

**APPENDIX C**  
**SPECIAL STATUS PLANT AND**  
**WILDLIFE SPECIES DOCUMENTED**  
**WITHIN THE PROJECT VICINITY**

**Table 1: Special Status Plant Species Documented Within the Project Vicinity**

Species	Status	Habitat	
<b>Species Listed as Threatened or Endangered under the State and/or Federal Endangered Species Act</b>			
California Jewel-flower ( <i>Caulanthus californicus</i> )	FE, CE, CNPS 1B	<u>Habitat:</u> Chenopod scrub, pinyon and juniper woodland, and valley and foothill grasslands having sandy soils. <u>Elevation:</u> 61-1000 meters. <u>Blooms:</u> February-May.	<b>Absent.</b> The site occurs at the lower elevation range for this species. The only marginally suitable habitat present within the project boundaries for this species occurs in the non-native grasslands west of the Fresno Slough, but a population was not detected during the rare plant surveys conducted by Entrix in April, May, and August 2008.
Palmate-bracted Bird's-beak ( <i>Cordylanthus palmatus</i> )	FE, CE, CNPS 1B	<u>Habitat:</u> Chenopod scrub and valley and foothill grasslands having alkaline soils. <u>Elevation:</u> 5-155 meters. <u>Blooms:</u> May-October.	<b>Absent.</b> The only marginally suitable habitat present within the project boundaries for this species occurs in the non-native grasslands west of the Fresno Slough, but a population was not detected during the rare plant surveys conducted by Entrix in April, May, and August 2008.
San Joaquin Woollythreads ( <i>Monolopia congdonii</i> )	FE, CNPS 1B	<u>Habitat:</u> Chenopod scrub, valley and foothill grassland that have alkaline loamy to sandy soils. <u>Elevation:</u> 60-800 meters. <u>Blooms:</u> February-May.	<b>Absent.</b> The site occurs at the lower elevation range for this species. The only marginally suitable habitat present within the project boundaries for this species occurs in the non-native grasslands west of the Fresno Slough, but a population was not detected during the rare plant surveys conducted by Entrix in April, May, and August 2008.
<b>Other special status plants listed by CNPS</b>			
Heartscale ( <i>Atriplex cordulata</i> )	CNPS 1B	<u>Habitat:</u> Chenopod scrub, meadows and seeps, and valley and foothill grasslands having saline or alkaline soils. <u>Elevation:</u> 1-375 meters. <u>Blooms:</u> April-October.	<b>Absent.</b> The only marginally suitable habitat present within the project boundaries for this species occurs in the non-native grasslands west of the Fresno Slough, but a population was not detected during the rare plant surveys conducted by Entrix in April, May, and August 2008.
Brittlescale ( <i>Atriplex depressa</i> )	CNPS 1B	<u>Habitat:</u> Chenopod scrub, meadows, playas, valley and foothill grasslands, and vernal pools having alkaline or clay soils. <u>Elevation:</u> 1-320 meters. <u>Blooms:</u> May-October.	<b>Absent.</b> The only marginally suitable habitat present within the project boundaries for this species occurs in the non-native grasslands west of the Fresno Slough, but a population was not detected during the rare plant surveys conducted by Entrix in April, May, and August 2008.
Lesser Saltscale ( <i>Atriplex minuscula</i> )	CNPS 1B	<u>Habitat:</u> Chenopod scrub, playas, and valley and foothill grasslands having alkaline or sandy soils. <u>Elevation:</u> 15-200 meters. <u>Blooms:</u> May-October.	<b>Absent.</b> The only marginally suitable habitat present within the project boundaries for this species occurs in the non-native grasslands west of the Fresno Slough, but a population was not detected during the rare plant surveys conducted by Entrix in April, May, and August 2008.
Vernal Pool Smallscale ( <i>Atriplex persistens</i> )	CNPS 1B	<u>Habitat:</u> Vernal pools on alkaline soils. <u>Elevation:</u> 10-115 meters. <u>Blooms:</u> June-October.	<b>Absent.</b> Suitable habitat is absent from the project site.

