



# Biological Resource Assessment for Honda Valley Park and Extension City of Santa Barbara Hazardous Fuels Mitigation Project

To: The City of Santa Barbara
Parks & Recreation Department

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#### **PROJECT SUMMARY**

SummitWest Environmental Inc. (SummitWest) completed biological surveys for rare plant species, special status wildlife species and habitats, vegetation communities and native grasslands, invasive plant species, and conducted coarse waters mapping, in support of the City of Santa Barbara's Hazardous Fuels Mitigation Project (Project). These surveys were completed across approximately 594 acres comprising seven parks in 2023, and across approximately 36.778 acres comprising three areas in 2024; this Biological Resources Assessment (BRA), and the associated geospatial database, detail the findings for Honda Valley Park in 2023 and for Honda Valley Extension in 2024.

In Honda Valley Park, four special status plant species, one special status wildlife species, six special status wildlife species' suitable habitats, six vegetation communities (including two sensitive communities), 27 invasive plant species, and one water resource were mapped in 2023. In Honda Valley Extension, zero special status plant species, zero special status wildlife species, three special status wildlife species' suitable habitats, four vegetation communities (including one sensitive community), seven invasive plant species, and one water resource were mapped in 2024. Survey results and impact analysis and avoidance and mitigation measures are detailed below.

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The City of Santa Barbara Wildfire Resiliency Project, a collaboration between The Parks and Recreation Department and Fire Department, aims to improve the community's fire resilience and reduce the risk and severity of wildfires. To achieve this aim, the project intends to implement a comprehensive and sustainable reduction of hazardous fuels in the High Fire Hazard Areas of the City, in accordance with the objectives stated in the City's 2021 Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP; City, 2021), and vegetation management activities in open space parks. The work area is approximately 630.778 total acres spread across nine open space parks: Parma Park, Honda Valley Park, Elings Park, Douglas Family Preserve, Stevens Park, Franceschi Park, Hale Park, La Mesa Park, and Rattlesnake Canyon Trail (Figure 1). SummitWest conducted concurrent rare plant surveys, invasive plant surveys, vegetation community and native grassland mapping, and wildlife habitat assessments to identify resources that may be affected by Project activities. Isolated populations of noxious weeds that had not yet gone to seed were removed by hand for up to 60-minutes within Honda Valley Extension in 2024. Coarse waters mapping was also conducted. All Project activities are contingent on compliance with various local, state, and federal legislation.

# 1.1 Project Location and Setting

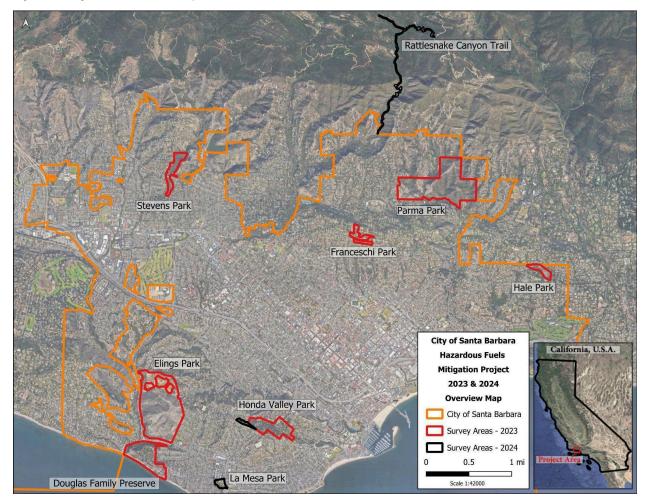
Honda Valley Park and Extension are regionally located within the City of Santa Barbara on the southern coast of California. Santa Barbara is nestled between the Santa Ynez Mountains and the Pacific Ocean, resulting in a diverse topography of hills, valleys, and coastal plains (Figure 1). The Mediterranean climate



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of the city is characterized by mild, wet winters and warm, dry summers. Frequent marine layers are present throughout the summer due to proximity to the ocean. Average temperatures are around 60°F in winter to the mid-70s°F in summer (NOAA, 1994; Western Regional Climate Center, 2023).

Figure 1. Regional Location Map



The City of Santa Barbara prioritizes sustainable development and land management, and promotes growth of natural resources as well as historic preservation. Key land uses within the city include residential, parks and open space (including Goleta Slough Natural Reserve and Shoreline), commercial, institutional, and industrial (County, 2011; County, 2021).

Honda Valley Park totals 48 acres and is located in the coastal interior zone of the High Fire Hazard Area within unincorporated Santa Barbara County, approximately 0.5-mile southwest of Highway 101 (Figure 2). The Park is bordered by Miramonte Drive to the North and La Coronilla Drive to the South. Land use



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of the surrounding area is residential development. Honda Valley Park is located within the United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute Santa Barbara topographic quadrangle in Sections 21 and 28 of Township 4 North and Range 27 West, and Assessor Parcel Numbers (APNs) 035-040-028, 035-040-014, 035-040-019, and 035-040-021. Honda Valley Park is centered at approximately 34.407894 latitude and -119.712925 longitude, and elevation of the park ranges from 130 to 400 feet above mean sea level (msl) with approximately 5-10% slopes. The majority of Honda Valley Park soil is made up of Arnold loamy sand 15-30% and 30-50% slopes, which is eroded, somewhat excessively drained, and derived from Residuum weathered from very soft sandstone. Some of the Park also contains Ayar clay 50-75% slopes, which is well drained and derived from Residuum weathered from mudstone or calcareous shale (USDA, 2023).

Honda Valley Extension totals approximately 4 acres and is attached to the western edge of Honda Valley Park. The Extension is located within additional APNs 035-470-011, 035-470-010, and 035-470-009, and the soil is also made up of Arnold loamy sand 15-30% and 30-50% slopes (USDA, 2024).



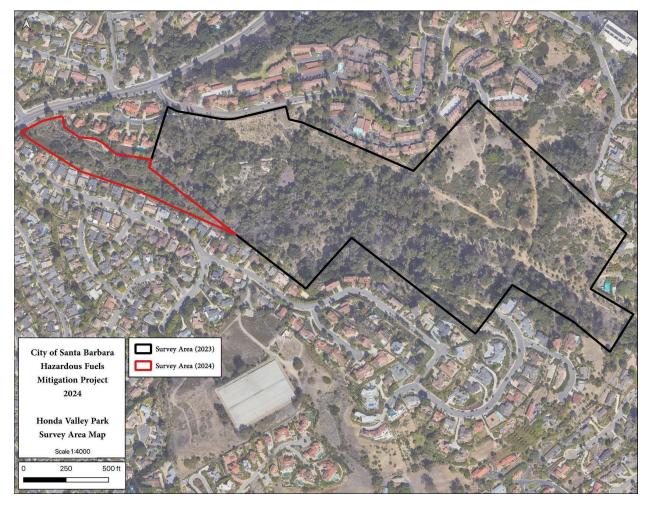


Figure 2. Honda Valley Park and Extension Survey Area Map

# 1.2 Project Description

The City of Santa Barbara Fire Department is responsible for implementing the objectives stated in the CWPP. The Fire Department and the Parks and Recreation Department have historically not had the resources available to closely manage and maintain the High Fire Hazard Areas and specified Vegetation Management Units (VMUs) identified in the CWPP. These Departments jointly secured Wildfire Resilience Grants, awarded by the California State Coastal Conservancy (Conservancy), and CalFire, which provides funding for the Wildfire Resiliency Project, of which this report is a component.

Recognized CWPP VMUs have unique hazards, include or are adjacent to resources threatened by wildfire, have the potential for extreme fire behavior, and pose various challenges for fire protection. Before receiving the Conservancy and CalFire funding referenced herein, City fire crews responded to management needs on a short-term, as needed/quick response basis, without the necessary resources in place for a comprehensive response. Although the Parks and Recreation Department conducts



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vegetation management activities to meet defensible space requirements, a comprehensive, sustainable approach is needed.

The Hazardous Fuels Mitigation Project aims to reduce fire risk while avoiding disruption of the natural ecosystem via (1) maintaining defensible space around adjacent homes, (2) maintaining and improving the necessary fire access roads/fuel breaks to access High Fire Hazard Areas, (3) vegetation management targeted at high-fire risk invasive species removal and associated native plant restoration efforts, (4) fuel load reduction in at-risk areas, and (5) community outreach and education around fuels management. Site specific biological planning documents need to be in place before the aforementioned project work can occur.

Vegetation management methods will be implemented on a site-specific basis, including but not limited to: vegetation lifting via hand cutting, weed whipping, tree removal focused on hazardous deadwood and high-fire-risk invasive species, chipping, grazing, cutting of mosaic patterns to change the fuels continuity, active restoration (planting of container plants and/or seed application), and passive restoration (promoting the natural succession and recolonization by native/fire resilient species via selective maintenance).



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#### 2.0 REGULATORY OVERVIEW

For the objectives of this Biological Resources Assessment, special status botanical or wildlife species are those that are:

- Listed as threatened or endangered under the Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA)
- Listed as rare, threatened, endangered, or candidates for listing under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA)
- Designated as Fully Protected (FP), Species of Special Concern (SSC), or Watch List (WL) by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)
- Listed as Vulnerable (VU), Endangered (EN), or Critically Endangered (CR) by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- Designated as locally important by the City of Santa Barbara

Additionally, the evaluation of potential impacts on biological resources within the Project will be determined by considering the following legislation:

- FESA (USFWS, 1973)
- Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA; USFWS, 1918)
- The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA; USC, 1940)
- Clean Water Act (CWA; USC, 1972)
- CESA (CDFW, 1984)
- California Fish and Game Code (CFGC; CDFW, 1984)
- Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB, 2019)
- Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (California Water Code, 1969)
- California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA, 1970)
- County of Santa Barbara General Plan (County, 2011)
- City of Santa Barbara Local Coastal Program Coastal Land Use Plan (City, 2019)
- City of Santa Barbara Urban Forest Management Plan (City, 2014)

# 2.1 Federal Regulations

#### **Federal Endangered Species Act**

The FESA (16 USC § 153 et seq.) safeguards flora and fauna that have been designated as endangered or threatened by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). According to Section 9 of the FESA, it is forbidden to engage in any activities that harm or cause "take" of endangered wildlife. "Take" encompasses actions such as to "harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, collect, or attempt to engage in such conduct" (50 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 17.3). Harm as listed also encompasses habitat modification. Regarding botanical species, this law regulates actions such as removing, possessing, maliciously damaging, or destroying



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endangered plants on federal land, as well as removing, cutting, digging up, damaging, or destroying endangered plants on non-federal land, in deliberate defiance of state law (16 U.S. Code [USC] 1538).

Federal agencies are obligated to consult with the USFWS if their activities, inclusive of providing funding or approving permits, could negatively impact any listed or proposed listed plant or wildlife species or critical habitat (Section 7 of the FESA). With discourse and provision of a biological opinion, the USFWS has the authority to grant an incidental "take" permit (ITP), sanctioning the incidental "take" of a sensitive species or its habitat as a result of an otherwise authorized activity, as long as it will not endanger the species' continued survival. Section 10 of the ESA defines the procedure for issuing an ITP in cases where no other federal actions are required, as long as a habitat conservation plan (HCP) is established. Verification of whether the Project will affect sensitive species or their habitat depends on a thorough literature review of the Project area and/or field inspection by a qualified biologist.

No "take" of federally listed endangered or threatened species is proposed in this Hazardous Fuels Mitigation Project.

#### **Migratory Bird Treaty Act**

The MBTA, outlined in Section 703-711 of the 16 USC, is implemented by the USFWS. This Act administers international agreements between the United States and other countries created to safeguard migratory birds and their body parts, eggs, and nests from actions such as hunting, pursuing, capturing, killing, selling, and shipping. These actions are prohibited unless specifically allowed through regulations or obtained permits. The law currently applies to more than 1,000 species, including most native birds, and covers the destruction or removal of active nests of those species. The USFWS has the authority to grant permits for specific activities, including falconry, raptor propagation, scientific collecting, special purposes (rehabilitation, education, migratory game bird propagation, and salvage), "take" of depredating birds, taxidermy, and waterfowl sale and disposal (50 CFR 13 and 50 CFR 21).

# **Bald and Gold Eagle Protection Act**

The BGEPA, as specified in Section 668 of 16 USC, is implemented by the USFWS. The BGEPA is aimed at safeguarding both bald and golden eagles, and creates legal consequences for individuals who "take, possess, sell, purchase, barter, offer to sell, purchase or barter, transport, export or import, at any time or any manner, any bald eagle [or any golden eagle], alive or dead, or any part, nest, or egg thereof." In the context of the BGEPA, "take" includes the activities to "pursue, shoot, shoot at, poison, wound, kill, capture, trap, collect, molest or disturb."



