



Biological Resources

Existing Conditions Report

June 2020



Introduction

For much of the City, biological resources are associated with landscaping, vacant parcels, and parks. For the rural-suburban periphery however, the City has habitat that must be considered if development is proposed. This difference between the urban City core and the rural-suburban edge is important in the consideration of the Conservation Element Update, and future compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Key Findings

Provided below are the key findings from this report:

- Conservation areas within the City protect sensitive habitats such as alluvial fan sage scrub, sycamore alluvial woodland, California walnut woodland, and freshwater marsh, providing important habitat and corridors for wildlife, ecosystem services, and recreational resources for the public. As growth and development occur in the city, preservation should remain a priority for sensitive land resources that have significant native vegetation and/or habitat value.
- Several protected plant and animal species are known to occur within the General Plan Area (See Appendix A). Substantial efforts should be made to avoid impacts to these species and their habitats. If impacts to these species or their habitats are unavoidable, professional analysis should be conducted early in the planning process to reduce and mitigate these impacts to the extent possible.
- Urban landscaping such as street trees, public spaces, and parks, can provide important habitat for migratory birds, raptors, and songbirds, as well as enhance the aesthetic of the City. Native species should be incorporated into landscaping whenever possible and consistent with community wildfire protection guidelines.
- Regional connectivity between habitats is essential to the wellbeing of local wildlife. The northern periphery of the City plays an important role in connecting two expansive areas of the Angeles and San Bernardino National Forests. This mountainous area and its associated foothills include corridors, drainages, and open areas attractive to wildlife. Design of future development in the northern portion of the City should consider the regional flow of wildlife and incorporate design measures compliant with current research on wildlife movement.
- The undeveloped Day Creek utility and flood control open space corridor is likely to facilitate wildlife movement from the mountains to the north of the City through the southern end of the City and may provide at a minimum a throughfare for wildlife but it could provide additional resources.

Project Setting

The General Plan Area is within the U.S. Geological Survey's (USGS's) Mount Baldy, Cucamonga Peak, Devore, Ontario, and Guasti 7.5-minute quadrangles. The City is within and adjacent to the foothills of the eastern end of the San Gabriel Mountains and west of the San Bernardino Mountains (See Figure 1). The City's Sphere of Influence (SOI) directly abuts the San Bernardino National Forest. The topography of the City slopes downward from the foothills in the north into the Santa Ana Watershed. Elevations in the City typically range from 1,018 to 1,600 feet above mean sea level (msl), with the northern edge of the City's SOI at approximately 5,200 feet above msl. North of the SOI, elevations increase to Cucamonga Peak, Bighorn Peak, Ontario Peak, Sugarloaf Peak, and Mount Baldy.

Numerous streams in the Santa Ana Watershed drain from the north into the General Plan Area. The western edge of the General Plan Area runs along Cucamonga Creek. Other creeks flowing through the City include Deer Creek, Day Creek, and Etiwanda Creek (See Figure 2).

Figure 1. Regional Vicinity Map

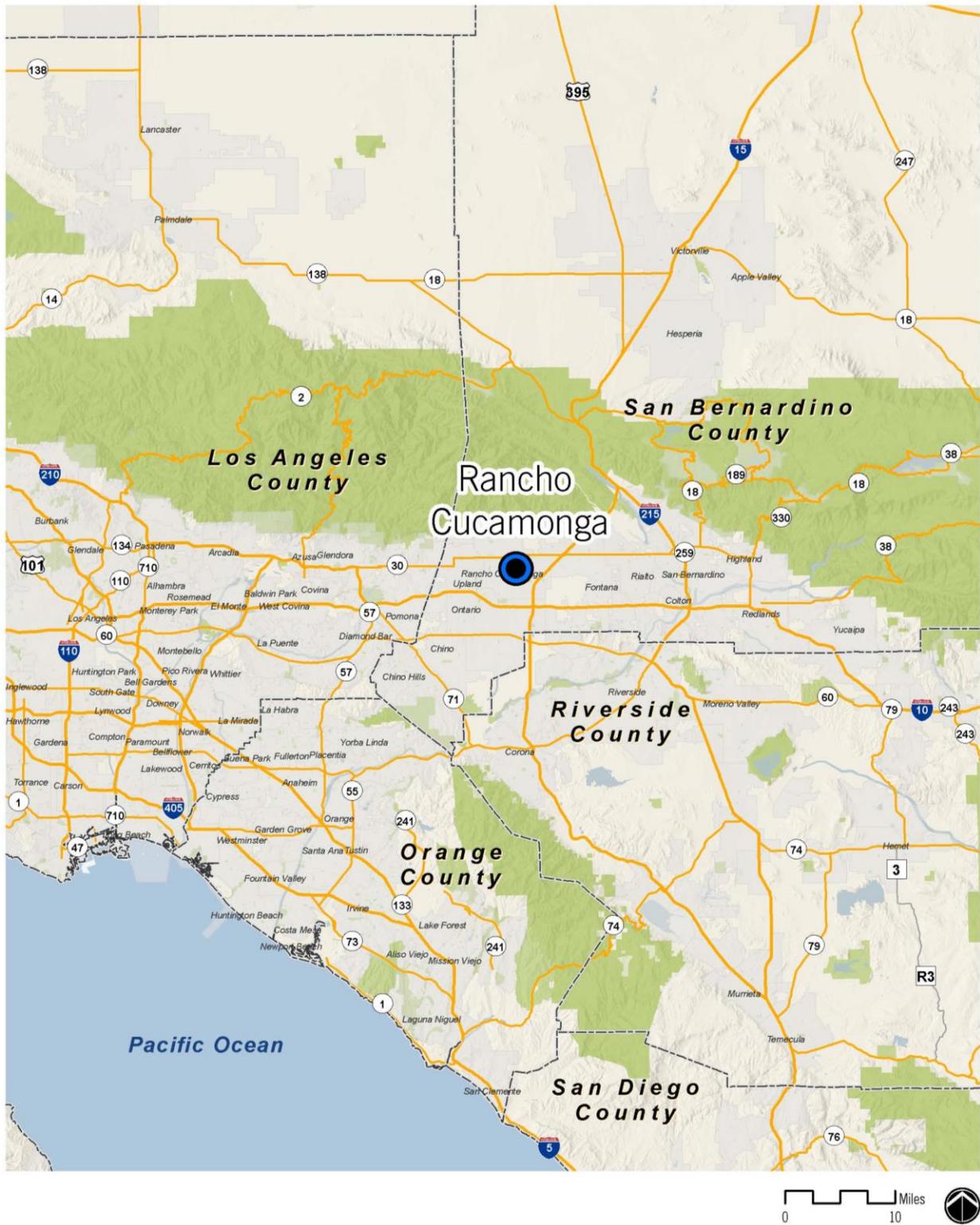
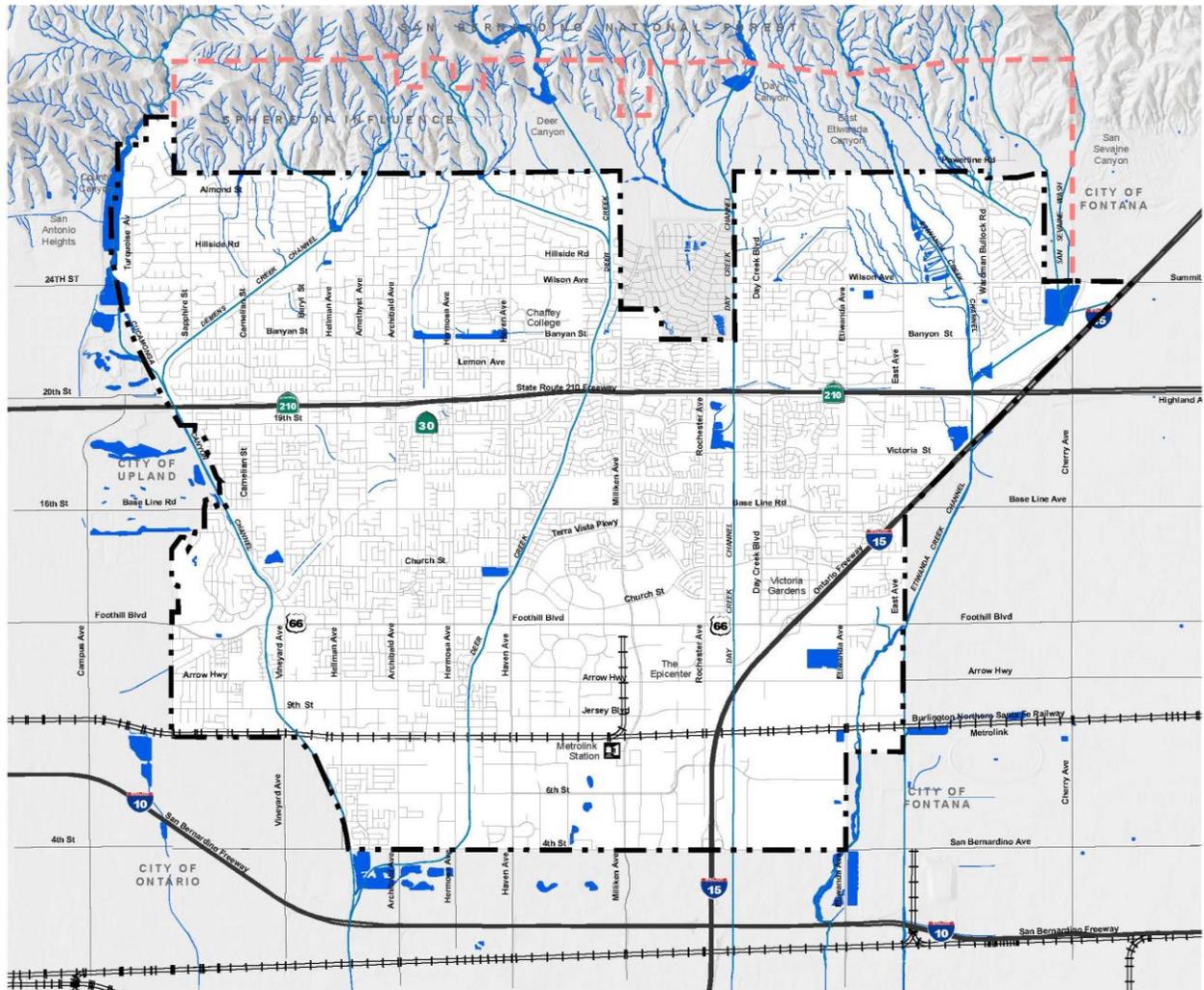


