Biological Resources Assessment

910 Fresno Avenue, Santa Rosa, Sonoma County
October 2022

Prepared for:
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1 Introduction

Landowner Gil Alcazar is proposing a redevelopment project at 910 Fresno Avenue, Santa Rosa, Sonoma County (APN 035-101-006; Figure 1). The project includes partial demolition and redevelopment of an old animal hospital into a building materials supply business. The City of Santa Rosa requested a biological assessment of the project due to its proximity to documented habitat for federally and state-listed California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*). The project is also located within the Santa Rosa Plain which supports additional listed species.

Swift Biological Consulting LLC (Swift Biological) was retained by the landowner to complete a biological resources assessment of the proposed redevelopment project. The purpose of this report is to identify sensitive biological communities and special-status species and their habitats within the project site, evaluate potential impacts on sensitive resources resulting from the proposed project, and recommend measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate potential impacts. The report is based on information available at the time of the survey, site conditions observed, currently available information, and the best professional judgment of the report preparer. This report will be used to apply for permits to the City of Santa Rosa and to support the City's California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) analysis.

1.1 Project Setting

The project is located at 910 Fresno Avenue, Santa Rosa within a 3.53-acre parcel within the city limits. The project site is accessible from Highway 12 and Sebastopol Road in western Santa Rosa. The parcel is currently zoned Planned Development-General Commercial and Open Space Conservation. The parcel is "T" shaped. The western portion of the parcel was previously developed and is the location of the proposed redevelopment. The eastern portion of the parcel is held in open space and supports a single-family residence and farm animals; this area is outside the area proposed for redevelopment. Surrounding lands support city streets, residential and commercial development, and open space.

The project site is mapped on the Sebastopol USGS quadrangle (38.424709°N, 122.759253°W) at approximately 100 feet in elevation. It is situated in the lowlands of central Sonoma County in an area referred to as the Santa Rosa Plain (Plain). The Plain is bordered by the Laguna de Santa Rosa (Laguna) to the west and southwest, foothills to the east, and the Russian River to the north. It is characterized by lowlands dominated by oak savannah and grassland habitat with vernal pools and seasonal wetlands. The Plain supports a variety of flora and fauna including special-status California tiger salamander and vernal pool plants. The site drains into the City of Santa Rosa's storm drain system which flows into the Laguna. The Laguna is a 22-mile-long wetland complex that drains approximately 254 square miles; it flows into the Russian River near Forestville, then the Pacific Ocean.

1.2 Proposed Project

As described on the *Buildings Materials Supply – TI Sheets 1-7* plans, the project includes the redevelopment of an old animal hospital into a building materials supply facility (Schwartz Architects 2022). The project includes the demolition of portions of the main structure and ancillary structures, construction of both interior and exterior structures, and street frontage improvements along Fresno Avenue. The existing building area is 5,940 square feet of which 1,368 will be demolished. No new areas of work are proposed. The total proposed building footprint is 4,072 square feet. The existing buildings are in various states of disrepair and not currently functional. These buildings will be redeveloped within the same footprint.

Site disturbance will be limited to existing developed and ruderal areas around the periphery of the buildings and along Fresno Avenue. An existing septic tank at the southwest corner of the existing buildings may be removed. The City of Santa Rosa is requiring street frontage improvements along Fresno Avenue (Adobe Associates, Inc. 2021). This will require the removal of non-native ornamental trees and two valley oak trees. Native tree replacement is proposed and will be in-kind in areas deemed appropriate for replanting (e.g., planting area along Fresno Avenue or ruderal areas on the east side of the building) to be described in a future planting plan to be submitted with a building permit application. The plantings will provide a vegetated buffer for the development and improve native plant diversity on the site. The street frontage improvements along Fresno Avenue will also require modifications to an existing roadside ditch along the western edge of the parcel (Adobe Associates, Inc. 2021).

Specific project design elements have been identified in the plans that avoid impacts on sensitive resources. Schwartz Architects (2022) notes the installation of silt fence along the eastern and southern edges of the project site for erosion control, demarcation of the work area, and resource protection. Seasonal limitations or completion of preconstruction surveys are also proposed for resource protection.

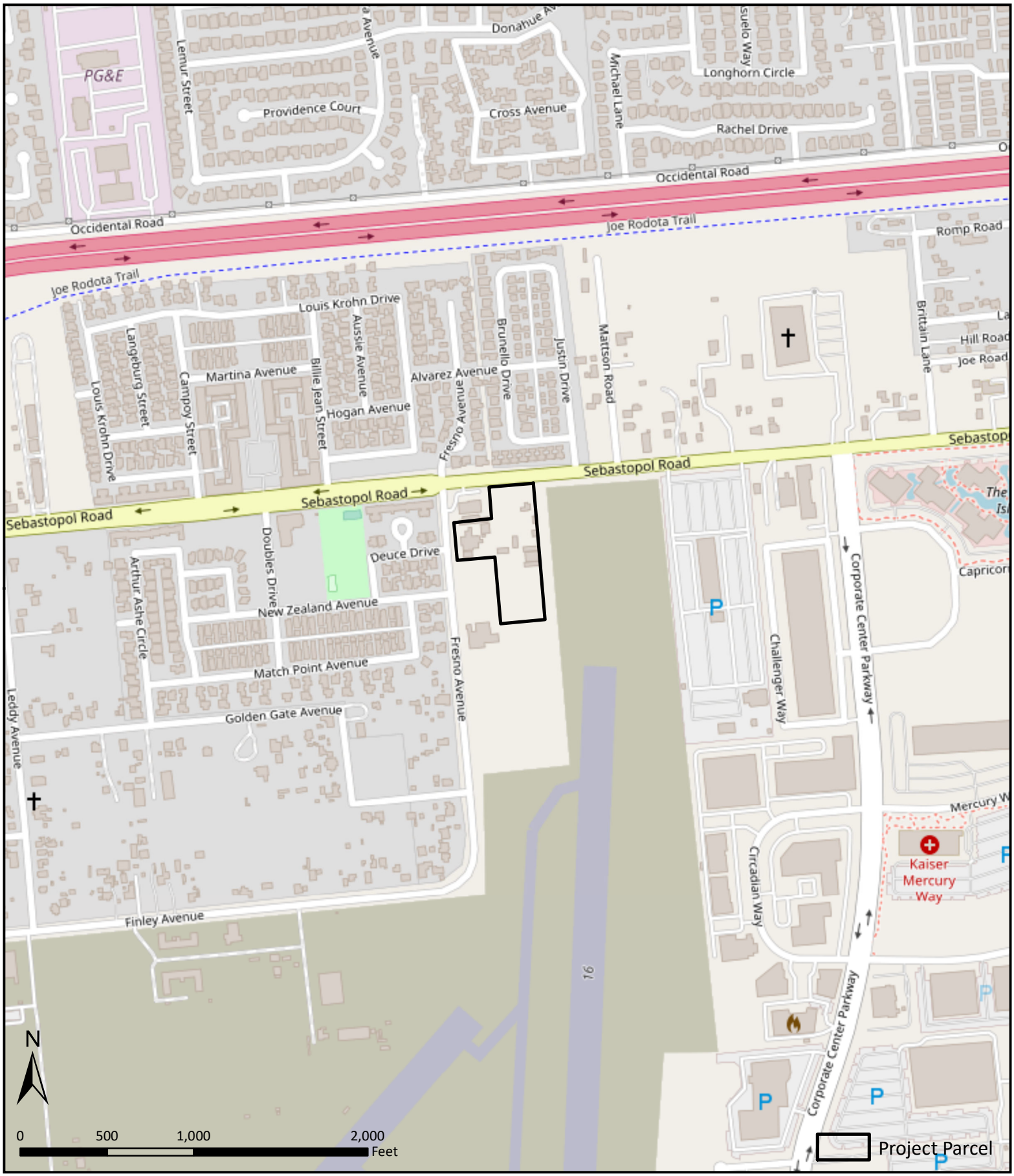

Figure 1. Project Location

Sources: Street Map and Parcel - ESRI

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910 Fresno Avenue, Santa Rosa
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Figure 2. Project Features

