
**SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY
CLEVELAND NATIONAL FOREST
POWER LINE REPLACEMENT PROJECTS
ARROYO TOAD MONITORING AND RELOCATION PLAN**

**Updated
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PREPARED BY:



PREPARED FOR:



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1 – INTRODUCTION

The Arroyo Toad Monitoring and Relocation Plan (Plan) describes the arroyo toad (*Anaxyrus californicus*) monitoring program that will be implemented by San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) during construction of Circuit (C) 157 as part of the Cleveland National Forest Power Line Replacement Projects (Project). The Project primarily includes fire hardening (wood to-steel pole replacement and reconductoring) and removal, relocation, and/or undergrounding of certain facilities located within and outside of the Cleveland National Forest. The Project occurs on both federal lands and non-federal lands, as shown in Figure 1: Project Overview Map, and includes the following components:

- replacement of approximately 1,400 existing wood poles with fire-resistant, weathered steel poles;
- undergrounding of approximately 26 miles of existing 12 kilovolt (kV) distribution lines;
- removal of approximately 30 miles of existing 12 kV and 19 miles of existing 69 kV overhead facilities; and
- closure of approximately 24 miles of access roads.

The reconstruction of C157 includes the approved federally preferred alternative, which includes a realignment of a portion of the existing line south and outside of the United States (U.S.) Forest Service's (USFS's) Pine Creek and Hauser Wilderness areas. The reconstruction includes the replacement/relocation of 57 existing wood poles with steel poles.

This Plan is prepared in accordance with Mitigation Measure (MM) BIO-33 as described in the Project's Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement's (Final EIR/EIS) Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program (MMCRP), and the USFS Record of Decision (ROD) for the Project. As defined in the Final EIR/EIS and the MMCRP; this plan is only applicable for arroyo toad designated critical habitat areas¹ along USFS Proposed Action C157 Options 1 and 2. Per the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) Decision Order and USFS ROD, the approved Project is C157 Option 2.

2 – OBJECTIVES

The objective of this Plan is to describe implementation of MM BIO-33 on C157. The monitoring practices and activities in this Plan are intended to accomplish the following objectives:

- coordinate with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the USFS, and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife;
- delineate work areas within or adjacent to occupied arroyo toad habitat, and direct construction personnel on the installation of the exclusion/barrier fencing;

¹ In addition, USFS occupied arroyo toad habitat will be included in the scope of this plan.

- survey exclusion areas and relocate arroyo toads prior to any construction activity;
- monitor all construction activity within or adjacent to occupied arroyo toad habitat;
- track arroyo toad activity and make recommendations to reduce potential encounters, including the installation of barrier fences and pitfall traps in arroyo toad sensitive areas² if necessary;
- routinely inspect arroyo toad exclusion areas and direct exclusion/barrier fence repairs; and
- report findings to the appropriate agencies.

3 – MITIGATION REQUIREMENTS

The following MM is included in the MMCRP and USFS ROD and pertains to the implementation of this Plan:

MM BIO-33: Focused surveys for arroyo toad shall be conducted. Prior to initiating construction, all riverbed areas within 1,000 feet of construction sites and access roads shall be surveyed during the appropriate season (December 1 through July 31) for arroyo toad. The applicant shall contract with a qualified biologist to conduct focused surveys for arroyo toad. If arroyo toads are detected in or adjacent to the project site, no work will be authorized within 500 feet of occupied habitat until the project applicant receives concurrence from the USFWS that work may proceed. If arroyo toads are detected in or adjacent to the project site, the project applicant shall develop and implement a monitoring plan that includes the following measures, in consultation with the USFWS:

1. The applicant shall retain a qualified biologist with demonstrated expertise with arroyo toads to monitor all construction activities in potential arroyo toad habitat and assist the project applicant in the implementation of the monitoring program. This person will be approved by the CPUC and USFS prior to the onset of ground-disturbing activities. This biologist will be referred to as the “authorized biologist” hereafter. The authorized biologist will be present during all activities immediately adjacent to or within habitat that supports populations of arroyo toad.
2. Prior to the onset of construction activities, the authorized biologist shall provide all personnel who will be present on work areas within or adjacent to the project site with the following information:
 - a. A detailed description of the arroyo toad, including color photographs;
 - b. a description of the protection the arroyo toad receives under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and possible legal action that may be incurred for violation of the act;

² Arroyo toad sensitive areas are Project areas (e.g., access roads) that are adjacent to arroyo toad habitat, are easily accessible by arroyo toad, and have a high likelihood of encounter.

