats of moderate canopy with moderate to dense understory. Also occurs in chaparral habitats.	<b>Low</b> Marginal habitat is present within and adjacent to the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately 20 miles northeast of the survey area from 2017.
<i>Sorex ornatus salarius</i> Monterey ornate shrew	-- / CSC / --	Endemic to the Monterey Bay region. Associated with brackish or saline marshes near sea level.	<b>Unlikely</b> No suitable habitat within or adjacent to the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is approximately two miles north of the survey area from 1938.
<i>Taxidea taxus</i> American badger	-- / CSC / --	Dry, open grasslands, fields, pastures savannas, and mountain meadows near timberline are preferred. The principal requirements seem to be sufficient food, friable soils, and relatively open, uncultivated grounds.	<b>Unlikely</b> No suitable habitat within or adjacent to the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is approximately ten miles north of the survey area from 1919.

Species	Status (USFWS/CDFW/CNPS)	General Habitat	Potential Occurrence within or Adjacent to the Survey Area
<b>BIRDS</b>			
<i>Agelaius tricolor</i> Tricolored blackbird (nesting)	-- / ST / --	Nest in colonies in dense riparian vegetation, along rivers, lagoons, lakes, and ponds. Forages over grassland or aquatic habitats.	<b>Unlikely</b> No suitable nesting habitat within or adjacent to the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately ten miles east of the survey area from 2015.
<i>Athene cunicularia</i> Burrowing owl	-- / CSC / --	Year-round resident of open, dry grassland and desert habitats, and in grass, forb and open shrub stages of pinyon-juniper and ponderosa pine habitats. Frequent open grasslands and shrublands with perches and burrows. Use rodent burrows (often California ground squirrel) for roosting and nesting cover. Pipes, culverts, and nest boxes may be substituted for burrows in areas where burrows are not available.	<b>Unlikely</b> No suitable habitat within or adjacent to the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately 17 miles north of the survey area from 1965.
<i>Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus</i> Western snowy plover (nesting)	FT / CSC / --	Sandy beaches on marine and estuarine shores, also salt pond levees and the shores of large alkali lakes. Requires sandy, gravelly or friable soil substrate for nesting.	<b>Unlikely</b> No suitable habitat within or adjacent to the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately nine miles north of the survey area from 1913.
<i>Coturnicops noveboracensis</i> Yellow rail	-- / CSC / --	Wet meadows and coastal tidal marshes. Occurs year round in California, but in two primary seasonal roles: as a very local breeder in the northeastern interior and as a winter visitor (early Oct to mid-Apr) on the coast and in the Suisun Marsh region.	<b>Unlikely</b> No suitable habitat within or adjacent to the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately seven miles north of the survey area from 1896.
<i>Cypseloides niger</i> Black swift	-- / CSC / --	Regularly nests in moist crevice or cave on sea cliffs above the surf, or on cliffs behind, or adjacent to, waterfalls in deep canyons. Forages widely over many habitats.	<b>Unlikely</b> No suitable habitat within or adjacent to the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is a historic record from 1952, located generally as within Point Lobos State Reserve.
<i>Hydrobates homochroa</i> Ashy storm-petrel	-- / CSC / --	Pelagic; inhabit near-shore waters of California Current System and only come to shore to breed. Nest in rock crevices and abandoned seabird burrows on six offshore island groups and offshore rocks.	<b>Unlikely</b> No suitable habitat within or adjacent to the survey area and the survey area is outside of the known breeding range for this species. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately ten miles south of the survey area from 1997.
<i>Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus</i> California black rail	-- / ST, FP / --	Inhabits freshwater marshes, wet meadows & shallow margins of saltwater marshes bordering larger bays. Needs water depths of about 1 inch that does not fluctuate during the year & dense vegetation for nesting habitat.	<b>Unlikely</b> No suitable habitat within or adjacent to the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately nine miles north of the survey area from 1967.

Species	Status (USFWS/CDFW/CNPS)	General Habitat	Potential Occurrence within or Adjacent to the Survey Area
<i>Pelecanus occidentalis californicus</i> California brown pelican	-- / CFP / --	Associated with estuarine, marine subtidal, and marine pelagic waters along the California coast. Use inaccessible rocks (either offshore or on mainland), mudflats, sandy beaches, wharfs, and jetties for resting. Breeding occurs on the Channel Islands and in Mexico.	<b>Unlikely</b> No suitable habitat within or adjacent to the survey area and the survey area is outside of the known breeding range for this species. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately 0.5 mile west of the survey area from 2007.
<i>Riparia riparia</i> Bank swallow	-- / ST / --	Nest colonially in sand banks. Found near water; fields, marshes, streams, and lakes.	<b>Unlikely</b> No suitable habitat within or adjacent to the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately 12 miles north of the survey area from 2012.
<b>REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS</b>			
<i>Ambystoma californiense</i> California tiger salamander	FT / ST / --	Annual grassland and grassy understory of valley-foothill hardwood habitats in central and northern California. Requires underground refugia and vernal pools or other seasonal rainwater ponds for breeding.	<b>Unlikely</b> No suitable aquatic or upland habitat is present within the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately three miles (4.8 km) east of the survey area and the closest suitable aquatic habitat is over the known dispersal distance of 1.3 miles (2.2 km) for this species.
<i>Anniella pulchra</i> California legless lizard	-- / CSC / --	Requires moist, warm habitats with loose soil for burrowing and prostrate plant cover, often forages in leaf litter at plant bases; may be found on beaches, sandy washes, and in woodland, chaparral, and riparian areas.	<b>Unlikely</b> No suitable habitat within or adjacent to the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately two miles north of the survey area from 1998.
<i>Emys marmorata</i> Western pond turtle	-- / CSC / --	Associated with permanent or nearly permanent water in a wide variety of habitats including streams, lakes, ponds, irrigation ditches, etc. Require basking sites such as partially submerged logs, rocks, mats of vegetation, or open banks.	<b>Unlikely</b> No suitable habitat within or adjacent to the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately two miles north of the survey area from 2001.
<i>Phrynosoma blainvillii</i> Coast horned lizard	-- / CSC / --	Associated with open patches of sandy soil in washes, chaparral, grasslands, woodlands, and coniferous forests with open sandy areas and patches of loose soil.	<b>Unlikely</b> No suitable habitat within or adjacent to the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately eight miles east of the survey area in 2010.
<i>Rana boylei</i> Foothill yellow-legged frog	-- / SC&CSC / --	Partly-shaded, shallow streams and riffles with a rocky substrate in a variety of habitats, including hardwood, pine, and riparian forests, scrub, chaparral, and wet meadows. Rarely encountered far from permanent water.	<b>Unlikely</b> No suitable habitat within or adjacent to the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located 1.5 miles north of the survey area from 1907.

Species	Status (USFWS/CDFW/CNPS)	General Habitat	Potential Occurrence within or Adjacent to the Survey Area
<i>Rana draytonii</i> California red-legged frog	FT / CSC / --	Lowlands and foothills in or near permanent or late-season sources of deep water with dense, shrubby, or emergent riparian vegetation. During late summer or fall adults are known to utilize a variety of upland habitats with leaf litter or mammal burrows.	<b>Low</b> No suitable aquatic or upland habitat is present within the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately 1.5 miles (2.4 km) north of the survey area. This species is known to disperse up to five miles from breeding ponds and there are multiple potential breeding resources within five miles of the survey area. Therefore, California red-legged frog may disperse through the survey area. The eastern extent of the project alignment is approximately 1.2 miles west of critical habitat mapping unit MNT-2.
<i>Spea hammondi</i> Western spadefoot toad	-- / CSC / --	Grasslands with shallow temporary pools are optimal habitats for the western spadefoot. Occur primarily in grassland habitats, but can be found in valley and foothill woodlands. Vernal pools are essential for breeding and egg laying.	<b>Unlikely</b> No suitable habitat within or adjacent to the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately 25 miles northeast of the survey area from 1922.
<i>Taricha torosa</i> Coast range newt	-- / CSC / --	Occurs mainly in valley-foothill hardwood, valley-foothill hardwood-conifer, coastal scrub, and mixed chaparral but is known to occur in grasslands and mixed conifer types. Seek cover under rocks and logs, in mammal burrows, rock fissures, or man-made structures such as wells. Breed in intermittent ponds, streams, lakes, and reservoirs.	<b>Low</b> Marginal habitat is present within and adjacent to the survey area. The roadside swale within the survey area do not provide suitable aquatic habitat. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately three miles east of the survey area from 2012.
<i>Thamnophis hammondi</i> Two-striped gartersnake	-- / CSC / --	Associated with permanent or semi-permanent bodies of water bordered by dense vegetation in a variety of habitats from sea level to 2400m elevation.	<b>Unlikely</b> No suitable habitat within or adjacent to the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately 20 miles east of the survey area from 2001.
<b>FISH</b>			
<i>Eucyclogobius newberryi</i> Tidewater goby	FE / CSC / --	Brackish water habitats; found in shallow lagoons and lower stream reaches. Tidewater gobies appear to be naturally absent (now and historically) from three large stretches of coastline where lagoons or estuaries are absent and steep topography or swift currents may prevent tidewater gobies from dispersing between adjacent localities. The southernmost large, natural gap occurs between the Salinas River in Monterey County and Arroyo del Oso in San Luis Obispo County.	<b>Not Present</b> No suitable habitat within or adjacent to the survey area.

Species	Status (USFWS/CDFW/CNPS)	General Habitat	Potential Occurrence within or Adjacent to the Survey Area
<i>Lavinia exilicauda harengus</i> Monterey hitch	-- / CSC / --	Found only within the Pajaro and Salinas River systems. Can occupy a wide variety of habitats, however, they are most abundant in lowland areas with large pools or small reservoirs that mimic such conditions. May be found in brackish water conditions within the Salinas River lagoon during the early summer months when the sandbar forms at the mouth of the river.	<b>Not Present</b> No suitable habitat within or adjacent to the survey area.
<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus</i> Steelhead (south-central California coast DPS)	FT / -- / --	Cold headwaters, creeks, and small to large rivers and lakes; anadromous in coastal streams.	<b>Not Present</b> No suitable habitat within or adjacent to the survey area.
<b>INVERTEBRATES</b>			
<i>Bombus occidentalis</i> Western bumble bee	-- / SC / --	Occurs in open grassy areas, urban parks, urban gardens, chaparral, and meadows. Requires plants that bloom and provide adequate nectar and pollen throughout the colony's life cycle, which is from early February to late November. Generally nests underground, often in abandoned mammal burrows. Populations are currently largely restricted to high elevation sites in the Sierra Nevada; however, the historic range includes the northern California coast.	<b>Unlikely</b> No suitable nesting habitat present within survey area. The closest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately three miles north of the survey area from 1972.
<i>Danaus plexippus</i> Monarch butterfly (California overwintering population)	FC / -- / --	Overwinters in coastal California using colonial roosts generally found in Eucalyptus, pine and acacia trees. Overwintering habitat for this species within the Coastal Zone represents ESHA. Local ordinances often protect this species as well.	<b>Low</b> Approximately 30 monarch individuals were observed flying within the survey area during the November 2022 survey. However, no individuals were observed in trees during a secondary survey to identify overwintering habitat within the survey area. The CNDDDB reports an overwintering population occurrence located approximately one mile north of the survey area from 1998. This occurrence is located within Point Lobos State Reserve and is reported as extirpated due to construction. Monterey pine, eucalyptus, and acacia trees are present within the survey area; however, these trees are highly exposed and likely do not provide sufficient shelter for monarch clusters.
<i>Euphilotes enoptes smithi</i> Smith's blue butterfly	FE / -- / --	Most commonly associated with coastal dunes and coastal sage scrub plant communities in Monterey and Santa Cruz Counties. Plant hosts are <i>Eriogonum latifolium</i> and <i>E. parvifolium</i> .	<b>Not Present</b> No suitable habitat within or adjacent to the survey area. The host plant species was not identified within the site during the survey in November 2022. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately 1.5 miles north of the survey area from 1978.