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Sources: Aerial - ESRI

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2 Methods

2.1 Background Review

Information on special-status species and habitats was compiled through a review of background literature and databases. The search focused on the known occurrences of special-status species on the Sebastopol 7.5-minute USGS quadrangle where the project is located and the surrounding quadrangles. The following resources were consulted to determine species and habitats within the project site:

- The California Natural Diversity Database[1] (CNDDB) maintained by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW 2022a); this included species reported within a 3-mile buffer around the site,
- CDFW's California Sensitive Natural Communities list, July 5, 2022 (CDFW 2022b),
- CDFW's Special Animals List, July 2022 (CDFW 2022c),
- CDFW's Special Vascular Plants, Bryophytes, and Lichens List, July 2022 (CDFW 2022d),
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) database (USFWS 2022a),
- California Native Plant Society's (CNPS) A Manual of California Vegetation Online (CNPS 2022a),
- California Native Plant Society's Inventory or Rare Plants (CNPS 2022b),
- Calflora's Observation Search and Search for Plants databases (Calflora 2022),
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Web Soil Survey (WSS; NRCS 2022),
- Google Earth aerial images,
- USGS topographic maps,
- Sonoma County Vegetation Mapping and LIDAR Program (Sonoma Veg Map; Ag + Open Space and SCWA 2017), and
- Historic and current accounts of biological resources within the Santa Rosa Plain and species-specific information presented in other technical reports, publications, and field guides.

2.2 Field Survey

A biological survey of the project site was completed by Swift Biological on June 28, 2022. The field survey followed the methods described in CDFW's *Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special-status Native Plant Populations and Natural Communities* (CDFW 2009) and Sonoma County's *Guidelines for Preparing Biological Resource Studies or Assessments*

[1] The California Natural Diversity Database is an inventory of the status and locations of rare plants and animals in California and is maintained by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. It is part of an international network of natural heritage programs, managed by NatureServe. It is a positive detection database and only contains records where species have been detected; there are no organized inventory or survey efforts used to populate the database. Observations are submitted by local agencies, researchers, and consultants and reviewed by CDFW staff prior to entry into the database. The CNDDB is not a public dataset; the maps and information provided in this report are for internal review only and should not be used for any public reports or other documents.

(Agricultural Commissioner 2014). The survey was completed to 1) document and map vegetation communities, 2) compile a list of plant and animal species present, 3) evaluate the project site for the presence of special-status species and their habitats, and 4) evaluate the project site for jurisdictional aquatic features. Areas adjacent to the project site were also observed for context and to evaluate the potential for impacts to off-site resources.

Prior to the survey, a background review was completed to generate a list of potentially sensitive biological communities and special-status species that may occur within the project site; see *Background Review*. A base map of the project site was produced prior to the field survey with the parcel boundaries overlaid on an aerial photograph. The project site boundaries and aerial were also downloaded into the ESRI Field Maps application and GPS field data on biological features were collected in the field. During the survey, the entire project site and a buffer around it was systematically and thoroughly surveyed to inventory all biological resources present. The survey focused on the project site; the entire property was not inventoried.

Plants. A botanical inventory of the project site was completed to describe the vegetation communities and evaluate for the presence of special-status plants. Plant communities were identified and described based on the *Manual of California Vegetation* (CNPS 2022a) definitions. Data downloaded from the Sonoma Vegetation Mapping and LIDAR Program was used to map vegetation communities within the project site (Sonoma Veg Map; Ag + Open Space and SCWA 2017). The botanical inventory was floristic in nature and every plant taxon that occurs at the project site was identified to the taxonomic level necessary to determine rarity or listing status. All plants were identified using the *Jepson eFlora* (Jepson Flora Project 2022) and *Sonoma County Flora* (Best et al. 1996). All plant species observed were incorporated into the *Existing Plant Communities* text below.

Wildlife. A wildlife survey of the project site was completed to describe the wildlife species and habitats present and evaluate for the presence of special-status species. A high-powered LED flashlight (Streamlight, Stinger, 350 lumens), binoculars (Swarovski 10x42), and camera (Canon PowerShot SX70) were used. All wildlife species were identified by sight or sound and details of wildlife behavior and activity were recorded. The survey was carried out under suitable weather conditions to maximize the potential for the detection of wildlife species. The survey included a daytime inspection of all vegetation and the interior and exterior of the accessible buildings and an evaluation of unique wildlife habitat features, such as wetlands and drainages, uplands areas such as small mammal burrows or other suitable aestivation holes, and nesting bird and roosting bat habitat. Buildings were inspected for nesting birds and evidence of live or dead bat specimens, bat fecal pellets, urine splashes, and squeaking noises. All wildlife species observed were incorporated into the *Wildlife Habitat* text below.

Aquatic Resources. The project site was reviewed for the presence of wetlands and other aquatic resources under the jurisdiction of the US Army Corps of Engineers, the Regional Water Quality

Control Board, and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. This included a preliminary assessment of wetlands and waters of the US/State based protocols described in the *Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual* (Corps 1987), the *Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Arid West Region (Version 2.0)* (Corps 2008b), and *A Field Guide to the Identification of the Ordinary High Water Mark in the Arid West Region of the Western United States: A Delineation Manual* (Corps 2008a). Wetland jurisdiction was determined based on a preliminary assessment of hydrophytic vegetation, hydric soils, and hydrology; a site must meet these three parameters to be considered jurisdictional. Waters and other drainage areas were determined based on wetland indicators and other physical characteristics such as a clear, natural line impressed on the bank, shelving, changes in the character of the soil, destruction of terrestrial vegetation, or the presence of litter and debris to indicate the presence of an OHWM.

2.3 Maps and Photographs

Maps for this report were generated using ESRI ArcGIS ArcMap 10.8.2 software. Field data was collected using the ESRI Field Map application and downloaded in the office to support the mapping efforts. Project plans, aerial imagery, and existing GIS layers available from ArcGIS Online on soil types, land cover/vegetation, and hydrology were used to create figures that represent conditions on the project site. Data downloaded from the Sonoma Vegetation Mapping and LiDAR Program for the project site (Sonoma Veg Map; Ag + Open Space and SCWA 2017) were also used to characterize the site. Digital photographs were collected in the field to characterize on-site conditions and document biological resources.

3 Existing Conditions

3.1 Physical Characteristics

The project site is located on a 3.53-acre parcel. The project site is currently developed. The proposed project is located within a relatively flat and uniform portion of the site. The elevation is approximately 100 feet. Drainage from the site and the adjacent roadway flows into a roadside ditch running the length of the western parcel boundary.

According to the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey, the project site is underlain by one soil mapping unit: Wright loam, wet, 0 to 2 percent slopes (USDA 1972, NRCS 2022). The Wright series consists of somewhat poorly drained and moderately well-drained loams that have a clay subsoil. Wright loam, wet, 0 to 2 percent slopes occurs on terraces. It is derived from alluvium. It is comprised of loam in the upper 25 inches and clay and sandy clay loam from 25 to 73 inches. Permeability is very slow and drainage is somewhat poor. Runoff is very slow and the hazard of erosion is none to slight. It is used mainly for pasture and hay and supports primarily annual grasses and scattered oaks.

3.2 Existing Plant Communities

Plant communities are assemblages of plant species that occur together in the same area and are defined by species composition and relative abundance. The majority of the site is fully developed with few permeable surfaces and areas for native plant growth. The vegetation at the project site consists predominantly of disturbed non-native herbaceous plants and ornamental plantings with a few scattered native oaks along the edges of the buildings and Fresno Avenue.

