





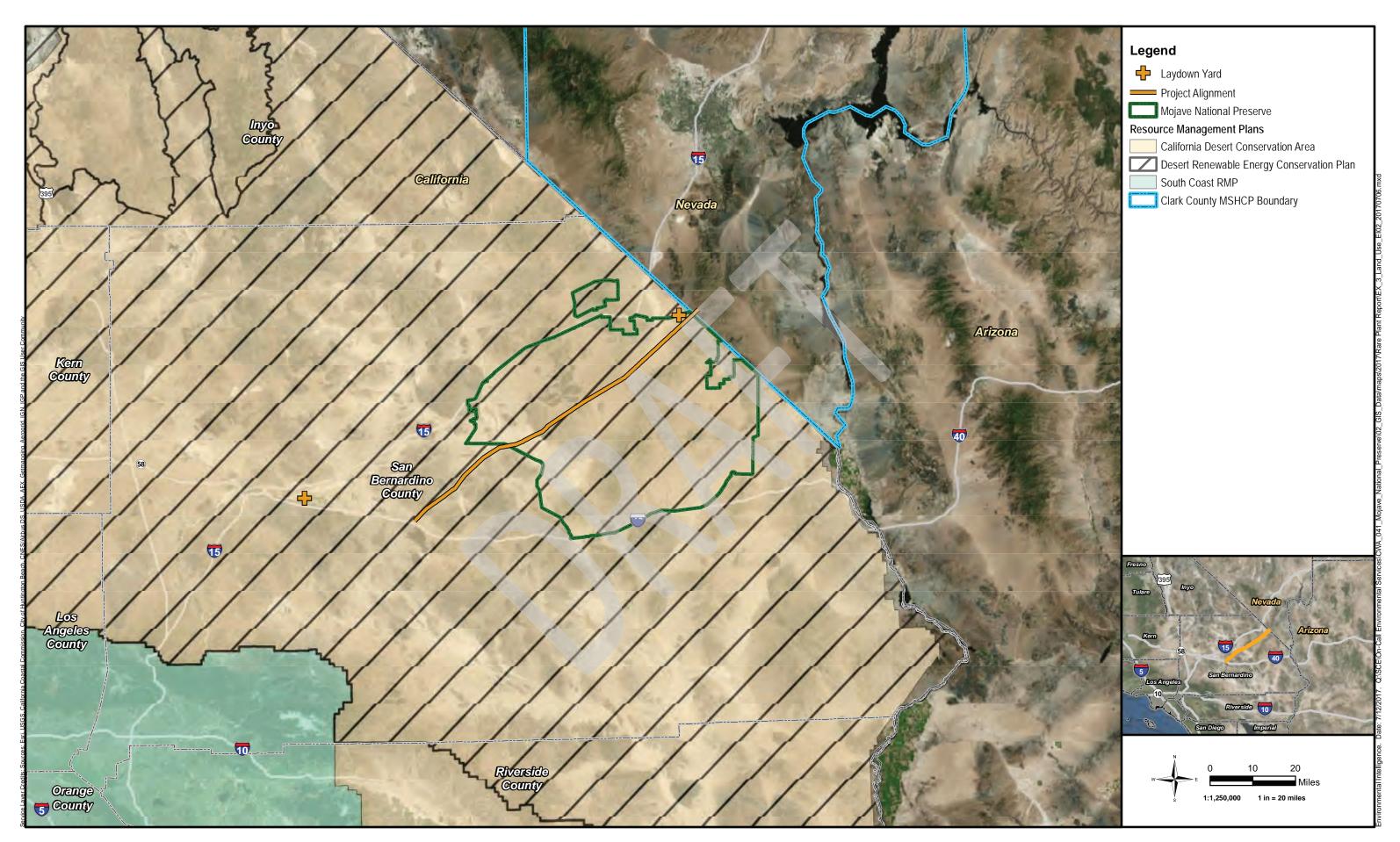


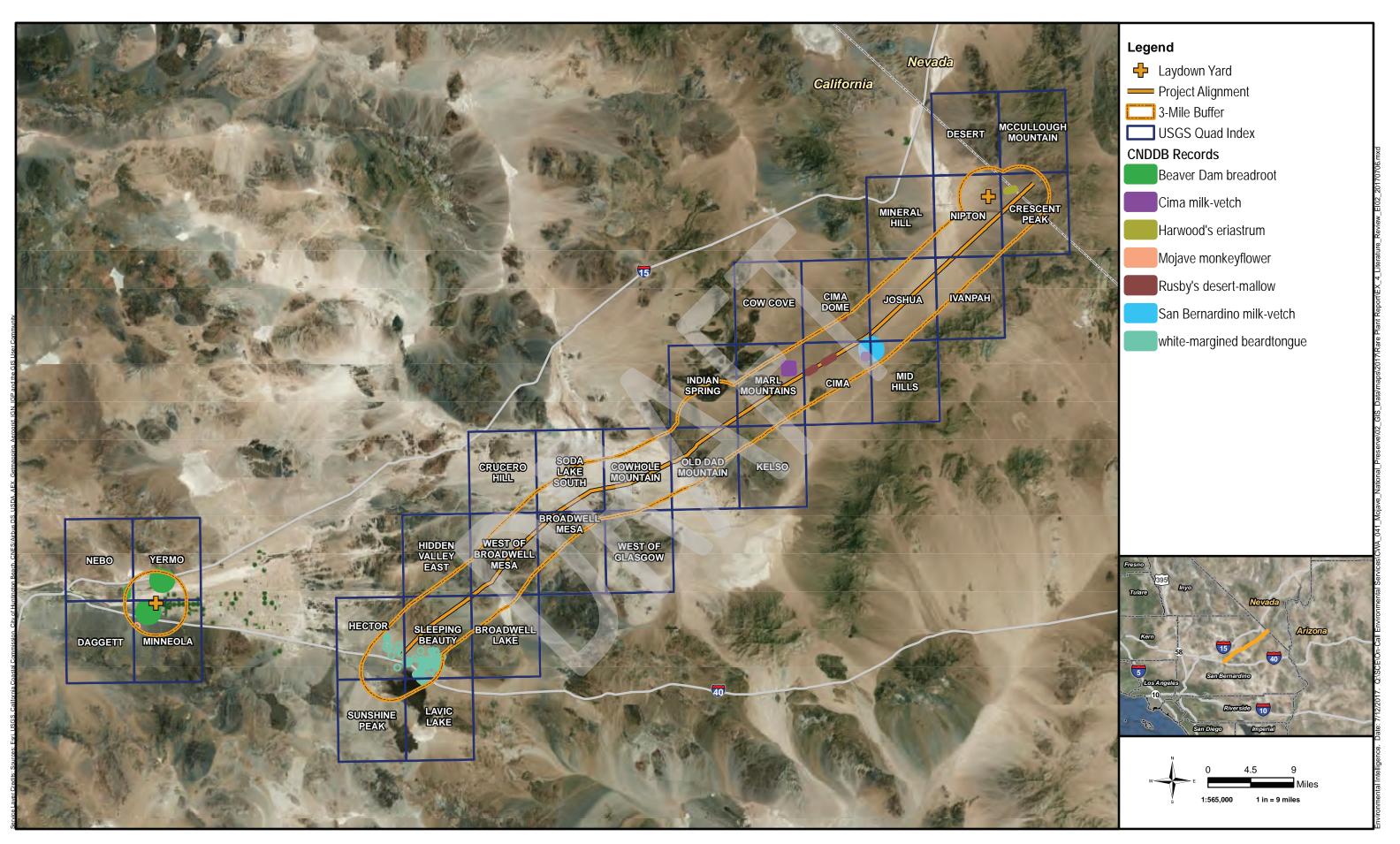


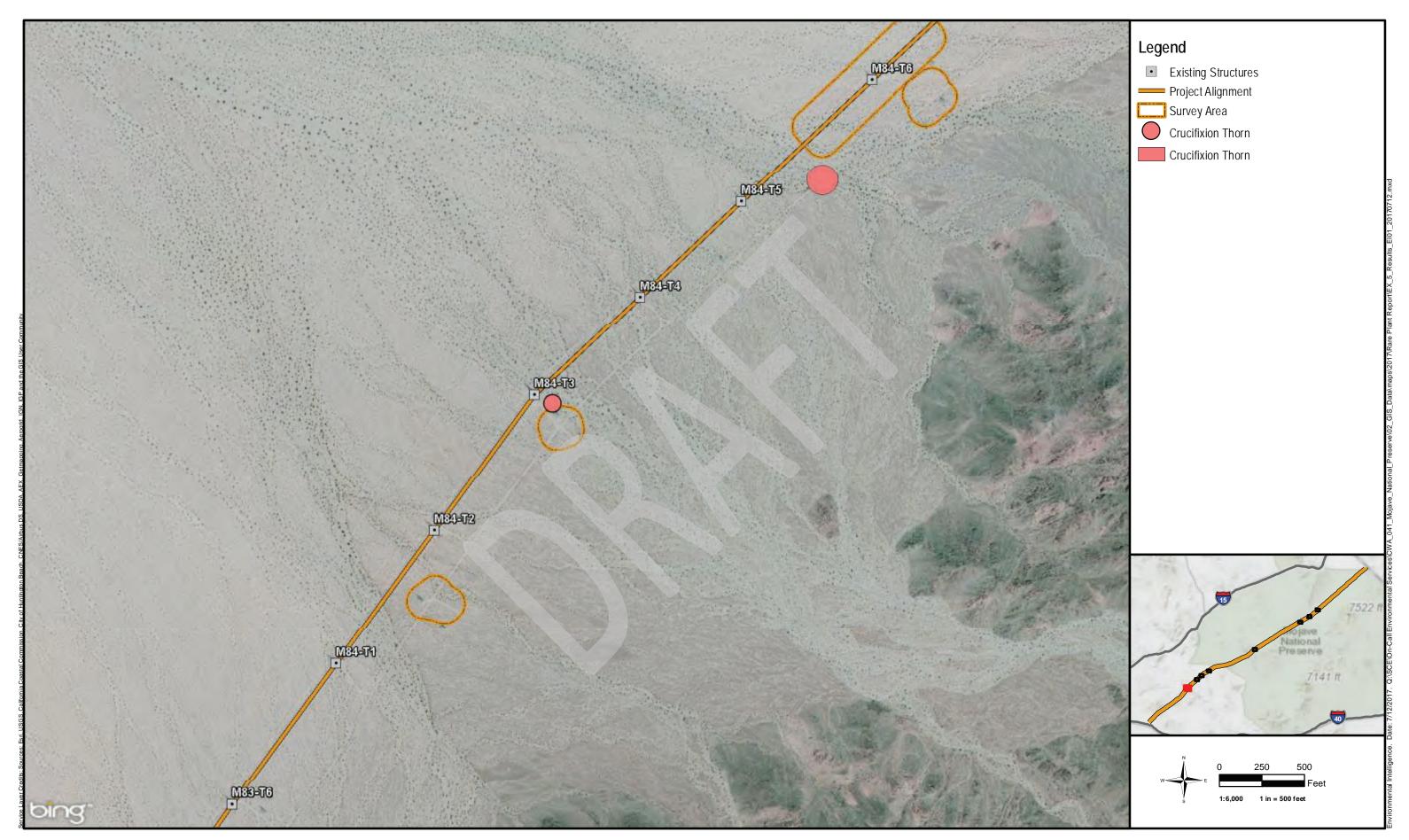
EXHIBIT 2. PROJECT AREA (PAGE 61 OF 62)

LVRAS PROJECT | SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CA AND CLARK COUNTY, NV





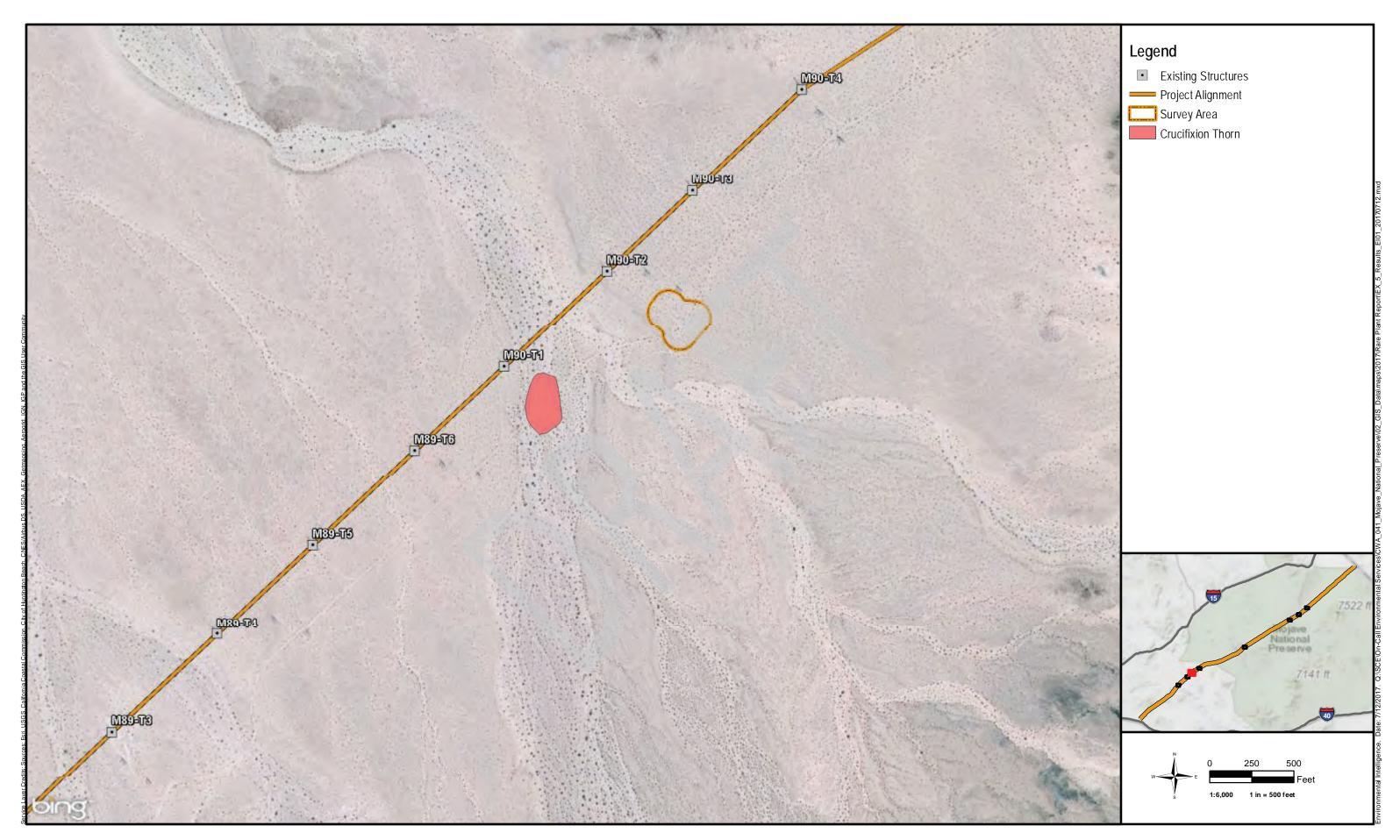




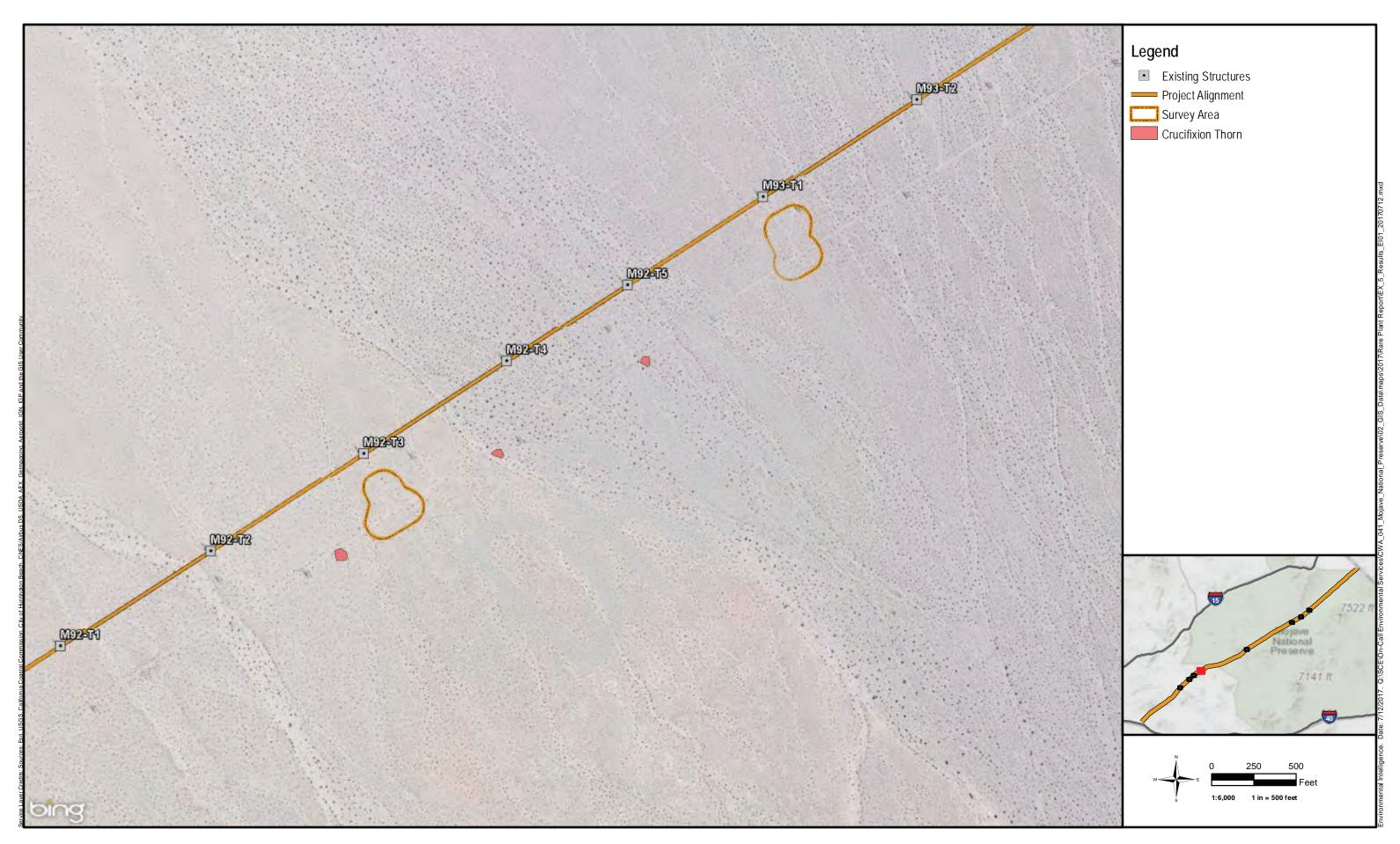


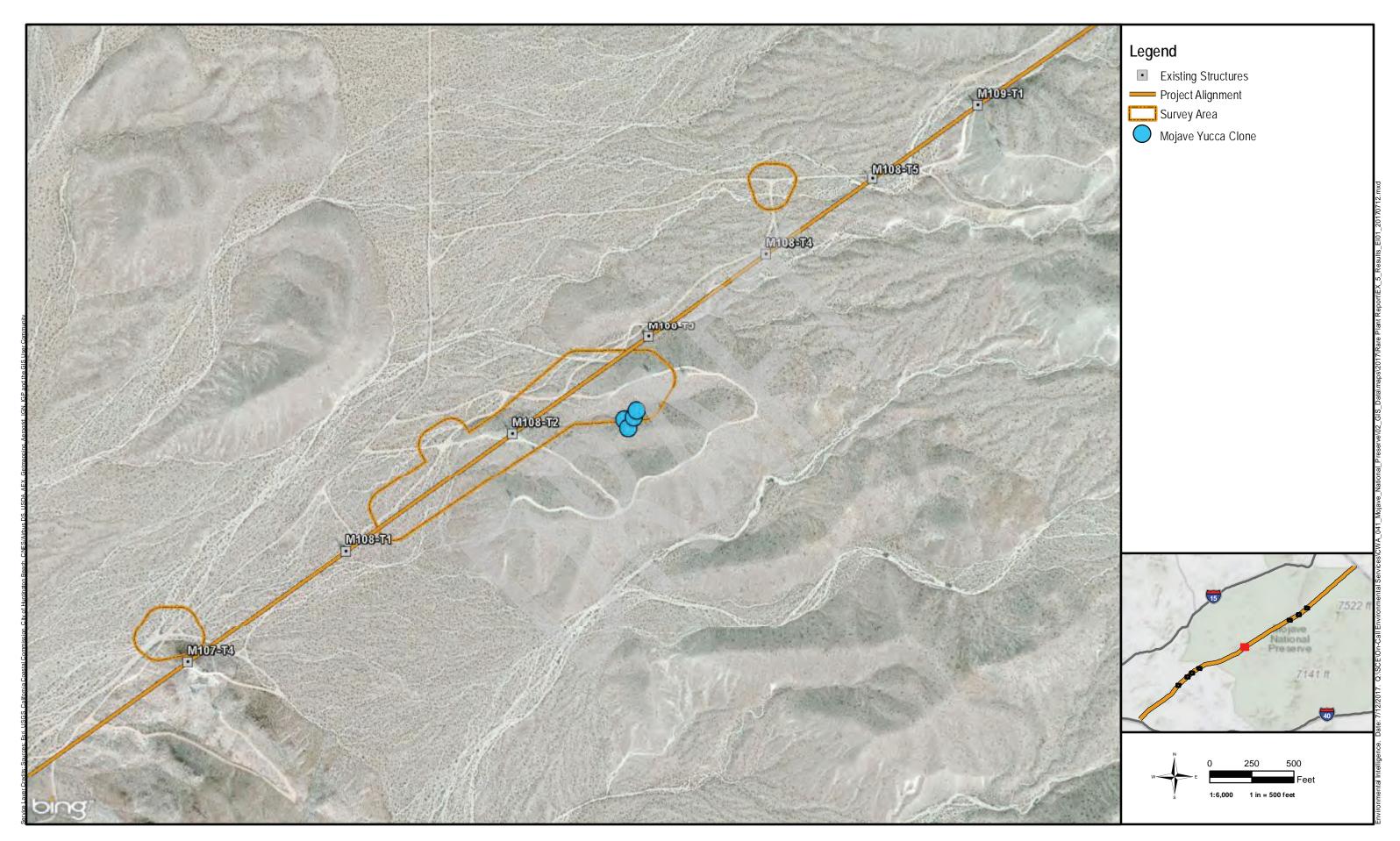




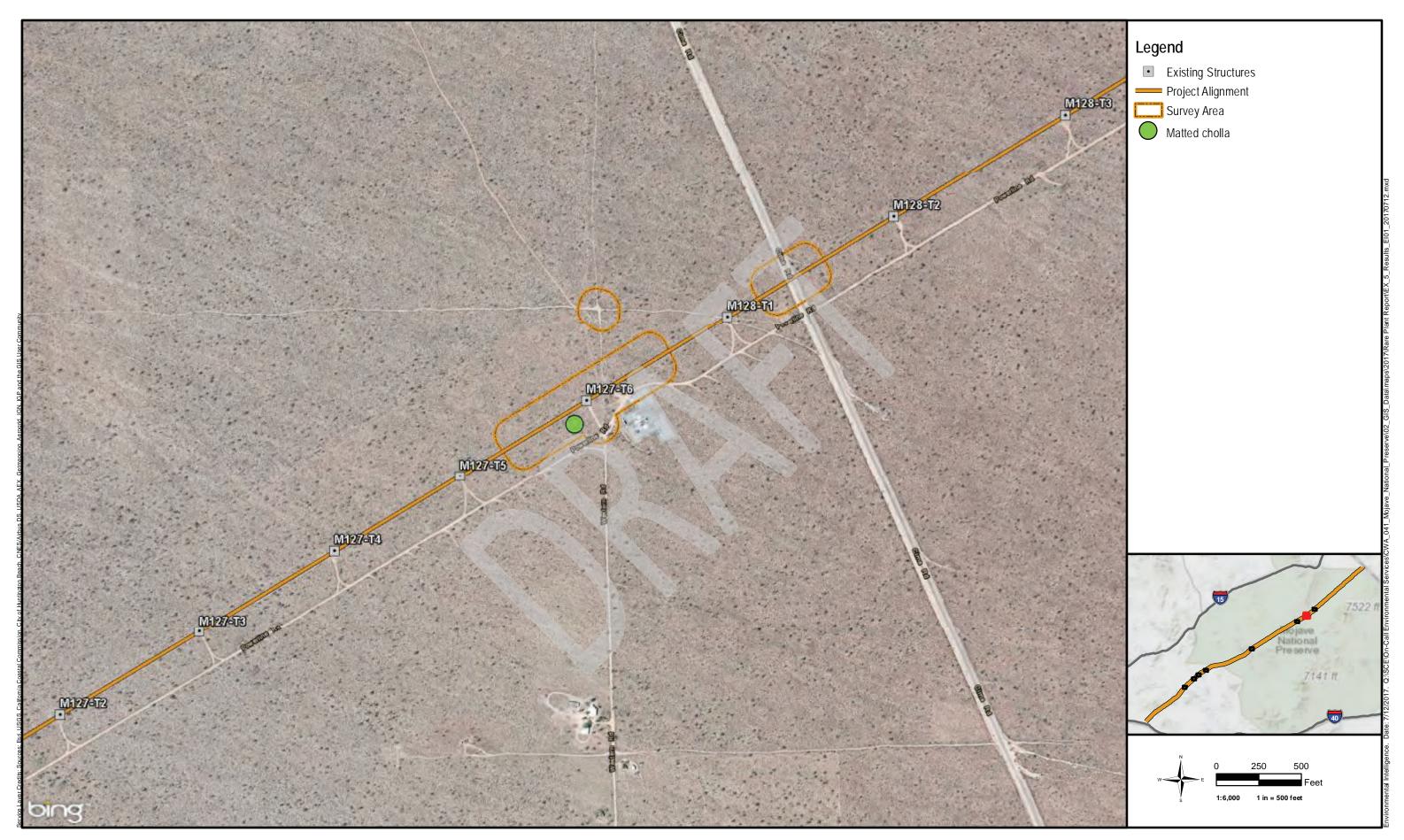
















APPENDIX A:

SPECIAL-STATUS BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES OCCURRING OR POTENTIALLY OCCURRING ON OR IN THE VICINITY (WITHIN 9 SURROUNDING USGS TOPO QUADS) OF THE LVRAS PROJECT



Species Name		Status ¹		Distribution Helifat and Occurrence Data (2.12)	Activity /
Potential Sites (based on range)	Federal	State	CNPS	Distribution, Habitat, and Occurrence Potential ²	Bloom Period
SENSITIVE VEGETATION COMMUNIT	TES				
<i>Chilopsis linearis</i> (Desert willow woodland) Alliance		S3	-	Desert willow is dominant or co-dominant in the tree or tall shrub canopy, with desert ironwood (Olneya tesota), honey mesquite (Prosopis glandulosa), smoke tree (Psorothamnus spinosus) and Joshua tree (Yucca brevifolia). Shrubs may include cheese bush (Ambrosia salsola), cattle saltbush (Atriplex polycarpa), sweetbush (Bebbia juncea), buck horn cholla (Cylindropuntia acanthocarpa), encelia (Encelia virginensis), California jointfir (Ephedra californica), and California buckwheat (Eriogonum fasciculatum). Habitats include washes, intermittent channels, canyon bottoms, arroyos, along floodplains, and wash terraces, where flooding is infrequent. Soils are typically well-drained sands and gravels that are moderately acidic to slightly alkaline. Elevation ranges from 100-1,200m.	May-Jun
				Occurs . Present in a canyon wash at the base of Old Dad Mountain.	