Species	Status (USFWS/CDFW/CNPS)	General Habitat	Potential Occurrence within or Adjacent to the Survey Area
<b>PLANTS</b>			
<i>Agrostis lacuna-vernalis</i> Vernal pool bent grass	-- / -- / 1B	Vernal pool mima mounds at elevations of 115-145 meters. Annual herb in the Poaceae family; blooms April-May. Known only from Butterfly Valley and Machine Gun Flats of Ft. Ord National Monument.	<b>Not Present</b> No suitable habitat within or adjacent to the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately 17 miles north of the survey area from 2011.
<i>Allium hickmanii</i> Hickman's onion	-- / -- / 1B	Closed-cone coniferous forests, maritime chaparral, coastal prairie, coastal scrub, and valley and foothill grasslands at elevations of 5-200 meters. Bulbiferous perennial herb in the Alliaceae family; blooms March-May.	<b>Unlikely</b> Marginal habitat is present within the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately four miles north of the survey area from 1985.
<i>Arctostaphylos edmundsii</i> Little sur manzanita	-- / -- / 1B	Coastal bluff scrub and chaparral on sandy soils at elevations of 30-105 meters. Evergreen shrub in the Ericaceae family; blooms November-April.	<b>Not Present</b> No suitable habitat within or adjacent to the survey area. Not identified during November 2022 survey. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately seven miles south of the survey area from 2016.
<i>Arctostaphylos hookeri</i> spp. <i>hookeri</i> Hooker's manzanita	-- / -- / 1B	Closed-cone coniferous forest, chaparral, cismontane woodland, and coastal scrub on sandy soils at elevations of 85-536 meters. Evergreen shrub in the Ericaceae family; blooms January-June.	<b>Not Present</b> Marginal habitat is present within the survey area. Not identified during November 2022 survey. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately 0.1 mile north of the survey area from 2003.
<i>Arctostaphylos montereyensis</i> Toro manzanita	-- / -- / 1B	Maritime chaparral, cismontane woodland, and coastal scrub on sandy soils at elevations of 30-730 meters. Evergreen shrub in the Ericaceae family; blooms February-March.	<b>Not Present</b> Marginal habitat is present within the survey area. Not identified during November 2022 survey. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately nine miles north of the survey area from 2009.
<i>Arctostaphylos pajaroensis</i> Pajaro manzanita	-- / -- / 1B	Chaparral on sandy soils at elevations of 30-760 meters. Evergreen shrub in the Ericaceae family; blooms December-March.	<b>Not Present</b> No suitable habitat is present within the survey area. Not identified during November 2022 survey. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately seven miles north of the survey area from 1969.
<i>Arctostaphylos pumila</i> Sandmat manzanita	-- / -- / 1B	Openings of closed-cone coniferous forests, maritime chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal dunes, and coastal scrub on sandy soils at elevations of 3-205 meters. Evergreen shrub in the Ericaceae family; blooms February-May.	<b>Not Present</b> Marginal habitat is present within the survey area; however, this species was not identified during November 2022 botanical survey. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately 0.5 mile north of the survey area from 2003.

Species	Status (USFWS/CDFW/CNPS)	General Habitat	Potential Occurrence within or Adjacent to the Survey Area
<i>Astragalus tener</i> var. <i>tener</i> Alkali milk-vetch	-- / -- / 1B	Playas, valley and foothill grassland on adobe clay, and vernal pools on alkaline soils at elevations of 1-60 meters. Annual herb in the Fabaceae family; blooms March-June.	<b>Not Present</b> No suitable habitat is present within the survey area. The survey area is outside the known range of this species. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately 25 miles northeast of the survey area from 1889; however this occurrence is noted as possibly extirpated.
<i>Astragalus tener</i> var. <i>titi</i> Coastal dunes milk-vetch	FE / SE / 1B	Sandy areas in coastal bluff scrub, coastal dunes, mesic coastal prairie, and wetlands at elevations of 1 – 50 meters. Annual herb in the Fabaceae family; blooms March – May.	<b>Not Present</b> No suitable habitat is present within the survey area. The survey area is outside the known range of this species. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately seven miles north of the survey area from 2010.
<i>Castilleja ambigua</i> var. <i>insalutata</i> Pink Johnny-nip	-- / -- / 1B	Coastal prairie and coastal scrub at elevations of 0-100 meters. Annual herb in the Orobanchaceae family; blooms May-August.	<b>Low</b> No suitable habitat is present within the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located within the western portion of the survey area; however, the occurrence is from 1944.
<i>Centromadia parryi</i> ssp. <i>congdonii</i> Congdon's tarplant	-- / -- / 1B	Valley and foothill grassland on heavy clay, saline, or alkaline soils at elevations of 0-230 meters. Annual herb in the Asteraceae family; blooms May-November.	<b>Not Present</b> No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately 13 miles northeast of the survey area from 1998.
<i>Chorizanthe minutiflora</i> Fort Ord spineflower	-- / -- / 1B	Sandy openings of maritime chaparral and coastal scrub at elevations of 55-150 meters. Only known occurrences on Fort Ord National Monument. Annual herb in the Polygonaceae family; blooms April-July.	<b>Unlikely</b> No suitable habitat within or adjacent to the survey area and the survey area is outside the known range of this species. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately 11 miles north of the survey area from 2013.
<i>Chorizanthe pungens</i> var. <i>pungens</i> Monterey spineflower	FT / -- / 1B	Maritime chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal dunes, coastal scrub, and valley and foothill grassland on sandy soils at elevations of 3-450 meters. Annual herb in the Polygonaceae family; blooms April-July.	<b>Unlikely</b> No suitable habitat is present within the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located within the survey area; however, this occurrence was mapped generally as a 2.5-mile radius of Point Lobos State Reserve and does not contain an occurrence date.
<i>Clarkia jolonensis</i> Jolon clarkia	-- / -- / 1B	Cismontane woodland, chaparral, riparian woodland, and coastal scrub at elevations of 20-660 meters. Annual herb in the Onagraceae family; blooms April-June.	<b>Low</b> No suitable habitat within or adjacent to the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately two miles north of the survey area from 1903; however, this occurrence is identified by the CNDDDB as extirpated.



Species	Status (USFWS/CDFW/CNPS)	General Habitat	Potential Occurrence within or Adjacent to the Survey Area
<i>Collinsia multicolor</i> San Francisco collinsia	-- / -- / 1B	Closed-cone coniferous forest and coastal scrub, sometimes on serpentinite soils, at elevations of 30-250 meters. Annual herb in the Plantaginaceae family; blooms March-May.	<b>Low</b> No suitable habitat within or adjacent to the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately nine miles from the survey area from 1903.
<i>Cordylanthus rigidus</i> spp. <i>littoralis</i> Seaside bird's beak	-- / SE / 1B	Closed-cone coniferous forests, maritime chaparral, cismontane woodlands, coastal dunes, and coastal scrub on sandy soils, often on disturbed sites, at elevations of 0-425 meters. Annual hemi-parasitic herb in the Orobanchaceae family; blooms April-October.	<b>Low</b> No suitable habitat within or adjacent to the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately nine miles northeast of the survey area from 2002.
<i>Delphinium californicum</i> ssp. <i>interius</i> Hospital Canyon larkspur	-- / -- / 1B	Openings in chaparral, coastal scrub, and mesic areas of cismontane woodland at elevations of 230-1095 meters. Perennial herb in the Ranunculaceae family; blooms April-June.	<b>Low</b> Marginal habitat is present within the survey area; however, the project site is outside of the elevational range for this species. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately six miles east of the survey area from 1988.
<i>Delphinium hutchinsoniae</i> Hutchinson's larkspur	-- / -- / 1B	Broadleaved upland forest, chaparral, coastal scrub, and coastal prairie at elevations of 0-427 meters. Perennial herb in the Ranunculaceae family; blooms March-June.	<b>Unlikely</b> No suitable habitat within or adjacent to the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately 0.5 mile south of the survey area from 1965.
<i>Delphinium umbraculorum</i> Umbrella larkspur	-- / -- / 1B	Cismontane woodland at elevations of 400-1600 meters. Perennial herb in the Ranunculaceae family; blooms April-June.	<b>Unlikely</b> Marginal habitat is present within the survey area; however, the project site is outside of the elevational range for this species. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately 20 miles northeast of the survey area from 1965.
<i>Ericameria fasciculata</i> Eastwood's goldenbush	-- / -- / 1B	Openings in closed-cone coniferous forest, maritime chaparral, coastal dunes, and coastal scrub on sandy soils at elevations of 30-275 meters. Evergreen shrub in the Asteraceae family; blooms July-October.	<b>Not Present</b> Not identified during November 2022 botanical survey. No suitable habitat within or adjacent to the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately two miles north of the survey area from 1913.
<i>Eriogonum nortonii</i> Pinnacles buckwheat	-- / -- / 1B	Chaparral and valley and foothill grassland on sandy soils, often on recent burns, at elevations of 300-975 meters. Annual herb in the Polygonaceae family; blooms May-September.	<b>Not Present</b> Not identified during November 2022 botanical survey. No suitable habitat exists within or adjacent to the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately one mile southeast of the survey area from 1967.

Species	Status (USFWS/CDFW/CNPS)	General Habitat	Potential Occurrence within or Adjacent to the Survey Area
<i>Erysimum ammophilum</i> Sand-loving wallflower	-- / -- / 1B	Openings in maritime chaparral, coastal dunes, and coastal scrub on sandy soils at elevations of 0-60 meters. Perennial herb in the Brassicaceae family; blooms February-June.	<b>Not Present</b> No suitable habitat within or adjacent to the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately four miles south of the survey area from 2008.
<i>Erysimum menziesii</i> Menzies' wallflower	FE / SE / 1B	Coastal dunes at elevations of 0-35 meters. Perennial herb in the Brassicaceae family; blooms March-September.	<b>Not Present</b> No suitable habitat within or adjacent to the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately seven miles north of the survey area from 2018.
<i>Fritillaria liliacea</i> Fragrant fritillary	-- / -- / 1B	Cismontane woodland, coastal prairie, coastal scrub, and valley and foothill grassland, often serpentine, at elevations of 3-410 meters. Bulbiferous perennial herb in the Liliaceae family; blooms February-April.	<b>Low</b> Marginal habitat present within and adjacent to survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately three miles north of the survey area from 1940.
<i>Gilia tenuiflora</i> ssp. <i>arenaria</i> Monterey gilia	FE / ST / 1B	Openings in maritime chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal dunes, and coastal scrub on sandy soils at elevations of 0-45 meters. Annual herb in the Polemoniaceae family; blooms April-June.	<b>Unlikely</b> Marginal habitat is present within and adjacent to survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately seven miles north of the survey area from 2001.
<i>Hesperocyparis goveniana</i> Gowen cypress	FT / -- / 1B	Endemic to the Monterey Bay region. Occurs in small, scattered populations within closed-cone pine forest within Monterey County. Evergreen tree in the Cupressaceae family.	<b>Not Present</b> Not identified during the November 2022 botanical survey. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately 0.2 miles northeast of the survey area, at Point Lobos State Reserve from 2001.
<i>Hesperocyparis macrocarpa</i> Monterey cypress	-- / -- / 1B	Closed-cone coniferous forest at elevations of 10-30 meters. Evergreen tree in the Cupressaceae family. Natively occurring only at Cypress Point in Pebble Beach and Point Lobos State Park; widely planted and naturalized elsewhere.	<b>Not Present</b> Monterey cypress trees were identified during the November 2022 botanical survey; however, the survey area is outside the native range of this species. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately two miles north of the survey area, at Point Lobos State Reserve, from 1983.
<i>Horkelia cuneata</i> var. <i>sericea</i> Kellogg's horkelia	-- / -- / 1B	Openings of closed-cone coniferous forests, maritime chaparral, coastal dunes, and coastal scrub on sandy or gravelly soils at elevations of 10-200 meters. Perennial herb in the Rosaceae family; blooms April-September.	<b>Unlikely</b> Marginal habitat is present within the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately two miles north of the survey area from 1896.
<i>Horkelia marinensis</i> Point Reyes horkelia	-- / -- / 1B	Coastal dunes, coastal prairie, and coastal scrub on sandy soils at elevations of 5-350 meters. Perennial herb in the Rosaceae family; blooms May-September.	<b>Unlikely</b> Marginal habitat is present within the survey area; however, the survey area is outside of the known range of the species. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately 17 miles north of the survey area from 1968.

Species	Status (USFWS/CDFW/CNPS)	General Habitat	Potential Occurrence within or Adjacent to the Survey Area
<i>Lasthenia conjugens</i> Contra Costa goldfields	FE / -- / 1B	Mesic areas of valley and foothill grassland, alkaline playas, cismontane woodland, and vernal pools at elevations of 0-470 meters. Annual herb in the Asteraceae family; blooms March-June.	<b>Unlikely</b> No suitable habitat is present within or adjacent to the survey area; however, the survey area is outside of the known range of the species. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately 17 miles northeast of the survey area from 2009.
<i>Layia carnosa</i> Beach layia	FE / SE / 1B	Coastal dunes and coastal scrub on sandy soils at elevations of 0-60 meters. Annual herb in the Asteraceae family; blooms March-July.	<b>Unlikely</b> No suitable habitat within or adjacent to the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately seven miles north of the survey area from 2001.
<i>Legenere limosa</i> Legenere	-- / -- / 1B	Vernal pools and wetlands at elevations of 1-880 meters. Annual herb in the Campanulaceae family; blooms April- June.	<b>Unlikely</b> No suitable habitat within or adjacent to the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately seven miles north of the survey area from 2009.
<i>Lupinus tidestromii</i> Tidestrom's lupine	FE / SE / 1B	Coastal dunes at elevations of 0-100 meters. Perennial rhizomatous herb in the Fabaceae family; blooms April-June.	<b>Unlikely</b> Not identified during November 2022 botanical survey. No suitable habitat within or adjacent to the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately four miles north of the survey area from 2009.
<i>Malacothamnus palmeri</i> var. <i>involucratus</i> Carmel Valley bush-mallow	-- / -- / 1B	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, and coastal scrub at elevations of 30-1100 meters. Perennial deciduous shrub in the Malvaceae family; blooms May-October.	<b>Not Present</b> Not identified during November 2022 botanical survey. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately seven miles east of the survey area from 1944.
<i>Malacothrix saxatilis</i> var. <i>arachnoidea</i> Carmel Valley malacothrix	-- / -- / 1B	Chaparral and coastal scrub on rocky soils at elevations of 25-1036 meters. Perennial rhizomatous herb in the Asteraceae family; blooms June-December.	<b>Unlikely</b> No suitable habitat within or adjacent to the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately seven miles east of the survey area from 1977.
<i>Meconella oregana</i> Oregon meconella	-- / -- / 1B	Coastal prairie and coastal scrub at elevations of 250-620 meters. Annual herb in the Papaveraceae Family; blooms March-April.	<b>Unlikely</b> Marginal habitat is present within the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately 17 miles southeast of the survey area from 1965.
<i>Microseris paludosa</i> Marsh microseris	-- / -- / 1B	Moist grassland, open woodland at elevations less than 300 m. Perennial herb in the Asteraceae family; blooms April-June.	<b>Unlikely</b> Marginal habitat is present within the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is from 2001 and overlaps with the survey area; however, the occurrence was mapped generally as the vicinity of Point Lobos State Reserve.