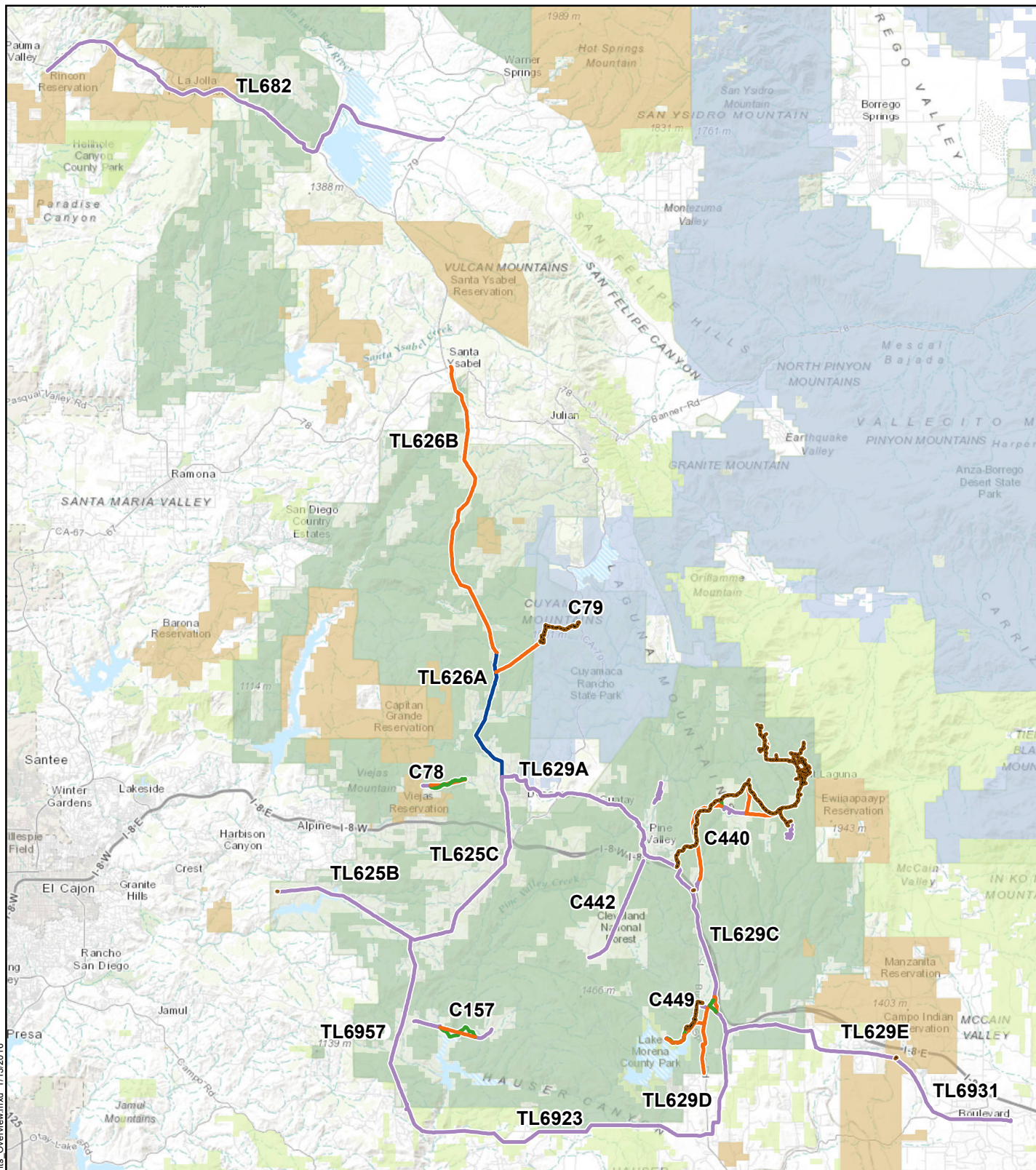









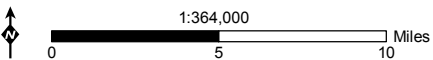


Figure 1: Project Overview Map

Master Special Use Permit and Permit to Construct Power Line Replacement Projects

- | | |
|---|---|
|  New Steel |  California Department of Parks and Recreation |
|  Removal |  U.S. Bureau of Land Management |
|  Undergrounding |  U.S. Forest Service |
|  Wood-to-Steel 12 kV |  Bureau of Indian Affairs Land |
|  Wood-to-Steel Replacement | |