Herbaceous

Disturbed herbaceous-dominated areas are found on the eastern edge of the existing buildings between the project site and adjacent farmland and along Fresno Avenue in areas of native soil. Weedy species are also growing in the cracks along the edge of the buildings and asphalt. These areas are dominated by non-native annual grasses and forbs. Representative species included wild oats (*Avena* sp.), chicory (*Cichorium intybus*), Italian ryegrass (*Festuca perennis*), bristly ox-tongue (*Helminthotheca echioides*), smooth cat's ear (*Hypochaeris glabra*), hairypod pepperweed (*Lepidium lasiocarpum*), English plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*), rabbitsfoot grass (*Polypogon monspeliensis*), prickly sowthistle (*Sonchus asper*), and rabbitfoots clover (*Trifolium arvense*).

Non-native Ornamental Plantings

Several ornamental trees and shrubs are growing within the project site. Along Fresno Avenue, mature planting of sweetgum trees (*Liquidambar* sp.) and other identifiable trees are growing along the fence line; these trees average 20-24" in diameter at breast height (DBH). Low-growing juniper (*Juniperus* sp.) shrubs are also present. A large ornamental tree is also growing along the southern parcel boundary, but could not be identified to species. On the eastern edge of the

project site, there is a large prickly pear cactus (*Opuntia* sp.) growing over the abandoned septic tank and trailing roses bushes along the fence lines.

Native Oaks

Several native oak trees are growing within the project site. The largest tree is located at the northwest corner of the project site along Fresno Avenue. This is an 11" DBH valley oak (*Quercus lobata*) tree. Another 10" DBH valley oak is growing along the southern edge of the site, inside the fence line. Several smaller 2-4" DBH oaks are growing along Fresno Avenue and at the edge of the asphalt at the northern parcel line, respectively. The trees may need to be removed to allow for the required street frontage improvements per the City of Santa Rosa.

Under Chapter 17-24 of the Santa Rosa City Code, native heritage trees of particular species and size are protected under the *Tree Removal and Preservation* ordinance. A permit is required to remove/alter heritage trees in all zoning districts. Native valley oaks over 6" in diameter/19" in circumference are protected. These protections would apply to the valley oaks along Fresno Avenue. Additional trees along Fresno Avenue may also qualify as "street trees" under the ordinance depending on their distance from the paved portion of Fresno Avenue. Tree protection and/or replacement may be required for this project.

3.3 Roadside Ditch

Drainage from the site flows into a roadside ditch running the length of the western parcel boundary. The ditch is orientated in a north-south direction. From the site, it continues south along Fresno Avenue and north into a storm drain inlet on the north side of the adjacent animal hospital property. There are two culverted sections of the ditch at the existing access points into the site. Within the project site, the ditch is a shallow depression without a well-developed bed or banks. It supports ruderal herbaceous species and appears to be regularly mown. Representative plants include upland species comprised of wild oats, chicory, smooth cat's ear, and English plantain. Ornamental juniper bushes and trees are also growing along the margins. No wetland plants were observed during the June field survey; if the ditch was saturated or inundated for any length of time within the project site, hydrophytic wetland plants would likely have been present. There was no evidence of water transport - natural line impressed on the banks, and presence of litter and debris to indicate the presence of an OHWM at the time of the survey. The drainage ditch appears to be an artificially created watercourse constructed to drain surface runoff as part of the City's urban storm drain system. It does not appear to represent the realignment of a natural stream channel.

3.4 Wildlife Habitat

The project site provides habitat for urban wildlife communities. These include a variety of native and non-native species that can live and thrive in urban and suburban environments. These species generally have a high tolerance for human disturbance, utilize human food resources, and are typically omnivorous and generalists with regard to food and habitat. The most common wildlife within these developed areas are birds. Wildlife species observed both within the project

site and adjacent areas included California scrub-jay, oak titmouse, house finch, northern mockingbird, Anna's hummingbird, and American goldfinch. Turkey vultures were seen flying overhead. Birds may forage around the periphery of the site, roost on the buildings, and occasionally nest on the abandoned buildings; an old house finch nest was seen in the pump house, they commonly nest on human structures. Common mammals that may use the project site include omnivores such as raccoons, striped skunks, and non-native Virginia opossums. The mature oak and ornamental trees may support non-native fox squirrel. Given the proximity to open space lands, the site may be frequented by top predators such as gray foxes on occasion. Bats could roost in the old buildings, but no evidence of them was observed during a survey of the structures. Habitat for fossorial wildlife is limited as most of the site is impermeable or highly compacted. There were no underground tunnels, soil mounds, or soil cracks noted within the project site.

3.5 Wildlife Connectivity

Wildlife movement is essential for their survival. This includes both the day-to-day movements needed for wildlife to acquire food, shelter, and mates, but also for dispersal and migration, to ensure gene flow, recolonization of unoccupied habitat, and geographic shifts in response to climate change. Movement is necessary to maintain healthy ecological and evolutionary processes. Habitat linkages are landscape connections that facilitate movement between large, core habitat areas for diverse organisms and processes. These can be critical at both the local and regional levels. Wildlife crossings are structures that allow animals to cross over human-made barriers to allow collections between habitats or allow animals to navigate through areas where they would be prone to vehicle collisions. Barriers can include urban development, roads, fences, and open areas with limited cover. Crossings can range in size from small culverts and underpasses to larger overpasses or green bridges.

The project site is fully developed and is located adjacent to and near moderately trafficked roadways. The project will include the redevelopment of an existing developed site and will not create any new barriers to wildlife movement. The site characteristics provide poor habitat connectivity conditions for local wildlife populations, including both common and special-status wildlife species. Habitats surrounding the project site may provide wildlife movement opportunities, but the project will not impact wildlife movement and corridors.

4 Special-status Species

4.1 Special-status Species Evaluation Criteria

The potential for each special-status species identified during the background review were evaluated for potential occurrence within the project site. The potential for special-status species to occur on the project site is based on the existing site conditions, known distribution and habitat requirements of the species, and the professional expertise of the biologist completing the assessment. The following criteria were used:

No Potential – Suitable habitat is not present and/or the project is outside the species' range.

Not Expected – Habitat is generally unsuitable or of very poor quality, key habitat elements are absent, and/or the project is isolated from the nearest extant occurrences. The species is not expected to be found within the project site.

Moderate Potential – Marginally suitable habitat or some key habitat elements that could support this species are present within the project site or immediately adjacent to the site. Species has a moderate potential to occur within the project site.

High Potential – All of the habitat components required by this species are present and/or the suitable habitat is present adjacent to the project site. This species would be expected to be found during focused field surveys. Species has a high potential to occur within the project site.

Present – Species was observed directly or indirectly during project surveys and/or known from reported occurrences that are believed to be still extant.

4.2 Santa Rosa Plain Listed Species

The Santa Rosa Plain is located in the lowlands of central Sonoma County. It is characterized by oak savannah and grassland habitat with vernal pools and seasonal wetlands. The Plain supports a variety of flora and fauna including special-status California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*) and vernal pool plants, including, but not limited to Burke's goldfields (*Lasthenia burkei*), Sonoma sunshine (*Blennosperma bakeri*), and Sebastopol meadowfoam (*Limnanthes vinculans*). The California tiger salamander was federally listed as endangered in 2005 under the ESA and state listed as threatened in 2010 under CESA. Burke's goldfields, Sonoma sunshine, and Sebastopol meadowfoam were federally listed as endangered in 1991. The California tiger salamander uses seasonal wetlands for breeding, and the surrounding uplands for dispersal, feeding, growth, maturation, and maintenance of the juvenile and adult population (upland habitat). These plants only grow in seasonal wetlands (Conservation Strategy Team 2005).

