

Mitigated Negative Declaration

Griffith Park South Water Recycling Project



Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
Environmental Affairs
111 North Hope Street, Room 1044
Los Angeles, California 90012

October 8, 2013

CEQA Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration

Griffith Park South Water Recycling Project

October 2013

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COUNTY CLERK'S USE

CITY CLERK'S USE

**CITY OF LOS ANGELES
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
ROOM 395, CITY HALL
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT
PROPOSED
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION
(Article I, City CEQA Guidelines)**

LEAD CITY AGENCY: Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) 111 North Hope Street, Room 1044 Los Angeles, CA 90012	COUNCIL DISTRICT CD No. 4 Councilmember Tom LaBonge
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PROJECT TITLE: Griffith Park South Water Recycling Project	CASE NO.
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PROJECT LOCATION: The proposed project is located within Griffith Park in the northeastern area of the City of Los Angeles. Griffith Park is owned and operated by the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks (LARAP) and is located at 4730 Crystal Springs Drive. It is bounded by State Route (SR) 134 to the north, Interstate 5 (I-5) to the east, Los Feliz Boulevard to the south, and the San Gabriel Mountains to the west. Prior to construction, LADWP would obtain a Right of Entry Permit (ROE) from LARAP which allows LADWP to construct the facilities. The proposed project would connect to the existing Greenbelt Recycled Water pipeline and would extend the pipeline to the proposed pump station located to the east of Fire Road east of the Merry-Go-Round and south of the Old Zoo Picnic Area. At the proposed pump station, the proposed pipeline would continue to the foot of Fern Canyon Nature Trail to the proposed recycled water storage tank located near the existing Tank 114 site on Vista Valle Drive. The last segment of the proposed project would be located downhill of the proposed tank and would connect with an existing pipeline terminating at an existing parking lot of the Roosevelt Golf Course. Another pipeline designated as a potable back-up would (I didn't want to convey the idea of "connection" between potable water and recycled water.) extend from the existing Grade Potable System to fill the proposed recycled water storage tank. These facilities would allow for future expansion of the recycled water system serving Griffith Park.

DESCRIPTION: The proposed project would expand the use of recycled water within the Griffith Park and Los Feliz Area of the City of Los Angeles. Implementation of the proposed project would extend the existing Greenbelt Water Recycling distribution line south to serve the Roosevelt Golf Course, which is a prime customer for recycled water. The proposed project would involve the construction of recycled water pipelines, a water pump station, a regulator valve, and a recycled water storage tank. Proposed project facilities include:

- 2,100 linear feet of 12-inch pipeline, connecting the existing Greenbelt pipeline to the proposed pump station east of Fire Road;
- 2,500 linear feet of 12-inch pipeline from the proposed horizontal directional drilling (HDD) launching pit to the HDD receiving pit near the proposed recycled water storage tank;
- 1,400 linear feet of 12-inch pipeline from the HDD receiving pit to the proposed recycled water storage tank;
- 700 linear feet of 12-inch pipeline from the proposed recycled water tank to the existing 1,200 linear feet 8-inch steel pipeline, connecting to the Roosevelt Golf Course;
- 700 linear feet of 12-inch pipeline from the proposed recycled water tank to the existing 1,544 foot Grade Potable System to be used as a potable back-up pipeline;
- Recycled water pumping station located on the east side of Fire Road within LADWP easement;
- Regulator Valve and Relief Valve System located adjacent to the pump station;
- Bolt-up Steel recycled water storage tank with a capacity of 1 million gallons located southeast of the existing Tank 114;
- Removal of existing Tank 114 and;
- Appurtenant facilities for the pipelines.

NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT IF OTHER THAN CITY AGENCY

FINDING: See attached Initial Study for Mitigation Measures Imposed

NAME OF PERSON PREPARING THIS FORM: Irene Paul	TITLE: Environmental Specialist	PHONE: (213) 367-3509
ADDRESS: 111 N. Hope Street, Room 1044 Los Angeles, CA 90012	SIGNATURE (Official) Charles C. Holloway, Manager of Environmental Planning and Assessment	DATE

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration for Griffith Park South Water Recycling Project

	<u>Page</u>
1. Project and Agency Information	1
1.1 Project Title and Lead Agency.....	1
1.2 Project Background and Objectives.....	1
1.3 Project Location	2
1.4 Project Description.....	5
1.5 Alternatives Considered but Withdrawn	9
1.6 Discretionary Approvals Required for the Project	10
2. Environmental Checklist	13
2.1 Aesthetics.....	13
2.2 Agricultural and Forest Resources	15
2.3 Air Quality.....	17
2.4 Biological Resources	21
2.5 Cultural Resources.....	31
2.6 Geology, Soils, and Seismicity	37
2.7 Greenhouse Gas Emissions	43
2.8 Hazards and Hazardous Materials	44
2.9 Hydrology and Water Quality.....	47
2.10 Land Use and Land Use Planning.....	50
2.11 Mineral Resources	51
2.12 Noise	52
2.13 Population and Housing.....	55
2.14 Public Services.....	56
2.15 Recreation.....	57
2.16 Transportation and Traffic.....	58
2.17 Utilities and Service Systems	61
2.18 Mandatory Findings of Significance.....	63
3. References, Acronyms, and Report Preparers	66
3.1 Document References	66
3.2 Acronyms	69
3.3 Report Preparers.....	70

Appendix A: Biological Resources Technical Report

Figures

Figure 1	Regional Location	3
Figure 2	Project Vicinity	4
Figure 3	Project Site.....	7
Figure 4	Habitat Types.....	24
Figure 5	Landslide and Liquefaction Potential in the Project Area.....	40

Tables

Table 1	Discretionary Permits Potentially Required.....	10
Table 2	SCAQMD Daily Construction Emissions Thresholds.....	18
Table 3	Maximum Daily Emissions from Project Construction	19
Table 4	Cumulative Projects List	64

SECTION 1

Project and Agency Information

1.1 Project Title and Lead Agency

Project Title: Griffith Park South Water Recycling Project

Lead Agency Name and Address:

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
Environmental Planning and Assessment
111 North Hope Street, Room 1044
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Contact Person and Phone Number:

Irene Paul
Environmental Planning and Assessment
(213) 367-3509

Project Sponsor's Name and Address:

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
Environmental Planning and Assessment
111 North Hope Street, Room 1044
Los Angeles, CA 90012

1.2 Project Background and Objectives

1.2.1 Project Background

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) propose to expand its existing recycled water system within the Central Los Angeles area with the Griffith Park South Water Recycling Project (“GPSWRP” or “proposed project”). The proposed project would expand the existing water recycling system supplied by the Los Angeles-Glendale Water Reclamation Plant by extending the Greenbelt Water Recycling distribution line south to serve the Roosevelt Golf Course as its prime customer. The Roosevelt Golf Course currently uses potable water for irrigation. It is anticipated the golf course could require approximately 310 acre feet per year (AFY) of recycled water for irrigation.

In addition, the proposed project would increase recycled water storage to accommodate future expansion of the recycled water system to other areas of Griffith Park and the Los Feliz area, including the Greek Theatre, landscaped medians within Vermont Avenue and Hillhurst Avenue,

the Griffith Park Nursery and Horticultural Center, picnic areas in the immediate vicinity, and the bird sanctuary. The proposed project would expand storage for future customers by an average of 60 AFY of recycled water.

1.2.2 Project Objectives

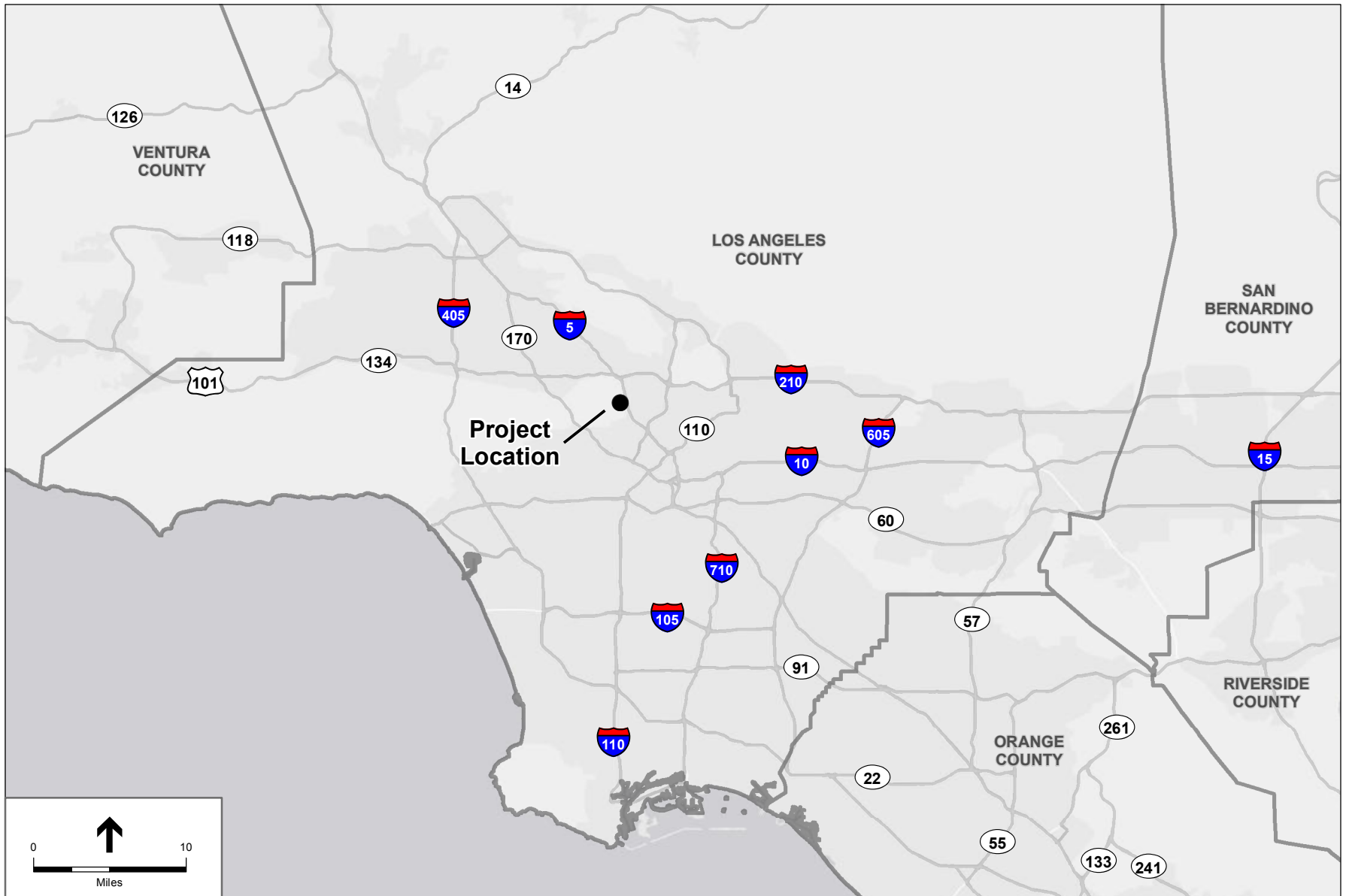
The objectives of the proposed project are to:

- Improve the reliability of the City’s potable water supply through use of water recycling;
- Utilize recycled water generated by Los Angeles-Glendale Reclamation Plant for irrigation at Roosevelt Golf Course;
- To serve as a near-term project as part of the City of Los Angeles Water Supply Action Plan, titled “Securing L.A.’s Water Supply” published May 2008;
- To increase recycled water storage capacity to serve future uses in Griffith Park and the Los Feliz area of the City.
- To utilize the horizontal directional drilling (HDD) method to avoid significant impacts to aesthetic, biological and recreational (public uses) resources.

1.3 Project Location

The proposed project is located within Griffith Park in the northeastern area of the City of Los Angeles; specifically, the proposed project is located in the Hollywood community planning area (**Figure 1**). Griffith Park is owned and operated by the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks (LARAP). It is bounded by State Route (SR) 134 to the north, Interstate 5 (I-5) to the east, Los Feliz Boulevard to the south, and the Interstate 101 (I-101) to the west (**Figure 2**).

The proposed project would connect to the existing Greenbelt Recycled Water pipeline and would extend the pipeline to the proposed pump station to the east of Fire Road, east of the Merry-Go-Round and south of the old zoo picnic area. At the proposed pump station, the proposed pipeline would continue to the foot of Fern Canyon Nature Trail to the proposed recycled water storage tank near the existing Tank 114 site on Vista Valle Drive. The last segment of the proposed project would be located downhill of the proposed tank and would connect with an existing pipeline terminating at an existing parking lot of the Roosevelt Golf Course. Another pipeline designated as a potable back-up would extend from the existing Grade Potable System to fill the proposed recycled water storage tank. These facilities would allow for future expansion of the recycled water system serving Griffith Park.



SOURCE: ESRI

Griffith Park South Water Recycling Project . 211490.27

Figure 1
Regional Location



Source: ESRI

Griffith Park South Water Recycling Project. 211490.27

Figure 2
Project Vicinity

1.4 Project Description

The proposed project would extend the use of recycled water system within the Hollywood Community Planning Area of the City of Los Angeles. Implementation of the proposed project would extend the existing Greenbelt Water Recycling distribution line south to serve the Roosevelt Golf Course, which is a prime customer for recycled water.

The proposed project would involve the construction of recycled water pipelines, a water pump station, a regulator valve, and a recycled water storage tank (**Figure 3**). Proposed project facilities include:

- 2,100 linear feet of 12-inch pipeline, connecting the exiting Greenbelt pipeline to the proposed pump station east of Fire Road;
- 2,500 linear feet of 12-inch pipeline from the proposed horizontal directional drilling (HDD) launching pit to the HDD receiving pit near the proposed recycled water storage tank;
 - HDD is being used because trenching or excavating is not practical since it would result in significant biological and aesthetic impacts.
 - With use of HDD, most of the ground surface remains undisturbed, lessening the environmental impact of placing pipeline.
 - Trenchless technology protects natural resources such as sensitive habitats by drilling underneath the resources.
- 1,400 linear feet of 12-inch pipeline from the HDD receiving pit to the proposed recycled water storage tank;
- 700 linear feet of 12-inch pipeline from the proposed recycled water tank to the existing 1,200 linear feet 8-inch steel pipeline, connecting to the Roosevelt Golf Course;
- 700 linear feet of 12-inch pipeline from the proposed recycled water tank to the existing 1,544 foot Grade Potable System to be used as a potable back-up pipeline;
- Regulator Valve and Relief Valve System located adjacent to the pump station;
- Bolt-up steel recycled water pumping station located on the east side of Fire Road within LADWP easement;
- Steel recycled water storage tank with a capacity of 1 million gallons to be located southeast of the existing Tank 114;
- Removal of existing Tank 114 and;
- Appurtenant facilities for the pipelines.

The proposed project would begin at the existing Greenbelt Water Recycling pipeline located near the Merry-Go-Round area of Griffith Park; located in Park Center between the Los Angeles Zoo and the Los Feliz park entrance. Approximately 2,100 linear feet of a 12-inch pipeline would connect to an existing 8-inch recycled water pipeline located southwest of the intersection of

Griffith Park Drive and Crystal Springs Drive. The pipeline would be installed within the existing roadway and connect north of the proposed recycled water pump station located on the east side of Fire Road. The pipeline would connect to a new pump station. From the pump station, the pipeline would continue for approximately 2,500 feet and would be installed using the HDD construction method (tunneling beneath the surface) to avoid aesthetic, biological, and recreational (on the public) impacts within the park. Approximately 1,400 linear feet of 12-inch pipeline would be constructed from the HDD receiving pit to a new recycled water storage tank, to be located southeast of existing Tank 114.

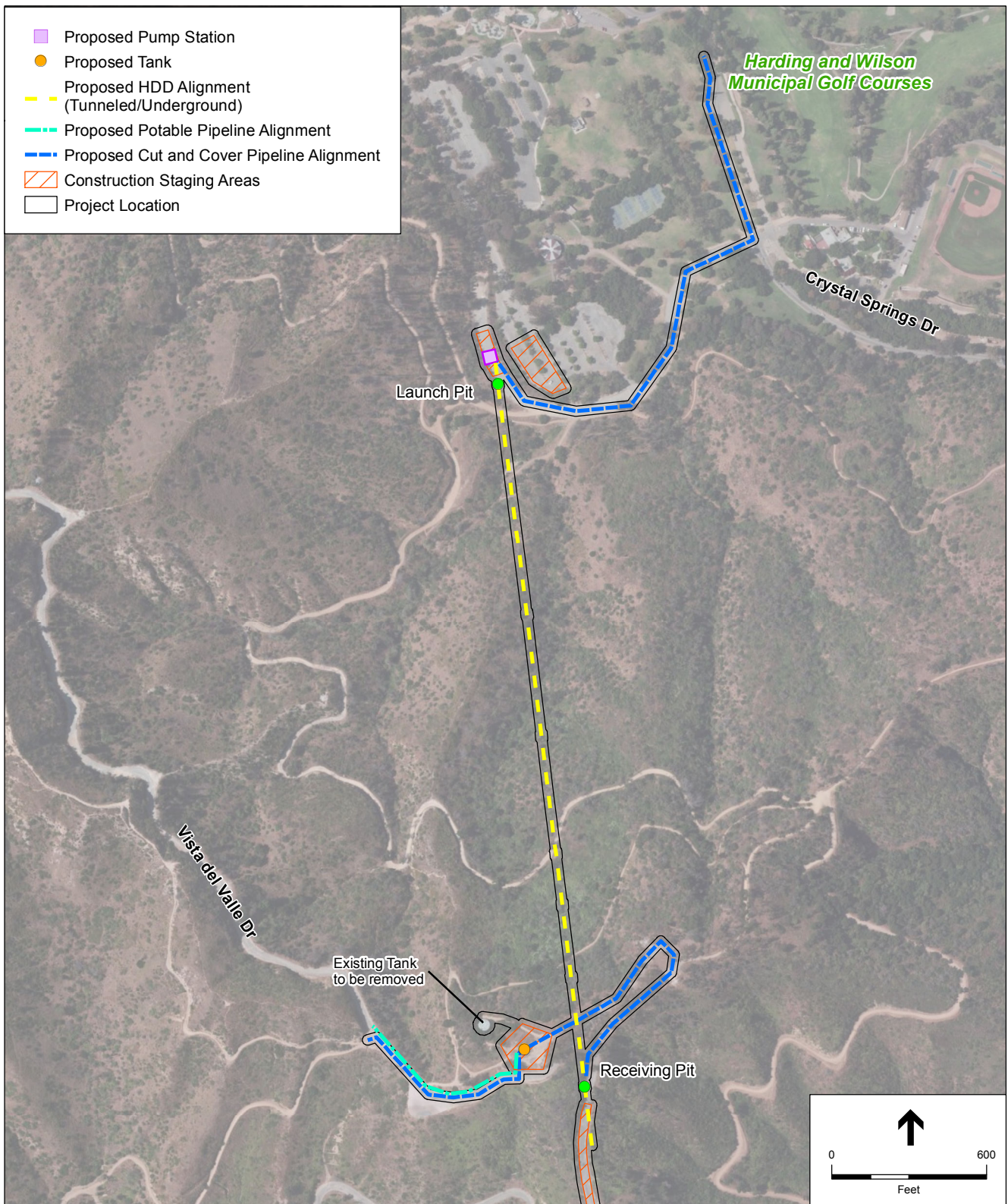
The existing 8-inch service main for the Roosevelt Golf Course would be severed and split into two separate pipelines. A new 12-inch ductile iron pipeline would be connected to the downstream portion of the severed 8-inch pipeline and extend approximately 700 linear feet to the new recycled water storage tank. This pipeline would supply the Roosevelt Golf Course with recycled water.