- c. the protective measures being implemented to conserve the arroyo toad and other species during construction activities associated with the proposed project; and
 - d. a point of contact if arroyo toads are observed.
3. All trash that may attract predators of the arroyo toad will be removed from work sites or completely secured at the end of each workday.
 4. Prior to the onset of any construction activities, the project applicant shall meet on site with staff from the USFWS and the authorized biologist. The applicant shall provide information on the general location of construction activities within habitat of the arroyo toad and the actions taken to reduce impacts to this species. Because arroyo toads may occur in various locations during different seasons of the year, the project applicant, USFWS and authorized biologists will, at this preliminary meeting, determine the seasons when specific construction activities would have the least adverse effect on arroyo toads. The goal of this effort is to avoid mortality of arroyo toads during construction.
 5. Where construction can occur in habitat where arroyo toads are widely distributed, work areas will be fenced in a manner that prevents equipment and vehicles from straying from the designated work area into adjacent habitat. The authorized biologist will assist in determining the boundaries of the area to be fenced in consultation with the USFWS. All workers will be advised that equipment and vehicles must remain within the fenced work areas.
 6. The authorized biologist will direct the installation of the fence and conduct a minimum of three nocturnal surveys to move any arroyo toads from within the fenced area to suitable habitat outside of the fence. If arroyo toads are observed on the final survey or during subsequent checks, the authorized biologist will conduct additional nocturnal surveys if he or she determines that they are necessary in concurrence with the USFWS.
 7. Fencing to exclude arroyo toads will be at least 24 inches in height.
 8. The type of fencing must be approved by the authorized biologist and the USFWS.
 9. Construction activities that may occur immediately adjacent to breeding pools or other areas where large numbers of arroyo toads may congregate will be conducted during times of the year (fall/winter) when individuals have dispersed from these areas. The authorized biologist will assist the project applicant in scheduling its work activities accordingly.
 10. If arroyo toads are found within an area that has been fenced to exclude arroyo toads, activities will cease until the authorized biologist moves the arroyo toads.
 11. If arroyo toads are found in a construction area where fencing was deemed unnecessary, work will cease until the authorized biologist moves the arroyo toads. The authorized biologist, in consultation with USFWS, will then determine whether

- additional surveys or fencing are needed. Work may resume while this determination is being made, if deemed appropriate by the authorized biologist and USFWS.
12. Any arroyo toads found during clearance surveys or otherwise removed from work areas will be placed in nearby suitable, undisturbed habitat. The authorized biologist will determine the best location for their release, based on the condition of the vegetation, soil, and other habitat features and the proximity to human activities. Clearance surveys shall occur on a daily basis in the work area.
 13. The authorized biologist will have the authority to stop all activities until appropriate corrective measures have been completed.
 14. Staging areas for all construction activities will be located on previously disturbed upland areas designated for this purpose. All staging areas will be fenced within potential toad habitat.
 15. To ensure that diseases are not conveyed between work sites by the authorized biologist or his or her assistants, the fieldwork code of practice developed by the Declining Amphibian Populations Task Force (DAPTF) 2009 will be followed at all times.
 16. Drift fence/pitfall trap surveys will be implemented in arroyo toad sensitive areas prior to construction in an effort to reduce potential mortality to this species. Prior to any construction activities in the project site, silt fence shall be installed completely around the proposed work area and a qualified biologist should conduct a preconstruction/clearance survey of the work area for arroyo toads. Any arroyo toads found in the work area should be relocated to suitable habitat. The silt fence shall be maintained for the duration of the work activity.

On USFS lands, occupied arroyo toad breeding habitat will be mitigated at a 3:1 ratio; occupied arroyo toad upland burrowing habitat will be mitigated at 2:1; and unoccupied arroyo toad habitat (or designated critical habitat) will be mitigated at 2:1. In addition, a USFS consultation will be conducted to verify limited operating periods for arroyo toad.

SDG&E will restrict work to daylight hours, except during an emergency,³ to avoid nighttime activities when arroyo toads may be present on the access road. Traffic speeds should be maintained at 15 miles per hour or less in the work area.

4 – EXISTING CONDITIONS

C157 is located south of the unincorporated community of Japatul Valley and north of Barrett Reservoir in central San Diego County. The line starts at Pole P278707 from Skye Valley Road (approximately 0.5 mile east of Lyons Valley Road) and ends at Pole P278752 on a residential property (approximately 3.25 miles to the east). The line crosses at least two unnamed ephemeral channels and Pine Valley Creek. All drainages flow into Barrett Reservoir

³ Emergencies are described in SDG&E's Subregional Natural Community Conservation Plan (SDG&E 1995) and the Project's Revised Plan of Development (SDG&E 2013).

immediately to the south. The reservoir was low at the time of the surveys due to multiple years of drought conditions, and the water's edge was located much farther to the south than when the lake is full. The elevation ranges from 1,560 to 2,600 feet above mean sea level. Due to the CPUC and USFS approval of the Federally Preferred Alternative, portions of C157 will be realigned. The existing section of C157 that crosses Pine Valley Creek will be removed, and the new alignment will be rebuilt with steel poles approximately 1,500 feet south of the existing alignment, still crossing Pine Valley Creek. Surveys were conducted in 2016 to determine arroyo toad presence. C157 crosses USFWS arroyo toad critical habitat and USFS arroyo toad occupied habitat. The following subsections provide a brief description of the mapped habitats and the 2016 survey results. Figure 2: C157 Arroyo Toad 2016 Map shows the locations of the mapped habitats.