With the federal listing of the California tiger salamander, it caused a level of "uncertainty for local jurisdictions, landowners, and developers about how the listing would affect their activities. Private and local public interests met with USFWS to discuss possible cooperative approaches to protecting the species while allowing planned land uses to occur within the range of the animal. The results of these discussions were the formation of the Santa Rosa Plain Conservation Strategy Team" and the subsequent development of the Santa Rosa Plain Conservation Strategy report (Conservation Strategy Team 2005). The Santa Rosa Plain Conservation Strategy (Conservation Strategy) was prepared to provide a biological framework upon which to base future regulatory actions with respect to CTS and the vernal pool plant species (Conservation Strategy Team 2005). In 2007, the Corps consulted with USFWS and prepared a Programmatic Biological Opinion (PBO) for projects within the Conservation Strategy Area (USFWS 2007). The PBO addresses multiple species and provides the framework for mitigation, conservation, translocation, and appropriate minimization measures for the covered species. The PBO was reinitiated in 2020 to include critical habitat for CTS (USFWS 2020). Projects that are appended to the PBO can be provided individual take authorization.

The Conservation Strategy and Programmatic Biological Opinion identify locations within the Santa Rosa Plain where project actions are likely to adversely affect, not likely to adversely affect, or will have no effect on Burke's goldfields, Sonoma sunshine, and Sebastopol meadowfoam and/or CTS and CTS critical habitat. The project site is located in a "no effects" determination area for all of these species and CTS critical habitat (Figure 3; USFWS 2022b). However, this designation only applies to the fully developed areas on the western portion of the parcel where work is currently being proposed. The remainder of the parcel is designated as "likely to adversely affect". Any future work on the property outside of the current project footprint would require additional biology study and potential mitigation. See Tables 1 and 2 for species occurrence information.

California Tiger Salamander

Burke's Goldfields

Sonoma Sunshine

Sebastopol Meadowfoam

Figure 3. Santa Rosa Plain Listed Species Affects Determinations

Sources: USFWS

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4.3 Special-status Plants

Based on the background review, a list of special-status plants with the potential to occur within the project site was generated. The background review identified 16 plant species with reported occurrences within the region. The potential for each species to occur on the project site was evaluated based on the existing site conditions and habitat requirements for each species. Table 1 lists these species, their listing status, description, local observations, and potential for occurrence within the project site.

No special-status plants were observed during the June 28, 2022 project site survey. No special-status plant species are expected to occur within the project site. The project site is fully developed. It has been graded, paved, and otherwise disturbed making it unsuitable for special-status plants. The project site lacks native vegetation communities, hydrological and topographic conditions, and unique soil characteristics necessary to support species-status plants.

Table 1. Special-status Plant Species Evaluated for Potential to Occur within the Project Site

Common Name	Scientific Name	Listing Status[2]	Description	Local Observations and Potential for Occurrence within the Project Site
Sonoma alopecurus	*Alopecurus aequalis var. sonomensis*	FE, 1B.1	Perennial herb. Freshwater marshes and swamps, riparian scrub.15-1,200 feet. Blooms May-July.	No potential. USFWS IPac list. Suitable habitat is not present within the project site.
bent-flowered fiddleneck	*Amsinckia lunaris*	1B.2	Annual herb. Coastal bluff scrub, woodland, grassland; gravelly slopes, grassland, openings in woodlands, often serpentine. 10-1,640 feet. Blooms March-June.	No potential. Known from a 1940 collection near Highway 12 and east of Santa Rosa in "oak belt". Suitable habitat is not present within the project site.
Sonoma sunshine	*Blennosperma bakeri*	FE, SE, 1B.1	Annual herb. Mesic grasslands, vernal pools, grassy margins of swales. 35-360 feet. Blooms February - April.	No potential. Known from vernal pools and swales in the Santa Rosa Plain. USFWS IPac list. Suitable vernal pool habitat is not present within the project site.

[2] **Plant Listing Status Codes**
Federal: FE - listed as endangered (in danger of extinction); FT - listed as threatened (likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future).
State: SE - listed as endangered; ST - listed as threatened; SR - listed as rare.
California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR): 1A - presumed extirpated in California and either rare or extinct elsewhere; 1B - rare or endangered in California and elsewhere; 2A - presumed extirpated in California, but common elsewhere; 2B - rare or endangered in California, but more common elsewhere; 3 - plants for which we need more information, a review list; 4 – plants of limited distribution, a watch list. The CRPR uses a decimal-style threat rank. The threat rank is an extension added onto the CRPR and designates the level of threats by a 1 to 3 ranking with 1 being the most threatened and 3 being the least threatened (CDFW 2022b).

Common Name	Scientific Name	Listing Status[2]	Description	Local Observations and Potential for Occurrence within the Project Site
Sonoma white sedge	*Carex albida (treated as Carex lemmonii, a common taxon)*	FE, SE, removed from CRPR list	Perennial rhizomatous herb. Marshes, bogs, meadows, occasionally on serpentine. Blooms May-August.	No potential. Known from only one extant occurrence in the world from Pitkin Marsh in Sonoma County. Suitable habitat is not present within the project site.
Sonoma spineflower	*Chorizanthe valida*	FE, SE, 1B.1	Annual herb. Sandy coastal prairie. 35-1,000 feet. Blooms June-August.	No potential. USFWS IPac list. Suitable habitat is not present within the project site.
yellow larkspur	*Delphinium luteum*	FE, SR, 1B.1	Perennial herb. Rocky locations in chaparral, coastal prairie, coastal scrub; often moist sites. 0-330 feet. Blooms March-May.	No potential. USFWS IPaC list. Suitable habitat is not present within the project site.
dwarf downingia	*Downingia pusilla*	2B.2	Annual herb. Grassland (mesic), vernal pools, often roadside ditches. 5-1,460 feet. Blooms March-May.	No potential. Known from a 1994 occurrence in an intermittent creek channel within the Santa Rosa Plain. Suitable habitat is not present within the project site.
congested-headed hayfield tarplant	*Hemizonia congesta ssp. congesta*	1B.2	Annual herb. Grassland, sometimes roadsides. 65-1,835 feet. Blooms April-November.	No potential. Known from reported observations between 1905-1988 in vernal pool habitat somewhere between Sebastopol and Santa Rosa. Suitable habitat is not present within the project site.
Burke's goldfields	*Lasthenia burkei*	FE, SE, 1B.1	Annual herb. Meadows (wet), seeps, vernal pools. 50-1,970 feet. Blooms April-June.	No potential. Known from extant populations in vernal pool habitats in the Santa Rosa Plain. USFWS IPaC list. Suitable vernal pool habitat is not present within the project site.
legenere	*Legenere limosa*	1B.1	Annual herb. Vernal pools. 5-2,885 feet. Blooms April-June.	No potential. Known from a 1996 occurrence in pool habitat within the Santa Rosa Plain. Suitable habitat is not present within the project site.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Listing Status[2]	Description	Local Observations and Potential for Occurrence within the Project Site
Pitkin Marsh lily	*Lilium pardalinum ssp. pitkinense*	FE, SE, 1B.1	Perennial bulbiferous herb. Woodland, meadows and seeps, marshes and swamps; mesic and sandy microhabitats. 115-215 feet. Blooms June-July.	No potential. USFWS IPaC list. Suitable habitat is not present within the project site.
Sebastopol meadowfoam	*Limnanthes vinculans*	FE, SE, 1B.1	Annual herb. Meadows and seeps, grassland, vernal pools; vernally mesic. 50-1,000 feet. Blooms April - May.	No potential. Known from vernally wet meadows, pools, and swales in the Santa Rosa Plain. The nearest reported occurrence is assumed to be extirpated. USFWS IPaC list. Suitable vernal pool habitat is not present within the project site.
Baker's navarretia	*Navarretia leucocephala ssp. bakeri*	1B.1	Annual herb. Vernal pools in woodland, lower montane coniferous forest, meadows/seeps, grassland habitats. 15-5,710 feet. Blooms April-July.	No potential. Known from extant populations in vernal pool habitats in the Santa Rosa Plain. Suitable vernal pool habitat is not present within the project site.
two-fork clover	*Trifolium amoenum*	FE, 1B.1	Annual herb. Coastal bluff scrub, grassland (sometimes serpentinite); moist, heavy soils, disturbed areas. 15-1,360 feet. Blooms April-June.	No potential. Known from a 1945 collection near Wright School. USFWS IPaC list. Suitable habitat is not present within the project site.
Santa Cruz clover	*Trifolium buckwestiorum*	1B.1	Annual herb. Gravelly or disturbed areas in broadleafed upland forest, woodland, coastal prairie. 345-2,000 feet. Blooms April-October.	No potential. Known from a 2008 collection at an unknown location in Santa Rosa in a graded field; east of the project site. Suitable habitat is not present within the project site.
saline clover	*Trifolium hydrophilum*	1B.2	Annual herb. Marshes (salt) and swamps, grassland (mesic, alkaline), vernal pools. 0-985 feet. Blooms April-June.	No potential. Known from a 1995 occurrence in mesic grassland, sighting possibly extirpated. Suitable habitat is not present within the project site.