A new 12-inch welded steel pipeline would connect to the upstream portion of the severed location and extend approximately 700 linear feet to the proposed recycled water storage tank. This pipeline would serve as a potable water back-up to the proposed storage tank.

A recycled water pump station would be located on the east side of Fire Road within a LADWP easement. It would be located on a 40-foot by 50-foot pad. The proposed pump station would consist of two operating pumps and one back-up pump. A minimum flow of 1,400 gallons per minute (gpm) would be required to fill the proposed recycled water tank in 12 hours. The base elevation of the pump station would be at approximately 525 feet to the tank fill elevation of approximately 1,140 feet. The pump station would be approximately 10 feet high and would be enclosed within a small housing structure to protect and secure the pump station.

The recycled water storage tank would replace the existing steel Tank 114 and would be approximately 30 feet high. The existing Tank 114 would be demolished, aboveground appurtenances removed, and the existing foundation abandoned. The proposed recycled water storage tank would have a holding capacity of 1 million gallons that would provide additional capacity for future customers that have been identified in the Recycled Water Master Planning Documents. The proposed recycled water storage tank would be partially buried 10 feet below the existing ground elevation and would have a base elevation of approximately 1,110 feet. The proposed recycled water storage tank would also have a potable water back-up supplied from the existing 1,544 foot grade potable water system.

Appurtenant facilities such as valves, vaults, air gaps, flow meters, discharge systems and mechanical equipment would be developed to support the new system. The new system would also include disinfection monitoring systems, a corrosion control system, provisions for water treatment, and provisions for security standards.



Source: ESRI

Griffith Park South Water Recycling Project. 211490.27

Figure 3
Project Site

1.4.1 Project Construction

The proposed cut and cover pipelines would be installed using trenching construction techniques, except for the segment extending from Fern Canyon Nature Trail to the proposed recycled water tank. This segment would be installed using HDD method, which is a trenchless method of installing underground pipeline and has minimal impact on the surrounding area. HDD is being proposed to avoid closing of the Fern Canyon Nature Trail and to prevent adverse visual impacts at Griffith Park.

The construction of the proposed project would commence on January 02, 2014 and is anticipated to be completed by October 09, 2015. The project would be constructed in three separate phases, including the cut and cover pipeline phase, the HDD pipeline phase, and tank and pump station phase. Each component is described separately below. Regional access to the construction site would be via I-5. Construction access to the various parts of the alignment would be via Crystal Springs Drive from the I-5, Western Heritage Way from SR-134, and Fire Road adjacent to Crystal Springs Drive in Griffith Park.

Cut and Cover Pipelines

Construction activities would avoid disrupting activities at Griffith Park. The construction staging and parking area for Phase 1 of the cut and cover pipeline installation would be located near the Merry-Go-Round parking area, with access from Fire Road (Figure 3). Construction staging and parking area for Phase 2 of the cut and cover pipeline installation would be located at near the proposed tank and the exiting Tank 114, with access from Vista Del Valle Drive (Figure 3). Construction would occur five days a week, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Construction equipment needed for installation of the cut and cover pipeline would include air compressors, backhoes, concrete/ industrial saws, cranes, dumpers/ tenders, haul trucks, off-highway trucks, pavers and paving equipment, signal boards, and a welding truck. Approximately a total of 18 workers per day would be required for the construction of Phase 1, and a total of 21 workers for the construction of Phase 2. In addition, a total of 18 truck trips per day is required for Phase 1 and 2 construction. A total of 36-39 trucks trips per day for cut and cover pipeline construction would occur.

Phase 1 of cut and cover pipeline phase would commence on January 02, 2014 and is anticipated to be completed by February 28, 2014. Phase 2 of cut and cover pipeline phase would commence on August 3, 2015 and is anticipated to be completed by October 09, 2015. The construction is phased to avoid early summer park activities.

Tank and Pump Station

Construction activities for the recycled water storage tank and pump station would avoid disrupting Griffith Park activities. The construction staging and parking areas would be located along Fire Road near the proposed pump station and on Vista Del Valle near the proposed tank. Construction would occur five days a week, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Construction equipment needed for installation of the recycled water storage tank, and pump station would include backhoes, cement and mortar mixers, cranes, dumpers/ tenders, an excavator, loaders, pavers, pumps, rollers, rubber tired dozers, a gas engine vibrator, and a welder. It is anticipated that the maximum number of construction truck trips required per day is 91 trips for tank construction and 12 trips for pump station construction. Approximately 145 workers per day would be required for construction of the proposed project; this includes approximately 91 workers for construction of the tank and 54 workers for construction of the pump station.

The recycled water storage tank and pump station phase would commence on March 02, 2015 and is anticipated to be completed by June 24, 2015.

Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) Pipeline

Construction activities for the HDD pipeline would avoid disrupting Griffith Park activities. There would be three construction staging areas for the HDD pipeline construction, with one staging area for the proposed HDD launching pit located near the Merry-Go-Round parking area, with access from Fire Road (Figure 3). The other two staging areas would be located near the proposed HDD receiving pit, with one staging area located closer to existing Tank 114 and one staging area located closer to the proposed receiving pit (Figure 3). Both HDD receiving pit staging areas would have access from Vista Del Valle Drive. Parking areas for the HDD pipeline construction phase would be located along Fire Road near the pump station and on Vista Del Valle Drive near the existing tank site. Construction would occur five days a week, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Construction equipment needed for installation of the HDD pipeline construction phase would include air compressors, backhoes, bore/ drill rigs, forklifts, haul trucks, pavers, sweepers/ scrubbers, vacuum excavator, flatbed truck, and a slurry pump. It is anticipated that a maximum of 15 construction truck trips would be required per day. Approximately seven workers per day would be required for the proposed HDD pipeline construction phase.

The proposed project would commence on January 6, 2015 and is anticipated to be completed by March 02, 2015.

1.4.2 Project Operation

Operation and maintenance activities for the proposed project would be minimal and limited to intermittent pipeline, pump station and recycled water storage tank maintenance. The proposed project would require minimal maintenance and monitoring related to periodic inspection for possible leaks and repairs. Infrequent routine maintenance activities would occur .

1.5 Alternatives Considered but Withdrawn

LADWP has been working collaboratively with LARAP to find and implement the best possible project with the least disruptive impacts to Griffith Park environment and operations. Alternatives

considered included two alternatives for the tank, four alternative pipeline alignments, and one alternative pump station location. The proposed project was found to have the least impact to Griffith Park and surrounding areas, as well as minimized the impact to park visitors and park operations.

Retrofitting existing Tank 1114, rather than complete replacement, was considered. However, structural and corrosion testing led to the conclusion that this alternative was not suitable, as extensive retrofitting was required. An alternative tank location was also considered at the footprint of existing Tank 114. However, due to the large size of the tank and the proximity of several oak trees, it was decided that the proposed site was more suitable since removal of oaks would not be required.

Four alternate pipeline alignments were considered. Two alternative pipeline routes were considered for the segment of pipeline between the Recycled Water Greenbelt line and the foot of Fern Canyon Nature Trail. These were not chosen as the preferred alternative due to construction difficulties (impacts to park operations) and increased costs. Two alternative pipeline routes were considered for the segment of pipeline between the foot of Fern Canyon Nature Trail and tank. These alternatives were not chosen as the preferred alternative due to complexities in construction and potential disruptive impacts on park visitors.

An alternative location for the pump station at the foot of Fern Canyon Nature Trail was considered. This was not chosen as the preferred alternative since the pipeline would have required alignment segments of a larger 16 inch pipeline size.

1.6 Discretionary Approvals Required for the Project

Table 1 presents a preliminary list of the agencies and entities with discretionary approval over the GPSWRP.

**TABLE 1
DISCRETIONARY PERMITS POTENTIALLY REQUIRED**

Agency	Permits and Authorizations Required	Activities Subject to Regulations
California State Division of Occupational Safety and Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permit for trench construction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any excavation activity five feet or deeper
State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State Wide Construction General Permit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction on a site of more than one acre
County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discharge Permit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction dewatering and hydrostatic test water discharge into the storm system and channels
City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Bureau of Engineering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excavation Permit Class 'A' Permanent Resurfacing Permit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any trench excavation activities within public right-of-way Excavations of pipeline construction and substructure investigation (potholing)

Agency	Permits and Authorizations Required	Activities Subject to Regulations
City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation	Industrial Waste Permit	Pump or chlorine discharge water
City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Bureau of Street Services, Street Tree Division	Permit for removal or trimming of trees	Removal of any tree on City streets or public property. Removal of more than three trees may require review and approval by the Board of Public Works.
City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks	Memorandum of Understanding	Between LADWP and LARAP concerning ownership of facilities and easements for facilities to be installed
California Department of Public Health	Submittal of design drawings	Submittal of design drawings
County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health	Submittal of on-site drawings	Coordinate with LACDPH to conduct cross-connection inspection during construction and testing prior to going into service

Environmental Factors Potentially Affected

The proposed project could potentially affect the environmental factor(s) checked below. The following pages present a more detailed checklist and discussion of each environmental factor.

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics | <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture and Forestry Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Geology, Soils and Seismicity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards and Hazardous Materials | <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology and Water Quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use and Land Use Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Noise |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Population and Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation and Traffic | <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities and Service Systems | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |

DETERMINATION: (To be completed by Lead Agency)

On the basis of this initial study:

- I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a “potentially significant impact” or “potentially significant unless mitigated” impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, no further environmental documentation is required.

Signature

Date

Charles C. Holloway

Manager of Environmental Assessment and Planning
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power

SECTION 2

Environmental Checklist

2.1 Aesthetics

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
1. AESTHETICS — Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect daytime or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

- a) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed project would be located within Griffith Park, which is located at the eastern tip of the Santa Monica Mountain Range. Although the project area and immediate project vicinity is open space, it has not been designated as a scenic vista by the Los Angeles General Plan or the Griffith Park Master Plan. Additionally, there are no designated scenic vistas identified in the City of Los Angeles General Plan or Hollywood Community Plan. Construction of the proposed project would be located entirely onsite within Griffith Park and would not impact the surrounding area. At the end of construction, the pipelines would be located entirely underground. The pump station housing facility would have a maximum height of 10 feet and recycled water storage tank would have a maximum height of 20 feet above grade, because the tank would be partially buried 10 feet below the existing ground elevation. Because there are no designated scenic vistas in the project vicinity, the proposed project would not adversely impact scenic vistas. The impacts to scenic vistas would be less than significant.
- b) **No Impact.** There are no officially-designated State Scenic Highways in the vicinity of the project site, nor are there any known scenic resources, rock outcroppings, or historic buildings in proximity to the project site. State Route 210 (SR-210), located approximately eight miles east of the project site, is an Eligible State Scenic Highway, but is not an officially designated as Caltrans scenic highway. State Route 110 (SR-110),

- also known as the Arroyo Seco Parkway, is located approximately six miles south from the project site and is designated by the City of Los Angeles General Plan as a Historic Parkway. Due to the proposed project's distance from the SR-210 and the SR-110, proposed project would not be visible. Therefore, the proposed project would not impact scenic resources within a designated State Scenic Highway corridor. No impacts would occur.
- c) **Less than Significant Impact.** The existing visual character of the proposed project and surrounding area is characterized as open park space on hilly terrain with dense vegetation. Construction activities and installation of the proposed pump station and proposed recycled water storage tank would alter the visual character of the proposed project site. In order to reduce impacts to the utilization of the Fern Canyon Nature Trail segments and the aesthetics of the open space scenery, the proposed pipeline would be installed using the HDD method. This would ensure the nature trail impacts, although short-term, would not negatively impact the trail during and after construction and. At the end of construction, the proposed pipeline would be located entirely underground and would not impact the visual character of the Fern Canyon Nature Trail and surrounding area. The proposed aboveground pump station would be housed in an enclosed structure that would be painted and finished to complement the existing area. The proposed recycled water storage tank would also be painted and finished to complement the existing area and would replace the older existing tank structure. At the end of construction, the project site would be returned to pre-construction conditions, with exception of the new aboveground facilities. As a result, the proposed project would not substantially degrade or change the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings. Therefore, impacts to visual character of the site and its surroundings would be less than significant.
- d) **No Impact.** Construction activities would occur during permitted daylight hours between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. and no nighttime construction is anticipated. The use of external night lighting would not be required. At the end of construction, the proposed pipeline would be located entirely underground and the aboveground structures would be painted and finished to complement the existing area. No security lighting is proposed for project operations. The proposed storage tank would be painted with non-reflective material. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would not result in a substantial new source of light or glare that could affect nighttime views in the area. No impact would occur.
-

2.2 Agricultural and Forest Resources

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
2. AGRICULTURAL AND FOREST RESOURCES —				
<p>In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board.</p> <p>Would the project:</p>				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

- a) **No Impact.** According to the City of Los Angeles General Plan, the project site has a land use designation of OS (Open Space) and is zoned as OS (Open Space). The OS zoning identifies uses for open space including parks and recreation facilities, nature reserves, closed sanitary landfill sites, public water supply reservoirs, and water conservation areas. Areas near the proposed project site are also designated and zoned OS. The project area was not previously used as agricultural land. According to the California Resources Agency Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program, there is no Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Important within or adjacent to the project site.¹ Therefore, no impacts would occur.
- b) **No Impact.** The project site is designated and zoned as Open Space. No agricultural uses are identified on site and the site is not under a Williamson Act contract. Therefore, the

¹ Source: Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program , <http://www.conservation.ca.gov/dlrp/fmmp/Pages/Index.aspx>. Accessed 6/18/13.

- proposed project would not conflict with agricultural zoning or a Williamson Act contract and no impact would occur.
- c) **No Impact.** The project site is designated and zoned as Open Space. The project site and adjacent lands are not zoned for forest land, timberland, or timberland zoned for timberland production. The project area was not previously used for forest land or timberland. Thus, no impacts would occur to lands zoned for forest land or timberland.
 - d) **No Impact.** The project site is designated and zoned as Open Space. The project site is not located on forest land or zoned as forest land. Construction and installation of the pipeline, recycled water storage tank, and pump station would not convert forest land to non-forest land. Therefore, no impacts to forest land would occur.
 - e) **No Impact.** See responses 3.2 (a) and (d) above. The proposed project would not convert potential farmland or forest land to non-agriculture/non-forestry use. Therefore, no impacts would occur to agriculture or forestry resources.
-

2.3 Air Quality

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
3. AIR QUALITY —				
Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations.				
Would the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

- a) **Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated.** The proposed project is located in the South Coast Air Basin, which is under the jurisdiction of the South Coast Air Quality Management District. The purpose of SCAQMD is to enforce federal, state, and local air quality regulations to ensure federal and state air quality standards are met. The South Coast Basin has been designated by the State and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) as a non-attainment area with respect to the state and federal standards for ozone, particulate matter (PM₁₀), fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) and lead. Additionally, the basin is designated as a nonattainment area with respect to the state standard for nitrogen dioxide. In 2012, SCAQMD prepared the 2012 Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) as a blueprint for actions to improve air quality within the basin.

The proposed project would involve short-term construction activities that include trenching, which could generate emissions of particulate matter and ozone precursors. However, the proposed project would comply with applicable rules, ordinances, plans, and policies that would minimize emissions during the short-term construction activities, such as SCAQMD Rule 403 that requires fugitive dust emission control measures to be implemented to adequately prevent visible dust from leaving the property and to reduce PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} emissions consistent with the AQMP. In addition, Mitigation Measures AQ-1 through AQ-4 would be implemented to reduce impacts to less than significant levels. As a result, implementation of the proposed project would not interfere with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan.

- b) **Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated.** The SCAQMD has established numerical air quality significance thresholds to quantitatively evaluate air quality impacts.

The proposed project construction emissions would result in a significant impact if regional emissions from both direct and indirect sources would exceed any of the threshold levels in Table 2. The thresholds in Table 2 include localized emission thresholds for emission located near sensitive land uses such as residences and hospitals where people may be assumed to be present for many hours over time or have weekend respiratory systems and therefore be at risk for exposure to substantial pollutant concentrations. The proposed project pipeline alignments, pump station and tank would not be located within 1,000 feet of sensitive land uses and therefore temporary localized pollution exposure from construction activity is not a concern and these localized emission thresholds would not be applicable to this analysis.