Figure 2. Drainage Map



Source: NWI 2020 ; USGS NHD 2019



-  Waterways & Regional Water Bodies
-  Rancho Cucamonga City Boundary
-  Sphere of Influence

Conservation Areas

As illustrated in Figures 3, four conservation areas within the General Plan area have already been protected from development by the recordation of conservation deed restrictions, some further protected by the preparation and adoption of conservation management plans. These include:

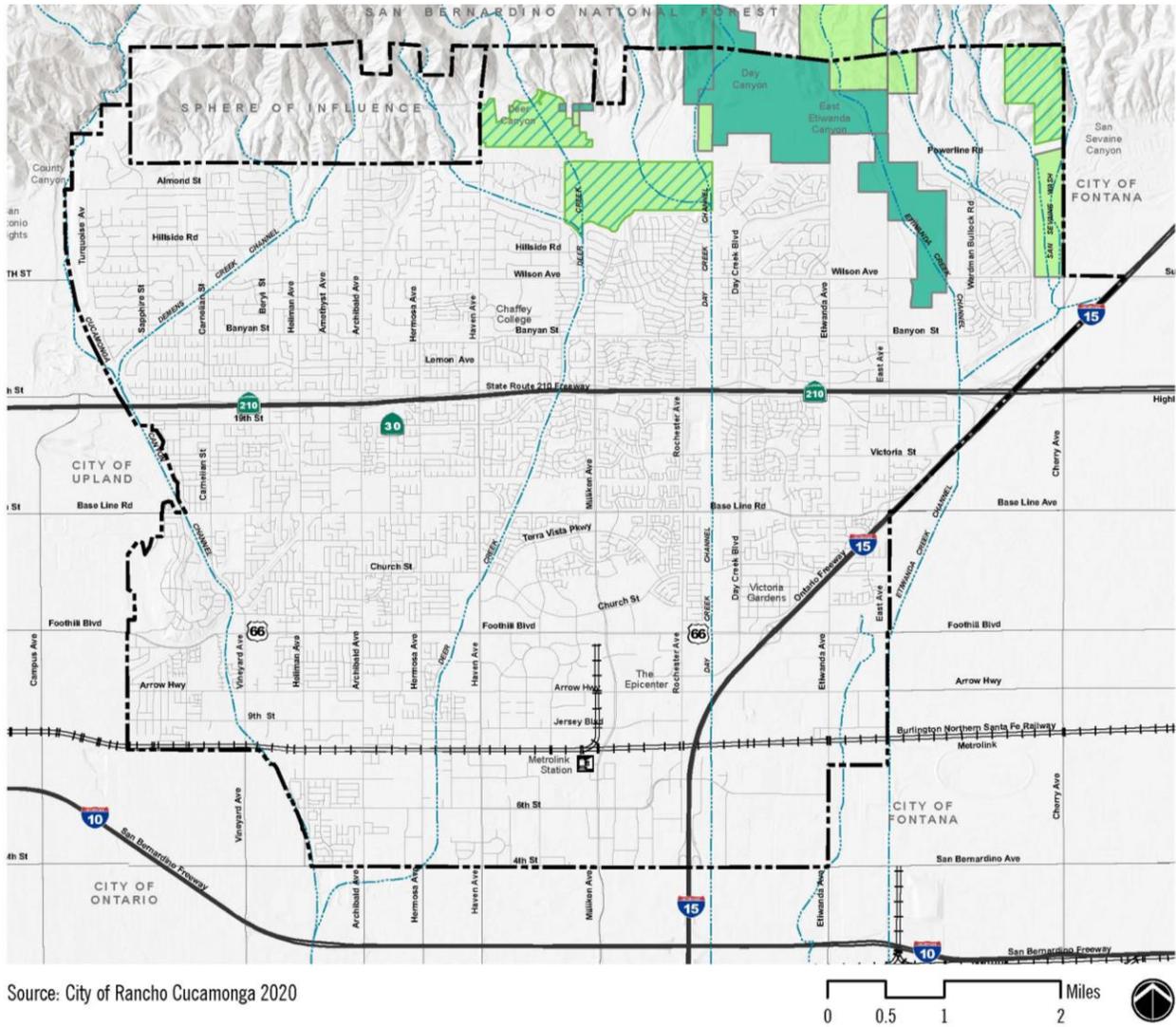
- 760-acre North Etiwanda Preserve
- 137-acre San Sevaine Spreading Grounds
- 880-acre U.S. Forest Service Conservation Area
- 35-acre conservation area purchased as mitigation and set aside through a conservation easement to the San Bernardino County CSA 70 (10/2003)

These conservation areas protect habitats such as alluvial fan sage scrub, sycamore alluvial woodland, California walnut woodland, and freshwater marsh, providing important habitat and corridors for wildlife, ecosystem services, and recreational resources for the public. In total, these areas encompass approximately 1,812 acres of habitat within the General Plan Area and will remain critical to the survival of sensitive species and wildlife occupying these habitats.

As part of the Etiwanda Heights Neighborhood & Conservation Plan (EHNCP), three new conservation areas are proposed, as identified in Figure 3. The intent of this EHNCP is to create a regulatory and management framework for securing, expanding, linking, and managing these areas, and systematically transforming the front country from an area of threatened habitat and rural open space with a few islands of partial conservation, to an area of permanently conserved, well-managed habitat with a few small islands of rural living in harmony with nature. As growth and development occur in the City it will be essential that preservation remains a priority for sensitive land resources that have significant native vegetation and/or habitat value.

Vegetation types within the General Plan Area and the City's SOI include: California sycamore woodland, coast live oak woodland, coast live oak - California sycamore woodland, red will thicket, chaparral, mixed sage scrub, scale broom scrub, alluvial wash, mulefat thickets, grassland, annual brome grassland, ruderal, ornamental, orchard - agriculture, disturbed channel, developed/ornamental, open water.

Figure 3. Conservation Areas Map



Source: City of Rancho Cucamonga 2020



- Conserved and Managed
- Conserved not Managed
- Proposed EHNCP Preserve

Vegetation Types and Other Areas

The City has several habitat types described below, and shown on Figure 4.

Riparian

Riparian vegetation occurs along the canyon bottoms in the northern portion of the General Plan Area, typically in the City's SOI. This vegetation type includes California sycamore woodland, coast live oak woodland, coast live oak – California sycamore woodland, and red willow thicket.

California sycamore woodland is dominated by western sycamore (*Platanus racemosa*). Scattered sycamores occur downstream in the various drainages and are included in the alluvial wash vegetation type. Cucamonga, Deer, Day, and Etiwanda Creeks were previously documented as containing southern sycamore-alder riparian woodland with a variety of species such as white alder (*Alnus rhombifolia*) and canyon live oak (*Quercus chrysolepis*).

Coast live oak woodland is dominated by coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*).

Coast live oak – California sycamore woodland is co-dominated by coast live oak and western sycamore. The understory of this vegetation includes toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*), red willow (*Salix laevigata*), and mulefat (*Baccharis salicifolia*).

Red willow thicket occurs in some canyon bottoms and isolated patches and is dominated by red willow. Other species present in these areas include mulefat, with some California buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*) and California sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*). There is patch of willows at the western edge of the City which extends along the edge of Cucamonga Creek, with mulefat, cattails (*Typha* sp.), and scattered laurel sumac (*Malosma laurina*) also in the area. Another small patch occurs near the northeastern corner of the City's SOI between Henderson and Morse canyons. Rushes (*Juncus* sp.), deergrass (*Muhlenbergia rigens*), western ragweed (*Ambrosia psilostachya*), and nightshade (*Solanum* sp.) are also present in this area.



Above: A partially vegetated wash with riparian vegetation within the General Plan Area.

Chaparral

Chaparral occurs in scattered patches in the City's SOI. These areas contain shrubs that are larger than those of the mixed sage scrub that surrounds this vegetation type. Chaparral species previously identified in the General Plan Area include manzanita (*Arctostaphylos sp.*), Nuttall's scrub oak (*Quercus dumosa*), ceanothus (*Ceanothus sp.*), holly-leaved cherry (*Prunus ilicifolia*), and Our Lord's candle (*Yucca whipplei*).



Above: An example of chaparral vegetation within the General Plan Area.