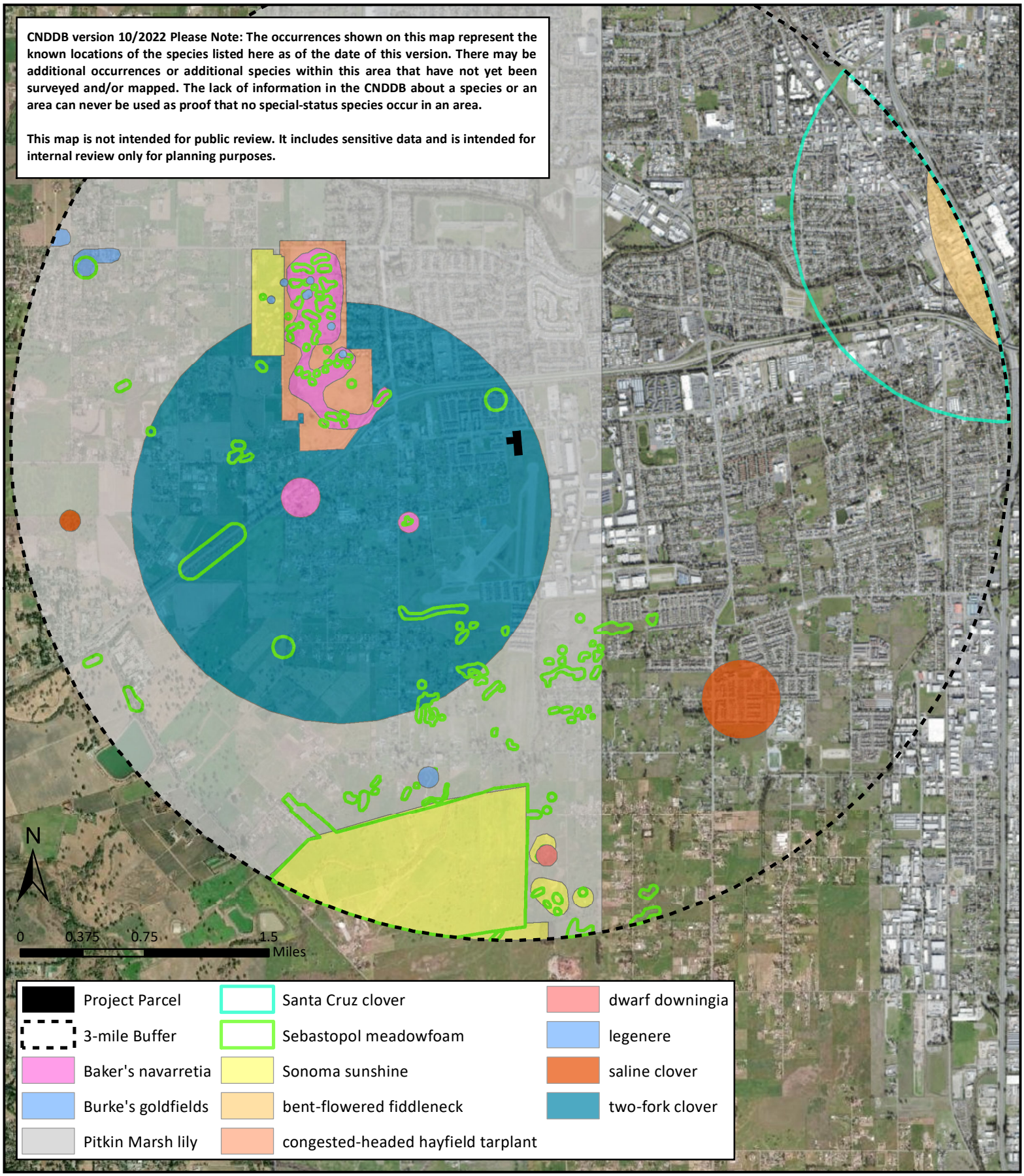

Figure 4. Special-status Plants Documented within a 3-mile Buffer of the Project

Sources: Aerial - ESRI, CNDDB - CDFW

Biological Resources Assessment
910 Fresno Avenue, Santa Rosa
October 2022

SWIFT BIOLOGICAL CONSULTING LLC

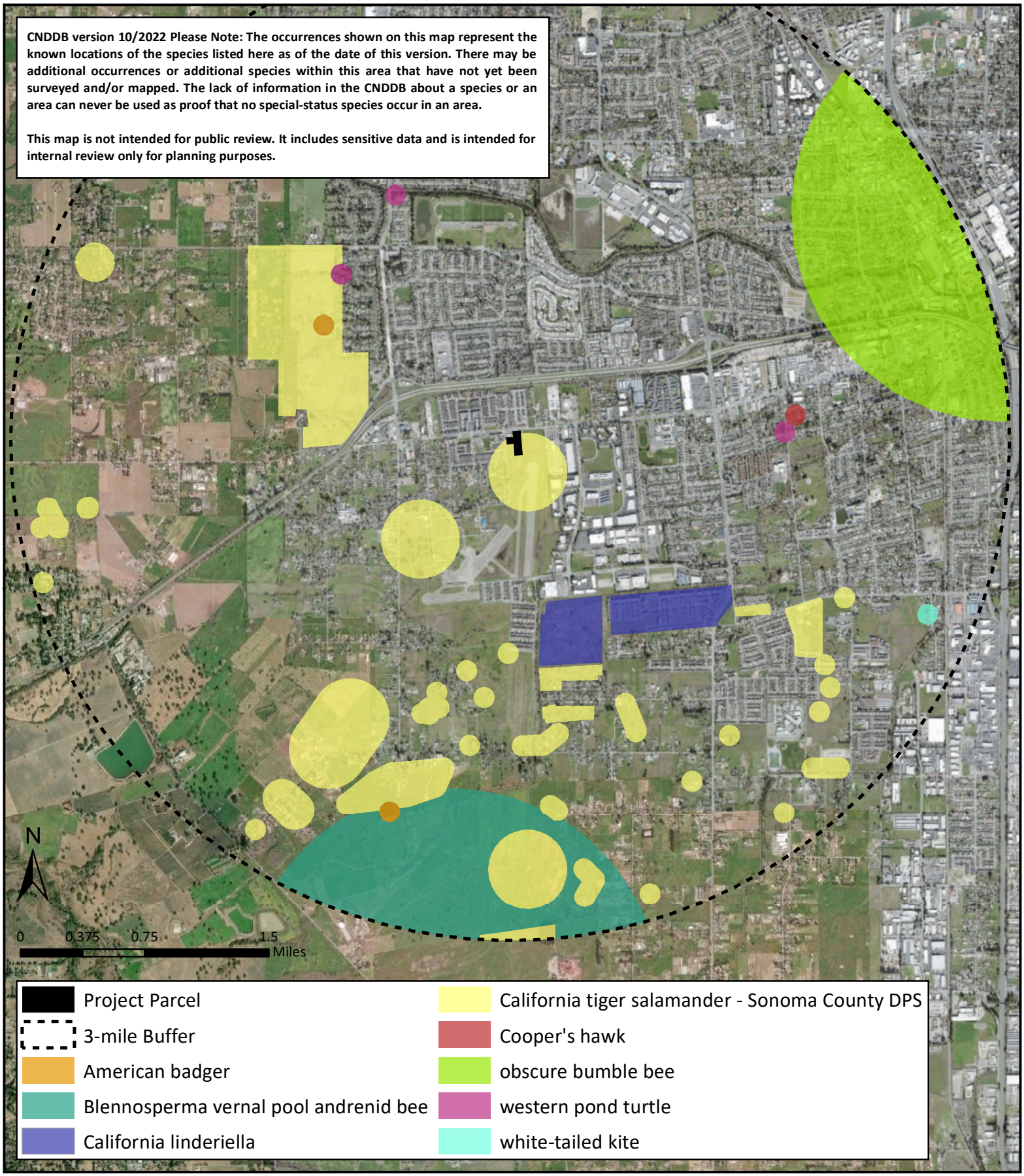

Figure 5. Special-status Animals Documented within a 3-mile Buffer of the Project

Sources: Aerial - ESRI, CNDDB - CDFW

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4.4 Special-status Animals

Based on the background review, a list of special-status animals with the potential to occur within the project site was generated. The background review identified 15 animal species with reported occurrences within the region. The potential for each species to occur on the project site was evaluated based on the existing site conditions and habitat requirements for each species. Table 2 lists these species, their listing status, habitat requirements, local observations, and potential for occurrence within the project site.

No special-status animals were observed during the June 28, 2022 project site survey. No special-status animal species are expected to occur within the project site. The project site is fully developed. It has been graded, paved, and otherwise disturbed making it unsuitable for special-status animals. The project site lacks native vegetation communities, stream and wetland habitat, wildlife habitat features such as dens, burrows, and other habitat features necessary to support species-status animals.

Nesting Birds

There are over 400 bird species that have been documented in Sonoma County, including 186 that have possible to confirmed breeding records (Madrone Audubon Society 2018). These include a wide range of species from habitat generalists to specialists, year-round residents, winter residents, summer residents, spring and fall migrants, and rare vagrants. Native birds typical of urban and rural landscapes may occur seasonally or year-round within the project site. Bird species of concern are reported in CDFW's CNDDB, USFWS (2022a), and public bird reporting databases (eBird, iNaturalist). No special-status birds are reported for the property. All native nesting birds, with a few exceptions, are protected under federal and state laws. Nesting birds are protected from "take" under the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 (MBTA; 50 CFR 10.13), Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940 (16 USC 668-668c), federal Endangered Species Act, California Fish and Wildlife Code (§3503, 3503.5, and §3513), and California Endangered Species Act. Implementation of standard construction Best Management Practices that limit vegetation removal (e.g., ornamental landscaping, trees) to the non-nesting season (September 1 – January 31), will avoid impacts on native nesting birds. Seasonal limitations or completion of preconstruction surveys are also proposed for resource protection (see Schwartz Architects 2022).

Table 2. Special-status Animal Species Evaluated for Potential to Occur within the Project Site