**Table 1 (continued): Special Status Plant Species Documented Within the Project Vicinity**

Species	Status	Habitat	
<b>Other special status plants listed by CNPS</b>			
Subtle Orache ( <i>Atriplex subtilis</i> )	CNPS 1B	<u>Habitat:</u> Valley and foothill grassland. <u>Elevation:</u> 40-100 meters. <u>Blooms:</u> June-August.	<b>Absent.</b> The only marginally suitable habitat present within the project boundaries for this species occurs in the non-native grasslands west of the Fresno Slough, but a population was not detected during the rare plant surveys conducted by Entrix in April, May, and August 2008.
Lost Hills Crownscale ( <i>Atriplex vallicola</i> )	CNPS 1B	<u>Habitat:</u> Chenopod scrub, valley and foothill grasslands, and vernal pools having alkaline soils. <u>Elevation:</u> 50-635 meters. <u>Blooms:</u> April-August.	<b>Absent.</b> The only marginally suitable habitat present within the project boundaries for this species occurs in the non-native grasslands west of the Fresno Slough, but a population was not detected during the rare plant surveys conducted by Entrix in April, May, and August 2008.
Hispid Bird's Beak ( <i>Cordylanthus mollis</i> ssp. <i>hispidus</i> )	CNPS 1B	<u>Habitat:</u> Meadows and seeps, playas, and valley and foothill grasslands having alkaline soils. <u>Elevation:</u> 1-155 meters. <u>Blooms:</u> June-September.	<b>Absent.</b> The only marginally suitable habitat present within the project boundaries for this species occurs in the non-native grasslands west of the Fresno Slough, but a population was not detected during the rare plant surveys conducted by Entrix in April, May, and August 2008.
Recurved Larkspur ( <i>Delphinium recurvatum</i> )	CNPS 1B	<u>Habitat:</u> Chenopod scrub, cismontane woodland, and valley and foothill grassland having alkaline soils. <u>Elevation:</u> 3-750 meters. <u>Blooms:</u> March-June.	<b>Absent.</b> The only marginally suitable habitat present within the project boundaries for this species occurs in the non-native grasslands west of the Fresno Slough, but a population was not detected during the rare plant surveys conducted by Entrix in April, May, and August 2008.
Hoover's Eriastrum ( <i>Eriastrum hooveri</i> )	CNPS 4	<u>Habitat:</u> Chenopod scrub, pinyon and juniper woodland, and valley and foothill grasslands. <u>Elevation:</u> 50-915 meters. <u>Blooms:</u> March-July.	<b>Absent.</b> The site occurs at the lower elevation range for this species. The only marginally suitable habitat present within the project boundaries for this species occurs in the non-native grasslands west of the Fresno Slough, but a population was not detected during the rare plant surveys conducted by Entrix in April, May, and August 2008.
Temblor Buckwheat ( <i>Eriogonum temblorense</i> )	CNPS 1B	<u>Habitat:</u> Valley and foothill grasslands on clay or sandstone. <u>Elevation:</u> 300-1000 meters. <u>Blooms:</u> May-September.	<b>Absent.</b> Suitable habitat is absent from the project site due to the soil requirements of this species and typical elevation range falling well above the site's elevations. Regardless, a population was not detected during the rare plant surveys conducted by Entrix in April, May, and August 2008.
<b>Other special status plants listed by CNPS</b>			
Munz's Tidy-tips ( <i>Layia munzii</i> )	CNPS 1B	<u>Habitat:</u> Chenopod scrub and valley and foothill grasslands on alkaline clay. <u>Elevation:</u> 150-700 meters. <u>Blooms:</u> March-April.	<b>Absent.</b> This species typically occurs above 150 meters. However, historical occurrences have been documented in the immediate project vicinity. The only marginally suitable habitat present within the project boundaries for this species occurs in the non-native grasslands west of the Fresno Slough, but a population was not detected during the rare plant surveys conducted by Entrix in April, May, and August 2008.