4.0 UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE CRITICAL HABITAT AND KNOWN OCCURRENCES

All USFWS-designated critical habitat will be considered potential arroyo toad upland or breeding habitat. Pine Valley Creek, including the portion that crosses C157, is within arroyo toad critical habitat. C157 traverses Sub-Unit D (Pine Valley and Horsethief Canyon creeks) of the southern recovery Unit 19 (Cottonwood Creek Basin) of arroyo toad critical habitat.

Based on USFWS occurrence data (USFWS 2015a), the nearest recorded observation of arroyo toad occurred in 1992 in Pine Valley Creek, approximately 1.7 miles upstream from C157 near the creek's confluence with Horsethief Canyon Creek. Another observation was recorded in 2000 at Horsethief Canyon Creek, approximately 2.9 miles north of C157. More recent observations were made near C157 in 2016 that have not yet been posted in the USFWS geographic information system (GIS) dataset, but these observations are discussed in Section 4.2 2016 SDG&E Survey Results.

4.1 UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE OCCUPIED HABITAT AND KNOWN OCCURRENCES

All USFS occupied habitat will be considered potential arroyo toad upland and breeding habitat. USFS occupied habitat generally is identical to USFWS critical habitat, apart from slightly different boundary edges.⁴ This difference in mapping occurs in two pole locations—Pole P278731 and Pole P10. Pole P278731 occurs within USFS occupied habitat, but outside of USFWS critical habitat. Pole P10 occurs within critical habitat, but outside of USFS occupied habitat. Figure 2: C157 Arroyo Toad 2016 Map provides a graphical representation of mapped USFS occupied habitat differences for arroyo toad. However, the difference in mapping does not impact the construction mitigation approach. No other potential habitat was identified during the 2016 assessment and focused surveys.

Based on USFS survey records (USFS 2017), the nearest recorded observation of arroyo toad occurred in 2017 in Pine Valley Creek, approximately 1.7 miles upstream from C157 near the

⁴ The boundary of the USFS occupied habitat varies up to 400 feet from the USFWS critical habitat boundary along the north side of Barrett Reservoir.

creek's confluence with Horsethief Canyon Creek. Several additional observations were recorded in 2017 at Horsethief Canyon Creek, approximately 2.9 miles north of C157.