Mixed Scrub

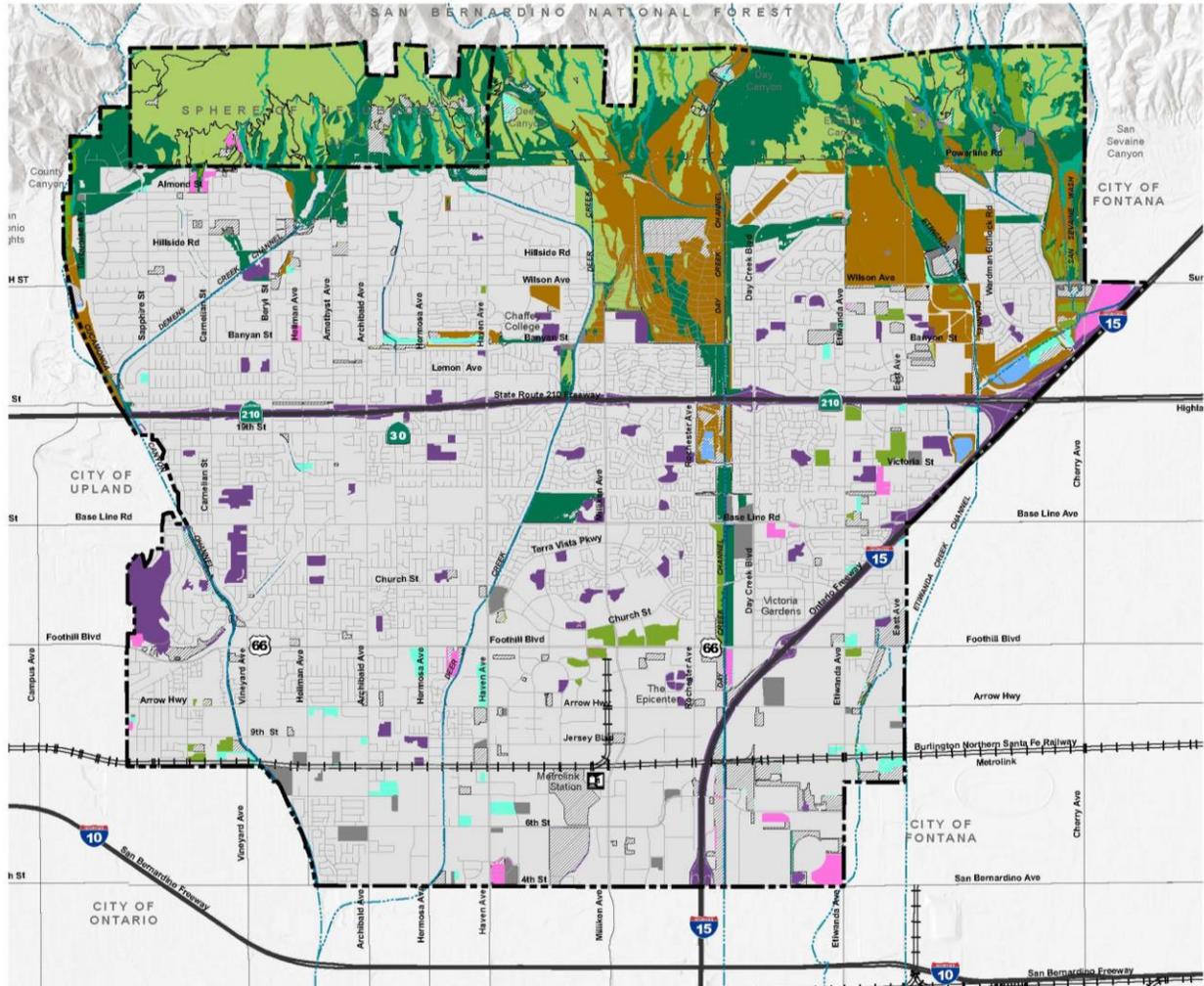
Mixed scrub occurs throughout the foothills of the General Plan Area. Outside the alluvial areas, the majority of the City's SOI contain this vegetation type. Remnant patches of mixed scrub also occur within the City boundary. The dominant species in this vegetation type are California sagebrush, California buckwheat, deerweed (*Lotus scoparius*), white sage (*Salvia apiana*), black sage (*Salvia mellifera*), and thick-leaf yerba santa (*Eriodictyon crassifolium*). The shrub density, species composition, and species percent coverage varies by patch. Other species present, but not dominant, in these areas include telegraph weed (*Heterotheca grandiflora*), California aster (*Lessingia filaginifolia*), and brittlebush (*Encelia farinosa*). The amount of non-native vegetation also varies by patch.

Some areas contain virtually no non-native species while other areas, particularly isolated patches, contain a large portion of species such as black mustard (*Brassica nigra*), tocalote (*Centaurea melitensis*), common horehound (*Marrubium vulgare*), and bromes (*Bromus spp.*).



Above: An example of mixed scrub vegetation within the General Plan Area.

Figure 4. Vegetation Types Map



Source: ECORP 2020 (vegetation community surveys)



- | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Alluvial | Riparian | City Boundary |
| Chaparral | Ruderal | Sphere of Influence |
| Mixed Scrub | Scale Broom Scrub | |
| Mule Fat Thicket | Open Water | |
| Nonnative Grassland | Channel | |
| Orchard - Agriculture | Disturbed | |
| Ornamental | Developed-Ornamental | |
| Ornamental- Eucalyptus Groves | Developed | |

Scale Broom Scrub

Scale broom scrub occurs in the alluvial fans of the major creeks that drain the surrounding foothills. Remnant patches of this vegetation type are also present within areas of development. The supportive soil type is sandy with a large number of cobbles and boulders. Scale broom (*Lepidospartum squamatum*) is diagnostically present at greater than one percent coverage in this vegetation type. In addition to scale broom, this vegetation type is co-dominated by a variety of species including California buckwheat, Our Lord's candle, and mountain mahogany (*Cercocarpus betuloides*). The amount of scale broom varies. Other species observed throughout this vegetation type include mulefat, deerweed, white sage, laurel sumac, and western sunflower (*Helianthus annuus*). Individual western sycamore trees are scattered in this vegetation type.

Some portions of this vegetation type are disturbed. While the northern portions of the alluvial fan are densely vegetated, other areas contain less cover and more non-native species such as black mustard and tocalote.



Above: An example of scale broom scrub within the General Plan Area.

Alluvial

Alluvial consists of the stream courses of the various creeks in the General Plan Area. These areas are either unvegetated or contain alluvial fan sage scrub species at a lower density than that vegetation type. Flowing water is present in some washes. The supportive soil type of alluvial washes is sandy with numerous cobbles and boulders.

Mulefat Thickets

Mulefat thickets occur in remnant patches in the General Plan Area. These areas are dominated by dense areas of mulefat.

Nonnative Grassland

Nonnative grasslands occur throughout the General Plan Area with densities varying by parcel. This vegetation type includes annual brome grasslands, which are dominated by *Bromus* spp., as well as a mix of native and non-native grasses and forbs such as needlegrass (*Nassella* sp.), bromes, and black mustard. These areas contain few scattered shrubs.



Above: An example of nonnative grassland vegetation within the General Plan Area.

Ruderal

Ruderal vegetation is mapped throughout the General Plan Area. These areas contain a variety of weedy species such as black mustard, Russian thistle (*Salsola tragus*), and tocalote. Some scattered scrub species occur in some ruderal areas. The density of ruderal species varies by parcel.

Ornamental

Ornamental vegetation occurs throughout the General Plan Area. This includes recreational areas (e.g., golf courses, parks, sports fields) and landscaping adjacent to the major freeways. Turf grass is a large component of the landscaping associated with the recreational areas. These areas also contain non-native trees such as gum (*eucalyptus* spp.), pine (*Pinus* spp.), or Peruvian pepper (*Schinus molle*). The vegetation adjacent to the freeways contains sage scrub species in some areas, with additional plantings of non-native species like wattle (*Acacia* sp.), Peruvian pepper, and hottentot fig (*Carpobrotus edulis*).

Ornamental – Eucalyptus Groves

Ornamental – eucalyptus groves occur in patches in the northern portion of the City's SOI near Henderson and Morse canyons. The areas contain non-native gum (*eucalyptus* spp.).

Orchard – Agriculture

Orchard – agriculture occurs in isolated patches throughout the General Plan Area. Most of these areas are fallow grape vineyards. These areas contain a large amount of non-native species such as black mustard. This vegetation category also includes strawberry fields, citrus groves, and a tree farm.

Disturbed

Disturbed areas occur throughout the General Plan Area. They consist of exposed soil with little or no vegetation. Some of these areas have been subject to grading or other earth disturbance measures.



Above: An example of disturbed vegetation within the General Plan Area.

Channel

Channels occur throughout the General Plan Area. These are concrete lined and trapezoidal or vertical walled. Open water occurs in some channels while others are dry. The amount of open water present in these channels was too small to be mapped as a separate mapping unit.

Developed/Ornamental

The majority of the General Plan Area is mapped as developed/ornamental. These areas consist of commercial, industrial, and residential structures and associated landscaping. Paved roads are also included in this mapping unit. Vegetation in these areas is varied and dominated by non-native, ornamental species including Peruvian pepper, pine, gum, flowering plum (*Prunus cerasifera*), and African fountain grass (*Pennisetum setaceum*).

Open Water

Open water occurs in various natural and constructed catch basins in the General Plan Area, which gather water flowing from the mountains to the north of the City. Golf course water features were

also included in this mapping unit. Any open channels which may provide corridors that encourage the movement of wildlife are also included in this classification.



Above: An example of open water in the form of a catch basin within the General Plan Area. Riparian vegetation is present in the forefront of the photo.

Wildlife Movement

Wildlife corridors are linear landscape elements that provide for wildlife species movement and dispersal between two or more habitats. Wildlife corridors contribute to population viability by assuring continual exchange of genes between populations, providing access to adjacent habitat areas for foraging and mating, and providing routes for recolonization of habitat after local displacement or ecological catastrophes (e.g., fires). Wildlife corridors could be bound by development or areas unsuitable for wildlife, but could contain enough food, cover, and/or water to facilitate wildlife movement between habitat patches and prevent isolation of populations. Travel routes are landscape features (i.e., ridgelines, drainages, canyons, or riparian areas) that are used by wildlife to gain access to essential resources. Areas adjoining two habitats are also often referred to as habitat linkages.

A statewide interagency workshop was conducted in 2000 to delineate habitat linkages critical for preserving the State's biodiversity. The San Gabriel-San Bernardino Linkage was one of 15 landscape linkages identified as crucial to maintaining ecological and evolutionary processes among large blocks of protected habitat within the South Coast Ecoregion. This linkage occurs at the San Gabriel and San Bernardino Mountains divide, which includes the mountains and foothills north of and within the General Plan Area (See Figure 5). The different elevations and transition from scrub and woodland in the south to the Mojave Desert in the north result in a diversity of natural communities.

The final Linkage Design, as shown in Figure 5, *Wildlife Movement Linkages Map*, covers approximately 129,901 acres and has three roughly parallel routes to accommodate diverse species and ecosystem functions. The central branch is relatively short and largely in public ownership, but the northern and southern branches are roughly 24 miles long and include substantial private lands (Penrod et al. 2004).

The northern branch provides a high desert connection dominated by chaparral communities, with patches of desert scrub, juniper and Joshua tree woodlands, grassland, and riparian habitats. The central branch links a series of higher elevation forest and shrubland habitats. The southern branch encompasses coastal and alluvial fan scrub habitats and includes portions of Cucamonga, Deer, Day, Etiwanda, Morse, and San Sevaine Creeks. Natural vegetation makes up most of the Linkage Design, but urban and agricultural development covers approximately 1.8 percent of the area. As of 2004, approximately 66 percent of the Linkage Design had some level of conservation protection.