**Table 1 (continued): Special Status Plant Species Documented Within the Project Vicinity**

Species	Status	Habitat	
Panoche Pepper-grass ( <i>Lepidium jaredii</i> ssp. <i>album</i> )	CNPS 1B	<u>Habitat</u> : Valley and foothill grasslands on alluvial fans or washes. <u>Elevation</u> : 185-275 meters. <u>Blooms</u> : February-June.	<b>Absent.</b> This species typically occurs above 185 meters. However, historical occurrences have been documented in the immediate project vicinity. The only marginally suitable habitat present within the project boundaries for this species occurs in the non-native grasslands west of the Fresno Slough, but a population was not detected during the rare plant surveys conducted by Entrix in April, May, and August 2008.
Jared's Pepper-grass ( <i>Lepidium jaredii</i> ssp. <i>jaredii</i> )	CNPS 1B	<u>Habitat</u> : Valley and foothill grasslands on alkaline or adobe soils. <u>Elevation</u> : 335-1005 meters. <u>Blooms</u> : March-May.	<b>Absent.</b> Suitable habitat is absent from the project boundaries due to the typical elevation range falling well above the site's elevations. Regardless, a population was not detected during the rare plant surveys conducted by Entrix in April, May, and August 2008.
Showy Madia ( <i>Madia radiata</i> )	CNPS 1B	<u>Habitat</u> : Cismontane woodlands and valley and foothill grasslands. <u>Elevation</u> : 25-900 meters. <u>Blooms</u> : March-May.	<b>Absent.</b> The only marginally suitable habitat present within the project boundaries for this species occurs in the non-native grasslands west of the Fresno Slough, but a population was not detected during the rare plant surveys conducted by Entrix in April, May, and August 2008.
Sanford's Arrowhead ( <i>Sagittaria sanfordii</i> )	CNPS 1B	<u>Habitat</u> : Freshwater emergent marsh habitat in drainage ditches and canals of California's central valley <u>Elevation</u> : Up to 610 meters. <u>Blooms</u> : May-October.	<b>Absent.</b> The only marginally suitable habitat present within the project boundaries for this species occurs along the margins of the San Joaquin River and Fresno Slough, but a population was not detected during the rare plant surveys conducted by Entrix in April, May, and August 2008.

**STATUS CODES**

FE	Federally Endangered	CE	California Endangered
FT	Federally Threatened	CT	California Threatened
FPE	Federally Endangered (Proposed)	CR	California Rare
FC	Federal Candidate	CP	California Protected
		CSC	California Species of Special Concern

(FSC were not included in table due to their lack of regulatory status)

CNPS	California Native Plant Society Listing		
1A	Plants Presumed Extinct in California	3	Plants about which we need more information – a review list
1B	Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California and elsewhere	4	Plants of limited distribution – a watch list
2	Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California, but more common elsewhere		

**Table 2: Special Status Wildlife Species Documented Within the Project Vicinity**

Species	Status	Habitat	
<b>Species Listed as Threatened or Endangered under the State and/or Federal Endangered Species Act</b>			
Vernal Pool Fairy Shrimp ( <i>Branchinecta lynchi</i> )	FT	Found in vernal pools of California's Central Valley.	<b>Absent.</b> Suitable seasonal wetlands are absent from the project site.
Vernal Pool Tadpole Shrimp ( <i>Lepidurus packardii</i> )	FE	Inhabits deep vernal pools of unplowed grasslands in the Central Valley containing clear to highly turbid water.	<b>Absent.</b> Suitable seasonal wetlands are absent from the project site.
Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle ( <i>Desmocerus californicus dimorphus</i> )	FT	Mature elderberry shrubs of California's Central Valley and Sierra Foothills.	<b>Possible.</b> There are a number of elderberry shrubs within the project boundaries that provide suitable habitat for this species.
Delta Smelt ( <i>Hypomesus transpacificus</i> )	FT, CT	Typically found in the delta of the San Joaquin and Sacramento Rivers, as well as some distance upstream; may have historically occurred in upper San Joaquin watershed.	<b>Absent.</b> This species is endemic to the upper San Francisco estuary of the Delta. This site is therefore, outside the range for this species.
Steelhead-Central Valley ESU ( <i>Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus</i> )	FT	Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers and their tributaries.	<b>Absent.</b> This species is confined to the lower reaches of the San Joaquin and Sacramento Rivers. It may have once occurred in the onsite reach of the San Joaquin River and potentially the other waterways, but would be unlikely to occur there now due to insufficient flows. The San Joaquin River restoration project is currently underway which may restore suitable habitat conditions for this species in the future.
California Tiger Salamander ( <i>Ambystoma californiense</i> )	FT, CSC	Breeds in vernal pools and stock ponds of central California. Adults estivate in grassland habitats adjacent to the breeding sites.	<b>Unlikely.</b> Suitable breeding habitat is absent within the project boundaries. There are no documented breeding ponds in the site vicinity (at least a one mile radius), thereby making the site unlikely estivation habitat.
Blunt-nosed Leopard Lizard ( <i>Gambelia sila</i> )	FE, CE, CP	Frequents semiarid grasslands, alkali flats, and washes. Also present within nearby valleys and foothills. Occurs on soils that are sandy, gravelly, loamy, and less often hardpan.	<b>Unlikely.</b> Marginally suitable habitat is present within the project boundary. Entry conducted protocol level surveys in June, July, and August 2008 and did not detect any individuals.