TABLE 2
SCAQMD DAILY CONSTRUCTION EMISSIONS THRESHOLDS

Criteria Pollutant	Regional Emissions (pounds per day)	Localized Emissions (pounds per day)^a
Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC)	75	--
Nitrogen Oxides (NOX)	100	80
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	550	498
Sulfur Oxides (SOX)	150	--
Fine Particulates (PM2.5)	55	3
Particulates (PM10)	150	4

^aLocalized thresholds based on 25-meter receptor distance and a one-acre project site.

SOURCE: SCAQMD, 2013.

The proposed project includes installation of 12-inch pipeline using open trench techniques as well as HDD. The project would also install a proposed pump station and replace a water storage tank. Construction equipment would include an air compressor, backhoes, saws, cranes dump trucks, excavators, haul trucks, pavers, signal boards and accessory vehicles. Construction activities for pipeline and pipeline installation and pump and tank improvements would create short-term temporary air quality impacts resulting from construction equipment, worker trips, and truck hauling trips. Approximately 18 haul truck round-trips would occur per day during pipeline installation and approximately 21 roundtrip per day generated by construction workers. HDD activities and pump station and tank replacement would generate 48 haul truck round-trips per day and approximately 122 round trips per day generated by construction workers. **Table 3** presents the worst case daily emissions which would occur during phase 1 pipeline installation in 2014 due to overlapping pipeline installation and paving activities. As shown in **Table 3**, projected emissions from vehicles and construction equipment and truck and worker trips would be below significance thresholds and would therefore not result in a significant impact. In addition, SCAQMD Rule 403 requires that

fugitive dust emission control measures be implemented to adequately prevent visible dust from leaving the property and to reduce PM₁₀ emissions. LADWP contractors would be required to comply with Rule 403. Implementation of Mitigation Measures **AQ-1** through **AQ-4** would further reduce air quality dust emissions during construction.

TABLE 3
MAXIMUM DAILY EMISSIONS FROM PROJECT CONSTRUCTION
(pounds per day)

Activity	Estimated Emissions (lbs/day)					
	VOC	NO _x	SO ₂	CO	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}
Pipeline Trenching	8.8	68.3	0.06	41.5	6.1	4.5
<i>SCAQMD Significance Thresholds</i>	<i>75</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>150</i>	<i>550</i>	<i>150</i>	<i>55</i>
Significant Impact (Yes or No)	No	No	No	No	No	No

Project construction emissions estimates for off-road equipment were calculated using CalEEMod Version 2013.2. See **Appendix A** for data emission sheets.

SOURCE: ESA, 2013.

Upon completion of construction activities, operation of the proposed project would not include components that would generate emissions that would impact the air quality of the area. Operations and maintenance activities including pipeline inspection, maintenance, and/or repairs would be minimal resulting in negligible emissions that would not exceed significance thresholds. Therefore, operational impacts related to air quality would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures

AQ-1: Construction areas in unpaved easements and staging areas shall be sprayed with water as necessary during construction to prevent excessive amounts of dust; preferably in the late morning and after work is done for the day.

AQ-2: Construction vehicles shall be limited to 15 mph on unpaved roads and construction areas.

AQ-3: All dust generating activities (e.g., trenching and excavation) shall cease during periods of high winds (i.e., greater than 25 mph averaged over one hour) or during Stage 1 or Stage 2 dust episodes.

AQ-4: Construction vehicles shall limit and minimize idling time whenever possible.

Significance after Mitigation: Less Than Significant

- c) **Less than Significant Impact.** Proposed project construction would result in dust emissions from trenching activities during the construction and installation of the water pipeline and ancillary facilities. SCAQMD Rule 403 requires that fugitive dust emission control measures be implemented to adequately prevent visible dust from leaving the

property and to minimize PM₁₀ emissions. LADWP would be required to comply with Rule 403. As discussed above in 3.3 (b), the proposed project would not significantly increase emissions of criteria pollutants or its precursors. Implementation of Mitigation Measures AQ-1 through AQ-4 would further reduce project-related emissions. As the proposed project would not exceed the maximum daily emissions of criteria pollutants (Table 3), would comply with all applicable rules and regulation, and implement recommended mitigation measures, the proposed project would not result in a cumulative considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

- d) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed project would not emit air pollutants in substantial concentrations that would affect nearby sensitive receptors. The proposed project would be located over 500 meters from the nearest sensitive receptor. As shown in Table 3, projected emissions for vehicles and construction equipment would be substantially below significance thresholds and would therefore not result in a significant impact. No sensitive receptors are located in proximity to the project area. In addition, operational emissions would be negligible. Because no sensitive receptors are located in proximity to the project area and construction emissions would be short-term, temporary, and well below significance thresholds, impacts would be less than significant.
- e) **Less than Significant Impact.** Project construction could result in construction-related emissions that could generate detectable odors. However, these odors would be short-term and temporary and no sensitive receptors are located in proximity to the project area. Operation of the proposed project would not emit odors that would affect a substantial number of people. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in significant sources of odor during construction or operation and impacts would be less than significant.
-

2.4 Biological Resources

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
4. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES — Would the project:				
a) 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 the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) 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 California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

A Biological Resource Technical Report was prepared for the proposed project and can be found in Appendix A of this document. A biological field reconnaissance survey was conducted for the proposed project to gather baseline data on the potential for sensitive biological resources to occur within or adjacent to the project site (ESA, 2013). ESA biologists conducted a biological resource reconnaissance survey (or habitat assessment) to identify natural resources present or with the potential to occur on and adjacent to the Project site. Due to the extensive urban setting surrounding Griffith Park, the ESA biologist queried the CNDDDB within a standard United States Geologic Survey 7.52Quadrangle, nine quad search and then assessed existing scientific data on whether populations of special status species are currently within Griffith Park. During the habitat assessment, biologists characterized and quantified on-site and adjacent plant communities and noted any wildlife species present during the site evaluation. The information obtained during the habitat assessment along with information gathered in the literature and database reviews were used to determine the potential for sensitive biological resources to occur within the Project site.

Plant Communities and Habitats

Three native plant communities are found within the limits of the Project site: Southern California black walnut woodland, undifferentiated chaparral scrub, and coast live oak woodland (Figure 5). Ornamental landscaping, as well as developed and urban-agriculture areas also exists within the Project area. The three native plant communities within the Project area show similar species composition, although dominance and cover vary significantly. The Southern California black walnut woodland and the undifferentiated chaparral scrub were impacted by the 2007 Griffith Park fire. The vegetation burned in 2007 is in varying degrees of recovery within the Project site, with the trees and shrubs recovering through epicormic or basal burl shoots.

Wildlife

Wildlife species observed or expected to occur on the Project site are typical for the coastal range foothills. Reptile species common to the area include western whiptail (*Aspidoscelis tigris*), western fence lizard (*Sceloporus occidentalis*), side-blotched lizard (*Uta stansburiana*), gopher snake (*Pituophis catenifer*), coachwhip (*Masticophis flagellum*), and western diamondback (*Crotalus atrox*). Mammals species typically found within or adjacent to the Project site include California ground squirrel (*Spermophilus beechyi*), Audubon's cottontail (*Sylvagus audubonii*), mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*), gray fox (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*), bobcat (*Lynx rufus*), and coyote (*Canis latrans*). Bird species typically associated with the habitat types found within the Project area include mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*), California quail (*Callipepla californica*), common raven (*Corvus corax*), red tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*), and wrentit (*Chamaea fasciata*); however, dozens of other resident and migratory bird species are expected to occur within the project vicinity. The only amphibian expected to occur within the Project area is the arboreal salamander (*Aneides lugubris*), a species not dependent on a seasonal body of water for reproduction.

Natural Communities of Special Concern

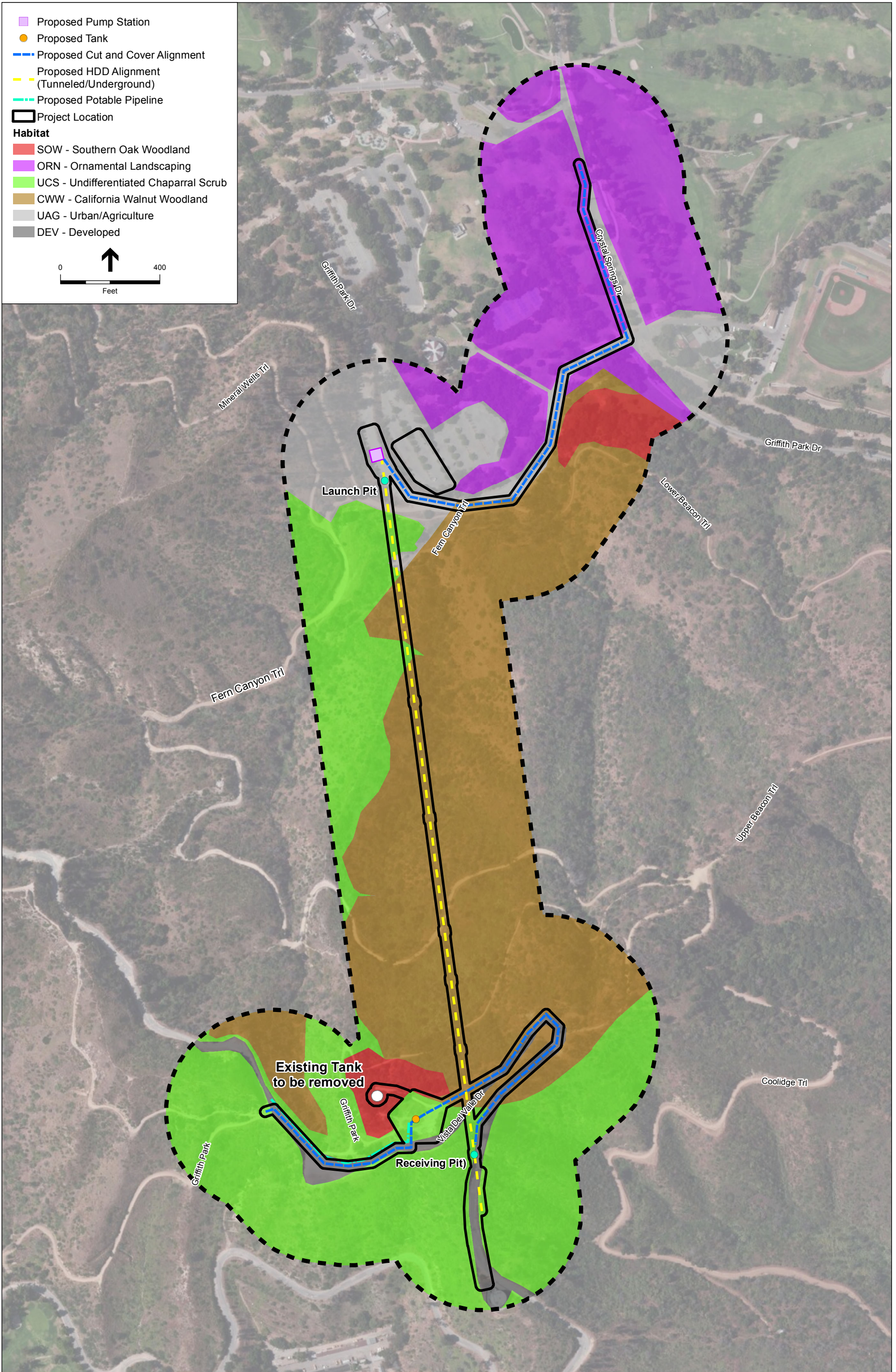
Certain natural communities are afforded special status as identified in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or designated by the CDFG and USFWS. A literature review and CNDDDB 9 quad search revealed that the only natural community within the Project area is Southern California Black Walnut Woodland.

Special-Status Wildlife Species

Several common wildlife species have been recorded on the project site while the coast horned lizard, silvery legless lizard, coastal whiptail, western mastiff bat, and the silver haired bat are special-status species with a moderate or greater potential to occur within the project site.

Coast Horned Lizard, Coastal Whiptail, and Silvery Legless Lizard

According to a biological inventory report prepared for the Trust for Public Land (Cooper, 2009), the coast horned lizard has recently (2009) been confirmed as a rare resident on high ridges of Griffith Park and Cahuenga Peak, where it formerly (until the 1970s) occurred throughout the park's lower slopes and canyons. The coast horned lizard has become extremely rare in the greater Los Angeles metropolitan region, having been extirpated from the entire coastal plain and most of the San Fernando and San Gabriel Valleys. A combination of broad scale habitat



SOURCE: Bing; CalVeg, 2013.

Figure 4
Habitat Types

modification and the displacement of native harvester ants by non-native Argentine ants have been implicated in declines within Los Angeles County. The coastal whiptail has been found in the upper portions of Griffith Park in open, sparsely vegetated areas. Both reptile species have the potential to occupy portions of the project site.

Bats

The western mastiff, silver haired, and hoary bat were found to have moderate potential to utilize the Project site for foraging while the silver haired and hoary bat have potential to utilize the trees within the project site for breeding. The western mastiff bat is typically considered a cliff-dwelling species, and is known to roost in large maternal colonies. The species is widespread throughout much of western North America, with declines concentrated in the Los Angeles basin. Western mastiff bats will utilize large boulders and buildings as roosting habitat. The species typically forages at a much higher altitude than other species, and is known to range considerable distances from roosting locations during evening foraging. Potentially suitable foraging habitat exists within the general vicinity of the Project site, particularly in the mixed scrub and walnut woodland. No roosting habitat is present within the Project site. The silver-haired and hoary bats are solitary species that roost in a variety of tree species for both roosting and reproduction. These tree roosting species have a moderate potential for roosting on oak, walnut, and Australian silk oak trees within the Project Site.

Special-Status Plants

Rare and special-status plants have been recorded in the region of the project site and have a potential to be present. This includes Nevin's barberry (*Berberis nevinii*), Slender mariposa lily (*Calochortus clavatus var. gracilis*), Plummer's mariposa lily (*Calochortus plummerae*), Southern tarplant (*Centromadiaparryi ssp. Australis*), Many stemmed dudleya (*Dudleya multicaulis*), Mesa horkelia (*Horkelia cuneata ssp. Puperula*), and Davidson's bush-mallow (*Malacothamnus davidsonii*). Of these potential rare and special-status plants that may have a potential to occur, five species are perennial species. Two species are perennial herbs; two are bulbiferous perennials, and one a semideciduous shrub. Plummer's mariposa lily and the slender mariposa lily are two bulbiferous perennials that have known occurrences in Griffith Park (Cooper, 2009). Davidsons' bush mallow is a rare semideciduous perennial shrub that has a moderate potential to occur within the project site; however, no bush mallow was observed during the site reconnaissance. The precipitation levels for the 2012-2013 rainy season were below average in Southern California and all the plants with a moderate or greater potential to occur would be either drought deciduous or would have bloomed earlier in the season under these drier than average environmental conditions.

a) **Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation.**

Habitat

Project construction activities would occur primarily on developed access roads and previously disturbed areas. However, areas within the construction footprint contain native plant communities. The proposed project would result in the the permanent removal and the temporary disturbance of native vegetation that is utilized by both

common and rare wildlife. In addition, construction activities would also result in an increase noise level that could directly impact the existing habitat. Indirect impacts to habitat could include alterations to hydrological regimes such as runoff and percolation, increased erosion and sediment transport, and the introduction of non-native and invasive weeds. Nonetheless, project-related construction activities are not expected to result in a substantial loss of habitat that would significantly affect the ability of species to disperse and persist throughout the project area and the surrounding habitats due to the project primarily utilizing existing roads and developed/urban-agriculture areas for the installation of project components. The Project will potentially impact 0.59 acres of Southern California black walnut woodland, 1.29 acres of chaparral scrub, and 0.24 acres of coast live oak woodland. **Table 4** below provides a breakdown of anticipated impacts to habitat from Project activities.

**TABLE 4
PROJECT IMPACTS TO HABITAT**

Plant Community/Habitat type	Impacts (acres)
Southern California black walnut woodland	0.59
Undefined coastal chaparral	1.29
Coast live oak woodland	0.24
Ornamental landscaping	0.64
Developed/Urban-Agriculture	1.80/2.38
TOTAL	6.94

As shown in Table 4, project activities are not expected to result in a substantial loss of sensitive habitat that would affect the ability of species to disperse and persist throughout the Project area and the surrounding habitats. This is due to the Project primarily utilizing existing roads and developed/urban-agriculture areas for the installation of Project components. In addition, use of the HDD method for the construction of the proposed HDD pipeline significantly reduces impacts to sensitive biological resources by avoid direct impacts to the habitat. Implementation of Mitigation Measures BIO-1 and BIO-2 would reduce potential impacts to natural habitats during construction activities.

Special-Status Wildlife Species

Reptiles

The Project site contains suitable scrub and woodland habitat for the coast horned lizard, coastal whiptail, and the silvery legless lizard. However, no impacts would likely occur to these species during Project activities because the majority of habitat impact is to disturbed and/or developed areas where they are less likely to be present. In addition, during mobilization of construction equipment, reptile species within the area would likely disperse due to increased noise level. Direct impacts to special status reptile species could produce direct impacts to reptile species due to project implementation. These

impacts would be reduced to less than significant levels with the implementation of mitigation measure BIO-3, which requires preconstruction clearance surveys.