Species Name		Status ¹		Distribution, Habitat, and Occurrence Potential ²	Activity /
Potential Sites (based on range)	Federal	State	CNPS		Bloom Period
Pleuraphis rigida (Big galleta shrub-steppe) Alliance	_	S2		Big galleta is dominant or co-dominant in the herbaceous and sub-shrub layers with Indian rice grass, black grama (Bouteloua eriopoda), foxtail brome (Bromus madritensis spp. rubens), downy dalea (Dalea mollissima), and matchweed (Gutierrezia sarothrae). Emergent trees and shrubs may be present at low cover, including catclaw, white bursage (Ambrosia dumosa), cheese bush, shadescale (Atriplex canescens), and creosote bush (Larrea tridentata). Habitats include flat ridges, lower bajadas, slopes, dune aprons, and stabilized dunes. Soils are typically clayey, sandy, or rocky. Elevation ranges from 500-1,400m. Occurs. Present on dune aprons near Towers M91-	Year-round
Psorothamnus spinosus (Smoke tree woodland) Alliance		S3	-	Smoke tree is dominant or co-dominant in the tree or tall shrub canopy with desert willow, desert ironwood, and blue palo verde (<i>Parkinsonia florida</i>). Shrubs may include catclaw, cheesebush, Emory's baccharis (<i>Baccharis emoryi</i>), sweetbush, brittlebush, California jointfir, desert lavender (<i>Hyptis emoryi</i>), creosote bush, and Parish's wire lettuce (<i>Stephanomeria pauciflora</i>). Habitats include arroyos, intermittently flooded channels and washes. Soils are typically sandy and well drained, moderately acidic or slightly saline. Elevation ranges from sea level-1,000m. Occurs. Present within wash near Tower M88-T2. Associated with Crucifixion thorn (<i>Castela emoryi</i>).	Jun-Jul



Species Name		Status ¹			Activity /
Potential Sites (based on range)	Federal	State	CNPS	Distribution, Habitat, and Occurrence Potential ²	Bloom Period
Yucca brevifolia (Joshua tree woodland) Alliance		S3		Dominant plant species in this alluvial vegetation community include white bursage, cheese bush, big sagebush (<i>Artemisia tridentata</i>), yellow rabbitbush (<i>Chrysothamnus viscidiflorus</i>), blackbrush (<i>Coleogyne ramosissima</i>), buck-horn cholla (<i>Cylindropuntia acanthocarpa</i>), Nevada ephedra, and California Buckwheat. The canopy may be open to intermittent, and the herbaceous layer is open to intermittent with perennial grasses and seasonal annuals. Stands occur on alluvial fans and ridges with gentle to moderate slopes. Soils are often coarse sands, very fine silts, gravel, or sandy loams. Elevation ranges from 750-1,800m. Occurs. Present on alluvial fans and moderate slopes at 27 discrete locations between Towers M110 through M134.	May-Jun
PLANTS					
Aloysia wrightii Wright's beebrush	-		4.3	A perennial evergreen shrub that occurs in rocky, often carbonate, areas of Joshua tree woodland and pinyon and juniper woodland. 900-1,600m. Unlikely. On-site suitable habitat includes Joshua tree woodlands from Tower M109-T4 to M134-T4. Collected on the alignment in 2010 (André 14918) just south of Nipton Rd and approximately 1,400 feet from the nearest Project survey area. Likely to occur along the alignment near the California/Nevada border, but unlikely to occur within the Project survey area due to closest record being 1,400 feet away.	Apr-Oct



Species Name		Status ¹		Distribution Helitat and Occurrence Datasticl?	Activity /
Potential Sites (based on range)	Federal	State	CNPS	Distribution, Habitat, and Occurrence Potential ²	Bloom Period
			Occurs in the vicinity of Pisgah Crater, Cronese Valley, Rice Valley, and at scattered sites along the California/Nevada border. A perennial herb found in desert dunes and creosote bush scrub, with sandy to rocky soil. 100-1,600m.		
Androstephium breviflorum Small-Flowered Androstephium	_	-	2B,2	Absent. Several recent collections were made from within 100 feet of the southern Project survey area, near Pisgah Substation, and northeastward along Powerline Rd. towards the Cady Mountains. Collected in 2008 at Dunn, 2 miles southwest of the proposed material yard along Highway 15 on Afton Rd. (Honer 2813). Plant observed at reference site but absent within Project survey area during 2017 botanical surveys.	Mar-Apr
Astragalus bernardinus — — — — — — San Bernardino Milk-Vetch		1B.2	Occurs on the desert slope of the San Bernardino Mountains, the Little San Bernardino Mountains, and in the eastern Mojave National Preserve, especially in the vicinity of Cima. A perennial herb found in stony areas among desert shrubs in Joshua tree and pinyon-juniper woodlands. 900-2,300.	Apr-Jun	
			Does not occur. Suitable habitat occurs outside project alignment in the hills south of Cima. No recent collections in the area and exact location of historical records are unknown.		



Species Name Potential Sites (based on range)		Status ¹		Distribution, Habitat, and Occurrence Potential ²	Activity /
	Federal	State	CNPS	Distribution, Habitat, and Occurrence Potential-	Bloom Period
				Occurs in Mid Hills and the New York Mountains in the eastern Mojave National Preserve. Perennial herb in Great Basin scrub, Joshua tree woodland, and pinyon-juniper woodlands. 1,250-1,850m.	
Astragalus cimae var. cimae Cima Milk-Vetch	_	-	1B.2	Does not occur. Species restricted to higher elevations and habitat not found along project alignment. The type locality, given as "Cima," is likely an imprecise attribution. The species is probably absent from Joshua tree woodland within the project boundaries near Cima, as numerous records suggest the species is locally restricted to the desert mountain ranges south of the Project boundary.	Apr-May
				An annual herb that occurs in sandy areas of Mojavean and Sonoran desert scrub. 30-895m.	
Astragalus lentiginosus var. borreganus Borrego milk-vetch			4.3	Unlikely . Suitable habitat in Devil's Playground in vicinity of Old Dad Mountain; Cima Dome. Recorded by CCH over 25 years ago and 1.9 miles from Project survey area and east of Pisgah Rd. (Wolf 8542).	Feb-May
Berberis fremontii Fremont Barberry	-		2B.3	Occurs in the New York Mountains, Mid Hills, and Granite Mountains, and the desert slope of the San Bernardino Mountains. A perennial evergreen shrub found in rocky and sometimes granitic habitats in chaparral, pinyon-juniper woodlands, and Joshua tree woodlands. 900-1,850m.	Apr-Jun
				Does not occur. Suitable habitat not present.	



Species Name		Status ¹			Activity /
Potential Sites (based on range)	Federal	State	CNPS	Distribution, Habitat, and Occurrence Potential ²	Bloom Period
Bouteloua trifida Three-Awned Grama	_	-	2B.3	Occurs in mountain ranges of the eastern Mojave Desert. A perennial grass found in dry, rocky areas, on calcareous soils. 200-1,600m. Does not occur. Suitable habitat not present.	May-Sep
Castela emoryi Emory's Crucifixion-Thorn	_	-	2B.2	Occurs throughout much of the Mojave Desert, although apparently not documented within the Mojave National Preserve. A perennial deciduous shrub found in dry, gravelly washes, low-grade alluvial slopes, and on playas in Mojavean and Sonoran creosote bush scrub. 30-1350m.	Jun-Jul
				Occurs. Species observed during 2017 botanical surveys on low-grade alluvial slopes within Project survey area at 5 discrete locations along the southwestern portion of the Project alignment. Associated with creosote bush scrub.	
Chamaesyce parryi		V		An annual herb that occurs in sandy areas of desert dunes and Mojavean desert scrub. 395-730m.	
Chamaesyce parryi Parry's Spurge	-	-	Unlikely. Suitable habitat was found on-site at locations with desert scrub. Collected in Devil's Playground (La Cass 186) in 1980, 2 miles SE of alignment. Unlikely to occur based on age and distance of record.	May-Nov	



Species Name Potential Sites (based on range)		Status ¹			Activity /
	Federal	State	CNPS	Distribution, Habitat, and Occurrence Potential ²	Bloom Period
				An annual herb found in sandy habitats in desert dunes, Mojavean desert scrub, and Sonoran desert scrub. 60-500m.	
Cryptantha costata Ribbed Cryptantha	-	-	4.3	Unlikely. Collected on sandy alkali east of Crucero, about 2 miles northwest of the project boundary, in 2011 (André and Fulton 16304). Similar habitat associated with Kelso Wash occurs along the alignment just north of the railroad tracks. Unlikely to occur based on distance of records.	Feb-May
		-		Occurs widely in within the Desert Floristic Province of California. An annual herb found in Mojavean desert scrub and Sonoran desert scrub. 100-1,690m.	
Cryptantha holoptera Winged Cryptantha	-		4.3	Unlikely. Collected in the vicinity of Old Dad Mountain 2.2 miles from the Project boundary in 1993 and 1980. Several recent collections near Baker. Habitat in the region is virtually unchanged. The species is doubtless under-collected, widely distributed, and has some potential to occur throughout the Project. Unlikely to occur based on distance of records.	Mar-Apr



Species Name		Status ¹		Distribution, Habitat, and Occurrence Potential ²	Activity /
Potential Sites (based on range)	Federal	State	CNPS		Bloom Period
Cymopterus multinervatus Purple-Nerve Cymopterus	_	-	2B.2	Occurs in mountain ranges of Eastern Mojave Desert, and on the desert slope of the San Bernardino Mountains. A perennial herb found on rocky, gravelly and sandy slopes in Joshua tree woodland and pinyon-juniper woodland. 630-1,800m. Occurs. Species observed during 2017 botanical surveys on sandy-decomposed limestone soil within Project survey area near Tower M124-T3. Associated with Joshua tree and creosote bush habitat.	Mar-Apr
Cynanchum utahense Utah Vine Milkweed	-		4.2	A perennial herb found in sandy or gravelly habitats of Mojavean desert scrub and Sonoran desert scrub. 100-1,435m. Absent. Recent collections have been made within Project alignment and within 300-600 feet of the Project boundaries in the vicinity of Pisgah, the Cady Mountains, and in Ivanpah Valley. Plant observed at reference site but absent within Project survey area during 2017 botanical surveys.	Mar-Oct



Species Name	Status ¹			Distribution Habitat and Occurrence Patential?	Activity /
Potential Sites (based on range)	Federal	State	CNPS	Distribution, Habitat, and Occurrence Potential ²	Bloom Period
Eremothera boothii ssp. boothii				Occurrences scattered throughout the Mojave Desert. An annual herb found on sandy flats, steep loose slopes, and low volcanic slopes in Joshua tree and pinyon-juniper woodlands. 900-2,400m.	
Booth's Evening-Primrose	-	-	2B.3	Does not occur. Collected recently several times in the Cima Cinder Cone Lava Beds less than 4 miles northwest of the project boundary. Volcanic soils are located south of and outside the project areas within the Marl Mountains.	
Eriastrum harwoodii				Occurs widely in the Eastern Mojave Desert. An annual found on sandy desert dunes and in creosote bush scrub. <1,000m.	
Harwood's Eriastrum	-		within the Marl Mountains. Occurs widely in the Eastern Mojave Desert. annual found on sandy desert dunes and in creo bush scrub. <1,000m. - Unlikely. Collected at Crucero Hill about 4 m northwest of the Project boundary in 2008 (Go 813). Annual Eriastrum indeterminable to spe were encountered throughout the Project du recent surveys.	Mar-Jun	
Erioneuron pilosum			2B.3	Occurs in the desert mountain ranges of the Eastern Mojave. A perennial grass found on rocky and sometimes carbonate slopes and ridges in pinyon-juniper woodlands. 1,280-2,000m.	May-Jun
Hairy Erioneuron				Does not occur . Suitable habitat not present. Recorded only from desert mountain ranges of the Eastern Mojave.	·



Species Name		Status ¹			Activity /
Potential Sites (based on range)	Federal	State	CNPS	Distribution, Habitat, and Occurrence Potential ²	Bloom Period
Grusonia parishii Matted Cholla	_	_	2B.2	Occurs in the Hackberry, Clark, Castle, Little San Bernardino and Ivanpah Mountains, Landfair Valley and Joshua Tree National Park. A perennial stem succulent found on sandy, gravelly flats, generally in creosote bush/bur scrub and Joshua tree woodlands. 300-1,200m.	May-Jun
			Occurs. Observed along the alignment during surveys, about 3.6 miles southwest of Cima Rd.		
Menodora scabra var. scabra	_		2B.3	Occurs in the Castle, Mid Hills, and New York Mountain Ranges, and on Cerro Pinon. Found in rocky or sandy soils in Joshua tree woodland, Mojavean desert scrub and pinyon-juniper woodlands. 1,000-1,800m.	May-Jun
Rough Menodora	Rough Menodora			Does not occur . Based on known distributions, material of <i>Menodora scabra</i> within the Project boundaries would be expected to be attributable to var. <i>glabrescens</i> .	·
				Widely distributed in the Eastern Mojave Desert. A perennial herb found in sandy crevices of cliffs or on rocky slopes in Mojavean and Sonoran desert scrub. 90-1,280m.	
Mentzelia puberula Darlington's Blazing Star	-		2B.2	Unlikely . One historic (1980) collection from Old Dad Mountain. Suitable habitat observed in Jackass Canyon near Old Dad Mountain during surveys. Fruiting specimens of <i>Mentzelia</i> attributable to the same species group (otherwise indeterminable) were observed along the alignment just south of Jackass Canyon.	Mar-May



Species Name		Status ¹		Distribution, Habitat, and Occurrence Potential ²	Activity /
Potential Sites (based on range)	Federal	State	CNPS		Bloom Period
Mirabilis coccinea Red Four O'clock	_	-	2B.3	Distributed throughout Fourth of July Canyon, Keystone Canyon and Bathtub Spring in New York Mountains. Occurs also in Castle Peak, Mid Hills, and Ivanpah Mountain Ranges. A perennial herb found on dry, rocky slopes and in washes in Joshua tree woodland and pinyon-juniper woodland. 1,300-1,800m. Does not occur. Typically observed in mountainous Joshua tree woodland The project is located too distant from the Ivanpah/New York Mountains where habitat is present.	May-Jul
Muilla coronata Crowned Muilla	-		4.2	Widespread in the Mojave Desert. A perennial bulbiferous herb found in chenopod scrub, Joshua tree woodland, Mojavean desert scrub, and pinyon-juniper woodland. 670-1,960m. Unlikely. Appropriate habitat is intermittent throughout within the Project. Collected along highway 15 at Dunn, two miles southeast of the proposed material yard on Afton Rd.	Mar-May



Species Name		Status ¹		Distribution, Habitat, and Occurrence Potential ²	Activity /
Potential Sites (based on range)	Federal	State	CNPS		Bloom Period
Munroa squarrosa False Buffalo-Grass	_	_	2B.2	Occurs on toe slopes of desert ranges in the Eastern Mojave Desert. An annual grass found on open, silty or gravelly flats, and sandy, gravelly or rocky areas in Joshua tree woodland, and sometimes in pinyon-juniper woodland. 1,300-1,700m. Does not occur. Suitable habitat may occur near Cima and near the California/Nevada border. However, the nearest collection is from seven miles north of the Project boundary in the Ivanpah Mountains.	Oct
Nemacaulis denudata var. gracilis Slender Cottonheads	-		2B.2	Occurs in coastal Southern California, Colorado Desert, and at scattered sites in the Eastern Mojave Desert. An annual herb in sandy habitats, including dunes and coastal strand. 10-500m. Does not occur. Suitable habitat occurs in the Devil's Playground, but the nearest known occurrence is at Kelso, about 15 miles southeast of the project.	Apr-May



Species Name	Status ¹			Distribution, Habitat, and Occurrence Potential ²	Activity /
Potential Sites (based on range)	Federal	State	CNPS	Distribution, Habitat, and Occurrence Potential	Bloom Period
Opuntia curvispina Curved-Spine Beavertail	_		2B.2	Occurs near the California/Nevada state line between Nipton, CA and Searchlight, NV. Reported for the vicinity of Cima in Mojave National Preserve. A perennial stem succulent found in chaparral, Mojavean desert scrub and pinyonjuniper woodlands. 1,000-1,400m. Species is a taxonomically recognized tetraploid hybrid resulting from <i>Opuntia chlorotica</i> and <i>Opuntia phaecantha</i> . Does not occur. Presumably known in California from only historic collections.	Apr-Jun
Pediomelum castoreum Beaver dam breadroot			1B.2	A perennial herb that occurs in creosote bush scrub and Joshua tree woodland communities. 600 – 950 meters. Unlikely. Species preferred habitat is found on-site in creosote bush communities. CNDDB record (1943) 1000 feet from Pisgah laydown yard. Unlikely to occur due to distance and age of historic records.	Apr-May
Pellaea truncata Spiny Cliff-Brake	-		2B.3	Occurs in the New York Mountains, Mid Hills Range and the Providence Mountains. A rhizomatous perennial occurring in crevices of granite or igneous rock in pinyon-juniper woodlands. 1,200-1,900m. Does not occur. Suitable habitat not present.	Apr-Jun



Species Name Potential Sites (based on range)	Status ¹				Activity /
	Federal	State	CNPS	Distribution, Habitat, and Occurrence Potential ²	Bloom Period
				Distributed mainly throughout the Lavic Lake volcanic field, Cady, Sleeping Beauty and Bullion Mountain Ranges. A perennial herb found in loose desert sand, generally on stabilized dunes with creosote bush scrub. 700-900m.	
Penstemon albomarginatus White-Margined Beardtongue	-		1B.1	Likely. Collected by CNDDB (2005 and 2010) within 500 feet of the Project survey area, on the south end of the alignment, near I-40 and Pisgah. However, the species was not detected during reference site visit to this record. While surveys were conducted during the appropriate blooming season, the lack of observations at the reference population suggests that there is a possibility that the species may be present on-site but not be detectable.	Mar-May
Penstemon pseudospectabilis var. pseudospectabilis	2B.2	Occurs at scattered localities in the Eastern Mojave Desert. A perennial herb often found in sandy washes, and sometimes rocky areas in Mojavean and Sonoran desert scrub. 80-1,935m.	Jan-May		
Desert Beardtongue				Unlikely . Collected in the 1998 and in 1980 in the vicinity of Old Dad Mountain, where suitable habitat still exists in the vicinity of Jackass Canyon.	



Species Name Potential Sites (based on range)	Status ¹				Activity /
	Federal	State	CNPS	Distribution, Habitat, and Occurrence Potential ²	Bloom Period
Phacelia coerulea - Sky-Blue Phacelia	_		2B.3	Occurs in mountain ranges of the Eastern Mojave Desert, and some adjacent valley. An annual herb found in open, sandy or rocky areas, generally in creosote bush scrub, sometimes also pinyon-juniper woodlands. 1,400-2,000m.	Apr-May
			Unlikely . Collected in creosote bush scrub one mile northwest of the project boundary along Nipton Rd. (André 10231).		
				Occurs in the Eastern Mojave Desert. An annual herb found in sandy habitats within Joshua tree woodland. 1,000-1,200m.	
Portulaca halimoides Desert portulaca			4.2	Unlikely. Collected in 2011 along the alignment and 1,000 feet from Project survey area in creosote bush scrub, one mile west of Ivanpah Rd. (André 22338). Suitable habitat is extensive in the eastern portion of the project. Likely to occur along alignment, but unlikely to occur within Project survey area based on distance of record.	Sep
				An annual herb found in Mojavean desert scrub. 345-1,300m.	
Sibara deserti Desert Winged-Rockcress	-		4.3	Unlikely. Collected within the wash adjacent to the proposed staging area on the north side of Rocky Ridge in 1993 (Hrusa 10662). Collected on a rocky canyon wall at Sheep Spring in the Marl Mountains in 1966, 0.4 miles south of the alignment (Hitchcock 24346).	Mar-Apr



Species Name	Status ¹			Distribution, Habitat, and Occurrence Potential ²	Activity /
Potential Sites (based on range)	Federal	State	CNPS	Distribution, Habitat, and Occurrence Potential	Bloom Period
				Occurs in Panamint, Clark, Ivanpah and Providence Mountain Ranges, Cima Dome in Mojave National Preserve, Lost Horse Valley in Joshua Tree National Park, and Mineral Hills near I-15. A perennial herb found in creosote bush scrub and Joshua tree woodlands. 1,000-1,500m.	
Sphaeralcea rusbyi var. eremicola Rusby's Desert-Mallow	_	1B,2	1B.2	Absent. Collected along the alignment at two locations south of Wildcat Butte and Cima Dome in 1998 (Sanders 21967 and 21963). CNDDB records (1998) occurs within Project survey area along Powerline Road access route. This taxon is sometimes associated with roadside disturbances. Plant observed at reference site but absent within Project survey area during 2017 botanical surveys.	Mar-Jun
Wislizenia refracta ssp. refracta Jackass-Clover		2B.2	Occurs between Barstow and Baker, Cima Cinder Cones, Joshua Tree National Park, and throughout the Twentynine Palms region. An annual herb found in sandy washes, along roadsides on alkaline flats, on dunes, and in creosote bush scrub. Occasionally found in wetlands. 90-1,160m.	Apr-Nov	
			Unlikely . Nearest recent collection is from just southwest of Midway on the north side of Hwy 15, about six miles southeast of the proposed staging yard on Afton Rd. Suitable habitat is present throughout the Project area.		



LEGEND:

Federal (USFWS) State (CDFW) FE Endangered SE Endangered ST Threatened FT Threatened FC Candidate SR Rare SC Candidate

California Native Plant Society (CNPS) List Categories

List 1A	Plants Presumed Extinct in California

List 1B Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California and Elsewhere

Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California but More Common Elsewhere List 2

List 3 Plants about Which We Need More Information — A Review List

List 4 Plants of Limited Distribution – A Watch List

California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Threat Rank Extensions

.1 Seriously threatened in California (high degree/immediacy of threat) .2 Fairly threatened in California (moderate degree/immediacy of threat)

Not very threatened in California (low degree/immediacy of threat or no current threats known



Appendix B:
FLORAL COMPENDIA



PLANTS (*introduced/non-native)

SCIENTIFIC NAME (* introduced/nonnative species)	COMMON NAME
AGAVACEAE	AGAVE FAMILY
Hesperocallis undulata	Desert lily
Yucca baccata	Banana yucca
Yucca brevifolia	Joshua tree
Yucca schidigera	Mohave yucca
AMARANTHACEAE	AMARANTH FAMILY
Tidestromia suffruticosa	Honeysweet
ANACARDIACEAE	SUMAC FAMILY
Rhus aromatic	Fragrant sumac
APIACEAE	PARSLEY FAMILY
Cymopterus multinervatus	Purplenerve springparsley (CNPS 2B.2)
Lomatium nevadense	Nevada biscuitroot
APOCYNACEAE	DOGBANE FAMILY
Asclepias erosa	Desert milkweed
ASTERACEAE	SUNFLOWER FAMILY
Acamptopappus sphaerocephalus	Rayless goldenhead
Adenophyllum cooperi	Cooper's dogweed
Ambrosia acanthicarpa	Annual bur-sage
Ambrosia dumosa	White bursage
Ambrosia eriocentra	Woolly bursage
Ambrosia salsola	Burrobush
Amphipappus fremontii var. fremontii	Femont's chaff bush
Amphipappus fremontii var. spinosus	Spiny fremont's chaffbush
Atrichoseris platyphylla	Parachute flower
Baccharis brachyphylla	Short leaved baccharis
Baileya multiradiata	Desert marigold
Baileya pauciradiata	Lax flower
Baileya pleniradiata	Woolly desert marigold
Bebbia juncea	Sweetbush
Brickellia californica	California brickellbush
Brickellia incana	Woolly brickellbush
Chaenactis carphoclinia	Pebble pincushion
Chaenactis fremontii	Fremont pincushion
Chaenactis stevioides	Desert pincushion
Chaetopappa ericoides	Rose heath
Dicoria canescens	Desert twinbugs
Dieteria canescens var. leucanthemifolia	Hoary aster
Encelia actoni	Acton encelia
Encelia farinosa	Brittlebush
Encelia frutescens	Button brittlebush
Encelia virginensis	Virgin river brittlebush
Ericameria cooperi	Cooper's goldenbush



SCIENTIFIC NAME (* introduced/nonnative species)	COMMON NAME
Ericameria laricifolia	Turpentine bush
Ericameria linariifolia	Interior goldenbush
Ericameria paniculata	Mojave rabbitbrush
Eriophyllum wallacei	Wallace's woolly daisy
Geraea canescens	Hairy desert sunflower
Gutierrezia microcephala	Sticky snakeweed
*Lactuca serriola	*Prickly lettuce
Layia glandulosa	Whitedaisy tidytips
Lepidospartum squamatum	Scalebroom
Leucosyris arida	Silver lake daisy
Logfia depressa	Dwarf cottonrose
Malacothrix coulteri	Snake's head
Malacothrix glabrata	Desert dandelion
Monoptilon bellidiforme	Small desert star
Monoptilon bellioides	Mojave desert star
Palafoxia arida	Desert palafox
Palafoxia arida var. arida	Desert needle
Perityle emoryi	Emory's rockdaisy
Pleurocoronis pluriseta	Bush arrowleaf
Porophyllum gracile	Slender poreleaf
Psilostrophe cooperi	Cooper's paper daisy
Rafinesquia neomexicana	Desert chicory
Senecio flaccidus var. monoensis	Mono ragwort
Stephanomeria pauciflora	Desert straw
Stephanomeria exigua	Small wirelettuce
Stylocline micropoides	Desert nest straw
Tetradymia stenolepis	Mojave cottonthorn
Trichoptilium incisum	Yellowhead
Uropappus lindleyi	Silver puffs
Xylorhiza tortifolia	Mojave aster
Xylorhiza tortifolia var. tortifolia	Mojave woodyaster
BIGNONIACEAE	MINT FAMILY
Chilopsis linearis ssp. arcuata	Desert willow
BORAGINACEAE	BORAGE FAMILY
Amsinckia intermedia	Common fiddleneck
Amsinckia tessellata	Devil's lettuce
Cryptantha angustifolia	Narrow leaved forget-me-not
Cryptantha circumscissa	Western forget-me-not
Cryptantha dumetorum	Bushloving cryptantha
Cryptantha maritima	White haired forget-me-not
Cryptantha micrantha	Purple rooted forget-me-not
Cryptantha nevadensis	Nevada forget-me-not
Cryptantha pterocarya	Winged-nut forget-me-not
Eucrypta micrantha	Desert eucrypta
Heliotropium convolvulaceum	Phlox heliotrope
Nama demissum	Purplemat
Pectocarya heterocarpa	Chuckwalla combseed