The majority of the General Plan Area is developed. These areas have little natural open space and therefore provide few wildlife movement corridors. Existing corridors include creeks and open drainage canals, which connect wildlife between the mountains to the north. Scattered open space areas, such as golf courses, parks, and vacant lots are additional resource areas. The City should maintain these resource areas by encouraging the protection, enhancement, and proliferation of native landscaping, especially near existing corridors. Additionally, any new culverts thought to be of value for wildlife movement should be designed with bridged undercrossings, or, if a bridge is not possible, use a 12-foot by 12-foot box culvert or bigger for larger animals.

The northern part of the General Plan Area has large, contiguous open space areas and areas already designated for preservation in perpetuity. Development within existing open space and undeveloped areas in this region of the Plan Area could result in habitat fragmentation and constrain wildlife movement that has regional significance. With careful planning and design, the City can mitigate these impacts to wildlife movement by incorporating design measures that allow wildlife to disperse between large patches of remaining habitat. Wildlife corridor studies may need to be required for any proposed land use conversions in these areas and some general principles of evaluation and design should be implemented, such as:

- Monitoring the use of corridors by target wildlife species
- Approve corridor designs that allow for adaptive management;
- Incorporating wildlife corridor designs into development;
- Maintaining as much natural open space as possible in designated corridor areas.
- Develop strict lighting restrictions for the houses adjacent to the corridor to prevent light pollution into the corridor. This includes directing lights downward and inward toward the home.

In 2019, the City adopted the Etiwanda Heights Neighborhood and Conservation Plan, the location of which abuts the aforementioned open space areas. In conjunction with the plan, the City proposes to annex 4,400 acres of unincorporated San Bernardino County in the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains, between the northerly city limits and the San Bernardino National Forest. The upper 3,200 acres lie north of the existing foothill community, and the lower 1,200-acre area is surrounded on three sides by existing housing tracts. The City's intent is to conserve the natural and rural character, recreational and habitat resources, and visual qualities of that area for future generations.

It is important to note that these large open space areas may not serve as wildlife corridors where there are few or no man-made or naturally occurring physical constraints to wildlife movement. Instead, these open spaces are large enough to maintain viable populations of species and to provide a variety of travel routes (e.g., canyons, ridgelines, trails, riverbeds, and others). Wildlife may use these "local" routes while searching for food, water, shelter, and mates and will not need to cross into other large open space areas.

Special Status Species

Several special status plant and animal species occur in the General Plan Area that could be affected by future development. Generally the presence of a listed species, and in some instances the habitat suitable for a listed species, is sufficient to require additional biological analysis. If biological analysis is needed, then the scientific study must follow protocol acceptable to the applicable regulatory agency (or agencies, depending if the species is listed by the state and/or federal government) for the results to be considered adequate. Often the protocol requires investigation during different season(s) for particular species, or possibly over several seasons. Because of the potential to significantly affect the schedule for project consideration, developers are encouraged to conduct biological analyses

prior to planning development and submit the results of the analysis along with the development application.

A full list of species and their protected statuses is included in Appendix A. Federally endangered species known to occur within the General Plan Area and information regarding their status, general habitat, and habitat mitigation ratio(s) are listed in the table below. Images of these species are shown below.



© 2010 Benjamin
Ambrosia pumila
(San Diego
ambrosia)



© 2009 Thomas
Astragalus brauntonii
(Braunton's milk-
vetch)



© 2013 Steven
Eriastrum densifolium ssp.
sanctorum
(Santa Ana River
Woollystar)



© 2009 Thomas
Berberis nevinii
(Nevin's Barberry)



© 2012 Anuja Parikh and Nathan
Dodecahema leptoceras
(slender-horned spineflower)



© 2006 Andrea B.
Rhaphiomidas terminatus
abdominalis



© 2018 William Flaxington
Rana muscosa
(southern mountain yellow-legged
frog)



© 2004 Chris Brown
Anaxyrus californicus
(Arroyo toad)



© 2010 Patrick Martin
Gymnogyps californianus
(California condor)



© 2015 Benjamin Smith
Vireo bellii pusillus
(least Bell's vireo)



Dave Menke, USFWS
Empidonax traillii extimus
(southwestern willow)



Art Davenport
Dipodomys merriami parvus
(San Bernardino kangaroo rat)



B. "Moose" Peterson
Dipodomys stephensi
(Stephen's kangaroo rat)

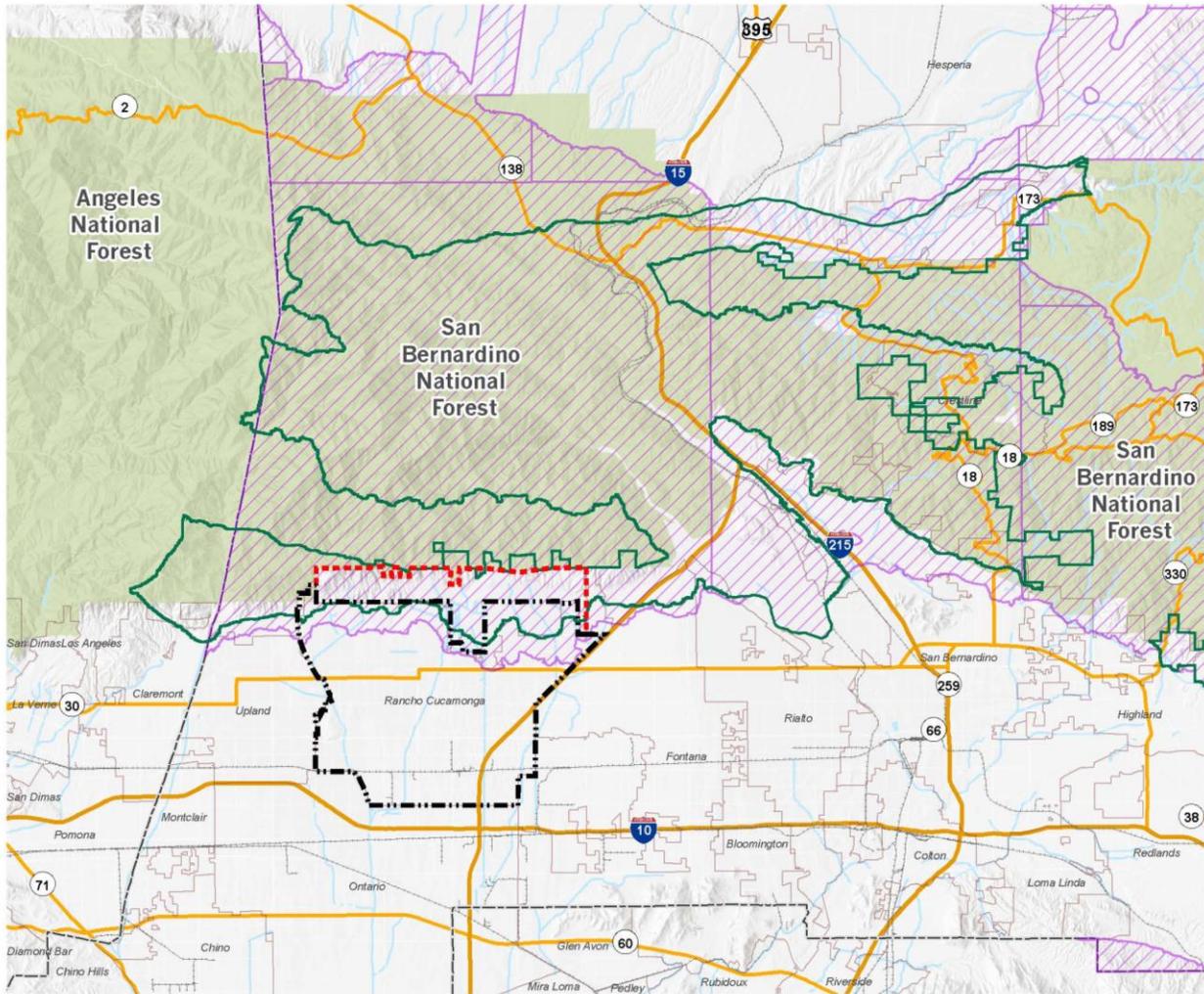
Table 1. General Habitat and Habitat Mitigation Ratios of Federally Endangered Species Known to Occur within the General Plan Area

Scientific Name (Common Name)	Description	Habitat Description	Vegetation Community(ies)	Mitigation Ratio of Habitat(s)
Plants				
<i>Ambrosia pumila</i> (San Diego ambrosia)	Perennial herb with an erect stem. Generally few-branched, densely short-hairy	Chaparral, coastal scrub, valley and foothill grassland, and vernal pools. Sandy loam or Clay, Disturbed areas, Alkaline areas.	Chaparral	0.5:1-1:1
			Grassland	None
			Mixed Scrub	1:1-3:1
			Scale Broom Scrub	1:1-3:1
			Disturbed	None
<i>Astragalus brauntonii</i> (Braunton's milk-vetch)	Perennial herb with coarse, white hairs that are dense, tangled, some longer, spreading	Chaparral, coastal scrub, and valley and foothill grassland habitats. Often found in recently burned or disturbed areas. Usually in sandstone soil with carbonate layers.	Chaparral	0.5:1-1:1
			Grassland	None
			Mixed Scrub	1:1-3:1
			Scale Broom Scrub	1:1-3:1
			Disturbed	None
<i>Berberis nevinii</i> (Nevin's barberry)	Erect shrub, maximum height of four meters. Dense foliage of dark green to bluish-green with spiny-toothed, spear-shaped leaflets	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, and riparian woodland in sandy or gravelly soils.	Chaparral	0.5:1-1:1
			Scale Broom Scrub	1:1-3:1
			Mixed Scrub	1:1-3:1
			Riparian	2:1
<i>Dodecahema leptoceras</i> (slender-horned spineflower)	Small annual plant forming a patch of spreading basal leaves measuring a few centimeters in diameter	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, and alluvial fan coastal scrub in sandy soils.	Chaparral	0.5:1-1:1
			Scale Broom Scrub	1:1-3:1
			Mixed Scrub	1:1-3:1
			Alluvial	1:1
<i>Eriastrum densifolium</i> ssp. <i>Sanctorum</i> (Santa Ana River woollystar)	Perennial herb with light grey-green stems and leaves with bright blue funnel-shaped flowers	Chaparral and alluvial fan coastal scrub in sandy or gravelly soils	Chaparral	0.5:1-1:1
			Alluvial	1:1
Invertebrates				
<i>Rhaphiomidas terminatus abdominalis</i> (Delhi Sands flower-loving fly)	Approximately 1-inch long flying insect, orange-brown in color with dark brown oval spots	Dune habitat, with fine sandy Delhi soils.	Alluvial	1:1