Bats

Although the Project site contains suitable roosting habitat for hoary and silver-haired bats, it is unlikely that these species would be impacted by Project implementation because the Project would limit tree trimming activities during the bat breeding season from March to August. Additionally, potential roosting sites may occur within the trees found within the Project site; however, no direct impact to oak, walnut, and Australian silk oak trees are anticipated to be removed by the proposed project. Potential roosting habitat for the western mastiff bat can be found within existing buildings and crags adjacent to the Project site in Griffith Park. Potential roost sites would not be impacted by Project activities because no existing buildings and crags would be impacted by the project. The project includes removal of the existing water tank and replacement with a larger recycled water tank in the same general area. Therefore, if the existing water tank was used as a potential roosting site, the tank would be replaced for a similar use at project completion. Direct impacts to the tree roosting species (hoary, silver-haired bat) will be minimized by conducting any pruning activities outside of the breeding season for bats as specified by CDFW. Implementation of mitigation would reduce impacts to less than significant levels. With implementation of mitigation measures BIO-3, these potential roosting sites will be identified prior to project implementation and implementation of mitigation would reduce impacts to less than significant levels.

Special-Status Plant Species, Protected Trees, and Natural Communities

No special-status plant species were found within the Project site during the habitat assessment. However, focused surveys for special status plants were not conducted. Due to the below average rainfall in 2012-2013 rainfall season, the drought deciduous species (multistemmed dudleya, mesa horkelia, and Plummer's mariposa lily) may not have been prevalent during the habitat assessment. Southern California black walnut woodland was identified within the Project site during the habitat assessment. The Southern California black walnut woodland within and adjacent to the Project site contained two tree species protected by the City Tree Protection Ordinance; coast live oak and southern California black walnut. Project elements as well as the access roads contain or are adjacent to suitable habitat for five special status plants as well as an undetermined number of City protected trees. Coast live oaks and Southern California black walnut are found surrounding the existing water tank proposed to be removed. An evaluation of each individual tree was not conducted during the habitat assessment. However, the Project would not remove these trees as part of the tank removal; no impact to these protected trees would occur during Project implementation. Implementation of Mitigation Measures **BIO-4** and **BIO-5** would reduce these impacts to a level less than significant. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant with mitigation.

Nesting Birds

A number of resident and seasonal bird species have the potential to nest on the project site in trees and adjacent vegetation. Direct mortality of small to medium sized avian species would not likely occur during construction of the proposed project. However depending on the timing of construction, eggs and nestlings of bird species with small, well-hidden nests could be subject to loss, which would result in a violation of the MTBA and Fish and Game Code. Impacts to nesting birds would result primarily through direct and indirect disturbances such as through habitat clearing, earth removal, grading, digging, and equipment movement. Implementation of Mitigation Measure **BIO-5** would reduce the potential for injury or mortality of nesting birds during construction through construction timing, establishment of nesting buffers, and worker environmental training. Therefore, impacts to nesting birds would be less than significant with mitigation.

Mitigation Measures

BIO-1: Worker Environmental Awareness Program. Prior to construction, a Worker Environmental Awareness Program shall be implemented that shall include the following:

- The Project proponent should provide Worker Environmental Awareness Program (WEAP) training to all personnel working on the site during Project construction with a qualified biologist. The training shall include a pre-construction meeting that would review all special-status plants, protected wildlife and protected trees within the Project site to promote their awareness and to review mitigation measures for avoiding impacts, and all responsible parties.

BIO-2: Habitat Revegetation. Project construction activities will occur primarily on developed access roads and previously disturbed areas, and will disturb approximately 0.59 acres of California walnut woodland, 1.29 acres of chaparral scrub, and 0.24 acres of coast live oak woodland. Because there are specific areas within the construction footprint that contain native plant communities, the following mitigation measure is recommended to reduce potential impacts from the removal of native habitat during construction activities:

- Prior to the clearing or removal of native habitat, the first six inches of soil shall be salvaged or stockpiled for reuse once construction activities are completed. Once construction is completed, areas within the project footprint that clear or remove native habitat and that are no longer required to be kept clear of vegetation shall be revegetated with salvaged soil and locally sourced material, as approved by the project biologist. The restored habitat areas will be monitored for one year subsequent to the cessation of project activities to ensure the reestablishment of native habitat.

BIO-2: Special-status Wildlife. Special-status wildlife species such as the coast horned lizard, coastal whiptail, the silvery legless lizard, hoary and silver-haired bats may occur

within scrub and woodland habitat and within the trees. Therefore, the following mitigation measures are recommended:

- Construction activities shall be minimized to the greatest extent feasible in the construction area to minimize potential impacts to special status wildlife species including, reptiles and roosting bats.
- Prior to ground disturbing activities within scrub and woodland habitat, a qualified biologist shall conduct pre-construction clearance surveys. If any ground dwelling species are identified within proposed construction zones, they shall be captured and/or moved beyond the construction zone in neighboring scrub and woodland habitat.
- Tree trimming activities shall be conducted during the non-breeding season for hoary and silver-haired bats (March – August). If tree trimming activities need to be conducted during bat breeding season, a qualified biologist shall conduct a bat survey of the affected trees. Tree trimming shall not be allowed if trees have active bat roosts.

BIO-3: Special-Status Plants. Special-status plant species such as the Mesa horkelia may occur in openings within black walnut woodland. Additionally, Slender mariposa lily and Plummer’s lily may occur along exposed ridgelines and clearings in undifferentiated chaparral scrub. There is a potential for Davidson’s bush mallow to occur in clearings on mesic slopes and canyon bottoms. Therefore, the following mitigation measures are recommended:

- Every effort should be made to minimize vegetation removal and permanent loss at the Project construction site. In order to minimize disruption to special-status plant habitat, the construction contractor shall utilize existing parking lots and disturbed roadways for construction staging areas.
- Prior to the implementation of Project construction activities, a qualified botanist shall identify whether any mesa horkelia or other sensitive plant species are present within the proposed Project footprint. If any plant or suitable habitat for the plant is present, the biologist will assist in avoiding impacts to the greatest extent feasible, by staking and flagging areas to be avoided by construction activities.

BIO-4: Protected Trees. The presence of protected trees shall be considered during Project construction activities including the creation of staging areas, as well as trenching, staging areas and demolition. The following mitigation measures are recommended to avoid impacts to protected trees with the project area:

- A qualified arborist shall be present to identify and demarcate protected trees (and its protected zones [i.e., driplines]) within the entire Project site that have the potential to be impacted by construction activities and to assist in guiding construction activities to avoid or minimize impacts to protected trees.

- Situate all project elements including trenching paths, on existing access routes or within the clearing outside of the drip lines of protected trees to the greatest extent feasible to prevent damage to protected trees.
- If any impacts to city protected trees are unavoidable, then the qualified arborist shall assist in processing a permit application with the City of Los Angeles Urban Forestry Division. In such circumstances, a permit shall be obtained prior to performing any project activities that may impact a protected tree.

BIO-5: Nesting Birds. A number of resident and seasonal bird species have the potential to nest on the Project site in trees and adjacent vegetation. The following mitigation measures are recommended to reduce potential impacts to nesting birds during construction activities:

- If construction is scheduled to occur during the non-nesting season (September through January 31), no preconstruction surveys or additional measures are recommended. If construction is scheduled to occur during the breeding season (February 1–August 31), it is recommended that a qualified wildlife biologist conduct preconstruction surveys of all potential nesting habitats within 500 feet of construction activities. At least one surveys should be conducted no more than 3 days prior to construction activities.
- If active nests are found, no-disturbance buffers shall be implemented around each nest based on the species and location of the nest as determined by a qualified biologist. A general buffer distance generally includes 500-foot around any confirmed active raptor nest and a 250-foot buffer around nests of passerine bird species protected in accordance with the MBTA and/or Fish and Game Code. The buffers should be implemented until it is determined by a qualified wildlife biologist that young have fledged and the nest is determined to be inactive.

- b) **Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation.** The proposed project is not located within or adjacent to any riparian habitat and no impacts would occur to riparian habitats. As previously discussed, the proposed project is located within a Southern California Black Walnut Woodlands in which two tree species, coast live oak, southern California black walnut, are protected by the the City Tree Protection Ordinance. As previously discussed, the proposed project could impact protected trees and natural communities, though impacts are anticipated to be minimal as no tree removal is expected. Implementation of Mitigation Measures BIO-2 through BIO-4 would ensure impacts to habitats and natural communities are minimized to less than significant level.
- c) **No Impact.** The proposed project is not located within or in the vicinity of federally protected wetlands. Therefore, no impact would occur.
- d) **Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation.** The proposed project would not substantially interfere with the movement of native resident or migratory fish or wildlife

- species, or with established native or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites. However, as previously discussed, a number of resident and seasonal bird species have the potential to nest on the project site in trees and adjacent vegetation. Direct mortality of small to medium sized avian species would not likely occur during construction of the proposed project. However depending on the timing of construction, eggs and nestlings of bird species with small, well-hidden nests could be subject to loss. Therefore implementation of Mitigation Measures BIO-4 and BIO-5 would reduce the potential for injury or mortality of nesting birds during construction through construction timing, establishment of nesting buffers, and worker environmental training. Impacts would be less than significant with mitigation.
- e) **Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation.** The proposed project would be subject to federal, state and local regulations. These include the Federal Endangered Species Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Clean Water Act, Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, CDFW Streambed Alteration Agreement, California Endangered Species Act, Native Plant Protection Act, County of Los Angeles General Plan, and the City of Los Angeles Protected Tree Ordinance. The proposed project would adhere to all related regulations to ensure that the proposed project would not conflict with existing regulation. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.
- f) **No Impact.** The proposed project is not located within an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan (HCP/NCCP) or other approved local, regional, or state HCPs. However, the project area is located within the Griffith Park Significant Ecological Area (SEA) as defined by the County of Los Angeles. The SEA is described as an extensive, relatively undisturbed island of natural vegetation in an urbanized, metropolitan area. The SEA supports the coastal sage scrub, chaparral, riparian, and southern oak woodland plant communities typical for the interior mountain ranges of Southern California. The proposed project is also located within the Griffith Park Wildlife Management Plan area as defined by the Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks. This plan establishes a baseline in terms of known threats to wildlife and includes Best Management Practices (BMPs) that help assist the Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks staff in making land management decisions in Griffith Park and the surrounding open space areas. The proposed project would follow the recommended BMPs whenever applicable. In addition, the project would not alter land use and would not conflict with the provisions of the Griffith Park Wildlife Management Plan, and no impacts would occur.
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2.5 Cultural Resources

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
5. CULTURAL RESOURCES — Would the project:				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

ESA cultural resources staff conducted a Phase I Cultural Resources Study (ESA, 2013) in order to identify and evaluate the potential for any historical or archaeological resources to be impacted as a result of the proposed project. The study included: (1) archival research; (2) a California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) search; and (3) a pedestrian survey. As a result of the study, two historical resources were identified within the project area: Griffith Park (P-19-175297), and Vista Del Valle Drive. These two resources are described in detail below. In addition, the SLF search indicated that Native American cultural resources are known to be located within the project area; however, no specific location information was provided. No archaeological resources were identified within the project area.

An archival-level paleontological investigation was conducted for the proposed project (Paleo Solutions, 2013). The investigation included: Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County (NHMLAC) records search; geologic map review; and literature search. No fossil localities were identified in the project area; however, sensitive fossil-bearing formations were found to underlie some portions of the project site.

Identified Historical Resources

As a result of the study, two historical resources were identified within the project area: Griffith Park (P-19-175297) and Vista Del Valle Drive.

Griffith Park (P-19-175297) is the largest urban park in the City of Los Angeles, as well as in the United States, and includes approximately 4,000 acres of natural and landscaped features. The park opened in 1898 on land donated to the City of Los Angeles by Griffith J. Griffith, a successful land speculator. Griffith Park was previously determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A, is listed in the California Register of Historical Resources, and is therefore considered a historical resource under CEQA. The park was identified as a National Register-eligible district under the theme of Parks and Recreation. The park has figured prominently in the history of Los Angeles and has provided recreational

space for the surrounding community since its inception. The period of significance was identified as 1896-1944. Contributing features include Fern Dell, Mount Hollywood, Bird Sanctuary, Griffith Park Observatory and Planetarium, Los Feliz Adobe, Merry-Go-Round, Harding Golf Course Clubhouse, Swimming Pool and Building, Boys' Camp, and Mulholland Fountain. Non-contributing features include Los Angeles Zoo, Greek Theatre, Girls' Camp, Travel Town, and Autry National Center. Griffith Park (19-175297) encompasses the project area. Griffith Park is also designated as a Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monument (No. 942).

Vista Del Valle Drive is a 3.8-mile two-lane scenic roadway completed in 1933. A segment of the roadway was documented in the project area. The road segment is composed of asphalt and measures approximately 2,150 feet in length by 35 feet wide. While Vista Del Valle Drive does not appear to be individually eligible for the National Register or California Register under Criteria A/1 through D/4, it does appear to be a contributor to Griffith Park as an integral part of the park. The roadway was constructed in 1933 (within the period of significance for Griffith Park) to provide a scenic route along the high line of Mount Hollywood, offering spectacular views of the San Fernando Valley, which is consistent with the theme of Parks and Recreation. Vista Del Valle Drive also appears to retain a sufficient degree of integrity to convey its significance. Therefore, Vista Del Valle Drive appears to be eligible as a contributing element to Griffith Park and is considered a historical resource under CEQA.

Unidentified Historical Resources

While no archaeological resources were identified within the project area, the the SLF search did indicate that Native American cultural resources are known to be located within the project area; however no specific location information was provided. There remains the possibility that as yet unidentified archaeological resources that might be buried or otherwise obscured could be encountered as a result of project-related ground-disturbing activities. The project would involve cut-and-cover trenching up to two feet deep and three feet wide and excavation of launching/receiving pits up to a total of 189 cubic yards. These actions have the potential to unearth, expose, or disturb subsurface significant archaeological resources. Should archaeological resources be discovered, they may qualify as historical resources under CEQA.

- a) **Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation:** Two historical resources, Griffith Park (P-19-175297) and Vista Del Valle Drive, were identified within the project area and will be impacted by the project. Modifications to Griffith Park and Vista Del Valle Drive could constitute a significant effect on the environment under CEQA. In general, a significant effect would occur if the project results in a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

Significant impacts to Griffith Park are not anticipated as a result of the project. The project involves limited ground disturbance (primarily installation of pipelines within existing roadways or through the use of HDD) and construction of a new pump station and water tank. The water system has been continuously added to and improved over the years and project activities are consistent with previous actions within the park. These new actions will not materially alter the character of the park or change the use of the

park, nor will it impact any of the identified contributors to this resource. At the conclusion of the investigation, the park grounds will be largely unaltered and the park will continue to be used for public recreation. The physical aspects of integrity of Griffith Park would remain much as they do currently. Therefore, the project would not affect the resource's integrity and would not result in a substantial adverse change in the significance of Griffith Park. Consequently, the impacts anticipated to Griffith Park are considered less than significant.

Significant impacts to Vista Del Valle Drive are not anticipated as a result of the project. While the project would impact the road during construction through cut-and-cover trenching and installation of below-ground pipelines, these impacts would not result in changes to the character of the road or diminish its significance as a contributor to the Griffith Park. The project would not alter the alignment of the roadway and it would be returned to its pre-construction condition. The physical aspects of integrity of Vista Del Valle Drive would remain much as they do currently. Therefore, the project would not affect the roadway's integrity and would not result in a substantial adverse change in the significance of the roadway as a contributor to Griffith Park. Consequently, the impacts anticipated to Vista Del Valle Drive are considered less than significant.

While unlikely, there remains the possibility that as yet unidentified archaeological resources that may qualify as historical resources could be encountered as a result of project-related ground-disturbing activities. Impacts to unidentified archaeological resources that qualify as historical resources could constitute a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource. With the incorporation of Mitigation Measures **CUL-1** and **CUL-2**, potential impacts to archaeological resources that qualify as historical resources would be reduced to less than significant.

Mitigation Measures

CUL-1: Pre-Construction Training. Prior to earthmoving activities, a qualified archaeologist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for archaeology (U.S. Department of the Interior, 2008) shall conduct cultural resources sensitivity training for all construction personnel. Construction personnel shall be informed of the types of cultural resources that may be encountered, and of the proper procedures to be enacted in the event of an inadvertent discovery of archaeological resources or human remains (see CUL-6). LADWP shall ensure that construction personnel are made available for and attend the training and shall retain documentation demonstrating attendance.

CUL-2: Inadvertent Discoveries. In the event of the discovery of archaeological materials, the construction foreman shall immediately halt all work activities in the vicinity (within approximately 100 feet) of the discovery until it can be evaluated by a qualified archaeologist. Prehistoric archaeological materials might include obsidian and chert flaked-stone tools (e.g., projectile points, knives, scrapers) or tool-making debris; culturally darkened soil ("midden") containing heat-affected rocks, artifacts, or shellfish

remains; and stone milling equipment (e.g., mortars, pestles, handstones, or milling slabs); and battered stone tools, such as hammerstones and pitted stones. Historic-period materials might include stone or concrete footings and walls; filled wells or privies; and deposits of metal, glass, and/or ceramic refuse. After cessation of earthmoving activities, the construction foreman shall immediately contact LADWP. Work shall not resume until authorized by LADWP and the qualified archaeologist.

If the qualified archaeologist determines that the discovery constitutes a significant resource under CEQA, preservation in place is the preferred manner of mitigation. In the event preservation in place is demonstrated to be infeasible, a detailed Cultural Resources Treatment Plan shall be prepared and implemented by a qualified archaeologist in consultation with LADWP. LADWP shall consult with appropriate Native American representatives in determining appropriate treatment for unearthed cultural resources if the resources are prehistoric or Native American in nature. Archaeological materials recovered during any investigation shall be curated at an accredited facility. The report(s) documenting implementation of the Cultural Resources Treatment Plan shall be submitted to LADWP and to the SCCIC.

- b) **Less than Significant with Mitigation:** No archaeological resources were identified within the project area as a result of the cultural resources study, therefore no impacts to resources qualifying as unique archaeological resources are anticipated. However, as mentioned above, the project involves ground-disturbing activities that could uncover resources qualifying as unique archaeological resources. With the incorporation of Mitigation Measures **CUL-1** and **CUL-2**, potential impacts to archaeological resources that qualify as unique archaeological resources would be reduced to less than significant.
- c) **Less than Significant with Mitigation:** The paleontological investigation found that sensitive fossil-bearing formations underlie some portions of the project area (Aron and Kelly, 2013). Earthmoving activities in any area identified as moderate to very high paleontological sensitivity has the potential to adversely impact paleontological resources. Implementation of Mitigation Measures **CUL-3** through **CUL-5** would reduce potential impacts to paleontological resources to less than significant.