SCIENTIFIC NAME (* introduced/nonnative species)	COMMON NAME
Pectocarya linearis ssp. ferocula	Sagebrush combseed
Pectocarya penicillata	Winged combseed
Pectocarya platycarpa	Broadfruit combseed
Pectocarya recurvata	Curvenut combseed
Pectocarya setosa	Moth combseed
Phacelia crenulata	Notch leaved phacelia
Phacelia crenulate var. ambigua	Heliotrope phacelia
Phacelia distans	Common phacelia
Phacelia fremontii	Fremont's phacelia
Plagiobothrys arizonicus	Arizona popcorn flower
Plagiobothrys jonesii	Jones' popcorn flower
Tiquilia plicata	Fanleaf crinklemat
BRASSICACEAE	MUSTARD FAMILY
Boechera glaucovalvula	Bluepod rockcress
*Brassica tournefortii	*Saharan mustard
Descurainia pinnata	Western tansymustard
*Hirschfeldia incana	*Mediterranean hoary mustard
Lepidium fremontii	Desert peppergrass
Lepidium lasiocarpum	Shaggyfruit pepperweed
Lepidium nitidum	Shining pepperweed
*Sisymbrium altissimum	*Tubling mustard
*Sisymbrium irio	*London rocket
CACTACEAE	CACTUS FAMILY
Cylindropuntia acanthocarpa	Buck horn cholla
Cylindropuntia echinocarpa	Wiggins' cholla
Cylindropuntia ramosissima	Branched pencil cholla
Echinocactus polycephalus var. polycephalus	Cottontop cactus
Echinocereus engelmannii	Calico cactus
Echinocereus mojavensis	Mojave kingcup cactus
Ferocactus cylindraceus	Barrel cactus
Grusonia parishii	Matted cholla (CNPS 2B.2)
Mammillaria tetrancistra	Common fishhook cactus
Opuntia basilaris var. basilaris	Beavertail cactus
Opuntia oustiaris val. oustiaris Opuntia chlorotica	Dollarjoint pricklypear
Opuntia entoronea Opuntia phaeacantha	Mojave pricklypear
Opuntia phaeacanna Opuntia polyacantha var. erinacea	Grizzlybear pricklypear
CAMPANULACEAE	BELLFLOWER FAMILY
Nemacladus orientalis	Eastern glandular nemacladus
CARYOPHYLLACEAE	CARNATION FAMILY
Achyronychia cooperi	Frost mat
Eremogone macradenia var. macradenia	Desert sandwort
CHENOPODIACEAE	GOOSEFOOT FAMILY
Atriplex hymenelytra	Desert holly
- 1	Allscale saltbush



SCIENTIFIC NAME (* introduced/nonnative species)	COMMON NAME
Grayia spinosa	Spiny hopsage
Krascheninnikovia lanata	Winterfat
*Salsola tragus	*Prickly Russian thistle
CLEOMACEAE	BEEPLANT FAMILY
Cleomella obtusifolia	Mojave cleomella
CONVOLVULACEAE	MORNING GLORY FAMILY
Cuscuta denticulate	Desert dodder
CUCURBITACEAE	CUCUMBER FAMILY
Cucurbita palmata	Coyote melon
CUPRESSACEAE	CYPRESS FAMILY
Juniperus osteosperma	Utah juniper
EPHEDRACEAE	JOINTFIR FAMILY
Ephedra californica	Desert tea
Ephedra funereal	Death valley ephedra
Ephedra nevadensis	Nevada mormon tea
EUPHORBIACEAE	SPURGE FAMILY
Croton californicus	Desert croton
Euphorbia albomarginata	Rattlesnake sandmat
Euphorbia micromera	Sonoran sandmat
Euphorbia parishii	Parish's sandmat
Euphorbia serpyllifolia	Thyme-leafed spurge
Stillingia spinulosa	Broad leaved stillingia
FABACEAE	PEA FAMILY
Astragalus didymocarpus	Dwarf white milkvetch
Astragalus layneae	Widow's milkvetch
Astragalus lentiginosus	Freckled milkvetch
Astragalus lentiginosus var. fremontii	Fremont's milkvetch
Astragalus mohavensis	Mohave locoweed
Astragalus mohavensis var. mohavensis	Mojave milkvetch
Astragalus nuttallianus	Nuttall locoweed
Astragalus sabulonum	Gravel milkvetch (CNPS 2B.2)
*Caesalpinia gilliesii	*Bird of paradise
Dalea mollissima	Silky dalea
Lupinus arizonicus	Arizona lupine
Lupinus bicolor	Bicolored lupine
Lupinus concinnus Lupinus flavoculatus	Bajada lupine
Lupinus flavoculatus Lupinus odoratus	Yellow-eyed lupine Mojave lupine
Lupinus odoratus	Purple desert lupine
Lupinus shockleyi Prosopis glandulosa	Honey mequite
Psorothamnus arborescens	Mojave indigo bush
i soronumuus urvotestens	mojave margo ousii



SCIENTIFIC NAME (* introduced/nonnative species)	COMMON NAME
Senegalia greggii	Devil's catclaw
Senna armata	Desert senna
GERANIACEAE	GERANIUM FAMILY
*Erodium cicutarium	Red-stemmed filaree
KRAMERIACEAE	RHATANY FAMILY
Krameria bicolor	White rhatany
Krameria erecta	Littleleaf ratany
LAMIACEAE	MINT FAMILY
Salvia columbariae	Chia sage
Salvia dorrii	Desert sage
Scutellaria mexicana	Mexican bladdersage
LOASACEAE	LOASA FAMILY
Eucnide urens	Desert bush nettle
Mentzelia albicaulis	White-stemmed blazingstar
Mentzelia involucrata	Sand blazingstar
Mentzelia veatchiana	Veatch's blazing star
Petalonyx thurberi	Sandpaper plant
MALVACEAE	MALLOW FAMILY
Eremalche exilis	White mallow
Eremalche rotundifolia	Desert fivespot
Sphaeralcea ambigua	Desert mallow
MYRTACEAE	MYRTLE FAMILY
*Eucalyptus camaldulensis	*Red river gum
NYCTAGINACEAE	FOUR O'CLOCK FAMILY
Abronia villosa var. villosa	Desert sand verbena
Allionia incarnate	Trailing four o'clock
Allionia incarnata var. villosa	Trailing windmills
Mirabilis laevis	Desert wishbone bush
Mirabilis laevis var. retrorsa	Wishbone bush
Mirabilis laevis var. villosa	Wishbone bush
Mirabilis multiflora	Colorado four o'clock
OLEACEAE	OLIVE FAMILY
Menodora spinescens	Spiny desert olive
ONAGRACEAE	EVENING PRIMROSE FAMILY
Camissonia campestris	Mojave suncup
Camissonia pallida ssp. hallii	Hall's suncup
Chylisima claviformis	Clavate fruited primrose
Chylismia brevipes	Yellow cups
Chylismia claviformis	Clavate fruited primrose
Eremothera boothii	Booth's sun cup



SCIENTIFIC NAME (* introduced/nonnative species)	COMMON NAME
Eulobus californicus	California primrose
Oenothera californica	California evening primrose
Oenothera deltoides	Desert latern
Oenothera deltoies ssp. cognata	Birdcage evening primrose
OROBANCHACEAE	BROOMRAPE FAMILY
Castilleja chromosa	Desert paintbrush
PAPAVERACEAE	POPPY FAMILY
Argemone corymbosa	Mohave prickly poppy
Eschscholzia glyptosperma	Desert golden poppy
Eschscholzia minutiflora	Pygmy poppy
PHRYMACEAE	LOPSEED FAMILY
Mimulus bigelovii var. bigelovii	Bigelow's monkeyflower
PINACEAE	PINE FAMILY
*Pinus pinea	*Italian stone pine
PLANTAGINACEAE	PLANTAGO FAMILY
Mohavea breviflora	Golden desert snapdragon
Mohavea confertiflora	Ghost flower
Plantago ovata	Desert plantain
Plantago patagonica	Patagonia plantain
POACEAE	GRASS FAMILY
*Bromus madritensis	*Foxtail brome
Dasyochloa pulchella	Low woollygrass
Hilaria rigida	Big galleta
Muhlenbergia porteri	Bush muhly
Panicum urvilleanum	Desert panicgrass
*Schismus arabicus	*Arabian schismus
*Schismus barbatus	*Common mediterranean grass
Sporobolus cryptandrus	Sand dropseed
Stipa hymenoides	Indian rice grass
Stipa speciosa	Desert needle grass
*Triticum aestivum	*Common wheat
POLEMONIACEAE	PHLOX FAMILY
Eriastrum diffusum	Miniature woollystar
Eriastrum eremicum	Desert woollystar
Gilia brecciarum	Nevada gilia
Gilia scopulorum	Rock gilia
Gilia stellata	Star gilia
Langloisia setosissima	Bristly langloisia
Langloisia setosissima ssp. punctata	Lilac sunbonnet
Linanthus aureus	Golden gilia
Linanthus demissus	Desert linanthus
Loeseliastrum schottii	Schott's gilia



SCIENTIFIC NAME (* introduced/nonnative species)	COMMON NAME
POLYGONACEAE	BUCKWHEAT FAMILY
Centrostegia thurberi	Red triangles
Chorizanthe brevicornu	Brittle spine flower
Chorizanthe brevicornu var. brevicornu	Brittle spineflower
Chorizanthe rigida	Devil's spineflower
Eriogonum brachypodum	Parry's buckwheat
Eriogonum deflexum	Flatcrown buckwheat
Eriogonum fasciculatum	Eastern mojave buckwheat
Eriogonum fasciculatum var. polifolium	California buckwheat
Eriogonum inflatum	Desert trumpet
Eriogonum maculatum	Spotted buckwheat
Eriogonum nidularium	Whisk broom
Eriogonum pusillum	Yellow turbans
Eriogonum thomasii	Thomas' buckwheat
Eriogonum trichopes	Little desert buckwheat
Oxytheca perfoliata	Roundleaf oxytheca
Rumex hymenosepalus	Wild rhubarb
RANUNCULACEAE	BUTTERCUP FAMILY
Delphinium parishii	Desert larkspur
Delphinium parryi	San Bernardino larkspur
RESEDACEAE	MIGNONETTE FAMILY
Oligomeris linifolia	Lineleaf whitepuff
ROSACEAE	ROSE FAMILY
Coleogyne ramosissima	Blackbrush
RUTACEAE	CITRUS FAMILY
Thamnosma montana	Turpentine broom
SIMAROUBACEA	QUASSIA FAMILY
Castela emoryi	Emory's crucifixion thorn (CNPS 2B.2)
SOLANACEAE	NIGHTSHADE FAMILY
Datura wrightii	Jimsonweed
Lycium andersonii	Water jacket
Lycium cooperi	Cooper's box thorn
Nicotiana obtusifolia	Desert tobacco
Physalis crassifolia	Yellow nightshade groundcherry
TAMARICACEAE	TAMARISK FAMILY
*Tamarix aphylla	*Athel tamarisk
*Tamarix chinensis	*Chinese tamarisk
THEMIDACEAE	THEMIDACEAE FAMILY
Dichelostemma capitatum	Blue dicks

SCIENTIFIC NAME (* introduced/nonnative species)	COMMON NAME
ULMACEAE	ELM FAMILY
*Ulmus spp.	*Elm
VISCACEAE	MISTLETOE FAMILY
Phoradendron spp.	Mistletoe
ZYGOPHYLLACEAE	CALTROP FAMILY
Larrea tridentata	Creosote bush

LEGEND:

Federal (USFWS)	State (CDFW)
FE Endangered	SE Endangered
FT Threatened	ST Threatened
FC Candidate	SR Rare
	SC Candidate

California Native Plant Society (CNPS) List Categories

List 1A Plants Presumed Extinct in California	
---	--

List 1B Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California and Elsewhere

List 2 Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California but More Common Elsewhere

List 3 Plants about Which We Need More Information — A Review List

List 4 Plants of Limited Distribution – A Watch List

California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Threat Rank Extensions

Seriously threatened in California (high degree/immediacy of threat)

.2 Fairly threatened in California (moderate degree/immediacy of threat)

Not very threatened in California (low degree/immediacy of threat or no current threats known







Рното 1:

PHOTO OF GENERAL AREA CONDITIONS ALONG PROJECT.

Рното 2:

PHOTO OF NON-NATIVE GRASSLANDS ALONG PROJECT ALIGNMENT.



Рното 3:

PHOTO OF CREOSOTE BUSH (*LARREA TRIDENTATA*)
SHURBLAND ALLIANCE.



Рното 4:

PHOTO OF MOHAVE YUCCA (YUCCA SCHIDIGERA) CLONAL COLONY.





Рното 5:

PHOTO OF CASTELA EMORYI
(CRUCIFIXION THORN) FOUND
NEAR PROJECT ALIGNMENT IN
LARREA TRIDENTATA SHRUBLAND
ALLIANCE.

Рното 6:

PHOTO OF GENERAL AREA CONDITIONS FOR PROPOSED COOLWATER YARD.



Рното 7:

PHOTO OF PURPLENERVE SPRINGPARSLEY (CYMOPTERUS MULTINERVATUS) FOUND AT 4590 FEET IN A YUCCA BREVIFOLIA WOODLAND ALLIANCE.



Рното 8:

CLOSE-UP PHOTO OF PURPLENERVE SPRINGPARSLEY.



Environmental Intelligence, LLC

RARE PLANT SURVEY FORM

1611 72 (4. 2.12)
Date: 4 19 17 Site Name: M84-T3 (Mapper 13) UID: Westing Botanist(s) Nichole Nesting
Date: 41917 Site Name: N89175 (Mapry 15) Lead Botanist: Kevin Thomas Supporting Botanist(s) Nichole Neshinal
Target Species: Castela Emory: Target observed at reference? Yes No Unsure
Target Species: Castela Emory: Target observed at reference? Yes No Unsure
Reference ropulation range.
Target species present on Site? Yes No Area Covered: Units.
GPS Make and Model: Garmin 64st GPS Accuracy: 3 Units: Feet or Meters Coordinate System: Lat/Long (UTM) Other: 115 3816514 Datum: NAD27 NAD83 (WGS84) X Coordinate (Longitude):
GPS Make and Model: Other, 115 275 W27 Datum: NAD27 NAD83 (WGS84)
Coordinate System: Lat/Long (UTM) Other: 5.8 (US) X Coordinate (Latitude): X Coordinate (Longitude):
Y Coordinate (Latitude):X Coordinate (Longitude).
Plant Data
Count unit stem clump rosette Size determined by: Census Sample Visual Estimate Units: Acres ft ² m ²
Fetimated area:
OR % Cover: 0 1-3 6-23 20-30 31-100
OR Estimate: 251 36-50 51-100 % Flowering: 0 1-5 6-25 26-50 51-100
% Senescent: 0 1-5 6-25 26-50 31-100
% Fruiting: 0 1-3 6-23 20000 minutes
Seedlings or Immature present? Yes No Unsure Count time:minutes What is the condition of this rare plant occurrence? Excellent (Average) Poor Unsure Please note the characteristic(s) considered:
What is the condition of this rare plant occurrence.
Please note the characteristic(s) considered:
- Sum locating target species? N/a
Conditions which might have prevented surveyors from locating target species?
Voucher specimen obtained? □ Yes 対 No Stored where?
Permit Number(s):
XX 1.4-4
Habitat ()
Slope/topographical position: gravely wash NE gradual Slope
Elevation range: 1381 FF
Elevation range.
Aspect: NE Hydrology: Wash and allyvial slope
Hydrology: VVasta and angelia stope
Soils:
Vegetation Alliance: CPEOSOte Scrub Associated species: Larrea tridentata Hymenoclea Salsola,
Associated species:
Belbia Juncea, Encelia Frutescens
<u>Invasive Species</u>
Rare Uncommon Common Abundant
Rare Uncommon Common Abundant
Turo direction
D II C Almost
Rare Uncommon Common Abundant
Rare Uncommon Common Abundant Rare Uncommon Common Abundant
Ture careers

		D	isturb	ance				
Development: Browsing: Insect damage or disease: Competition/ succession: Adjacent land management: Other disturbance (please de	None Trac None Trac None Trac None Trac None Trac escribe) and	ce Some	Most Most Most Most Most ments:_	Trampling: Drought: Fire: Drought/Hydro: Mat To Roach	_	Trace Trace Trace Trace	Some Some Some	Most Most Most Most
Management Recommendat	tions:							

		Photo Log	
Photo Number	File Name	Feature Photographed (e.g., flower , juvenile, unknown, insect)	Location and Direction of Photo (e.g., center of colony looking North)
01	Cas Emol	whole plant	looking north
02	CASEMOZ	brasch	locking north
03			2
04			
05			
06			
07			
08			
09			
10			

<u>Notes</u>

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Validation		

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RARE PLANT SURVEY FORM

Date: 4/20/2017 Site Name: Lead Botanist: Kevin Thomas Supporting Botanist(s) Nrehole Nashina Target Species: Castella Engry: Reference Population Name: Target observed at reference? Yes No Unsure Target species present on Site? A Yes No Area Covered: GPS Make and Model: Carrier 64 st GPS Accuracy: Coordinate System: Lat/Long UTM Other: 115 580 158 3870 Sham: NAD27 NAD83 WGS84 Y Coordinate (Latitude): X Coordinate (Longitude):
Count unit: stem clump rosette Size determined by: Census Sample Visual Estimate Plant count: Estimated area: Units: Acres ft m² OR Estimate: 251-500 501-1000 >1000 OR % Cover: 0 1-5 6-25 26-50 51-100 % Vegetative: 0 1-5 6-25 26-50 51-100 % Flowering: 0 1-5 6-25 26-50 51-100 % Fruiting: 0 1-5 6-25 26-50 51-100 % Senescent: 0 1-5 6-25 26-50 51-100 Seedlings or Immature present? Yes No Unsure Count time: minutes What is the condition of this rare plant occurrence? Excellent Average Poor Unsure Please note the characteristic(s) considered: Please for the characteristic(s) considered: Stored where? Voucher specimen obtained? Yes Stored where? Permit Number(s): Stored where?
Slope/topographical position: Was N Elevation range:
Invasive Species Rare Uncommon Common Abundant Rare Unco

Photo Number File Name (e.g., flower, juvenile, unknown, insect) O1 CLSEMO 3 O2 CASEMO 4 O5 O6 O7 O8 O9 10 Notes	Other disturb	or disease: No succession: No management: No management description of the second seco		None Trace Some Most None Trace Some Most Hydro: None Trace Some Most
Photo Number File Name Feature Photographed (e.g., flower, juvenile, unknown, insect) Location and Direction of Photo (e.g., center of colony looking North)				
Photo Number File Name (e.g., flower, juvenile, unknown, insect) (e.g., center of colony looking North)			Photo Log	
02 CAS EMO 4 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10		File Name		
03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10	01	CISEMO3		
04 05 06 07 08 09 10	02			
05 06 07 08 09 10	03			
06 07 08 09 10				
07 08 09 10				
08 09 10				
09 10				
10				
Notes	10			
			Notes	

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RARE PLANT SURVEY FORM

n sulpalia
Date: 04/20 17 Site Name: LVRAS UID:
Lead Botanist: Doog 68 Rox Clark Supporting Botanist(s)
Target Species: Cymopterus mulbinerustus
Reference Population Name: Target observed at reference? Target observed at reference? Yes No Unsure
Target species present on Site? XYes Do Area Covered: 100 Units: Acres ft ² (m
GPS Make and Model: GPS MAP 64s GPS Accuracy: #9' Units: Geo or Meters
Coordinate System: Lat/Long (UTM) Other: 11-0-000 Datum: NAD27 NAD83 WGS84
Y Coordinate (Latitude): 115 0630289 X Coordinate (Longitude): 3899271
Plant Data
Count unit: stem clump rosette Size determined by: Census Sample Visual Estimate
Plant count: 10 Estimated area: 100 Units: Acres (m²)
OR Estimate: 251-500 501-1000 >1000 OR % Cover: 0 1-5 6-25 26-50 51-100
% Vegetative: 0 1-5 6-25 26-50 (51-100) % Flowering: 0 1-5 6-25 (26-50) 51-100
% Fruiting: 0 1-5 6-25 26-50 51-100 % Senescent: 0 1-5 6-25 26-50 51-100
Seedlings or Immature present? (Yes) No Unsure Count time: minutes
What is the condition of this rare plant occurrence? Excellent Average Poor Unsure
Please note the characteristic(s) considered: _ Purple nerved bracks, lesf morphologg
Conditions which might have prevented surveyors from locating target species?
Slope/topographical position: Elevation range: 451/ Aspect: 5 Hydrology: Xeric Soils: Sandy I demomposed limestane Vegetation Alliance: Yucco brevitalia alkance Associated species: Yucco brevitalia, Hilpria rigida, Cylindropuntia, Larcea, Brownus Ephedre, Yucco baccate
Invasive Species
Rare Uncommon Common Abundant Rare Uncommon Common Abundant
Traine concentration of the Albertain
Rare Uncommon Common Abundant Rare Uncommon Common Abundant
Rare Uncommon Common Abundant
Aut C Carrent mines.
Abundant: > 100 observations Common: 50-100 observations Uncommon: 10-50 observations Rare: < 10 observations

		Ī	Disturb	ance				
Development: Browsing: Insect damage or disease: Competition/ succession: Adjacent land management Other disturbance (please of the competition)	None Trace	Some Some	Most Most Most Most Most		None None Iydro: None	Trace Trace Trace	Some Some	Most Most Most Most
Management Recommenda	ntions:							

	Photo Log					
Photo Number	File Name	Feature Photographed (e.g., flower, juvenile, unknown, insect)	Location and Direction of Photo (e.g., center of colony looking North)			
01	8839	Plant w/ Flower bracks	down, center of culony			
02			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
03						
04						
05						
06						
07						
08						
09						
10						

Aultiple Spacimen observed		n	C	06-
11 5 0636283	Ele. 4591	//	3	89925
11 5 0630293		/1	5	06302
11 5 0630292 3899263	2 individuals.			
11 5 0630291 3899270				
11 5 0630293				

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Appendix D-5

Calcite Substation Project Botanical Report

BOTANICAL REPORT

CALCITE SUBSTATION PROJECT SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Prepared for:

Southern California Edison 6040 N. Irwindale Ave, Suite A Irwindale, CA 91702 Contact: Rachael Poston

Prepared by:



July 2016

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	5.3.6	Creamy blazing star – CRPR 1B.3, BLM Sensitive 1	1
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List of Attachments

Attachment A: Special-Status Plant Species Potential to Occur

Attachment B: Project Survey Area and Location of Special-Status Plant Species Observed

Attachment C: Plant Species Observed in the Project Area

Attachment D: Photos of Special-Status Plant Species Observed in the Project Area.



1.0 INTRODUCTION

This botanical survey documents and describes the existing conditions of botanical resources associated with the Calcite Substation Project (Project). BRC-Equals 3, Inc. (B3) has prepared this report for the analysis of botanical resources, including the potential occurrence of special-status species within the Project Area.

2.0 PROJECT LOCATION

The Project is divided into three geographically-defined segments (the Apple Valley Telecom Route, the Northern Telecom Route, and the Southeast Telecom Route) (Figures 1 and 2). The Apple Valley Telecom Route extends southward from the proposed Calcite Substation, following State Route 247 to its intersection with State Route 18, and westward, from the proposed Calcite Substation to the Apple Valley Substation. The North Telecom Route extends eastward from the Gale Substation (which lies directly west of the Coolwater Switchyard), following Historic Route 66 to the Pisgah substation and terminating at the Hector Microwave Communication Site. The Southeastern Telecom Route extends southward from the proposed Calcite Substation toward State Route 18 and continues southeast, terminating at the Cottonwood Substation.

3.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Project will construct a new 220kV Jasper Substation, either the proposed site or at the alternate site in the Lucerne Valley. The new Jasper Substation will connect to two renewable power generators in the Lucerne Valley area. The renewable power generation site and the generator's tie-in line are not part of this Project description. Transmission loop-in lines would connect the substation to the "Lugo-Pisgah No. 1" 220 kV transmission line. The loop-in 220 kV lines will need to cross under the existing 500 kV "Lugo-Mojave" SCE transmission line; this line-crossing will require the removal and replacement of two 500 kV lattice towers along the Lugo-Mojave transmission line. The Project would also require the installation of new 12 kV overhead lines, which would connect the distribution system to the Jasper Substation. Telecommunication fiber optic cable, both new and existing, will connect the Jasper Substation to the Apple Valley and Cottonwood Substations. A second, unconnected telecom route will occur north of the Jasper Substation; this route would begin at the Gale Substation, pass through the Pisgah Substation, and terminate at the Hector Microwave Communication Site.



Figure 1. Project vicinity.

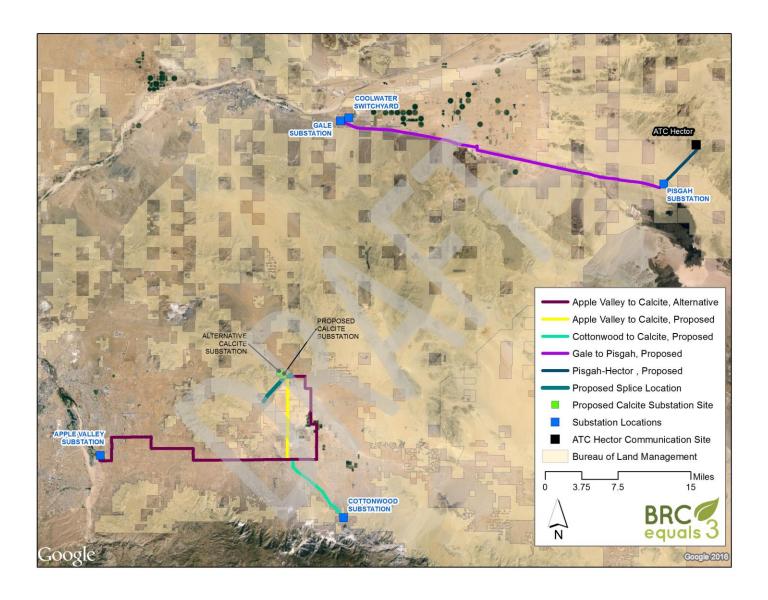


Figure 2. Project location.

3.1 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The Project is located within the Mojave Desert. Temperatures at the Project location vary, with highs typically near 97.4 degrees Fahrenheit (°F) in the summer to lows near 32.7°F in the winter. Average rainfall can vary greatly with an average of 6.15 inches between 1981 to 2010 (NCDC 2016a). Snowfall occurs at higher elevations. The Project alignment crosses numerous ephemeral drainages of varying size. The last several years have been drought years characterized by extremely low winter rainfall (NCDC 2016b).

The Project lies within typical basin and range topography for the Mojave Desert. Elevations at the Project site vary from a low of approximately 1,776 feet above mean sea level (amsl) along the Northern Telecom Route to a high of approximately 3,170 feet amsl near the ATC Hector Microwave Communication Site. Large alluvial fans, which occur adjacent to the mountain fronts, slope toward the north where ephemeral streams deposit alluvial materials into dry lakes and the Mojave River. Soils within the survey area vary from extremely gravelly to sandy loam.

The Project is located on lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and private lands (Figure 2). Land uses in the immediate vicinity of the Project Area include open space areas, off-highway vehicle recreation areas, and low-density rural residential development.

3.1.1 Vegetation Communities

Fourteen vegetation communities/alliances were identified within the Project Area during the habitat assessment conducted by B3 in March 2016 (B3 2016). Within these alliances, a total of 20 vegetation associations were identified and mapped according to the three dominant plant species within each alliance (B3 2016). Vegetation communities follow the California Native Plant Society's (CNPS) Manual of California Vegetation (Sawyer et al., 2009). Table 1 provides the acreages of each vegetation community within the survey area. Full descriptions of each vegetation community are provided in B3's 2016 Habitat Assessment report for the Project.

TABLE 1. VEGETATION COMMUNITIES MAPPED WITHIN THE SURVEY AREA.