Scientific Name (Common Name)	Description	Habitat Description	Vegetation Community(ies)	Mitigation Ratio of Habitat(s)
Amphibians				
<i>Anaxyrus californicus</i> (Arroyo toad)	Plump and stocky toad with dry, uniformly warty skin. Adults are 1.75 - 3.2 inches from snout to vent	Sandy banks of rivers, arroyos, and streams with shallow sandy pools. Also found in riparian woodlands or uplands adjacent to arroyos.	Alluvial (or adjacent)	1:1
			Riparian (or adjacent)	2:1
<i>Rana muscosa</i> (southern mountain yellow-legged frog)	A medium-sized frog with a slim waist, long legs, smooth skin and webbing on the hind feet	Ponds, streams, lakes, and isolated pools in southern Sierra Nevada Mountains and rocky streams within narrow canyons and the chaparral belt in Southern California mountains	Riparian	2:1
			Chaparral	0.5:1-1:1
Birds				
<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i> (southwestern willow flycatcher)	Small perching bird, < 15 cm long from bill to tail. Brownish-olive upper body, whitish throat, pale olive breast, a pale-yellow belly, and two light wing bars.	Riparian woodlands particularly with willow thickets. Nests in densest areas of shrubs and trees with low-density canopies.	Riparian	2:1
<i>Gymnogyps californianus</i> (California condor)	Large bird with long, broad wings and long "fingers". Adults are black with striking white patches under the wings.	Nests in cliff faces.	Cliff faces	N/A
<i>Vireo bellii pusillus</i> (least Bell's vireo)	11.5-12.5 centimeters long. Short rounded wings and short, straight bills with a faint white eye ring. Feathers are mostly gray above and pale below.	Riparian woodlands and willow-cottonwood forests particularly with streamside thickets and dense brush.	Riparian	2:1
Mammals				
<i>Dipodomys merriami parvus</i> (San Bernardino kangaroo rat)	Approx. 9 in. in length including tail. Faintly yellowish tinted fur with an over-wash of dusky brown above and white underparts. Long tail with a white side stripe wider than the dark stripes and a dusky tufted tip. Dark	Alluvial sage scrub, flood plains, washes, and upland areas adjacent to desert habitat.	Alluvial	1:1
			Mixed Scrub	1:1-3:1
			Chaparral	0.5:1-1:1
			Scale Broom Scrub	1:1-3:1

Scientific Name (Common Name)	Description	Habitat Description	Vegetation Community(ies)	Mitigation Ratio of Habitat(s)
	line on either side of the nose.			
<i>Dipodomys stephensi</i> (Stephen's kangaroo rat)	Approx. 12 in. in length including tail. Tail often twice as long as body. Light brown fur which becomes lighter on the ventral surface and legs.	Annual grasslands, coastal sage scrub with sparsely spaced vegetation, loose friable soils, and flat or slightly rolling terrain.	Grassland	None
			Mixed Scrub	1:1-3:1
			Alluvial	1:1
<p>Sources:</p> <p>¹United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2020 Environmental Conservation Online System (ECOS) Species Profiles. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/</p> <p>²California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). 2018 RareFind 5 California Department of Fish and Wildlife Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) Version Commercial Version. Sacramento, CA: California Department of Fish and Game, Biogeographic Data Branch.</p> <p>³Jepson Flora Project. 2020. Jepson eFlora, https://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/eflora/.</p> <p>⁴Baldwin, B. G., G. H. Goldman, et al. 2012 The Jepson Manual; Vascular Plants of California, Second Edition. Berkeley, CA, University of California Press.</p> <p>⁵Calflora. 2018 Calflora: Information on California plants for education, research and conservation, with data contributed by public and private institutions and individuals, including the Consortium of California Herbaria. [web application]. 2018. Berkeley, California: The Calflora Database [a non-profit organization]. Available: http://www.calflora.org/</p> <p>⁶[CNPS] California Native Plant Society. 2020 California Native Plant Society, Rare Plant Program. 2020. Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants of California (online edition, v8-03 0.39). Website http://www.rareplants.cnps.org</p>				

Figure 5. Wildlife Movement Linkages Map



Source: San Bernardino County Regional Conservation Investment Strategy 2018;
Southern California Wildlands (scwildlands.org) 2018

-  Rancho Cucamonga City Boundary
-  Sphere of Influence
-  South Coast Missing Linkages [ds419]
-  Modeled Habitat Linkage

Relevant Documents and Regulations

A myriad of federal, state, and local regulations designed to protect biological resources apply to land within the City. Most of the regulations are independent of the CEQA process. This means that the regulations apply to the property even if there is no discretionary permit that would ‘trigger’ an environmental analysis for the overall project. For example, wetlands are protected by both federal and state regulations, so a permit is needed from either federal and/or state agencies before a wetland can be altered. The permit to alter the wetland requires environmental analysis, even if the project is exempt from CEQA. The issuance and monitoring of a federal or state permit is overseen by one of several resource agencies. These can include the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, and California Department of Fish and Wildlife. A summary of federal and state regulations is included as Appendix B to this report.

Policies and Regulations

Development allowed within the General Plan Area may be subject to one or more of the following policies and regulations:

Federal

Federal Endangered Species Act
Clean Water Act/River and Harbors Act
Executive Order 11990
Migratory Bird Treaty Act
Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act

State

California Endangered Species Act
Porter-Cologne Act
California Fish and Game Code

County Policies and Regulations

County regulations would likely apply in the areas next to the City prior to annexation and would need to be considered if a project would affect the adjacent land, or as part of the annexation process. The County of San Bernardino Code of Ordinances (Title 8, Division 8, Chapter 88.01: Plant Protection and Management) provides regulations and guidelines for managing plant resources in the unincorporated areas of the County on property or combinations of property under private or public ownership. A Tree or Plant Removal Permit is required for the removal of regulated trees and plants. Regulated trees and plants are found in Section 88.01.070(b) (Regulated Trees) and Section 88.01.080(b) (Regulated Riparian Plants).

Riparian plants are regulated in riparian areas found on private land within unincorporated areas of the County and on public land owned by the County, unless exempt. Section 88.01.080(b) applies to the removal of vegetation within 200 feet of the bank of a stream or in an area indicated as a protected riparian area on an overlay map or Specific Plan.

Local Policies and Regulations

The City’s Tree Preservation Ordinance in the Municipal Code (Title 17, Development Code- Chapter 17.80) provides regulations to protect trees, considered to be a community resource, from indiscriminate cutting or removal. Provisions within the chapter are specifically intended to protect and expand the eucalyptus windrows. A permit is required for the removal, relocation, replacement, or destruction of a Heritage TreeCommunity Wildfire Protection Plan

As part of this effort the City will update the Wildfire Protection Plan. The plan may call for fuel management and the creation of breaks in the fire area, all of which have the potential to affect wildlife habitat and movement corridors. Additionally, it contains measures such as consciously excluding

certain brush and tree species most likely to create fuel for wildfires. While the details of the wildfire protection plan are more appropriately discussed in the Hazards Element, the potential biological impacts will need to be addressed in the Conservation Element and the General Plan EIR.

The aforementioned Etiwanda Heights Neighborhood and Conservation Plan is located in an area that is very high in wildfire hazard, with significant fault zones and areas subject to landslides at the foot of the mountains. This plan incorporates specific measures in order to reduce and mitigate these risks, as discussed in the Hazards Element.

Existing General Plan Goals and Policies

A number of policies in the Resource Conservation Element of the General Plan address biological resource issues. These policies were developed and implemented to help reduce impacts to existing biological resources within the City and its SOI. Applicable goals and related policies are identified below in italics. Each policy is followed by an implementation action which identifies the programs and procedures used to put General Plan goals and policies into action.

- **Policy RC-1.1:** *Preserve sensitive land resources that have significant native vegetation and/or habitat value.*
 - **Implementation Action:** *Continue to consult with agencies and private organizations that have the land or other resources available to promote open space and habitat preservation and restoration.*
- **Policy RC-8.1:** *Preserve the integrity of riparian habitat areas, creek corridors, Riversidian Alluvial Fan Sage Scrub, bogs, and sensitive wildlife habitat that support biological resources.*
 - **Implementation Action:** *Pursue actions that provide appropriate long-term protection of areas within the City's Sphere of Influence that contain sensitive habitat, and which are considered of unique value in enhancing the quality of the local environment.*
- **Policy RC-8.2:** *Consult with San Bernardino County and other agencies to support the preservation of streamside woodland areas along the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains, including the North Etiwanda Preserve.*
 - **Implementation Action:** *Require development proposals that include riparian or water-related communities to prepare a site-specific investigation to define the extent and fragility of the riparian community, determine wetland permit requirements and propose measures to mitigate any impacts on the resources stemming from land disturbance or other site development.*
- **Policy RC-8.3:** *Utilize innovative measures that will allow the expansion of sensitive biological preserve areas (e.g., North Etiwanda Preserve, Day Creek Preserve, and San Sevaine Preserve) and other important habitat areas.*
 - **Implementation Action:** *Continue working with the County of San Bernardino, California Department of Fish and Game, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to protect sensitive biological resources within the City's Planning Area through the creation of a system of preserves and open space along the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains. Continue with the acquisition program or the creation of conservation easements to protect the biological integrity of the alluvial fan sage scrub (AFSS) to create a preserve for use as part of a mitigation land bank.*
- **Policy RC-8.4:** *Acquire and/or protect open space areas that provide strategic wildlife corridors and vital connectivity between habitat areas.*
 - **Implementation Action:** *Continue working with the County of San Bernardino, California Department of Fish and Game, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to protect sensitive biological resources within the City's Planning Area through the creation of a system of preserves and open space along the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains. Continue with the acquisition program or the creation of conservation easements to protect the biological integrity of the alluvial fan sage scrub (AFSS) to create a preserve for use as part of a mitigation land bank.*

- **Policy LU-8.5:** *Protect natural resources and sensitive habitat areas and avoid encroachment from new hillside development.*
 - **Implementation Action:** *Continue to coordinate the review of hillside development proposals with Federal, State, and regional agencies with purview over natural resources and sensitive habitats.*