Common Name	Scientific Name	Listing Status[3]	Habitat Requirements	Local Observations and Potential for Occurrence within the Project Site
Reptiles				
Green Sea Turtle	*Chelonia mydas*	FT	Marine turtle occurring in open ocean and coastal areas in tropical and subtropical waters along continental coasts and islands; occur worldwide. Consume seagrass and algae. Require beaches for nesting. Eleven Distinct Population Segments are listed under the ESA. In California, green sea turtles are common in coastal waters near San Diego.	No potential. There are no reported occurrences of this species in Sonoma County. Suitable open marine and sandy beach habitats are not present within the project site.
Western Pond Turtle	*Emys marmorata*	SSC	Only native turtle in Sonoma County. Found in ponds, lakes, rivers, streams, creeks, marshes, irrigation ditches, and upland areas. Nest dug in upland area along stream or pond margins in sunny, grassy areas. Mating occurs from April to May (8-10 years old). 2-11 eggs laid. Hatchlings emerge in late summer-fall, sometimes overwinter. Active February-March. Diurnal and aquatic. Requires basking sites – logs, banks, etc. Eat plants, invertebrates, carrion, occasionally frogs and fish.	No potential. Western pond turtles are known to occur in Santa Rosa Creek and flood control channels within 3 miles of the project site. Suitable aquatic and upland habitats are not present within the project site.
Amphibians				
California Tiger Salamander	*Ambystoma californiense*	FE, ST	Found in grassland, oak savannah, and edges of mixed woodlands. Large, stocky, terrestrial salamander with a broad, rounded snout, black body, and white or yellowish markings. Breed in ponds, vernal pools, and occasionally in streams. Breeding is aquatic, salamanders move to breeding ponds at night, during or following rain. Breeding typically occurs from December-February but can continue through spring. Breeding sites must remain inundated until at least into May to allow for successful metamorphosis. During the non-breeding season take residence in animal underground burrows and cracks - the majority of life spent in grassland and savannah habitats.	Not expected. California tiger salamanders were previously known from the adjacent Cherry Ranch. Cherry Ranch was permitted for development in 2005. CTS were relocated from Cherry Ranch in 2007. CDFW reports as of 2007, CTS are no longer found at the ranch, but are known from pools to the northeast. CTS eggs and larvae were found in these pools in 2017. The project site is located in a "no effects" determination area for CTS and CTS critical habitat (USFWS 2022b). No aquatic habitat is

[3] **Animal Listing Status Codes**
Federal: FE-federally listed as endangered, FT-federally listed as threatened, FC-federal candidate species, BCC-USFWS Bird of Conservation Concern
State: SE-state listed as endangered, ST-state listed as threatened, Candidate SE-state candidate to be listed as endangered under CESA, Candidate ST-state candidate to be listed as threatened under CESA, FP-CDFW fully protected, SSC-CDFW Species of Special Concern, and WL-CDFW Watch List (CDFW 2022c).