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#### **Clean Water Act**

The CWA (Title 33 USC Sections 1251-1376) offers direction for restoration and preservation of the "chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the nation's waters," which included oceans, bays, rivers, perennial and non-perennial streams, lakes, ponds, and seasonal and perennial wetlands. Section 404 of the CWA forbids the discharge of dredged or fill material into Waters of the United States (U.S.) unless a permit is administered by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). The term "fill material" denotes any substance mainly used to replace an aquatic area with dry land or to modify the bottom elevation of a water body. The phrase "Waters of the U.S." encompasses rivers, streams, estuaries, the territorial seas, ponds, lakes, and wetlands. Perennial and intermittent creeks are considered Waters of the U.S. if they are hydrologically connected to other navigable, jurisdictional waters.

The USACE also enforces Executive Order 11990, which is a federal policy aimed at ensuring there is no overall reduction of wetland value or acreage. In support of the CWA, the USACE strives to prevent negative impacts and mitigate unavoidable negative impacts on existing aquatic resources. Any release of dredged or fill material into wetlands and waterways that impact Waters of the U.S. necessitates a permit from the USACE prior to commencing work. Achieving the goal of no overall reduction of wetland value or acreage is accomplished through avoidance and minimization measures to the utmost extent possible, as well as through compensatory mitigation measures that will generate or amplify similar habitats.

The USACE has the authority to grant an individual permit or a general permit. Significant effects to wetlands may necessitate obtaining an individual permit; however, projects with only minimal effects on wetlands may satisfy the criteria of one of the preexisting Nationwide Permits. Activities that necessitate a Section 404 permit require a Section 401 Water Quality Certification or waiver prior to receiving the Section 404 permit. This certification confirms compliance with state water quality standards, including beneficial uses (23 CCR § 3830, et seq), and is administered by the State Water Quality Control Board (SWQCB) and by each of nine California RWQCB.

#### 2.2 State and Local Regulations

#### California Endangered Species Act

CESA closely aligns with the statutes of the FESA, but CESA also applies "take" prohibitions to species that are state candidates for listing. CESA states that "all native species of fishes, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals, invertebrates, and plants, and their habitats, threatened with extinction and those experiencing a significant decline which, if not halted, would lead to a threatened or endangered designation, will be protected or preserved." Additionally, under CESA, "take" is defined as "to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill" an individual of a



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species, but this description does not include indirect impacts to species such as "harm" or "harass," like the FESA does. CDFW is responsible for administration of CESA, and is dedicated to collaborating with individuals, agencies, and institutions to safeguard and conserve special status species and their habitats. CDFW has created lists of species categorized as California endangered, threatened, and candidate, and there is some overlap with the FESA lists.

CDFW has the authority to grant an ITP (CFGC section 2080.1), sanctioning the incidental "take" of a sensitive species as a result of an otherwise authorized activity, as long as it will not endanger the species' continued survival. Additionally, applying for an ITP involves prerequisites such as outlining measures to minimize potential "take", as well as detailing strategies for mitigating "take" of listed species. CESA stresses the importance of early discourse to prevent potential impacts on rare, endangered, and threatened species, and to create suitable mitigation measures to offset any loss of listed species caused by Project activities. Verification of whether the Project will affect sensitive species depends on a thorough literature review of the Project area and/or field inspection by a qualified biologist.

Another type of special status species designated by the CDFW is "Species of Special Concern" (SSC), which is a classification for species that act as indicators of regional habitat alterations or have potential to become future protected species. SSC are not granted any specific legal standing, other than distinct Sections of CFGC described below. Classification as SSC is helpful for management because it allows CDFW to consider these species when making decisions regarding the development of natural landscapes.

CDFW's California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB, 2023) is a resource that tracks all species of concern, referred to as "special status species" regardless of their specific protection status. CDFW regards the species on this list as requiring the highest level of conservation.

No "take" of state listed endangered or threatened species or candidate species is proposed in this Hazardous Fuels Mitigation Project.

#### California Fish and Game Code

- The Native Plant Protection Act (NPPA) (CFGC §§ 1900-1913) was established to determine which plant species qualify for state listing. Qualified species include those with a California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR) of 1A, 1B, and 2, which fulfill the requirements of sections 1901, Chapter 10 (NPPA) or sections 2062 and 2067 (CESA) of the CFGC. CDFW administers the NPPA and defines the standards that designate a species, subspecies, or variety of native plant as endangered or rare.
- Sections 1600-1616 of the CFGC regulate activities that may alter any part of "Waters of the State", which includes the flow, bed, banks, channel, or associated riparian areas of a river,



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stream, or lake. Specifically, Section 1602 of the CFGC necessitates that a Notification of Lake and Streambed Alteration shall be presented to CDFW for "any activity that may substantially divert or obstruct the natural flow or substantially change the bed, channel, or bank of any river, stream, or lake." This may include activities that will affect the edge of riparian vegetation connected to the banks. After reviewing the proposed Project activities, CDFW may submit measures for the Project to implement that are required to safeguard aquatic species and biological resources that may be impacted by the Project activities. The final resulting mutual agreement between CDFW and the Project applicant is a Streambed Alteration Agreement (SAA). Frequently, Projects requiring an SAA from CDFW will also require a CWA Section 404 Permit from the USACE, and the components of both may overlap.

- The CDFW ensures the safeguarding of nongame native birds in CFGC Sections 3503, 3503.5, and 3800. Additionally, Section 3513 of the CFGC forbids the ownership or "take" of birds listed under the MBTA. Together, these Sections sanction the preservation of almost all California nongame native birds, not exclusively special status birds, as well as their nests, eggs, and parts.
- CFGC Sections 3511 4700, 5050, and 5515 safeguard Fully Protected (FP) bird, mammal, reptile, amphibian, and fish species, and forbid any harm, possession, or "take" of any of these species.
   An ITP may not be obtained from CDFW for FP species, so any Project activities that could impact FP species must be entirely avoided.

#### Regional Water Quality Control Board for the Central Coastal Basin

The Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act of 1967 (California Water Code § 13000 et seq.) requires the SWQCB and the nine RWQCBs to establish water quality standards to preserve Waters of the State. These standards include defining beneficial uses, formulating descriptive and numerical water quality criteria, and outlining administrative strategies. For each RWQCB, specific water quality control plans are developed, delineating policies, objectives, and water management practices that align with the Porter Cologne Water Quality Control Act. As mentioned in the Federal CWA section above, the RWQCB also issues Water Quality Certifications in accordance with Section 401 for all waters under federal authority. The SWQCB manages discharges and safeguards water quality of "isolated" Waters of the State through Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) (USC, 1972).

# California Environmental Quality Act

The following guidelines derived from the Initial Study checklist within Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines were used to determine the degree of environmental impact imposed by the Project. Based on these standards, significant impact to biological resources can be assumed if the Project would:

• have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by CDFW or USFWS;



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- have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the CDFW or USFWS;
- have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, and coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means;
- interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species, or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites;
- conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance; and
- conflict with the provisions of an adopted HCP, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state HCP.

When assessing whether there will be significant impacts on a biological resource, it is crucial to consider both the resource and its role within the broader local or regional environment. A significant impact includes any impact that reduces or causes loss of a biological resource, or is inconsistent with any local, state, or federal mandates, objectives, or conservation plans. Occasionally, an impact may be locally significant due to negative modification of existing environments, but not significant per CEQA due to lack of considerable reduction or indefinite loss of that resource on a population- or region-wide basis.

#### City of Santa Barbara General Plan

The main purpose of the General Plan is to aid the City in becoming more sustainable, and to "enhance and preserve the City's critical ecological resources in order to provide a high quality environment necessary to sustain the City's ecosystem." The General Plan helps city officials, planners, and residents make informed decisions that ensures they are "efficiently and effectively managing and protecting...natural and physical resources." Environmental protection goals include initiatives to: create a climate change action plan; protect native trees (especially oaks); protect, maintain, and expand diverse native plant and wildlife habitats; and protect and restore creeks and riparian corridors. Specifically, biological resource policies include:

- 1.0 A set of land use suitability guidelines shall be developed for use in land planning and the environmental review process.
- 2.0 Redevelopment and renovation of the central City shall be encouraged in order to preserve existing resources.
- 3.0 Goleta Slough shall be preserved and restored as a coastal wetland ecosystem.
- 4.0 Remaining Coastal Perennial Grasslands and Southern Oak Woodlands shall be preserved, where feasible.
- 5.0 The habitats of rare and endangered species shall be preserved.
- 6.0 Intertidal and marine resources shall be maintained or enhanced.



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- 7.0 Prime agricultural lands shall be conserved wherever possible and expansion of agricultural uses shall be allowed subject to maximizing compatibility with adjacent land uses and restricting effects on the environment.
- 8.0 The use of City-owned vacant properties for community gardens shall be encouraged.
- 9.0 The biotic resources of the Harbor shall be maintained, so far as possible within the framework of the Local Coastal Program (LCP) and other Harbor Restoration plans.
- 10.0 Programs shall be developed to maintain a productive urban biotic community.
- 11.0 Where Biological Resources policies conflict, the policy most protective of the natural environment shall prevail.

#### City of Santa Barbara Local Coastal Program Coastal Land Use Plan

The City of Santa Barbara Local Coastal Program (LCP) Coastal Land Use Plan (CLUP) describes the developmental and land use management standards within the coastal areas throughout the City of Santa Barbara. The LCP is the planning framework required by the California Coastal Act to equalize development with resource protection along the coast. The CLUP ensures responsible and sustainable land use while preserving the environment and its natural resources. Regulations for development activities and/or land uses and implementation measures that aid in protection of resources within the coastal zone are included within the CLUP.

#### City of Santa Barbara Urban Forest Management Plan

The main purpose of the City of Santa Barbara Urban Forest Management Plan (Plan) is to preserve, manage, and enhance urban forests throughout the City. The Plan can have the greatest influence on the approximately 20% of the urban forest that exists on City property. Together with the Parks and Recreation Department, Public Works Department, Community Development Department, and Fire Department, the City is able to adequately manage urban forest landscapes. Municipal codes and Objectives within the Plan describe protective and implementation measures that promote maintenance and mitigation of impact to urban forests.



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#### 3.0 METHODS

#### 3.1 Literature Review

Prior to conducting fieldwork, SummitWest biologists performed a literature review of the project areas using a 6-quad search of CDFW's Biogeographic Information and Observation System (BIOS), the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB; CDFW, 2023a; CDFW, 2023b), and the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants and Vegetation Alliance Manual (CNPS 2023a; CNPS 2023b). Other resources investigated include A Manual of California Vegetation, 2nd edition (Sawyer et al., 2009), Calflora (2023), Special Animals List (CDFW, 2023c), and State and Federally Listed Endangered and Threatened Animals of California (CDFW, 2023d). These searches identified special status species and vegetative communities, notable water resources, and critical wildlife habitat with potential to occur in the Survey Area. Results of this review directed the scope and details of field surveys.

#### 3.2 Reference Site Checks

In preparation for field surveys, SummitWest botanist Keir Morse conducted two reference site checks in 2023, and Margaret Gallagher and Alex Aylard conducted two reference site checks in 2024, to determine plant species' bloom windows, characteristics, and site-specific phenology. On April 3, 2023, Mr. Morse visited four different sites known to contain the target species (34.457648, -119.692198; 34.458679, -119.764113; 34.513800, -119.804190; 34.402906, -119.741831) and on April 6, 2024, Ms. Gallagher visited five different sites known to contain the target species (34.51911, -119.75268; 34.51939, -119.75054; 34.47382, -119.73679; 34.27818, -119.31216; 34.2334, -119.1726), to obtain visual confirmation of the species and their associated habitats, and confirm the correct time of year to begin surveying for early- to mid-season blooming species. On July 24, 2023, Mr. Morse visited four different sites known to contain the target species (34.434004, -119.553300; 34.513800, -119.804190; 34.510545, -119.772226; 34.416926, -119.883417) and on June 24, 2024, Mr. Aylard visited five different sites known to contain the target species (34.51376, -119.80416; 34.5138056, -119.8041944; 34.497060, -119.716118; 34.421187, -119.867356; 34.757501, -120.514958), to obtain visual confirmation of the species and their associated habitats, and confirm the correct time of year to begin surveying for late-season blooming species.