Attachment A:
Species Listing

Special Status Wildlife Species Known to Occur in the Vicinity of the Rancho Cucamonga Proposed General Plan Update Study Area				
Species	Status		Occurrence Information	Relationship of Plan Area to Critical Habitat
	USFWS	CDFW		
Invertebrates				
<i>Bombus crotchii</i> (crotch bumble bee)	-	Candidate	Reported in San Antonio Canyon, north of Ontario (1931 record); Also reported in San Bernardino, Devore, and Mt. Baldy (1945, 1953, and 1975 record)	-
<i>Callophrys mossii hidakupa</i> (San Gabriel Mountains elfin butterfly)	-	-	Reported near Mt. Baldy (1975 and 1976 records)	-
<i>Diplectrona californica</i> (California diplectronan caddisfly)	-	-	Reported from Claremont (CDFG 2009)	-
<i>Rhaphiomidas terminatus abdominalis</i> (Delhi Sands flower-loving fly)	FE	-	Reported in Fontana, San Bernardino, and Guasti (CDFG 2009)	-
Fish				
<i>Gila orcuttii</i> (arroyo chub)	-	SSC	Reported from Cattle Canyon Creek and the East Fork of the San Gabriel River (2003 record)	-
<i>Rhinichthys osculus ssp.3</i> (Santa Ana speckled dace)	-	SSC	Reported near Cajon Creek and Lytle Creek (1996 record)	-
<i>Catostomus santaanae</i> (Santa Ana sucker)	FT	SSC	Reported from Cattle Canyon Creek and the East Fork of the San Gabriel River (2006 record)	Not within final or newly proposed Critical Habitat (USFWS 2020)
Amphibians				
<i>Anaxyrus californicus</i> (Arroyo Toad)	FE	SSC	Reported along Cucamonga Creek (1999 record)	Not within final Critical Habitat (USFWS 2020)

Special Status Wildlife Species Known to Occur in the Vicinity of the Rancho Cucamonga Proposed General Plan Update Study Area				
Species	Status		Occurrence Information	Relationship of Plan Area to Critical Habitat
	USFWS	CDFW		
<i>Batrachoseps gabrieli</i> (San Gabriel Mountains slender salamander)	-	-	Reported near Scotland and Lytle Creek (1998 record)	-
<i>Rana boylei</i> (foothill yellow-legged frog)	-	SSC	Reported in the vicinity of Evey, San Antonio, and Thompson Creeks in Claremont (1960 record)	-
<i>Rana muscosa</i> (southern mountain yellow-legged frog)	FE	SE	Historically reported at various locations in Mt. Baldy (1959 record)	Not within final Critical habitat (USFWS 2020)
<i>Spea hammondi</i> (western spadefoot)	-	SSC	Reported 1.5 miles northwest of Claremont (1941 record)	-
<i>Taricha torosa</i> (California newt)	-	SSC	Reported from Live Oak and Cobal Canyons, north of Claremont (1990s records)	-
Reptiles				
<i>Anniella pulchra pulchra</i> (silvery legless lizard)	-	SSC	Reported near Ontario, Fontana, and Claremont (CDFG 2009)	-
<i>Arizona elegans occidentalis</i> (California glossy snake)			Reported in the vicinity of Mira Loma and Azusa; near Devore, Ontario, and Guasti (1946 records)	-
<i>Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri</i> (San Diego tiger whiptail) coastal whiptail (<i>Cnemidophorus tigris stejnegeri</i>)	-	SSC	Reported in San Antonio Canyon near Mt. Baldy (CDFG 2009)	-
<i>Charina umbratica</i> (southern rubber boa)	-	ST	Reported within Jeffrey pine and black oak forest near Harrison Mountain	-
<i>Phrynosoma blainvillii</i> (Blainville's horned lizard)	-	SSC	Reported near Devore, Ontario, Cucamonga Peak, Guasti, and San Bernardino (CDFG 2009)	-
<i>Thamnophis hammondi</i> (two-striped garter snake)			Reported near Cucamonga Creek and near La Verne (2001 and 2010 records)	-

Special Status Wildlife Species Known to Occur in the Vicinity of the Rancho Cucamonga Proposed General Plan Update Study Area				
Species	Status		Occurrence Information	Relationship of Plan Area to Critical Habitat
	USFWS	CDFW		
Birds				
<i>Agelaius tricolor</i> (tricolored blackbird)	-	ST, SSC	Reported from the San Bernardino Flood Control Basin (2014 record)	-
<i>Aimophila ruficeps canescens</i> (southern California rufous-crowned sparrow)	-	WL	Reported in Upland (2001 record)	-
<i>Amphispiza belli belli</i> (Bell's sage sparrow)	-	WL	Reported north of Lytle Creek Wash near Devore (1997 record)	-
<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> (golden eagle)	-	WL, FP	Potentially present	-
<i>Athene cucularia</i> (burrowing owl)	-	SSC ^c	Observed in multiple locations in the Rancho Cucamonga and Ontario (1992-2013 records)	-
<i>Buteo swainsoni</i> (Swainson's Hawk)	-	ST	Historically reported near Chino (1920 record)	-
<i>Coccyzus americanus occidentalis</i> (western yellow-billed cuckoo)	FT	SE ^a	Historically reported from Chino Creek (1931 record)	-
<i>Cypseloides niger</i> (black swift)	-	SSC ^a	Reported from Wolfskill Falls east of the Plan Area (1986 records)	-
<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i> (southwestern willow flycatcher)	FE	SE	Potentially Present	Not within final Critical Habitat (USFWS 2020)
<i>Gymnogyps californianus</i> (California condor)	FE	SE	Potentially Present	Not within final Critical Habitat (USFWS 2020)
<i>Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus</i> (California black rail)	-	ST, FP	Reported near Chino (1931 records)	-
<i>Polioptila californica californica</i> (coastal California gnatcatcher)	FT	SSC	Reported near Lytle Wash and Cajon Wash and multiple locations in the City (1991 records)	Not in final Critical Habitat (USFWS 2020)

Special Status Wildlife Species Known to Occur in the Vicinity of the Rancho Cucamonga Proposed General Plan Update Study Area				
Species	Status		Occurrence Information	Relationship of Plan Area to Critical Habitat
	USFWS	CDFW		
<i>Vireo bellii pusillus</i> (least Bell's vireo)	FE	SE	Reported along Cable Creek and Sycamore Flat, near Devore (2007 record)	Not in final Critical Habitat (USFWS 2020)
Mammals				
<i>Antrozous pallidus</i> (pallid bat)	-	SSC	Historically reported from Ontario (1951 record)	-
<i>Chaetodipus fallax fallax</i> (northwestern San Diego pocket mouse)	-	SSC	Reported from Cucamonga Creek to Upland (2002 record)	-
<i>Chaetodipus fallax pallidus</i> (pallid San Diego pocket mouse)	-	SSC	Reported west of Devore (1976 record)	-
<i>Dipodomys merriami parvus</i> (San Bernardino kangaroo rat)	FE	SSC	Reported east of Ontario and in Devore (1996 record)	Northeast portion of SOI located in final Critical Habitat (USFWS 2020)
<i>Dipodomys stephensi</i> (Stephen's kangaroo rat)	FE	FT	Reported southeast of Ontario	-
<i>Eumops perotis californicus</i> (western mastiff bat)	-	SSC	Reported in Pomona and Rancho Cucamonga (1925 and 1992 records)	-
<i>Lasiurus cinereus</i> (hoary bat)	-	WL	Historically reported 1.5 miles northwest of Claremont and near San Antonio Canyon (1940 and 1951 records)	-
<i>Lasiurus xanthinus</i> (western yellow bat)	-	SSC ^e	Reported in the vicinity of Pomona (CDFG 2009)	-
<i>Lepus californicus bennettii</i> (San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit)	-	SSC	Reported in Fontana (2001 record)	-
<i>Neotoma lepida intermedia</i> (San Diego desert woodrat)	-	SSC	Reported from Cucamonga Creek to Upland (2002)	-
<i>Nyctinomops femorosaccus</i> (pocketed free-tailed bat)	-	SSC	Reported in the vicinity of San Bernardino (1985 record)	-
<i>Nyctinomops macrotis</i> (big free-tailed bat)	-	SSC	Reported from Pomona (1987 record)	-

Special Status Wildlife Species Known to Occur in the Vicinity of the Rancho Cucamonga Proposed General Plan Update Study Area				
Species	Status		Occurrence Information	Relationship of Plan Area to Critical Habitat
	USFWS	CDFW		
<i>Perognathus longimembris brevinasus</i> (Los Angeles pocket mouse)	-	SSC	Reported in Guasti and Cucamonga Peak (CDFG 2009)	-
<p>Federal Designation (USFWS)</p> <p>FE Federally listed Endangered FT Federally listed Threatened FC Federally listed Candidate</p> <p>State Designation (CDFW)</p> <p>SE State listed Endangered ST State listed Threatened SSC Species of Special Concern WL Watch List FP Fully Protected</p> <p>^a Designation refers to nesting individuals ^b Designation refers to wintering individuals ^c Designation refers to burrow sites; wintering observations not considered special status for Orange County ^d Designation refers to nesting colony ^e Designation based on the draft updated mammalian species of special concern report</p> <p>- Indicates information that is not applicable to the species.</p>				
<p>Sources: IPAC Trust Resources List. 2018. http://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/. Accessed on March 26, 2020.</p>				