Common Name	Scientific Name	Listing Status[3]	Habitat Requirements	Local Observations and Potential for Occurrence within the Project Site
				present within the project site. Habitat for fossorial wildlife is limited as most of the site is impermeable or highly compacted. There were no underground tunnels, soil mounds, or soil cracks noted within the project site. Suitable habitat is not present within the project site.
California Red-legged Frog	*Rana draytonii*	FT, SSC	Largest native frog in the western US. Breed in a variety of aquatic habitats with still to slow-moving water and emergent vegetation, must hold water into late summer or early fall. Found in streams, ponds, marshes, sag ponds, dune ponds, and lagoons including both natural and manmade features. Non-breeding habitat includes areas used for breeding and other non-breeding habitats such as springs, vegetated seeps, riparian habitat, and oftentimes other less conspicuous upland locations like burrows and leaf litter. Breeding occurs between November and April (egg-laying is generally January – February). Eggs are deposited in a large grapefruit size mass on emergent vegetation just below the water's surface. Variable diet.	No potential. In Sonoma County, California red-legged frogs occur in many drainages, ponds, and man-made stock ponds. They have been documented in coastal drainages, lower Russian River drainages, southern Sonoma County, and inland along Sonoma Mountain. There are no records within the Santa Rosa Plain. Suitable aquatic and upland habitats are not present within the project site.
Birds				
Cooper's Hawk	*Accipiter cooperii*	WL (nesting)	A medium-sized hawk of mature forest, open woodlands, wood edges, and river groves. Stealthy hunter, approaching prey through dense cover with rapid and powerful flight. Feeds primarily on birds and small mammals. Breeding occurs from March through August, with peak activity in May through July. Nests are constructed in a deciduous or coniferous tree, 25-60 feet off the ground. A rare breeding species in Sonoma County, uncommon in winter.	Not expected. Nesting Cooper's hawks are known from observations in residential areas in the Santa Rosa Plain. Limited tree habitat is present within the project site (along the frontage with Fresno Avenue). These trees do not provide suitable nesting habitat given their size and location adjacent to the road. Suitable habitat is not present within the project site.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Listing Status[3]	Habitat Requirements	Local Observations and Potential for Occurrence within the Project Site
Marbled Murrelet	*Brachyramphus marmoratus*	FT, SE (nesting)	Small seabird from the North Pacific. Feeds in pelagic offshore areas and protected bays and fiords. Often seen in pairs or small groups. Feed on small fish and plankton. Nests in old-growth coniferous forests. Breeding season occurs from mid-April to late September. One egg is laid on a platform of lichen or moss on branches of large trees.	No potential. There is anecdotal information this species may nest near Gualala, but there are no nesting records in the Russian River watershed (Bolander and Parmeter 2000; Madrone Audubon Society 2018). Murrelets are common along the Sonoma County coast in winter. Suitable open marine and old-growth nesting habitats are not present within the project site.
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	*Coccyzus americanus*	FT, SE (nesting)	Occupies wooded habitats with dense cover with water nearby. In the west, typically found in cottonwood-dominated forests along riverine habitats. Breeding occurs from southern Canada to Mexico and the Caribbean. Within California, breeding typically occurs from June to July, and nests are constructed in willow and cottonwood trees. Cuckoos are primarily foliage gleaners taking insects, but will also consume frogs, lizards, and fruit. This species overwinters in Central America. This species is considered a very rare migrant in Sonoma County.	No potential. Historically, cuckoos were a common breeding species in lowland riparian habitats throughout California. Currently, the only locations in California that sustain breeding populations are the Sacramento River and South Fork Kern River. The last breeding confirmation in Sonoma County was in 1944 (Burridge 1995). Suitable riparian habitat is not present within the project site.
White-tailed Kite	*Elanus leucurus*	FP (nesting)	A small raptor, common in savannas, open woodlands, marshes, desert grasslands, partially cleared lands, cultivated fields, and even highway median strips. Hovers in flight and parachutes down on its prey. Feeds primarily on small mammals. Breeding occurs from February to October, with a peak in May to August. Nests are constructed in isolated shrubs or trees and along forest edges. During the non-breeding season, may roost communally. Fairly common permanent resident in Sonoma County.	Not expected. Kites are known from open grassland settings in the Santa Rosa Plain. Suitable habitat is not present within the project site. However, this species may occur in nearby open space habitats.
Northern Spotted Owl	*Strix occidentalis caurina*	FT, ST	Occupies old-growth forests in the northern range and mixed old-growth and younger forest types in the southern range. Consumes primarily small mammals, other birds, and insects. Requires large territory size for nesting and foraging. Nests in cavities or platforms in large trees. Breeding season occurs from early March through September. Permanent year-round resident in Sonoma County in old-growth and mixed forest habitats.	No potential. Spotted owls are known to occur in forested coastal and inland locations within Sonoma County. There are no records of northern spotted owls within the Santa Rosa Plain. Suitable forested habitat is not present within the project site.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Listing Status[3]	Habitat Requirements	Local Observations and Potential for Occurrence within the Project Site
Mammals				
American Badger	*Taidea taxus*	SSC	Common in open grassland habitats may also occur in forest meadows, marshes, and brushy areas, with friable soils for digging for prey. They are a fossorial carnivore. Prey includes pocket gophers, ground squirrels, moles, mice, and voles in this region. They will also eat snakes, birds, and other wildlife. They are typically nocturnal and do not hibernate, but become less active in winter. Mating occurs in late summer and early fall. Young are born from late March to early April. They dig their own burrows or enlarge other animal burrows.	Not expected. American badgers are known from open grassland settings in the Santa Rosa Plain. Suitable habitat is not present within the project site. However, this species may occur in nearby open habitats.
Invertebrates				
Blennosperma vernal pool andrenid bee	*Andrena blennospermatis*	NL	Solitary, ground-nesting bee. Occurs in upland habitats near vernal pools. Relies on vernal pool plant pollen (*Blennosperma* sp.) to provision brood chambers.	No potential. Bees are known from a historic collection in the Santa Rosa Plain. Suitable habitat is not present within the project site. However, this species may occur in nearby habitats.
Obscure Bumble Bee	*Bombus caliginosus*	NL	Bumble bee species occurring along the Pacific Coast. An uncommon species. Nests constructed underground.	No potential. Bees are known from a historic collection in the Santa Rosa Plain. Suitable habitat is not present within the project site. However, this species may occur in nearby habitats.
Monarch Butterfly	*Danaus plexippus*	FC	Large, brightly colored butterfly. Two populations are separated by the Rocky Mountains. Populations along the California coast overwinter within 1.5 miles of the coastline. Overwintering sites are typically dominated by eucalyptus but are also found on Monterey pine, Monterey cypress, western sycamore, coast redwood, and coast live oak. Requires good solar radiation exposure and wind shelter. Arrives at overwintering grounds in September-October and disperses by February-March. Migrates to inland locations during the breeding season. Requires native narrowleaf milkweed (*Asclepias fascicularis*) or showy milkweed (*A. speciosa*) for egg deposition. Larvae develop on milkweed plants.	Not expected. Monarch butterflies are known to overwinter in the coastal regions of Sonoma County. Local overwintering populations have declined precipitously in recent years and very few individuals have been reported at these overwintering sites during recent surveys (Western Monarch Count 2022). Suitable overwintering habitat is not present within the project site. Monarchs can breed in inland locations, but suitable larval host plants are not present within the project site. Monarchs may occur in the region on a limited basis as a seasonal migrant. The current plant composition within the

Common Name	Scientific Name	Listing Status[3]	Habitat Requirements	Local Observations and Potential for Occurrence within the Project Site
				project site is not likely to attract nectaring adults.
California Linderiella	*Linderiella occidentalis*	NL	A small fairy shrimp native to California. Occur in large, fairly clear vernal pools and lakes. Eggs are dropped on pool bottom. Eggs dry out with drying vernal pools. When pools begin to fill, the eggs hatch. Common in Central Valley. Adults can be collected from late December into early May. Feed on algae, bacteria, protozoa, and detritus.	No potential. Linderiella are known from vernal pools in the Santa Rosa Plain. Suitable habitat is not present within the project site.
California Freshwater Shrimp	*Syncaris pacifica*	FE, SE	Endemic to Marin, Sonoma, and Napa Counties. Occur in low elevation (less than 380 feet), low gradient streams (less than 1%) with perennial flow, or intermittent streams with perennial pools. Streams are generally structurally diverse with undercut banks, overhanging woody debris and vegetation, and exposed roots. Reproduction occurs once a year in the fall. Females retain eggs through the winter and remain attached to the abdominal swimming legs until May or early July. Forage on fine particulate organic matter, but have been observed feeding on dead fish as well.	No potential. There are no records of California freshwater shrimp within 3 miles of the project site. Suitable aquatic habitat is not present within the project site.

5 Sensitive Natural Communities

Sensitive natural communities are vegetation communities that are considered sensitive by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife based on the range and distribution of a given type of vegetation, the proportion of occurrences that are of good ecological integrity, and threats and trends. Communities are evaluated at both a global (full range within and outside of California) and state (within California) using NatureServe's Heritage Program methodology. Rankings include a single G (global) and S (state) rank ranging from 1 (very rare and threatened) to 5 (demonstrably secure) (CDFW 2022b). CDFW maintains a current list of vegetation alliances, associations, special stands, and their global and state rarity ranks. It should be noted that some alliances that are not considered sensitive may contain associations that are listed as sensitive by CDFW. Oak woodlands are also protected by local ordinances under the Oak Woodlands Protection Act. Sensitive natural communities may also be identified in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations.