4.2 2016 SDG&E SURVEY RESULTS

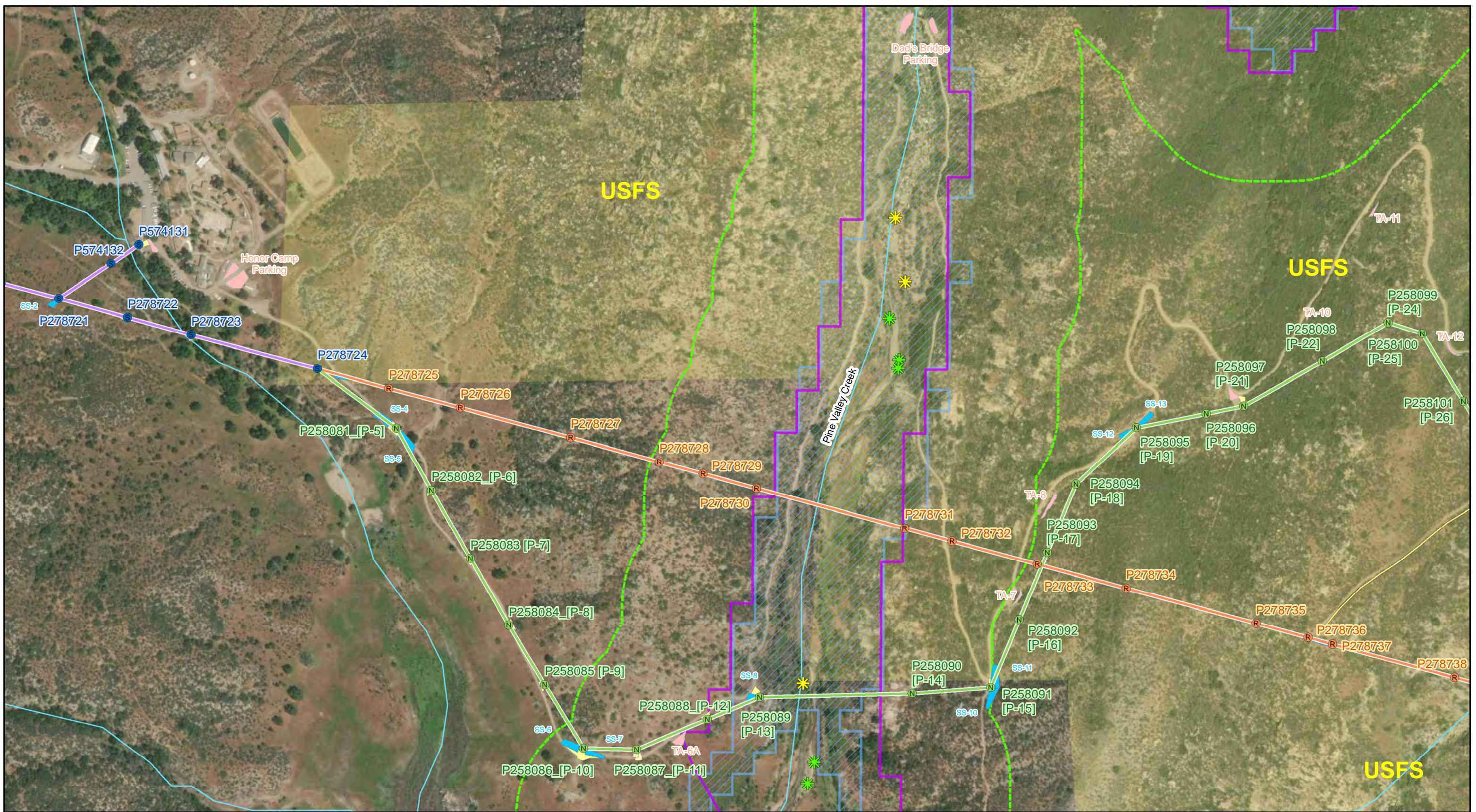
During the 2016 focused surveys for the Project, arroyo toads were observed both north and south of C157 within Pine Valley Creek, as shown in Figure 2: C157 Arroyo Toad 2016 Map. Observations were made during relatively dry surface conditions up to 1,000 feet north of the existing line and up to 200 feet south of the new C157 reroute. Therefore, Pine Valley Creek in the vicinity of C157 is considered occupied habitat. This includes all USFS occupied habitat and USFWS critical habitat in the vicinity of C157.

5 – PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

Pre-construction surveys confirmed that arroyo toads occupy habitat within Pine Valley Creek in the vicinity of C157 (Chambers Group, Inc. [Chambers] 2016). Pine Valley Creek is also mapped as USFS occupied habitat and USFWS critical habitat. Table 1: Work Sites within 500 Feet of Occupied Arroyo Toad Habitat lists all proposed work sites that occur within 500 feet of occupied habitat. Occupied habitat was determined by evaluating the 2016 survey results in combination with the GIS layers provided by both the USFS and USFWS. Table 1: Work Sites within 500 Feet of Occupied Arroyo Toad Habitat lists the property owners and whether each site within 500 feet of occupied habitat is within USFS occupied habitat or USFWS critical habitat. It also indicates which work sites are separated from the occupied habitat by a topographical boundary (e.g., steep slopes). Work sites will not be subject to the exclusion and monitoring measures discussed in this Plan if they are within 500 feet of occupied habitat, but separated from the habitat by a barrier that prevents arroyo toad movement. Additionally, work sites that are accessible only by helicopter and are limited to pole removal will not be subject to exclusion fencing. SDG&E will implement the arroyo toad exclusion and monitoring measures at work sites (i.e., pole installation and stringing sites) that occur within 500 feet of occupied habitat, and that have been determined to support arroyo toad breeding, foraging, or dispersal habitat. These areas are referred to as “arroyo toad exclusion areas.”

5.0 PRE-ACTIVITY REQUIREMENTS

The authorized biologist recommended that work in the locations listed in Table 1: Work Sites within 500 Feet of Occupied Arroyo Toad Habitat that are not separated from arroyo toad habitat by a topographical barrier should be monitored by an arroyo toad qualified biologist. Monitoring should include daily clearance surveys and periodic site visits. Additionally, an authorized biologist should track arroyo toad activity, perform periodic visits, and make additional recommendations if needed.