Species	Status (USFWS/CDFW/CNPS)	General Habitat	Potential Occurrence within or Adjacent to the Survey Area
<i>Monardella sinuata</i> ssp. <i>nigrescens</i> Northern curly-leaved monardella	-- / -- / 1B	Chaparral, coastal dunes, coastal scrub, and lower montane coniferous forest (ponderosa pine sandhills) on sandy soils at elevations of 0-300 meters. Annual herb in the Lamiaceae family; blooms April-September.	<b>Unlikely</b> Marginal habitat is present within the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately eight miles north of the survey area from 1932.
<i>Monolopia gracilens</i> Woodland woollythreads	-- / -- / 1B	Openings of broadleaved upland forest, chaparral, cismontane woodland, North Coast coniferous forest, and valley and foothill grassland on serpentinite soils at elevations of 100-1200 meters. Annual herb in the Asteraceae family; blooms February-July.	<b>Unlikely</b> Marginal habitat is present within the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately seven miles north of the survey area from 1897.
<i>Pinus radiata</i> <b>Monterey Pine</b>	-- / -- / 1B	Closed-cone coniferous forest and cismontane woodland at elevations of 25-185 meters. Evergreen tree in the Pinaceae family. Only three native stands in CA at Ano Nuevo, Cambria, and the Monterey Peninsula; introduced in many areas.	<b>Present</b> This species is present throughout the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is mapped generally as the historic range of the Point Lobos/ Carmel Highlands population from 2011 and encompasses the entire survey area.
<i>Piperia yadonii</i> <b>Yadon's piperia</b>	FE / -- / 1B	Sandy soils in coastal bluff scrub, closed-cone coniferous forest, and maritime chaparral at elevations of 10-510 meters. Annual herb in the Orchidaceae family; blooms February-August.	<b>Moderate</b> Suitable habitat is present within the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located less than 0.1 mile north of the survey area from 2013.
<i>Plagiobothrys chorisianus</i> var. <i>chorisianus</i> Choris' popcornflower	-- / -- / 1B	Mesic areas of chaparral, coastal prairie, and coastal scrub at elevations of 15-160 meters. Annual herb in the Boraginaceae family; blooms March-June.	<b>Unlikely</b> Marginal habitat is present within the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately 17 miles northeast of the survey area from 2009.
<i>Plagiobothrys uncinatus</i> Hooked popcorn-flower	-- / -- / 1B	Chaparral, cismontane woodlands, and valley and foothill grasslands on sandy soils at elevations of 300-760 meters. Annual herb in the Boraginaceae family; blooms April-May.	<b>Unlikely</b> Marginal habitat is present within the survey area; the survey area is outside of the known elevation range for this species. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately 11 miles southeast of the survey area from 2000.
<i>Potentilla hickmanii</i> Hickman's cinquefoil	FE / SE / 1B	Coastal bluff scrub, closed-cone coniferous forests, vernal mesic meadows and seeps, and freshwater marshes and swamps at elevations of 10-149 meters. Perennial herb in the Rosaceae family; blooms April-August.	<b>Unlikely</b> Marginal habitat is present within the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately seven miles north of the survey area from 2005.

Species	Status (USFWS/CDFW/CNPS)	General Habitat	Potential Occurrence within or Adjacent to the Survey Area
<i>Ramalina thrausta</i> Angel's hair lichen	-- / -- / 2B	North coast coniferous forest on dead twigs and other lichens. Epiphytic fructose lichen in the Ramalinaceae family. In northern CA it is usually found on dead twigs, and has been found on <i>Alnus rubra</i> , <i>Calocedrus decurrens</i> , <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i> , <i>Quercus garryana</i> , and <i>Rubus spectabilis</i> . In Sonoma County it grows on and among dangling mats of <i>R. menziesii</i> and <i>Usnea</i> spp.	<b>Unlikely</b> Marginal habitat is present within the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately 7 miles north of the survey area from 2001.
<i>Rosa pinetorum</i> Pine rose	-- / -- / 1B	Closed-cone coniferous forest at elevations of 2-300 meters. Perennial shrub in the Rosaceae family; blooms May-July. Possible hybrid of <i>R. spithamea</i> , <i>R. gymnocarpa</i> , or others; further study needed.	<b>Not Present</b> Marginal habitat is present within the survey area. Not identified during the November 2022 botanical survey. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately 0.3 miles north of the survey area, at Point Lobos State Reserve, from 2013.
<i>Stebbinsoseris decipiens</i> Santa Cruz microseris	-- / -- / 1B	Broadleaved upland forest, closed-cone coniferous forest, chaparral, coastal prairie, coastal scrub, and openings in valley and foothill grassland, sometimes on serpentinite, at elevations of 10-500 meters. Annual herb in the Asteraceae family; blooms April-May.	<b>Unlikely</b> Marginal habitat is present within the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately nine miles northeast of the survey area from 1978.
<i>Sulcaria spiralifera</i> Twisted horsehair lichen	-- / -- / 1B	California North Coast coniferous forest at elevations of 0-30 meters. Often found on conifers, including <i>Picea sitchensis</i> , <i>Pinus contorta</i> var. <i>contorta</i> , <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i> , <i>Abies grandis</i> , and <i>Tsuga heterophylla</i> . Fruticose lichen in the Parmeliaceae family.	<b>Unlikely</b> Marginal habitat is present within the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence from 1988 overlaps the survey area; however, the occurrence is mapped generally as the vicinity of Point Lobos State Reserve.
<i>Tortula californica</i> California screw moss	-- / -- / 1B	Valley and foothill grassland and chenopod scrub on sandy soils at elevations of 10-1460 meters. Moss in the Pottiaceae family.	<b>Unlikely</b> No suitable habitat is present within the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately five miles south of the survey area from 2003.
<i>Trifolium buckwestiorum</i> Santa Cruz clover	-- / -- / 1B	Gravelly margins of broadleaved upland forest, cismontane woodland, and coastal prairie at elevations of 105-610 meters. Annual herb in the Fabaceae family; blooms April-October.	<b>Low</b> Marginal habitat is present within the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately eight miles northeast of the survey area from 1993.
<i>Trifolium hydrophilum</i> Saline clover	-- / -- / 1B	Marshes and swamps, mesic and alkaline valley and foothill grassland, and vernal pools at elevations of 0-300 meters. Annual herb in the Fabaceae family; blooms April-June.	<b>Low</b> Marginal habitat is present within the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately nine miles north of the survey area from 1907.

Species	Status (USFWS/CDFW/CNPS)	General Habitat	Potential Occurrence within or Adjacent to the Survey Area
<i>Trifolium polyodon</i> Pacific Grove clover	-- / SR / 1B	Mesic areas of closed-cone coniferous forest, coastal prairie, meadows and seeps, and valley and foothill grassland at elevations of 5-120 meters. Annual herb in the Fabaceae family; blooms April-July.	<b>Moderate</b> Marginal habitat is present within the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately 0.7 miles north of the survey area from 2013.
<i>Trifolium trichocalyx</i> Monterey clover	FE / SE / 1B	Sandy openings and burned areas of closed-cone coniferous forest at elevations of 30-240 meters. Annual herb in the Fabaceae family; blooms April-June.	<b>Low</b> Marginal habitat is present within the survey area. The nearest CNDDDB occurrence is located approximately seven miles north of the survey area from 2016.

#### STATUS DEFINITIONS

##### Federal

- FE = listed as Endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act  
 FT = listed as Threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act  
 FC = Candidate for listing under the federal Endangered Species Act  
 MMPA = Marine Mammal Protection Act  
 -- = no listing

##### State

- SE = listed as Endangered under the California Endangered Species Act  
 ST = listed as Threatened under the California Endangered Species Act  
 SC = Candidate for listing under California Endangered Species Act  
 SR = listed as Rare under the California Native Plant Protection Act  
 CFP = California Fully Protected Species  
 CSC = CDFW Species of Concern

CNDDDB = This designation is being assigned to animal species that are not assigned any of the other status designations defined in this table. These animal species are included in California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW's) California natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) "Special Animals" list (2021), which includes all taxa the CNDDDB is interested in tracking, regardless of their legal or protection status. This list is also referred to as the list of "species at risk" or "special-status species." The CDFW considers the taxa on this list to be those of greatest conservation need.

- = no listing

##### California Native Plant Society

1B = California Rare Plant Rank 1B species; plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere

- = no listing

#### POTENTIAL TO OCCUR

- Present = known occurrence of species within the site; presence of suitable habitat conditions; or observed during field surveys  
 High = known occurrence of species in the vicinity from the CNDDDB or other documentation; presence of suitable habitat conditions  
 Moderate = known occurrence of species in the vicinity from the CNDDDB or other documentation; presence of marginal habitat conditions within the site  
 Low = species known to occur in the vicinity from the CNDDDB or other documentation; lack of suitable habitat or poor quality  
 Unlikely = species not known to occur in the vicinity from the CNDDDB or other documentation, no suitable habitat is present within the site  
 Not Present = species was not observed during surveys

## **APPENDIX B**

California Natural Diversity Database Report





# Selected Elements by Scientific Name

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Natural Diversity Database



Query Criteria: Quad (Marina (3612167) OR Salinas (3612166) OR Monterey (3612158) OR Seaside (3612157) OR Spreckels (3612156) OR Carmel Valley (3612146) OR Mt. Carmel (3612147) OR Soberanes Point (3612148))

Table with 7 columns: Species, Element Code, Federal Status, State Status, Global Rank, State Rank, Rare Plant Rank/CDFW SSC or FP. Rows include species like Agelaius tricolor, Agrostis lacuna-vernalis, Allium hickmanii, etc.



Selected Elements by Scientific Name  
California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
California Natural Diversity Database



Species	Element Code	Federal Status	State Status	Global Rank	State Rank	Rare Plant Rank/CDFW SSC or FP
<b><i>Centromadia parryi ssp. congdonii</i></b> Congdon's tarplant	PDAST4R0P1	None	None	G3T2	S2	1B.1
<b><i>Charadrius nivosus nivosus</i></b> western snowy plover	ABNNB03031	Threatened	None	G3T3	S2	SSC
<b><i>Chorizanthe minutiflora</i></b> Fort Ord spineflower	PDPGN04100	None	None	G1	S1	1B.2
<b><i>Chorizanthe pungens var. pungens</i></b> Monterey spineflower	PDPGN040M2	Threatened	None	G2T2	S2	1B.2
<b><i>Clarkia jolonensis</i></b> Jolon clarkia	PDONA050L0	None	None	G2	S2	1B.2
<b><i>Coelus globosus</i></b> globose dune beetle	IICOL4A010	None	None	G1G2	S1S2	
<b><i>Collinsia multicolor</i></b> San Francisco collinsia	PDSCR0H0B0	None	None	G2	S2	1B.2
<b><i>Cordylanthus rigidus ssp. littoralis</i></b> seaside bird's-beak	PDSCR0J0P2	None	Endangered	G5T2	S2	1B.1
<b><i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i></b> Townsend's big-eared bat	AMACC08010	None	None	G4	S2	SSC
<b><i>Coturnicops noveboracensis</i></b> yellow rail	ABNME01010	None	None	G4	S1S2	SSC
<b><i>Cypseloides niger</i></b> black swift	ABNUA01010	None	None	G4	S2	SSC
<b><i>Danaus plexippus plexippus pop. 1</i></b> monarch - California overwintering population	IILEPP2012	Candidate	None	G4T1T2	S2	
<b><i>Delphinium californicum ssp. interius</i></b> Hospital Canyon larkspur	PDRAN0B0A2	None	None	G3T3	S3	1B.2
<b><i>Delphinium hutchinsoniae</i></b> Hutchinson's larkspur	PDRAN0B0V0	None	None	G2	S2	1B.2
<b><i>Delphinium umbraculorum</i></b> umbrella larkspur	PDRAN0B1W0	None	None	G3	S3	1B.3
<b><i>Emys marmorata</i></b> western pond turtle	ARAAD02030	None	None	G3G4	S3	SSC
<b><i>Eremophila alpestris actia</i></b> California horned lark	ABPAT02011	None	None	G5T4Q	S4	WL
<b><i>Ericameria fasciculata</i></b> Eastwood's goldenbush	PDAST3L080	None	None	G2	S2	1B.1
<b><i>Eriogonum nortonii</i></b> Pinnacles buckwheat	PDPGN08470	None	None	G2	S2	1B.3
<b><i>Erysimum ammophilum</i></b> sand-loving wallflower	PDBRA16010	None	None	G2	S2	1B.2
<b><i>Erysimum menziesii</i></b> Menzies' wallflower	PDBRA160R0	Endangered	Endangered	G1	S1	1B.1