# 3.3 Biological Reconnaissance Surveys

Biological reconnaissance surveys were completed by walking parallel and meandering transects ranging from 30 to 60 feet apart depending on terrain and visibility, to ensure comprehensive coverage of Honda Valley Park and Extension. Botanists mapped all observed invasive plant species, rare plant species, and vegetation alliances utilizing existing protocols (CNPS, 2001; USFWS, 2000; CDFW, 2018). Due to the large amount of different invasive species observed, individual invasive plant points were



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displayed as a group rather than by species name in the invasive plants figure; species names associated with each point are available in the associated geodatabase. Ubiquitous and common invasives that have little likelihood of being controlled were generally not mapped unless there was extra time. Weed mapping focused on emergent threats and smaller stands of weeds that could possibly be controlled. Some of the weeds mapped are surrounded by larger areas of ubiquitous invasive weeds that are not mapped. Obvious ornamental plantings were not included in the plants lists and not mapped as weeds unless known to be invasive. Invasive species that could be easily removed by hand were removed over the course of one hour throughout the surveys in 2024. After surveys were completed, botanists determined and mapped areas recommended for further invasive plant removal. Species noted as Group 1 for removal are those that are easily controlled and, either early or not yet established infestations, or aggressive spreaders with high invasiveness. Species noted as Group 2 for removal are those that are either somewhat established or a single occurrence, and can be controlled fairly easily. The remaining invasive species that were mapped as present but not mapped as recommended for treatment are those that are either not easily controlled and well established, or would require significant effort to be treated and controlled. Wildlife biologists mapped all observed sensitive species and their suitable habitat. Water resources observed were coarsely mapped when present, but jurisdictional delineations were not completed. All mapped occurrences and representative photographs were recorded utilizing ESRI Field Maps, with each species identified to the lowest taxonomic level possible. Percent of individuals in each life stage was recorded for special-status plant populations.

SummitWest wildlife biologists David Tafoya and Michael Schwanhausser surveyed Honda Valley Park on April 27 and 28, 2023, and Mr. Tafoya surveyed Honda Valley Extension on April 22, 2024. SummitWest botanists Keir Morse, Zach Kinman, Michael Schwanhausser, and Alex Aylard surveyed Honda Valley Park on May 11, 2023 and August 1 and 2, 2023, and Ms. Gallagher surveyed Honda Valley Extension on April 15, 2024 and July 18, 2024. Areas with limited access, dense poison oak populations, or dangerous terrain were surveyed utilizing binoculars instead of walking pedestrian transects.

# 3.4 Focused Surveys

SummitWest did not conduct any protocol-level follow-up surveys for sensitive species.



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#### 4.0 RESULTS

#### 4.1 Literature Review

The comprehensive literature review revealed 71 special status wildlife and 54 special status plants with potential to occur throughout the Project or surrounding areas (Appendix D). Additionally, 237 invasive plant species were determined to have the potential to occur throughout the Project or surrounding areas. Sensitive vegetation alliances have not been previously mapped within the Project Area.

#### 4.2 Reference Site Checks

During the first 2023 reference site check at four sites on April 3, 2023, five target species were observed in vegetative states, and two target species were observed in flowering states. The lead botanist determined that botany surveys should commence in mid-May to ensure the highest probability of identifying all target species. During the second 2023 reference site check at four different sites on July 24, 2023, seven target species were observed flowering, and the lead botanist determined that botany surveys for late-blooming species should begin in early August to ensure the highest probability of identifying all target species. Representative photographs can be found in Appendix A.

During the first 2024 reference site check at five sites on April 6, 2024, one target species was observed in both budding and flowering states, one target species was observed in a vegetative state, and nine target species were not observed but were either able to be identified by foliage or have wide bloom windows. The lead botanist determined that the first round of botany surveys should commence in mid-April to ensure the highest probability of identifying all target species. During the second 2024 reference site check at five different sites on June 24, 2024, two target species were observed in a flowering state, and one target species was observed in both vegetative and budding states. The lead botanist determined that botany surveys for late-blooming species should begin in mid-July to ensure the highest probability of identifying all target species.

# 4.3 Biological Reconnaissance Survey

Federal, state, and local agencies necessitate an on-site evaluation of special status species presence or potential to occur before any Project activities may commence. Below SummitWest describes all special status and sensitive species and resources observed or with high potential to occur in the Survey Area. All determinations for potential occurrence were based on results of the literature review and results of the reconnaissance surveys, and are described in detail in Appendix D. The following categories were utilized to determine the potential for each special status species to occur in the Survey Area:



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- **Present/Occurs:** Species or positive sign has been observed on-site during reconnaissance surveys
- **Likely:** Suitable habitat for the species is present on-site and the site is within the geographic range of the species, implying the species is highly likely to be present on site; and/or the species has been recorded on-site or within a two-mile (plants) or five-mile (wildlife) radius within the last twenty years (CDFW 2023a, CDFW 2023b, and CNPS 2023a, CNPS 2023b)
- **Unlikely:** Site may be within geographic range of the species, but suitable habitat for the species is minimal and/or the species has not been recorded on-site within the last twenty years (CDFW 2023a, CDFW 2023b, and CNPS 2023a, CNPS 2023b)
- **Does not Occur:** Species has not been observed on-site during reconnaissance surveys and suitable habitat for the species is not present on-site. Site is outside of geographical and elevational ranges of species.

#### **Rare Plant Species**

Although 54 special status plant species were revealed in the literature review as having potential to occur within the Project (Appendix D), only four special status plant species were observed and are considered to be Present/Occurs within the Honda Valley Park Survey Area in 2023 (Figure 3). Approximately 50 Plummer's Baccharis (*Baccharis plummerae ssp. plummerae*; CRPR 4.3; G3T3, S3), 26 Southern California black walnut (*Juglans californica*; CRPR 4.2; G3, S3, wetland status FACU), 9 Santa Barbara honeysuckle (*Lonicera subspicta ssp. Subspicata*; CRPR 1B.2), and 11 bitter gooseberry (*Ribes amarum var. Hoffmannii*; CRPR 3) individuals were observed and mapped within the Survey Area (Figure 3). Representative photographs can be found in Appendix A. A compendium of all plant species observed during reconnaissance surveys can be found in Appendix B.

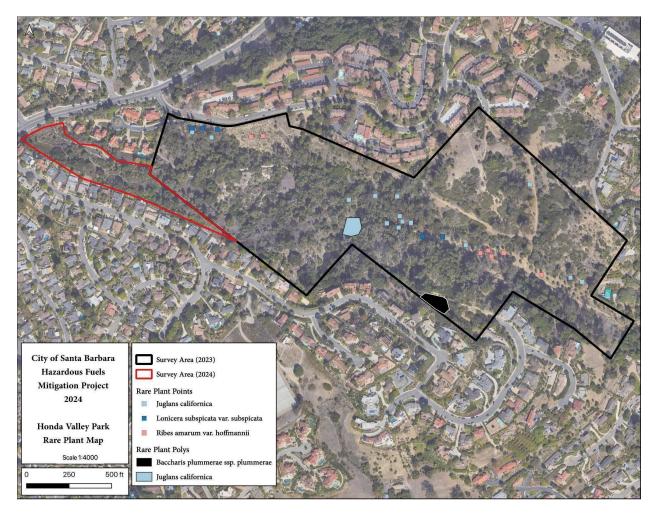
It should be noted that in addition to the naturally occurring Southern California black walnut plants, many plantings of *Juglans* that are likely hybrid species and/or exhibit morphological plasticity due to extra water from irrigation were also observed. Lastly, all Santa Barbara honeysuckle and bitter gooseberry individuals observed appeared to be restoration plantings in designated areas.

No additional rare plants were observed in the Honda Valley Extension Survey Area in 2024.





Figure 3. Honda Valley Park and Extension Rare Plant Map



# Special Status Wildlife Species and Habitat

Although 71 special status wildlife species were revealed in the literature review as having potential to occur within the Project (Appendix D), only one special status wildlife species, northern harrier (Circus hudsonius) was observed as a fly-over during 2023 surveys (Figure 4). However, due to lack of habitat for this species within the park, it is considered Does Not Occur within the Survey Area. The Survey Area provides adequate habitat for nesting birds, and a mourning dove (Zenaida macroura) nest with one egg in a eucalyptus tree was observed during the 2023 reconnaissance survey (Figure 4). No additional special status wildlife species or nesting birds were observed during the 2024 reconnaissance survey in Honda Valley Extension.



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Suitable habitat was also mapped for six species, which are considered likely to occur in the Honda Valley Park Survey Area (Figure 4; Appendix D): Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*), sharp-shinned hawk (*Accipiter striatus*), California legless lizard (*Anniella spp.*), overwintering Monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus plexippus* pop. 1), American peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus anatum*), and western red bat (*Lasiurus frantzii*). Cooper's hawk, California legless lizard, and western red bat are also considered likely to occur in the Honda Valley Extension Survey Area (Figure 4). Representative photographs can be found in Appendix A. A compendium of all wildlife species observed during reconnaissance surveys can be found in Appendix C.

Sensitive Wildlife and Habitat Sensitive Wildlife and Habitat City of Santa Barbara Survey Area (2023) -Occurs throughout entire -Occurs throughout entire **Hazardous Fuels** Survey Area (2024) 2023 survey area-2024 survey area Mitigation Project Sensitive Wildlife and Habitat Polys Cooper's hawk Cooper's hawk 2024 Sharp-shinned hawk Northern California legless lizar Monarch butterfly American peregrine falcon Northern California legless lizard **Honda Valley Park** Western red bat Sensitive Wildlife & Sensitive Wilflide Point Habitat Map Northern harrier Scale 1:4000 O Nest - Morning dove

Figure 4. Honda Valley Park and Extension Sensitive Wildlife and Habitat Map

#### **Vegetation Communities**

Six different vegetation alliances were observed within the Honda Valley Park Survey Area in 2023, and four vegetation alliances were observed within the Honda Valley Extension Survey Area in 2024 (three of



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which are the same as Honda Valley Park; Figure 5). Vegetation communities follow nomenclature of Sawyer et al. (2009), as updated by CDFW VegCAMP and the online edition hosted by CNPS (CNPS, 2023a).

# Avena spp. - Bromus sp. Herbaceous Semi-Natural Alliance (Wild oats and annual brome grasslands)

The wild oats and annual brome grassland herbaceous semi-natural alliance covers approximately 6.17 acres of the Honda Valley Park Survey Area and approximately 0.716 acres of the Honda Valley Extension Survey Area (Figure 5). The canopy is open, with greater than 80% herbaceous understory comprised of many typical nonnative grassland species including wild oat (*Avena* spp.), purple false brome (*Brachypodium distachyon*), rattlesnake grass (*Briza maxima*), brome (*Bromus* spp.), and/or foxtail barley (*Hordeum murinum*) as dominant or codominant with other nonnative grasses and forbs. This alliance may include scattered shrubs and trees at low cover. Typical topography includes foothills, rangelands, and openings in woodlands. Within this alliance in the Survey Area, common species include: wild oat, purple false brome, brome species, Italian thistle (*Carduus pycnocephalus*), iceplant (*Carpobrotus edulis*), foxtail barley, and California burclover (*Medicago polymorpha*). Two special status species were observed: bitter gooseberry and Santa Barbara honeysuckle (both planted). One restoration area is in transition to a shrubland.

#### **Baccharis pilularis Shrubland Alliance (Coyote brush scrub)**

The coyote brush shrubland alliance covers approximately 0.479 acres of the Honda Valley Extension Survey Area (Figure 5). Typical topography includes coastal bluffs, terraces, stabilized dunes of coastal bars, spits along the coastline, river mouths, stream sides, open exposed slopes, ridges, and gaps in forest stands. Within this alliance in Honda Valley Extension, coyote brush is dominant in the shrub layer, with Bermuda buttercup (*Oxalis pes-caprae*) and giant wild rye (*Elymus condensatus*) dominant in the herbaceous layer.

# Eucalyptus spp. - Ailanthus altissima - Robinia pseudoacacia Woodland Semi-Natural Alliance (Eucalyptus, tree of heaven, and black locust groves)

Eucalyptus, tree of heaven, and black locust groves semi-natural alliance covers approximately 9.73 acres of the Honda Valley Park Survey Area (Figure 5). These trees are often fast-growing and long-lived, with understories that can be depauperate due to allelopathic chemicals and debris accumulation. The canopy is open to continuous, with a sparse to intermittent shrub and herbaceous layer. Eucalyptus comprised approximately 35% cover at over 50 meters high, with approximately 20% herbaceous understory. Both the tree of heaven and black locust were not observed during the survey. This alliance is typically planted as trees, groves, and windbreaks; naturalized on uplands or bottomlands; and adjacent to stream courses, lakes, or levees. Within this alliance in the Survey Area, special status species observed were bitter gooseberry (planted) and Southern California black walnut (possibly planted).



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#### Quercus agrifolia Woodland Alliance (Coast live oak woodland and forest)

The coast live oak woodland and forest alliance covers approximately 23.97 acres of the Honda Valley Park Survey Area and approximately 2.035 acres of the Honda Valley Extension Survey Area (Figure 5). The canopy is open with trees greater than 30 meters (m) tall and a sparse shrub and herbaceous layer. Typical topography includes canyon bottoms, slopes, and flats. The dominant species were *Quercus agrifolia* (coast live oak), *Toxicodendron diversilobum* (poison oak), *Heteromeles arbutifolia* (toyon), *Rhus integrifolia* (lemonade berry), *Delairea odorata* (cape ivy), and *Bromus diandrus* (ripgut brome). Special status species observed within this alliance in the Survey Area were bitter gooseberry (planted), Santa Barbara honeysuckle (planted), Southern California black walnut (both planted and not), and Plummer's baccharis (not planted).