Special Status Plant Species Known to Occur in the Vicinity of the Rancho Cucamonga Proposed General Plan Update Study Area					
Species	Status			Occurrence Information	Relationship of Plan Area to Critical Habitat
	USFWS	CDFW	CRPR		
<i>Acanthoscyphus parishii</i> <i>var. parishii</i> (Parish's oxytheca)	-	-	4.2	Reported in the vicinity of Mt. Baldy and Cucamonga Peak (CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Amaranthus watsonii</i> (Watson's amaranth)	-	-	4.3	Reported in the vicinity of Mt. Baldy (CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Ambrosia monogyra</i> (singlewhorl burrobrush)	-	-	2B.2	Historically reported near Fontana Power Plant near Rialto (1947 and 1961 record); Reported in the vicinity of Devore (CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Ambrosia pumila</i> (San Diego ambrosia)	FE	-	1B.1	Reported near Alberhill, approximately 30 miles from the City (CNPS 2020).	Not in final Critical Habitat (USFWS 2020)
<i>Arctostaphylos glandulosa</i> <i>ssp. gabrielensis</i> (San Gabriel manzanita)	-	-	1B.2	Reported near Mt. Baldy and Cucamonga Peak. Known only from Mill Creek Summit divide in the San Gabriel Mountains (CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Asplenium vespertinum</i> (western spleenwort)	-	-	4.2	Reported near Mt. Baldy and Cucamonga Peak (CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Astragalus bicristatus</i> (crested milk-vetch)	-	-	4.3	Reported in the vicinity of Mt. Baldy (CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Astragalus brauntonii</i> (Braunton's milk-vetch)	FE	-	1B.1	Reported near Azusa, approximately 18 miles from the City (CNPS 2020).	Not in final Critical Habitat (USFWS 2020)
<i>Atriplex coulteri</i> (Coulter's saltbush)	-	-	1B.2	Reported in Chino Creek, south of Ontario (1917 record; CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Berberis nevinii</i> (Nevin's barberry)	FE	SE	1B.1	Reported near Mt. Baldy (1997 record; CNPS 2020)	Not in final Critical Habitat (USFWS 2020)

Special Status Plant Species Known to Occur in the Vicinity of the Rancho Cucamonga Proposed General Plan Update Study Area					
Species	Status			Occurrence Information	Relationship of Plan Area to Critical Habitat
	USFWS	CDFW	CRPR		
<i>Calochortus catalinae</i> (Catalina mariposa lily)	-	-	4.2	Reported in the vicinity of Ontario and Guasti (CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Calochortus clavatus</i> var. <i>gracilis</i> (slender mariposa lily)	-	-	1B.2	Historically reported at Cobal Canyon (1999 record); Observed in Cattle Canyon (2013 record; CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Calochortus plummerae</i> Plummer's mariposa lily	-	-	4.2	Reported in the vicinity of Mt. Baldy, Cucamonga Peak, and Devore (CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Calystegia felix</i> (lucky morning-glory)	-	-	1B.1	Reported in west Chino (2013 record; CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Centromadia pungens</i> ssp. <i>laevis</i> (smooth tarplant)	-	-	1B.1	Reported near San Bernardino, approximately 17 miles from the City; many historical occurrences may be extirpated (CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Chorizanthe leptotheca</i> (Peninsular spineflower)	-	-	4.2	Reported in the vicinity of Mt. Baldy (CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Chorizanthe parryi</i> var. <i>parryi</i> (Parry's spineflower)	-	-	1B.1	Reported in the City of Rancho Cucamonga and in Devore (1998 record; 1999 record; CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Chorizanthe xanti</i> var. <i>leucotheca</i> (white-bracted spineflower)	-	-	1B.2	Reported in the vicinity of Devore (1979 record; CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Cladium californicum</i> (California sawgrass)	-	-	2B.2	Historically reported in Red Hill, East of Upland (1918 record; CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Claytonia lanceolata</i> var. <i>peirsonii</i> (Peirson's spring beauty)	-	-	3.1	Reported near Bighorn Peak and Timber Mountain in Mt. Baldy (2012 record; CDFG 2009); Known only from the San Gabriel Mountains (CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Deinandra paniculata</i> (paniculate tarplant)	-	-	4.2	Reported in the vicinity of Guasti (CNPS 2020)	-

Special Status Plant Species Known to Occur in the Vicinity of the Rancho Cucamonga Proposed General Plan Update Study Area					
Species	Status			Occurrence Information	Relationship of Plan Area to Critical Habitat
	USFWS	CDFW	CRPR		
<i>Dodecahema leptoceras</i> (slender-horned spineflower)	FE	SE	1B.1	Historically reported from the vicinity of Upland (1905 record; CDFG 2009)	No Critical Habitat has been published.
<i>Dudleya multicaulis</i> (many-stemmed dudleya)	-	-	1B.2	Historically reported in Marshall Creek near La Verne (1934); Reported in the vicinity of Mt. Baldy (CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Eriastrum densifolium</i> ssp. <i>sanctorum</i> (Santa Ana River woollystar)	FE	SE	1B.1	Historically reported in the vicinity of Devore (1985 record); Reported in Fontana, approximately 9 miles from the City (CNPS 2020)	No Critical Habitat has been published.
<i>Eriogonum microthecum</i> var. <i>johnstonii</i> (Johnston's buckwheat)	-	-	1B.3	Reported near Cucamonga Peak, less than 4 miles north of the SOI (CDFG 2009; CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Eriogonum umbellatum</i> var. <i>minus</i> (alpine sulfur-flowered buckwheat)	-	-	4.3	Reported near Cucamonga Peak (CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Galium angustifolium</i> ssp. <i>gabrielense</i> (San Antonio Canyon bedstraw)	-	-	4.3	Reported in the vicinity of Cucamonga Peak and Mt. Baldy (CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Galium johnstonii</i> (Johnston's bedstraw)	-	-	4.3	Reported near Cucamonga Peak and Devore (CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Heuchera caespitosa</i> (urn-flowered alumroot)	-	-	4.3	Reported near Mt. Baldy and Cucamonga Peak (CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Horkelia cuneata</i> ssp. <i>puberula</i> (mesa horkelia)	-	-	1B.1	Historically reported in Upland and Etiwanda (1917 record; 1925 record); Reported in the vicinity of Cucamonga Peak and Ontario (CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Juglans californica</i> (Southern California black walnut)	-	-	4.2	Reported in Cucamonga Peak, Devore, and Ontario (CNPS 2020)	-

Special Status Plant Species Known to Occur in the Vicinity of the Rancho Cucamonga Proposed General Plan Update Study Area					
Species	Status			Occurrence Information	Relationship of Plan Area to Critical Habitat
	USFWS	CDFW	CRPR		
<i>Juncus duranii</i> (Duran's rush)	-	-	4.3	Reported in Cucamonga Peak (CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Lepechinia fragrans</i> (fragrant pitcher sage)	-	-	4.2	Known in Santa Monica Mountains near Triunfo Pass; threatened in San Gabriel Mountains; Reported near Mt. Baldy and Cucamonga Peak (CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Lepidium virginicum</i> var. <i>robinsonii</i> (Robinson's pepper-grass)	-	-	4.3	Historically reported in the vicinity of Chino and Pomona (1936 record; 1926 record)	-
<i>Lilium humboldtii</i> ssp. <i>ocellatum</i> (ocellated Humboldt lily)	-	-	4.2	Reported in Mt. Baldy, Cucamonga Peak, and Devore (CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Lilium parryi</i> (lemon lily)	-	-	1B.2	Historically reported near San Sevaine Cow Camp in Cucamonga Peak (1993 record; CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Linanthus concinnus</i> (San Gabriel linanthus)	-	-	1B.2	Historically reported from Icehouse Canyon in Cucamonga Peak (2003 record; CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Lycium parishii</i> (Parish's desert-thorn)	-	-	2B.3	Historically reported north of San Bernardino (1885 record; CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Malacothamnus parishii</i> (Parish's bush-mallow)	-	-	1A	Historically reported south of San Bernardino and Redlands (1895 record; CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Monardella australis</i> ssp. <i>jokerstii</i> (Jokerst's monardella)	-	-	1B.1	Known only from the San Gabriel Mountains; Reported west of Day Creek on the south face of Cucamonga Peak (2006 record; CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Monardella macrantha</i> ssp. <i>hallii</i> (Hall's monardella)	-	-	1B.3	Historically reported near Sunset Peak (1991 record; CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Monardella saxicola</i> (rock monardella)	-	-	4.2	Reported near Mt. Baldy and Devore (CNPS 2020)	-

Special Status Plant Species Known to Occur in the Vicinity of the Rancho Cucamonga Proposed General Plan Update Study Area					
Species	Status			Occurrence Information	Relationship of Plan Area to Critical Habitat
	USFWS	CDFW	CRPR		
<i>Muhlenbergia californica</i> (California muhly)	-	-	4.3	Historically observed from Red Hill, east of Upland (1916 record; CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Muhlenbergia utilis</i> (aparejo grass)	-	-	2B.2	Historically observed in Red Hill near Upland (1916 record)	-
<i>Navarretia prostrata</i> (prostrate vernal pool navarretia)	-	-	1B.1	Historically observed from Red Hill (1917 record; CDFG 2009); Reported in Guasti (CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Opuntia basilaris</i> var. <i>brachyclada</i> (short-joint beavertail)	-	-	1B.2	Reported in Lytle Creek (1995 record; CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Oreonana vestita</i> (woolly mountain-parsley)	-	-	1B.3	Reported in Telegraph Wash near Cucamonga Peak (2006 record; CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Orobanche valida</i> ssp. <i>valida</i> (Rock Creek broomrape)	-	-	1B.2	Reported near Lookout Mountain, north of the SOI (1995 record; CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Phacelia mohavensis</i> (Mojave phacelia)	-	-	4.3	Reported near Cucamonga Peak (CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Phacelia stellaris</i> (Brand's star phacelia)	-	-	1B.1	Reported in Rancho Cucamonga in Guasti (2003 record; CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Pseudognaphalium leucocephalum</i> (white rabbit-tobacco)	-	-	2B.2	Reported in Guasti and 2 miles northeast of La Verne in Ontario (CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Quercus durata</i> var. <i>gabrielensis</i> (San Gabriel oak)	-	-	4.2	Known from the San Gabriel Mountains; Reported near Mount Baldy (CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Sagittaria sanfordii</i> (Sanford's arrowhead)	-	-	1B.2	Reported near Cucamonga Peak (2009 record; CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Senecio astephanus</i> (San Gabriel ragwort)	-	-	4.3	Reported in Mt. Baldy and Devore (CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Sidalcea neomexicana</i> (salt spring checkerbloom)	-	-	2B.2	Historically reported from Claremont (1909 record); Presumed extirpated or unknown in Ontario (CNPS 2020)	-