**Selected Elements by Scientific Name**  
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Species	Element Code	Federal Status	State Status	Global Rank	State Rank	Rare Plant Rank/CDFW SSC or FP
<i>Eucyclogobius newberryi</i> tidewater goby	AFCQN04010	Endangered	None	G3	S3	
<i>Eumetopias jubatus</i> Steller sea lion	AMAJC03010	Delisted	None	G3	S2	
<i>Euphilotes enoptes smithi</i> Smith's blue butterfly	IILEPG2026	Endangered	None	G5T1T2	S1	
<i>Falco mexicanus</i> prairie falcon	ABNKD06090	None	None	G5	S4	WL
<i>Fritillaria liliacea</i> fragrant fritillary	PMLIL0V0C0	None	None	G2	S2	1B.2
<i>Gilia tenuiflora ssp. arenaria</i> Monterey gilia	PDPLM041P2	Endangered	Threatened	G3G4T2	S2	1B.2
<i>Hesperocyparis goveniana</i> Gowen cypress	PGCUP04031	Threatened	None	G1	S1	1B.2
<i>Hesperocyparis macrocarpa</i> Monterey cypress	PGCUP04060	None	None	G1	S1	1B.2
<i>Horkelia cuneata var. sericea</i> Kellogg's horkelia	PDR0S0W043	None	None	G4T1?	S1?	1B.1
<i>Horkelia marinensis</i> Point Reyes horkelia	PDR0S0W0B0	None	None	G2	S2	1B.2
<i>Hydrobates homochroa</i> ashy storm-petrel	ABNDC04030	None	None	G2	S2	SSC
<i>Lasiurus cinereus</i> hoary bat	AMACC05030	None	None	G3G4	S4	
<i>Lasthenia conjugens</i> Contra Costa goldfields	PDAST5L040	Endangered	None	G1	S1	1B.1
<i>Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus</i> California black rail	ABNME03041	None	Threatened	G3T1	S1	FP
<i>Lavinia exilicauda harengus</i> Monterey hitch	AFCJB19013	None	None	G4T3	S3	SSC
<i>Layia carnosa</i> beach layia	PDAST5N010	Threatened	Endangered	G2	S2	1B.1
<i>Legenere limosa</i> legenere	PDCAM0C010	None	None	G2	S2	1B.1
<i>Linderiella occidentalis</i> California linderiella	ICBRA06010	None	None	G2G3	S2S3	
<i>Lupinus tidestromii</i> Tidestrom's lupine	PDFAB2B3Y0	Endangered	Endangered	G1	S1	1B.1
<i>Malacothamnus palmeri var. involucratus</i> Carmel Valley bush-mallow	PDMAL0Q0B1	None	None	G3T2Q	S2	1B.2
<i>Malacothrix saxatilis var. arachnoidea</i> Carmel Valley malacothrix	PDAST660C2	None	None	G5T2	S2	1B.2



**Selected Elements by Scientific Name**  
**California Department of Fish and Wildlife**  
**California Natural Diversity Database**



Species	Element Code	Federal Status	State Status	Global Rank	State Rank	Rare Plant Rank/CDFW SSC or FP
<b><i>Meconella oregana</i></b> Oregon meconella	PDPAP0G030	None	None	G2G3	S2	1B.1
<b><i>Microseris paludosa</i></b> marsh microseris	PDAST6E0D0	None	None	G2	S2	1B.2
<b><i>Monardella sinuata ssp. nigrescens</i></b> northern curly-leaved monardella	PDLAM18162	None	None	G3T2	S2	1B.2
<b><i>Monolopia gracilens</i></b> woodland woollythreads	PDAST6G010	None	None	G3	S3	1B.2
<b>Monterey Cypress Forest</b> Monterey Cypress Forest	CTT83150CA	None	None	G1	S1.2	
<b>Monterey Pine Forest</b> Monterey Pine Forest	CTT83130CA	None	None	G1	S1.1	
<b>Monterey Pygmy Cypress Forest</b> Monterey Pygmy Cypress Forest	CTT83162CA	None	None	G1	S1.1	
<b><i>Neotoma macrotis luciana</i></b> Monterey dusky-footed woodrat	AMAFF08083	None	None	G5T3	S3	SSC
<b>Northern Bishop Pine Forest</b> Northern Bishop Pine Forest	CTT83121CA	None	None	G2	S2.2	
<b>Northern Coastal Salt Marsh</b> Northern Coastal Salt Marsh	CTT52110CA	None	None	G3	S3.2	
<b><i>Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus pop. 9</i></b> steelhead - south-central California coast DPS	AFCHA0209H	Threatened	None	G5T2Q	S2	
<b><i>Pelecanus occidentalis californicus</i></b> California brown pelican	ABNFC01021	Delisted	Delisted	G4T3T4	S3	FP
<b><i>Phrynosoma blainvillii</i></b> coast horned lizard	ARACF12100	None	None	G3G4	S3S4	SSC
<b><i>Pinus radiata</i></b> Monterey pine	PGPIN040V0	None	None	G1	S1	1B.1
<b><i>Piperia yadonii</i></b> Yadon's rein orchid	PMORC1X070	Endangered	None	G1	S1	1B.1
<b><i>Plagiobothrys chorisianus var. chorisianus</i></b> Choris' popcornflower	PDBOR0V061	None	None	G3T1Q	S1	1B.2
<b><i>Plagiobothrys uncinatus</i></b> hooked popcornflower	PDBOR0V170	None	None	G2	S2	1B.2
<b><i>Potentilla hickmanii</i></b> Hickman's cinquefoil	PDROS1B370	Endangered	Endangered	G1	S1	1B.1
<b><i>Ramalina thrausta</i></b> angel's hair lichen	NLLEC3S340	None	None	G5?	S2S3	2B.1
<b><i>Rana boylei pop. 6</i></b> foothill yellow-legged frog - south coast DPS	AAABH01056	Proposed Endangered	Endangered	G3T1	S1	
<b><i>Rana draytonii</i></b> California red-legged frog	AAABH01022	Threatened	None	G2G3	S2S3	SSC



**Selected Elements by Scientific Name**  
**California Department of Fish and Wildlife**  
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Species	Element Code	Federal Status	State Status	Global Rank	State Rank	Rare Plant Rank/CDFW SSC or FP
<i>Reithrodontomys megalotis distichlis</i> Salinas harvest mouse	AMAFF02032	None	None	G5T1	S1	
<i>Riparia riparia</i> bank swallow	ABPAU08010	None	Threatened	G5	S2	
<i>Rosa pinetorum</i> pine rose	PDROS1J0W0	None	None	G2	S2	1B.2
<i>Sidalcea malachroides</i> maple-leaved checkerbloom	PDMAL110E0	None	None	G3	S3	4.2
<i>Sorex ornatus salarius</i> Monterey shrew	AMABA01105	None	None	G5T1T2	S1S2	SSC
<i>Spea hammondii</i> western spadefoot	AAABF02020	None	None	G2G3	S3	SSC
<i>Stebbinsoseris decipiens</i> Santa Cruz microseris	PDAST6E050	None	None	G2	S2	1B.2
<i>Sulcaria spiralis</i> twisted horsehair lichen	NLT0042560	None	None	G3G4	S2	1B.2
<i>Taricha torosa</i> Coast Range newt	AAAAF02032	None	None	G4	S4	SSC
<i>Taxidea taxus</i> American badger	AMAJF04010	None	None	G5	S3	SSC
<i>Thamnophis hammondii</i> two-striped gartersnake	ARADB36160	None	None	G4	S3S4	SSC
<i>Tortula californica</i> California screw moss	NBMUS7L090	None	None	G2G3	S2?	1B.2
<i>Trifolium buckwestiorum</i> Santa Cruz clover	PDFAB402W0	None	None	G2	S2	1B.1
<i>Trifolium hydrophilum</i> saline clover	PDFAB400R5	None	None	G2	S2	1B.2
<i>Trifolium polyodon</i> Pacific Grove clover	PDFAB402H0	None	Rare	G1	S1	1B.1
<i>Trifolium trichocalyx</i> Monterey clover	PDFAB402J0	Endangered	Endangered	G1	S1	1B.1
<i>Valley Needlegrass Grassland</i> Valley Needlegrass Grassland	CTT42110CA	None	None	G3	S3.1	

**Record Count: 99**

## **APPENDIX C**

IPac Resource List

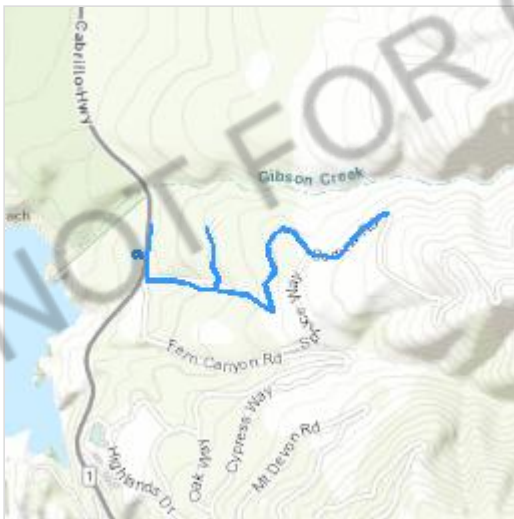
# IPaC resource list

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

Monterey County, California



## Local office

Ventura Fish And Wildlife Office

☎ (805) 644-1766

📠 (805) 644-3958

✉ [FW8VenturaSection7@FWS.Gov](mailto:FW8VenturaSection7@FWS.Gov)



2493 Portola Road, Suite B  
Ventura, CA 93003-7726

NOT FOR CONSULTATION

# 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 species<sup>1</sup> 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 Fisheries<sup>2</sup>).

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:

## Birds

NAME	STATUS
<p>California Condor <i>Gymnogyps californianus</i></p> <p>There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.</p> <p><a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8193">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8193</a></p>	Endangered
<p>California Least Tern <i>Sterna antillarum browni</i></p> <p>Wherever found</p> <p>No critical habitat has been designated for this species.</p> <p><a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8104">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8104</a></p>	Endangered
<p>Least Bell's Vireo <i>Vireo bellii pusillus</i></p> <p>Wherever found</p> <p>There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.</p> <p><a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5945">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5945</a></p>	Endangered
<p>Marbled Murrelet <i>Brachyramphus marmoratus</i></p> <p>There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.</p> <p><a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4467">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4467</a></p>	Threatened
<p>Southwestern Willow Flycatcher <i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i></p> <p>Wherever found</p> <p>There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.</p> <p><a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6749">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6749</a></p>	Endangered
<p>Western Snowy Plover <i>Charadrius nivosus nivosus</i></p> <p>There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.</p> <p><a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8035">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8035</a></p>	Threatened

Yellow-billed Cuckoo <i>Coccyzus americanus</i>	Threatened
There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.	
<a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3911">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3911</a>	

## Amphibians

NAME	STATUS
California Red-legged Frog <i>Rana draytonii</i>	Threatened
Wherever found	
There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.	
<a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2891">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2891</a>	
California Tiger Salamander <i>Ambystoma californiense</i>	Threatened
There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.	
<a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2076">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2076</a>	
Foothill Yellow-legged Frog <i>Rana boylei</i>	Proposed Endangered
No critical habitat has been designated for this species.	

## Fishes

NAME	STATUS
Tidewater Goby <i>Eucyclogobius newberryi</i>	Endangered
Wherever found	
There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.	
<a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/57">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/57</a>	

## Insects

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i>	Candidate
Wherever found	
No critical habitat has been designated for this species.	
<a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743</a>	

Smith's Blue Butterfly *Euphilotes enoptes smithi* Endangered  
 Wherever found  
 There is **proposed** critical habitat for this species.  
<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4418>

## Crustaceans

NAME	STATUS
Vernal Pool Fairy Shrimp <i>Branchinecta lynchi</i> Wherever found There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/498">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/498</a>	Threatened

## Flowering Plants

NAME	STATUS
Clover (tidestrom"s) Lupine <i>Lupinus tidestromii</i> Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4459">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4459</a>	Endangered
Coastal Dunes Milk-vetch <i>Astragalus tener</i> var. <i>titi</i> Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7675">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7675</a>	Endangered
Hickman's Potentilla <i>Potentilla hickmanii</i> Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6343">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6343</a>	Endangered
Marsh Sandwort <i>Arenaria paludicola</i> Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2229">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2229</a>	Endangered
Monterey Spineflower <i>Chorizanthe pungens</i> var. <i>pungens</i> Wherever found There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/396">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/396</a>	Threatened

Yadon's Piperia *Piperia yadonii*

Endangered

Wherever found

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

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4205>

## Conifers and Cycads

NAME

STATUS

Gowen Cypress *Cupressus goveniana* ssp. *goveniana*

Threatened

Wherever found

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8548>

## 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.

## Migratory birds

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act<sup>1</sup> and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act<sup>2</sup>.