Vegetation Community Alliance/Association

Vegetation Community Alliance/Association	Acres
Ambrosia dumosa Scrub	11.01
Atriplex canescens Shrubland	27.54
Atriplex confertifolia Shrubland	
Atriplex confertifolia–Ambrosia dumosa	217.74
Atriplex confertifolia–Atriplex canescens	55.82
Atriplex confertifolia–Atriplex polycarpa sparse playa	20.42
Atriplex confertifolia–Larrea tridentata - Ambrosia dumosa	176.33
Alliance Only / No Association–Atriplex confertifolia Shrubland	253.43
Atriplex polycarpa Shrubland	
Atriplex polycarpa–Atriplex confertifolia	72.50
Atriplex polycarpa sparse playa	411.42
Alliance Only / No Association–Atriplex polycarpa Shrubland	1,795.44
Distichlis spicata Herbaceous	
Distichlis spicata / annual grasses	1.72
Ericameria nauseosa Shrubland	145.17
Larrea tridentata Shrubland	

Vegetation Community Alliance/Association	Acres
Larrea tridentata–Ambrosia salsola	94.14
Larrea tridentata–Atriplex polycarpa	450.62
Larrea tridentata–Ephedra nevadensis	216.88
Alliance Only/No Association–Larrea tridentata Shrubland	549.23
Larrea tridentata-Ambrosia dumosa Shrubland	
Larrea tridentata–Ambrosia dumosa	3,408.41
Larrea tridentata–Ambrosia dumosa–Atriplex canescens	1.87
Larrea tridentata–Ambrosia dumosa–Atriplex polycarpa	374.40
Larrea tridentate / Ambrosia dumosa–Ambrosia salsola	11.34
Larrea tridentata–Ambrosia dumosa–Ephedra nevadensis	85.61
Populus fremontii Forest	
Populus fremontii-Salix laevigata / Salix lasiolepis-Baccharis salicifolia	3.49
Alliance Only/No Association–Populus fremontii Forest	23.05
Prosopis glandulosa Woodland	22.35
Salix exigua Shrubland	
Salix exigua / Juncus spp.	0.40
Suaeda moquinii Shrubland	
Suaeda moquinii–Atriplex canescens	2.12
Alliance Only / No Association-Suaeda moquinii Shrubland	127.64
Tamarix spp. Semi-natural Shrubland Stands	74.71
Yucca brevifolia Woodland	
Yucca brevifolia / Ephedra nevadensis	24.63
Yucca brevifolia / Larrea tridentata-Ambrosia dumosa-	
Eriogonum fasciculatum	92.42
Yucca brevifolia I Prunus fasciculata	5.18
Alliance Only / No Association—Yucca brevifolia Woodland	299.26
Active Agriculture	310.75
Barren–Not Developed	30.60
Developed	653.00
Dry lake bed	330.70
Total Acreage	10,381.34

Note: indented text indicates vegetation associations within the vegetation community alliance.

4.0 METHODOLOGY

Prior to conducting the botanical surveys, standard database searches were conducted and previous surveys in the area were reviewed to obtain pertinent information regarding habitat types. The results of these preliminary database searches provided a basis for addressing the appropriate special-status species within the Project Area.

4.1 LITERATURE AND DATABASE REVIEW

B3 performed a review of special-status species and habitats within the survey area using information obtained from the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB; CDFW 2016). The CNDDB search included the *Apple Valley South*, *Big Bear City*, *Cougar Buttes*, *Fifteenmile Valley*, *Lucerne Valley*, *Hector*, *Minneola*, *Newberry Springs*, *Sleeping Beauty*, *Troy Lake*, *White Horse Mountain*, and surrounding U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute quadrangles.

Additional literature and databases referenced include:

- California Native Plant Society's Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California (CNPS 2016)
- The Jepson Manual: Higher Plants of California (Baldwin 2012)
- A Manual of California Vegetation (Sawyer et al. 2009)
- The CalFlora Database online Database (CalFlora 2016)
- Consortium of California Herbaria (CCH) online Database (CCH 2016)
- Rarefind 5 (CNDDB 2016)
- Jepson Flora Project (Jepson 2016)
- BLM sensitive (BLMS) plant and animal lists (BLM 2015).

Plants may be considered to have special-status due to declining populations, vulnerability to habitat change, restricted distributions, or insufficient knowledge of the species' biological status. Using information from the various listed sources and floral and faunal surveys of the area, the potential for special-status species to occur within the Project Area was assessed as Occurs, Likely, Unlikely, or Does Not Occur based on the following criteria:

- Occurs The species was observed on-site during the survey.
- Likely This species is expected to occur in the proposed Project Area based on presence of suitable habitat, and/or based on professional expertise specific to the site or species, with documented CNDDB/CCH occurrences within 3 miles from the last decade.
- Unlikely This species may occur within the proposed Project Area but is considered unlikely based on presence of only marginally suitable habitat and/or no documented CNDDB/CCH records within the last decade within 3 miles of the Project Area.
- Does Not Occur –1) This species is not expected to occur in the proposed Project Area. Suitable habitat was not observed in the Project Area during the survey. 2) The Project Area is outside of the currently known range of the species. 3) This species was observed to be present and identifiable at a reference site location and was found to be absent during surveys of the Project Area.

A table of documented CNDDB special-status plant species occurrences within 3 miles of the Project Area along with their habitat suitability and an assessment of their potential to occur in the Project Area based on the aforementioned criteria is listed in Attachment A.

4.2 SURVEY METHODS

B3 botanists Steve Jones, Sarah Termondt, Chez Brungraber, and Griffin Brungraber conducted botanical surveys within the Project Area from April 26 to May 6, 2016 (April/May survey), and from June 14 to 17, 2016 (June survey). The survey area included 75 feet on either side of the alignment centerline and the entire proposed substation and work area sites (Attachment B). Botanists assessed suitable habitat for special-status species with potential to occur within the Project area during the April/May survey. During the June survey, the survey area was reduced to include only these previously identified areas of suitable habitat. Areas not surveyed during the June Survey included developed, agricultural and heavily disturbed areas and habitats determined from the April/May surveys to not be suitable for target special-status species. Plant species were

identified, either in the field or following collection for subsequent identification, using the identification keys described in Baldwin (2012). Nomenclature generally follows Sawyer et al. (2009) for vegetation types and communities and Calflora (2016), Baldwin (2012), and current scientific data (e.g., scientific journals) for plant species.

4.3 BOTANICAL REFERENCE SITES

B3 conducted botanical reference site monitoring to determine whether special-status plant species with the potential to occur within the Project Area were in bloom and identifiable at the time of botanical surveys and to obtain a visual image of the species and its associated habitat and natural community. Criteria utilized in reference site selection are outlined below.

- Species is documented in CNDDB within Project vicinity and has a potential of occurrence rated as 'Likely' (Attachment A).
- Species has a status of federally- or state-listed endangered, or threatened, and/or a CNPS California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR) of 1B.1 or 1B.2.
- Species has recent CNDDB/CCH records (within the last decade) found within ten miles of the Project Area.

CNDDB, BIOS, and CCH queries were performed for plant species which meet the criteria described above. The results of the queries were used to determine the most current known occurrences closest to the Project alignment. Additional information on the locations of special-status plant populations from past studies conducted within the Project Area were also utilized (BRC 2014).

Eight reference sites were identified for the botanical reference site monitoring (Figure 3). Reference site visits were only conducted within the known blooming periods of identified target species. Each reference site was surveyed during the week of April 26, 2016. When species were observed, the surveying biologist determined the population size, identified the habitat type and associated species, documented the plant's phenology, and took representative photographs of the area.

5.0 RESULTS

5.1 BOTANICAL REFERENCE SITE MONITORING RESULTS

The following eight species were identified as target species for the botanical reference site monitoring:

- alkali mariposa-lily (Calochortus striatus)
- Clokey's cryptantha (*Cryptantha clokeyi*)
- Mojave menodora (Menodora spinescens var. mohavensis)
- creamy blazing star (*Mentzelia tridentata*)
- Mojave monkey flower (Mimulus mojavensis)
- white-margined beardtongue (*Penstemon albomarginatus*)
- Parish's phacelia (*Phacelia parishii*)
- Parish's popcorn flower (*Plagiobothrys parishii*)

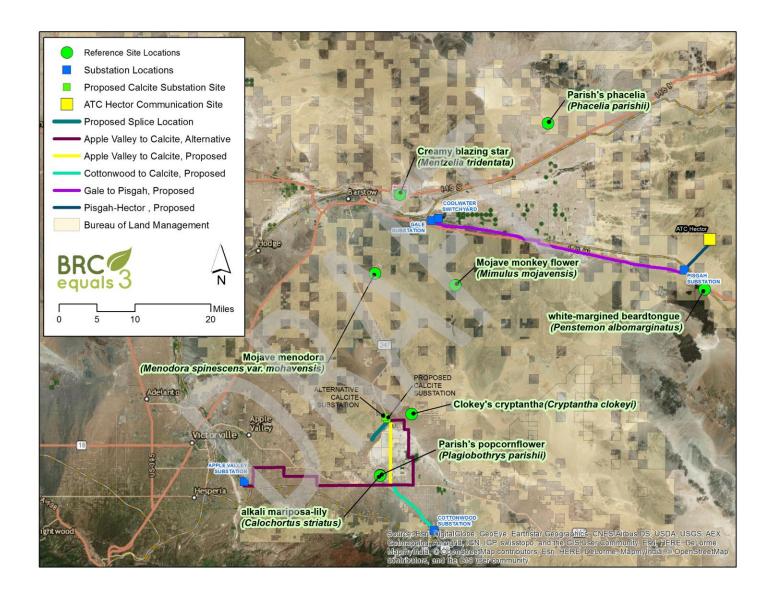


Figure 3. Reference site locations.

Although no CNDDB occurrences of Mojave monkeyflower (*Mimulus mojavensis*) occur within 3 miles of the Project Area, a reference site for Mojave monkeyflower was selected and visited after consulting with a BLM local expert (Larry LaPre, BLM 2016, pers. comm., 26 April).

During the reference site visits alkali mariposa-lily, Mojave menodora, Parish's phacelia, and Parish's popcorn flower were present and all in identifiable phenological states. Clokey's cryptantha, creamy blazing star, Mojave monkeyflower, and white-margined beardtongue were not observed to be present or were not identifiable at the selected reference site locations. Follow up reference site visits were not conducted in June as a result of June falling outside the known bloom period of the previously unobserved target plant species.

5.2 PLANT SPECIES

A total of 212 plant species were identified during surveys, including 20 non-native species and three special-status species. A complete list of plant species observed in the Project Area is provided in Attachment C.

5.3 SPECIAL-STATUS PLANT SPECIES

Three special-status plant species were observed during 2016 surveys including Borrego milkvetch (*Astragalus lentiginosus* var. *borreganus*), alkali mariposa-lily, and Utah vine milkweed (*Funastrum utahense*). Below are detailed descriptions of the special-status plant species that were observed as well as special-status species that are currently or were initially assessed to have a "Likely" potential to occur.

5.3.1 Alkali mariposa lily – CRPR 1B.2

Alkali mariposa lily is a perennial herb in the Liliaceae family. Its habitat requirements include mesic Shadscale Scrub, Creosote Bush–White Bursage Scrub, and Yerba Mansa Meadows with alkaline soils at elevations ranging from 70 to 1,595 meters amsl. This species generally blooms between April and June (CNDDB 2016).

Alkali mariposa lily was observed during surveys within the Project Area (Attachment B, Attachment D - Photo 1). Thirty-five individuals were observed during the April/May survey. The individuals were observed on the southwest side of California Highway 18 within a *Yucca brevifolia–Larrea tridentata–Ambrosia dumosa–Eriogonum fasciculatum* Association and a *Salix exigua–Juncus* sp. Association, with the presence of yerba mansa (*Anemopsis californica*). The species was also observed at the selected reference site location just prior to the April/May survey. The species was not observed during the June surveys.

5.3.2 Borrego milkvetch - CRPR 4.3

Borrego milkvetch is an annual herb in the Fabaceae family. Its habitat requirements include sandy soils in Mojavean Desert Scrub and Sonoran Desert Scrub from 30 to 320 meters amsl. The species generally blooms from March to May (CNDDB 2016).

Borrego milkvetch was observed at three locations during the surveys within the Project Area (Attachment B, Attachment D - Photo 2). The first observation was during the April/May survey, during which time two fruiting individuals were observed. The second observation was observed

during the June survey in a non-flowering vegetative state. All occurrences were observed in sandy to gravelly soils within a *Larrea tridentata–Ambrosia dumosa* Association.

5.3.3 Utah vine milkvetch – CRPR 4.2

Utah vine milkvetch is a perennial herb in the Apocynaceae family. Its habitat requirements include sand or gravelly soils located within Mojavean and Sonoran Desert Scrub vegetation communities from 100 to 1435 meters amsl. This species generally blooms from April to September (CNDDB 2016).

Utah vine milkvetch was observed during surveys within the Project Area (Attachment B, Attachment D - Photo 3). One location with four living, non-flowering and ten desiccated individuals were observed. The individuals were observed along the northern telecom alignment north of Interstate 15 and northwest of Pisgah Road within a *Larrea tridentata–Ambrosia dumosa* Association. The species was observed during both the April/May and June survey events.

5.3.4 Clokey's cryptantha – CRPR 1B.2, BLM Sensitive

Clokey's cryptantha is an annual herb in the Boraginaceae family. It is generally found in Creosote Bush–White Bursage Scrub habitat at elevations of 725–1,365 meters amsl. The known blooming period for this species occurs in April (CNDDB 2016).

Clokey's cryptantha was not observed during the survey or at the reference site location. It was assessed to have a 'Likely' potential as a result of the proximity of CNDDB Occurrence #6, which was subsequently chosen as the reference site. Several species of *Cryptantha* collected at the site were taken to Rancho Santa Ana Botanical Garden to be keyed to confirm the absence of *C. clokeyi* from the reference site. The potential for this species' occurrence remains where suitable habitat exists within the Project Area.

5.3.5 Mojave menodora – CRPR 1B.2, BLM Sensitive

Mojave menodora is a shrub in the Oleaceae family. It is generally found on andesite gravel, rocky hillsides, and canyons in Creosote Bush–White Bursage Scrub habitat at elevations of 690–2,000 meters amsl. The known blooming period for this species is April to May (CNDDB 2016).

Mojave menodora was not observed during the survey but was observed at the reference site location. A previous observation identified in 2014 by BioResource Consultants (BRC) was utilized as a reference site location (BRC 2014). Five individuals were observed to be identifiable at the reference site location with individual phenology ranging from 10% floral buds, 5% fruit, to 85% post fruit vegetative. Individuals were encountered within a creosote/white bursage community along a rocky slope near a small drainage.

This species was positively identified at the reference site location. The lack of its presence during surveys within the Project Area suggests that Mojave Menodora does not occur within the Project Area.

5.3.6 Creamy blazing star - CRPR 1B.3, BLM Sensitive

Creamy blazing star is an annual herb in the Losaceae family. It is generally found within rocky slopes gravelly, and sandy slopes in Creosote Bush–White Bursage Scrub habitat at elevations between 700–1,160 meters amsl. The known blooming period for this species is March–May (CNDDB 2016).

Creamy blazing star was not observed during the survey or at the reference site location. It was assessed to have a 'Likely' potential as a result of the proximity of CNDDB Occurrence #33, which was subsequently chosen as the reference site. The potential for this species' occurrence remains where suitable habitat exists within the Project Area.

5.3.7 Mojave monkey flower - CRPR 1B.3, BLM Sensitive

Mojave monkey flower is an annual herb in the Phrymaceae family. It is generally found in gravelly banks of desert washes at elevations between 600–1,000 meters amsl. The known blooming period for this species is April–May (CNDDB 2016).

Mojave monkey flower was not observed during the survey or at the reference site location. No CNDDB records exist in 3 miles of the Project Area for this species but it was assessed to have a 'Likely' potential as a result of the proximity of CalFlora Record (GP4593)(CalFlora 2016) and personal communication with BLM botanists with local expertise (Larry LaPre, BLM 2016, pers. comm., 26 April). The potential for this species' occurrence remains where suitable habitat exists within the Project Area.

5.3.8 White-margined beardtongue - CRPR 1B.1, BLM Sensitive

White-margined beardtongue is a perennial herb in the Plantaginaceae family. It is generally found in deep stabilized desert sand, in washes and along roadsides in desert dunes and desert wash, and Creosote Bush–White Bursage Scrub at elevations of 640–1,065 meters amsl. The known blooming period for this species occurs from March-May (CNDDB 2016).

White-margined beardtongue was not observed during the survey or at the reference site location. It was assessed to have a 'Likely' potential and Rancho Santa Ana Record (RSA822497)(CalFlora 2016) was subsequently chosen as the reference site. The potential for this species' occurrence remains where suitable habitat exists within the Project Area.

5.3.9 Parish's phacelia - CRPR 1B.1, BLM Sensitive

Parish's phacelia is an annual herb in the Boraginaceae family. It is generally found on dry lake margins, alkaline flats and slopes or on clay soils in Creosote Bush–White Bursage Scrub and within playa habitats at elevations of 540–1,200 meters amsl. The known blooming period for this species is April-July (CNDDB 2016).

Parish's phacelia was not observed during the survey but was observed at the reference site location. A University of California Riverside record (Specimen number UCR226404) (CCH 2016) was utilized as a reference site location. Six individuals were observed to be identifiable at the reference site location with individual phenology ranging from 15% flower, 75% fruit, 10% post fruit

vegetative. Individuals were encountered along a dry lake margin that was completely void of vegetation with the exception of Parish's phacelia.

This species was positively identified at the reference site location. The lack of its presence during surveys within the Project Area suggests that Parish's phacelia does not occur within the Project Area.

5.3.10 Parish's popcorn flower - CRPR 1B.1, BLM Sensitive

Parish's popcorn flower is an annual herb in the Boraginaceae family. It is generally found in alkaline, mesic areas of big sagebrush and Joshua tree woodland habitats at elevations of 750–1,400 meters amsl. The known blooming period for this species is March-November (CNDDB 2016).

Parish's popcorn flower was not observed during the survey but was observed at the reference site location. A University of California Riverside record (Specimen number UCR 225931) (CCH 2016) was utilized as a reference site location. A large population of approximately 1,000 individuals was observed to be identifiable at the reference site location with individual phenology 100 percent in flower. The population was encountered in a seep with associate species including *Atriplex polycarpa*, *Suaeda moquinii*, *Calochortus striatus* and *Elocharis parishii*.

This species was positively identified at the reference site location. The lack of its presence during surveys within the Project Area suggests that Parish's popcorn flower does not occur within the Project Area.

6.0 DISCUSSION

Three special-status plant species, alkali mariposa-lily, Borrego milkvetch, and Utah vine milkweed, were observed within the Project Area during the 2016 botanical surveys.

While only three special-status plant species were observed during the focused botanical surveys, several additional special-status plant species are known to occur in the area and have suitable habitat along the Project alignment (Attachment A). The majority of these species are herbaceous annuals, dependent on annual rainfall and micro-habitat conditions that vary from year to year. Dry conditions, resulting from long-term drought, cause characteristically low herbaceous annual blooms (Sawyer et al. 2009). The special-status plant species with "Likely" and "Unlikely" probability of occurrence in the Project Area have a collective bloom period running from March through October. The focused botanical surveys described herein occurred during the portion of this broad bloom period optimal for annual species. Due to the timing of these focused surveys during consecutive drought years, surveys conducted during non-drought conditions may identify additional areas where special-status annual herbaceous plant species may occur (NCDC 2016b). Perennial herbs, shrubs, and subshrubs blooming outside of the survey window remain identifiable throughout the spring and summer seasons, both before and after their ideal bloom period.

Of the eight plant species selected for reference site monitoring, four species were observed during the reference site visits including, alkali mariposa-lily, Parish's popcorn flower, Parish's phacelia and Mojave menodora in April/May. The reference sites have similar habitat characteristics to the Project Area and they are located nearby. It is reasonable to presume that species observed within the botanical reference sites would be present and observable within the Project Area during the

same period. As such, negative findings during special-status plant surveys would indicate that these species are not present within the Project Area.

However, the absence of observations of some special-status plant species are not absolutely conclusive because: 1) rainfall within the desert can be highly variable even over small geographic areas; 2) although habitats types within the reference sites are similar to those present within the Project Area, small variations such a slope aspect, soil composition, and/or other factors can significantly impact the germination success of various plant species; and 3) seed banks for special-status species may be more robust within the botanical reference sites, which would increase the likelihood for successful germination within that area as compared to the Project Area.



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ATTACHMENT A: SPECIAL-STATUS PLANT SPECIES POTENTIAL TO OCCUR

Table 2. CNDDB Special-status plants potential to occur within 3 miles of the survey area.

Common Name	Species Status	Comments	Potential to
(Scientific Name)	opecies otatus	Comments	Occur
PLANTS	•		ı
Cushenbury oxytheca (Acanthoscyphus parishii var. goodmaniana)	FE, CRPR 1B.1	Considered out of range. Found in singleleaf pinyon woodland with carbonate, or talus, or sandy soils. Found at elevations of 1,219–2,377 meters amsl. Species is only known from occurrences in San Bernardino County. Known blooming period is from May–October.	Does not occur
small-flowered androstephium (Androstephium breviflorum)	CRPR 2B.2	Habitat present with recent CCH records in area. Prefers bajadas and desert dunes and creosote bush—white bursage scrub. Found at elevations of 1,219–2,377 meters amsl. Blooming period is from March–April	Likely
Cushenbury milk-vetch (Astragalus albens)	FE, CRPR 1B.1	Marginal habitat present and no recent CNDDB records. Not observed during survey. Found in Joshua tree woodland, creosote bush—white bursage scrub, and singleleaf pinyon woodland habitats with granitic or carbonate soils. Found at elevations from 1200-1900 meters amsl. Blooming period is from March—June.	Unlikely
San Bernardino milk-vetch (Astragalus bernardinus)	CRPR 1B.2	Considered out of species range. Found in singleleaf pinyon woodland and Joshua tree woodland habitats with granitic or carbonate soils. Found at elevations from 900-2000 meters amsl. Blooming period is from April–June.	Does not occur
Borrego milk-vetch Astragalus lentiginosus var. borreganus	CRPR 4.3	Suitable habitat present, observed during surveys. Found in sandy flats and semi-stabilized dunes within Mojavean desert scrub. Found at elevations from 30-320 meters amsl. Blooming period is from Mar-May.	Observed
pinyon rockcress (Boechera dispar)	CRPR 2B.3	Considered out of range. No suitable habitat present. Prefers granitic, gravelly slopes & mesas in Joshua tree woodland, creosote bush—white bursage scrub, singleleaf pinyon woodland. Found at elevations 1,200–2,540 meters amsl. Blooming period is from March–June.	Does not occur
Shockley's rockcress (Boechera shockleyi)	CRPR 2B.2	Considered out of range. No Suitable habitat present. Found in pinyon-juniper woodlands with rocky or gravelly soils at elevations of 875–2,310 meters amsl. Known blooming period is from May–June.	Does not occur
alkali mariposa-lily (Calochortus striatus)	CRPR 1B.2	Suitable habitat present, species observed during survey and at reference site. Found in mesic allscale scrub, creosote bush—white bursage scrub, yerba mansa meadows habitats with alkaline soils. Found at elevations of 70–1,595 meters amsl. Known blooming period of April–June.	Occurs

Common Name (Scientific Name)	Species Status Comments		Potential to Occur	
white pygmy-poppy (Canbya candida)	CRPR 4.2	Suitable habitat present but no recent CNDDB records in the area. Not observed during survey. Found in sandy places in Joshua tree woodland, creosote bush–white bursage scrub, and singleleaf pinyon woodland. Found at elevations of 610–1,200 meters amsl. Known blooming period April–September.	Unlikely	
Emory's crucifixion-thorn (Castela emoryii)	CRPR 2B.2	Suitable habitat present with recent CCH records in area. Not observed during survey. Occurs in areas of creosote bush–white bursage scrub, playas, brittlebush scrub habitats with gravelly soils. Found at elevations of 90-670 meters amsl. Known blooming period of April–September.	Likely	
Clokey's cryptantha (Cryptantha clokeyi)	BLMS, CRPR 1B.2	Suitable habitat present with recent CNDDB record in area. Not observed during survey or at selected reference site location. Found in Creosote Bush–White Bursage Scrub habitat at elevations of 725–1,365 meters amsl. Known blooming period of April.	Likely	
purple-nerve cymopterus Cymopterus multinervatus	CRPR 2B.2	Suitable habitat present with recent CCH records in area. Not observed during survey. Found in Creosote Bush–White Bursage Scrub and singleleaf pinyon woodland habitats with sandy or gravelly soils at elevations of 790–1,800 meters amsl. Known blooming period is March–April.	Likely	
Salina Pass wild-rye (Elymus salina)	CRPR 2B.3	No suitable habitat present. Found in rocky areas of singleleaf pinyon woodland at elevations of 1,350–2,135 meters amsl. Known blooming period is May–June.	Does not occur	
Parish's daisy (Erigeron parishii)	FT, CRPR 1B.1	No suitable habitat present. Prefers limestone mountain slopes; often associated with drainages. Sometimes on granite in Creosote Bush–White Bursage Scrub and singleleaf pinyon woodland habitats at elevation of 800–2,000 meters amsl Known blooming period is May–August.	Does not occur	
Cushenbury buckwheat (Eriogonum ovalifolium var. vineum)	FE, CRPR 1B.1	Considered out of species range. Prefers limestone mountain slopes in Joshua tree woodland, creosote bush—white bursage scrub, and singleleaf pinyon woodland habitats. Found at elevations of 1,400–2,440 meters amsl. Known blooming period is May–August.		
Utah vine milkvetch (Funastrum utahense)	CRPR 4.2	Suitable habitat present, observed during surveys. Found in sandy or gravelly sites in the desert. 100-1435 amsl. Known blooming period is April - September.	Occurs	
Mojave menodora (Menodora spinescens varmohavensis)	BLMS, CRPR 1B.2	Suitable habitat present. Species not observed within Project Area but observed at reference site location. Positive identification of this species at the reference site location and a lack of its presence during surveys suggest species does not occur within the Project Area. Occurs on andesite gravel, rocky hillsides, and canyons in creosote bush—white bursage scrub. Found at elevations of 690—2,000 meters amsl. Known blooming period is April-May.	Does not occur (Formerly Likely)	

Common Name (Scientific Name)	Species Status	Comments	Potential to Occur
Darlington's blazing star (Mentzelia puberula)	CRPR 2B.2	Suitable habitat present but no recent records in area. Prefers sandy crevices in cliffs or on rocky slopes within creosote bush—white bursage scrub. Found at elevations of 90–1,280 meters amsl. Known blooming period is March–May.	Unlikely
creamy blazing star (Mentzelia tridentata)	BLMS, CRPR 1B.3	Suitable habitat present with recent CCH records in area. Not observed during surveys or at reference site location. Prefers rocky slopes gravelly, and sandy slopes in Creosote Bush–White Bursage Scrub habitat. Found at elevation of 700–1,160 meters amsl. Known blooming period is March–May.	Likely
Mojave monkeyflower (Mimulus mohavensis)	BLMS, CRPR 1B.2	Suitable habitat present with recent CCH record in area. Not observed during surveys or at reference site location. Prefers gravelly banks of desert washes. Found at elevation of 600–1000 meters amsl. Known blooming period is April–May.	Likely
white-margined beardtongue (Penstemon albomarginatus)	BLMS, CRPR 1B.1	Suitable habitat present with recent CCH records in area. Not observed during surveys or at reference site location. Prefers deep stabilized desert sand, in washes and along roadsides in desert dunes and desert wash, and creosote bush—white bursage scrub. Found at elevations of 640-1,065 meters amsl. Known blooming period is March—May.	Likely
Parish's phacelia (Phacelia parishii)	BLMS, CRPR 1B.1	Suitable habitat present. Species not observed within Project Area but observed at reference site location. Positive identification of this species at the reference site location and a lack of its presence during surveys suggest this species does not occur within the Project Area. Found on dry lake margins, alkaline flats and slopes or on clay soils in Creosote Bush–White Bursage Scrub and playa habitats. Occurs at elevations of 540–1200 meters. Known blooming period is April–July.	Does not occur (Formerly Likely)
Parish's popcornflower (Plagiobothrys parishii)	CRPR 1B.1	Suitable habitat present. Species not observed within Project Area but observed at reference site location. Positive identification of this species at the reference site location and a lack of its presence during surveys suggest this species does not occur within the Project Area. Occurs on alkaline, mesic areas of big sagebrush and Joshua tree woodland habitats at elevations of 750–1,400 meters amsl. Known blooming period is March–November.	Does not occur (Formerly Likely)
intermountain milkwort (Polygala intermontana)	CRPR 2B.1	Considered out of species range. Occurs in singleleaf pinyon woodland habitats at elevations of 2,010–3,080 meters. Known blooming period is June–July.	Does not occur
Parish's alkali grass (Puccinellia parishii)	BLMS, CRPR 1B.1	Marginal habitat present with CCH recent records in area, not observed during surveys. Occurs in yerba mansa meadows habitats at elevations of 700–1,000 meters amsl. Known blooming period is April–May.	Unlikely