CNF
Power Line Replacement Project

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CNFIARTO_C157

- | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|---|
| <p>Poles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● New Steel Pole ● Removal ● Wood-to-Steel Replacement ● Wood-to-Steel Replacement 12kV Only | <p>Circuit (C) 157</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — New Overhead — Removal — Wood-to-Steel Replacement | <p>Work Areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Stringing Site ■ Temporary Access/Entry/Turnaround ■ Temporary Pole Work Area | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✱ 2016 Arroyo Toad Observation ✱ Arroyo Toad Observation (USFS GIS) 500-Foot Buffer of ARTO Habitat | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — National Hydrology Data Set - Streams (USGS) USFWS Arroyo Toad Critical Habitat USFS Arroyo Toad Occupied Habitat USFS Boundary |
|--|---|--|--|---|

Figure 2: C157 Arroyo Toad 2018 Map
Arroyo Toad Monitoring and Relocation Plan
CNF Power Line Replacement Project

0 250 500 1,000
 Feet

Table 1: Work Sites within 500 Feet of Occupied Arroyo Toad Habitat

Work Site	Work Activity	Property Owner	USFS Occupied Habitat	USFWS Critical Habitat	Arroyo Toad Use/Movement Restriction ⁵
Pole P278728	Removal	City of San Diego	No	No	No/Topography
Pole P278729	Removal	City of San Diego	No	No	No/Topography
Pole P278730	Removal	City of San Diego	No	No	No/Topography
Pole P278731	Removal	USFS	Yes	No	Yes/None
Pole P278732	Removal	USFS	No	No	Yes/None
Pole P258086 (P10)	Direct Bury	City of San Diego	No	No	Yes/None
Stringing Site	Stringing	City of San Diego	No	No	Yes/None
Pole P258087 (P11)	Direct Bury	City of San Diego	No	No	Yes/None
Turnaround (6A)	Turnaround	City of San Diego	No	Yes*	Yes/None
Pole P258088 (P12)	Direct Bury	City of San Diego	No	Yes	Yes/None
Pole 258089 (P13)	Direct Bury	City of San Diego	Yes	Yes	Yes/None
Stringing Site	Stringing	City of San Diego	Yes	Yes	Yes/None
Pole P258090 (P14)	Direct Bury	City of San Diego	No	No	No/Topography
Pole P258091 (P15)	Direct Bury	City of San Diego	No	No	No/Topography
Stringing Site	Stringing	City of San Diego	No	No	No/Topography
Dad's Bridge Parking West	Turn Around/Parking	USFS	Yes	Yes	Yes/None
Dad's Bridge Parking East	Turn Around/Parking	USFS	Yes	Yes	Yes/None

*Turnaround (6A) is located partially in USFWS Critical Habitat.

Work sites listed in Table 1: Work Sites within 500 Feet of Occupied Arroyo Toad Habitat that have potential for arroyo toad use and have extensive work planned, including ground disturbance (i.e., pole installation and stringing sites), should be fenced with metal-backed silt exclusion/barrier fencing and surveyed as required by the MMs. Helicopter work sites with limited work related to pole removal will not be fenced (i.e., Poles P278731 and P278732). Additionally, temporary day parking (Dad's Bridge Parking), and designated turnaround area (6A) will not be fenced. As shown in Table 1: Work Sites within 500 Feet of Occupied Arroyo Toad Habitat and Figure 2: C157 Arroyo Toad 2016 Map, sites that will be fenced include Poles P258086, P258087, P258088, and P258089, as well as adjacent stringing sites. The arroyo toad exclusion/barrier fencing will be constructed along the perimeter of the identified work sites.

⁵ Arroyo toad use of these work sites for breeding, foraging, or dispersal is not expected due to topographical barriers (i.e., steep slopes) between the work sites and breeding habitats.

The intent of the fence is to contain the work sites, exclude arroyo toads, and allow an authorized biologist to survey for and remove any arroyo toads that are found. The authorized biologist(s) will direct the exclusion/barrier fencing installation, reconfigurations, and repairs; and a qualified biologist will be present during all construction activities immediately adjacent to or within habitat that supports populations of arroyo toad. The fence⁶ will consist of fabric or plastic, will measure at least 24 inches in height, will be staked firmly to the ground with the lower portion of material stretching outward along the ground, and will be secured with a continuous line of gravel bags. No digging will occur during the installation of exclusion/barrier fence; however, within the Project footprint, the removal of some vegetation—with minimal disturbance to the soil—may be required during installation. All fencing materials (i.e., mesh, stakes, etc.) will be removed following construction.

Project activities within 500 feet of occupied arroyo toad habitat will not begin until SDG&E receives concurrence from the USFWS that work may proceed through acceptance of this Plan.

SDG&E has submitted resumes for all authorized and qualified biologists to the USFS and the CPUC for approval.