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described [below](#).

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:

- Birds of Conservation Concern <https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-birds/species>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incident-take-migratory-birds>

- Nationwide conservation measures for birds

<https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf>

The birds listed below are birds of particular concern either because they occur on the [USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern \(BCC\)](#) list or warrant special attention in your project location. To learn more about the levels of concern for birds on your list and how this list is generated, see the FAQ [below](#). This is not a list of every bird you may find in this location, nor a guarantee that every bird on this list will be found in your project area. To see exact locations of where birders and the general public have sighted birds in and around your project area, visit the [E-bird data mapping tool](#) (Tip: enter your location, desired date range and a species on your list). For projects that occur off the Atlantic Coast, additional maps and models detailing the relative occurrence and abundance of bird species on your list are available. Links to additional information about Atlantic Coast birds, and other important information about your migratory bird list, including how to properly interpret and use your migratory bird report, can be found [below](#).

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, click on the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY at the top of your list to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
<p>Allen's Hummingbird <i>Selasphorus sasin</i></p> <p>This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.</p> <p><a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9637">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9637</a></p>	Breeds Feb 1 to Jul 15
<p>Bald Eagle <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i></p> <p>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.</p>	Breeds Jan 1 to Aug 31
<p>Belding's Savannah Sparrow <i>Passerculus sandwichensis beldingi</i></p> <p>This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA</p> <p><a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8</a></p>	Breeds Apr 1 to Aug 15
<p>Black Oystercatcher <i>Haematopus bachmani</i></p> <p>This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.</p> <p><a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9591">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9591</a></p>	Breeds Apr 15 to Oct 31

<p><b>Black Skimmer</b> <i>Rynchops niger</i>  This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.  <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5234">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5234</a></p>	Breeds May 20 to Sep 15
<p><b>Black Swift</b> <i>Cypseloides niger</i>  This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.  <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8878">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8878</a></p>	Breeds Jun 15 to Sep 10
<p><b>Black Turnstone</b> <i>Arenaria melanocephala</i>  This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.</p>	Breeds elsewhere
<p><b>Bullock's Oriole</b> <i>Icterus bullockii</i>  This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA</p>	Breeds Mar 21 to Jul 25
<p><b>California Gull</b> <i>Larus californicus</i>  This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.</p>	Breeds Mar 1 to Jul 31
<p><b>California Thrasher</b> <i>Toxostoma redivivum</i>  This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.</p>	Breeds Jan 1 to Jul 31
<p><b>Clark's Grebe</b> <i>Aechmophorus clarkii</i>  This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.</p>	Breeds Jun 1 to Aug 31
<p><b>Common Yellowthroat</b> <i>Geothlypis trichas sinuosa</i>  This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA  <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2084">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2084</a></p>	Breeds May 20 to Jul 31
<p><b>Golden Eagle</b> <i>Aquila chrysaetos</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.  <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680</a></p>	Breeds Jan 1 to Aug 31



<b>Lawrence's Goldfinch</b> <i>Carduelis lawrencei</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9464">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9464</a>	Breeds Mar 20 to Sep 20
<b>Long-eared Owl</b> <i>asio otus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3631">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3631</a>	Breeds Mar 1 to Jul 15
<b>Marbled Godwit</b> <i>Limosa fedoa</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9481">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9481</a>	Breeds elsewhere
<b>Nuttall's Woodpecker</b> <i>Picoides nuttallii</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9410">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9410</a>	Breeds Apr 1 to Jul 20
<b>Oak Titmouse</b> <i>Baeolophus inornatus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9656">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9656</a>	Breeds Mar 15 to Jul 15
<b>Olive-sided Flycatcher</b> <i>Contopus cooperi</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3914">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3914</a>	Breeds May 20 to Aug 31
<b>Short-billed Dowitcher</b> <i>Limnodromus griseus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9480">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9480</a>	Breeds elsewhere
<b>Tricolored Blackbird</b> <i>Agelaius tricolor</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3910">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3910</a>	Breeds Mar 15 to Aug 10

**Western Grebe** *Aechmophorus occidentalis*

Breeds Jun 1 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/6743>

**Willet** *Tringa semipalmata*

Breeds elsewhere

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

**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 and understand the FAQ "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.

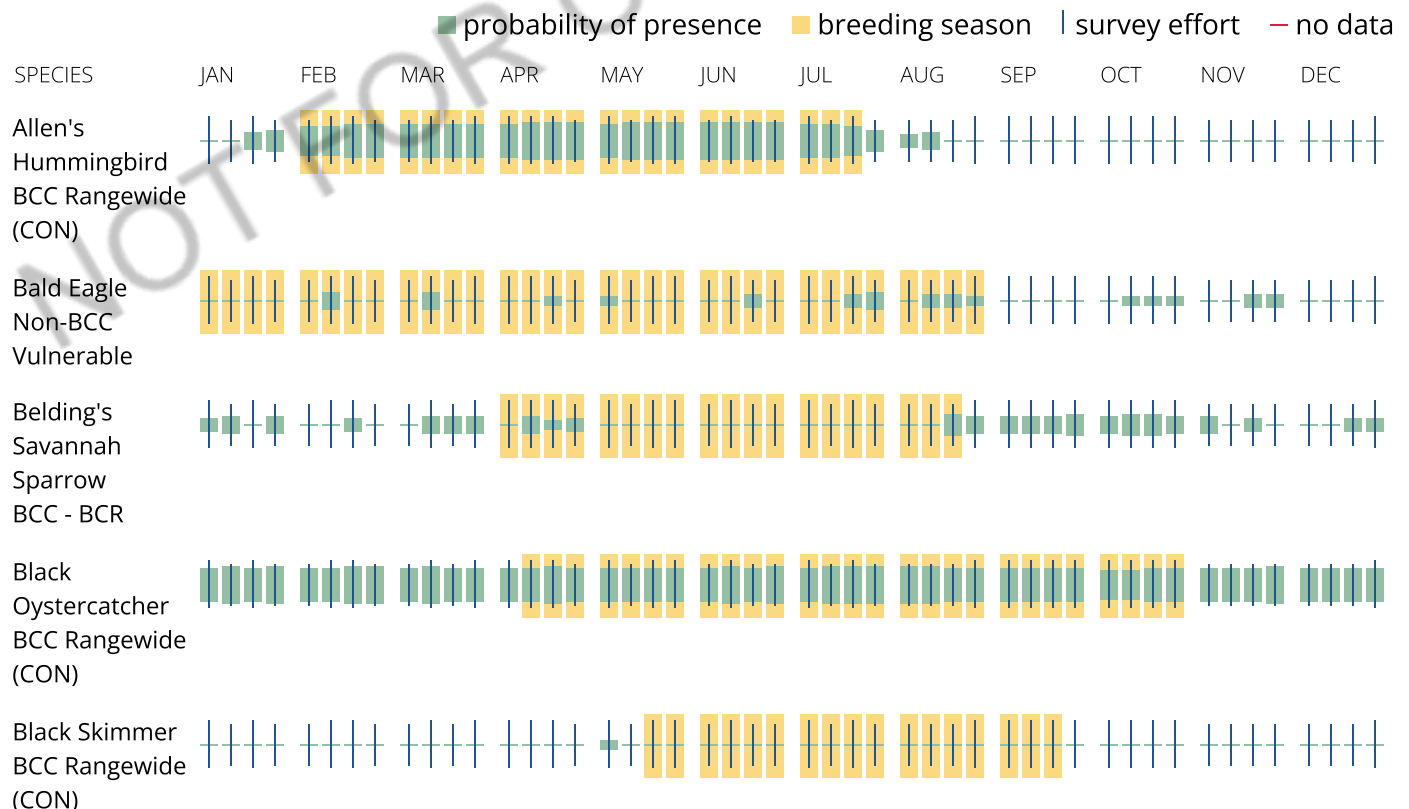
To see a bar's survey effort range, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