Mitigation Measures

CUL-3: Preparation of Paleontological Resource Monitoring and Mitigation Plan and Pre-Construction Training. Prior to start of earthmoving activities associated with the HDD pipeline alignment, a qualified paleontologist shall prepare a Paleontological Resource Monitoring and Mitigation Plan (PRMMP) based on and consistent with information provided in *Paleontological Investigation Report of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power Griffith Park South Water Recycling Project, Los Angeles, California* (Aron and Kelly, 2013). The PRMMP shall outline: sensitive areas that require paleontological resources monitoring and paleontological monitoring protocols; inadvertent discovery procedures; recovery and salvage measures for

potentially significant fossil and microfossil discoveries; laboratory methods; and reporting and curation requirements.

The qualified paleontologist shall also conduct pre-construction worker environmental awareness training prior to construction activities associated with the HDD pipeline alignment. This training shall emphasize applicable laws and include information on what to do in case an unanticipated discovery is made by a worker. All construction personnel shall be informed of the possibility of encountering fossils, and instructed to immediately inform the construction foreman if any bones or other potential fossils are unexpectedly unearthed in an area where paleontological monitoring is not required. LADWP shall ensure that construction personnel are made available for and attend the training and shall retain documentation demonstrating attendance. This training may be conducted in coordination with training required under Mitigation Measure CUL-1.

CUL-4: Paleontological Monitoring. Full-time monitoring shall be conducted for all earthmoving activities associated with the HDD pipeline alignment construction activities in areas of sensitive geologic formations, specifically the Miocene Monterey Formation and Topanga Formation. The qualified paleontologist or his/her assignee shall have the authority to reduce monitoring once he/she determines the probability of encountering fossils has dropped below an acceptable level. Monitoring protocols shall be outlined in the PRMMP.

CUL-5: Inadvertent Discoveries. In the event of unanticipated discovery of paleontological resources associated with the HDD pipeline alignment construction activities, workers shall immediately cease all activity within a 20 foot radius of the discovery site and notify the construction foreman. The qualified paleontologist shall be called to assess the find, implement recovery measures if necessary, and determine if paleontological monitoring is warranted once work resumes. Inadvertent discovery measures shall be outlined in the PRMMP.

- d) **Less than Significant with Mitigation:** No known cemeteries or other burial places are known to exist within the project area and the proposed project is unlikely to disturb human remains. However, because the proposed project would involve earthmoving activities, it is possible that such actions could unearth, expose, or disturb previously unknown human remains. With the incorporation of Mitigation Measure **CUL-6**, which requires compliance with State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 and PRC Section 5097.98, potential impacts to human remains would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measure

CUL-6: If human remains are encountered, LADWP shall halt work in the vicinity (within 100 feet) of the find and contact the Los Angeles County Coroner in accordance with Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 5097.98 and Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5. If the County Coroner determines that the remains are Native American, the NAHC shall be notified, in accordance with Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5, subdivision (c), and PRC Section 5097.98 (as amended by AB 2641). The NAHC shall

designate a Most Likely Descendant (MLD) for the remains per PRC Section 5097.98. LADWP shall ensure that the immediate vicinity where the Native American human remains are located is not damaged or disturbed by further development activity, according to generally accepted cultural or archaeological standards or practices, until the landowner has discussed and conferred with the MLD regarding their recommendations, as prescribed in PRC Section 5097.98, taking into account the possibility of multiple human remains.

2.6 Geology, Soils, and Seismicity

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
6. GEOLOGY, SOILS, AND SEISMICITY —				
Would the project:				
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? (Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iv) Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

- a.i) **Less than Significant Impact.** The project area is located in the eastern Santa Monica Mountains, which is an east-west trending range. Geological formations in the proposed project area are of Cenozoic age, chiefly Neogene and Quaternary. The proposed project is not located within an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone. The easternmost part of the Santa Monica Mountains is included within Griffith Park, which straddles the southern boundary of the Burbank Quadrangle. The Verdugo Mountains extend across the northeastern third of the Burbank Quadrangle. The nearest fault line is the Hollywood Fault, located approximately 0.6 miles south of the project area. The Hollywood Fault is considered a westward extension of the Raymond fault and is located relatively parallel to the Santa Monica fault. The fault line extends in an east-northeast direction for approximately nine miles through Beverly Hills, West Hollywood, and Hollywood to the Los Angeles River and I-5 Freeway. The most recent surface rupture along this fault was during the Holocene period (SCEDC, 2013). The proposed project is not located in a City of Los Angeles designated Fault Rupture Study Zone.

The proposed project facilities would be designed and constructed in compliance with the City of Los Angeles Bureau of Engineering Standard Project Specifications. Compliance with applicable regulations would ensure safe and efficient project implementation within areas subject to seismic movement. Per standard practice, site-specific geotechnical and geological investigations that focus on these potential hazards are performed as part of project design studies. No habitable structures would be developed and implementation of the proposed project would not result in an increase in population on the project site. Construction activities would be short-term and operational activities would be limited to infrequent maintenance activities. The project designs would be subject to Special Publication 117, "Guidelines for Evaluating and Mitigating Seismic Hazards in California." Conformance with this publication in addition to the California Building Code (CBC) requirements would provide for protection from fault rupture. Therefore, the proposed project would not substantially expose people or structures to adverse effects related to ground rupture, and impacts would be less than significant.

- a.ii) **Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation.** As stated above in 2.6(a)(i), the proposed project is not located within an established Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone. The Hollywood Fault is the nearest active fault approximately 0.6 miles south of the project site. The project site is within a seismically active region and earthquakes in the region could produce strong ground shaking on the project site. However, the proposed project would not develop habitable structures and proposed facilities would comply with applicable CBC requirements and development regulations. Operational activities would be limited to infrequent maintenance and exposure to substantial adverse effects involving seismic ground shaking on site would be limited.

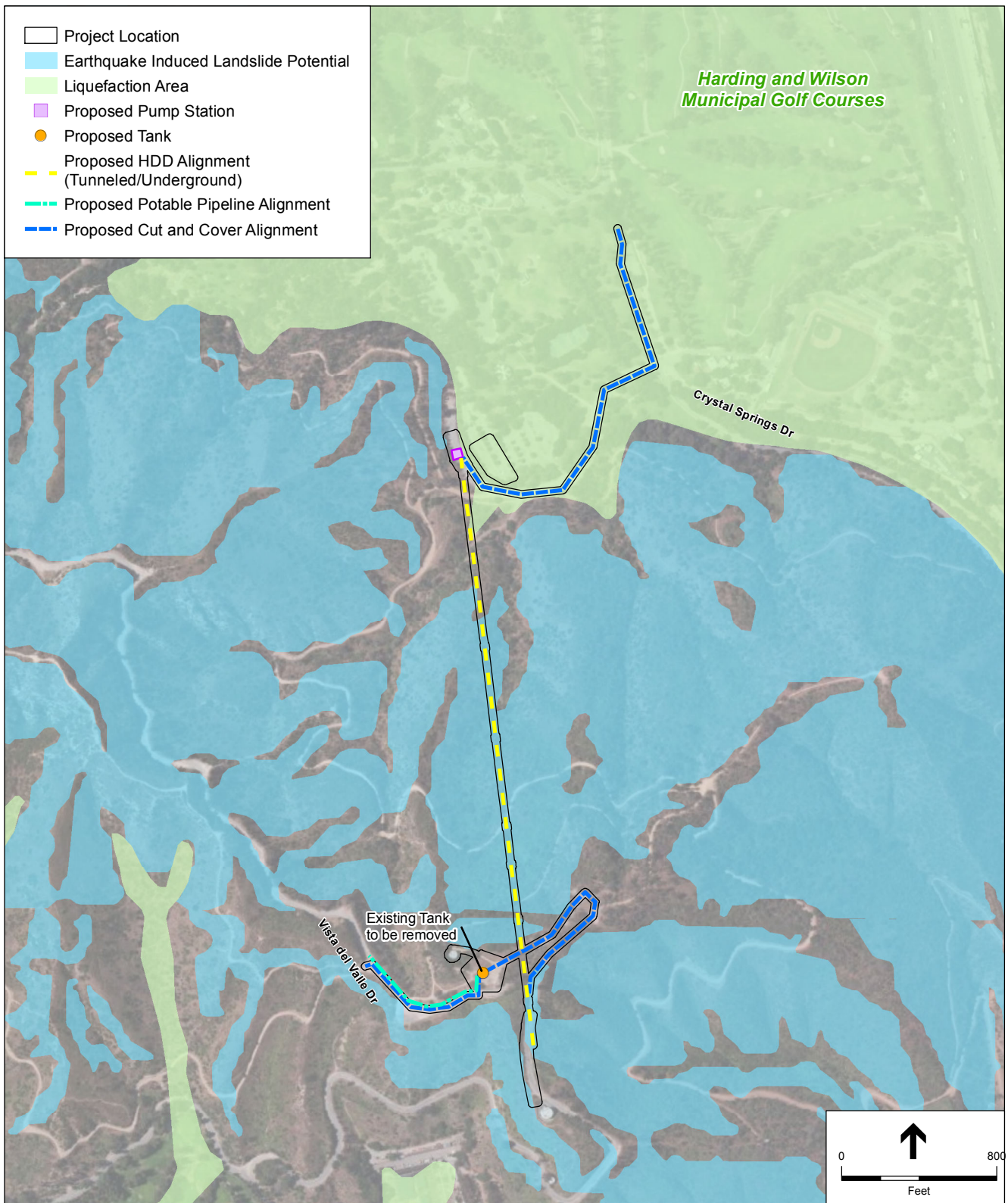
The pipelines and recycled water tank would be designed to accommodate site-specific ground motions. Standard geotechnical and structural design criteria required in the CBC would reduce excessive earthquake response and minimize potential damage or collapse of the pipelines and recycled water tank. CBC requirements for the pipelines may include flexible pipe joints, shortened pipe lengths, automatic isolation valves, installation of the pipelines inside a protective casing, and shallow or above-ground installation of the pipelines. Compliance with the CBC would minimize the potential for damage from strong ground shaking. Therefore, with the incorporation of Mitigation Measure **GEO-1**, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact with mitigation related to groundshaking.

Mitigation Measures

GEO-1: Prior to the approval of construction plans for the project, including pipelines, pump station, and storage tank, LADWP shall complete a design-level geotechnical investigation. The geotechnical evaluation shall identify soil properties needed for the development of site-specific design criteria. Recommendations made as a result of these investigations to protect new structures from seismic hazards shall become incorporated into the proposed project final design.

- a.iii) **Less than Significant Impact.** Liquefaction occurs in saturated and loose soils in areas where the groundwater table is 50 feet or less below ground surface (bgs). During an earthquake, a sudden increase in high core water pressure can cause soils to lose strength and behave as a liquid. As shown on **Figure 4**, the proposed recycled water storage tank and pump station would not be located within an area identified with the potential for liquefaction area, however, segments of the proposed pipeline are located in areas designated as having liquefaction potential. The pump station would be adjacent to this risk. All infrastructure improvements in the State of California must comply with the seismic design parameters contained in the CBC seismic requirements. Compliance with the CBC standards in the design and construction of the proposed project would reduce potential damage to the new infrastructure from liquefaction. Therefore, the proposed project would not expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects related to liquefaction and impacts would be less than significant.
- a.iv) **Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation.** Landslides are characterized as deep-seated ground failures, in which a large section of a slope detaches and slides downhill. As shown on **Figure 4**, the proposed HDD pipeline is partially located within an area that has earthquake induced landslide potential. The proposed recycled water storage tank and pump station would not be located directly in landslide potential areas. Construction of the proposed pipeline would be through HDD method underground. As previously stated, the Hollywood Fault is approximately 0.6 miles south of the project site and the proposed project is located within a seismically active area of California. Nonetheless, all infrastructure improvements in the State of California must comply with the seismic design parameters contained in the CBC seismic requirements. Compliance with the CBC standards in the design and construction of the proposed project would reduce potential damage to the new infrastructure from landslides. Construction of the pipeline would be located underground and would be constructed and designed in compliance with applicable building codes and standards of the CBC and the Bureau of Engineering.

The HDD pipeline alignment would be designed to accommodate landslides. Standard geotechnical and structural design criteria required in the CBC would reduce excessive landslide response and minimize potential damage or collapse of the pipeline. Compliance with the CBC would minimize the potential for damage from landslides. With the incorporation of Mitigation Measure **GEO-1**, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact with mitigation related to landslides.



Source: State of California Seismic Hazard Zones

Griffith Park South Water Recycling Project . 211490.27

Figure 5
Landslide and Liquefaction Potential in the Project Area

- b) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed project would include trenching activities within the 30-foot construction corridor. The trench would be approximately 2 feet below surface and 3 feet wide. Approximately 1,520 total cubic yards of dirt and topsoil would be excavated and reused as backfill after the pipeline installation. The proposed project would not contribute to soil erosion or loss of topsoil. Construction of the proposed project would require compliance with the Construction General Permit and preparation of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) for the construction phase of the proposed project in accordance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Storm Water Discharges associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (Construction General Permit). The SWPPP shall list all practicable and applicable Best Management Practices (BMPs) in order to reduce soil erosion during construction. Compliance with the NPDES Construction General Permit will ensure that no substantial adverse construction related erosion impacts would occur, and impacts would be less than significant. As described further in Section 3.9 Hydrology and Water Quality, the proposed project would implement BMPs to minimize the occurrence of soil erosion or loss of topsoil. Therefore, impacts related to soil erosion or the loss of topsoil would be less than significant.
- c) **Less than Significant Impact.** Refer to discussions in responses 3.6(a)(i) through 3.6(a)(iv). The project site is located within an area that is subject to landslides or liquefaction. Thus, impacts from landslides, liquefaction and lateral spreading may occur. Subsidence occurs when a void is located or created underneath the ground surface causing the surface to collapse. Subsidence can be created through tunnels, wells, covered quarries, and caves beneath a surface. In addition, subsidence usually occurs as a result of excessive groundwater pumping or oil extraction. The proposed project would not expose people to seismic-related ground failure because the on-site facilities would be unmanned, and no habitable structures would be built as part of the proposed project. Furthermore, on-site activities would be limited to infrequent maintenance activities. As previously stated, all infrastructure improvements in the State of California must comply with the seismic design parameters contained in the CBC seismic requirements. Compliance with the CBC standards in the design and construction of the proposed project would reduce potential damage to the new infrastructure from on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse. As a result, the proposed project would not expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects related to unstable soils, and impacts would be less than significant.
- d) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed project is located in areas identified as having quaternary alluvium, stream channel gravel and sand sediments. These soils typically have low expansive potential. As described above, the proposed project would provide unmanned equipment and facilities and no habitable structures are proposed as part of the proposed project. All infrastructure improvements in the State of California must comply with the seismic design parameters contained in the CBC seismic requirements. Compliance with the CBC standards in the design and construction of the proposed project would reduce potential damage to the new infrastructure from ground

movement, including movement from expansive soils. Therefore, proposed project impacts related to expansive soils are less than significant.

- e) **No Impact.** The proposed project would include construction of a pipeline, a pump station, and a recycled water storage tank. No septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems exist or proposed. No impact would occur.
-

2.7 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
7. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS — Would the project:				
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

- a) **Less than Significant Impact.** Greenhouse gas (GHG) impacts are considered exclusively cumulative impacts. Greenhouse gasses include but are not limited to CO₂, CO, NO_x, hydrofluorocarbons (HFC), perfluorocarbons (PFC), and sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆). Construction-related emissions of GHG would be temporary and would not be an on-going burden to the states GHG inventory. Construction related emissions would total 103 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalents (CO₂e) in 2014 and 113 metric tons in 2015. These emissions are less than the 10,000 metric ton per day of CO₂e threshold established by SCAQMD for industrial projects, were it to apply to construction-related emissions. There would not be any sources of operational emissions associated with the proposed pipelines, tank and pump station. Operation of the pump station would require intermittent electrical demand which would be associated with indirect GHG emissions if electricity used were from non-renewable resources. These electricity-related operational GHG emissions would be negligible. Therefore, impacts regarding the generation of GHG emissions would be less than significant.
- b) **No Impact.** The proposed project would not markedly increase emissions of GHGs and is not anticipated to conflict with applicable GHG plans, policies, or regulations. State of California Assembly Bill 32 (AB 32) requires that the California Air Resource Board (CARB), in coordination with state agencies, adopt regulations to require the reporting and verification of statewide GHG emissions and monitor and enforce compliance with the program. State of California Senate Bill 375 (SB 375) requires the reduction of GHG emissions by discouraging sprawl development and dependence on car travel. SB 375 assists in the implementation of AB 32 by integrating land use, regional transportation, and house planning. The proposed project involves installation of a water pipeline installation that would require minimal and infrequent operational activities. In addition, the proposed project would not generate GHG emissions that would significantly impact the environment. The proposed project would not conflict with AB 32 or SB 375 and no impacts would occur.

2.8 Hazards and Hazardous Materials

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
8. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS — Would the project:				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

- a) **Less than Significant Impact.** The short-term construction activities of the proposed project would require transportation and use of limited quantities of fuel, oil, sealants, and other hazardous materials related to construction. Construction activities would occur intermittently over 22 months. Thus, the proposed project's use of hazardous materials would be short-term in minimal quantities and within a limited area. Additionally, the use of hazardous materials and substances during construction would be subject to federal, state, and local health and safety requirements for handling, storage, and disposal.