**Table 2 (Continued): Special Status Wildlife Species Documented Within the Project Vicinity**

Species	Status	Habitat	
Giant Garter Snake ( <i>Thamnophis gigas</i> )	FT, CT	Habitat requirements consist of (1) adequate water during the snake's active season (spring through mid-fall) to provide food and cover; (2) emergent, herbaceous wetland vegetation, such as cattails and bulrushes, for escape cover and foraging habitat during the active season; (3) grassy banks and openings in waterside vegetation for basking; and (4) higher elevation uplands for cover and refuge from flood waters during the snake's dormant season in the winter.	<b>Possible.</b> Suitable habitat is present within the San Joaquin River and Fresno Slough for this species. Marginally suitable habitat is present with the remaining aquatic habitat of the site, particular those features hydrologically connected to the San Joaquin River and Fresno Slough.
Bald Eagle ( <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> )	CE, CP	Nests and winters along ocean shores, lake margins, and rivers. Most nests occur within 1 mile of water. Nests in large, old-growth, or dominant live trees with open branches, especially conifers. Roosts communally in winter.	<b>Unlikely.</b> Migrants, transients, and foragers may occasionally pass over the site. Breeding habitat is absent.
Swainson's hawk ( <i>Buteo swainsoni</i> )	CT	Occurs in grasslands and agricultural lands of California's Central Valley during the spring and summer. Breeds in Juniper-sage flats, riparian areas and oak savannahs.	<b>Possible.</b> Suitable nesting and foraging habitat is present within the project boundaries. In fact, a Swainson's hawk nest was observed along the Fresno Slough immediately adjacent to the site (Entrix, person. commun.)
American Peregrine Falcon ( <i>Falco peregrinus anatum</i> )	CE, CP	Wetlands, lakes, rivers, or other water bodies. Nests on cliffs, banks, dunes, mounds, or manmade structures. Nest consists of a scrape on a depression or ledge in an open site.	<b>Possible.</b> Suitable foraging habitat is present within the project boundaries. Suitable nesting habitat is absent.
Greater Sandhill Crane ( <i>Grus canadensis tabida</i> )	FP, CT	Summers in and near wet meadows, shallow lacustrine, and fresh emergent wetlands. Frequently winters in grasslands, croplands, and open, emergent wetlands.	<b>Possible.</b> Suitable foraging habitat is present within the project boundaries. Suitable nesting habitat is absent.
Western Yellow-billed Cuckoo ( <i>Coccyzus americanus occidentalis</i> )	FC, CE	Nests in dense riparian forests. Inhabits broad, lower flood bottoms of larger river systems.	<b>Absent.</b> This species has not been documented in the site vicinity in decades. The population is believed to be extirpated from the area.
Little Willow Flycatcher ( <i>Empidonax traillii</i> )	CE	Mountain meadows and riparian habitats in the	<b>Unlikely.</b> Migrants and transients may occasionally pass over the site.