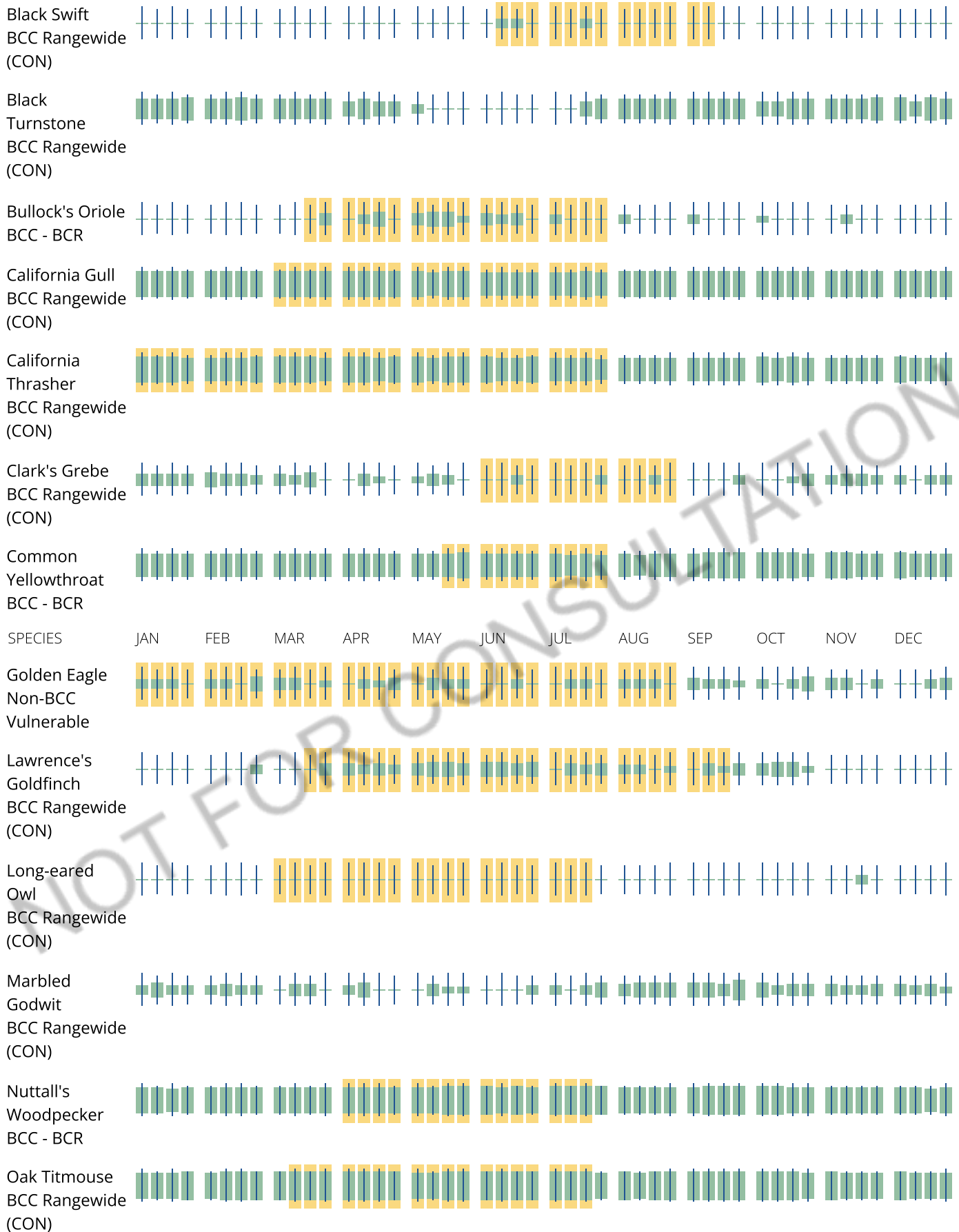
**No Data (-)**

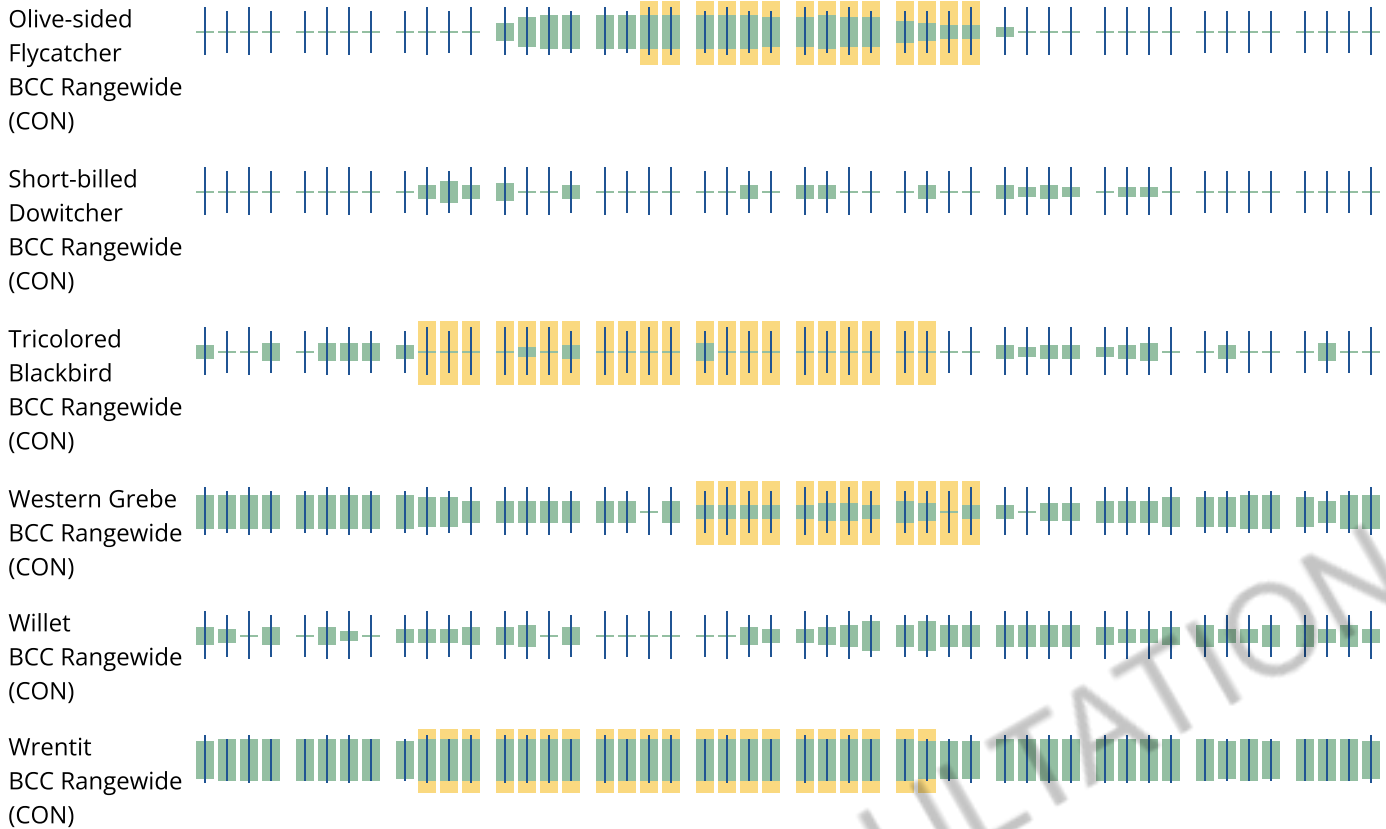
A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

**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.







**Tell me more about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds.**

[Nationwide Conservation Measures](#) describes measures that can help avoid and minimize impacts to all birds at any location year round. Implementation of these measures is particularly important when birds are most likely to occur in the project area. When birds may be breeding in the area, identifying the locations of any active nests and avoiding their destruction is a very helpful impact minimization measure. To see when birds are most likely to occur and be breeding 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 USFWS [Birds of Conservation Concern \(BCC\)](#) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

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) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle ([Eagle 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, please visit the [Rapid Avian Information Locator \(RAIL\) Tool](#).

## 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 year-round), you may query your location using the [RAIL Tool](#) and look at 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 migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it, if that bird does occur in your project area, 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 [Eagle 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 try 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 eagles and BCC species of rangewide concern. For more information on conservation measures you can implement to help avoid and minimize migratory bird impacts and requirements for eagles, please see the FAQs for these topics.

## 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.

Bird tracking data can also provide additional details about occurrence and habitat use throughout the year, including migration. Models relying on survey data may not include this information. For additional information on marine bird tracking data, see the [Diving Bird Study](#) and the [nanotag studies](#) or contact



[Caleb Spiegel](#) or [Pam Loring](#).

### What if I have eagles on my list?

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to [obtain a permit](#) to avoid violating the Eagle Act should such impacts occur.

### 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 also look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical bar) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal bar). 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 is not perfect; 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 helps you know what to look for to confirm presence, and helps guide you in knowing when to implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize potential impacts from your project activities, should presence be confirmed. To learn more about conservation measures, visit the FAQ "Tell me about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds" at the bottom of your migratory bird trust resources page.

## Coastal Barrier Resources System

Projects within the [John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System](#) (CBRS) may be subject to the restrictions on Federal expenditures and financial assistance and the consultation requirements of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA) (16 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.). For more information, please contact the local [Ecological Services Field Office](#) or visit the [CBRA Consultations website](#). The CBRA website provides tools such as a flow chart to help determine whether consultation is required and a template to facilitate the consultation process.

There are no known coastal barriers at this location.

### Data limitations

The CBRS boundaries used in IPaC are representations of the controlling boundaries, which are depicted on the [official CBRS maps](#). The boundaries depicted in this layer are not to be considered authoritative for in/out determinations close to a CBRS boundary (i.e., within the "CBRS Buffer Zone" that appears as a

hatched area on either side of the boundary). For projects that are very close to a CBRS boundary but do not clearly intersect a unit, you may contact the Service for an official determination by following the instructions here: <https://www.fws.gov/service/coastal-barrier-resources-system-property-documentation>

### Data exclusions

CBRS units extend seaward out to either the 20- or 30-foot bathymetric contour (depending on the location of the unit). The true seaward extent of the units is not shown in the CBRS data, therefore projects in the offshore areas of units (e.g., dredging, breakwaters, offshore wind energy or oil and gas projects) may be subject to CBRA even if they do not intersect the CBRS data. For additional information, please contact [CBRA@fws.gov](mailto:CBRA@fws.gov).

## Facilities

### National Wildlife Refuge lands

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the [National Wildlife Refuge](#) system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

There are no refuge lands at this location.

### Fish hatcheries

There are no fish hatcheries at this location.

## 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](#).



## Wetland information is not available at this time

This can happen when the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) map service is unavailable, or for very large projects that intersect many wetland areas. Try again, or visit the [NWI map](#) to view wetlands at this location.

### 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.

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**Appendix C**  
**Arborist Report**



## MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 24, 2023

TO: Rachél Lather, MS, PE, Principal Engineer  
Carmel Area Wastewater District

FROM: Patric Krabacher, ISA Certified Arborist 11759  
Denise Duffy & Associates, Inc.

RE: **Arborist Report for the Corona Road Sewer Extension Project**

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Denise Duffy & Associates, Inc. (DD&A) was contracted by the Carmel Area Wastewater District (CAWD) to conduct a tree survey and prepare an arborist report for the Corona Road Sewer Extension Project (project), located in the California Coastal Zone within the Carmel Highlands area of unincorporated Monterey County (County). The primary objective of the proposed project is to eliminate septic systems within the project area and to provide wastewater service from the District to the Corona Road parcels where there is critical need for such services. The proposed project involves formation of a new assessment district and construction of a wastewater service extension to the Corona Road area of Carmel Highlands, in Monterey County, California. The new assessment district would collect charges from customers in the project area solely to fund the capital costs associated with the proposed extension of wastewater service to the area. The proposed project involves the installation of a new sanitary sewer transmission pipeline and an associated pump station.

The proposed sanitary sewer collection system will consist of four (4) separate gravity mains, made of Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) pipe. The longest main will be approximately 3,500 feet in length, beginning at the east side of State Route (SR) 1, north of the intersection with Corona Road, and will extend south along the east side of SR 1, and then east and upward along Corona Road. Another branch gravity main in Corona Way will extend approximately 600 feet north and upward from the intersection with Corona Road. The third branch gravity main will be approximately 300 feet in length and will be constructed along the east side of SR 1 from the pump station northerly and upward. The installation of the three separate gravity mains would result in the installation of a total of 4,400 feet of new pipeline. The final gravity main would be installed beneath Highway 1 and would connect to a new pump station located on the west side of SR 1, as described below. Lateral connections from the proposed pipeline alignment to private parcels along the alignment would be installed under a future phase of the proposed project. This future phase of the proposed project is not analyzed in this environmental document and would be subject to the appropriate level of environmental review under CEQA at the time these improvements are proposed. Pipeline will be installed in the disturbed right-of-way and roadway throughout the entirety of the alignment. No trees would be removed as a result of installation of the pipeline. All pipelines would be installed via trenching in paved areas. The proposed design includes 22 manholes and three (3) clean-outs.

A pump station is proposed within the northeastern portion of the “Rodgers' property” located at 29152 Highway 1 (APN 241-061-015) on the west side of SR 1 and has been sited so as to avoid tree removal and other impacts to existing trees. The pump station would be located on a 468 square foot easement and will be housed beneath two concrete slabs measuring approximately 100 square feet in total. The pump station will be constructed with pre-cast concrete sections and placed entirely underground, with the concrete slab laid on top, except for the Pacific Gas & Electric Company's (PG&E's) electrical service facilities, a vent pipe, and the pump station control panel. Electrical power will be furnished via a new service from PG&E. The pump station would include a connection for a backup generator; however, no backup generators would be installed permanently at the site. The approximate project disturbance area and the survey area (approximately 25 feet from centerline of the project) are shown on **Figure 2**.

A 600 square foot construction staging area for the pump station would be located off-site at CAWD's treatment plant. A 360 square foot construction easement/staging area for the pump station would be located immediately west of the pump station site. A new 10-foot wide access easement is also proposed at the mouth of the private road on the west side of Corona Road to ensure safe access to the pump station and to residents. In addition, a construction laydown area for pipeline installation and small construction equipment parking would also be established at 74 Corona Road (APN 241-052-001).

Tree removal is not expected as part of the project. To ensure that trees are avoided, DD&A conducted a tree survey of the site and surrounding areas in December 2022 to map the trees adjacent to the proposed project alignment. This report documents methodology and results of the tree survey, recommends measures to avoid or minimize potential project-related impacts to trees within the project site, and identifies the regulatory requirements for tree removal (if determined to be necessary) within the site.

## **METHODS**

### **Regulatory Setting**

#### Carmel Area Land Use Plan and Coastal Implementation Plan

The project site lies within the California Coastal Zone. Development, including tree removal, within the site is regulated by the Carmel Area Land Use Plan (LUP), the certified Local Coastal Program for the region, and the Carmel Area Coastal Implementation Plan (CIP). In accordance with the Carmel Area LUP and CIP, a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) and a Forest Management Plan (FMP) are required to remove trees greater than 12 inches in diameter within the boundaries of the Carmel Area LUP and CIP, with the following exceptions:

- a. removal of non-native or planted trees, except where this would result in the exposure of structures in the critical viewshed area; where defined as habitat; where previously protected by coastal permit or forest management plan or scenic/conservation easement.
- b. removal of hazardous trees which pose an immediate danger to life or structures;
- c. thinning of small (less than 12" in diameter) or dead trees from densely forested areas, especially as needed to reduce unsafe fuel accumulations adjacent to existing occupied buildings;
- d. prescribed burning, crushing, lopping or other methods of brush clearing which do not materially disturb underlying soils; or

- e. a Timber Harvest Plan is required for the tree removal, in accordance with State requirements.

In addition, the CIP does not require a coastal development permit if the Zoning Administrator determines that:

- a. removal of diseased trees which threaten to spread the disease to nearby forested areas as verified in writing by a Certified Arborist or qualified forester selected from the County's list of consulting foresters or arborists; or
- b. removal of trees in accordance with a previously approved Forest Management plan.

The CIP prohibits removal of landmark trees (defined as native trees which are 24 inches or more in diameter when measured at breast height, or a tree which is visually significant, historically significant, exemplary of its species, or more than 1000 years old) unless no feasible and prudent alternatives to such removal are available.