Operation of the pipeline and well equipment would not require the use of chemicals that could create a hazard through routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials. Because the use of hazardous materials would be minimal and temporary, hazards to the

- public or the environment related to the transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials would be less than significant.
- b) **Less than Significant Impact.** As discussed above in 2.8(a), the use of hazardous materials would be minimal during construction activities that would occur intermittently over 22 months. However, hazardous materials may accidentally be spilled or otherwise released into the environment. To minimize potential impacts from release of hazardous materials, use of such substances during construction would be subject to federal, state, and local health and safety requirements for handling, storage, and disposal. Furthermore, vehicles would not be fueled or maintained on-site and a limited volume of hazardous materials would be stockpiled. Therefore, impacts related to upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment would be less than significant.
- c) **No Impact.** The proposed project is located in Griffith Park and is not located within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school. The nearest school is the Los Feliz Nursery School located at 3401 Riverside Drive, Los Angeles, approximately 1.2 miles south of the project site. The proposed project would not impact an existing or proposed elementary school with hazardous materials.
- d) **No Impact.** An environmental radius report was prepared using NETROnline, which searches 20 environmental databases, including but limited to federal hazardous waste database such as the National Priorities List (NPL), US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) superfund databases, Resources Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) databases; and State of California databases such as leaking underground storage tanks, (CA LUST), and hazardous waste sites. The proposed project is not located on a site listed as a hazardous materials site nor is it within a quarter mile of an identified hazardous materials site. Two sites were identified as being within a one-mile radius were identified as hazardous materials site. The Griffith Observatory is a small quantity generator of hazardous waste per month per the US RCRA Generators database, and the Toyon Canyon Landfill was identified as part of the Spills, Leaks, Investigation & Cleanup Program. As the project site is not included on a list of hazardous materials site, nor within close proximity to a hazardous material site, the proposed project would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment. No impacts would occur.
- e) **No Impact.** The proposed project is not located within an airport land use plan or within two miles of a public airport or public use airport. The nearest public airport is Bob Hope Airport located at 2627 N. Hollywood Way in the City of Burbank, and is approximately four miles north of the project area. Therefore, no airport related hazardous impacts would occur.
- f) **No Impact.** The proposed project is not located within the vicinity of a private airstrip. The nearest private airport is Porter Ranch Airport located approximately 10 miles west of the project area. No airstrip related hazardous impacts would occur.

- g) **No Impact.** The proposed project is not located within an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. Construction activities would not impede access to roads adjacent to the project site. Further, the proposed project-related vehicles would not block existing street access to the site. Therefore, no impacts related to an emergency evacuation plan would occur.
- h) **Less than Significant Impact.** The project area is located in a Very High Hazard Severity Zone, as identified by the City of Los Angeles Bureau of Engineering. However, the proposed project would not expose people or structures to significant injury or death as construction activities would be short-term and operational activities would be limited and infrequent. No habitable structures would be developed for the proposed project. Therefore, the proposed project is not anticipated to impact people or structures from wildland fires, and impacts would be less than significant.
-

2.9 Hydrology and Water Quality

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
9. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY — Would the project:				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of a site or area through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or by other means, in a manner that would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of a site or area through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or by other means, substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures that would impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

- a) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed project would not violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements as the proposed project would consist of a new pipeline to convey recycled water, a pump station, and a new recycled water storage tank. Construction-related soil activities would be limited to removal of asphalt/pavement, trenching, stockpiling, and backfilling the trench after installation of the pipe with the excavated soils. The proposed project would prepare a SWPPP in accordance with the NPDES Construction General Permit. The SWPPP is required to list and implement all

- practicable BMPs in order to protect water quality during construction. Compliance with the NPDES standards would ensure that no substantial adverse impacts would occur. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.
- b) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed project would expand the use of recycled water produced at the Los Angeles-Glendale Water Reclamation Plant and would not utilize existing groundwater resources nor would it interfere with groundwater recharge. Instead, the proposed project provides an alternative water supply for irrigation to Roosevelt Golf Course, which currently uses potable water. Average customer demand of groundwater at the course is 310 AFY. Implementation of the proposed project would replace the use of potable water with recycled water at Roosevelt Golf Course. Thus, the proposed project would not deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge. Impacts would be less than significant.
- c) **Less than Significant Impact.** Construction and operation of the proposed project facilities would be located within Griffith Park and would not alter the existing drainage pattern of the project site. The proposed pipeline would be located underground and would not change the existing drainage pattern throughout its alignment. The recycled water storage tank and pump station would be located on cement pads and adjacent to existing structures, which may slightly alter the drainage pattern of that area. However, there are no streams or rivers within the project area and the proposed project would adhere to all NPDES regulations and implement BMPs to ensure that construction does not result in erosion impacts. Therefore, the proposed project would not substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area and substantial erosion or siltation would not occur. Impacts would be less than significant.
- d) **Less than Significant Impact.** Construction of the proposed project would be located within Griffith Park. The proposed pipeline would be located underground and upon completion of installation would not change the existing drainage pattern throughout its alignment. The recycled water storage tank and pump station would be located on cement pads and adjacent to existing structures; the introduction of the cement pads would slightly alter the drainage patterns of the project area and it is anticipated the proposed project would not increase the rate or amount of surface runoff, and the proposed project would not result in on- or off-site flooding. Impacts would be less than significant.
- e) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed project would slightly increase impervious surfaces within the project vicinity, by developing cement pads to support the recycled water tank and pump station. However, the increase of the amount of impervious surfaces would not generate a significant amount of additional runoff, and would not change the course of stormwater runoff. Additionally, construction-related activities involving earth moving during installation of the pipeline would be limited to trenching and backfilling the pipeline alignment. The proposed project would adhere to all regulations and implement BMPs pursuant to the project specific SWPPP which would ensure that construction activities do not result in polluted runoff. As a result, the proposed project

- would not create or contribute to polluted runoff water or runoff that would exceed the existing drainage capacity of the project area, and impacts would be less than significant.
- f) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed project would involve short-term construction and minimal maintenance activities that would not substantially degrade water quality. The proposed project would be required to comply with the Construction General Permit and implement a project specific SWPPP that identifies BMPs to minimize impacts to water quality. Therefore, impacts related to the degradation of water quality would be less than significant.
- g) **No Impact.** The proposed project is not located within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) 100-year Flood Insurance Rate Map. In addition, the proposed project does not include housing or other habitable structures. Therefore, no impact would occur.
- h) **No Impact.** The proposed project is not located within a 100-year flood hazard area and would not include the construction of structures that would impede or redirect flood flows. Therefore, no impact would occur.
- i) **Less than Significant Impact.** The Mulholland Dam and Hollywood Reservoir, owned and operated by LADWP, are located in the Hollywood Hills approximately three miles west of the project site. The Mulholland Dam was built in 1924 and has a capacity of 4,036 acre feet, creating the Hollywood Reservoir. The dam has a height of approximately 195 feet and a crest elevation of 756 feet. The depth of the reservoir is approximately 183 feet. The proposed project would not result in construction of any structures that may be affected in the event of catastrophic dam failure. In the event of catastrophic dam failure, proposed project facilities could be reinstalled and constructed. In addition, no levees or dams are located on the project site and no off-site levees or dams would be modified as part of the proposed project. As a result, the proposed project would not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss as a result of the failure of a levee or dam.
- j) **No Impact.** Tsunamis are usually caused by displacement of the ocean floor causing large waves and are typically generated by seismic activity. The project site is located approximately 19 miles from the Pacific Ocean, therefore a tsunami hazard is not present for project site. A seiche is a standing wave in an enclosed or partly enclosed body of water. Seiches are normally caused by earthquake activity, and can affect harbors, bays, lakes, rivers, and canals. The Hollywood Reservoir is located approximately three miles west of the project site, which is too far to be impacted by a seiche event at the reservoir. Lastly, mudflow is a mixture of soil and water that runs like a river of mud down a hillside and is usually generated by heavy rainfall. The project site is located adjacent to a hillside that would not expose the project to potential mudflow. Therefore, impacts related to seiche, tsunami, or mudflow mudflows would not occur.

2.10 Land Use and Land Use Planning

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
10. LAND USE AND LAND USE PLANNING —				
Would the project:				
a) Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

- a) **No Impact.** The proposed project would be located in Griffith Park and would consist of the construction of underground pipelines, a pump station, and a recycled water storage tank. There are no established communities located within Griffith Park or in close proximity to the project site. No impacts would occur.

- b) **No impact.** The project site has a land use designation and zoned as of OS (Open Space). The adjoining areas are also designated OS and zoned OS. The proposed water pipeline would be located underground and would not constrain or change the existing land uses within the project area. Construction of the aboveground facilities would not conflict with the existing land use and zoning designations. As a result, no impacts related to conflicts with applicable land use plans, policies, or regulations related to avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect would occur.

- c) **No Impact.** As discussed in section 3.4(f), the proposed project is not located within a HCP or NCCP. However, the project area is located within the Griffith Park Wildlife Management Plan area. This plan establishes a baseline in terms of known threats to wildlife and includes BMPs that help assist the Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks staff in making land management decisions in Griffith Park and the surrounding open space areas. The proposed project would follow the recommended BMPs whenever applicable. In addition, the project would not alter land use and therefore would not conflict with the plan.

2.11 Mineral Resources

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
11. MINERAL RESOURCES — Would the project:				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

- a) **No Impact.** According to the California Department of Conservation, the project area is identified as a Mineral Resource Zone (MRZ)-3, which are areas containing mineral deposits that cannot be evaluated from available data. The project site has not been identified as a known mineral resource area and does not have a history of mineral extraction uses. In addition, according to the State of California Department of Conservation, Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources (DOGGR), no oil wells exist on the project site. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource and no impacts would occur.
- b) **No Impact.** The project area is not used for mineral extraction and is not known as a locally important mineral resource recovery site. Further, the project area is not delineated on any plan for mineral resource recovery uses, and no impacts would occur.

2.12 Noise

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
12. NOISE — Would the project:				
a) Result in exposure of persons to, or generation of, noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in exposure of persons to, or generation of, excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in a substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan area, or, where such a plan has not been adopted, in an area within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) For a project located in the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

- a) **Less than Significant Impact.** The City of Los Angeles has established policies and regulations concerning the generation and control of noise that could adversely affect its citizens and noise sensitive land uses. Section 41.40 (Noise Due to Construction, Excavation Work – When Prohibited) of the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) indicates that no construction or repair work shall be performed between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., since such activities would generate loud noises and disturb persons occupying sleeping quarters in any adjacent dwelling, hotel, apartment or other place of residence. No person, other than an individual home owner engaged in the repair or construction of his/her single-family dwelling, shall perform any construction or repair work of any kind or perform such work within 500 feet of land so occupied before 8:00 a.m. or after 6:00 p.m. on any Saturday or on a federal holiday, nor at any time on any Sunday. Under certain conditions, the City may grant a waiver to allow limited construction activities to occur outside of the limits described above.

Section 112.05 (Maximum Noise Level of Powered Equipment or Powered Hand Tools) of the LAMC also specifies the maximum noise level of powered equipment or powered hand tools. Any powered equipment or hand tool that produces a maximum noise level exceeding 75 dBA at a distance of 50 feet is prohibited. However, this noise limitation does not apply where compliance is technically infeasible. Technically infeasible means the above noise limitation cannot be met despite the use of mufflers, shields, sound

barriers and/or any other noise reduction device or techniques during the operation of equipment.

Construction of the proposed project would include the use of a backhoe to excavate the pipeline trench, a flat bed truck to transport the new pipe material, and accessory vehicles (i.e., pick-up trucks) to take the construction crew to and from the project site.

Construction activities would occur 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

There are no sensitive receptors located within 500 meters of the project pipeline alignment, pump station or water tank sites. Additionally, construction-related noise would be short-term and would not expose sensitive receptors to noise. Noise generated by truck travel to and from the project area would also be short-term and temporary and would not produce substantial increases in traffic that could result in a significant increase in noise levels. Operation of the proposed water pipeline and equipment would generate minimal noise. The proposed pump station would include an enclosure around the pump which would attenuate operational noise. The onsite facilities would be unmanned with exception of infrequent maintenance activities on the equipment that would not exceed noise standards. As a result, the proposed project would not generate noise levels in excess of adopted standards and noise impacts would be less than significant.

- b) **Less than Significant Impact.** Proposed project construction would not include the use of construction equipment that would generate excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels. Construction equipment includes backhoes, excavators trucks, and accessory vehicles that would not generate substantial groundborne vibration from activities on the soil surface of the project area. In addition, there are no sensitive receptors in proximity to the project area. Furthermore, operation of the proposed water pipeline and equipment would not generate groundborne vibrations or groundborne noise levels. The onsite facilities would be unmanned with exception of infrequent maintenance activities on the equipment that are not anticipated to generate vibration. Therefore, impacts related to groundborne vibration and noise would be less than significant.
- c) **No Impact.** Construction noise would be short-term and temporary and would not result in a permanent increase in ambient noise levels. At the end of construction, the water pipeline would be located underground and would not create an increase in ambient noise levels. The pump station would be enclosed and would also not generate a noticeable permanent increase in ambient noise levels at any sensitive land use. The onsite facilities would be unmanned with exception of infrequent maintenance activities on the equipment that would not create a permanent increase in ambient noise levels. Therefore, no impacts related to permanent increases in noise would occur from the proposed project.
- d) **Less than Significant Impact.** See responses 12. a through c above. Construction noise would be short-term (intermittently over 22 months) and would result in a temporary increase in ambient noise levels. However, the project area is open space and there are no sensitive receptors located in proximity to the project site that could be affected by the

- temporary construction noise increase. Thus, construction-related noise is not considered to be substantial. Operation of the pipeline and well equipment would be unmanned with exception of infrequent maintenance events, and would not result in a substantial increase in ambient noise. Therefore, impacts related to substantial temporary or periodic increases in ambient noise levels would be less than significant.
- e) **No Impact.** The proposed project is not located within an airport land use plan or within two miles of a public airport or public use airport that would expose people residing or working in the area to experience noise levels. The nearest public airport is Bob Hope Airport located at 2627 N. Hollywood Way in the City of Burbank, and is approximately four miles north of the project area. The nearest private airport is Porter Ranch Airport located approximately 10 miles west of the project area. Therefore, noise impacts related to airport uses would not occur.
- f) **No Impact.** The proposed project is not located within the vicinity of a private airstrip. The nearest private airport is Porter Ranch Airport located approximately 10 miles west of the project area. As a result, noise impacts related to private airstrip uses would not occur.
-

2.13 Population and Housing

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
13. POPULATION AND HOUSING — Would the project:				
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing units, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

- a) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed project does not include housing or commercial development that would directly affect the number of residents or employees in the area and would not contribute to the creation of additional housing or jobs in the Los Feliz area of the City of Los Angeles. Instead, the proposed project would provide a recycled water source to the Roosevelt Golf Course to replace the use of potable water. The proposed project would not directly or indirectly induce growth or remove an obstacle to growth as the proposed project would be implemented to meet demands of the existing population that would occur based on the City's approved build-out and growth control policies. The proposed project's potential to induce population growth is considered to be less than significant.
- b) **No Impact.** The project area is primarily undeveloped open space. The proposed project would not involve the construction or demolition of housing. Therefore, the proposed project would not displace people or housing, and no impact would occur.
- c) **No Impact.** The proposed project includes the installation of a recycled water pipeline, recycled water storage tank and pump station. The project area is undeveloped open space. No housing is located in proximity to the project area and the proposed project would not displace people or require the construction of replacement housing. No impact would occur.

2.14 Public Services

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
14. PUBLIC SERVICES — Would the project:				
a) Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of, or the need for, new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any of the following public services:				
i) Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ii) Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iii) Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iv) Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
v) Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

- a.i) **No Impact.** Construction activities related to the proposed project would be short-term and would not result in adverse impacts that would require the need for additional fire protective services beyond what is already provided. Project operation would consist of unmanned operation and infrequent maintenance activities that would not require additional fire protection services. Therefore, no impacts to fire services would occur.
- a.ii) **No Impact.** Construction activities related to the proposed project would be short-term and would not result in adverse impacts that would require the need for additional police protective services beyond what is already provided. Project operation would consist of unmanned operation and infrequent maintenance activities that would not require additional police protective services. Therefore, no impacts to police services would occur.
- a.iii) **No Impact.** The proposed project involves the installation of unmanned water facilities and would not introduce inhabitants to the project area that would require additional schools. No impacts would occur.
- a.iv) **No Impact.** The proposed project involves the installation of unmanned water facilities and would not introduce inhabitants to the project area that would require construction of parks. No impacts would occur.
- a.v) **No Impact.** The proposed project involves the installation of unmanned water facilities and would not introduce inhabitants to the project area that would require additional public facilities. No impacts would occur.

2.15 Recreation

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
15. RECREATION — Would the project:				
a) Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facilities would occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

- a) **Less than Significant Impacts.** The proposed project would be located within Griffith Park which is frequently used by visitors. The proposed project would involve the construction and installation of a recycled water pipeline, recycled water storage tank, and a pump station. The proposed project includes the use of HDD method at Fern Canyon Nature Trail to avoid impacts to trail users. The proposed project would not increase the use of the park facilities. Operation of the proposed project would not create population growth that would increase the use of the park such that substantial physical deterioration of the facilities would occur. Therefore, less than significant impacts would occur.

LADWP has coordinated extensively with LARA for implementation of the proposed project. As discussed in Section 2.5 Alternatives Considered but Withdrawn, several alternatives were evaluated with cooperation from both departments before concluding on the proposed project. During discussions for the proposed project, concerns were raised regarding construction impacts during the summers of 2014 and 2015 due to the 2015 Special Olympics World Summer Games will be held partly in Griffith Park. Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum will serve as the main venue, with event locations staged in several other locations in the city, including Griffith Park. Preparation and activities for the event in Griffith Park would take place over the summers of 2014 and 2015. Construction activities have been phased to avoid project construction during the Special Olympics over the summers of 2014 and 2015. Therefore, less than significant impacts would occur to park operations.