# *Platanus racemosa - Quercus agrifolia* Woodland Alliance (California sycamore - coast live oak riparian woodlands)

The California sycamore - coast live oak riparian woodland alliance covers approximately 1.79 acres of the Honda Valley Park Survey Area (Figure 5). The canopy and shrub layer are open to intermittent, with a sparse herbaceous layer. Special status species observed were bitter gooseberry (planted) and Southern California black walnut (possibly planted). This woodland alliance is a sensitive community with a status of G3S3. Status G3 represents a global rank of vulnerable and status S3 represents a state rank of vulnerable. In both cases, the alliance is at moderate risk of extinction or elimination due to a restricted range, relatively few populations (often 80 or fewer), recent and widespread declines, or other factors making it vulnerable to extirpation.

#### Rhus integrifolia Shrubland Alliance (Lemonade berry scrub shrublands)

Lemonade berry scrub shrubland alliance covers approximately 5.53 acres of the Honda Valley Park Survey Area and approximately 0.812 acres of the Honda Valley Extension Survey Area (Figure 5). The canopy is open to continuous with an open herbaceous layer and shrubs greater than 5 m. Typical topography includes slopes and coastal bluffs. Within this alliance in the Survey Area, a special status species, Southern California black walnut (planted). was observed. This shrubland alliance is a sensitive community with a status of G3S3. Status G3 represents a global rank of vulnerable and status S3 represents a state rank of vulnerable. In both cases, the alliance is at moderate risk of extinction or elimination due to a restricted range, relatively few populations (often 80 or fewer), recent and widespread declines, or other factors making it vulnerable to extirpation.

#### Toxicodendron diversilobum Shrubland Alliance (Poison oak scrub shrubland)

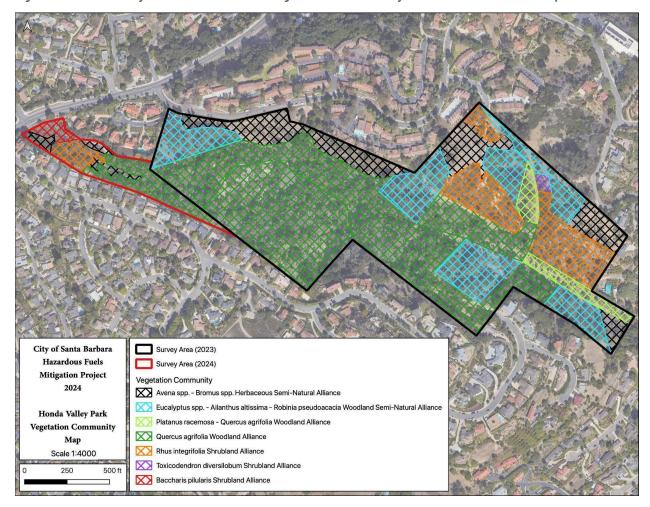
Poison oak scrub shrubland alliance covers approximately 0.20 acres of the Honda Valley Park Survey Area (Figure 5). The canopy is intermittent to continuous with a variable herbaceous layer and shrubs



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less than 4 m. Poison oak is the dominant species with greater than 50% cover. This alliance is typically found on the coast in low wooded areas or interior disturbed dry slopes.

Figure 5. Honda Valley Park and Extension Vegetation Community and Native Grassland Map



#### **Invasive Plant Species**

The literature review revealed 237 invasive plant species have potential to occur throughout the Project. During surveys at Honda Valley Park, 27 invasive plant species were identified and mapped in Honda Valley Park in 2023, and seven invasive plant species were identified and mapped in Honda Valley Extension in 2024 (only one of which was not also observed in 2023; Figure 6). These species include:

#### 2023 Honda Valley Park

- Sticky snakeroot (Ageratina adenophora)- 1 point (10 individuals)
- African asparagus fern (Asparagus asparagoides)- 2 points (2 individuals)



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- Onionweed (Asphodelus fistulosus)- 3 points (35 individuals)
- Italian thistle (Carduus pycnocephalus)- 4 polygons (1175 individuals); 10 points (355 individuals)
- Sea fig (*Carpobrotus chilensis*)- 3 points (20 individuals)
- Iceplant (*Carpobrotus edulis*)- 1 polygon (1000 individuals), 3 points (120 individuals)
- Bull thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*)- 2 points (4 individuals)
- Andean pampas grass (Cortaderia jubata)- 7 points (18 individuals)
- Uruguayan pampas grass (Cortaderia selloana)- 1 point (1 individuals)
- Milkflower cotoneaster (Cotoneaster lacteus)- 1 point (2 individuals)
- Cape ivy (Delairea odorata)- 4 polygons (382 individuals), 2 points (55 individuals)
- Pride of madeira (Echium candicans)- 1 point (1 individuals)
- Red gum (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*)- 2 points (23 individuals)
- Shamel ash (Fraxinus uhdei) 1 point (1 individual)
- French broom (Genista monspessulana)- 1 point (50 individuals)
- English ivy (*Hedera helix*)- 1 point (100 individuals)
- Mediterranean hoary mustard (Hirschfeldia incana)- 1 point (15 individuals)
- Trailing lantana (Lantana montevidensis)- 1 point (1 individuals)
- Tree tobacco (*Nicotiana glauca*)- 8 points (64 individuals)
- Olive (Olea europaea)- 7 points (16 individuals)
- Australian cheesewood (*Pittosporum undulatum*)- 3 points (3 individuals)
- Myrtle leaf milkwort (Polygala myrtifolia)- 1 point (1 individuals)
- Castor bean (Ricinus communis)- 1 point (1 individuals)
- Peruvian pepper tree (Schinus molle)- 7 points (22 individuals)
- Blessed milkthistle (Silybum marianum)- 6 points (71 individuals)
- Garden nasturtium (Tropaeolum majus)- 4 polygons (1845 individuals), 3 points (55 individuals)
- Bigleaf periwinkle (Vinca major)- 2 pts (25 individuals)

#### 2024 Honda Valley Extension

- Italian thistle- 2 polygons (258 individuals), 8 points (79 individuals)
- Bull thistle 5 points (10 individuals)
- Uruguayan pampas grass 1 polygon (3 individuals), 3 points (4 individuals)
- Cape ivy 1 polygon (500 individuals)
- Fennel (Foeniculum vulgare)- 1 polygon (25 individuals), 4 points (4 individuals)
- French broom- 3 polygons (5,340 individuals), 2 points (2 individuals)
- Castor bean 1 point (1 individual)



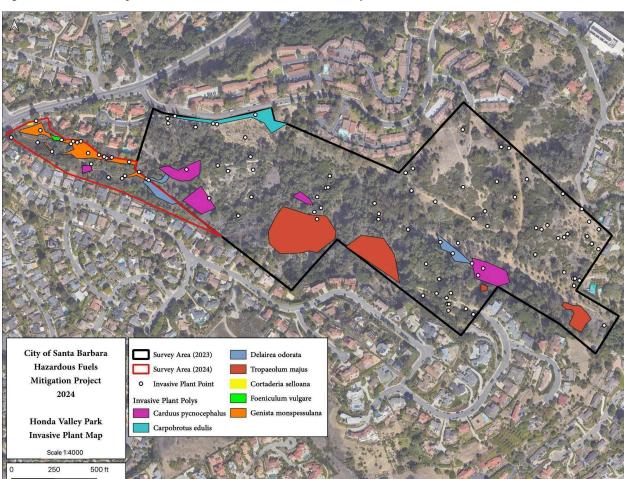


Figure 6. Honda Valley Park and Extension Invasive Plant Map

Invasive species recommended as first priority (Group 1) and second priority (Group 2) for treatment were identified and mapped (Figure 7). Additionally, during the course of surveys on Honda Valley Extension, the lead botanist manually pulled three individual fennel plants, and approximately 500 immature French broom plants that were small enough to remove by hand (Figure 7). A comprehensive species compendium of all plants observed during reconnaissance surveys can be found in Appendix B.



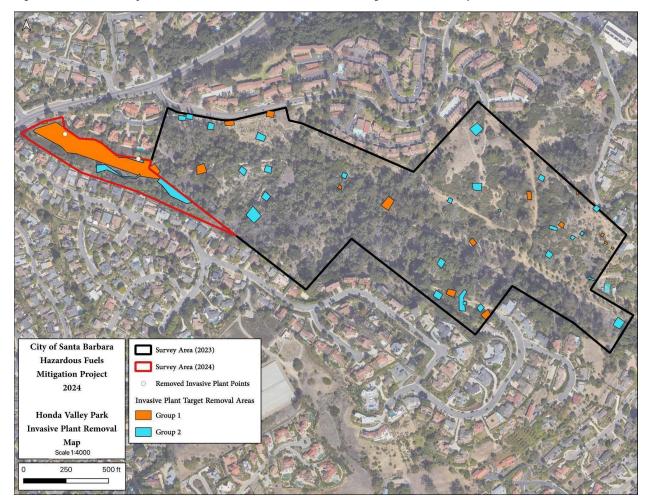


Figure 7. Honda Valley Park and Extension Invasive Plant Target Removal Map

#### 4.4 Water Resources

A single, partially cement-lined, narrow, dry, ephemeral drainage with a main channel and three connected off-shoot channels was observed within the Honda Valley Park Study Area, extending from the northwest to the southeast corners of the park (Figure 8). Ephemeral drainages are created by brief surface flows occurring during and after heavy rainfall. The flows only contain surface runoff, and generally are not affected by groundwater. This drainage is located on Santa Barbara Coastal Watershed Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) 18060013, originates from surface runoff, generally flows northwest to southeast when experiencing surface flow, includes irrigation hoses for nearby planted trees, and exits through a culvert leading east out of Honda Valley Park to the Pacific Ocean (USGS 2023). The ephemeral drainage has varying depth, with vegetation toward the west characterized as having a relatively dense canopy made of mixed deciduous and evergreen trees, including oaks, eucalyptus, and ornamentals; however, other areas toward the east had a more open and lower canopy. The understory



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is generally low/absent with few dense shrubs/thickets, consisting mainly of grasses and herbaceous plant species. The channel is generally rocky with rich, loose soil full of organic material. Surveyors observed signs of wildlife using the ephemeral channel, including nesting birds and raccoon tracks. Representative photographs can be found in Appendix A. One Cement lined runoff channel, with drainage to sewers at the ends was observed during the 2024 reconnaissance survey in Honda Valley Extension (Figure 8). The direction of flow in this drainage depends on topography, and the drainage consists mainly of nonnatives, grasses and some shrubs.

City of Santa Barbara
Hazardous Fuels
Mitigation Project
2024
Honda Valley Park
Water Resources Map
Sane 14000

0 250 500th

Figure 8. Honda Valley Park and Extension Water Resources Map

#### 4.5 Wildlife Movement

Honda Valley Park and Extension are not located within any known wildlife corridor or linkage. However, they are less than 1 mile east of Elings Park, which is considered a Core Area for habitat connectivity and restoration. Furthermore, this Core Area is adjacent to the Arroyo Burro, which is a creek and estuary



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that Santa Barbara recognizes is important to conserve to maintain habitat connectivity to the mountain areas north of the city. There is little direct evidence from SummitWest's 2023 and 2024 surveys that wildlife species are using any drainages or culverts to move between Honda Valley Park and Extension and these adjacent wild areas.

#### 4.6 Habitat Conservation Plan

No Habitat Conservation Plan or Natural Community Conservation Plan exists for this Project.

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#### 5.0 IMPACT ANALYSIS AND AVOIDANCE AND MITIGATION MEASURES

# 5.1 Special Status Species

Any activities involving vegetation removal such as grazing, chain and hand saws, hand pushed or small riding mowers, and weed whips in sensitive vegetation communities could have a significant negative impact on rare plant species and on the sensitive natural communities *Rhus integrifolia* Shrubland Alliance (G3S3) and *Platanus racemosa - Quercus agrifolia* Woodland Alliance (G3S3). Additionally, activities involving Project equipment movement and noise, ground disturbance or removal of special status wildlife habitat or Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas (ESHA) would have a significant negative impact on special status wildlife species. To mitigate any potential impacts, the following mitigation and avoidance measures are recommended:

- 1. A Project-specific Worker Environmental Awareness Prevention (WEAP) Training shall be prepared by a biologist familiar with the Project and presented to all persons working on the Project. The WEAP will inform workers on all special status wildlife and plant species that may be present in the Project Area, and explain all mitigation and avoidance measures required to prevent and/or lessen impact. Instructions will also be given on how to proceed if an accidental injury occurs to a special status wildlife species or if damage occurs to an ESHA or special status plant species. A record of all personnel who attend the training will be maintained.
- 2. A general pre-activity survey for all special status wildlife and plant species must be completed within 10 days of Project work commencement.
- 3. Use of Best Management Practices (BMPs) during any Project activity, including but not limited to:
  - a. All equipment used on site shall be properly maintained such that no leaks of oil, fuel, or residues will occur. Additionally, supplies shall be on-hand to remedy any accidental spills in both the terrestrial and marine environments.
  - b. All equipment used on site shall be properly operated to prevent extraneous dust or runoff.
  - c. Food waste and other Project related trash shall be contained in secured waste bins and regularly removed from the Project site to prevent attraction of special status species.
  - d. All Project equipment shall be thoroughly cleaned before entering and before leaving the site to prevent the spread of invasive species that may displace native wildlife or native plant species.
  - e. A speed limit of 10 miles per hour (mph) shall be maintained by all vehicles and equipment to prevent direct strikes of special status species.
  - f. Only designated areas shall be utilized for staging of equipment.
  - g. The Work Area shall be delineated by the crew, and work shall not occur outside of these boundaries.