The authorized biologists will have the following responsibilities:

- meet with the USFWS prior to construction and coordinate with the USFWS during construction as necessary to comply with MM BIO-33;
- coordinate with the USFWS to authorize the type of fence material used;
- direct exclusion/barrier fence installation;
- perform exclusion area surveys;
- monitor construction within and adjacent to habitat that supports arroyo toads;
- regularly inspect exclusion/barrier fence;
- install and monitor pitfall traps if recommended
- conduct monthly night spotlighting of access roads for arroyo toad activity;
- relocate arroyo toads, if necessary; and
- stop all activities if necessary until appropriate corrective measures have been completed.

The qualified biologists will have the following responsibilities:

- monitor construction within and adjacent to habitat that supports arroyo toads;
- regularly inspect exclusion/barrier fence;
- stop all activities if necessary until appropriate corrective measures have been completed.

5.1 SURVEY AND MONITORING

After exclusion/barrier fencing has been installed, but prior to construction activities within the fenced area, the authorized biologist(s) will perform a minimum of three nighttime surveys inside the exclusion/barrier fence. The authorized biologist(s) will remove all arroyo toads and other wildlife found within the fence's perimeter. Any breach in the exclusion/barrier fence will

⁶ The fence type must be approved by the USFWS and the authorized biologist.

be repaired if it could allow arroyo toads to reenter the work site during times when the species is active. The area with the breach may require additional surveys at the discretion of the authorized biologist(s).

Nighttime surveys should be conducted in climatic conditions to maximize the likelihood of encountering arroyo toads, including starting surveys at least one hour after dusk. Surveys should not be conducted during periods of high winds and low humidity (i.e., Santa Ana conditions). Arroyo toads found within the work sites will be captured by the authorized biologist(s) and relocated to the closest area of suitable habitat.

Crews working in or adjacent to arroyo toad occupied habitat where toads have the potential to occur (listed in Table 1: Work Sites within 500 Feet of Occupied Arroyo Toad Habitat) will be given environmental training regarding the species and Project mitigation and conservation measure requirements, as described in MM BIO-33. Crews will also be given the Arroyo Toad Training and Fact Sheet, which is provided in Attachment A: Arroyo Toad Training and Fact Sheet. This fact sheet provides information about the species and the Project, as well as a point of contact for any arroyo toad-related questions or issues.

In addition to exclusion/barrier fencing, the authorized biologist(s) may recommend the installation pitfall traps with drift fencing in arroyo toad sensitive work areas. The intent of the traps is to capture arroyo toads that occur near work areas and relocate them to suitable habitat away from the Project prior to and during construction activity. The USFS has determined that the use of pitfall traps will not be allowed on USFS-owned lands. SDG&E anticipates the use of pitfall traps will be used on a limited basis in toad sensitive areas adjacent to work areas and will only be located in areas where they could reduce potential mortality to arroyo toads, as determined by the authorized biologist. If pitfall trap lines will be utilized on non-federal lands, then they will include at least two five-gallon buckets buried in the ground up to the rim and connected by a drift fence. To avoid potential impacts to the species during digging, buckets and fencing will only be installed in areas that are not appropriate for arroyo toad aestivation. The length and configuration of the fence will be determined by the topography and trap location, but should be at least 20 feet from bucket to bucket. The material to be used for the drift fence will be determined by the authorized biologist(s), but will likely consist of the same material used for exclusion/barrier fencing. Similar to the pitfall trap design described by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), cover and a source of hydration will be provided within each bucket (USGS 2008). Cover may consist of small sections of polyvinyl chloride pipes and some form of synthetic batting. Hydration can be accomplished by the placement of wet sponges in each bucket. Traps will be checked daily during construction and closed when not in use. All trapped arroyo toads will be relocated in suitable habitat away from the construction area.

Once activity begins in work sites that have potential for arroyo toad use listed in Table 1: Work Sites within 500 Feet of Occupied Arroyo Toad Habitat, a qualified biologist(s) will perform inspections each morning at the work sites and including the dirt access road leading to the work sites prior to the continuation of construction activity. There will also be monthly nighttime surveys of the access road(s) within 500 feet of occupied arroyo toad habitat. Nighttime surveys will be conducted by the authorized biologist(s) during the active construction period and within the arroyo toad activity season of December 1 to July 31. If an arroyo toad is found, work must cease until the authorized biologist relocates the arroyo toad. If an arroyo toad is found in an

area that had not been fenced, the authorized biologist—in consultation with the USFWS (and the USFS if the location is on USFS-owned lands)—will then determine whether additional surveys or fencing are needed. Work may resume while this determination is being made, if deemed appropriate by the authorized biologist and the USFWS (and the USFS if the location is on USFS-owned lands). The authorized or qualified biologist has the ability to stop work at any time if an arroyo toad is observed or has the potential to be harmed by Project activity.