- b) **Less than Significant Impacts.** The proposed project would involve the construction of a recycled water pipeline, a recycled water storage tank and a water pump station in Griffith Park. The development of these facilities would not displace recreational users from the park which would require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities elsewhere. Additionally, the proposed project includes the use of HDD at Fern Canyon Nature Trail to avoid impacts to trail users. Therefore, less than significant impacts would occur.

2.16 Transportation and Traffic

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
16. TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC —				
Would the project:				
a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to, level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

- a) **Less than Significant Impact.** Construction of the proposed project would temporarily increase local traffic due to the transport and delivery of construction equipment and materials as well as from daily worker trips. Construction would occur in three separate sections, including the cut and cover pipeline, the HDD pipeline, and tank and pump station construction.

Cut and cover pipeline construction would occur in two phases between January 02, 2014 and October 09, 2015. Phase 1 of cut and cover pipeline phase would commence on January 02, 2014 and is anticipated to be completed by February 28, 2014. Phase 2 of cut and cover pipeline phase would commence on August 3, 2015 and is anticipated to be completed by October 09, 2015. The construction is phased to avoid early summer park activities. Approximately 18 haul truck round-trips would occur per day during pipeline installation and approximately 21 roundtrip per day generated by construction workers. HDD pipeline construction would occur between January 6, 2015 and March 02, 2015. Tank and pump station construction would occur between March 02, 2015 and June 24, 2015. HDD activities and pump station and tank replacement would generate 48 haul

truck round-trips per day and approximately 122 round trips per day generated by construction workers.

Construction access to the various parts of the alignment would be via Crystal Springs Drive from I-5, Western Heritage Way from SR-134, and Fire Road adjacent to Crystal Springs Drive in Griffith Park. All construction activities would occur within the 30-foot construction corridor, and no roadway or lane closures are anticipated. Construction-related truck trips would be minimal and short-term and are not anticipated to impact the existing circulation system performance. As a result, traffic impacts to the roadway system from construction would be less than significant.

Operation-related traffic would include infrequent maintenance and repair activities on the pipeline and aboveground facilities. This would result in minimal and limited truck trips. Therefore, the operation of the proposed project would not result in significant operational traffic increases. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

- b) **Less than Significant.** The 2010 Congestion Management Program (CMP) for Los Angeles County addresses the impact of local growth on the regional transportation system. The goal of the CMP is to comply with statutory requirements of the CMP, including monitoring level of service (LOS) on the CMP Highway and Roadway network, measuring frequency and routing of public transit, implementation the Transportation Demand Management and Land Use Analysis Program Ordinances, and helping local jurisdictions meet their responsibilities under the CMP. The proposed construction truck route would utilize I-5 and SR-134. The truck route would also utilize Crystal Springs Drive from I-5, Western Heritage Way from SR-134, and Fire Road adjacent to Crystal Springs Drive in Griffith Park roadways. These roadways are/are not designated as CMP roadways. Construction related traffic would consist of a maximum of 103 vehicular roundtrips. The addition of 170 truck trips to the roadways during the HDD pipeline and pump station and tank replacement phases would be minimal. No additional traffic analysis is required as the proposed project does not fit the following criteria requiring further analysis:

- The proposed project will add 50 or more trips during AM or PM weekday peak hours to CMP arterial monitoring intersections
- The proposed project will add 50 or more peak hour trips to CMP arterial segments
- The proposed project will add 150 or more trips to mainline freeways during AM or PM weekday peak hours

Construction-related truck trips would be short-term and minimal and is not anticipated to impact the existing LOS or conflict with the existing roadway conditions. Operational truck trips would be limited and infrequent and would not impact the existing LOS or conflict with the existing roadway conditions. Additionally, the proposed project would be required to prepare a traffic control plan that would be reviewed and approved by the

Los Angeles Department of Transportation. Therefore impacts would be less than significant.

- c) **No Impact.** The proposed project is not located in the immediate vicinity of an airport or private airstrip. The nearest public airport is Bob Hope Airport located at 2627 N. Hollywood Way in the City of Burbank, and is approximately three miles north of the project area. The nearest private airport is Porter Ranch Airport located approximately 10 miles west of the project area. Project activities would not alter the existing air traffic patterns, levels, or locations that result in safety risks. No impact would occur.
- d) **No Impact..** The proposed project would not alter existing roadways nor include any hazardous design features such as sharp curves or dangerous intersections. No incompatible uses such as farm equipment are proposed. As such, no impacts would occur.
- e) **Less than Significant.** Access to the project area would be via I-5 and Crystal Springs Road. Construction activities would be located within the project area and would not impede access to roads adjacent to the project site. Additional construction activities would not be located within roadways and are not anticipated to interfere with traffic flow or emergency response access to the project area. Operational activities would involve minimal and infrequent maintenance operations and would not result in interference with emergency response access. Impacts would be less than significant.
- f) **No Impact.** Segments of the proposed pipeline would be located in proximity to the Fern Canyon Nature Trail, which is used frequently by local residents and visitors as a walking and hiking path. To avoid adverse impacts to the existing Fern Canyon Nature Trail, installation of the pipeline would be completed using the HDD method. This would ensure the nature trail impacts, although short-term, would not adversely impact the trail during construction and operation. Construction activities would not conflict with the Griffith Park Master Plan and other policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities within the project area. At the end of construction, the project area would return to pre-construction conditions, with the exception of the new above ground structures. In addition, the proposed project would not propose any activities that would conflict with policies, plans, or programs support alternative transportation. No impacts would occur.

2.17 Utilities and Service Systems

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
17. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS —				
Would the project:				
a) Conflict with wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities, or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that would serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

- a) **No Impact.** The proposed project involves the construction and installation of a recycled water pipeline, pump station, and recycled water storage tank. The proposed project is an extension of the water recycling system at the Los Angeles-Glendale Reclamation Plant. The proposed project would not produce wastewater and would not require a discharge permit from the Regional Water Quality Board (RWQCB). No impact would occur.
- b) **No Impact.** The proposed project involves the construction and installation of a recycled water pipeline, recycled water storage tank, and a pump station that would provide recycled water produced at the Los Angeles-Glendale Reclamation Plant to the Roosevelt Golf Course. The proposed project does not involve construction of wastewater infrastructure and the proposed project would not generate wastewater. Therefore, the proposed project would not require or result in the need for water or wastewater treatment facilities. No impact would occur.
- c) **No Impact.** The proposed project would install a new recycled water pipeline to convey recycled water to the Roosevelt Golf Course and construct a new recycled water storage tank and pump station. Construction of the proposed project is not anticipated to affect stormwater drainage in the project area. The pipeline would be located underground and

- the aboveground facilities would be located on pads. Although the proposed project would increase impervious surfaces in the project vicinity and may generate additional runoff, the proposed project would be required to comply with all components of the City's NPDES permit (including controlling stormwater runoff). As a result, no new stormwater drainage infrastructure would be required from implementation of the proposed project. Thus, no impacts would occur.
- d) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed project would expand the use of recycled water produced at the Los Angeles-Glendale Water Reclamation Plant and provide an alternative water supply for irrigation to the Roosevelt Golf Course, which currently uses potable water for irrigation. Future connections with the recycled water expansion are also anticipated. The proposed project would supply the Roosevelt Golf Course with recycled water for irrigation and meet the anticipated average demand of 310 AFY. Construction of the recycled water storage tank and pump station would not require the need for additional water supply. By using recycled water for irrigation, the proposed project would recover potable water supplies for potable uses. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in the need for additional water resources or expanded entitlements. Impacts related to water supply are less than significant.
- e) **No Impact.** The proposed project would install a new pipeline to convey recycled water to the Roosevelt Golf Course and construct a new recycled water storage tank and pump station. The proposed project would not produce wastewater and would not receive wastewater service. Thus, no impacts to wastewater treatment capacity would occur.
- f) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed project anticipates that a maximum of 1,520 cubic yards of dirt and topsoil would be excavated and used as backfill. No excavated soils would be hauled offsite to the local landfill. The nearest landfill serving the project area would be Scholl Canyon Landfill located at 3001 Scholl Canyon Road in the City of Glendale. The landfill has a remaining capacity of 9.9 million cubic yards and a maximum permitting daily of 3,400 tons per day. The landfill will cease to operate in April 2030. Solid waste generated from the construction activities would not be substantial and would not place a great demand on the land fill. Operation of the facilities would be unmanned with the exception of infrequent maintenance activities, which would not generate substantial volumes of solid waste. Therefore, impacts to solid waste facilities would be less than significant.
- g) **No Impact.** Construction and operation of the proposed project would result in minimal solid waste that would be hauled offsite to a local landfill in compliance with federal, state, and local statutes related to solid waste. No impacts would occur.
-

2.18 Mandatory Findings of Significance

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
18. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE —				
Would the project:				
a) Have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Have environmental effects that would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

- a) **Less than Significant with Mitigation.** The proposed project would have the potential to impact sensitive wildlife species and natural communities during construction activities. However, with the incorporation of Mitigation Measures BIO-1 through BIO-5, potential impacts to biological resources would be reduced to less than significant levels.

The project would involve excavation and grading activities which could potentially unearth prehistoric archaeological resources. Such actions could unearth, expose, or disturb subsurface paleontological, archaeological, historical, or Native American resources that were not observable on the surface. However, with the incorporation of Mitigation Measures CUL-1 through CUL-6, potential impacts to paleontological or cultural resources that represent major periods of California history or prehistory would be reduced to less than significant levels.

- b) **Less Than Significant Impact.** A cumulative impact could occur if the project would result in an incrementally considerable contribution to a significant cumulative impact in consideration of past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects for each resource area. Because the project impacts are generally construction related, the cumulative study area is generally confined to the areas adjacent to the project site, which include open spaces, residential areas, and Griffith Park. There are several past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects identified in the Griffith Park area that are listed in Table 4. Several of the listed projects are located adjacent to the project site. The closest project is located approximately 0.5 miles east of the project site. The projects identified

in the following table are characterized as mainly roadways and public recreational in nature.

**TABLE 4
CUMULATIVE PROJECTS LIST**

Project	Location	Land Use
River Supply Conduit Improvement Project Lower Reach	Zoo Drive, north of Griffith Park	Roadway; Park
Riverside Drive Bridge Widening and Rehabilitation Project	Bette Davis picnic area on the northern boundary of Griffith park	Park; Public Facility
Headworks Reservoir Project	6001 West Forest Lawn Drive	Park
North Atwater Non-Motorized Bridge Project	3900 Chevy Chase Dr	Park
LADWP Power Reliability Improvement Project	Along Los Feliz Blvd	Roadway; Commercial
Griffith Park Baseball Fields	Crystal Springs Picnic Area of Griffith Park	Park; Public Facility
LARAP Shakespeare in the Park New Permanent Stage	Old Zoo	Park; Public Facility
BOE Interceptor Sewer	Intersection of Crystal Springs Rd and the 5 freeway exit	Roadway; Park
2014/15 Special Olympics Games	Griffith Park	Park; Public Facility

The project's proposed facilities, pipelines, pump station, and water tank would not impact any scenic vistas, state scenic highways, or generate any light and glare; and cumulative aesthetic impacts would not occur. The project area does not include any agricultural or mineral resources that could be impacted; and the project would have no effect on land use, population, housing, public services, and utilities. As a result, cumulative impacts related to these resources would not occur.

In addition, air quality, greenhouse gas, noise, hazardous material, recreation, water quality and traffic impacts that are generated by construction activities would be short-term and limited by construction phasing and the overall short construction period. The minimal emissions, noise, hazardous materials, traffic and water pollutants generated by the project would also be less than cumulatively considerable due to the location of the project and limited construction activities and duration. Furthermore, impacts related to biological resources and cultural resources would be less than cumulatively considerable with implementation of identified Mitigation Measures. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in any impacts that would be individually limited, but cumulatively considerable resulting from the proposed project. When the potential impacts of the proposed project are viewed in connection with past and ongoing projects, its impacts would not be considered cumulatively considerable.

- c) The proposed project has the potential to degrade the quality of the park visitor's experience during project construction activities. However, construction activities would be temporary visual impacts and would not restrict visitor use. Construction activities have been phased to avoid project construction during the Special Olympics over the summers of 2014 and 2015. Therefore, less than significant impacts would occur to park operations and would not have environmental effects that have the potential to cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either indirectly or directly.

SECTION 3

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3.2 Acronyms

AB 32	Assembly Bill 32
AFY	Acre-feet per year
AMSL	above mean sea level
AQMP	Air Quality Management Plan
Basin	South Coast Air Basin
Bgs	below ground surface
BMPs	best management practices
CAA	Clean Air Act
CARB	California Air Resource Board
CBC	California Building Code
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CMP	Congestion Management Program
CNDDB	California Natural Diversity Database
CNPS	California Native Plant Society
CO ₂ e	Carbon Dioxide Equivalents
CWA	Clean Water Act
DOGGR	Department of Conservation, Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources
DTSC	Department of Toxic Substances Control
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
GGPNC	Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council
GPSWRP	Griffith Park South Water Recycling Project
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GPM	Gallons per minute
HCP/NCCP	Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan
HDD	horizontal directional drilling
HFC	hydrofluorocarbons
I-5	Interstate 5
IS/MND	Initial Study/ Mitigated Negative Declaration
LADWP	Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
LARAP	Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks
LAMC	Los Angeles Municipal Code
LOS	Level of Service

LUST	leaking underground storage tanks
MLD	Most likely descendant
MRZ	Mineral Resource Zone
NO ₂	nitrogen dioxide
NO _x	nitrous oxides
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NPL	National Priorities List
OS	Open Space
PFC	perfluorocarbons
PM ₁₀	particulate matter that is 10 microns or less in diameter
PM _{2.5}	particulate matter that is 2.5 microns or less in diameter
PUST	permitted underground storage tanks
ROG	reactive organic gasses
RWQCB	Regional Water Quality Board
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
SB 375	Senate Bill 375
SCAG	Southern California Association of Government
SCAQMD	South Coast Air Quality Management District
SCEDC	Southern California Earthquake Data Center
SF ₆	sulfur hexafluoride
SR	State Route
SWPPP	Storm Water Pollution Prevention
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
USEPA	United State Environmental Protection Agency
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey

3.3 Report Preparers

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APPENDIX A

Biological Resource Technical Report

GRIFFITH PARK SOUTH WATER RECYCLING PROJECT

Biological Resources Technical Report

Prepared for
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power

September 2013



GRIFFITH PARK SOUTH WATER RECYCLING PROJECT

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Biological Resources Technical Report: Griffith Park South Water Recycling Project, Los Angeles County, California

	<u>Page</u>
Executive Summary.....	1
1. Introduction.....	2
2. Project Description.....	2
3. Regulatory Framework.....	6
4. Methods.....	12
5. Natural Resource Setting.....	12
6. Results.....	28
6.1 Special-Status Wildlife Species.....	28
6.2 Special-Status Plants.....	28
6.3 Jurisdictional Waters.....	29
6.4 Project Impacts.....	29
6.5 Mitigation Measures.....	34

List of Figures

1 Regional Setting.....	4
2 Project Vicinity.....	5
3 Soils.....	14
4 Habitat Types.....	16
5-1 CNDDDB Special-Status Plant Occurrences 9 USGS Quad Search Area.....	24
5-2 Griffith Park Plant Occurrences.....	25
6-1 CNDDDB Special Status Wildlife Species Occurrences 9 USGS Quad Search Area...	26
6-2 Griffith Park Wildlife Occurrences.....	27
7-1 Permanent Impacts.....	31
7-2 Permanent Impacts.....	32

List of Tables

1 Special-Status Wildlife Species Documented in Project Area.....	18
2 Rare Plants with Potential to Occur in Project Area.....	22
3 Project Impacts to Habitat.....	30

GRIFFITH PARK SOUTH WATER RECYCLING PROJECT

Biological Resources Technical Report

Executive Summary

Environmental Science Associates (ESA) conducted a biological field reconnaissance survey for the Griffith Park South Water Recycling Project (Project) to gather baseline data on the potential for sensitive biological resources to occur within or adjacent to the Project site. Southern California Black Walnut Woodland is the predominant plant community within the proposed Project site. The steep slopes and ridgetops are dominated by undifferentiated chaparral scrub. A small area of coast live oak woodland envelops the existing water tower proposed for removal. The woodland community is considered sensitive by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). ESA biologists confirmed that suitable habitat for the Mesa horkelia and four other special status plant species is present at the Project site. However, due to the timing of the field assessment, focused surveys could not verify if these plant species are present. Additionally, Coast horned lizard, coastal whiptail, and silvery legless lizard have potential to occur within the project site. Horizontal directional drilling (HDD), which is a form of tunneling or undergrounding the pipeline would be utilized so that most of the ground surface remains undisturbed, lessening the environmental impact to sensitive biological resources.

Jurisdictional resources were initially evaluated through a desktop analysis of topographic maps and aerial photographs. The desktop analysis was then further refined and verified in the field by ESA biologists. Based on this assessment, it was concluded that the Project site does not contain any federal or state jurisdictional waters, such as wetlands or defined drainages.

Recommendations described in Section 6.5 *Mitigation Measures* identify potential mitigation measures that will reduce potential Project-related impacts to biological resources to a less than significant level. No significant impacts are anticipated following implementation of the recommended mitigation measures provided in this report.

1. Introduction

This report describes effects to biological resources that would result from implementation of the Project. The following discussion addresses existing environmental conditions in the affected area, identifies and analyzes environmental impacts for the Project, and recommends measures to reduce or avoid significant impacts anticipated from Project construction and operation. In addition, existing laws and regulations relevant to biological resources are described. In some cases, compliance with these existing laws and regulations would serve to reduce or avoid certain impacts that might otherwise occur with implementation of the Project.