**Table 2 (Continued): Special Status Wildlife Species Documented Within the Project Vicinity**

Species	Status	Habitat	
<i>brewsteri</i> )		Sierra Nevada and Cascades. Nests near the edges of vegetation clumps and streams.	
Least Bell's Vireo ( <i>Vireo bellii pusillus</i> )	FE, CE	Summer resident of cottonwood-willow forests, oak woodlands, shrubby thickets, and dry washes with willow thickets at the edges. Breeds in southern California.	<b>Absent.</b> This species has not been documented in the site vicinity in decades. The population is believed to be extirpated from the area.
Bank Swallow ( <i>Riparia riparia</i> )	CT	Nests in large colonies, excavating nest burrows in steep riverbank cliffs, gravel pits, and highway cuts.	<b>Possible.</b> Suitable foraging habitat is present within the project boundaries. Suitable nesting habitat is absent.
Giant Kangaroo Rat ( <i>Dipodomys ingens</i> )	FE, CE	Annual grasslands in western San Joaquin Valley. Also occurs in alkali scrub. Burrows in level terrain and sandy loam soils.	<b>Unlikely.</b> The vegetation communities of the site provide marginal habitat, at best, for this species. Additionally, the project site is found on the very outer edges of where extant populations of this species are thought to occur. Most population occur south and west of the project site.
Fresno Kangaroo Rat ( <i>Dipodomys nitratooides exilis</i> )	FE, CE	Inhabits grassland on gentle slopes of generally less than 10°, with friable, sandy-loam soils.	<b>Unlikely.</b> This species possibly occurs in the more natural habitat occurring to the east of the site. A single individual was trapped in the Alkali Sink Ecological Reserve in 1992, but more recent trapping efforts in the area have resulted in negative findings. It is unlikely that individuals occur within the project site itself due to the lack of recent sightings in the project vicinity and the disturbed nature of the non-native grasslands.
Nelson's Antelope Squirrel ( <i>Ammospermophilus nelsoni</i> )	CT	Frequents open shrublands and annual grasslands and gullies and washes with sparse vegetation on loamy soils.	<b>Possible.</b> Suitable habitat is present within the project boundaries. The dry, uncultivated areas of the site could support population, but no individuals have been observed to date.
San Joaquin Kit Fox ( <i>Vulpes macrotus mutica</i> )	FE, CT	Desert alkali scrub, annual grasslands; may forage in adjacent agricultural habitats.	<b>Possible.</b> Suitable habitat is present within the project boundaries. The areas supporting existing burrowing activity (such as the properties near the PG&E tie in point and the more natural vegetation communities) are more likely to support a kit fox population, but this species could presumably be found throughout the project site.
<b>State Species of Special Concern and Protected Species</b>			
Kern Brook Lamprey ( <i>Lampetra hubbsi</i> )	CSC	Aquatic habitats of the San Joaquin River watershed; documented from Millerton area.	<b>Absent.</b> This species is unlikely from the warmer Central Valley reaches of the San Joaquin River.
Hardhead ( <i>Mylopharodon conocephalus</i> )	CSC	Bottom foragers in undisturbed areas of larger low- to mid-elevation streams. Prefers well-	<b>Absent.</b> This species is absent from the warmer Central Valley reaches of the San Joaquin River.

**Table 2 (Continued): Special Status Wildlife Species Documented Within the Project Vicinity**

Species	Status	Habitat	
		oxygenated water with temperatures of between 24-28° C (75-82° F).	
Sacramento Splittail ( <i>Pogonichthys macrolepidotus</i> )	CSC	Typically found in the delta of the San Joaquin and Sacramento Rivers, as well as some distance upstream; may have historically occurred in upper San Joaquin watershed.	<b>Possible.</b> This species has not been documented in the onsite waterways. A remnant population may yet be present, or individuals may have been imported in water pumped into the nearby Mendota Pool from the Sacramento Delta (A. Gordus, CDFG, pers. commun.).
Longfin Smelt ( <i>Spirinchus thaleichthys</i> )	CSC	Euryhaline, nektonic, and anadromous. Found in open waters of estuaries, mostly near the middle or bottom of the water column. Prefers salinities of 15-30 ppt but can be found in completely freshwater to almost pure seawater.	<b>Absent.</b> This species occurs primarily in the San Francisco estuary of the Delta and north coast rivers. This site is outside the range for this species.
Western Spadefoot ( <i>Spea hammondi</i> )	CSC	Primarily occurs in grasslands, but also occurs in valley and foothill hardwood woodlands. Requires vernal pools or other temporary wetlands for breeding.	<b>Absent.</b> Suitable breeding and estivation habitat is absent from the project area.
Western Pond Turtle ( <i>Actinemys marmorata</i> )	CSC	An aquatic turtle of ponds, marshes, rivers, streams and irrigation ditches with aquatic vegetation. Needs basking sites and sandy banks or grassy open fields for egg laying.	<b>Possible.</b> The waterways within the project boundaries provide suitable habitat for this species.
Silvery Legless Lizard ( <i>Anniella pulchra pulchra</i> )	CSC	Occurs in loose sandy soils where overhanging plants, logs and rocks provide cover. There are sporadic occurrences on the floor of San Joaquin Valley.	<b>Possible.</b> Suitable habitat occurs within the project boundaries. The areas most likely to support this species are those providing natural vegetation communities with little anthropogenic impacts. However, no individuals were observed during blunt-nosed leopard lizard surveys.
California (Coast) Horned Lizard ( <i>Phrynosoma coronatum frontale</i> )	CSC	Grasslands, scrublands, oak woodlands, etc. of central California. Common in sandy washes with scattered shrubs.	<b>Possible.</b> Suitable habitat occurs within the project boundaries. The areas most likely to support this species are those providing natural vegetation communities with little anthropogenic impacts. However, no individuals were observed during blunt-nosed leopard lizard surveys.
San Joaquin Whipsnake ( <i>Masticophis flagellum ruddocki</i> )	CSC	Open, dry habitats with little or no tree cover. Found in valley grasslands and saltbush scrub in the San Joaquin Valley. Needs mammal burrows for refuge and as oviposition sites.	<b>Possible.</b> Suitable habitat occurs within the project boundaries. The areas most likely to support this species are those providing natural vegetation communities with little anthropogenic impacts. However, no individuals were observed during blunt-nosed leopard lizard surveys.
Tule Greater White-fronted Goose ( <i>Anser albifrons elgasi</i> )	CSC	Winters in marshes, bays, lakes, and agricultural fields. Prefers foraging in	<b>Possible.</b> Suitable foraging habitat is present within the project boundaries. Suitable nesting habitat is absent.