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- h. Feeding of wildlife is prohibited.
- i. Firearms and pets are prohibited within the Project Area.
- 4. All Project activities shall occur within Project limits.
- 5. Any pesticides or herbicides necessary for project activities shall only be used after an exemption from the City's Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Advisory Committee is obtained.
- 6. During the Nesting Bird Season (February 1-September 30):
  - a. Ideally, vegetation removal and initial ground disturbance shall occur outside of the nesting bird season.
  - b. If work must occur during the nesting bird season, a survey for nesting birds within 500 feet of the Project must be completed within 72 hours of Project activities. If the Project area has been inactive for more than 7 days, the nesting bird survey shall be repeated.
    - i. All nests observed shall have a no-disturbance buffer placed at the appropriate distance for the species (300 feet for passerines and 500 feet for raptors, unless otherwise designated by the qualified biologist) until all young have fledged (are independent of the nest).
    - ii. If nests are present, a weekly spot check shall be conducted by a biological monitor to ensure avoidance and update fledge status.
- 7. A daytime survey for bat roosts must be completed within 10 days of Project work.
  - a. Within the peak season (maternity season April 15-August 14), when bats are present, all potential roosting habitat shall endure exclusion or humane eviction procedures, implemented by a qualified bat biologist.
  - b. If bat roosts are confirmed to be present within the Project area:
    - i. And non-breeding or migratory bats are identified from February 15- April 14 or August 15-October 31 within a tree or structure that will be impacted by Project activities, the bats shall be passively excluded by a qualified bat biologist. Generally one-way doors or exclusion materials may be implemented. All bats must be confirmed to have departed the roost prior to work commencement.
    - ii. And an occupied maternity roost is identified from April 15-August 14 and/or an occupied hibernation roost is identified from November 1-February 14, a no-disturbance buffer of an appropriate distance shall be implemented by the qualified bat biologist until the site is no longer occupied or Project activities in the area are completed.
      - 1. If the work must be completed within the no-disturbance buffer during these dates, a biological monitor must be present for activities occurring within the buffer to ensure bats are not impacted by project activities, including noise.
- 8. All open-ended Project materials such as pipes shall be capped to prevent wildlife entrapment or breeding.



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- 9. If a special status wildlife species needs to be relocated out of the Project Area, a biologist qualified to handle and relocate that species must create and implement a relocation plan before work may continue in that area.
- 10. To the extent feasible, control invasive, non-native vegetation that threatens native trees in riparian areas and open space parks.
- 11. Any landscaping shall prevent the spread of invasive species and will prioritize planting of native species.
- 12. For tree pruning, follow guidelines set forth in the Urban Forest Management Plan (City, 2014).
- 13. Adhere to Biological Resource Policies ER11 and ER12.1 in the General Plan (County, 2011), and defensible space requirements and/or vegetation management plans in the CWPP (City, 2021).
- 14. All Project activities shall avoid removal of mapped special status plant species.
  - a. If avoidance of removal cannot be achieved, additional measures such as seed collection and/or translocation will be required.
  - b. If avoidance of removal of native tree species cannot be achieved, additional measures such as compensatory planting and/or a restoration/mitigation plan will be required.
  - c. A biological monitor shall be present for any mechanical activity (i.e mowing, masticating, felling, yarding) within 50 feet of a sensitive plant species.
- 15. All Project activities shall avoid native trees and sensitive species within mapped sensitive natural communities by at least 50 feet.
  - a. A biological monitor shall be present for any mechanical activity (i.e mowing, masticating, felling, yarding) within 50 feet of a sensitive plant species within mapped sensitive vegetation communities.
  - b. If avoidance of direct impacts cannot be achieved, additional measures such as habitat creation, restoration, and/or enhancement activities will be required at a 4:1 ratio (area restored to area impacted) for permanent impacts or at a 1:1 ratio for temporary impacts. All mitigation sites shall be monitored for a period of no less than five years following completion.
    - i. As outlined in Coastal Act Section 30240, Policy 4.1-13, "Where mature native trees (four inches [4"] in diameter or greater at four feet six inches [4'-6"] above grade in height) are substantially impacted or removed, they should be replaced at a minimum 10:1 ratio for oak trees and a minimum 5:1 ratio for all other native trees or other trees providing habitat for sensitive species." (City, 2019).
- 16. Any restoration planting sites should be maintained from invasive plant species, with species identification and hand removal, as needed.
- 17. Within habitat considered suitable for monarch overwintering season (generally October through March; Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation, Western Monarch Overwintering Science Priority Themes 23-019\_02, 2023) large trees are subject to Coastal Act Section 30240 Lower, large ladder fuels shall be surveyed for the presence of monarchs, and may be removed



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if they are determined to be unoccupied by a biologist. Young eucalyptus may be removed to aid in fuels reduction.

- 18. Follow-up rare plant surveys by a qualified botanist are required if Project activities are not completed within 5 years of the initial surveys.
- 19. Ideally, grazing or other restoration activities would occur outside of the flowering or seeding window to maintain the seed source of habitats with a preponderance of desirable native plants.

# 5.2 Water Resources

The ephemeral drainage mapped within the Survey Area may be considered Other Waters of the U.S. under the jurisdiction of USACE and RWQCB under the CWA as well as a streambed per CDFW Fish and Game Code Sections 1600-1616. Full avoidance of the drainage is recommended during all Project activities aside from removing dead and downed materials or invasive plant species (by hand removal), which will not impact the banks or channel of the drainage. If the Project will impact this drainage, a Section 404 CWA permit and formal Jurisdictional Delineation for wetlands and Waters of the U.S. will be required to be submitted to the USACE. Additionally, a Streambed Alteration Agreement may be required from CDFW. If the Project requires general vegetation management within the drainage, the following measures shall be followed:

- 1. To the extent feasible, all work near a creek shall be conducted when surface water is absent.
- 2. Vegetation shall not be thinned, removed, or pruned, nor shall dead wood be removed, within 50 feet of a creek channel when flowing water is present.
- 3. The only plants that can be removed from a creek bed (that is, below the line of the ordinary high water mark) are live or dead eucalyptus trees and dead native shrubs/trees that are deemed to be a fire hazard, and invasive exotics (including, but not limited to giant reed).
- 4. Cut stems, tree trunks or other vegetative debris shall not be dragged across a creek bed that contains riparian vegetation, wetlands, or surface water.
- 5. No trees shall be felled across a creek while there is flowing water.
- 6. No eucalyptus chipping or cut stems shall be left on the creek banks or any upper stream terrace, when present.
- 7. Chipped native vegetation shall not be placed on creek banks, unless a qualified biologist determines that placement of the chipping would provide needed erosion protection without an adverse impact on aquatic habitats and water quality in the creek. Native plant chippings can be spread outside the top of the bank.
- 8. Entities performing vegetation management activities within a stream shall notify the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 1600 et seq. and shall obtain a Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (LSAA) if determined to be necessary prior to initiating work within CDFW's jurisdiction. If not already completed, a jurisdictional delineation will be necessary to determine which areas fall under CDFW's jurisdiction.



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a. Any activity that would alter the banks or channel, aside from vegetation removal as described above in Section 5.2.C, within 50 feet of the Creek banks or channel may not occur until a Jurisdictional Delineation determines if an LSAA is necessary.

#### 5.3 Wildlife Movement

It is not anticipated that the Project activities will adversely impact wildlife movement; therefore, no associated mitigation or avoidance measures are suggested.

#### 5.4 Habitat Conservation Plan

Because Project activities within Honda Valley Park and Extension will not occur within a Habitat Conservation Plan, no associated mitigation or avoidance measures are suggested.

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# **Biological Resource Assessment**

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APPENDIX A - REPRESENTATIVE PHOTOGRAPHS





**Photo 1.** Santa Barbara honeysuckle (*Lonicera subspicta ssp. subspicata*; CRPR 1B.2) observed during first reference site check on April 3, 2023.



**Photo 2.** Late-flowered mariposa-lily (*Calochortus fimbriatus*; CRPR 1B.3) observed during second reference site check on July 24, 2023.





**Photo 3**. Plummer's Baccharis (*Baccharis plummerae ssp. plummerae*; CRPR 4.3; G3T3, S3) observed during reconnaissance surveys on April 28, 2023.



**Photo 4**. Southern California black walnut (*Juglans californica*; CRPR 4.2; G3, S3,) observed during reconnaissance surveys on August 1, 2023.





**Photo 5**. Santa Barbara honeysuckle (*Lonicera subspicta ssp. subspicata*; CRPR 1B.2) observed during reconnaissance surveys on April 28, 2023.



**Photo 6.** Bitter gooseberry (*Ribes amarum* var. *hoffmannii*; CRPR 3) observed during reconnaissance surveys on April 26, 2023.



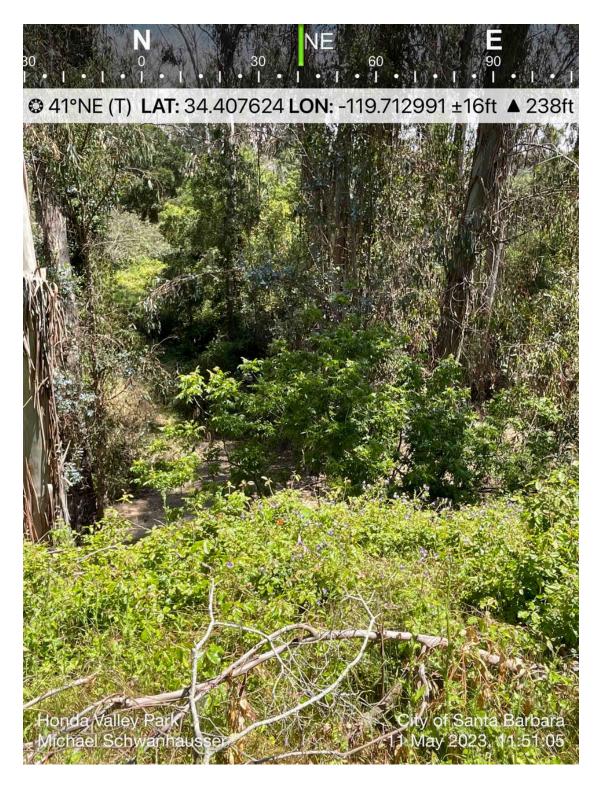


**Photo 7.** Mourning dove nest with one egg observed in eucalyptus tree during reconnaissance survey on April 28, 2023.



**Photo 8.** Cooper's hawk suitable habitat in Honda Valley Park observed during reconnaissance survey on August 25, 2023.





**Photo 9.** Monarch butterfly suitable habitat in Honda Valley Park observed during reconnaissance survey on August 25, 2023.





**Photo 10.** *Platanus racemosa - Quercus agrifolia* Woodland Alliance (G3S3) observed in Honda Valley Park during reconnaissance surveys on May 11, 2023.



**Photo 11.** Rhus integrifolia Shrubland Alliance (G3S3) observed in Honda Valley Park during reconnaissance surveys on May 11, 2023.

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**Photo 12.** Ephemeral Drainage observed in Honda Valley Park during reconnaissance surveys on April 28, 2023.



**Photo 13.** Ephemeral Drainage observed in Honda Valley Park during reconnaissance surveys on April 28, 2023.





**Photo 14.** Western red bat and California legless lizard suitable habitat in Honda Valley Extension observed during reconnaissance survey on April 25, 2024.



**Photo 15.** *Baccharis pilularis* Shrubland Alliance observed in Honda Valley Extension during reconnaissance surveys on April 15, 2024.