As described under *Existing Plant Communities*, the project site does not support any native plant communities. The vegetation at the site consists predominantly of disturbed non-native herbaceous plants and ornamental plantings. A few native trees/shrubs have been planted or self-seeded on the project site, but they do not represent intact native plant communities. There are no sensitive natural communities present within the project site.

6 Aquatic Resources

Aquatic resources, including riparian areas, wetlands, and certain aquatic vegetation communities are considered sensitive biological resources. They fall under the jurisdiction of several regulatory agencies. The US Army Corps of Engineers exerts jurisdiction over "waters of the US". They regulate the discharge of dredged or fill material into Waters of the US Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and regulate structures or work in navigable Waters of the US under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Appropriation Act of 1899. The Regional Water Quality Control Board also regulates "waters of the state" under the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act and the federal Clean Water Act. CDFW regulates wetlands and riparian resources associated with rivers, streams, and lakes under the California Fish and Game Code.

Waters of the US include "the territorial seas, and waters which are currently used, or were used in the past, or may be susceptible to use in interstate or foreign commerce, including waters which are subject to the ebb and flow of the tide, tributaries, lakes, and ponds, and impoundments of jurisdictional waters; and adjacent wetlands" (85 FR 22340). Waters of the State include "any surface water or groundwater, including saline waters, within the boundaries of the state" (Water Code Section 13050(e)). This is broadly construed to include all waters within the State's boundaries, whether private or public, including both natural and artificial channels.

Wetlands include swamps, bogs, seasonal wetlands, seeps, marshes, and other aquatic habitats. Wetlands are defined as "those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater 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 soil conditions". They are typically delineated based on the presence of wetland plants, soils, and hydrology indicators.

As described under *Roadside Ditch*, there is a drainage ditch running the length of the western parcel boundary. The ditch is orientated in a north-south direction. From the site, it continues south along Fresno Avenue and north into a storm drain inlet on the north side of the adjacent animal hospital property. The drainage ditch appears to be an artificially created watercourse constructed to drain surface runoff as part of the City's urban storm drain system. It does not appear to represent the realignment of a natural stream channel. There are no indicators of wetland plants, soils, or hydrology present within the ditch or elsewhere within the project site. There are no natural stream channels or wetlands present within the project site.

7 Conclusions

The proposed project includes the redevelopment of an old animal hospital into a building materials supply facility (Schwartz Architects 2022). The project includes the demolition of portions of the main structure and ancillary structures, construction of both interior and exterior structures, and street frontage improvements along Fresno Avenue. The buildings will be redeveloped within the same footprint. The majority of the site is fully developed with little permeable surfaces and areas for native plant growth. The vegetation at the project site consists predominantly of disturbed non-native herbaceous plants and ornamental plantings with a few scattered native oaks along the edges of the buildings and Fresno Avenue.

An existing septic tank at the southwest corner of the existing buildings may be removed. As noted on plans prepared by Adobe Associates, Inc. (2021), the City of Santa Rosa is requiring street frontage improvements along Fresno Avenue. This will require the removal of non-native ornamental trees and two valley oak trees. Native tree replacement is proposed and will be in-kind in areas deemed appropriate for replanting (e.g., planting area along Fresno Avenue or ruderal areas on the east side of the building) to be described in a future planting plan to be submitted with a building permit application. Specific project design elements have been identified in the plans that avoid impacts on sensitive resources. Schwartz Architects (2022) notes the installation along the eastern and southern edges of the project site for erosion control, demarcation of the work area, and resource protection. Seasonal limitations or completion of preconstruction surveys are also proposed for resource protection. Based on the background literature, data search, and field survey, the following biological resource determinations were made:

- The majority of the site is fully developed with little permeable surfaces and areas for native plant growth. The vegetation at the project site consists predominantly of disturbed non-native herbaceous plants and ornamental plantings with a few scattered native oaks along the edges of the buildings and Fresno Avenue. There are no sensitive natural communities present within the project site.
- There are several native valley oak trees (10-11" DBH) growing within the project site (along Fresno Avenue). Under Chapter 17-24 of the City of Santa Rosa's *Tree Removal and Preservation* ordinance, these trees are protected. Removal or alteration of these native heritage trees will require a permit from the City of Santa Rosa. Additional "street trees may also be protected. Native tree replacement is proposed for the project and will be described in a future planting plan to be submitted with a building permit application.
- The project site is located within the Santa Rosa Plain and the Laguna de Santa Rosa watershed. The Plain supports a variety of flora and fauna including special-status California tiger salamander and vernal pool plants, including, but not limited to Burke's goldfields, Sonoma sunshine, and Sebastopol meadowfoam. The project site is located in a "no effects" determination area for all of these species and CTS critical habitat (USFWS 2022b). However, this designation only applies to the fully developed areas on the western portion of the parcel where work is currently being proposed.

- No special-status plants were observed during the June 28, 2022 project site survey. No special-status plant species are expected to occur within the project site. The project site is fully developed. It has been graded, paved, and otherwise disturbed making it unsuitable for special-status plants. The project site lacks native vegetation communities, hydrological and topographic conditions, and unique soil characteristics necessary to support species-status plants.
- No special-status animals were observed during the June 28, 2022 project site survey. No special-status animal species are expected to occur within the project site. The project site is fully developed. It has been graded, paved, and otherwise disturbed making it unsuitable for special-status animals. The project site lacks native vegetation communities, stream and wetland habitat, wildlife habitat features such as dens, burrows, and other habitat features necessary to support species-status animals.
- Native birds typical of urban and rural landscapes may occur seasonally or year-round within the project site. All native nesting birds, with a few exceptions, are protected under federal and state laws. Nesting birds are protected from "take" under the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 (MBTA; 50 CFR 10.13), Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940 (16 USC 668-668c), federal Endangered Species Act, California Fish and Wildlife Code (§3503, 3503.5, and §3513), and California Endangered Species Act. Nesting birds will be protected in accordance with the biological protection measures noted on the Schwartz Architects (2021) plans that include seasonal limitations on construction or preconstruction surveys.
- There is a roadside drainage ditch running the length of the western parcel boundary. The ditch is orientated in a north-south direction. From the site, it continues south along Fresno Avenue and north into a storm drain inlet on the north side of the adjacent animal hospital property. The drainage ditch appears to be an artificially created watercourse constructed to drain surface runoff as part of the City's urban storm drain system. It does not appear to represent the realignment of a natural stream channel. There are no indicators of wetland plants, soils, or hydrology present within the ditch or elsewhere within the project site. There are no natural stream channels or wetlands present within the project site. Street frontage improvements along Fresno Avenue which will require modifications to this ditch.
- The project will not impact wildlife movement and corridors. The project site is fully developed and is located adjacent to and near moderately trafficked roadways. The project will include the redevelopment of an existing developed site and will not create any new barriers to wildlife movement. The site characteristics provide poor habitat connectivity conditions for local wildlife populations, including both common and special-status wildlife species.

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Appendix A – Photographs

Photos dated June 28, 2022

Site entrance off of Fresno Avenue and looking north towards Sebastopol Road.

Site entrance and looking south at Fresno Avenue.

Existing paved area and building at the western edge of the project site, looking north.

Existing paved area and building at the western edge of the project site, looking south.

Existing paved area and looking east toward existing storage barn and outbuildings.

View from the northeast corner of the site.

Eastern edge of the project site and view of recently burned building and storage area.

Looking west at the recently burned building and the eastern edge of the project site.

Septic tank area (may be removed) at the eastern edge of the project site.

Drainage ditch along Fresno Avenue.

Small 4” valley oak at edge of paved parking area (above) and 11” valley oak along frontage road (red x, right).

The remainder of the property is used for domestic animals and housing.