Common Name (Scientific Name)	Species Status	Comments	Potential to Occur
California alkali grass (Puccinellia simplex)	CRPR 1B.2	Marginal habitat present and no recent records, not observed during surveys. Prefers alkaline, vernally mesic sinks, flats, and lake margins in yerba mansa meadows, allscale scrub, and annaul grasslands, and vernal pools at elevations ranging from 2–930 meters amsl. Known blooming period is March–May.	Unlikely
Latimer's woodland-gilia (Saltugilia latimeri)	BLMS, CRPR1B.2	Marginal suitable habitat present and no recent records. Found in chaparral, Mojavean desert scrub, pinyon juniper woodland. habitats with rocky or sandy soils at elevations of 400–1,900 meters amsl. Known blooming period March–June.	Unlikely
salt spring checkerbloom (Sidalcea neomexicana)	CRPR 2B.2	Marginal habitat present with recent CCH records in area. Not observed during surveys. Found in Alkaline springs, marshes. Prefers alkaline and mesic soils of black sage scrub, singleleaf pinyon woodland, creosote bush–white bursage scrub, and playa habitats at elevations of 15–1,530 meters. Known blooming period is March–June.	Unlikely

Status:

FE = Federally Endangered FT = Federally Threatened BLMS = BLM Sensitive

California Rare Plant Rank:

1B = Rare or Endangered in California and elsewhere

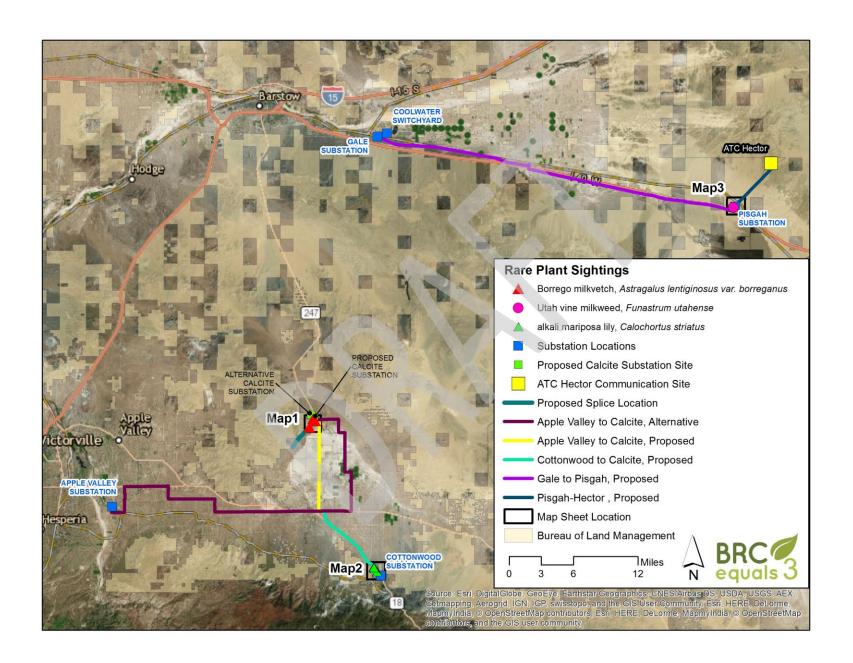
2B = Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California, But More Common Elsewhere

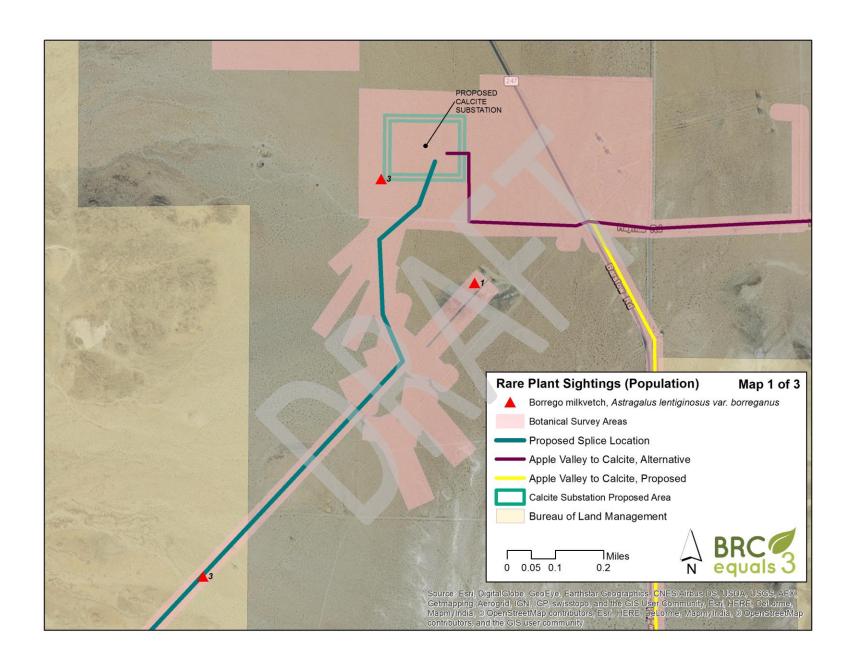
4 = Plants of limited distribution - Watch list

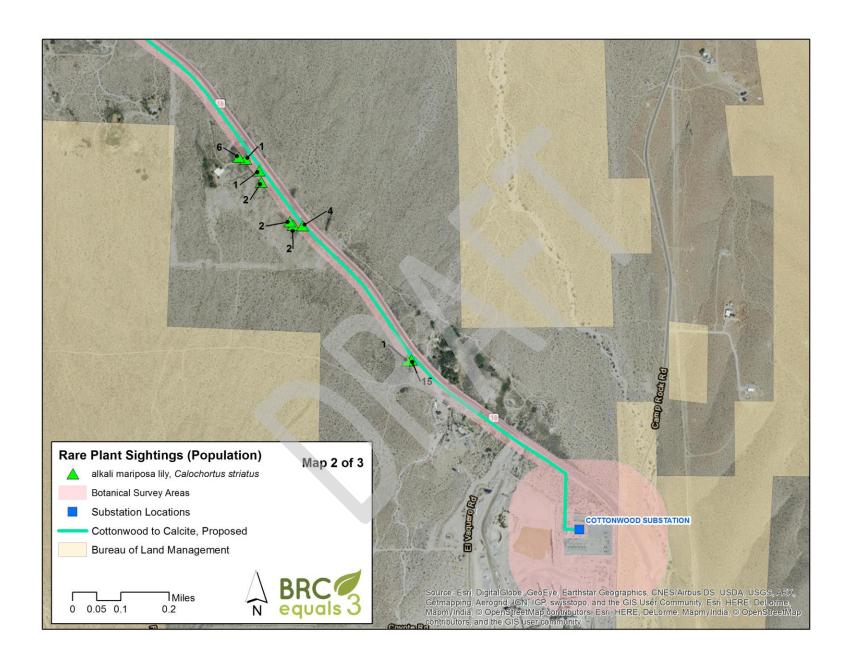
.1 = Seriously endangered in California (>80% of occurrences threatened)

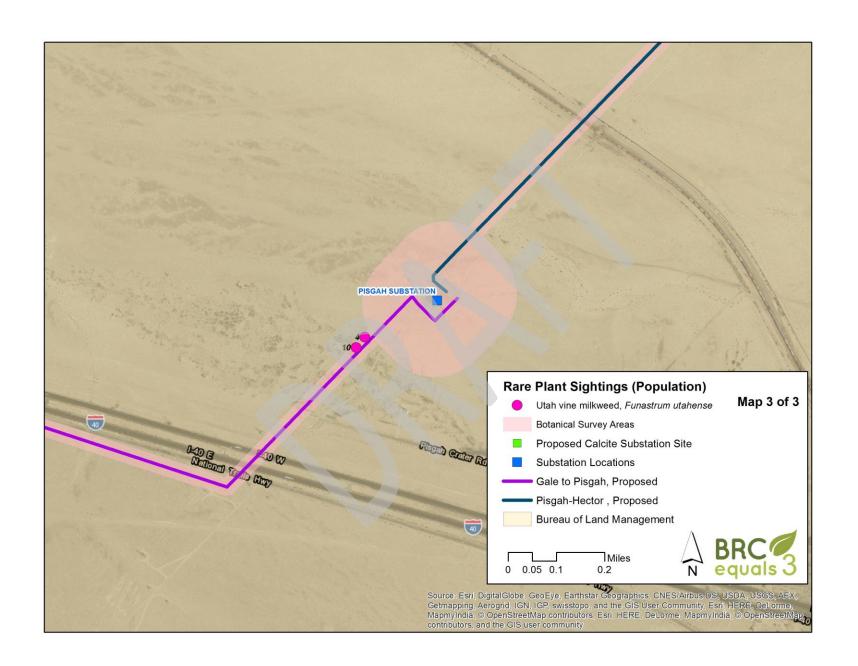
.2 = Fairly endangered in California (20-80% occurrences threatened) .3 = Not very endangered in California (<20% of occurrences threatened) threats known)

ATTACHMENT B: PROJECT SURVEY AREA AND LOCATION OF SPECIAL STATUS PLANT SPECIES OBSERVED









ATTACHMENT C: PLANT SPECIES OBSERVED IN THE PROJECT AREA

Table 3. Plant species observed during 2016 botanical surveys.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Family	Native / Non-Native
Abronia villosa var. villosa	desert sand verbena	Nyctaginaceae	Native
Aamptopappus sphaerocephalus	goldenheads	Asteraceae	Native
Achnatherum hymenoides	Indian rice grass	Poaceae	Native
Ailanthus altissima	tree of heaven	Simaroubaceae	Non-Native
Aliciella latifolia	broadleaf gilia	Polemoniaceae	Native
Allionia incarnata	trailing allionia	Nyctaginaceae	Native
Allium fimbriatum	wild onion	Alliaceae	Native
Ambrosia acanthicarpa	burrweed	Asteraceae	Native
Ambrosia dumosa	white bursage	Asteraceae	Native
Ambrosia psilostachya	western ragweed	Asteraceae	Native
Ambrosia salsola	burrowbush	Asteraceae	Native
Amsinckia tessellata	fiddleneck	Boraginaceae	Native
Anemopsiscalifornica	yerba mansa	Saururaceae	Native
Asclepias erosa	desert milkweed	Apocynaceae	Native
Astragalus lentiginosus	freckled milkvetch	Fabaceae	Native
Astragalus lentiginosus var. borreganus	Borrego milkvetch	Fabaceae	Native
Atriplex canescens	fourwing saltbush	Chenopodiaceae	Native
Atriplex confertifolia	shadscale	Chenopodiaceae	Native
Atriplex lentiformis	big saltbush	Chenopodiaceae	Native
Atriplex polycarpa	allscale	Chenopodiaceae	Native
Atriplex hymenlytra	desert holly	Chenopodiaceae	Native
Avena fatua	wild oat	Poaceae	Non-Native
Baileya pleniradiata	wooly marigold	Asteraceae	Native
Bebbia juncea var. aspera	sweetbush	Asteraceae	Native
Brassica nigra	black mustard	Brassicaceae	Non-Native
Brassica tournefortii	Sahara mustard	Brassicaceae	Non-Native

Scientific Name	Common Name	Family	Native / Non-Native
Brickellia atractyloides	spearleaf brickelbush	Asteraceae	Native
Brickellia desertorum	desert brickelbush	Asteraceae	Native
Bromus madritensis	red brome	Poaceae	Non-Native
Bromus tectorum	cheatgrass	Poaceae	Non-Native
Caesalpinia gilliesii	bird of paradise	Fabaceae	Non-Native
Calochortus striatus	alkali mariposa-lily	Liliaceae	Native
Chaenactis Carphoclinia var. carpoclinia	pebble pincushion	Asteraceae	Native
Castilleja chromosa	desert paint brush	Orobanchaceae	Native
Catilleja linarifolia	Wyoming paint brush	Orobanchaceae	Native
Chaenactis fremontii	pincusion flower	Asteraceae	Native
Chaenactis stevioides	desert pincushion	Asteraceae	Native
Chilopsis linearis	desert willow	Bignoniaceae	Native
Chorizanthe brevicornu	rigid spiny herb	Polygonaceae	Native
Chorizanthe rigida	rigid spineflower	Polygonaceae	Native
Chrysothamnus viscidiflorus	yellow rabbit brush	Asteraceae	Native
Chylismia brevipes	yellow cups	Onagraceae	Native
Chylismia campestris	Mojave suncup	Onagraceae	Native
Chylismia claviformis ssp. claviformis	clavate fruited primrose	Onagraceae	Native
Circium mohavense	Mojave thistle	Asteraceae	Native
Cleomella obtusifolia	bluntleaf stinkweed	Cleomaceae	Native
Coleogyne ramosissima	blackbrush	Rosaceae	Native
Croton californicus	croton	Euphorbiaceae	Native
Cryptantha angustifolia	panamint cryptantha	Boraginaceae	Native
Cryptantha barbigera	bearded cryptantha	Boraginaceae	Native
Cryptantha circumscissa	forget-me-not	Boraginaceae	Native
Cryptantha nevadensis	Nevada forget-me-not	Boraginaceae	Native
Cryptanttha pectocarya	winged nut cryptantha	Boraginaceae	Native
Cucurbita palmata	coyote gourd	Cucurbitaceae	Native
Cuscuta nevadensis	desert dodder	Convolvulaceae	Native

Scientific Name	Common Name	Family	Native / Non-Native
Cylindropuntia echinocarpa	golden cholla	Cactaceae	Native
Cylindropuntia ramosissima	branched pencil cholla	Cactaceae	Native
Cynodon dactylon	Bermuda grass	Poaceae	Non-Native
Dalea mollis	hairy prairie clover	Fabaceae	Native
Dalea mollissima	downy dalea	Fabaceae	Native
Dasyochloa pulchella	fluffgrass	Poaceae	Native
Datura discolor	desert thornapple	Solanaceae	Native
Delphinium parishii	Parish's larkspur	Ranunculaceae	Native
Descurainia pinnata	tansy mustard	Brassicaceae	Native
Descurainia sophia	flix weed	Brassicaceae	Native
Dieteria canescens	hoary aster	Asteraceae	Native
Distichlis spicata	saltgrass	Poaceae	Native
Ditaxis neomexicana	common ditaxis	Euphorbiaceae	Native
Echinocactus polycephalus	cottontop cactus	Cactaceae	Native
Echinoceris engelmannii	Engelmann's hedgehog	Cactaceae	Native
Encelia actonii	Acton encelia	Asteraceae	Native
Encelia farinosa	brittlebush	Asteraceae	Native
Encelia frutescens	rayless brittlebush	Asteraceae	Native
Ephedra nevadensis	Nevada ephedra	Ephedraceae	Native
Ephedra viridis	Mormon tea	Ephedraceae	Native
Ephedra trifurca	long-leafed ephedra	Ephedraceae	Native
Eremalche exilis	white mallow	Malvaceae	Native
Eremalche rotundifolia	desert five spot	Malvaceae	Native
Eremothera boothii ssp. condensata	desert lantern	Onagraceae	Native
Eremothera refacta	narrow-leaved primrose	Onagraceae	Native
Eriastrum eremicum	desert wooly star	Polemoniaceae	Native
Ericameria laricifolia	turpentine bush	Asteraceae	Native
Ericameria nauseosa	rubber rabbitbrush	Asteraceae	Native
Eriodictyon trichocalyx	hairy yerba santa	Boraginaceae	Native

Scientific Name	Common Name	Family	Native / Non-Native
Eriogonum brachypodum	Parry's buckwheat	Polygonaceae	Native
Eriogonum deflexum var. defleum	flatcrown buckwheat	Polygonaceae	Native
Eriogonum fasciculatum var. polifolium	California buckwheat	Polygonaceae	Native
Eriogonum inflatum	desert trumpet	Polygonaceae	Native
Eriogonum maculatum	angle stemmed buckwheat	Polygonaceae	Native
Eriogonum midularium	whisk broom	Polyganaceae	Native
Eriogonum reniforme	kidney leaf buckwheat	Polygonaceae	Native
Eriogonum tricopes	little desert buckwheat	Polygonaceae	Native
Eriophyllum wallacei	Wallace's eriophyllum	Asteraceae	Native
Erodium cicutarium	Storksbill filaree	Geraniaceae	Non-Native
Erodium texanum	desert heron's bill	Geraniaceae	Native
Eschscholzia californica	California poppy	Papaveraceae	Native
Eschscholzia minutiflora	pygmy poppy	Papaveraceae	Native
Eucnide urens	desert bush nettle	Loasaceae	Native
Euphorbia albomarginata	rattlesnake spruge	Ephedraceae	Native
Euphorbia polycarpa	smallseed sandmat	Ephedraceae	Native
Ferocactus acanthodes	California barrel cactus	Cactaceae	Native
Funastrum utahense	Utah vine milkweed	Apocynaceae	Native
Geraea canescens	hairy desert sunflower	Asteraceae	Native
Gilia sp.	gilia	Polemoniaceae	Native
Grayia spinosa	hopsage	Chenopodiaceae	Native
Gutierrezia microcephala	matchweed	Asteraceae	Native
Isocoma aradenia var. eremophila	solitary-leaved alkali goldenbush	Asteraceae	Native
Heliotropium curassavicum	Chinese parsley	Boraginaceae	Native
Hesperoyucca whipplei	chaparral yucca	Agavaceae	Native
Hilaria rigida	big galleta grass	Poaceae	Native
Hirschfeldia incana	Sahara mustard	Brassicaceae	Non-Native
Hordeum murinum ssp. glaucum	blue foxtail	Poaceae	Non-Native
Iva axillaris	poverty weed	Asteraceae	Native

Scientific Name	Common Name	Family	Native / Non-Native
Juncus sp.	rush	Juncaceae	Native
Juniperus californica	California juniper	Cupressaceae	Native
Krameria bicolor	white ratany	Krameriaceae	Native
Krameria erecta	little leaved ratany	Krameriaceae	Native
Krascheninnikovia lanata	winter fat	Chenopodiaceae	Native
Langloisia setosissima ssp. punctata	lilac sunbonnet	Polemoniaceae	Native
Larrea tridentata	creosote bush	Zygophylaceae	Native
Lasthenia californica	goldfields	Asteraceae	Native
Lepidium flavum	yellow pepper grass	Brassicaceae	Native
Lepidium fremontii	bush peppergrass	Brassicaceae	Native
Lepidium nitidum	peppergrass	Brassicaceae	Native
Lepidospartum squamatum	California broomsage	Asteraceae	Native
Linanthus parryae	Parry's linanthus	Polemoniaceae	Native
Loeseliastrum mathewsii	desert calico	Polemoniaceae	Native
Lupinus shockleyi.	Shockley lupine	Fabaceae	Native
Lycium andersonii	Anderson's thorn bush	Solanaceae	Native
Lycium cooperii	Cooper's box thorn	Solanaceae	Native
Malacothrix glabrata	desert dandelion	Asteraceae	Native
Mammillaria tetracistra	common fishhook cactus	Cactaceae	Native
Mentzelia albicaulis	small-flowered blazing star	Loasaceae	Native
Mentzelia laevicaulis	giant blazing star	Loasaceae	Native
Mesembryanthemum crystallinum	common iceplant	Aizoaceae	Non-native
Mimulus bigelovii	Bigelow's monkeyflower	Phrymaceae	Native
Mirabilis multiflora	desert four-o'-clock	Nyctaginaceae	Native
Mohavea breviflora	lesser mohavea	Plantaginaceae	Native
Mohavea confertiflora	ghost flower	Plantaginaceae	Native
Monoptilon bellidiforme	small desert star	Asteraceae	Native
Muhlenbergia asperfolia	scratchgrass	Poaceae	Native
Myriopteris parryi	Parry's lip fern	Pteridaceae	Native

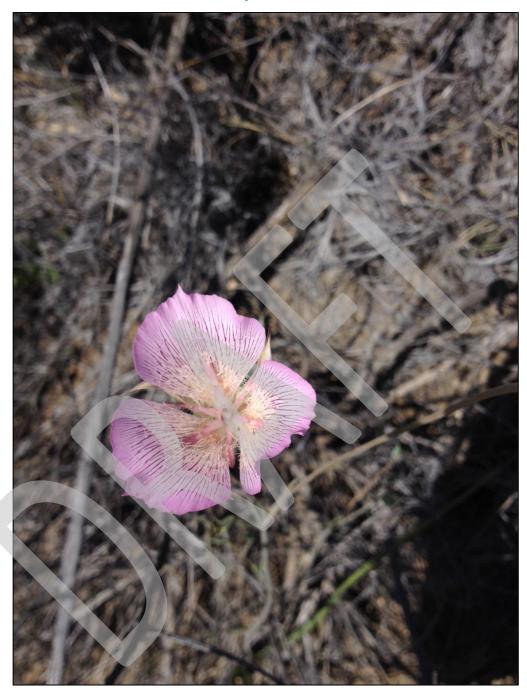
Scientific Name	Common Name	Family	Native / Non-Native
Nama demissum	purple mat	Hydrophyllaceae	Native
Nicolletia occidnetallis	Mojave sand plant	Asteraceae	Native
Nicotiana obtusifolia	desert tobacco	Solanaceae	Native
Oenothera californica	evening primrose	Onagraceae	Native
Oligomeris linifolia	lineleaf whitepuff	Resedaceae	Native
Opuntia basilaris ssp. basilaris	beavertail cactus	Cactaceae	Native
Opuntia echinocarpa	silver cholla	Cactaceae	Native
Oxytheca perfoliata	roundleaf oxytheca	Polygonaceae	Native
Parkinsonia aculeata	Mexican palo verde	Fabaceae	Native
Pectis papposa	chinch weed	Asteraceae	Native
Pectocarya penicillata	Baja pectocarya	Boraginaceae	Native
Pectocarya platycarpa	broad nutted comb bur	Boraginaceae	Native
Pectocarya setosa	moth combseed	Boraginaceae	Native
Peritoma arborea var. angustata	bladderpod	Cleomaceae	Native
Perityle emoryi	Emory's rock daisy Asteraceae		Native
Petalonyx thurberi	sandpaper plant	aper plant Loasaceae	
Peucephyllum schottii	desert fir	Asteraceae	Native
Phacelia distans	common phacelia	Boraginaceae	Native
Phacelia campanularia	desert cantebury bell	Boraginaceae	Native
Phacelia crenulata var. ambigua	heliotrope phacelia	Boraginaceae	Native
Phacelia fremontii	Fremont's phacelia	Boraginaceae	Native
Pholistoma membranaceum	white fiesta flower Boraginaceae		Native
Physalis crassifolia	a thick leaf ground cherry Solanaceae		Native
Plantago ovata	desert plantain Plantaginaceae		Native
Plantago ovata var. insularis	desert plantain Plantaginaceae		Native
Pleurocoronis pluriseta	arrow leaf Asteraceae		Native
Populus fremontii	Fremont cottonwood Salicaceae		Native
Prosopis glandulosa	honey mesquite Fabaceae N		Native
Prunus fasciculata	desert almond Rosaceae		Native

Scientific Name	Common Name	Family	Native / Non-Native
Psorothamnus schottii	indigo bush	Fabaceae	Native
Psorothamnus spinosus	smoketree	Fabaceae	Native
Pterostegia drymariodes	fairy mist	Polygonaceae	Native
Purshia tridentate var. glandulosa	antelope brush	Rosaceae	Native
Rafinesquia neomexicana	desert chicory	Asteracea	Native
Robinia neomexicana	desert locust	Fabaceae	Native
Salix exigua	narrow-leaved willow	Salicaceae	Native
Salix laevigata	red willow	Salicaceae	Native
Salix lasiolepis	arroyo willow	Salicaceae	Native
Salsola tragus	Russian thistle	Chenopodiaceae	Non-Native
Salvia columbariae	chia sage	Lamiaceae	Native
Salvia mohavensis	Mohave sage	Lamiaceae	Native
Sambucus nigra	black elderberry	Adoxaceae	Native
Schinus molle	Peruvian pepper tree Anacardiaceae		Non-Native
Schismus barbatus	Mediterranean grass	Poaceae	Non-native
Senegalia greggii	cat claw	Fabaceae	Native
Senna armata	desert senna	Fabaceae	Native
Sisymbrium irio.	London rocket	Brassicaceae	Non-native
Solanum elaegnifolium	horse nettle	Solanaceae	Non-native
Sphaeralcea ambigua	desert globe mallow	Malvaceae	Native
Stanleya pinnata	Prince's plume	Brassicaceae	Native
Stephanomeria exigua ssp. exigua	mitra	Asteraceae	Native
Stephanomeria pauciflora	desert straw	Asteraceae	Native
Stipa hymenoides	Indian ricegrass	Poaceae	Native
Stipa speciosa	desert needle	Poaceae	Native
Suaeda moquinii	Mojave seablite Chenopodiaceae Na		Native
Syntrichopappus freemontii	false woolly daisy Asteraceae Na		Native
Tamarix sp.	salt cedar	Tamaricaceae Non-Native	
Tauschia parishii	Parish's tauschia	Apiaceae	Native

Scientific Name	Common Name	Family	Native / Non-Native
Tetradymia axillaris var. longispina	catclaw horsebush	Asteraceae	Native
Tidestromia suffruticosa var. oblongifolia	honeysweet	Amaranthaceae	Native
Tiquilia plicata	plicate coldenia	Boraginaceae	Native
Trianthema portulacastrum	desert horseplane	Aizoaceae	Native
Tribulus terrestris	puncture vine	Zygophyllaceae	Non-Native
Typha latifolia	broad-leaved cattail	Potamogetonaceae	Native
Vitis californica	southern California grape	Vitaceae	Native
Vulpia myuros	rattail fescue	Poaceae	Non-Native
Xylorhiza tortifolia var. tortifolia	Mojave woodystar	Asteraceae	Native
Yucca brevifolia	Joshua tree	Agavaceae	Native
Yucca schidigera	Mojave yucca	Agavaceae	Native

ATTACHMENT D: PHOTOS OF SPECIAL-STATUS PLANT SPECIES OBSERVED IN THE PROJECT AREA

Photo 1. Individual alkali mariposa-lily in flower observed directly west of Hwy 18 within the Project Area.