The following additional protection measures will be implemented during construction in areas with potential for arroyo toad occurrence:

- If straw wattles are necessary to minimize off-site sedimentation due to ground disturbance within the work area; then only burlap wattles will be utilized. They will be removed as soon as work has been completed and the site has been stabilized with no potential for off-site sedimentation.
- Plastic sheeting used for covering soil stockpiles will not be left in place overnight to avoid attracting arroyo toads seeking shelter. The stockpiles will either be removed immediately or burlap wattles will be used as sediment control.
- Any equipment or material that will remain within the work area overnight will be checked by the biological monitor during the morning sweeps to ensure that no arroyo toads have moved into the work site.
- If emergency work during nighttime hours is necessary, a biological monitor will conduct a clearance survey of the access road and work areas within 500 feet of occupied arroyo toad habitat and within the arroyo toad activity season of December 1 to July 31 to the extent feasible.
- If arroyo toads are found in a construction area where fencing was deemed unnecessary, work will cease until the authorized biologist, in consultation with the USFWS and USFS (if on USFS land), determines whether additional surveys or fencing are needed. Work may resume while this determination is being made, if deemed appropriate by the authorized biologist and USFWS and USFS.
- To minimize impacts to arroyo toads while they are aestivating in upland areas, Project activities will take place from March 15 to July 15 when practical. However, when it is not feasible, the authorized biologist will provide any additional recommendation necessary to ensure that impacts to aestivating toads are minimized.
- If emergency work during nighttime hours is necessary, a biological monitor will conduct a clearance survey of the access road and work areas within 500 feet of occupied arroyo toad habitat year-round to the extent feasible.

5.2 ARROYO TOAD RELOCATION

Arroyo toads found within the exclusion/barrier fencing during clearance surveys or during construction monitoring will be relocated to adjacent, suitable arroyo toad habitat. If no suitable

habitat occurs adjacent to the site, the arroyo toad will be relocated to suitable habitat in proximity to the site and within the same watershed. If arroyo toads are found during the daytime, they will be stored in a five-gallon plastic bucket with at least three inches of clean, moist (though not inundated) sand; kept in a shaded area; and protected from harm until relocation. Relocations will be conducted by the authorized biologist(s) for the Project. To avoid moisture loss, predation risk, and unnecessary stress, relocations of arroyo toads will take place at night or dusk.

Handling of arroyo toads will be minimized. Amphibian-safe disposable gloves will be used to handle any arroyo toads during relocation. To avoid transferring disease or pathogens between aquatic habitats during the handling of arroyo toads, the authorized biologist(s) or his/her assistants will follow the DAPTF Fieldwork Code of Practice (DAPTF 2009).

6 – REFERENCES

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ATTACHMENT A: ARROYO TOAD TRAINING AND FACT SHEET

ARROYO TOAD (*Anaxyrus californicus*)

San Diego Gas & Electric Company
Cleveland National Forest
Power Line Replacement Projects

Training and Fact Sheet

Appearance	<p>Plump toad (adults measure two to three inches) with warty skin that is camouflaged on top with greenish, gray, olive, and brown coloring. Underbelly is whitish. Generally no stripe down middle of back. Usually a light stripe or patch on head and eyelids. Horizontal pupils. Juveniles are ashy-white, olive or salmon colored.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div>	
Protection	<p>Federally listed as Endangered in 1995 pursuant to the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), and designated a California Species of Special Concern by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Critical habitat has been established pursuant to the ESA in certain geographical locations in San Diego County that contain essential features for this species' conservation. Violation of the ESA could result in fines up to \$50,000 and/or imprisonment for up to one year.</p>	
Range	<p>Occurs from Monterey County, California south into Northern Baja California, Mexico.</p>	
Habitat	<p>Found in washes, sandy rivers and creeks, and riparian areas. Requires exposed sand/gravel for burrowing and foraging, scattered vegetation for shelter and foraging, and low-gradient streams with gentle, persistent flow for breeding.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div>	
C157 Work Sites (Occupied Habitat)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Poles (exclusion fence required) - P258086, P258087, P258088, P258089, and associated stringing sites • Pole Removals (exclusion fence not required) - P278731 and P278732 	
Protective and Conservation Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-construction Surveys • Exclusion Fencing • Arroyo Toad Awareness Training • As Much as Feasible, Schedule Work in Breeding Habitat to when Water Levels are Low or Nonexistent (Late Summer/Fall) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speed Limit of 15 Miles per Hour • Construction Monitoring • Night Work Restrictions • Species Relocation from Work Area • Trash Removal • Habitat Preservation

*For any questions regarding arroyo toad, or if you think you have encountered an arroyo toad, please contact Andrew Borcher at (619) 928-8817.