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APPENDIX B - BOTANICAL SPECIES COMPENDIUM



Scientific Name	Common Name
Acacia redolens	Bank catclaw
Acer macrophyllum*	Big leaf maple
Acmispon americanus var. americanus*	American trefoil
Acmispon glaber var. glaber*	Deerweed
Acmispon maritimus*	Coastal lotus
Aesculus californica*	California buckeye
Agave attenuata	Foxtail agave
Ageratina adenophora	Sticky snakeroot
Aira caryophyllea	Silver hair grass
Ambrosia psilostachya*	Western ragweed
Artemisia californica*	California sagebrush
Artemisia douglasiana*	California mugwort
Asclepias fascicularis*	Narrow-leaf milkweed
Asparagus asparagoides	African asparagus fern
Asphodelus fistulosus	Onionweed
Atriplex semibaccata	Australian saltbush
Avena barbata	Slender wild oat
Avena fatua	Wild oat
Baccharis pilularis ssp. consanguinea*	Coyote brush
Baccharis plummerae ssp. plummerae*1	Plummer's baccharis
Brachypodium distachyon	False brome
Brassica nigra	Black mustard
Bromus carinatus var. carinatus*	California brome
Bromus diandrus	Ripgut grass
Bromus hordeaceus	Soft brome
Bromus madritensis ssp. rubens	Red brome
Calandrinia menziesii*	Red maids
Calocedrus decurrens*	Bastard cedar
Calystegia macrostegia*	Island false bindweed
Cardamine hirsuta	Hairy bitter cress
Carduus pycnocephalus ssp. pycnocephalus	Italian thistle
Carpobrotus chilensis	Sea fig



Scientific Name	Common Name
Carpobrotus edulis	Iceplant
Castilleja exserta ssp. exserta*	Purple owl's clover
Ceanothus spinosus*	Greenbark ceanothus
Centaurea melitensis	Maltese star thistle or tocalote
Chasmanthe floribunda	African cornflag
Chenopodium murale	Nettle leaf goosefoot
Cirsium vulgare	Bull thistle
Cistus incanus	Hairy rockrose
Clarkia purpurea*	Purple clarkia
Clarkia unguiculata*	Elegant clarkia
Claytonia perfoliata ssp. mexicana*	Southern miner's lettuce
Clematis lasiantha*	Chaparral clematis
Conium maculatum	Poison hemlock
Corethrogyne filaginifolia*	Common sandaster
Cornus sericea*	American dogwood
Cortaderia jubata	Andean pampas grass
Cortaderia selloana	Uruguayan pampas grass
Cotoneaster lacteus	Milkflower cotoneaster
Cotoneaster pannosus	Silverleaf cotoneaster
Crassula ovata	Jade plant
Croton setiger*	Doveweed or turkey-mullein
Datura wrightii*	Jimsonweed
Deinandra fasciculata*	Clustered tarweed
Delairea odorata	Cape ivy
Dietes grandiflora	Fortnight lily
Dimorphotheca fruticosa	Trailing African daisy
Diplacus longiflorus*	Sticky monkeyflower
Dodonaea viscosa	Broadleaf hopbush
Dryopteris arguta*	California wood fern
Echium candicans	Pride of madeira
Elymus condensatus*	Giant wild rye
Encelia californica*	Bush sunflower
Epilobium canum ssp. canum*	California fuchsia



Scientific Name	Common Name
Erigeron bonariensis	Flax-leaved horseweed
Erigeron canadensis*	Canada horseweed
Erodium botrys	Big heron bill
Erodium moschatum	Whitestem filaree
Eschscholzia californica*	California poppy
Eucalyptus camaldulensis	Red gum
Eucalyptus sp.	Eucalyptus gum tree
Euphorbia lathyris	Caper spurge
Euphorbia peplus	Petty spurge
Festuca myuros	Rattail sixweeks grass
Festuca perennis	Italian rye grass
Foeniculum vulgare	Fennel
Frangula californica*	California coffeeberry
Frangula californica ssp. californica*	California coffeeberry
Fraxinus uhdei	Shamel ash
Galium aparine*	Cleavers or goose grass
Galium porrigens var. porrigens*	Climbing bedstraw
Gastridium phleoides	Nit grass
Genista monspessulana	French broom
Geranium dissectum	Cranesbill
Grindelia camporum*	Common gumplant
Hazardia squarrosa*	Saw toothed goldenbush
Hedera canariensis	Canary Islands ivy
Hedera helix	English ivy
Helminthotheca echioides	Bristly ox-tongue
Heteromeles arbutifolia*	Christmas berry
Heterotheca grandiflora*	Telegraph weed
Hirschfeldia incana	Mediterranean hoary mustard
Hordeum murinum	Farmer's foxtail
Hypochaeris glabra	Smooth cat's ear
Hypochaeris radicata	Hairy cats ear
lsocoma menziesii var. vernonioides*	Coastal goldenbush
Juglans californica*³	Southern California black walnut



Scientific Name	Common Name
Juncus bufonius*	Toad rush
Juncus textilis*	Basket rush
Lactuca serriola	Prickly lettuce
Laennecia coulteri*	Coulter's horseweed
Lantana montevidensis	Trailing lantana
Lathyrus tingitanus	Tangier pea
Lobularia maritima	Sweet alyssum
Logfia gallica	Narrowleaf cottonrose
Lonicera subspicata var. subspicata*²	Santa Barbara honeysuckle
Lupinus succulentus*	Arroyo lupine
Lysimachia arvensis	Scarlet pimpernel
Lythrum hyssopifolia	Hyssop loosestrife
Malacothamnus fasciculatus var. nuttallii*	Santa Cruz Island bush mallow
Malosma laurina*	Laurel sumac
Malva parviflora	Cheeseweed mallow
Malva pseudolavatera	Cretan mallow
Marah macrocarpa*	Chilicothe
Medicago polymorpha	California burclover
Melaleuca nesophila	Showy honey-myrtle
Melilotus albus	White sweetclover
Melilotus indicus	Annual yellow sweetclover
Nicotiana glauca	Tree tobacco
Nuttallanthus texanus*	Blue toadflax
Oenothera suffrutescens*	Wild honeysuckle
Olea europaea	Olive
Opuntia ficus-indica	Mission prickly-pear
Oxalis pes-caprae	Bermuda buttercup
Oxalis pilosa*	Hairy wood sorrel
Pelargonium sp.	Garden geranium
Pentagramma triangularis*	Gold back fern
Pholistoma auritum*	Blue fiesta flower
Pinus sp.	Pine
Pittosporum undulatum	Australian cheesewood



	Common Name
Plantago erecta*	California plantain
Plantago lanceolata	English plantain
Platanus racemosa*	California sycamore or Western sycamore
Poa annua	Annual blue grass
Polygala myrtifolia	Myrtle leaf milkwort
Polygonum aviculare	Prostrate knotweed
Polypogon monspeliensis	Annual beard grass
Pseudognaphalium biolettii*	Two-color rabbit-tobacco
Pseudognaphalium californicum*	Ladies' tobacco
Pseudognaphalium ramosissimum*	Pink cudweed
Pseudognaphalium stramineum*	Cottonbatting plant
Quercus agrifolia var. agrifolia*	California live oak
Rafinesquia californica*	California chicory
Ranunculus californicus var. californicus*	Common buttercup
Raphanus sativus	Cultivated radish
Rhamnus crocea*	Redberry buckthorn
Rhus integrifolia*	Lemonade berry
Ribes amarum var. hoffmannii*⁴	Bitter gooseberry
Ribes speciosum*	Fuchsia flowered gooseberry
Ricinus communis	Castor bean
Rosa californica*	California wild rose
Rubus ursinus*	California blackberry
Rumex acetosella	Common sheep sorrel
Rumex conglomeratus	Clustered dock
Rumex crispus	Curly dock
Salix lasiolepis*	Arroyo willow
Salsola australis	Russian thistle
Salvia leucophylla*	San Luis purple sage
Salvia mellifera*	Black sage
Salvia spathacea*	Hummingbird sage
Sambucus nigra ssp. caerulea*	Blue elderberry
Sanicula crassicaulis*	Gamble weed
Schinus molle	Peruvian pepper tree



Scientific Name	Common Name
Schinus terebinthifolius	Brazilian pepper tree
Scrophularia californica*	California bee plant
Sequoia sempervirens*	Coast redwood
Silene gallica	Windmill pink
Silybum marianum	Blessed milkthistle
Sisymbrium orientale	Indian hedge mustard
Sisyrinchium bellum*	Western blue eyed grass
Solanum douglasii*	Douglas' nightshade
Solidago velutina ssp. californica*	California goldenrod
Sonchus asper ssp. asper	Prickly sow thistle
Sonchus oleraceus	Common sow thistle
Spergularia marina*	Salt marsh sand spurry
Stachys bullata*	California hedge nettle
Stellaria media	Chickweed
Stipa lepida*	Foothill needle grass
Stipa pulchra*	Purple needle grass
Thysanocarpus laciniatus*	Common lace pod
Torilis arvensis	Field hedge parsley
Toxicodendron diversilobum*	Poison oak
Tropaeolum majus	Garden nasturtium
Umbellularia californica*	Bay laurel
Urospermum picroides	Bristly tail seed
Venegasia carpesioides*	Canyon sunflower
Verbena lasiostachys var. lasiostachys*	Vervain
Vicia americana ssp. americana*	American vetch
Vicia sativa	Spring vetch
Vinca major	Bigleaf periwinkle
Zantedeschia aethiopica	Calla lily
* - native 1- CRPR 4.3	

<sup>2 -</sup> CRPR 1B.2

<sup>3 -</sup> CRPR 4.2

<sup>4 -</sup> CRPR 3



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APPENDIX C - WILDLIFE SPECIES COMPENDIUM



Scientific Name	Common Name
Aeronautes saxatalis*	white-throated swift
Aphelocoma californica*	California scrub-jay
Apis mellifera	Western honey bee
Baeolophus inornatus*	oak titmouse
Batrachoseps nigriventris*	black-bellied slender salamander
Bombus vosnesenskii*	yellow-faced bumble bee
Buteo jamaicensis*	red-tailed hawk
Callipepla californica*	California quail
Calypte anna*	Anna's hummingbird
Chamaea fasciata*	wrentit
Circus hudsonius* <sup>1</sup>	northern harrier
Colaptes auratus*	northern flicker
Columba livia	rock pigeon
Corthylio calendula*	ruby-crowned kinglet
Corvus brachyrhynchos*	American crow
Dryobates villosus*	hairy woodpecker
Empidonax difficilis*	Pacific-slope flycatcher
Haemorhous mexicanus*	house finch
lcterus bullockii*	Bullock's oriole
Junco hyemalis*	dark-eyed junco
Leiothlypis celata*	orange-crowned warbler
Lonchura punctulata	scaly-breasted munia
Melanerpes formicivorus*	acorn woodpecker
Melospiza melodia*	song sparrow
Melozone crissalis*	California towhee
Mimus polyglottos*	northern mockingbird
Patagioenas fasciata*	band-tailed pigeon
Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*	cliff swallow
Pheucticus melanocephalus*	black-headed grosbeak



Scientific Name	Common Name
Pipilo maculatus*	spotted towhee
Plestiodon skiltonianus*	Western skink
Polioptila caerulea*	blue-gray gnatcatcher
Procyon lotor*	common raccoon
Psaltriparus minimus*	bushtit
Sayornis nigricans*	black phoebe
Sceloporus occidentalis*	western fence lizard
Scolopocryptops gracilis*	western fire centipede
Selasphorus sasin*	Allen's hummingbird
Setophaga coronata*	yellow-rumped warbler
Sitta carolinensis*	white-breasted nuthatch
Spinus psaltria*	lesser goldfinch
Steatoda grossa*	False Black Widow
Streptopelia decaocto*	Eurasian collared-dove
Sturnus vulgaris	European starling
Sylvilagus bachmani*	brush rabbit
Thryomanes bewickii*	Bewick's wren
Toxostoma redivivum*	California thrasher
Troglodytes aedon*	house wren
Vireo huttoni*	Hutton's vireo
Zenaida macroura*	mourning dove
* - Native 1- CDFW Species of Special Concern	·

Honda Valley Park and Extension

APPENDIX D - POTENTIAL TO OCCUR TABLES





#### Table 1. Occurence Potential for Sensitive Status Plants within Honda Valley Park and Extension

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status <sup>1</sup>	Habitat	Bloom Window	Potential to Occur/Rationale
Abronia maritima	red sand-verbena	CRPR 4.2	Coastal dunes. 0–330 feet.	Feb-Dec	<b>Does not Occur.</b> Suitable habitat does not occur in the Survey area.
Amsinckia douglasiana	Douglas' fiddleneck	CRPR 4.2	Unstable shaley sedimentary slopes in cismontane woodland, and valley and foothill grasslands. 0–6400 feet.	Mar-May	<b>Unlikely.</b> No plants found during surveys. Suitable habitat is borderline and minimal. Closest historic observation ~5 miles away is from >20 years ago.
Anomobryum julaceum	slender silver moss	CRPR 4.2	Damp rock and soil on outcrops, usually on roadcuts, in broadleaf and conifer forests. 330–3280 feet.	N/A	<b>Unlikely.</b> No plants found during surveys. Suitable habitat is borderline and minimal. Closest observation from ~8 miles away and 17 years ago.
Arctostaphylos refugioensis	Refugio manzanita	CRPR 1B.2	Sandstone outcrops in chaparral. 900–2690 feet.	Dec-Mar	<b>Does not Occur.</b> No plants found during surveys. Site is below the known elevation range of the species.
Astragalus didymocarpus var. milesianus	Miles' milkvetch	CRPR 1B.2	Grassy areas near coast, coastal scrub with clay soils. 65–295 feet.	Mar-Jun	<b>Unlikely.</b> No plants found during surveys. Suitable habitat exists on site. Closest occurrence to site ~10 miles away and from >20 years ago.
Atriplex coulteri	Coulter's saltbush	CRPR 1B.2	Alkaline or clay soils, open sites, scrub, coastal bluff scrub. 10–1510 feet.	Mar-Oct	<b>Unlikely.</b> No plants found during surveys. Suitable habitat exists on site. Only nearby occurrences document <20 years ago ~7 miles away.





