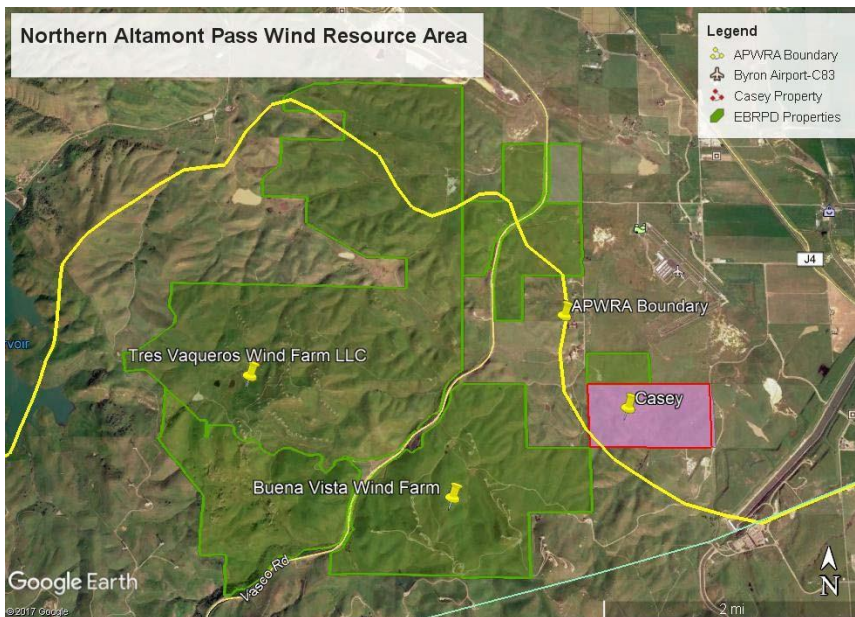


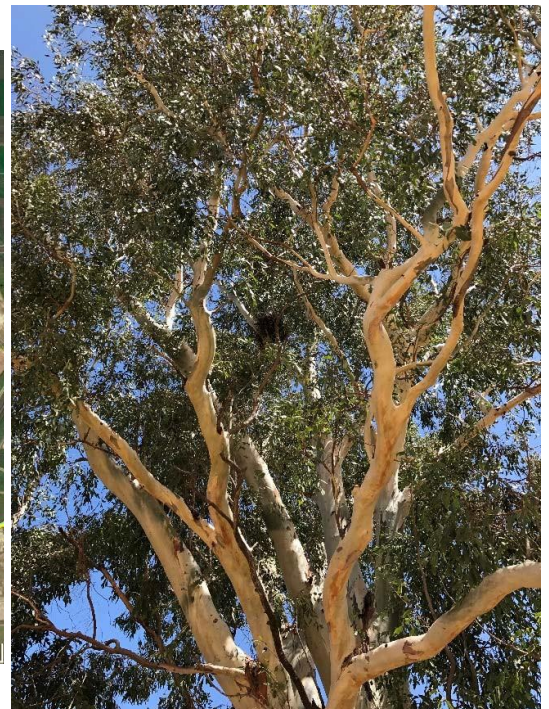
Casey Property Acquisition

The Casey property is a 320-acre land parcel located in the Southern portion of the Contra Costa County in the Byron/Vasco Hills area. The property was designated as a high priority acquisition for its habitat value in the East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan. Acquisition of the Casey property protects a variety of important habitat types including annual grassland, alkali grassland, alkali wetland, and stream habitat, which support several special status species.

The Casey property is situated along the north-eastern edge of the Altamont Pass Wind Resource Area (APWRA), where it adjoins properties of the East Bay Regional Park. The purchase of the Casey property located immediately adjacent to the Buena Vista Wind Farms and within two miles of the decommissioned Tres Vaqueros Wind Farm provides local mitigation (preservation of raptor habitat) for a local impact (raptors killed due to wind farm operations). The Casey property offers significant and vital habitat for resident, migrant, and wintering raptors, as well as other bird species and bats. Historically, 20 different species of raptors have been observed using the surrounding landscape. Parcels of turbine-free areas near the APWRA provide safe airspace for raptor flight and foraging. The acquired Casey property is expected to provide this safe turbine-free airspace to raptors in the APWRA area. With support from the Department of Fish and Wildlife's Office of Spill Prevention and Response, the EBRPD has plans for future maintenance and restoration projects on the land parcel to enhance the landscape for raptor species.



Location of Casey parcel in relation to the Northern APWRA (yellow border) and the surrounding properties of EBRPD (green polygons)



Red-tailed hawk nest in eucalyptus tree