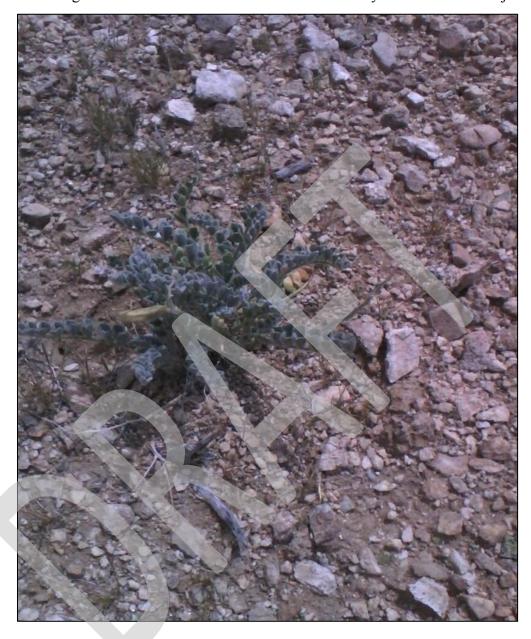


Photo 2. Borrego's milkvetch with fruit observed west of Hwy 247 within the Project Area.

Photo 3. Utah vine milkweed vegetation observed along northern telecom, within the Project Area.



Appendix D-6

ELM Project Special-Status Plant Report II

Special-Status Plant Species Survey Report II for the

Eldorado-Lugo-Mohave Series Capacitor Project

Prepared for:



Prepared by:



June 2020

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LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Vegetation Communities and Land Covers Attachment B: Locations of Special-Status Plants Observed

Attachment C: Inventory of Plant Species Observed Attachment D: Special-Status Plant Species Photographs



1 – INTRODUCTION

In 2019, Insignia Environmental (Insignia) conducted protocol-level surveys for Southern California Edison Company's (SCE's) Eldorado-Lugo-Mohave Series Capacitor Project (Project). These surveys comprise the second year of special-status plant surveys conducted to fulfill the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM's) 2-year special-status plant survey requirement. The survey area included all Project impact areas (Impact Areas), plus an approximately 50-foot buffer (Survey Area) totaling approximately 893 acres.¹

This Special-Status Plant Species Survey Report II (Report) provides an overview of the survey history, Project description, and environmental setting; describes the survey methods utilized; presents the 2019 survey results; and provides a brief discussion of the results.

2 - PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.0 PROJECT LOCATION

The Project spans approximately 235 miles in San Bernardino County, California and Clark County, Nevada. As shown in Figure 1: Proposed Project Overview Map, the Project would extend northeast from Lugo Substation (located in the City of Hesperia, California) to Pisgah Substation (located east of the unincorporated community of Newberry Springs, California). From Pisgah Substation, the Project would extend east to the Mohave Substation (located in Clark County, Nevada), and from Mohave Substation northwest to Eldorado Substation (located near Boulder City, Nevada). Additional staging areas, helicopter landing zones, and work areas are located near the ghost town of Crucero, California; in the community of Newberry Springs; and on the eastern border of the Mojave National Preserve (MNP), along the Eldorado-Lugo 500 Kilovolt (kV) Transmission Line.

2.1 PROJECT COMPONENTS

The following subsections provide descriptions of the components associated with the Project.

2.1.0 Transmission Line

The Project would involve modifications and/or upgrades to the following existing 500 kV transmission lines:

- Eldorado-Lugo 500 kV Transmission Line
- Eldorado-Mohave 500 kV Transmission Line
- Lugo-Mohave 500 kV Transmission Line

¹ Previous surveys included buffers of variable and larger sizes. These larger buffers allowed for changes in the Project's design. In 2019, a consistent buffer of 50 feet from all Impact Areas was surveyed. This smaller buffer was possible as the Project design has progressed to a point where large changes are not anticipated.

To address 16 overhead clearance discrepancies² at approximately 14 locations on the Eldorado-Lugo, Eldorado-Mohave, and Lugo-Mohave 500 kV transmission lines, existing structures would be raised or reframed, conductors would be modified, and areas would be graded to provide the required clearances. In addition, the Project would include the installation of optical ground wire on approximately 235 miles of the Eldorado-Mohave and Lugo-Mohave 500 kV transmission lines, which would require modification to approximately 59 lattice steel towers.

Telecommunications

Telecommunications infrastructure would be added to connect the Project to SCE's telecommunications system and would provide Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition, protective relaying, data transmission, and telephone services for the Project and associated facilities. The Project would include the installation of approximately 7 miles of new overhead and underground telecommunications cables; installation of three new fiber optic repeater sites; and the installation of new telecommunications cable within the existing Eldorado, Lugo, and Mohave substations.

Distribution

The Project would include extending or rerouting approximately 2.5 miles of new overhead and underground distribution circuits. In addition, cross arms on existing distribution structures would be lowered to address clearance discrepancies on the Lugo-Mojave 500 kV Transmission Line.

2.1.1 Mid-Line Series Capacitors

The Project includes the construction of two new 500 kV mid-line series capacitors—the proposed Newberry Springs Series Capacitor and Ludlow Series Capacitor—within the Eldorado-Lugo and Lugo-Mohave 500 kV Transmission Line rights-of-way (ROWs), respectively.

2.1.2 Modifications to Existing Substations

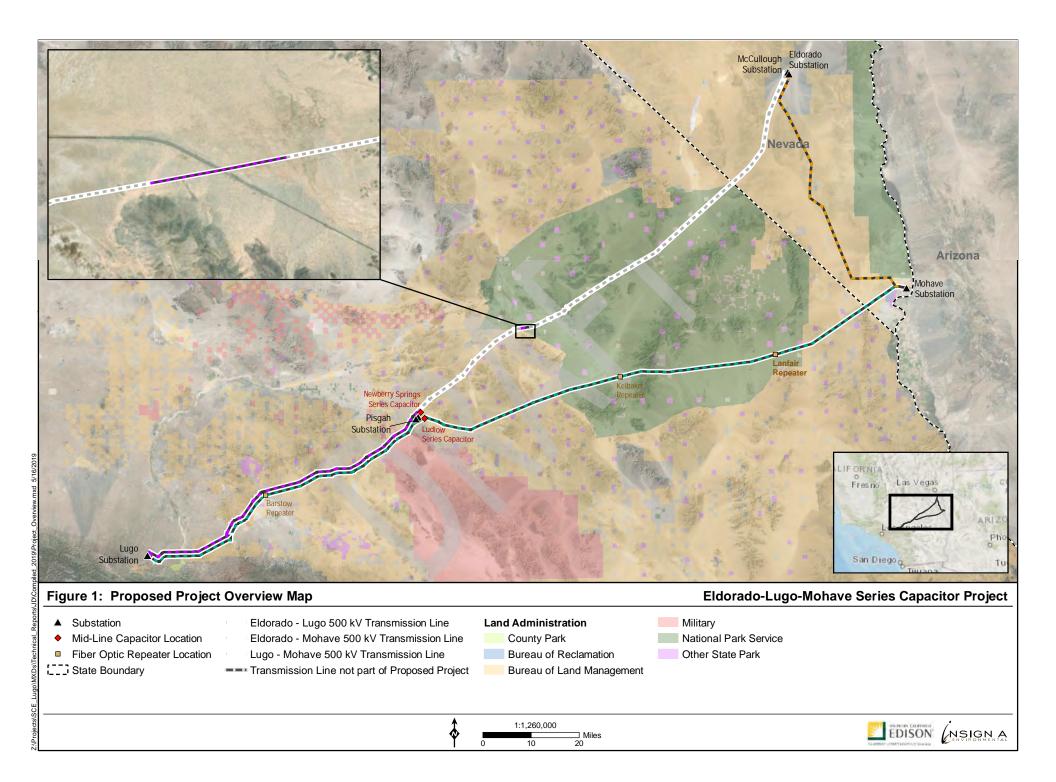
Interior modifications proposed at Eldorado, Lugo, Mohave, and McCollough substations include upgrades and reconfiguration of 500 kV equipment, installation or upgrade of existing capacitor banks, reconductoring of line positions, and additional modifications to equipment.

2.2 RIGHT-OF-WAY REQUIREMENTS

The Project would be built within existing SCE fee-owned ROWs, easements, or public ROWs where SCE has existing franchise agreements.

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² SCE has defined "discrepancies" as potential clearance problems between an energized conductor and its surroundings, such as the structure, another energized conductor on the same structure, a different line, or the ground. SCE has identified approximately 16 discrepancies along the Eldorado-Lugo, Eldorado-Mohave, and Lugo-Mohave 500 kV transmission lines, where minor grading or relocation, replacement, or modification of transmission, subtransmission, or distribution facilities is needed to address California Public Utilities Commission General Order 95 and National Electrical Safety Code overhead clearance requirements.





However, upon final engineering and Project approval, acquisition of new land rights may be required for the proposed Newberry Springs Series Capacitor and Ludlow Series Capacitor and/or fiber optic repeater sites, where necessary. Easement widths are based on facility types, final design, and the type of right acquired. Upgrading easements may include adding land rights, adding widths to existing easements, and improving or clarifying access or maintenance rights.

2.3 CONSTRUCTION METHODS

A detailed description of construction activities, including activities performed, equipment used, expected work periods, daily work schedules, staging and work areas, and access has been provided in the Proponent's Environmental Assessment for the Project.

2.4 LAND DISTURBANCE SUMMARY

Land disturbance would include all areas affected by construction of the Project, referred to herein as the Impact Areas. The total permanent land disturbance for the Project would be approximately 7 acres and the temporary land disturbance would be approximately 373 acres.

2.5 CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

SCE anticipates that construction of the Project would take approximately 15 months, beginning in the summer of 2020. The proposed construction schedule does not account for unforeseen Project delays, such as those due to inclement weather and/or stoppage necessary to protect biological resources (e.g., nesting birds). Construction would commence following agency approval, final engineering, procurement activities, land rights acquisition, and receipt of all applicable permits.

3 - ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The Project's Impact Areas are located in approximately 380 non-contiguous acres spread across the Mojave Desert within the Mojave Basin and Range Ecoregion (United States [U.S.] Geological Survey [USGS] 2012). Throughout this desert setting, the environmental conditions may vary widely, dependent on season, elevation, proximity to the Pacific coast, and level of anthropogenic activities. The land use, climate, topography, hydrology, soils, and vegetation communities that are located in the Impact Areas are summarized in the subsections that follow.

3.0 LAND USE AND MANAGEMENT

The Project is located mostly in undeveloped lands with few urbanized areas; it is located in close proximity to—and in some cases, within—BLM-managed lands that are used for grazing, energy development, and recreation, among other uses. The Project also crosses approximately 49 miles of the MNP, which is managed by the National Park Service. Land use is further restricted within the MNP. Urbanized areas within the Impact Areas were greatly restricted to lands within the immediate vicinity of Lugo and Mohave substations in the City of Hesperia, California, and the community of Laughlin, Nevada, respectively.

3.1 CLIMATE

The Project is located in a windy, arid desert that receives the majority of its precipitation in the winter. While precipitation from the rainy season (October through April) accounts for approximately 82 percent of the annual total rainfall (USGS 2019), localized monsoon season (July through September) rains are also typical of the area.

Table 1: Seasonal Precipitation provides the average precipitation within the Project area for the rainy and monsoon season between 2015 and 2019. Weather patterns in the region are extremely localized; therefore, individual climate stations typically do not reflect the climate conditions of the entire region. To address this issue, data from eight climate stations distributed throughout the Project area were averaged to develop the values in Table 1: Seasonal Precipitation. In addition, the rainy season values were limited to October through March to represent rainfall levels prior to the initiation of the spring surveys. As shown in Table 1: Seasonal Precipitation, the average precipitation during the Project's special-status plant species surveys was approximately 5.07 inches for the rainy season and 1.44 inches for the monsoon season. This average generally corresponds with the Mojave Desert's average annual precipitation of approximately 5.9 inches (Desert Research Institute 2019).

Season	Estimated Precipitation (inches)			Average Precipitation (inches)	
Rainy Season (October – March)	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	
	3.87	6.09	2.32	7.99	5.07
Monsoon Season (July – September)	2016	2017	2018	2019	
	1.45	2.00	1.78	0.53	1.44

Table 1: Seasonal Precipitation

Note: This data was generated by averaging precipitation data from the following climate stations: Sweeney Granite Mountains California, Apple Valley Remote Automated Weather Station (RAWS), Means Lake RAWS, Mid Hills RAWS, OX Ranch RAWS, Union Pass RAWS, Mountain Springs RAWS, and Boulder City Community Environmental Monitoring Program (CEMP).

Sources: Western Region Climate Center 2020; Wildland Fire Remote Automated Weather Stations 2020; Community Environmental Monitoring Program 2020.

As shown in Table 1: Seasonal Precipitation, the surveys in 2016 were conducted following a drier than average rainy season, whereas the surveys in 2017 and 2019 were conducted following wetter than average rainy seasons (US Drought Monitor, 2020). Insignia did not conduct any surveys in 2018 which the US Drought Monitor recorded as having severe drought conditions. Section 4 – Survey History and Timing presents a discussion of how precipitation influenced the surveys.

Temperatures in the region may vary widely between seasons and are dependent on elevation. Average annual temperatures range from 49.9 to 75.8 degrees Fahrenheit (°F) (Desert Research Institute 2019). July is the warmest month of the year, with an average high temperature of

97.6 °F and December is the coolest month of the year, with an average high temperature of 57.2 °F.

3.2 TOPOGRAPHY

The elevation of the Impact Areas ranges from approximately 780 feet near Mohave Substation to approximately 4,000 feet at various points. The majority of the Project is located within the Mojave Desert Geomorphic Province. This province encompasses a broad interior region of isolated mountain ranges separated by expanses of desert plains. The topography within this region consists of prominent northwest-southeast-trending faults and secondary east-west-trending faults, the latter of which are in alignment with the east-west trend of the Transverse Ranges Geomorphic Province (California Geological Survey [CGS] 2002), where the western portion of the Project is located. This province consists of an east-west-trending series of steep mountain ranges that extends offshore.

3.3 HYDROLOGY

Hydrological features within the Impact Areas consist almost exclusively of ephemeral desert washes that only hold water for a short period of time as the result of seasonal precipitation. Many of these washes remain in a natural state due to the lack of development throughout most of the region. Within the vicinity of Lugo Substation, water generally flows from the south to the northeast, toward the Mojave River, and to isolated basins in the interior of the Mojave. Near Mohave Substation, water flows from west to east, toward the Colorado River. The Colorado River eventually empties to the Gulf of California, south of the U.S.-Mexico border. In the vicinity of Eldorado Substation, water generally flows from southwest to northeast and into the Eldorado Dry Lake. Groundwater is up to hundreds of feet deep in the Impact Areas.

3.4 SOILS

Soils in the Impact Areas are well-drained and non-hydric, with sandy and loamy textures. The geomorphic positions of these soils include alluvial fans, backslopes, dunes, pediments, fan remnants, fan skirts, fan aprons, mountains, and summits (Natural Resources Conservation Service [NRCS] 2019). The seven most prevalent soil types in the Impact Areas are as follows:

- Rositas-Carrizo (s1137)
- Hesperia Loamy Fine Sand, 2- to 5-percent slopes
- Cajon-Arizo (s1143)
- Urban land-Riverbend-Huevi association
- Hypoint gravelly sandy loam, 0- to 4-percent slopes
- Cajon Gravelly Sand, 2- to 5-percent slopes
- Riverbend-Carrwash association

An additional 64 soil types are present in lesser amounts in the Impact Areas.

Table 2: Vegetation Communities and Land Cover Summary

Vegetation Communities/Land Cover	California State Rarity Rank	Area in the Survey Area (acres)
Vegetation Communities		
Larrea tridentata – Ambrosia dumosa Shrubland Alliance	S5	350.5
Larrea tridentata Shrubland Alliance	S5	72.2
Atriplex polycarpa Shrubland Alliance	S4	35.1
Larrea tridentata – Encelia farinosa Shrubland Alliance	S4	32.7
Yucca brevifolia Woodland Alliance	S3.2	18.8
Ericameria nauseosa Shrubland Alliance	S5	18.6
Eriogonum fasciculatum Shrubland Alliance	S5	17.8
Yucca schidigera Shrubland Alliance	S4	17.7
Prunus fasciculata – Salazaria mexicana Shrubland Alliance	S4	11.9
Ericameria cooperi Provisional Shrubland Alliance	This alliance is provisional and does not have a rank	8.1
Senegalia greggii – Hyptis emoryi – Justicia californica Shrubland Alliance	S4	6.6
Encelia farinosa Shrubland Alliance	Not found in California	6.6
Juniperus californica Woodland Alliance	S4	6.3
Ambrosia salsola – Bebbia juncea Shrubland Alliance	S4	5.8
Coleogyne ramosissima Shrubland Alliance	S4	2.7
Chorizanthe rigida – Gerraea canescens Desert Pavement Sparsely Vegetated Alliance	S4	2.6
Ambrosia dumosa Shrubland Alliance	S5	2.2
Ericameria linearfolia – Cleome isomeris Shrubland Alliance	S4	2.1
Ericameria paniculata Shrubland Alliance	S3	1.9
Suaeda moquinii Shrubland Alliance	S3	1.2
Cylindropuntia bigelovii Shrubland Alliance	Not found in California	0.9

Vegetation Communities/Land Cover	California State Rarity Rank	Area in the Survey Area (acres)		
Atriplex confertifolia Shrubland Alliance	S4.2	0.6		
Ephedra viridis Shrubland Alliance	S4	0.5		
Achnatherum speciosum Herbaceous Alliance	S2.2	0.3		
Adenostoma fasciculatum Shrubland Alliance	S5	0.2		
Tamarix spp. Shrubland Semi-Natural Alliance	Not Ranked	0.1		
Chilopsis linearis - Psorothamnus spinosus Woodland Alliance	S3	0.1		
Ephedra nevadensis – Lycium andersonii – Grayia spinosa Shrubland Alliance	S3	<0.1		
Purshia tridentata – Artemisia tridentata Shrubland Alliance	S3	<0.1		
Land Covers				
Developed	Not Applicable (N/A)	205.4		
Barren - Not Developed	N/A	60.9		
Active agriculture	N/A	2.7		
Total		893.1		

3.5 VEGETATION COMMUNITIES AND LAND COVERS

The Project is located within the Desert Floristic Province in the Mojave Desert region, including the Desert Mountains subregion (Jepson Flora Project 2019a). Vegetation community composition is a prime factor in assessing the potential for a site to support individual plant species. A total of 29 vegetation communities and 3 land cover types were found in the Survey Area. Table 2: Vegetation Communities and Land Cover Summary lists in order of prevalence each vegetation community and land cover type present. The California State Rarity Ranks of each of the vegetation communities found in California and the total area of each vegetation community and land cover type within the Survey Area are also presented. Vegetation communities associated with California State Rarity Ranks of S1 through S3 are considered sensitive. Nevada does not have a state rarity ranking system. The locations of each vegetation community and land cover type in the Survey Area are shown on Attachment A: Vegetation Communities and Land Covers.

A description of each vegetation community and land cover type is presented in the subsections that follow. The vegetation community (i.e., alliance) names and descriptions are consistent with *A Manual of California Vegetation Online* (California Native Plant Society [CNPS] 2019a). Several alliances documented in the 2016 mapping effort and presented in the Special-Status Plant Species Survey Report for the Eldorado-Lugo-Mohave Series Capacitor Project (Insignia 2017) have undergone recategorization or name changes since 2017. The current alliance names are presented in this Report.

3.5.0 Vegetation Communities

Achnatherum speciosum Herbaceous Alliance

Desert needlegrass (*Stipa speciosa*) (= *Achnatherum speciosum*)—a native, perennial bunchgrass—occurs at a relative coverage of more than 50 percent in the *Achnatherum speciosum* Herbaceous Alliance. Emergent trees and shrubs may be present at a lower coverage. This alliance is found on lower slopes, in canyons, and on sandy or gravelly alluvial fans. Small stands are found in Antelope Valley in the Mojave Desert, but heavy historical grazing and exclusion from non-native annual grasses have likely reduced its range in mid- to upper-elevation desert areas. This herbaceous alliance has a California State Rarity Rank of S2.2.

The Achnatherum speciosum Herbaceous Alliance covers approximately 0.3 acre of the Survey Area. This alliance occurred in one stand in the foothills of the San Bernardino Mountains, south of the City of Hesperia. This stand was observed on the valley floor of Antelope Valley, approximately 0.68 mile southwest of the California Aqueduct at an elevation of approximately 3,500 feet. The stand had been disturbed by heavy equipment and vehicle use associated with power line construction and maintenance, as well as fairly regular OHV use.

Adenostoma fasciculatum Shrubland Alliance

The *Adenostoma fasciculatum* shrubland alliance is defined by chamise (*Adenostoma fasciculatum*), a shrub that can grow up to 12 feet tall with a relative coverage of more than 60 percent in the shrub canopy. Other plant species associated with this alliance contribute little to no vegetative cover, and there is little to no understory. Chamise are most often found at

elevations ranging from 2,500 to 3,500 feet above sea level. Chamise chaparral is fire-adapted through stump sprouting. This community is often associated with soils that are shallow and dry, and often on xeric slopes and ridges. This shrubland alliance has a California State Rarity Rank of S5.

The Adenostoma fasciculatum shrubland alliance covers approximately 0.2 acre of the Survey Area. This shrubland alliance was observed in two localized stands in the Survey Area. Both were in the far western portion of the Survey Area and west of the California Aqueduct in the foothills of the San Bernardino Mountains, south of the City of Hesperia. One stand was located atop a ridge at approximately 3,600 feet elevation. The other smaller, stand occurred on an east-facing slope near the California Aqueduct at an elevation of approximately 3,500 feet.

Ambrosia dumosa Shrubland Alliance

The Ambrosia dumosa Shrubland Alliance is dominated by white bur-sage (Ambrosia dumosa), a short-lived, drought deciduous shrub. White bur-sage can grow up to 3 feet tall and occurs in alluvial fans, rocky hills, and stabilized sand fields at elevations up to 5,500 feet. Soils are sandy or clay-rich and may have desert pavement surfaces. White bur-sage is dominant in the shrub layer, which is open to intermittent. The herbaceous layer is open to intermittent, with seasonal annuals. Co-dominants include saltbush (Atriplex spp.), creosote bush (Larrea tridentata), and cholla (Cylindropuntia spp.), among others. Membership in the shrubland alliance requires white bur-sage occurring at twice the absolute cover of creosote bush when both species are present. This alliance has a California State Rarity Rank of S5.

The *Ambrosia dumosa* Shrubland Alliance covers approximately 2.2 acres of the Survey Area. In these areas, white bur-sage had more than twice the absolute cover of creosote bush. Though white bur-sage is relatively common, it is often associated with creosote bush, and this distinction explains the small acreage covered by this shrubland alliance. It was observed in two isolated areas near Lucerne Valley and Clipper Valley. Both alliance occurrences were observed at elevations of approximately 3,000 feet.

Ambrosia salsola – Bebbia juncea Shrubland Alliance

The *Ambrosia salsola* – *Bebbia juncea* Shrubland Alliance is dominated by cheesebush (*Ambrosia salsola*), sweetbush (*Bebbia juncea*), white brickellbush (*Brickellia incana*), and/or armed senna (*Senna armata*), though other shrubs and emergent trees may be present at low cover. The shrub canopy is open to intermittent and the herbaceous layer is sparse or seasonally present. This alliance is found in valleys, flats, and intermittently flooded washes, channels, and arroyos on alluvial, sandy and gravelly, and disturbed desert pavement soils. The alliance is often associated with heavily disturbed areas, including active washes, burned and heavily grazed areas, military camps, off-highway vehicle (OHV) areas, and roadsides. This shrubland alliance has a California State Rarity Rank of S4.

The *Ambrosia salsola – Bebbia juncea* Shrubland Alliance covers approximately 5.8 acres of the Survey Area. Most stands of this alliance occurred in the portion of the Survey Area in Nevada, with only three stands documented in California. Most occurrences were documented within wash systems, with varying degrees of disturbance. However some stands were mapped along

the sides of roads. The majority of the stands in Nevada were documented in the Newberry Mountains and east toward the community of Laughlin. The Providence Mountains in California mark the western extent of this alliance.

Atriplex confertifolia Shrubland Alliance

The Atriplex confertifolia Shrubland Alliance is dominated by shadscale (Atriplex confertifolia), a low-growing, short-lived shrub. Other shrubs—including white bur-sage, creosote bush, and bush encelia (Encelia actoni)—may be present at lower coverages, and the herbaceous layer is sparse to abundant. The shrubland alliance is found in bajadas (e.g., alluvial plains formed at the base of a mountain by the coalescing of alluvial fans), flats, and lower slopes in variable soils that may be covered with desert pavement. This alliance has a California State Rarity Rank of S4.2.

The *Atriplex confertifolia* Shrubland Alliance covers approximately 0.6 acre of the Survey Area. One stand of this alliance was observed on a previously-graded ridge on Iron Ridge near the northwestern boundary of the Twentynine Palms Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center (MCAGCC). The elevation at this site was approximately 4,450 feet.

Atriplex polycarpa Shrubland Alliance

The *Atriplex polycarpa* Shrubland Alliance is defined by a relative cover of more than 50 percent of allscale saltbush (*Atriplex polycarpa*), a drought- and alkaline-tolerant shrub that can reach up to 6 feet in height. Other shrubs, including bur-sage and creosote bush, may be codominant in the shrub layer. The herbaceous layer is variable and includes seasonal annuals. This alliance is found in washes, playa lake beds, dissected alluvial fans, and rolling hills with carbonate-rich, alkaline, sandy, or sandy clay loam soils. Due to the allscale saltbush's resistance to drought and alkalinity, this alliance is abundant in the western sections of the Mojave Desert. This shrubland alliance has a California State Rarity Rank of S4.

The *Atriplex polycarpa* Shrubland Alliance covers approximately 35.1 acres of the Survey Area. The alliance was observed exclusively in the community of Lucerne Valley and the adjacent Fifteenmile Valley within the Survey Area. Two stands in the community of Lucerne Valley were documented within approximately 1 mile of the dry lakebed of Lucerne Lake. The remaining stands were observed within approximately 1.5 miles of the dry lakebed of Rabbit Lake in Fifteenmile Valley.

Chilopsis linearis – Psorothamnus spinosus Woodland Alliance

The tree or tall shrub canopy of the *Chilopsis linearis – Psorothamnus spinosus* woodland alliance has an absolute cover of more than 2 percent in the tree canopy and is dominated or codominated by desert willow (*Chilopsis linearis*) and/or smoke tree (*Psorothamnus spinosus*). Other trees and tall shrubs that may be co-dominant include blue palo verde (*Parkinsonia florida*), honey mesquite (*Prosopis glandulosa*), and Joshua tree (*Yucca brevifolia*). The shrub layer is open to intermittent and may be inhabited by catclaw acacia (*Senegalia greggii*), cheesebush, and creosote bush, among others. The herbaceous layer is sparse to seasonally abundant with annuals. This alliance is restricted to sandy wash and intermittent channel bottoms, along floodplains, and in wash terraces where flooding is infrequent but subterranean

water is available. Soils in this alliance are well-drained sands and gravels that are moderately acidic to slightly alkaline. The alliance has a California State Rarity Rank of S3.

The *Chilopsis linearis – Psorothamnus spinosus* Woodland Alliance covers approximately 0.1 acre of the Survey Area. This alliance was observed in one occurrence in the Bristol Mountains in an unnamed tributary to the Budweiser Wash at approximately 2,300 feet in elevation.