Scientific Name	Common Name	Status <sup>1</sup>	Habitat	Bloom Window	Potential to Occur/Rationale
Atriplex serenana var. davidsonii	Davidson's saltscale	CRPR 1B.2	Coastal bluff scrub and coastal scrub. 35–655 feet.	Apr-Oct	<b>Unlikely.</b> No plants found during surveys. Suitable habitat exists on site. Closest occurrence to site ~1 mile away and from >20 years ago.
Baccharis plummerae ssp. plummerae	Plummer's baccharis	CRPR 4.3	Broadleaved upland forests, cismontane woodlands, chaparral, and coastal scrub. 15–1395 feet.	May-Oct	<b>Present.</b> Species mapped during surveys in Honda Valley Park in 2023.
Calandrinia breweri	Brewer's calandrinia	CRPR 4.2	Sandy to loamy soil, disturbed sites and burns in chaparral and coastal scrub. 35–4005 feet.	Mar-Jun	<b>Unlikely</b> . No plants found during surveys. Suitable habitat exists. May germinate after fires. Historic observation within 3 miles >20 years old.
Calochortus catalinae	Catalina mariposa lily	CRPR 4.2	Heavy soils in grasslands or open coastal scrub, chaparral, and cismontane woodlands. 50–2295 feet.	Mar-Jun	<b>Unlikely</b> . No plants found during surveys. Suitable habitat exists on site. Nearest observation <20 years old from ~4 miles away.
Calochortus fimbriatus	late-flowered mariposa-lily	CRPR 1B.3	Dry, open coastal woodlands and chaparral. 900–6250 feet.	Jun-Aug	<b>Does not Occur.</b> No plants found during surveys. Site well outside elevation range for the species.
Calochortus palmeri var. palmeri	Palmer's mariposa-lily	CRPR 1B.2	Meadows and vernally moist places in yellow-pine forest and chaparral. 2330–7840 feet.	Apr-Jul	<b>Does not Occur.</b> No plants found during surveys. Site well outside elevation range for the species.
Calystegia sepium ssp. binghamiae	Santa Barbara morning-glory	CRPR 1A	Coastal marshes and riverbanks. 15–15 feet.	Aug	<b>Does not Occur.</b> No plants found during surveys. Marginal suitable habitat. Presumed extinct.





Scientific Name	Common Name	Status <sup>1</sup>	Habitat	Bloom Window	Potential to Occur/Rationale
Centromadia parryi ssp. australis	southern tarplant	CRPR 1B.1	Salt marshes, vernal pools, and vernally mesic coastal scrub and grasslands. 0–1575 feet.	May-Nov	<b>Likely</b> . No plants found during surveys. Suitable habitat exists on site. Nearest observation ~6 miles away and observed in 2023.
Cercocarpus betuloides var. blancheae	island mountain mahogany	CRPR 4.3	Chaparral. 100–1970 feet.	Feb-May	<b>Unlikely</b> . No plants found during surveys. Suitable habitat exists on site. Nearest observation >20 years old from ~5 miles away.
Chloropyron maritimum ssp. maritimum	salt marsh bird's-beak	FE, SE, CRPR 1B.2	Coastal salt marsh. 0–100 feet.	May-Oct	<b>Does not Occur.</b> No plants found during surveys. No suitable habitat on site.
Chorizanthe palmeri	Palmer's spineflower	CRPR 4.2	Serpentine in grasslands, chaparral, and cismontane woodlands. 180–3100 feet.	Apr-Aug	<b>Does not Occur.</b> No plants found during surveys. No suitable habitat on site. Only a single historic observation from this area, which is presumably misidentified.
Clinopodium mimuloides	monkey-flower savory	CRPR 4.2	Moist places and streambanks in chaparral and woodlands. 1000–5905 feet.	Jun-Oct	<b>Does not Occur.</b> No plants found during surveys. Site well outside elevation range for the species.
Convolvulus simulans	small-flowered morning-glory	CRPR 4.2	Clay substrates in annual grassland, coastal-sage scrub, and chaparral. 100–2430 feet.	Mar-Jul	<b>Unlikely</b> . No plants found during surveys. Suitable habitat exists on site. Nearest observation ~12 miles away and observed >20 years ago.
Cryptantha rattanii	Rattan's cryptantha	CRPR 4.3	Rocky, gravelly slopes (often granitic) in grassland, coastal scrub, chaparral, and foothill woodlands. 805–3000 feet.	Apr-Jul	<b>Does not Occur.</b> No plants found during surveys. Site well outside elevation range for the species.





Scientific Name	Common Name	Status <sup>1</sup>	Habitat	Bloom Window	Potential to Occur/Rationale
Deinandra paniculata	paniculate tarplant	CRPR 4.2	Grassland, open chaparral and woodlands, and disturbed areas, often in sandy soils. 80–3085 feet.	Apr-Nov	<b>Unlikely.</b> No plants found during surveys. Suitable habitat exists on site. Only a single observation known from the Santa Barbara area ~4 miles away and >20 years old.
Delphinium umbraculorum	umbrella larkspur	CRPR 1B.3	Moist oak forest and chaparral. 1310–5250 feet.	Apr-Jun	<b>Does not Occur.</b> No plants found during surveys. Site well outside elevation range for the species.
Erigeron sanctarum	saints daisy	CRPR 4.2	Sandy sites in coastal scrub and woodland. 245–1150 feet.	Mar-Jul	<b>Unlikely</b> . No plants found during surveys. Marginal habitat exists on site. Nearest observation ~6 miles away and observed >20 years ago.
Fritillaria ojaiensis	Ojai fritillary	CRPR 1B.2	Rocky slopes and river basins in chaparral, forests, and woodlands. 740–3275 feet.	Feb-May	<b>Does not Occur.</b> No plants found during surveys. Site well outside elevation range for the species.
Galium cliftonsmithii	Santa Barbara bedstraw	CRPR 4.3	Coastal canyons, dry banks, chaparral, and cismontane woodlands. 655–4005 feet.	May-Jul	<b>Unlikely</b> . No plants found during surveys. Marginal habitat exists on site. Nearest observation ~4 miles away and observed 5 years ago.
Gilia ochroleuca ssp. Ianosa	Sisquoc gilia	CRPR 4.3	Sandy soils (rarely gravel) within in chaparral, oak woodlands, and openings in pinyon pine forests. 1475–4855 feet.	Mar-Aug	<b>Does not Occur.</b> No plants found during surveys. Site well outside elevation range for the species.
Hordeum intercedens	vernal barley	CRPR 3.2	Dry saline streambeds, alkaline flats, and vernal pools. 15–3280 feet.	Mar-Jun	<b>Does not Occur.</b> No plants found during surveys. No suitable habitat on site.





Scientific Name	Common Name	Status <sup>1</sup>	Habitat	Bloom Window	Potential to Occur/Rationale
Horkelia cuneata var. puberula	mesa horkelia	CRPR 1B.1	Dry, sandy, coastal chaparral, coastal scrub, and cismontane woodlands. 230–2660 feet.	Feb-Jul	<b>Unlikely.</b> No plants found during surveys. Suitable habitat on site. Nearest observation ~1 mile away and observed > 20 years ago.
Juglans californica	Southern California black walnut	CRPR 4.2	Coastal scrub, chaparral, and woodlands. 165–2955 feet.	Mar-Jun	<b>Present.</b> Species mapped during surveys. In addition to what appear to be naturally occurring plants, there are many plantings of <i>Juglans</i> . These plantings look somewhat strange and may be hybrids and/or showing some morphological plasticity due to extra water from irrigation.
Juncus acutus ssp. leopoldii	southwestern spiny rush	CRPR 4.2	Moist saline places, salt marshes, and alkaline seeps. 10–2955 feet.	May-Jun	<b>Does not Occur.</b> No plants found during surveys. No suitable habitat on site.
Juncus luciensis	Santa Lucia dwarf rush	CRPR 1B.2	Wet, sandy soils of seeps, meadows, vernal pools, streams, and roadsides. 985–6695 feet.	Apr-Jul	<b>Does not Occur.</b> No plants found during surveys. Site well outside elevation range for the species.
Lasthenia conjugens	Contra Costa goldfields	FE, CRPR 1B.1	Vernal pools and wet meadows. 0–1540 feet.	Mar-Jun	<b>Does not Occur.</b> No plants found during surveys. No suitable habitat on site.
Lasthenia glabrata ssp.	Coulter's goldfields	CRPR 1B.1	Saline places and vernal pools. 5–4005 feet.	Feb-Jun	<b>Does not Occur.</b> No plants found during surveys. No suitable habitat on site.
Layia heterotricha	pale-yellow layia	CRPR 1B.1	Open clayey or sandy soil in grasslands, coastal scrub, cismontane woodlands, and pinyon and juniper woodlands. 985–5595 feet.	Mar-Jun	<b>Does not Occur.</b> No plants found during surveys. Site well outside elevation range for the species.





Scientific Name	Common Name	Status <sup>1</sup>	Habitat	Bloom Window	Potential to Occur/Rationale
Lepechinia fragrans	fragrant pitcher sage	CRPR 4.2	Chaparral. 65–4300 feet.	Mar-Oct	Unlikely. No plants found during surveys. Suitable habitat on site. Nearest observation ~8 miles away and observed 3 years ago.
Lilium humboldtii ssp. ocellatum	ocellated Humboldt's lily	CRPR 4.2	Oak canyons, chaparral, and yellow-pine forest. 100–5905 feet.	Mar-Jul	<b>Likely.</b> No plants found during surveys. Suitable habitat on site. Nearest observation ~4 miles away and >20 years old.
Lonicera subspicata var. subspicata	Santa Barbara honeysuckle	CRPR 1B.2	Chaparral. 35–3280 feet.	May-Aug	<b>Present.</b> Species mapped during surveys in 2023. All plants appear to be planted in restoration areas.
Malacothrix saxatilis var. arachnoidea	Carmel Valley malacothrix	CRPR 1B.2	Rocky, open banks, shale outcrops, and cliff faces in coastal scrub and chaparral. 80–3400 feet.	Jun-Dec	<b>Unlikely.</b> No plants found during surveys. Suitable habitat on site. Nearest observation ~13 miles away and 5 years old.
Malacothrix saxatilis var. saxatilis	Cliff malacothrix	CRPR 4.2	On flats or in crevices on coastal bluff. 10–655 feet.	Mar-Dec	<b>Does not Occur.</b> No plants found during surveys. No suitable habitat on site.
Monardella hypoleuca ssp. hypoleuca	white-veined monardella	CRPR 1B.3	Oak woodlands and chaparral. 165–5005 feet.	Jun-Aug	<b>Unlikely.</b> No plants found during surveys. Suitable habitat on site. Nearest observation ~3 miles away and found this year.
Mucronea californica	California spineflower	CRPR 4.2	Sandy areas in dunes, chaparral, coastal scrub, grasslands, and cismontane woodlands. 0–4595 feet.	Mar-Jul	Unlikely. No plants found during surveys. Marginal habitat on site. Nearest observation ~2 miles away and >20 years old.
Nasturtium gambelii	Gambel's water cress	FE, ST, CRPR 1B.1	Marshes, streambanks, and lake margins. 15–1085 feet.	Apr-Oct	<b>Unlikely.</b> No plants found during surveys. Marginal habitat on site. Not documented near Santa Barbara since the 1800s.