The following tree-related general policies from the Carmel Area LUP may be applicable to the project:

- |                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| General Policy 2.2-7    | Structures shall be located and designed to minimize tree removal and grading for the building site and access road. Where earth movement would result in extensive slope disturbance or scarring visible from public viewing points and corridors, such activity will not be allowed. Extensive landform alteration shall not be permitted.   |
| Specific Policy 2.2-10e | [For new development.] Existing trees and other native vegetation should be retained to the maximum extent possible both during the construction process and after the development is completed. Landscape screening may be used wherever a moderate extension of native forested and chaparral areas is appropriate. All new landscaping must be compatible with the scenic character of the area and should retain existing shoreline and ocean views. |
| General Policy 2.5-2    | All cutting or removal of trees shall be in keeping with the broad resource protection objectives of this plan. Specific policies, criteria, and standards of other sections of this plan shall govern both commercial and noncommercial tree removal.   |
| General Policy 2.5-3    | Restoration of native forest resources is encouraged for public agencies and residents as a means of maintaining and enhancing the Carmel area's natural character. Removal of non-native tree species is encouraged except where such vegetation provides important wildlife habitat.   |
| General Policy 2.5-8    | In addition to compliance with forestry and soils resources policies, all developments, forest management activities and tree removal shall specifically conform to the LCP policies regarding water and marine resources, sensitive habitat area and coastal visual resources.  |

## Survey Methods

DD&A biologists, led by International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Certified Arborist Patric Krabacher, conducted a tree inventory of the project site on December 22, 2022. The survey area included the project site and a 25-foot buffer around the site. All trees at least 12 inches in size (diameter at breast height [or DBH] at two [2] feet above the natural grade) within the survey area were evaluated by species and size and were mapped using GPS equipment<sup>1</sup>. GPS data were collected using a Trimble® Geo 7 Series GPS with an attached Rangefinder to gather offsets and were then digitized using Trimble® GPS Pathfinder and ESRI® ArcGIS 10.4. GPS data were collected using geographic coordinate system Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) Zone 10 North and the World Geodetic System 1984 (WGS84) datum. No physical markers (tags) were placed on any of the trees surveyed.

## Limitations

It is not the intent of this report to provide a monetary valuation of the trees or provide risk assessment for any tree on this parcel, as any tree can fail at any time. No clinical diagnosis was performed on any pest or pathogen that may or may not be present within the site. In addition to an inspection of the property, DD&A relied on information provided by the project proponent (such as survey data, property boundaries, and property ownership information) to prepare this report, and must reasonably rely on the accuracy of the information provided. DD&A shall not be responsible for another's means, methods, techniques, schedules, or procedures, or for contractor safety or any other related programs, or for another's failure to complete work in accordance with approved plans and specifications.

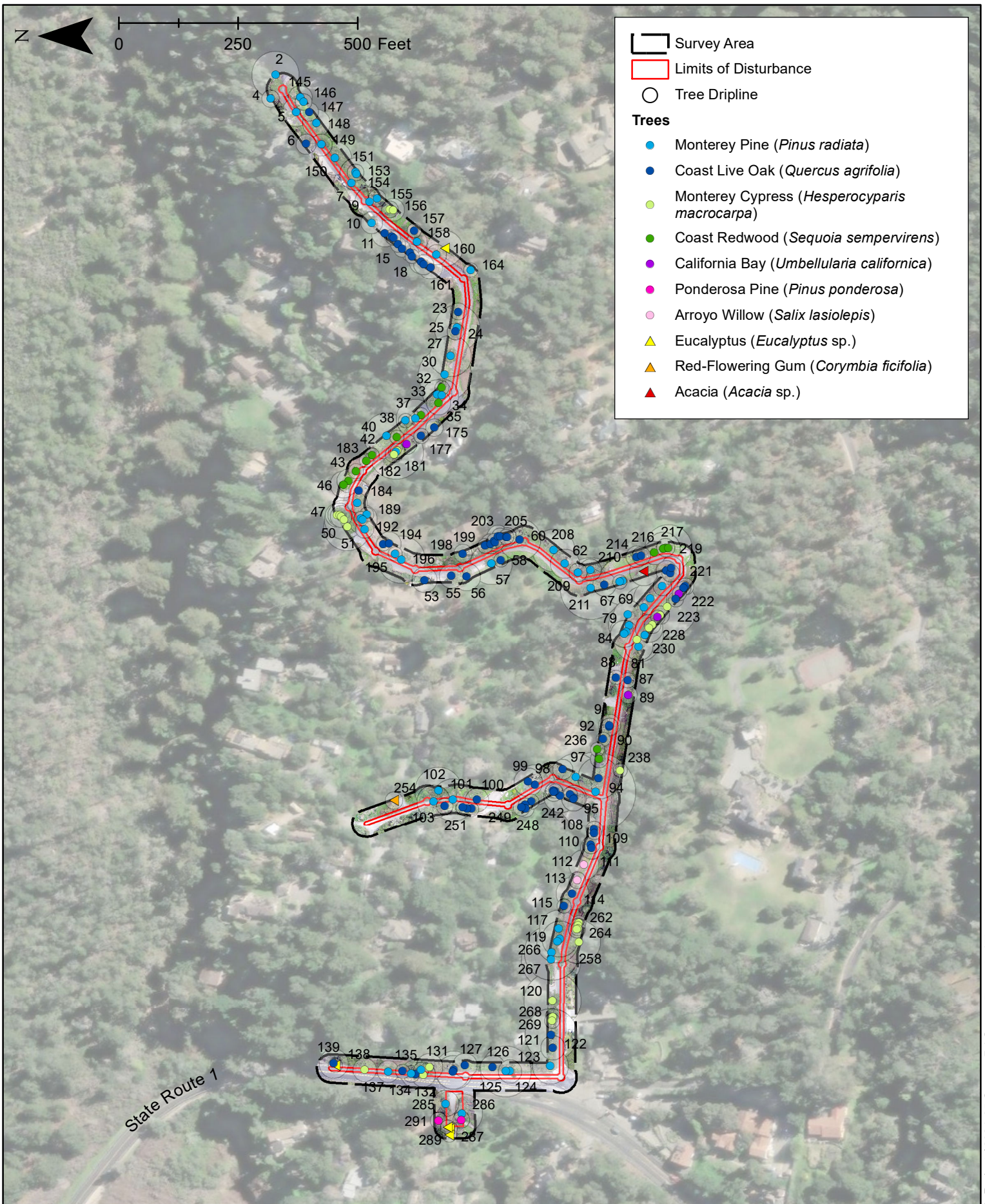
## RESULTS

DD&A inventoried 208 trees within the survey area (see **Figure 1** and **Appendix A**). Tree species identified include 83 coast live oaks (*Quercus agrifolia*), 68 Monterey pines (*Pinus radiata*), 27 Monterey cypresses (*Hesperocyparis macrocarpa*), 15 coast redwoods (*Sequoia sempervirens*), four (4) California bays (*Umbellularia californica*), five (5) eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus* sp.), two (2) arroyo willows (*Salix lasiolepis*), two (2) ponderosa pines (*Pinus ponderosa*), one (1) red-flowering gum (*Corymbia ficifolia*), and one (1) acacia (*Acacia* sp.). Trees are in average vigor for the area. No indicators or symptoms of sudden oak death were observed.

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<sup>1</sup> Due to access issues, some tree sizes were estimated from the road.





# Tree Survey Results

Date  
1/26/2023

Scale  
1 in = 300 ft



**Denise Duffy & Associates, Inc.**  
 Planning and Environmental Consulting

Figure  
**1**

## DISSCUSION

Excluding the proposed pump station location, the project footprint is confined to existing paved roads (see **Figure 1**). Therefore, tree removal is not expected as part of the project. Although tree removal will be avoided, many trees outside of the project footprint have driplines or critical root zones (CRZs) located within the project footprint which may be adversely impacted during excavation. Impacts to CRZs can be avoided with implementation of the following mitigation:

- MM 1: Prior to construction, CAWD shall retain a Certified Arborist to provide an on-site tree protection training to construction personnel. The training will include instruction on any required tree protection measures and exclusionary fencing which must be installed prior to grading, excavation, and construction activities. Construction personnel will sign an affidavit agreeing to abide by tree protection measures throughout the duration of construction.
- MM 2: Prior to construction, CAWD shall retain a Certified Arborist or biological monitor who shall be on site during initial ground-disturbing activities, including vegetation removal. Following initial ground-disturbing activities, the arborist or biological monitor shall monitor at least once per week throughout construction to ensure that tree protection measures identified in **MMs 3 and 4** are being implemented.
- MM 3: Prior to the commencement of any construction activity, CAWD and/or the project contractor shall implement the following tree protection measures:
- Trees located adjacent to the construction area shall be protected from damage by construction equipment by the use of temporary fencing and through wrapping of trunks with protective materials. No stripping of top soil or grubbing of understory shall occur in tree preservation zones.
  - Fenced areas and the trunk protection materials shall remain in place during the entire construction period. Should access to the area be necessary a Certified Arborist must be contacted to inspect the site for a recommended a course of action.
  - Fencing shall consist of chain link, snowdrift, plastic mesh, hay bales, or field fence. Existing fencing may also be used.
  - Fencing is not to be attached to the tree but free standing or self-supporting so as not to damage trees. Fencing shall be rigidly supported and shall stand a minimum of height of four feet above grade and should be placed to the farthest extent possible from the trees base to protect the area within the trees drip line (typically 10-12 feet away from the base of a tree).
  - In cases where access or space is limited for tree protection it is permissible to protect the tree within the 10–12-foot distance after determination and approval by a qualified forester or Certified Arborist.

- Soil compaction, parking of vehicles or heavy equipment, stockpiling of construction materials, cleaning of concrete or plaster, and/or dumping of spoils or materials shall not be allowed adjacent to trees on the property especially within or near fenced areas.

During grading and excavation activities:

- All trenching, grading or any other digging or soil removal that is expected to encounter tree roots should be monitored by a Certified Arborist or qualified forester to ensure against drilling or cutting into or through major roots. Again, no stripping of top soil or grubbing of understory shall occur in tree preservation zones.
- The project architect and Certified Arborist or qualified forester should be on site during excavation activities to direct any minor field adjustments that may be needed.
- Trenching for retaining walls or footings located adjacent to any tree shall be done by hand where practical and any roots greater than 3-inches diameter shall be bridged or pruned appropriately.
- Any roots that must be cut shall be cut by manually digging a trench and cutting exposed roots with a saw, vibrating knife, rock saw, narrow trencher with sharp blades, or other approved root pruning equipment.
- Any roots damaged during grading or excavation shall be exposed to sound tissue and cut cleanly with a saw. If at any time potentially significant roots are discovered:
- The arborist/forester will be authorized to halt excavation until appropriate mitigation measures are formulated and implemented.
- If significant roots are identified that must be removed that will destabilize or negatively affects the target trees negatively, the property owner will be notified immediately and a determination for removal will be assessed and made as required by law for treatment of the area that will not risk death decline or instability of the tree consistent with the implementation of appropriate construction design approaches to minimize affects, such as hand digging, bridging or tunneling under roots, etc.

MM 4: CAWD and/or the project contractor shall implement the following best management practices for working near trees:

- Do not deposit any fill around trees, which may compact soils and alter water and air relationships. Avoid depositing fill, parking equipment, or staging construction materials near existing trees. Covering and compacting soil around trees can alter water and air relationships with the roots. Fill placed within the dripline may encourage the development of oak rot fungus. As necessary, trees may be protected by boards, fencing, or other materials to delineate protection zones.



- Pruning shall be conducted so as not to unnecessarily injure the tree. General principals of pruning include placing cuts immediately beyond the branch collar, making clean cuts by scoring the underside of the branch first, and for live oak, avoiding the period from February through May.
- Native live oaks are not adapted to summer watering and may develop crown or root rot as a result. Do not regularly irrigate within the drip line of oaks. Native, locally adapted, drought resistant species are the most compatible with this goal.
- Root cutting should occur outside of the springtime. Late June and July would likely be the best. Pruning of the live crown should not occur February through May.
- Oak material greater than three inches in diameter remaining on site more than one month that is not cut and split into firewood should be covered with black plastic that is dug in securely around the pile. This will discourage infestation and dispersion of bark beetles.
- A mulch layer up to approximately four inches deep should be applied to the ground under selected oaks following construction. Only one to two inches of mulch should be applied within one to two feet of the trunk, and under no circumstances should any soil or mulch be placed against the root crown (base) of trees. The best source of mulch would be from chipped material generated on site.
- If trees along near the development are visibly declining in vigor, a Professional Forester or Certified Arborist should be contacted to inspect the site to recommend a course of action.

If it is determined that tree removal is required during final project design or during construction, CAWD would need to prepare an FMP and obtain a CDP prior to tree removal. Sixty-three (63) trees are landmark trees because they are 24" DBH or larger (see **Appendix A**). The CIP prohibits removal of landmark trees unless there are no feasible alternatives to facilitate construction of the project. Therefore, if CAWD determines that removal of a landmark tree is necessary, it would need to demonstrate in the FMP that there are no feasible alternatives to facilitate construction of the project. Tree removal would need to be conducted in accordance with any conditions set forth in the FMP and the approved CDP. Conditions could include, but would not be limited to, biological monitoring during construction and tree replacement following construction.

If you have any comments or questions about this report, please contact Patric Krabacher at [pkrabacher@ddaplanning.com](mailto:pkrabacher@ddaplanning.com) or (831) 373-4341 ext. 29.