**Table 2 (Continued): Special Status Wildlife Species Documented Within the Project Vicinity**

Species	Status	Habitat	
		marshes, unlike other subspecies that forage in fields.	
Redhead ( <i>Aythya americana</i> )	CSC	Winters in a wide variety of saltwater and freshwater wetland habitats. Breeds in large freshwater wetlands with emergent vegetation.	<b>Possible.</b> Suitable foraging habitat is present within the project boundaries. Suitable nesting habitat is marginal to absent.
Barrow's Goldeneye ( <i>Bucephala islandica</i> )	CSC	Breeds in high central and northern Sierra Nevada near wooded mountain lakes or large streams. Nests in tree cavities.	<b>Possible.</b> Suitable foraging habitat is present within the project boundaries. Suitable nesting habitat is absent.
American White Pelican ( <i>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</i> )	CSC	Colonial nester on large interior lakes, usually on islands or peninsulas, isolated from mammalian predators. Uses rivers, lakes, reservoirs, estuaries, bays, marshes, and other inshore marine habitats.	<b>Possible.</b> Suitable foraging habitat is present within the project boundaries. Suitable nesting habitat is absent.
Northern Harrier ( <i>Circus cyaneus</i> )	CSC	Frequents meadows, grasslands, open rangelands, freshwater emergent wetlands; uncommon in wooded habitats.	<b>Possible.</b> Suitable breeding habitat is present along the aquatic features supporting banks which are not regularly maintained or cleared. Foraging habitat is found throughout the project site.
White-tailed Kite ( <i>Elanus caeruleus</i> )	CP	Open grasslands and agricultural areas throughout central California.	<b>Possible.</b> Suitable breeding habitat is present within the onsite trees and foraging habitat is found throughout the project site.
Golden Eagle ( <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> )	CSC, CP	Frequents foothill or coast range where grassland turns to scattered oak, sycamores, and pine forests. Cliff-walled canyons and large trees in open areas provide for nesting.	<b>Possible.</b> Suitable foraging habitat is present within the project boundaries. Suitable nesting habitat is marginal to absent.
Lesser Sandhill Crane ( <i>Grus canadensis canadensis</i> )	CSC	Winters in the Central Valley and southern California. Frequents annual and perennial grasslands, moist croplands, and open, emergent wetlands. Prefers treeless plains.	<b>Possible.</b> Suitable foraging habitat is present within the project boundaries. Suitable nesting habitat is absent.
Mountain Plover ( <i>Charadrius montanus</i> )	CSC	Forages in short grasslands and freshly plowed fields of the Central Valley. Prefers grazed areas and areas with burrowing rodents.	<b>Possible.</b> Suitable foraging habitat is present within the project boundaries. Suitable nesting habitat is absent.
Black Tern ( <i>Chlidonias niger</i> )	CSC	Breeds in the Central Valley and northeastern California. Breeds and forages in fresh emergent wetlands, lakes, ponds,	<b>Possible.</b> Suitable breeding habitat is present along the aquatic features supporting banks which are not regularly maintained or cleared and that support emergent vegetation. Foraging habitat is