Scientific Name	Common Name	Status <sup>1</sup>	Habitat	Bloom Window	Potential to Occur/Rationale
Pelazoneuron puberulum var. sonorensis	Sonoran maiden fern	CRPR 2B.2	Along streams and seepage areas. 165–2000 feet.	N/A	<b>Does not Occur.</b> No plants found during surveys. No suitable habitat on site.
Phacelia hubbyi	Hubby's phacelia	CRPR 4.2	Open, gravelly or rocky slopes in chaparral, coastal scrub, and grasslands. 0–3280 feet.	Apr-Jun	<b>Unlikely.</b> No plants found during surveys. Suitable habitat on site. Nearest observation ~1 mile away and >20 years old.
Piperia michaelii	Michael's rein orchid	CRPR 4.2	Generally dry sites in coastal scrub, woodlands, and mixed-evergreen or closed-cone-pine forests. 10–3000 feet.	Apr-Aug	<b>Unlikely.</b> No plants found during surveys. Suitable habitat on site. Nearest recent observation ~5 miles away and 3 years old.
Pleuridium mexicanum	Mexican earthmoss	CRPR 2B.1	Sandstone in chaparral. 1445–1445 feet.	N/A	<b>Does not Occur.</b> No plants found during surveys. Site well outside elevation range for where the species is known in CA.
Quercus dumosa	Nuttall's scrub oak	CRPR 1B.1	Generally sandy soils near the coast and on sandstone in chaparral and coastal-sage scrub. 50–1310 feet.	Feb-Mar	<b>Likely.</b> No plants found during surveys. Suitable habitat on site. Nearest reported observations ~4 miles away and 5 years old. Taxonomically problematic and with hybrids.
Ribes amarum var. hoffmannii	Hoffmann's bitter gooseberry	CRPR 3	Chaparral and riparian woodlands. 15–3905 feet.	Mar-Apr	<b>Present.</b> Species mapped during surveys. All plants mapped appeared to be restoration plantings.
Sanicula hoffmannii	Hoffmann's sanicle	CRPR 4.3	Coastal scrub, coastal bluff scrub, chaparral, woodlands, and forests. 100–985 feet.	Mar-May	<b>Unlikely.</b> No plants found during surveys. Suitable habitat on site. Nearest observation ~3 miles away and observed this year.





Scientific Name	Common Name	Status <sup>1</sup>	Habitat	Bloom Window	Potential to Occur/Rationale
Scrophularia atrata	black-flowered figwort	CRPR 1B.2	Calcium- and diatom-rich soils in coastal dunes, coastal scrub, riparian scrub, chaparral, and closed-cone coniferous forests. 35–1640 feet.	Mar-Jul	<b>Does not Occur.</b> No plants found during surveys. No suitable habitat on site. CNNDB notes IDs of specimens from the Santa Barbara area are questionable and need to be checked. <i>S. californica</i> found in on site.
Senecio astephanus	San Gabriel ragwort	CRPR 4.3	Steep rocky slopes in chaparral, coastal-sage scrub, and oak woodlands. 1310–4920 feet.	May-Jul	<b>Does not Occur.</b> No plants found during surveys. Site well outside elevation range for the species.
Suaeda esteroa	estuary seablite	CRPR 1B.2	Coastal salt marshes. 0–15 feet.	May-Oct	<b>Does not Occur.</b> No plants found during surveys. No suitable habitat on site.
Suaeda taxifolia	Woolly seablite	CRPR 4.2	Coastal bluffs and margins of salt marshes. 0–165 feet.	Jan-Dec	<b>Does not Occur.</b> No plants found during surveys. No suitable habitat on site.
Thermopsis macrophylla	Santa Ynez false lupine	CRPR 1B.3	Disturbed, granitic, and sandy areas in chaparral. 1395–4595 feet.	Apr-Jun	<b>Does not Occur.</b> No plants found during surveys. Site well outside elevation range for the species.

<sup>1</sup>FE- Federally Endangered; FT- Federally Threatened; SE- State Endangered; ST- State Threatened California Rare Plant Ranking (CRPR):

- 1A- Presumed extinct in California and rare/extinct elsewhere
- 1B.1- Rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere; seriously threatened in California
- 1B.2- Rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere; fairly threatened in California
- 1B.3- Rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere; not very threatened in California
- 2B.1- Rare, threatened, or endangered in California, but more common elsewhere; seriously threatened in California
- 3.2- Need more information; fairly threatened in California
- 4.2- Limited distribution; fairly threatened in California
- 4.3- Limited distribution; not very threatened in California



#### Table 2. Occurrence Potential for Sensitive Status Wildlife Species within Honda Valley Park and Extension

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status <sup>2</sup>	Potential to Occur and Rationale				
	Birds						
Accipiter cooperii	Cooper's hawk	WL	<b>Likely</b> – Potentially suitable habitat of wooded area in a suburban setting, with some edge habitat. Prefers more open areas.				
Accipiter striatus	sharp-shinned hawk	WL	<b>Likely</b> – relatively densely wooded habitat. More likely in winter. Breeds mostly in more coniferous habitats.				
Agelaius tricolor	tricolored blackbird	ST, SSC	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.				
Aimophila ruficeps canescens	Southern California rufous-crowned sparrow	WL	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.				
Ammodramus savannarum	grasshopper sparrow	SSC	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.				
Aquila chrysaetos	golden eagle	FP, WL	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.				
Artemisiospiza belli belli	Bell's sparrow	WL	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.				
Athene cunicularia	burrowing owl	SSC	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.				
Branta bernicla	brant	SSC	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.				
Buteo swainsoni	Swainson's hawk	ST	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.				
Cerorhinca monocerata	rhinoceros auklet	WL	Does Not Occur - No suitable habitat present.				
Chaetura vauxi	Vaux's swift	SSC	<b>Unlikely</b> – No breeding habitat, would only potentially be foraging over park as it migrates through.				
Charadrius nivosus nivosus	western snowy plover	FT, SSC	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.				

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Scientific Name	Common Name	Status <sup>2</sup>	Potential to Occur and Rationale
Circus hudsonius	northern harrier	SSC	<b>Does Not Occur</b> – Although this species was observed as a fly-over, no suitable habitat is present. They use grasslands, farmlands, marshes, and other open landscape habitat.
Cistothorus palustris clarkae	Clark's marsh wren	SSC	<b>Does Not Occur -</b> No suitable habitat present. Outside of known range.
Contopus cooperi	olive-sided flycatcher	SSC	<b>Unlikely.</b> Potential nesting and foraging habitat in tall trees, but typically uses more conifer forests.
Coturnicops noveboracensis	yellow rail	SSC	Does Not Occur - No suitable habitat present.
Elanus leucurus	white-tailed kite	FP	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.
Empidonax traillii	willow flycatcher	SE	Unlikely – prefers more dense riparian vegetation.
Empidonax traillii extimus	southwestern willow flycatcher	FE, SE	Unlikely – prefers more dense riparian vegetation.
Eremophila alpestris actia	California horned lark	WL	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.
Falco columbarius	merlin	WL	Unlikely. Prefers open areas.
Falco mexicanus	prairie falcon	WL	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.
Falco peregrinus anatum	American peregrine falcon	FD, SD, FP	<b>Likely</b> – potentially suitable habitat, with riparian woodlands near the coast, known to occur and breed within 5 miles.
Gavia immer	common loon	SSC	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.
Gymnogyps californianus	California condor	FE, SE, FP	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.
Icteria virens	yellow-breasted chat	SSC	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.
Larus californicus	California gull	WL	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.





Scientific Name	Common Name	Status <sup>2</sup>	Potential to Occur and Rationale		
Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus	California black rail	ST, FP	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.		
Nannopterum auritum	double-crested cormorant	WL	Does Not Occur - No suitable habitat present.		
Numenius americanus	long-billed curlew	WL	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.		
Pandion haliaetus	osprey	WL	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.		
Passerculus sandwichensis beldingi	Belding's savannah sparrow	SE	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.		
Pelecanus occidentalis californicus	California brown pelican	FD, SD, FP	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.		
Plegadis chihi	white-faced ibis	WL	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.		
Rallus obsoletus levipes	light-footed Ridgway's rail	FE, SE, FP	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.		
Riparia riparia	bank swallow	ST	<b>Does Not Occur –</b> Typically inhabits areas near bodies of water for foraging over, with large sand banks for colonial nesting.		
Rynchops niger	black skimmer	SSC	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.		
Sternula antillarum browni	California least tern	FE, SE, FP	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.		
Strix occidentalis occidentalis	California spotted owl	SSC	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.		
Thalasseus elegans	elegant tern	WL	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.		
Vireo bellii pusillus	least Bell's vireo	FE, SE	Unlikely – prefers more dense riparian vegetation.		
	Amphibians				

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Scientific Name	Common Name	Status <sup>2</sup>	Potential to Occur and Rationale
Anaxyrus californicus	arroyo toad	FE, SSC	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.
Rana boylii pop. 6	foothill yellow-legged frog - south coast DPS	FPE, SE	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.
Rana draytonii	California red-legged frog	FT, SSC	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.
Spea hammondii	western spadefoot	SSC	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.
Taricha torosa	Coast Range newt	SSC	<b>Unlikely</b> – suitable habitat is limited. Prefers areas in and around larger, more permanent streams with pools.
		Rep	tiles
Anniella pulchra	Northern California legless lizard	SSC	<b>Likely</b> . Relatively loose soils with substantial leaf litter/debris, mixed woodlands/riparian and shrubland.
Anniella spp.	California legless lizard	SSC	<b>Likely</b> . Relatively loose soils with substantial leaf litter/debris, mixed woodlands/riparian and shrubland.
Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri	coastal whiptail	SSC	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.
Emys marmorata	western pond turtle	SSC	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.
Phrynosoma blainvillii	coast horned lizard	SSC	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.
Salvadora hexalepis virgultea	coast patch-nosed snake	SSC	<b>Unlikely –</b> suitable habitat is limited, prefers more arid, less dense scrub.
Thamnophis hammondii	two-striped gartersnake	SSC	<b>Unlikely</b> – suitable habitat is limited. Prefers more wetland habitats and permanent riparian habitat.
Thamnophis sirtalis pop. 1	south coast gartersnake	SSC	<b>Does not Occur</b> – Restricted to marsh and upland habitats near permanent water with dense riparian habitat.

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Scientific Name	Common Name	Status <sup>2</sup>	Potential to Occur and Rationale			
	Invertebrates					
Bombus caliginosus	obscure bumble bee	IUCN: VU	<b>Does Not Occur –</b> No suitable habitat, prefers coastal grasslands with substantial Asteracea and Fabaceae.			
Bombus crotchii	Crotch bumble bee	SCE	<b>Does Not Occur</b> – No suitable habitat, prefers grasslands and scrub, with substantial Asteraceae, Fabaceae, and Lamiaceae.			
Bombus pensylvanicus	American bumble bee	IUCN: VU	<b>Does Not Occur</b> – No suitable habitat, prefers grasslands with more flowering plants in Fabaceae and Asteraceae.			
Coelus globosus	globose dune beetle	IUCN: VU	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.			
Danaus plexippus plexippus pop. 1	monarch - California overwintering population	FC	<b>Likely.</b> Potential overwintering habitat in eucalyptus and foraging habitat in milkweed within Honda Valley Park.			
Haliotis kamtschatkana	pinto abalone	IUCN: EN	Does Not Occur - No suitable habitat present.			
		Fis	sh			
Eucyclogobius newberryi	tidewater goby	FE	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.			
Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus pop. 10	steelhead - southern California DPS	FE, SC	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.			
Mammals						
Antrozous pallidus	pallid bat	SSC	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.			
Bassariscus astutus octavus	southern California ringtail	FP	<b>Unlikely</b> – suitable habitat is limited, prefers more rocky habitats and more dense riparian habitat.			



Scientific Name	Common Name	Status <sup>2</sup>	Potential to Occur and Rationale
Corynorhinus townsendii	Townsend's big-eared bat	SSC	<b>Unlikely</b> – Suitable habitat is limited. They use a variety of habitats but are usually found in arid desert scrub or pine forests and near caves or other roosting structures.
Enhydra lutris nereis	southern sea otter	FT, FP	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.
Eumops perotis californicus	western mastiff bat	SSC	<b>Unlikely</b> – Suitable habitat is limited. Prefers more open areas in a variety of habitats.
Lasiurus frantzii	western red bat	SSC	<b>Likely</b> – for the wooded riparian habitat; roosts in tree foliage of broadleaf trees such as oaks, cottonwoods, etc.
Neotoma lepida intermedia	San Diego desert woodrat	SSC	Does Not Occur – No suitable habitat present.
Nyctinomops macrotis	big free-tailed bat	SSC	<b>Does Not Occur</b> – No suitable habitat present. Typically inhabits rocky habitats in arid landscapes.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>FE- Federally Endangered; FT- Federally Threatened; FD- Federally Delisted; FC- Federally Candidate; FPE- Federally Proposed Endangered;

SE- State Endangered; ST- State Threatened; SD- State Delisted; SC- State Candidate;

SSC- California Department of Fish and Wildlife Species of Special Concern; WL- Watchlist; FP- Fully Protected;

IUCN: VU- International Union for the Conservation of Nature Vulnerable; IUCN: EN- International Union for the Conservation of Nature Endangered

Honda Valley Park and Extension

**APPENDIX E - CNDDB SUBMISSIONS**