Chorizanthe rigida – Geraea canescens Desert Pavement Sparsely Vegetated Alliance

The Chorizanthe rigida – Geraea canescens Desert Pavement Sparsely Vegetated Alliance has a sparse to intermittent herb layer, with an annual plant cover that varies from less than 1 percent to greater than 20 percent, depending on the year. Devil's spineflower (Chorizanthe rigida) and/or desert sunflower (Geraea canescens) are characteristically present in the herbaceous layer. The shrub layer is sparse, if present. The majority of this alliance consists of desert pavement, which is a thin, relatively flat layer of nearly interlocking rocks or pebbles that have been worn down by erosional processes over thousands of years. Desert pavement is often devoid of vegetation, though the gaps in the topmost rock layer may provide habitat for ephemeral annuals in response to precipitation. Desert pavement occurs throughout the Mojave Desert, usually in flat basins, valley bottoms, and occasionally alluvial fans where extreme temperatures and high wind conditions exist. Due to the erosional factors involved in its formation, desert pavement is an extremely sensitive land cover that small physical disturbances can irreversibly affect, including OHV and foot traffic. This alliance has a California State Rarity Rank of S4.

The Chorizanthe rigida – Geraea canescens Desert Pavement Sparsely Vegetated Alliance covers approximately 2.6 acres of the Survey Area. The alliance was observed in multiple locations between Pisgah Substation and Homer Mountain within the Survey Area. This section is relatively remote and experiences lower levels of disturbance than the more populated sections in the far western and far eastern limits of the Survey Area. One patch was observed in the lowland between East Ord and Fry mountains, near the intersection of Powerline Road and Camp Rock Road. Desert pavement was restricted to lower elevations, with each patch occurring at elevations between 1,900 and 2,900 feet. All observed patches of desert pavement were also located within lowland, braided, ephemeral channels associated with bajadas or playas.

Coleogyne ramosissima Shrubland Alliance

The *Coleogyne ramosissima* Shrubland Alliance is defined by an absolute coverage of more than 2 percent of blackbrush (*Coleogyne ramosissima*), a small, long-lived shrub. Other shrubs—including ephedra (*Ephedra* spp.), creosote bush, and Mojave yucca (*Yucca schidigera*)—and emergent trees may be present. The herbaceous layer is sparse to open with cryptogrammic crusts. This alliance is found on slopes, upper bajadas, and rocky highlands at elevations above 3,200 feet. Soils are thin and sandy with abundant exposed rock, and often have a shallow caliche layer and moderate alkalinity. This shrubland alliance has a California State Rarity Rank of S4.

The *Coleogyne ramosissima* Shrubland Alliance covers approximately 2.7 acres of the Survey Area. This shrubland alliance was observed exclusively in the Lava Bed Mountains near the Twentynine Palms MCAGCC. This alliance was observed at approximately 3,700 feet in elevation. Three stands occurred on the exposed rock on the ridges.

Cylindropuntia bigelovii Shrubland Alliance

The *Cylindropuntia bigelovii* Shrubland Alliance exists where teddy-bear cholla (*Cylindropuntia bigelovii*), a distinctive cholla that grows up to 5 feet tall, has a relative cover of more than 50 percent in the shrub layer. Other shrubs may be present at lower coverages, and the herbaceous layer is open with a crytobiotic crust and seasonal annuals. This alliance is found on alluvial fan deposits and gentle to moderate, south- or southwest-facing slopes of rocky highlands with soils ranging from coarse sands to loams. Stands occupy the warmest southerly sections of the Mojave Desert. No state rarity rank is associated with this alliance.

The *Cylindropuntia bigelovii* Shrubland Alliance covers approximately 0.9 acre of the Survey Area. This alliance was observed around two towers in Nevada at the southern end of the Newberry Mountains, approximately 1.8 miles east of the intersection of Old Government Road and Powerline Road. The elevation at the sites was approximately 1,800 feet.

Encelia farinosa Shrubland Alliance

The *Encelia farinosa* Shrubland Alliance is dominated by brittlebush (*Encelia farinosa*), an extremely drought-tolerant, short-lived shrub. Although it may occur with creosote bush or white bur-sage, this alliance requires a relative cover of more than 30 percent by brittlebush in the shrub canopy. The herbaceous layer is open with seasonal annuals. It often occurs on south-facing, rocky hillsides, on slopes of small washes, and in well-drained rocky soils that may be covered by desert pavement. Stands are strongly associated with heavily disturbed areas, and are often observed on roadsides. No state rarity rank is associated with this alliance.

The *Encelia farinosa* Shrubland Alliance covers approximately 6.6 acres of the Survey Area and was only found in Nevada. The alliance was observed exclusively in the Newberry Mountains, in the easternmost portion of the Survey Area. Two occurrences were observed on south-facing slopes, near the unnamed pass between the Dead and the Newberry mountains. Two large stands were observed at the mouth of Bridge Canyon, west of the community of Laughlin, Nevada. Another occurrence was documented on a large, south-facing slope, located immediately west of Nevada State Route (SR-) 163.

Ephedra nevadensis – Lycium andersonii – Grayia spinosa Shrubland Alliance

The *Ephedra nevadensis* – *Lycium andersonii* – *Grayia spinosa* Shrubland Alliance is dominated or co-dominated by Nevada joint fir (*Ephedra nevadensis*), Anderson's boxthorn (*Lycium andersonii*), and/or spiny hop sage (*Grayia spinosa*). Nevada joint fir is present at an absolute cover of greater than 2 percent and is usually a strong dominant, with greater than twice the coverage of other shrub species. Anderson's boxthorn is present at a relative cover of greater than 50 percent in the shrub canopy, and spiny hop sage has an absolute cover of 2 percent or greater in the shrub canopy. The herbaceous layer is sparse to intermittent. This shrubland

alliance is found on dry, open slopes and ridges. Soils are well-drained and gravelly or rocky, and may be alkaline or saline. This shrubland alliance has a California State Rarity Rank of S4.

The *Ephedra nevadensis – Lycium andersonii – Grayia spinosa* Shrubland Alliance covers approximately 0.03 acre of the Survey Area. One stand was documented in the far western portion of the Survey Area, in the Ord Mountains, and approximately 1 mile east of the Mojave River. It was observed on a north-facing slope at an elevation of approximately 3,500 feet. The slope was relatively disturbed due to vehicle and heavy equipment use associated with power line construction and maintenance.

Ephedra viridis Shrubland Alliance

The *Ephedra viridis* Shrubland Alliance is dominated by green ephedra (*Ephedra viridis*), an evergreen shrub. However, other shrubs, including big sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata*), and emergent trees may be present. Perennial grasses may also be present in the herbaceous layer. This shrubland alliance is found on ridges and steep slopes in soils that are shallow and rocky. In the Mojave Desert, this alliance occurs at higher elevations, generally above 4,000 feet. Stands are usually small and localized, and may be impacted by falling rocks or avalanches. This alliance has a California State Rarity Rank of S4.

The *Ephedra viridis* Shrubland Alliance covers approximately 0.5 acre in the Survey Area. The alliance was observed as one isolated stand in the foothills of the San Bernardino Mountains, south of the City of Hesperia. The alliance was located on a north-facing ridge above an unnamed wash at an elevation of approximately 3,200 feet.

Ericameria cooperi Provisional Shrubland Alliance

The *Ericameria cooperi* Provisional Shrubland Alliance is characterized by an even and dominant distribution of Cooper's goldenbush (*Ericameria cooperi* var. *cooperi*) (= *Ericameria cooperi*) across the landscape, though other shrubs may be present. This alliance often showed signs of recent fire or other disturbance. Cooper's goldenbush typically occurs in creosote bush scrub (*Larrea tridentata* Shrubland Alliance) and Joshua tree woodland (*Yucca brevifolia* Woodland Alliance) habitats. However, the portions of the Survey Area where Cooper's goldenbush was dominant did not meet the membership requirements of the aforementioned alliances. Further, these areas were not adjacent to or surrounded by creosote bush scrub or Joshua tree woodland, so it was determined that this was not an anomalous stand of Cooper's goldenbush within otherwise typical pre-existing alliance. Therefore, it was determined that creating a provisional alliance was more appropriate to describe this vegetation community. This provisional shrubland alliance and does not have a California State Rarity Rank.

The *Ericameria cooperi* Provisional Shrubland Alliance covers approximately 8.1 acres of the Survey Area. The Cooper's goldenbush-dominated areas are located around the Lugo Substation and in the hills south of the city of Hesperia.

Ericameria linearifolia - Cleome isomeris Shrubland Alliance

The *Ericameria linearifolia* – *Cleome isomeris* Shrubland Alliance is dominated by narrowleaf goldenbush (*Ericameria linearifolia*), bladderpod (*Cleome isomeris*), and/or yellow mock aster (*Eastwoodia elegans*). These species comprise more than 30-percent relative cover in the shrub canopy. Emergent trees or tall shrubs, including California juniper (*Juniperus californica*), may be present at low cover. This alliance occurs in shallow, sometimes alkaline, soils on dry slopes and ridges. This shrubland alliance has a California State Rarity Rank of S4.

The *Ericameria linearifolia* – *Cleome isomeris* Shrubland Alliance covers approximately 2.1 acres of the Survey Area. One stand of narrowleaf goldenbush was observed in the vicinity of one tower on the slopes of a small valley in the foothills of the San Bernardino Mountains, south of the City of Hesperia. The elevation at the site was approximately 3,500 feet.

Ericameria nauseosa Shrubland Alliance

Rubber rabbitbrush (*Ericameria nauseosa*) is a fast-growing shrub that covers more than 50 percent of the shrub canopy in the *Ericameria nauseosa* Shrubland Alliance. Emergent trees may be present, and the herbaceous layer is sparse or grassy. In the Mojave Desert, this alliance inhabits all topographic settings at higher, cooler elevations. Soils are well-drained sands and gravels. It is found in areas disturbed naturally through flooding, and artificially through mining, grazing, and agriculture. This shrubland alliance has a California State Rarity Rank of S5.

The *Ericameria nauseosa* Shrubland Alliance covers approximately 18.6 acres within the Survey Area. The alliance was restricted to the foothills of the San Bernardino and Ord mountains in the far western, high-elevation sections of the Survey Area. All stands of rubber rabbitbrush were observed along the power line access roads, or other areas associated with the power lines that had been previously disturbed. These results may be skewed because most survey sections within the Survey Area were in close proximity to, or otherwise associated with, the power lines and had been previously disturbed. However, many of the vegetation communities in this section of the Mojave Desert have been greatly affected by OHV use and development.

Ericameria paniculata Shrubland Alliance

The *Ericameria paniculata* Shrubland Alliance is dominated by black-banded rabbitbrush (*Ericameria paniculata*). However, brittlebush, ephedra, catclaw acacia (*Senegalia greggii*), and other shrubs may be present at lower coverages. The shrub canopy can be closed to open with a herbaceous layer that is open with seasonal annuals. This alliance occurs in intermittently flooded washes, and soils are sandy and usually well-drained. It is common in medium and large washes where flooding events occur every few years. It can be found from 300 to 3,600 feet in elevation. This shrubland alliance has a California State Rarity Rank of S3.

The *Ericameria paniculata* Shrubland Alliance covers approximately 1.9 acres of the Survey Area. It was restricted to two stands located in unnamed washes in Eldorado Valley, Nevada. The elevation at the sites was approximately 2,450 feet.

Eriogonum fasciculatum Shrubland Alliance

The *Eriogonum fasciculatum* Shrubland Alliance is defined by California buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*), a perennial shrub that can grow up to 5 feet tall with a relative cover of more than 50 percent. Other shrubs that may be co-dominant include creosote bush and brittlebush. The herbaceous layer is open and may be grassy. This alliance occurs in upland slopes and intermittently flooded arroyos, channels, and washes. Soils are coarse and well-drained, and may be rocky and shallow. Stands may establish following physical disturbance or fire. This alliance exists at mid-elevations in the Mojave Desert and can be found at elevations up to 4,000 feet. This shrubland alliance has a California State Rarity Rank of S5.

The *Eriogonum fasciculatum* Shrubland Alliance covers approximately 17.8 acres of the Survey Area. It was observed west of Lucerne Valley andseveral areas were documented in the Ord Mountains at an elevation of approximately 3,600 feet. This alliance was also documented in Fifteenmile Valley, at an elevation of approximately 3,300 feet, and in the vicinity of Lugo Substation.

Juniperus californica Woodland Alliance

The *Juniperus californica* Woodland Alliance is dominated by California juniper, an evergreen tree that reaches up to 14 feet in height. California juniper can be found from 1,900 to 8,000 feet in elevation. Habitats include ridges, slopes, valleys, alluvial fans, and valley bottoms. It can be found in soils that are often very shallow and can be porous, rocky, coarse, sandy, or silty. In the Mojave Desert, California juniper may be co-dominant in the small tree canopy with singleleaf pinyon pine (*Pinus monophylla*) or Joshua tree (*Yucca brevifolia*). The canopy is open to intermittent. The shrub layer is open to intermittent and may include big sagebrush, blackbrush, ephedra, and Mohave yucca. The herbaceous component is sparse or grassy. This woodland alliance has a California State Rarity Rank of S4.

The *Juniperus californica* Woodland Alliance covers approximately 6.3 acres of the Survey Area. It was observed in the extreme western, relatively high-elevation portions of the Survey Area, specifically in the foothills of the San Bernardino and Ord mountains. All occurrences of this alliance were documented between 3,000 and 4,800 feet in elevation. These areas were classified by the presence of California juniper, with the absence of any other tree species.

Larrea tridentata Shrubland Alliance

The *Larrea tridentata* Shrubland Alliance is characterized by the dominance or co-dominance of creosote bush in the shrub canopy. White bur-sage or brittlebush is absent or has a cover of less than 1 percent. Other shrubs may be present, but none may have more than twice the cover of creosote bush. Creosote bush is an extremely long-lived, drought-deciduous shrub that can grow to a height of 9 feet. It inhabits alluvial fans, bajadas, and upland slopes with well-drained soils. Mature plants may be allelopathic to their own seedlings, which encourages an open community structure. Creosote bush also has a deep root system, which makes it relatively drought-resistant. It can be found from 250 feet below sea level to 3,300 feet above sea level. Co-dominants in the shrub layer may include white bur-sage, brittlebush, and ephedra, among others. The herbaceous layer is open or intermittent with seasonal annuals or perennial grasses. This shrubland alliance has a California State Rarity Rank of S5.

The *Larrea tridentata* Shrubland Alliance covers approximately 72.2 acres of the Survey Area. It was observed across much of the Survey Area in upland areas. This alliance was most concentrated in the area between Pisgah Crater and the community of Ludlow, California. All records were observed between approximately 3,000 feet and 4,000 feet in elevation. Most observations were in bajadas and alluvial fans, or were associated with washes.

Larrea tridentata – Ambrosia dumosa Shrubland Alliance

The Larrea tridentata – Ambrosia dumosa Shrubland Alliance is the most prevalent vegetation community in the Mojave Desert, representing approximately 67 percent of the central Mojave Desert (CNPS 2019a). This shrubland alliance is co-dominated by white bur-sage and creosote bush in the shrub canopy. Saltbush, brittlebush, Mojave yucca, and other shrubs may also occur, but creosote bush and white bur-sage represent twice the coverage of any other species. Emergent trees may be present at low cover. The herbaceous layer is open to intermittent with seasonal annuals. This alliance inhabits minor, ephemeral washes, alluvial fans, bajadas, and upland slopes from 250 feet below sea level to 3,300 feet in elevation. Soils are well-drained, alluvial, sandy, and sometimes covered with desert pavement. This alliance has a California State Rarity Rank of S5.

The Larrea tridentata – Ambrosia dumosa Shrubland Alliance is by far the most prevalent alliance in the Survey Area, covering approximately 350.5 acres. It was documented in most terrain types; however, it was absent through the Ord Mountains. This section represented the highest elevation of the Survey Area, from 3,800 to 4,800 feet above sea level.

Larrea tridentata – Encelia farinosa Shrubland Alliance

The Larrea tridentata – Encelia farinosa Shrubland Alliance is co-dominated by creosote bush and brittlebush, though other shrubs may be present. This alliance is found in small washes, alluvial fans and colluvium on upland slopes in well-drained, rocky soils. Soils are often derived from volcanic or granitic rock and may have desert pavement surfaces. It is not found in sandy or clayey soils. The herbaceous layer is open with seasonal annuals, but often is less diverse than other desert scrub vegetation types. The shrubland alliance occurs at elevations ranging from sea level to 4,600 feet. It is widespread throughout the western and central Mojave Desert. This alliance has a California State Rarity Rank of S4.

The Larrea tridentata – Encelia farinosa Shrubland Alliance covers approximately 32.7 acres of the Survey Area. All occurrences of this alliance were documented in Nevada, except for one occurrence located on a south-facing slope of an unnamed outcrop at the northern end of the community of Lucerne Valley, California. The alliance was also documented on relatively disturbed land within the fence line of the Mojave Substation. All other observed stands occurred on south-facing or southeast-facing rocky slopes in the Newberry Mountains.

Prunus fasciculata – Salazaria mexicana Shrubland Alliance

The *Prunus fasciculata* – *Salazaria mexicana* Shrubland Alliance is characterized by relative covers of more than 25 percent of desert almond (*Prunus fasciculata*), more than 50 percent of bladder-sage (*Scutellaria mexicana*) (= *Salazaria mexicana*), and/or more than 50 percent of purple sage (*Salvia dorrii*). Other shrubs including cheesebush, creosote bush, chaparral beard tongue (*Keckiella antirrhinoides*), and desert plum (*Prunus eremophila*) may be present or codominant. The canopy is open to intermittent, and the herbaceous layer is open. In previous classifications, the diagnostic species of this alliance were in separate single-species alliances. With additional analysis, they have been found to be similar in environmental settings and floristics, and have been combined. This alliance occurs on granitic, volcanic, and calcareous substrates in arroyos, gravelly canyons, upper washes, colluvial slopes, and on disturbed upland sites. This alliance receives higher precipitation and lower temperatures than other wash vegetation types. This shrubland alliance has a California State Rarity Rank of S4.

The *Prunus fasciculata* – *Salazaria mexicana* Shrubland Alliance covers approximately 11.9 acres of the Survey Area and was entirely restricted to the Ord Mountains, except for one stand located in the foothills of the San Bernardino Mountains. These occurrences were documented at elevations ranging from 4,000 to 4,600 feet.

Purshia tridentata – Artemisia tridentata Shrubland Alliance

Bitterbrush (*Purshia tridentata*)—a large, long-lived shrub—with more than 50 percent relative cover in the shrub canopy in the *Purshia tridentata* – *Artemesia tridentata* Shrubland Alliance. Other shrubs, including big sagebrush, green ephedra, and rubber rabbitbrush may be codominant. Emergent trees, including California juniper and Joshua tree, may be present at low coverages. The herbaceous layer is sparse to open, and possibly grassy. The shrubland alliance is found in various topographic settings, and small stands occur on the east side of the San Bernardino Mountains. Soils are generally highly permeable and well-drained. This shrubland alliance has a California State Rarity Rank of S3.

Purshia tridentata – Artemesia tridentata Shrubland Alliance is the least prevalent alliance in the Survey Area, with a cover of approximately 0.02 acre. One stand was observed in the Ord Mountains on a north-facing slope near the north end of Arrastre Canyon at an elevation of approximately 4,300 feet.

Senegalia greggii – Hyptis emoryi – Justicia californica Shrubland Alliance

The Senegalia greggii – Hyptis emoryi – Justicia californica Shrubland Alliance is dominated or co-dominated by catclaw acacia, desert lavender (Condea emoryi) (= Hyptis emoryi), and/or chuparosa (Justicia californica). Other shrubs (e.g., cheesebush, creosote bush, ephedra, and sweetbush) may be present, but the characteristic species represent the greatest coverage in the shrub canopy. The canopy is open to intermittent, and the herbaceous layer is sparse to intermittent with seasonal annuals. This alliance is found in arroyos, channels, washes, bajadas, seeps, canyon walls, rocky colluvial slopes, and valleys. Soils are coarse, well-drained, gravelly sands and loams, and moderately acidic to slightly saline. This shrubland alliance has a California State Rarity Rank of S4.

The Senegalia greggii – Hyptis emoryi – Justicia californica Shrubland Alliance covers approximately 6.6 acres of the Survey Area. It was observed in many desert wash and canyon systems east of Pisgah Substation within the Survey Area, and is often a preliminary indicator of drainage systems. In the Dead and Providence mountains, the shrubland alliance was documented on canyon floors.

Suaeda moquinii Shrubland Alliance

The Suaeda moquinii Shrubland Alliance is dominated by bush seepweed (Suaeda nigra) (= Suaeda moquinii), a small, short-lived shrub. Other shrubs, including saltbush, may be present; and the herbaceous layer is sparse to intermittent. This alliance is found in bajadas, playas, and toe slopes adjacent to alluvial fans at elevations from sea level to 4,200 feet. Soils are deep and saline or alkaline. Bush seepweed appears opportunistic in occupying roadsides and other recently disturbed areas. This shrubland alliance has a California State Rarity Rank of S3.

The *Suaeda moquinii* Shrubland Alliance covers approximately 1.2 acres of the Survey Area. The alliance was observed in around two towers on south-facing toe slopes above the dry lakebed of Rabbit Lake. These slopes are relatively disturbed from vehicle and equipment use associated with power line construction and maintenance.

Tamarix spp. Shrubland Semi-Natural Alliance

The *Tamarix* spp. shrubland semi-natural alliance is a weedy, virtual monoculture of several non-native tamarisk species (*Tamarix chinensis* or *Tamarix ramosissima*), which usually supplant native vegetation following major disturbance. This vegetation community occurs in arroyo margins, lake margins, ditches, washes, rivers, and other watercourses, often in areas where high evaporation increases the salinity. Tamarisk is a prolific seeder, which predisposes the species to be an aggressive competitor in disturbed riparian corridors. Tamarisk scrub is widely distributed and is increasing its range. This semi-natural alliance and does not have a California State Rarity Rank.

This semi-natural alliance covers approximately 0.9 acre within the Survey Area. It was observed in the Survey Area along the Union Pacific Railroad tracks, approximately 19 miles west of Kelso, California. The stands were most likely originally planted as windbreaks for the railroad.

Yucca brevifolia Woodland Alliance

The *Yucca brevifolia* Woodland Alliance is indicated by the presence of Joshua tree, an evergreen, branching tree that can reach up to 45 feet in height with a coverage of 1 percent or more. This alliance is found on gentle slopes and ridges from 2,500 to 6,000 feet in elevation. Soils are generally coarse sands, very fine sands, gravel, or sandy loams. The alliance may often include other tree species, including California juniper and singleleaf pinyon pine, at low cover and can include white bur-sage, creosote bush, and Mojave yucca, among other species in the shrub and grass layers. The shrub layer and herbaceous layer are open to intermittent because of the relatively low cover of the tree canopy. This woodland alliance has a California State Rarity Rank of S3.2.

The *Yucca brevifolia* Woodland Alliance covers approximately 18.8 acres and was observed at the western and eastern ends of the Survey Area. The westernmost occurrence of Joshua trees was observed in the vicinity of Lugo Substation. The alliance also occurred in small patches on the slopes of the Ord Mountains at 4,000 feet in elevation, and on the basin floor of nearby Fifteenmile Valley at 3,000 feet in elevation. The woodland alliance was also observed in several areas on the gentle slopes of the Highland Range north of the community of Searchlight, Nevada.

Yucca schidigera Shrubland Alliance

The *Yucca schidigera* Shrubland Alliance is characterized by the presence of Mojave yucca, an evergreen shrub or small tree that can grow up to 16 feet tall. This alliance requires absolute cover of 2 percent or more of Mojave yucca. Other shrubs may be present at equal or greater coverage, and the grass layer may be open to intermittent. Mojave yucca inhabits alluvial fans, rocky slopes, and upper bajadas with well-drained, sandy loams. It is characteristic of midelevations of desert mountain ranges and can be found at elevations from 3,000 to 6,000 feet. This shrubland alliance has a California State Rarity Rank of S4.

The *Yucca schidigera* Shrubland Alliance covers approximately 17.7 acres of the Survey Area. This alliance was observed throughout the Survey Area in various locations, with most occurrences occurring between the Providence Mountains and Homer Mountain.

3.5.1 Land Covers

Active Agriculture

Active agriculture consists of annual and perennial crops grown in openly spaced rows. Row crops are often planted in floodplains or upland areas with high-quality soil, and are rotated on a seasonal or yearly basis. Agricultural land in the Mojave Desert is nearly always artificially irrigated.

Active agricultural occurs in approximately 2.7 acres of the Survey Area. It was observed exclusively in Sunset Cove, which is located in the far western portion of the community of Lucerne Valley. One field of unidentified row crops was documented on the south side of Exeter Street, near the intersection of Sussex Avenue.

Barren – **Not Developed**

Barren areas are defined by a lack of vegetation. Specifically, any land with a vegetative cover of less than 2 percent is considered barren. In the Mojave Desert, this includes pockets of land with little to no vegetation that are intermittently spaced between habitats, most likely caused from historic disturbance.

Within the Survey Area, barren land covers approximately 60.9 acres. Barren land was observed in various locations east of the community of Lucerne Valley. One notable patch was documented in an unnamed wash bed between the East and Fry mountains and near the intersection of Powerline Road and Camp Rock Road. Another large stretch of barrens covered the area within the fence line of Mohave Substation.

Developed

Developed land includes areas that have been built or otherwise physically altered to the extent that they no longer support native vegetation. Developed land is characterized by the presence of permanent or semi-permanent structures, pavement or hardscape, and/or landscaped areas that require irrigation.

Developed land is the most prevalent non-vegetative land cover in the Survey Area, at approximately 205.4 acres. In general, developed land was documented along access roads, near relatively populated areas, including the community of Lucerne Valley and the community of Laughlin, Nevada; and in and around Lugo, Pisgah, Mojave and Eldorado Substations.

4 – SURVEY HISTORY AND TIMING

Insignia conducted an initial set of surveys in 2016 and 2017. Following the 2017 surveys, the BLM requested a second set of special-status plant surveys. As a result, Insignia initiated the second set of surveys in March 2019. Due to the limited rain during the 2019 monsoon season and the excellent rain in 2017, the BLM deemed a second set of late-season surveys to be unnecessary. As shown in Table 3: Special-Status Plant Survey Summary and as described in the following subsections, 2016 and 2017 comprised Survey Year 1, and 2019 was designated as Survey Year 2.

Approximate Survey Survey Months Year Survey Area **Area Surveyed** Year Round (acres) March/April 2.511 1 All original impact areas and a 2016 variable buffer 2 2,511 May 1 March/April 124 Additional impact areas only and a 1 variable buffer 2 74 May 2017 September/ 3 All impact areas and a variable buffer 774 October 1 893 March/April 2 2019 All impact areas and a 50-foot buffer 2 April/May 893

Table 3: Special-Status Plant Survey Summary

4.0 2016

In 2016 (i.e., Survey Year 1), Insignia conducted initial protocol-level special-status plant surveys for the Project. As discussed in Section 3.1 Climate, the Mojave Desert receives an average annual precipitation of approximately 5.9 inches, but in 2016 the Impact Areas received lower than average rainfall. However, despite this, Insignia conducted two rounds of protocollevel special-status plant surveys in the spring. Botanists surveyed an approximately 2,511 acre June 2020

area in California and Nevada, which included the original Project Impact Areas and a buffer of variable widths, as shown in Table 3: Special-Status Plant Survey Summary. This is herein referred to as the 2016 Survey Area. The results were submitted to SCE in the form of the Special-Status Plant Species Survey Report for the Proposed Project on April 28, 2017; and the report was finalized on June 14, 2017.