**Table 2 (Continued): Special Status Wildlife Species Documented Within the Project Vicinity**

Species	Status	Habitat	
		and rice fields.	found throughout the project site.
Burrowing Owl ( <i>Athene cunicularia</i> )	CSC	Frequents open, dry annual or perennial grasslands, deserts, and scrublands characterized by low growing vegetation. Depends upon burrowing mammals, most notably the California ground squirrel, for nest burrows.	<b>Possible.</b> Suitable habitat is present within the project boundaries. The areas supporting existing burrowing activity (such as the properties near the PG&E tie in point and the more natural vegetation communities) are more likely to burrowing owls. While this species could be found throughout the project site, none have been observed during any of the surveys conducted for this project to date.
Long-eared Owl ( <i>Asio otus</i> )	CSC	Frequents dense, riparian and live oak thickets near meadow edges and nearby woodland and forest habitats. Breeds from valley foothill hardwood up to ponderosa pine habitats.	<b>Unlikely.</b> Migrants and transients may occasionally pass over the site. Breeding habitat is absent.
Short-eared Owl ( <i>Asio flammeus</i> )	CSC	Transient or occasional breeder in grasslands, marshes, and in some agricultural lands of the San Joaquin Valley.	<b>Possible.</b> Suitable breeding habitat is present along the aquatic features supporting banks which are not regularly maintained or cleared. Foraging habitat is found throughout the project site.
Black Swift ( <i>Cypseloides niger</i> )	CSC	Migrants found in many habitats of state; in Sierra nests are often associated with waterfalls.	<b>Unlikely.</b> Migrants and transients may occasionally pass over the site. Breeding habitat is absent.
Vaux's Swift ( <i>Chaetura vauxi</i> )	CSC	Migrants move through the foothills of the western Sierra in spring and late summer. Some individuals breed in the region.	<b>Unlikely.</b> Migrants and transients may occasionally pass over the site. Breeding habitat is absent.
Loggerhead Shrike ( <i>Lanius ludovicianus</i> )	CSC	Frequents open habitats with sparse shrubs and trees, other suitable perches, bare ground, and low herbaceous cover. Can often be found in cropland.	<b>Possible.</b> Suitable breeding habitat is present within the onsite trees and large shrubs. Foraging habitat is found throughout the project site.
Yellow Warbler ( <i>Dendroica petechia brewsteri</i> )	CSC	Breeds in wet, deciduous thickets, especially riparian areas dominated by willows, cottonwoods, aspens, sycamores, and alders for nesting and foraging. Also nests in montane shrubbery in open conifer forests.	<b>Unlikely.</b> Migrants and transients may occasionally pass over the site. Breeding habitat is absent.
Yellow-breasted Chat ( <i>Icteria virens</i> )	CSC	Summer resident inhabiting riparian thickets and other dense brush near watercourses.	<b>Unlikely.</b> Migrants and transients may occasionally pass over the site. Breeding habitat is absent.
Oregon Vesper Sparrow ( <i>Poocetes gramineus affinis</i> )	CSC	Winters in the Central Valley and southern California. Prefers dry, open areas with short, sparse grass or herbaceous cover.	<b>Unlikely.</b> Migrants and transients may occasionally pass over the site. Breeding habitat is absent.
Tricolored Blackbird	CSC	Breeds near fresh water,	<b>Possible.</b> Suitable breeding habitat is