## **APPENDICES**

### APPENDIX A: Tree Table

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**APPENDIX A**

Tree Table

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Tag	Scientific Name	Common Name	Individual Stem DBH (in)			Total DBH (in)	Dripline (ft)	Landmark
2	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	40			40	50	X
4	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	15			15	19	
5	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	24			24	30	X
6	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	12	12		17	21	
7	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	30			30	38	X
9	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	25			25	31	X
10	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	18			18	23	
11	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	12	12	14	22	28	
12	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	12			12	15	
13	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	12			12	15	
15	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	13			13	16	
16	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	14			14	18	
17	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	15			15	19	
18	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	12			12	15	
19	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	12	17		21	26	
23	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	14			14	18	
24	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	38			38	48	X
25	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	14			14	18	
27	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	35			35	44	X
30	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	45			45	56	X
32	<i>Sequoia sempervirens</i>	Coast Redwood	12			12	15	
33	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	25			25	31	X
34	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	28			28	35	X
35	<i>Sequoia sempervirens</i>	Coast Redwood	21			21	26	
36	<i>Sequoia sempervirens</i>	Coast Redwood	12			12	15	
37	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	32			32	40	X
38	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	12			12	15	
39	<i>Sequoia sempervirens</i>	Coast Redwood	12			12	15	
40	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	38			38	48	X
42	<i>Sequoia sempervirens</i>	Coast Redwood	12			12	15	
43	<i>Sequoia sempervirens</i>	Coast Redwood	13			13	16	
45	<i>Sequoia sempervirens</i>	Coast Redwood	20			20	25	
46	<i>Sequoia sempervirens</i>	Coast Redwood	22			22	28	
47	<i>Hesperocyparis macrocarpa</i>	Monterey Cypress	20			20	25	
48	<i>Hesperocyparis macrocarpa</i>	Monterey Cypress	20			20	25	
49	<i>Hesperocyparis macrocarpa</i>	Monterey Cypress	18			18	23	
50	<i>Hesperocyparis macrocarpa</i>	Monterey Cypress	26	20		33	41	X
51	<i>Hesperocyparis macrocarpa</i>	Monterey Cypress	40			40	50	X
53	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	15	15		21	27	
55	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	21			21	26	
56	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	18	14		23	29	



<b>Tag</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Individual Stem DBH (in)</b>		<b>Total DBH (in)</b>	<b>Dripline (ft)</b>	<b>Landmark</b>	
57	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	35		35	44	X	
58	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	12		12	15		
60	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	35		35	44	X	
62	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	25		25	31	X	
67	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	20		20	25		
68	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	40		40	50	X	
69	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	12		12	15		
71	<i>Acacia sp.</i>	Acacia	24		24	30	X	
73	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	12	13	18	22		
74	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	15		15	19		
75	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	20		20	25		
76	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	16		16	20		
77	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	28		28	35	X	
78	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	20	30	36	45	X	
79	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	25		25	31	X	
80	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	35		35	44	X	
81	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	24		24	30	X	
82	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	28		28	35	X	
84	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	23		23	29		
85	<i>Hesperocyparis macrocarpa</i>	Monterey Cypress	40		40	50	X	
87	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	13		13	16		
88	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	12		12	15		
89	<i>Umbellularia californica</i>	California Bay	15		15	19		
90	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	15		15	19		
91	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	18		18	23		
92	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	12		12	15		
93	<i>Sequoia sempervirens</i>	Coast Redwood	15		15	19		
94	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	35		35	44	X	
95	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	36	36	51	64	X	
96	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	40		40	50	X	
97	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	12	12	17	21		
98	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	20	20	18	34	42	X
99	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	24		24	30	X	
100	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	20		20	25		
101	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	36		36	45	X	
102	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	40		40	50	X	
103	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	28		28	35	X	
108	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	14		14	18		
109	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	12		12	15		
110	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	15		15	19		
111	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	19		19	24		

<b>Tag</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Individual Stem DBH (in)</b>		<b>Total DBH (in)</b>	<b>Dripline (ft)</b>	<b>Landmark</b>
112	<i>Salix lasiolepis</i>	Arroyo Willow	23	12	26	32	X
113	<i>Salix lasiolepis</i>	Arroyo Willow	14		14	18	
114	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	27		27	34	X
115	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	12		12	15	
117	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	32		32	40	X
118	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	30		30	38	X
119	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	35		35	44	X
120	<i>Hesperocyparis macrocarpa</i>	Monterey Cypress	48		48	60	X
121	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	36	25	44	55	X
122	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	21		21	26	
123	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	30		30	38	X
124	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	20		20	25	
125	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	42		42	53	X
126	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	18	12	22	27	
127	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	21		21	26	
128	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	30	12	32	40	X
129	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	28		28	35	X
131	<i>Hesperocyparis macrocarpa</i>	Monterey Cypress	22		22	28	
132	<i>Hesperocyparis macrocarpa</i>	Monterey Cypress	21		21	26	
133	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	24		24	30	X
134	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	14		14	18	
135	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	13		13	16	
136	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	12		12	15	
137	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	18		18	23	
138	<i>Hesperocyparis macrocarpa</i>	Monterey Cypress	12	16	20	25	
139	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	22	12	25	31	X
140	<i>Eucalyptus sp.</i>	Eucalyptus	12		12	15	
145	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	21		21	26	
146	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	14		14	18	
147	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	11	12	16	20	
148	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	23		23	29	
149	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	18		18	23	
150	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	28		28	35	X
151	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	14		14	18	
153	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	28		28	35	X
154	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	15		15	19	
155	<i>Hesperocyparis macrocarpa</i>	Monterey Cypress	14		14	18	
156	<i>Hesperocyparis macrocarpa</i>	Monterey Cypress	19		19	24	
157	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	12		12	15	
158	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	17		17	21	
159	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	17		17	21	

<b>Tag</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Individual Stem DBH (in)</b>		<b>Total DBH (in)</b>	<b>Dripline (ft)</b>	<b>Landmark</b>
160	<i>Eucalyptus sp.</i>	Eucalyptus	30		30	38	X
161	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	14	14	20	25	
162	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	12	12	17	21	
164	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	12		12	15	
175	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	15		15	19	
177	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	13		13	16	
178	<i>Umbellularia californica</i>	California Bay	12	12	17	21	
179	<i>Hesperocyparis macrocarpa</i>	Monterey Cypress	14		14	18	
180	<i>Hesperocyparis macrocarpa</i>	Monterey Cypress	12		12	15	
181	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	46		46	58	X
182	<i>Hesperocyparis macrocarpa</i>	Monterey Cypress	15		15	19	
183	<i>Sequoia sempervirens</i>	Coast Redwood	12		12	15	
184	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	12	12	17	21	
185	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	17		17	21	
189	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	12		12	15	
190	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	12		12	15	
191	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	25		25	31	X
192	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	16		16	20	
193	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	12		12	15	
194	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	12	12	21	26	
195	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	12		12	15	
196	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	40		40	50	X
198	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	16		16	20	
199	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	13		13	16	
200	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	17		17	21	
201	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	13		13	16	
202	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	15		15	19	
203	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	18		18	23	
204	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	14		14	18	
205	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	13		13	16	
206	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	16		16	20	
208	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	36		36	45	X
209	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	16		16	20	
210	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	18		18	23	
211	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	50	15	52	65	X
214	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	18		18	23	
215	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	16		16	20	
216	<i>Sequoia sempervirens</i>	Coast Redwood	20		20	25	
217	<i>Sequoia sempervirens</i>	Coast Redwood	16		16	20	
218	<i>Sequoia sempervirens</i>	Coast Redwood	28		28	35	X
219	<i>Sequoia sempervirens</i>	Coast Redwood	40		40	50	X

<b>Tag</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Individual Stem DBH (in)</b>	<b>Total DBH (in)</b>	<b>Dripline (ft)</b>	<b>Landmark</b>
221	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	14	14	18	
222	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	12	12	15	
223	<i>Hesperocyparis macrocarpa</i>	Monterey Cypress	50	50	63	X
224	<i>Umbellularia californica</i>	California Bay	12	12	15	
225	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	13	13	16	
226	<i>Hesperocyparis macrocarpa</i>	Monterey Cypress	16	16	20	
227	<i>Umbellularia californica</i>	California Bay	12	12	15	
228	<i>Hesperocyparis macrocarpa</i>	Monterey Cypress	14	14	18	
229	<i>Hesperocyparis macrocarpa</i>	Monterey Cypress	23	23	29	
230	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	31	31	39	X
236	<i>Sequoia sempervirens</i>	Coast Redwood	12	12	15	
238	<i>Hesperocyparis macrocarpa</i>	Monterey Cypress	12	12	15	
239	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	16	14	21	27
240	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	12	12	15	
241	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	20	20	25	
242	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	28	28	35	X
243	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	12	12	15	
244	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	13	13	16	
245	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	15	15	19	
246	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	13	13	16	
247	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	12	12	15	
248	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	14	14	18	
249	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	14	14	18	
250	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	12	12	15	
251	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	13	13	16	
252	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	12	12	15	
253	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	14	14	18	
254	<i>Corymbia ficifolia</i>	Red-Flowering Gum	15	15	19	
258	<i>Hesperocyparis macrocarpa</i>	Monterey Cypress	37	37	46	X
262	<i>Hesperocyparis macrocarpa</i>	Monterey Cypress	12	12	15	
263	<i>Hesperocyparis macrocarpa</i>	Monterey Cypress	12	12	15	
264	<i>Hesperocyparis macrocarpa</i>	Monterey Cypress	12	12	15	
265	<i>Hesperocyparis macrocarpa</i>	Monterey Cypress	14	14	18	
266	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	46	46	58	X
267	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	50	50	63	X
268	<i>Hesperocyparis macrocarpa</i>	Monterey Cypress	13	13	16	
269	<i>Hesperocyparis macrocarpa</i>	Monterey Cypress	13	13	16	
285	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	22	22	28	
286	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine	34	34	43	X
287	<i>Pinus ponderosa</i>	Ponderosa Pine	14	14	18	
288	<i>Eucalyptus sp.</i>	Eucalyptus	13	13	16	

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<b>Tag</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Individual Stem DBH (in)</b>	<b>Total DBH (in)</b>	<b>Dripline (ft)</b>	<b>Landmark</b>
289	<i>Eucalyptus sp.</i>	Eucalyptus	12	12	15	
291	<i>Pinus ponderosa</i>	Ponderosa Pine	14	14	18	
292	<i>Eucalyptus sp.</i>	Eucalyptus	12	12	15	

**Appendix D**  
**AB 52 Sample Letter**



# Carmel Area Wastewater District

P.O. Box 221428 Carmel California 93922 ♦ (831) 624-1248 ♦ FAX (831) 624-0811

Barbara Buikema  
General Manager  
Ed Waggoner  
Operations Superintendent  
Robert R. Wellington  
Legal Counsel

Board of Directors  
Gregory D'Ambrosio  
Michael K. Rachel  
Robert Siegfried  
Charlotte F. Townsend  
Ken White

February 28, 2023

ADDRESS

Phone: ADD

**Subject: Notification of Proposed Project Under AB 52 Amendment to CEQA for the Corona Road Sewer Extension Project (proposed project)**

Dear Recipient,

Carmel Area Wastewater District (CAWD) is the lead agency for the Corona Road Sewer Extension Project (proposed project). The proposed project consists of a construction of a new, sub-surface wastewater transmission pipeline and an associated pump station. The Area of Potential Effect (APE) is approximately a 0.8-mile linear route and a 0.1-acre area in Monterey County, California. A map showing the proposed project area is attached. The proposed project includes:

- Installation of 4,400 feet (0.8 miles) of new pipeline between four gravity mains beneath paved roadways within Corona Road, Corona Way, and Highway 1;
- A small laydown area on the northern boundary of 74 Corona Road, within the APE and,
- Construction of a new pump station on an approximately 0.1-acre site on the east side of Highway 1.

A search of records at the Northwest Information Center conducted by Albion Environmental indicated that a total of 18 archaeological studies have previously been conducted within the APE and a total of 25 archaeological studies have previously been conducted within a 500-foot radius of the APE. Two archaeological resources have been previously identified within the APE; one is precolonial and one is an historic district. Project ground disturbance includes the sewer mains, which are expected to be between 5 and 9 feet in depth, and the pumping station, which will be at least 12 feet in depth below the existing adjacent grade. A Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment by for the proposed project has been prepared Albion Environmental and is available upon request.

The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) has provided the Recipient in a consultation list of tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated within the geographic area of the above listed proposed project. The result of the NAHC Sacred Lands File check was positive. CAWD is interested in obtaining additional information regarding the presence of cultural resources within or adjacent to proposed project locations and in learning of any concerns you or other tribal members may have regarding this proposed project. Please provide your comments and if you feel that other groups or individuals should be contacted, please let me know at:

Carmel Area Wastewater District  
Attention: Rachél Lather, Principal Engineer  
3945 Rio Road, Carmel-by-the-Sea, CA 93923  
(831) 624-1248 ex. 203,  
[lather@cawd.org](mailto:lather@cawd.org)

Please consider this letter and preliminary project information as the notification of a proposed project as required under the California Environmental Quality Act, specifically Public Resources Code (PRC) 21080.3.1 and Chapter 532 Statutes of 2014 (i.e., AB 52). Please respond within 30 days, pursuant to PRC 21080.3.1 (d) if you would like to consult on this proposed project. Additionally, with your response, please provide a designated contact person.  
Very Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R Lather". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Rachél Lather, Principal Engineer CAWD





File name: Figure\_1.ai; 2022-04-23, Stella D'Oro, 07December2022