4.1 2017

After the completion of the 2016 special-status plant surveys, SCE requested that Insignia survey an additional area of approximately 74 acres due to Project refinements. Between March and October 2017, Insignia botanists conducted three rounds of special-status plant surveys. Because these additional Project refinements were not surveyed in 2016, the surveys of these areas are still considered to be part of the Survey Year 1 surveys, even though they were conducted in 2017. As shown in Table 3: Special-Status Plant Survey Summary, during Round 1 of the 2017 surveys, Insignia surveyed the approximately 74-acre area, plus approximately 50 acres of the 2016 Survey Area at the request of SCE. The approximately 50-acre area was resurveyed due to drought conditions that may have limited survey results in 2016 (US Drought Monitor, 2020). Round 2 of the 2017 surveys was conducted for the approximately 74-acre area only. As shown in Table 1: Seasonal Precipitation, the Project alignment received heavy summer monsoon rains in 2017. Therefore, Round 3 of the 2017 surveys targeted geographic areas in the eastern half of the Project alignment that had bloomed following the late summer monsoon rains, and included portions of the areas that were surveyed during the first two rounds; this area totaled approximately 774 acres. The combined area of the 2017 special-status plant surveys consists of approximately 890 acres. The results were conveyed in a Supplemental Special-Status Plant Species Survey Report that was submitted to SCE on April 26, 2018.

4.2 2018

With the BLM's concurrence, surveys were not conducted in 2018 due to severe drought conditions and lack of blooming plants across the Mojave Desert (US Drought Monitor, 2020). As shown in Table 1: Seasonal Precipitation, the rainy season prior to the spring of 2018 only produced 2.32 inches of precipitation.

4.3 2019

Insignia performed the second year of special-status plant surveys for the Project in the spring of 2019 (i.e., Survey Year 2), which received a comparatively high amount of precipitation in the preceding rainy season, as shown in Table 1: Seasonal Precipitation. Two rounds of surveys were conducted in the spring of 2019. A third round of surveys was planned for September 2019, following the monsoon rains. However, as shown in Table 1: Seasonal Precipitation the summer of 2019 was exceptionally dry, and monsoon rains had not fallen on the majority of the Impact Areas. Therefore, the emergence and bloom of fall annuals (special-status or otherwise) were not expected. However, because the 2017 post-monsoon surveys were conducted in an excellent rain year, the BLM concurred that another round of post-monsoon surveys was not necessary and that the special-status plant surveys for the Project were thus concluded.

5 – METHODS

For the purposes of this Report, special-status plant species are defined as follows:

- Federally listed species (i.e., plants listed as threatened or endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act [FESA])
- Species considered to be "sensitive" by the BLM
- State-listed species (i.e., plants listed as threatened or endangered under the California Endangered Species Act [CESA]).
- Species that are candidates for possible future listing as threatened or endangered under the FESA (50 Code of Federal Regulations Part 17; Federal Register Vol. 64, No. 205, pages 57533-57547, October 25, 1999) and under the CESA (California Fish and Game Code § 2068)
- Species considered to be critically imperiled (S1), imperiled (S2), or vulnerable (S3) under the Nevada Natural Heritage Program (NNHP)
- Plants that meet the definition of rare or endangered under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (14 California Code of Regulations [CCR] § 15380 [b] and [d]), including the following:
 - Species considered by the CNPS to be rare, threatened, or endangered in California (i.e., California Rare Plant Ranks [CRPRs] 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, and 3). Some CRPR 4 species also meet the criteria to be analyzed under CEQA if cumulative impacts are significant enough to affect their overall rarity, based on CEQA Guidelines §15125 (c) and/or §15380. However, none of the plant species with CRPR 4 listing statuses mentioned in this Report are subject to consideration under CEQA. Therefore, they are included in this Report for informational purposes only.
 - Plants that are considered a locally significant species, which is a species that is not rare from a statewide perspective, but is rare or uncommon in a local context, such as within a county or region (14 CCR § 15125 [c]), or is so designated in local or regional plans, policies, or ordinances (CEQA Guidelines, Appendix G).

5.0 BACKGROUND RESEARCH

Prior to conducting the surveys, Insignia botanists reviewed background literature and searched relevant databases. This included a review of spatial data, survey results from the Special-Status Plant Species Survey Report (Insignia 2017) and the Supplemental Special-Status Plant Species Survey Report (Insignia 2018) for the Project, local flora guides, survey protocols, and geological data for the Survey Area from the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). Dr. James Andre, Director of the Sweeney Granite Mountains Desert Research Center, also provided expert botanical advice on local special-status plant species' occurrence information. The California Natural Diversity

Database (CNDDB) (California Department of Fish and Wildlife [CDFW] 2019) and the NNHP database (Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources [DCNR] 2019) were queried for special-status plant species occurrences within 5 miles of the Project. Insignia also performed a 56-quadrangle search of the CNPS Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants of California (CNPS 2019b) and queried the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system (USFWS 2019) for a list of federally endangered, threatened, and candidate plant species that may occur within or near the Survey Area.

This background research generated a list of 203 special-status plant species that have a potential to occur in the Survey Area. This list of species was provided in the 2016 Special-Status Plant Species Survey Report and the 2017 Supplemental Special-Status Plant Species Survey Report for the Project. This list was refined by comparing the species' ranges and habitat requirements with the location of the Survey Area, the habitat types within it, and the results of previous surveys for the Project to create a target list of species with a higher likelihood to occur. This refined target list is provided in Section 6.0 Background Research.

5.1 FIELD SURVEY

The surveys were conducted in accordance with guidelines published by the CNPS (2001), CDFW (2018), and USFWS (1996), which state the following:

- Surveys should be conducted at the proper time of year when locally significant plants are both evident and identifiable
- Surveys must be floristic in nature, meaning that every plant taxon observed must be identified to the taxonomic level necessary to determine its rarity and listing status
- Surveys must be conducted in a manner that is consistent with conservation ethics and accepted plant collection and documentation techniques

Surveys were focused on species that were determined to be likely to occur, based on the background research, and those species that were identified in the 2016 and 2017 special-status plant surveys for the Project.

5.1.0 Reference Population Visits

Immediately prior to each round of surveys, Insignia botanists visited reference populations to determine the blooming condition of potentially occurring special-status plants to ensure that they were flowering and identifiable at the time of the survey. Reference population visits also allowed the surveyors to obtain a search image of the target species and to identify associated species and habitat characteristics.

5.1.1 Surveys

Botanists walked transects through the entire Survey Area and closely examined microhabitats that were more likely to support special-status plants. Plants were counted individually where possible. All individuals of the same species within an approximately 10-foot radius were counted and recorded as single point using a sub-meter global positioning system (GPS) unit.

When populations covered a larger area, the extent of the population was mapped as a polygon using a sub-meter GPS unit and was attributed with the quantity of individuals within the polygon. If the number of individuals were too numerous to count, the population size was estimated and attributed to the polygon. To capture the extent of a population, polygons occasionally extended outside the Survey Area. Occurrences incidentally observed outside of, but in close proximity to the Survey Area boundary, were also included. Plant species were only mapped in the state in which they have a special-status designation (e.g., Coves' cassia was observed in the Survey Area in Nevada, but the species only carries a listing status in California; therefore, this species was not mapped in Nevada, where it had no special status). Table 4: 2019 Survey Dates and Personnel provides the dates and survey personnel for each round of the 2019 surveys.

2019 Survey Round	Dates	Surveyors
1	March 26 to April 7	Karin Edwards, Frankie Coburn, Christina Congedo, and Sarah Willbrand
2	April 20 to May 1	Karin Edwards, Frankie Coburn, Glenn Rink, and Tim Sullivan

Table 4: 2019 Survey Dates and Personnel

6 - RESULTS

6.0 BACKGROUND RESEARCH

Based on the background research, the list of special-status species with a potential to occur in the Impact Areas was refined by comparing the species' ranges and habitat requirements with the location of the Survey Area, the habitat types within it, technical advice from Dr. James Andre, and the results of previous surveys for the Project. Target species lists were developed for the portions of the Impact Areas in California and in Nevada. The target list for California included the following 36 species:

- Appressed mully (Muhlenbergia appressa)
- Beaver Dam breadroot (*Pediomelum castoreum*)
- Booth's evening-primrose (Eremothera boothii ssp. boothii)
- Clokey's cryptantha (Cryptantha clokeyi)
- Coves' cassia (Senna covesii)
- Creamy blazing star (*Mentzelia tridentata*)
- Darlington's blazing star (Mentzelia puberula)
- Desert beardtongue (Penstemon pseudospectabilis ssp. pseudospectabilis)
- Desert bedstraw (Galium proliferum)
- Emory's crucifixion-thorn (*Castela emoryi*)

- Golden-rayed pentachaeta (Pentachaeta aurea ssp. aurea)
- Harwood's eriastrum (Eriastrum harwoodii)
- Latimer's woodland gilia (Saltugilia latimeri)
- Limestone beardtongue (*Penstemon calcareus*)
- Lobed ground-cherry (*Physalis lobata*)
- Mojave menodora (Menodora spinescens var. mohavensis)
- Mojave paintbrush (*Castilleja plagiotoma*)
- Narrow-leaved yerba santa (*Eriodictyon angustifolium*)
- Nevada onion (*Allium nevadense*)
- Parry's spurge (Euphorbia parryi)
- Pinyon rockcress (Boechera dispar)
- Playa milk-vetch (Astragalus allochrous var. playanus)
- Purple-nerve cymopterus (*Cymopterus multinervatus*)
- Rosy two-toned beardtongue (*Penstemon bicolor* ssp. roseus)
- Rough menodora (Menodora scabra var. scabra)
- Rusby's desert-mallow (Sphaeralcea rusbyi var. eremicola)
- Salina Pass wild-rye (*Elymus salina*)
- Short-joint beavertail (*Opuntia basilaris* var. *brachyclada*)
- Slender cottonheads (*Nemacaulis denudata* var. *gracilis*)
- Small-flowered androstephium (Androstephium breviflorum)
- Spiny cliff-brake (*Pellaea truncata*)
- Spiny-hair blazing star (*Mentzelia tricuspis*)
- Stephens' beardtongue (Penstemon stephensii)
- Utah beardtongue (Penstemon utahensis)
- Violet twining snapdragon (Maurandella antirrhiniflora)
- White-margined beardtongue (*Penstemon albomarginatus*)

The following five species were targeted for the Project locations in Nevada:

- Chalk liveforever (*Dudleya pulverulenta* ssp. *arizonica*)
- Clokey's pincushion (*Coryphantha vivipara* var. *rosea*)
- Mojave milkweed (Asclepias nyctaginifolia)
- Reveal's buckwheat (*Eriogonum contiguum*)
- Rosy two-toned beardtongue (*Penstemon bicolor ssp. roseus*)

6.1 FIELD SURVEY

6.1.0 Reference Population Visits

Insignia botanists visited nearby known populations of the following 10 species:

- Coves' cassia
- Golden-rayed pentachaeta
- Matted cholla (*Grusonia parishii*)
- Mojave menodora (Menodora spinescens var. mohavensis)

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- Mojave milkweed (Asclepias nyctaginifolia)
- Mojave paintbrush
- Slender cottonheads
- Small flowered androstephium
- Spiny-hair blazing star
- Utah beardtongue

These species were identifiable at the time of the reference population visit and were thereby assumed to be identifiable in the Survey Area, if present. Botanists prioritized visiting reference populations for species that had the highest potential to occur.

6.1.1 Special-Status Plants

Insignia botanists observed 11 special-status plant species during the 2019 surveys, as described in this section and summarized in Table 5: Special-Status Plant Species Observed. The spring 2019 surveys resulted in a greater number of individuals of some species in existing populations, but no new distinct populations were discovered, except for yucca buckwheat (*Eriogonum plumatella*). The observation locations within the Survey Area are shown on Attachment B: Locations of Special-Status Plants Observed. A complete list of plant taxa, including subspecies and varieties, observed within the Survey Area during the two rounds of surveys is presented in Attachment C: Inventory of Plant Species Observed. Representative photographs are provided in Attachment D: Special-Status Plant Species Photographs. The following subsections describe the 11 special-status plant species observed within the Survey Area.

Appressed Muhly

Appressed mully (*Muhlenbergia appressa*) is a CRPR 2B.2 annual herb species in the grass family (Poaceae) that occurs on rocky slopes and open canyon bottoms in coastal scrub, Mojavean desert scrub, and valley/foothill grasslands from 65 to 5,250 feet in elevation. The blooming period is from April to May.

A population of 13 appressed multiplants was observed during the 2019 surveys along the Lugo-Mohave 500 kV Transmission Line in California. This species was found around one stringing site in Foshay Pass in the Providence Mountains and was growing on Rock outcrop-Lithic Torriorthents soils and in the *Eriogonum fasciculatum* Shrubland Alliance. This species was also recorded in Foshay Pass during the 2016 surveys.

Golden-Rayed Pentachaeta

Golden-rayed pentachaeta is a CRPR 4.2 annual herb species in the aster family (Asteraceae). This species occurs in chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, lower montane coniferous forest, riparian woodland, and valley and foothill grasslands between 260 and 6,070 feet in elevation. The blooming period for golden-rayed pentachaeta is March to July.

Table 5: Special-Status Plant Species Observed

Common Name	Scientific Name	Listing Status		Approximate Quantity of Individuals Observed		Attachment B
		California	Nevada	California	Nevada	Map Page
Appressed muhly	Muhlenbergia appressa	CRPR 2B.2	Not Ranked	13		18
Golden-rayed pentachaeta	Pentachaeta aurea ssp. aurea	CRPR 4.2	Not Ranked	2,729		1, 2, 3, 4
Mojave menodora	Menodora spinescens var. mohavensis	BLM CRPR 1B.2	Not Ranked	1,208		6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12
Mojave paintbrush	Castilleja plagiotoma	CRPR 4.3	Not Ranked	17		5
Rosy two-toned beardtongue	Penstemon bicolor ssp. roseus	BLM CRPR 1B.1	BLM S3		1	24
Rusby's desert-mallow	Sphaeralcea rusbyi var. eremicola	BLM CRPR 1B.2	Not Ranked	387		16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21
Short-jointed beavertail	Opuntia basilaris var. brachyclada	BLM CRPR 1B.2	Not Ranked	1		1
Slender cottonheads	Nemacaulis denudata var. gracilis	CRPR 2B.2	Not Ranked	1		15
Small flowered androstephium (= pink funnel lily)	Androstephium breviflorum	CRPR 2B.2	Not Ranked	56		13, 14
Spiny-hair blazing star	Mentzelia tricuspis	CRPR 2B.1	Not Ranked	22		22
Yucca buckwheat	Eriogonum plumatella	Not Ranked	S3		10	23

Notes:

• Plant species were only mapped in the state in which they have a special-status designation.

• This listen status codes are as follows: BLM Species:

-BLM: Species considered to be "sensitive" by the BLM

CRPRs:

distribution

-1B: Rare or endangered in California and elsewhere -2B: Rare, threatened, or endangered in California, but more common elsewhere -4: Watch list – plants of limited

CRPR Threat Code:

-0.1: Seriously threatened in California (over 80 percent of occurrences threatened/high degree and immediacy of threat)
-0.2: Moderately threatened in California (20 to 80 percent of occurrences threatened/moderate degree and immediacy of threat)
-0.3: Not very threatened in California (less than 20 percent of occurrences threatened/low degree and immediacy of threat or no current threats known)

Nevada NatureServe Rank:

- S3: Vulnerable – At moderate risk of extirpation in the jurisdiction due to a fairly restricted range, relatively few populations or occurrences, recent and widespread declines, threats, or other factors.



Approximately 2,729 golden-rayed pentachaeta individuals were observed in the Survey Area along the Lugo-Mohave 500 kV Transmission Line. These plants were found around multiple work areas in the western portion of the Survey Area near the City of Hesperia, California, on both sides of the California Aqueduct. This species occurred in multiple vegetation communities including *Achnatherum speciosum* Herbaceous Alliance, *Ephedra viridis* Shrubland Alliance, *Ericameria nauseosa* Shrubland Alliance, *Ericameria linearifolia - Cleome isomeris* Shrubland Alliance, *Juniperus californica* Woodland Alliance, and also in areas mapped as Developed. The golden-rayed pentachaeta was found growing in the following two soil types: Cajon-Wasco, Cool Complex, 2 To 9 Percent Slopes and Gullied Land-Haploxeralfs Association. This species was documented during the 2016 surveys, but was not included in the final draft of the Special-Status Plant Survey Report (Insignia 2018), due to its lack of a special status designation under CEQA. It is included here for informational purposes only.

Mojave Menodora

Mojave menodora is a BLM sensitive species and a CRPR 1B.2 species in the olive family (Oleaceae). This perennial, deciduous shrub grows on andesite substrates on rocky desert hillsides and canyons in Mojavean desert scrub at elevations ranging from 2,200 to 6,500 feet. The blooming period for Mojave menodora is April to May, but it is identifiable year-round.

Approximately 1,208 Mojave menodora individuals were observed growing in California along the Lugo-Mohave 500 kV Transmission Line during the 2019 surveys. These plants were found growing around multiple work areas south of Interstate (I-) 40, in the vicinity of the Rodman Mountains and Fry Mountains. The vegetation communities in which the species was growing were *Coleogyne ramosissima* Shrubland Alliance, *Larrea tridentata* Shrubland Alliance and *Larrea tridentata* - *Ambrosia dumosa* Shrubland Alliance; the species was also found growing on Developed land. Soil types were Trigger-Rock outcrop-Calvista; Burntshack-Hypoint association, 2 to 4 percent slopes; Arizo association, flooded, 2 to 4 percent slopes; Burntshack-Hypoint association, 2 to 4 percent slopes; Lavabed-Dalvord association, 8 to 50 percent slopes; and Haleburu-Noble Pass complex, 15 to 50 percent slopes. Mojave menodora was also mapped in this area during the 2016 and 2017 surveys.

Mojave Paintbrush

Mojave paintbrush is a CRPR 4.3 perennial herb in the broomrape family (Orobanchaceae). This species grows in dry sagebrush scrub and pinyon-juniper woodland between 1,000 and 8,200 feet in elevation. The blooming period for this species is April to June.

A population of 17 individuals was observed during the 2019 surveys in California along the Lugo-Mohave 500 kV Transmission Line. These plants were documented at two work areas in the Ord Mountains and approximately 4 miles east of the Mojave River. This species was growing in Cushenbury-Crafton-Rock Outcrop Complex, 15 To 50 Percent Slopes soils, in Developed land, and in the *Prunus fasciculata - Salazaria mexicana* Shrubland Alliance. Mojave paintbrush was documented during the 2016 surveys, as well, but was not included in the final draft of the Special-Status Plant Survey Report (Insignia 2018), due to its lack of a special status designation under CEQA. Because it does not meet the qualifications for protection under CEQA, it is included here for informational purposes only.

Rosy Two-Toned Beardtongue

Rosy two-toned beardtongue (*Penstemon bicolor* ssp. *roseus*) is a BLM sensitive species, a CRPR 1B.2 species, and a Nevada S3 species. It is a perennial herb in the plantain family (Plantaginaceae) that occurs in gravelly, rocky, or disturbed soils in Mojavean desert scrub and Joshua tree woodland of California, Arizona, and Nevada at elevations ranging from 2,300 to 5,000 feet. The blooming period for this species is in May.

One rosy two-toned beardtongue plant was observed during the 2019 surveys in Nevada along the Eldorado-Mohave 500 kV Transmission Line. This individual was growing in a large ephemeral wash in a work area located approximately 3 miles west of Veterans Memorial Highway in Eldorado Valley. The soil type was Arizo-Peskah-Crosgrain Association and the vegetation community at the site was *Ericameria paniculata* Shrubland Alliance. Rosy two-toned beardtongue was documented in the same area during the 2016 surveys.

Rusby's Desert-Mallow

Rusby's desert-mallow (*Sphaeralcea rusbyi* var. *eremicola*) is a CRPR 1B.2 perennial herb in the mallow family (Malvaceae) that occurs in Mojavean desert scrub and Joshua tree woodlands. It is endemic to California, and occurs at elevations ranging from 3,200 to 5,400 feet. The blooming period for Rusby's desert-mallow is from March to June.

A population of approximately 387 Rusby's desert-mallow plants were observed during the 2019 surveys in California along the Eldorado-Mohave 500 kV Transmission Line. These plants were observed in Foshay Pass in the Providence Mountains and immediately to the east of the Providence Mountains in Clipper Valley. This species was growing in several vegetation communities including *Ambrosia salsola – Bebbia juncea* Shrubland Alliance, *Ericameria nauseosa* Shrubland Alliance, *Eriogonum fasciculatum* Shrubland Alliance, and *Yucca schidigera* Shrubland Alliance, as well as Developed areas. Rusby's desert-mallow was found growing in the following three soil types: Cajon-Arizo, Nickel-Bitter-Arizo, Rock outcrop-Lithic Torriorthents. The species was documented at the same location during the 2016 surveys. It is possible that these plants are intergrading with a common species, as the leaves exhibited intermediate characteristics with roughleaf apricot mallow (*Sphaeralcea ambigua* var. *rugosa*), and these species are known to hybridize.

Short-Jointed Beavertail

Short-jointed beavertail (*Opuntia basilaris* var. *brachyclada*) is a BLM sensitive species and a CRPR 1B.2 perennial stem succulent in the cactus family (Cactaceae) that is endemic to California, and occurs in Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties. This cactus inhabits chaparral; Mojavean desert scrub; and Joshua tree, pinyon, and juniper woodlands ranging in elevation from 1,400 to 5,900 feet. The blooming period is from April to August.

One short-jointed beavertail individual was found during the 2019 surveys in the work area for one tower in California along the Lugo-Mohave 500 kV Transmission Line. This plant was observed in the foothills of the San Bernardino Mountains south of the City of Hesperia and west of the California Aqueduct. Soils at the site were Cajon-Wasco, Cool Complex, 2 To 9 Percent Slopes and the vegetation community was *Juniperus californica* Woodland Alliance. Short-

jointed beavertail was documented in this same area during the 2016 surveys. This individual exhibited characteristics of a common species—*Opuntia basilaris* var. *basilaris*—and may be considered a hybrid in this location, as this location is a zone of introgression. This plant may be a hybrid with beavertail cactus (*Opuntia basilaris*), as this site is located in a zone of introgression between the species.

Slender Cottonheads

Slender cottonheads is a CRPR 2B.2 annual herb in the buckwheat family (Polygonaceae) that occurs in coastal dunes, desert dunes, and Sonoran desert scrub in California, Arizona, and Baja California at elevations from 160 to 1,300 feet. The blooming period for slender cottonheads is from March to May.

One slender cottonheads plant was observed during the 2019 surveys in California along the Lugo-Mohave 500 kV Transmission Line. The plant was located along the southern edge of the Kelso Dunes, approximately 1 mile west of Kelso Dunes Road and off of Kelbaker Road. The soil type was Nickel-Bitter-Arizo, and the land cover was Developed. Slender cottonheads was documented at this location during the 2016 surveys.

Small Flowered Androstephium

Small flowered androstephium (= pink funnel lily) is a CRPR 2B.2 species in the brodiaea family (Themidaceae). This species is a perennial herb (bulb) that grows in desert dunes and bajadas in Mojavean desert scrub. Small flowered androstephium blooms in March and early April and is generally found at elevations ranging from 330 to 5,250 feet.

Approximately 56 small flowered androstephium plants were observed during the 2019 surveys in California. The plants were found in two general locations. One population was located along the Lugo-Mohave 500 kV Transmission Line in Broadwell Valley, north of the community of Ludlow. The second population was documented within the work area for the proposed Newberry Springs Series Capacitor. Because this is a perennial bulb species, some of the plants observed were in vegetative form only, meaning that just the leaves were visible above the ground. Although a positive identification could be made for most of them, the younger leaves were difficult to differentiate from similar species. The plants were only found growing in Rositas-Carrizo soils. The species was mapped in *Larrea tridentata* Shrubland Alliance, *Larrea tridentata - Ambrosia dumosa* Shrubland Alliance, and Developed areas. Small flowered androstephium was also documented in this area during the 2017 surveys.

Spiny-Hair Blazing Star

Spiny-hair blazing star is a CRPR 2B.1 annual herb in the loasa family (Loasaceae) that occurs in sandy, gravelly substrates on slopes and washes in the Mojavean desert scrub at elevations ranging from 500 to 4,200 feet. The blooming period for spiny-hair blazing star is from March to May.

A population of 22 spiny-hair blazing star individuals was observed during the 2019 surveys in California along the Lugo-Mohave 500 kV Transmission Line. The population was confined to one work area on the western edge of the Dead Mountains in California, approximately 3 miles

east of Veterans Memorial Highway and near the border of Nevada. The soil type at this site was Trigger-Rock outcrop-Calvista; the vegetation consisted of *Larrea tridentata - Ambrosia dumosa* Shrubland Alliance and developed land. Spiny-hair blazing star was documented in the same location during the 2016 surveys.

Yucca Buckwheat

Yucca buckwheat is a Nevada S3 shrub in the buckwheat family (Polygonaceae). The species occurs in sand or gravel substrates in creosote bush scrub, shadscale scrub, Joshua tree woodland, and pinyon-juniper woodland between 1,300 and 5,500 feet in elevation. The blooming period for yucca buckwheat is from April to October.

A population of 10 yucca buckwheat individuals was observed during the 2019 surveys in Nevada along the Eldorado-Mohave 500 kV Transmission Line. This population was located around one stringing site in the southern foothills of the Dead Mountains of Nevada, approximately 11 miles southwest of Mohave Substation. The plants were growing in Filaree-Seanna association soils and in two vegetation communities: *Senegalia greggii – Hyptis emoryi – Justicia californica* Shrubland Alliance and *Yucca schidigera* Shrubland Alliance. Yucca buckwheat was not documented in previous surveys.

7 – DISCUSSION

The spring 2019 surveys were conducted following above-average rains in the preceding winter and spring months, which caused an increase in blooms across the Mojave Desert. Despite the increased rains, only one additional special-status plant species, yucca buckwheat, was observed that had not been documented during the 2016 or 2017 surveys. Furthermore, although the spring 2019 surveys resulted in a greater number of individuals of some species in existing populations, no new distinct populations were discovered, except for the yucca buckwheat.

Several species that were observed during the 2016 and 2017 surveys were not observed in 2019. In part, this is because the 2016 Survey Area was almost three times larger than the 2019 Survey Area, as shown in Table 3: Special-Status Plant Survey Summary. Further, the third round of 2017 surveys was conducted in the fall, which captured species that were not observable during the 2019 surveys, which were limited to the spring. Species reported during the 2016 and 2017 surveys that were not observed in 2019 include:

- Abrams' spurge (Euphorbia abramsiana),
- Clokey's cryptantha (Cryptantha clokeyi),³
- Coves' cassia (Senna covesii),
- Matted cholla (Grusonia parishii),
- Mojave milkweed (Asclepias nyctaginifolia),
- Narrow-leaved yerba santa (*Eriodictyon angustifolium*),

³ This species may have been misidentified in previous surveys. Further investigation of these populations was conducted in 2019; voucher specimens were collected and sent to an expert. It was determined that most of the Cryptanthas in the Survey Area were *C. barbigera barbigera*. No *C. clokeyi* individuals were found in 2019.

- Parry's spurge (Euphorbia parryi),
- Playa milk-vetch (Astragalus allochrous var. playanus),
- Salina Pass wild-rye (Elymus salina), and
- Spiny cliff-brake (*Pellaea truncata*).

A full discussion of the 2016 and 2017 survey results is provided in the Special-Status Plant Species Survey Report (Insignia 2017) and the Supplemental Special-Status Plant Species Survey Report (Insignia 2018) for the Project.

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ATTACHMENT A: VEGETATION COMMUNITIES AND LAND COVERS