**Table 2 (Continued): Special Status Wildlife Species Documented Within the Project Vicinity**

Species	Status	Habitat	
<i>(Agelaius tricolor)</i>		primarily emergent wetlands, with tall thickets. Forages in grassland and cropland habitats.	present along the aquatic features supporting banks which are not regularly maintained or cleared and that support emergent vegetation. However, no breeding colonies (which are fairly conspicuous) have been detected during surveys for this project. Foraging habitat is found throughout the project site.
Yellow-headed Blackbird <i>(Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus)</i>	CSC	Occurs amongst emergent vegetation of fresh water marshes. Also found foraging in fields and open country. Breeds in freshwater sloughs and marshy lake borders.	<b>Possible.</b> Suitable breeding habitat is present along the aquatic features supporting banks which are not regularly maintained or cleared and that support emergent vegetation. However, no breeding colonies (which are fairly conspicuous) have been detected during surveys for this project. Foraging habitat is found throughout the project site.
Tulare Grasshopper Mouse <i>(Onychomys torridus tularensis)</i>	CSC	Arid shrubland communities in arid grassland and scrub deserts, including blue oak woodlands at 450 meters in elevation; upper sonoran subshrub scrub community; alkali sink and mesquite associations on the valley floor; and grasslands associations on the sloping margins of the San Joaquin Valley and Carrizo Plain region. Diet almost exclusively composed of arthropods; therefore, needs abundant supply of insects.	<b>Unlikely.</b> The vegetation communities of the site provide marginal habitat, at best, for this species. Additionally, this species is not known to occur in the immediate site vicinity. The nearest documented occurrence is from west of Interstate 5 in the Ciervo-Panoche Region of Fresno and San Benito Counties.
Short-nosed Kangaroo Rat <i>(Dipodomys nitratoideus brevinasus)</i>	CSC	Western side of San Joaquin Valley in grassland and desert shrub associations, especially <i>Atriplex</i> . Occurs in highly alkaline soils around Soda Lake. Needs friable soils and favors flat to gently sloping terrain.	<b>Unlikely.</b> The vegetation communities of the site provide marginal habitat, at best, for this species. Additionally, the project site is found on the very outer edges of where extant populations of this species are thought to occur. Most population occur south and west of the project site.
Pallid Bat <i>(Antrozous pallidus)</i>	CSC	Roosts in rocky outcrops, cliffs, and crevices with access to open habitats for foraging. May also roost in caves, mines, hollow trees and buildings.	<b>Possible.</b> The crevasse beneath the bridges and the large trees of the site provide roosting habitat for this species. Foraging habitat is found throughout the project site.
Spotted Bat <i>(Euderma maculatum)</i>	CSC	Found in a variety of habitats, from arid desert and grassland to mixed conifer forest. Primarily roosts in cliffs.	<b>Unlikely.</b> Roosting habitat is marginal to absent from the project site. Migrants and transients may occasionally pass over the site.
Western Mastiff Bat <i>(Eumops perotis ssp. californicus)</i>	CSC	Frequents open, semi-arid to arid habitats, including conifer, and deciduous	<b>Possible.</b> The crevasse beneath the bridges and the large trees of the site provide roosting habitat for this species.

**Table 2 (Continued): Special Status Wildlife Species Documented Within the Project Vicinity**

Species	Status	Habitat	
		woodlands, coastal scrub, grasslands, palm oasis, chaparral and urban. Roosts in cliff faces, high buildings, trees and tunnels.	Foraging habitat is found throughout the project site.
Western Red Bat ( <i>Lasiurus blossevillii</i> )	CSC	Roosts primarily in trees 2-40 ft. above the ground, from sea level up through mixed conifer forests. Prefers habitat edges and mosaics with trees that are protected from above and open below with open areas for foraging.	<b>Possible.</b> The large trees of the site provide marginal roosting habitat for this species. Foraging habitat is found throughout the project site.
Townsend's Big-eared Bat ( <i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i> )	CSC	Primarily a cave-dwelling bat, which may also roost in buildings. Occurs in a variety of habitats of the state.	<b>Possible.</b> The crevasse beneath the bridges and the large trees of the site provide marginal roosting habitat for this species. Foraging habitat is found throughout the project site.
Ringtail ( <i>Bassariscus astutus</i> )	CSC	Occurs in dry, rocky, and mountainous areas with oaks and conifers.	<b>Possible.</b> Suitable habitat is present for this species within the wooded habitat along the San Joaquin River and Fresno Slough.
American Badger ( <i>Taxidea taxus</i> )	CSC	Found in drier open stages of most shrub, forest and herbaceous habitats with friable soils.	<b>Possible.</b> Suitable habitat occurs within the project boundaries. The areas most likely to support this species are those providing natural vegetation communities with little anthropogenic impacts. While the potential exists for this species, neither individuals nor evidence of their presence have been detected during surveys conducted for this project.

**STATUS CODES**

FE	Federally Endangered	CE	California Endangered
FT	Federally Threatened	CT	California Threatened
FPE	Federally Endangered (Proposed)	CR	California Rare
FC	Federal Candidate	CP	California Protected
		CSC	California Species of Special Concern

(FSC were not included in table due to their lack of regulatory status)