Special Status Plant Species Known to Occur in the Vicinity of the Rancho Cucamonga Proposed General Plan Update Study Area					
Species	Status			Occurrence Information	Relationship of Plan Area to Critical Habitat
	USFWS	CDFW	CRPR		
<i>Sidotheca caryophylloides</i> (chickweed oxytheca)	-	-	4.3	Reported near Mt. Baldy (CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Streptanthus bernardinus</i> (Laguna Mountains jewelflower)	-	-	4.3	Reported in Lytle Creek, northeast of Cucamonga Peak and near Devore (1991 record; CNPS 2020).	-
<i>Symphyotrichum defoliatum</i> (San Bernardino aster)	-	-	1B.2	Historically observed in Red Hill and Chino (1916 record; CDFG 2009); Reported in Fontana (CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Symphyotrichum greatae</i> (Greata's aster)	-	-	1B.3	Historically reported from San Antonio Canyon in Mt. Baldy (1917 record; CDFG 2009; CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Thysanocarpus rigidus</i> (rigid fringedpod)	-	-	1B.2	Historically reported in Claremont (1923); Reported in Mt. Baldy (CNPS 2020)	-
<i>Viola pinetorum</i> ssp. <i>grisea</i> (grey-leaved violet)	-	-	1B.2	Reported between Bighorn Peak and Ontario Peak (2014 record; CNPS 2020)	-
Federal Designations (USFWS) FE Federally listed Endangered			State Designations (CDFW) SE State listed Endangered		
California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Designations					
List 1A Plants Presumed Extinct in California					
List 1B Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California and Elsewhere					
List 2 Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California But More Common Elsewhere					
List 3 Plants About Which We Need More Information – A Review List					
List 4 Plants of Limited Distribution – A Watch List					
California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Threat Code Extensions					
None Plants lacking any threat information					
.1 Seriously threatened in California (high degree/immediacy of threat)					
.2 Fairly threatened in California (moderate degree/immediacy of threat)					
.3 Not very threatened in California (low degree/immediacy of threat or no current threats known)					
– Indicates information that is not applicable to the species.					
Sources: California Native Plant Society, Rare Plant Program. 2020. Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants of California (online edition, v8-03 0.39). Website http://www.rareplants.cnps.org [accessed 26 March 2020].					

Attachment B:
Regulatory Summary

Relevant Policies and Regulations

Federal

Federal Endangered Species Act

The Federal Endangered Species Act of 1973 (FESA) protects plants and animals that the government has listed as “Endangered” or “Threatened”. A Federally listed species is protected from unauthorized “take”, which is defined in the FESA as “harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or attempt to engage in any such conduct”. All persons are presently prohibited from taking a Federally listed species unless and until: (1) the appropriate Section 10(a) permit has been issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) or (2) an Incidental Take Statement is obtained as a result of formal consultation between a Federal Agency and the USFWS pursuant to Section 7 of the FESA and the implementing regulations that pertain to it (50 *Code of Federal Regulations* [CFR] 402). “Person” is defined in the FESA as an individual, corporation, partnership, trust, association, or any private entity; any officer, employee, agent, department or instrument of the Federal government; any State, Municipality, or political subdivision of the State; or any other entity subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

Clean Water Act/River and Harbors Act

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Regulatory Branch regulates activities that discharge dredged or fill materials into “Waters of the U.S.”¹ under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act. This permitting authority applies to all “Waters of the U.S.” where the material has the effect of: (1) replacing any portion of “Waters of the U.S.” with dry land or (2) changing the bottom elevation of any portion of “Waters of the U.S.”.

Section 401 of the CWA provides the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) with the authority to regulate, through a Water Quality Certification, any proposed Federally permitted activity that may affect water quality. Among such activities are discharges of dredged or fill material permitted by the USACE pursuant to Section 404 of the CWA. Section 401 requires the RWQCB to provide “certification that there is reasonable assurance that an activity which may result in the discharge to ‘waters of the U.S.’ will not violate water quality standards”. Water Quality Certification must be based on a finding that the proposed discharge would comply with water quality standards, which contain numeric and narrative objectives that can be found in each of the nine Regional Boards’ Basin Plans.

Development allowed within any identified jurisdictional areas in the proposed 2020 General Plan Area (which includes the City of Rancho Cucamonga and its related SOI) may be subject to requirements under Sections 401 and 404 of the CWA. This includes filling; stockpiling; converting to a storm drain; modifying an existing storm drain or channel; creating a channel; stabilizing a bank; modifying road or utility transmission line crossings; or completing other modifications of an existing drainage, stream, or wetland. Also, both permanent and temporary impacts to jurisdictional resources are regulated activities that require permit authorization from these agencies.

Executive Order 11990

Executive Order 11990 directs Federal agencies (1) to minimize the destruction, loss, or degradation of wetlands and (2) to preserve and enhance the natural and beneficial values of wetlands in carrying out the agencies’ responsibilities. Each agency shall avoid undertaking or providing assistance for new construction located in wetlands unless the head of the agency finds (1) that there is no practicable alternative to such construction and (2) that the proposed action includes all practicable measures to minimize harm to wetlands that may result from such use. In making this finding, the head of the agency may take into account economic, environmental, and other pertinent factors.

¹“Waters of the U.S.” include navigable coastal and inland waters, lakes, rivers, and streams and their tributaries; interstate waters and their tributaries; wetlands adjacent to such waters; intermittent streams; and other waters that could affect interstate commerce

Migratory Bird Treaty Act

Pursuant to the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918, Federal law prohibits the taking of migratory birds, their nests, or their eggs (16 United States Code [USC], Section 703), except as allowed by permit pursuant to 50 CFR 21. The statute makes it illegal to take, possess, import, export, transport, sell, purchase, barter, or offer for sale, purchase, or barter, any migratory bird, or the parts*, nests, or eggs of such a bird except under the terms of a valid Federal permit.

Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act

The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act provides for the protection of the bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) and the golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) by prohibiting, except under certain specified conditions, the taking, possession, and commerce of such birds. The 1972 amendments increased penalties for violating provisions of the Act and strengthened other enforcement measures. A 1978 amendment authorized the Secretary of the Interior to permit the taking of golden eagle nests that interfere with resource development or recovery operations.

State

California Endangered Species Act

Pursuant to the California Endangered Species Act and Section 2081 of the California Fish and Game Code, an Incidental Take Permit from the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) is required for projects that could result in the take of a State-listed Threatened or Endangered species. Under the California Endangered Species Act, “take” is defined as an activity that would directly or indirectly kill an individual of a species. If a species is listed by the Federal and State governments as Threatened or Endangered, a consistency finding in accordance with Section 2080.1 of the CESA is issued when a project is deemed consistent with an existing USFWS Biological Opinion (BO), pursuant to Section 7 of the FESA.

Porter-Cologne Act

The Porter-Cologne Act provides the State with very broad authority to regulate “Waters of the State”.² Generally, any person proposing to discharge waste into a water body that could affect its water quality must file a “Report of Waste Discharge” when there is no Federal nexus, such as under Section 404(b)(1) of the Clean Water Act. Although “waste” is partially defined as any waste substance associated with human habitation, the RWQCB interprets this to include fill discharge into water bodies.

California Fish and Game Code

“Waters of the State”

Sections 1600–1616 of the California Fish and Game Code protect “Waters of the State”. Activities of State and local agencies, as well as public utilities that are project proponents, are regulated by the CDFG under Section 1602 of the code; this section regulates any work that would (1) substantially divert or obstruct the natural flow of any river, stream, or lake; (2) substantially change or use any material from the bed, channel, or bank of any river, stream, or lake; or (3) deposit or dispose of debris, waste, or other material containing crumbled, flaked, or ground pavement where it may pass into any river, stream, or lake. For project activities (described above) that may affect stream channels and/or riparian vegetation regulated under Sections 1600 through 1603, CDFG authorization is required in the form of a Streambed Alteration Agreement.

Birds of Prey and Migratory Birds

Sections 3503 and 3503.5 of the California Fish and Game Code makes it unlawful to take, possess, or destroy the nests and eggs of birds of prey.

Section 3513 of the California Fish and Game Code prohibits taking and possession of any migratory nongame bird, as designated in the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

² The Porter-Cologne Act defines “Waters of the State” as “any surface water or groundwater, including saline waters, within the boundaries of the state” (this includes the rivers, streams, or lakes protected by Sections 1600-1616 of the *California Fish and Game Code*).

CDFG Review

As a trustee agency, the CDFG has jurisdiction over certain resources held in trust for the people of California. Trustee agencies are generally required to be notified of CEQA documents relevant to their jurisdiction, whether or not these agencies have actual permitting authority or approval power over aspects of the underlying project (14 California Code of Regulations [CCR] Section 15386). The CDFG, as a trustee agency, must be notified of CEQA documents regarding projects involving wildlife of the State as well as Rare and Endangered native plants,³ wildlife areas, and ecological reserves. As a trustee agency the CDFG cannot approve or disapprove a project; however, lead and responsible agencies are required to consult with them. The CDFG, as the trustee agency for wildlife resources, shall provide the requisite biological expertise to review and comment upon environmental documents and impacts arising from buildout of the proposed General Plan Update Study Area and shall make recommendations regarding those resources held in trust for the people of California (California Fish and Game Code, Section 1802).

County

The County of San Bernardino Code of Ordinances (Title 8, Division 8, Chapter 88.01: Plant Protection and Management) provides regulations and guidelines for managing plant resources in the unincorporated areas of the County on property or combinations of property under private or public ownership. A Tree or Plant Removal Permit is required for the removal of regulated trees and plants. Regulated trees and plants are identified in Section 88.01.070(b) (Regulated Trees) and Section 88.01.080(b) (Regulated Riparian Plants).

Trees protected by Section 88.01.070(b) include (1) any living, native tree with a 6-inch or greater stem diameter or 19 inches in circumference measured 4.5 feet above natural grade level and (2) 3 or more palm trees in linear plantings which are 50 feet or greater in length within established windrows⁴ or parkway plantings.

Riparian plants are regulated in riparian areas located on private land within unincorporated areas of the County and on public land owned by the County, unless exempt. Section 88.01.080(b) applies to the removal of vegetation within 200 feet of the bank of a stream⁵ or in an area indicated as a protected riparian area on an overlay map or Specific Plan.

Local

The City’s Tree Preservation Ordinance in the Municipal Code (Title 19, Environmental Protection - Chapter 19.08) states that eucalyptus, palm, oak, sycamore, pine, and other trees growing within the City are a natural aesthetic resource and are worthy of protection. A permit is required for the removal, relocation, or destruction of a Heritage Tree.⁶