2. Project Description

The Project is located in Griffith Park in the City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California (See **Figure 1**). The Project would expand the use of recycled water within the Hollywood Community Planning Areas of the City of Los Angeles. Implementation of the Project would extend the existing Greenbelt Water Recycling distribution line south to serve the Roosevelt Golf Course, which is a prime customer for recycled water. The Project would involve the construction of recycled water pipelines, a water pump station, and removal of an existing water storage tank and construction of a new recycled water storage tank (**Figure 2**). Proposed project facilities include:

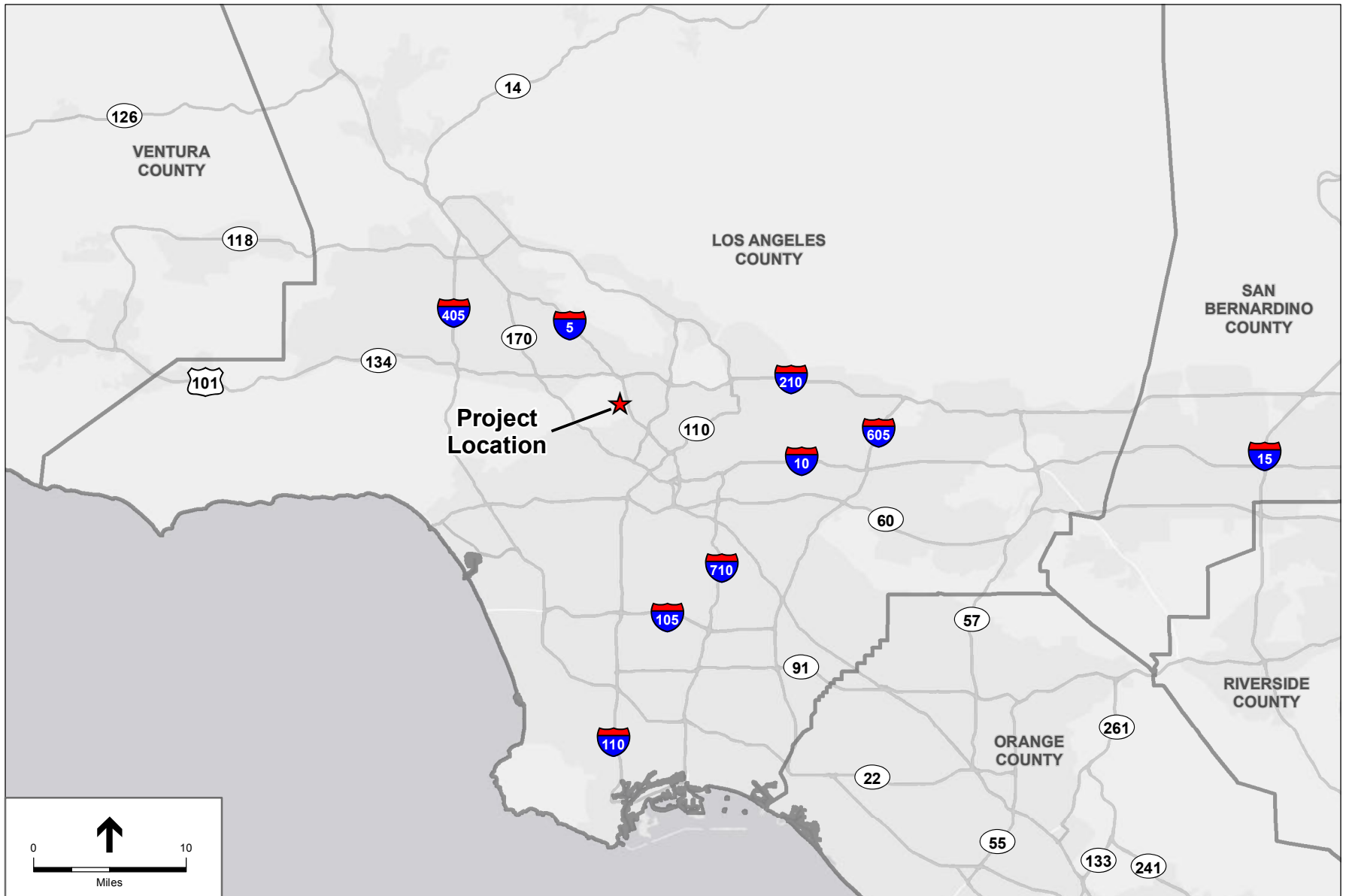
- 2,100 linear feet of 12-inch pipeline, connecting the Greenbelt Line to the proposed pump station east of Fire Road;
- 2,500 linear feet of 12-inch pipeline from the proposed horizontal directional drilling (HDD) launching pit to the HDD receiving pit near the proposed recycled water storage tank;
 - HDD is being used because trenching or excavating is not practical since it would result in significant biological and aesthetic impacts.
 - With use of HDD, most of the ground surface remains undisturbed, lessening the environmental impact of placing pipeline.
 - Trenchless technology protects natural resources such as sensitive habitats by drilling underneath the resources.
- 1,400 linear feet of 12-inch pipeline from the HDD receiving pit to the proposed recycled water storage tank;
- 700 linear feet of 12-inch pipeline from the proposed recycled water tank to the existing 1,200 linear feet 8-inch concrete pipeline, connecting to the Roosevelt Golf Course;
- 700 linear feet of 12-inch pipeline from the proposed recycled water tank to the existing 1,544 foot Grade Potable System to be used as a potable back-up pipeline;
- Recycled water pumping station located on the east side of Fire Road within LADWP easement;

- Steel recycled water storage tank with a capacity of 1 million gallons located southeast of the existing Tank 114;
- Removal of existing Tank 114 and;
- Appurtenant facilities for the pipelines.

Project Construction

The proposed pipelines would be installed using trenching construction techniques (cut and cover), except for the segment extending from Fern Canyon Nature Trail to the proposed recycled water tank. This segment would be installed using HDD method, which is a trenchless method of installing underground pipeline and has with minimal impact on the surrounding area (similar to tunneling). HDD is being proposed to avoid closing of the Fern Canyon Nature Trail and to prevent adverse visual and biological resources impacts at Griffith Park.

The proposed project would commence on January 02, 2014 and is anticipated to be completed by October 09, 2015. The project would be constructed in three separate phases, including the cut and cover pipeline phase, the HDD pipeline phase, and tank and pump station phase. Regional access to the construction site would be via I-5. Construction access to the various parts of the alignment would be via Crystal Springs Drive from the I-5, Western Heritage Way from SR-134, and Fire Road adjacent to Crystal Springs Drive in Griffith Park.



SOURCE: ESRI.

Griffith Park South Water Recycling Project . 211490.27

Figure 1
Regional Setting



Source: ESRI.

Griffith Park South Recycling Project. 211490.27

Figure 2
Project Vicinity

3. Regulatory Framework

The Project is subject to a number of federal, state, and local regulations regarding biological resources. A summary of the primary regulations pertaining to the proposed Project is provided below.

3.1 Federal

Federal Endangered Species Act

Under the federal Endangered Species Act (FESA), the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Commerce jointly have the authority to list a species as threatened or endangered (16 USC 1533(c)). Pursuant to the requirements of FESA, an agency reviewing a proposed project within its jurisdiction must determine whether any federally listed or proposed species may be present in the project region and determine whether the proposed project would have a potentially significant impact on such species. In addition, the agency is required to determine whether the project is likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any species proposed to be listed under FESA or result in the destruction or adverse modification of critical habitat proposed to be designated for such species (16 USC 1536(3), (4)). Project-related impacts to these species or their habitats would be considered “significant.” Section 7 of FESA contains a “take” prohibition which prohibits any action conducted, funded, or approved by a federal agency that adversely affects a member of an endangered or threatened species without prior formal consultation with the United State Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). Formal consultation with the USFWS would result in the issuance of a Biological Opinion (BO) that includes either a jeopardy or non-jeopardy decision issued by the USFWS to the consulting federal agency. The BO would also include the possible issuance of an “incidental take” permit. If such authorization is given, the project proponent must provide the USFWS with a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) for the affected species and publish notification of the application for a permit in the Federal Register.

Section 4(a)(3) and (b)(2) of the FESA requires the designation of critical habitat to the maximum extent possible and prudent based on the best available scientific data and after considering the economic impacts of any designations. Critical habitat is defined in section 3(5)(A) of the FESA as (1) areas within the geographic range of a species that are occupied by individuals of that species and contain the primary constituent elements (physical and biological features) essential to the conservation of the species, thus warranting special management consideration or protection, and (2) areas outside of the geographic range of a species at the time of listing but that are considered essential to the conservation of the species.

Migratory Bird Treaty Act

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), first enacted in 1918, domestically implements a series of treaties between the United States and Great Britain (on behalf of Canada), Mexico, Japan, and the former Soviet Union that provide for international migratory bird protection. The MBTA authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to regulate the taking of migratory birds; the act provides that it shall be unlawful, except as permitted by regulations, “to pursue, take, or kill any migratory

bird, or any part, nest or egg of any such bird...” (16 USC 703). This prohibition includes both direct and indirect acts, although harassment and habitat modification are not included unless they result in direct loss of birds, nests, or eggs. The current list of species protected by the MBTA includes several hundred species and essentially includes all native birds. Permits for take of nongame migratory birds can be issued only for specific activities, such as scientific collecting, rehabilitation, propagation, education, taxidermy, and protection of human health and safety and personal property.

Waters of the United States, Including Wetlands

Wetlands are a subset of “waters of the United States” and receive protection under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA). The term “waters of the U.S.” as defined in Code of Federal Regulations (33 CFR 328.3(a); 40 CFR 230.3(s)), includes all waters which are currently used, were used in the past, or may be susceptible to use in interstate or foreign commerce, including all waters subject to the ebb and flow of the tide. Wetlands are defined by the federal government (CFR, Section 328.3(b), 1991) as those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Waters of the U.S. do not include prior converted cropland. Notwithstanding the determination of an area’s status as prior converted cropland by any other federal agency, for the purposes of the FCWA, the final authority regarding CWA jurisdiction remains with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) (328.3(a)(8) added 58 FR 45035, August 25, 1993). The United State Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) regulates the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S. under Section 404 of the CWA.

Clean Water Act

In accordance with Section 404 of the CWA, the Corps regulates discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S. Waters of the U.S. and their lateral limits are defined in 33 CFR 328.3(a) and includes navigable waters of the U.S., interstate waters, all other waters where the use or degradation or destruction of the waters could affect interstate or foreign commerce, tributaries to any of these waters, and wetlands that meet any of these criteria or that are adjacent to any of these waters or their tributaries. Waters of the U.S. are often categorized as “jurisdictional wetlands” (i.e., wetlands over which the Corps exercises jurisdiction under Section 404) and “other waters of the United States” when habitat values and characteristics are being described. “Fill” is defined as any material that replaces any portion of a water of the U.S. with dry land or that changes the bottom elevation of any portion of a water of the U.S. Any activity resulting in the placement of dredged or fill material within waters of the United States requires a permit from Corps. In accordance with Section 401 of the CWA, projects that apply for a Corps permit for discharge of dredged or fill material must obtain water quality certification from the appropriate RWQCB indicating that the proposed project would uphold State of California water quality standards.

3.2 State

State Fish and Game Codes

Section 2080 of the State Fish and Game Code states, “No person shall import into this state [California], export out of this state, or take, possess, purchase, or sell within this state, any species, or any part or product thereof, that the commission [State Fish and Game Commission] determines to be an endangered species or threatened species, or attempt any of those acts, except as otherwise provided in this chapter, or the Native Plant Protection Act, or the California Desert Native Plants Act.” Pursuant to Section 2081 of the Code, the CDFW may authorize individuals or public agencies to import, export, take, or possess, any state-listed endangered, threatened, or candidate species. These otherwise prohibited acts may be authorized through permits or Memoranda of Understanding if: (1) the take is incidental to an otherwise lawful activity; (2) impacts of the authorized take are minimized and fully mitigated; (3) the permit is consistent with any regulations adopted pursuant to any recovery plan for the species; and (4) the applicant ensures adequate funding to implement the measures required by CDFW. The CDFW makes this determination based on available scientific information and considers the ability of the species to survive and reproduce. Due to the potential presence of state-listed rare, threatened, or endangered species on the project site, Sections 2080 and 2081 of the Code were considered in this evaluation.

Section 3503 of the California Fish and Game Code states that it is unlawful to take, possess, or needlessly destroy the nest or eggs of any bird. Section 3503.5 specifically states that it is unlawful to take, possess, or destroy any raptors (i.e., species in the orders Falconiformes and Strigiformes), including their nests or eggs. Typical violations of these codes include destruction of active nests resulting from removal of vegetation in which the nests are located. Violation of Section 3503.5 could also include failure of active raptor nests resulting from disturbance of nesting pairs by nearby project construction. This statute does not provide for the issuance of any type of incidental take permit.

Protection of fully protected species is described in Sections 3511, 4700, 5050, and 5515 of the California Fish and Game Code. These statutes prohibit take or possession of fully protected species. CDFW is unable to authorize incidental take of fully protected species when activities are proposed in areas inhabited by those species. CDFW has informed nonfederal agencies and private parties that they must avoid take of any fully protected species in carrying out projects.

California Endangered Species Act

Under CESA, the CDFW is responsible for maintaining a list of threatened and endangered species, candidate species, and species of special concern (California Fish and Game Code, 2007). Pursuant to the requirements of CESA, an agency reviewing a proposed project within its jurisdiction must determine whether any state listed endangered or threatened species may be present on the project region and determine whether the proposed project would have a potentially significant impact on such species. In addition, the CDFW encourages informal consultation on any proposed project that may impact a candidate species. If there were project-related impacts to species on the CESA threatened and endangered list, they would be considered

“significant.” Impacts to “species of concern” would be considered “significant” under certain circumstances, discussed below.

Although threatened and endangered species are protected by specific federal and state statutes, CEQA Guidelines Section 15380(b) provides that a species not listed on the federal or state list of protected species may be considered rare or endangered if the species can be shown to meet certain specified criteria. These criteria have been modeled after the definition in FESA and the section of the California Fish and Game Code dealing with rare or endangered plants or animals. This section was included in the CEQA Guidelines primarily to deal with situations in which a public agency is reviewing a project that may have a significant effect on, for example, a candidate species that has not yet been listed by either the USFWS or CDFW. Thus, CEQA provides an agency with the ability to protect a species from a project’s potential impacts until the respective government agencies have an opportunity to designate the species as protected, if warranted.

Native Plant Protection Act

The Native Plant Protection Act (NPPA) includes measures to preserve, protect, and enhance rare and endangered native plants. The list of native plants afforded protection pursuant to the NPPA includes those listed as rare and endangered under the CESA. The NPPA provides limitations on take as follows: “No person will import into this State, or take, possess, or sell within this State” any rare or endangered native plant, except in compliance with provisions of the act. Individual landowners are required to notify the CDFW at least 10 days in advance of changing land uses to allow the CDFW to salvage any rare or endangered native plant material. Due to the absence of state-listed rare, threatened, or endangered plant species on the project site, the NPPA was not considered in this evaluation.

CEQA Guidelines Section 15380

Although threatened and endangered species are protected by specific federal and state statutes, CEQA Guidelines Section 15380(b) provides that a species not listed on the federal or state list of protected species may be considered rare or endangered if the species can be shown to meet certain specified criteria. These criteria have been modeled after the definition in FESA and the section of the California Fish and Game Code dealing with rare or endangered plants or animals. This section was included in CEQA primarily to deal with situations in which a public agency is reviewing a project that may have a significant effect on, for example, a candidate species that has not been listed by either USFWS or CDFW. Thus, CEQA provides an agency with the ability to protect a species from the potential impacts of a project until the respective government agencies have an opportunity to designate the species as protected, if warranted. CEQA also calls for the protection of other locally or regionally significant resources, including natural communities. Although natural communities do not at present have legal protection of any kind, CEQA calls for an assessment of whether any such resources would be affected, and requires findings of significance if there would be substantial losses. Natural communities listed by California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) as sensitive are considered by CDFW to be significant resources and fall under the CEQA Guidelines for addressing impacts. Local planning documents such as general plans often identify these resources as well.

Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act

Under the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, waters of the state fall under the jurisdiction of the appropriate RWQCB. Under the act, the RWQCB must prepare and periodically update water quality control basin plans. Each basin plan sets forth water quality standards for surface water and groundwater, as well as actions to control nonpoint and point sources of pollution to achieve and maintain these standards. Projects that affect wetlands or waters must meet waste discharge requirements of the RWQCB, which may be issued in addition to a water quality certification or waiver under Section 401 of the CWA.

3.3 Local

Griffith Park is within Significant Ecological Area (SEA) under the Los Angeles County General Plan Conservation/Open Space Element. Native trees within the Project Area are protected under the city's protected tree ordinance. Both local regulations are discussed in detail below.

Los Angeles County General Plan

The Los Angeles County 2035 General Plan identifies the federal, state, and local statutes, ordinances, or policies that govern the conservation and protection of biological resources that must be considered by the County during the decision-making process.

The General Plan identifies six main types of biological resources to be protected and enhanced: regional habitat linkages; forests; coastal zone; riparian habitats; streambeds and wetlands; woodlands; and SEAs.

The General Plan outlines the following policies to protect biological resources within the County that are relevant to the Project.

Policies

- Policy C/NR 3.1: Conserve and enhance the ecological function of the County's diverse natural habitats and biological resources.*
- Policy C/NR 3.4: Conserve and sustainably manage the County's forests and woodlands.*
- Policy C/NR 3.6: Assist state and federal agencies with the preservation of special status species, their associated habitat and wildlife movement corridors through the administration of the SEAs and other programs.*
- Policy C/NR 3.7: Participate in inter-jurisdictional collaborative strategies that protect biological resources.*
- Policy C/NR 3.8: Discourage development in areas with identified significant biological resources, such as SEAs.*
- Policy C/NR 3.9: Consider the following in the design of a project that is located within an SEA, to the greatest extent feasible:*
- Preservation of biologically valuable habitats, species, wildlife corridors and linkages;*

- *Protection of sensitive resources on the site within open space;*
- *Protection of water sources from hydromodification to maintain the ecological function of riparian habitats; and*
- *Placement of the development in the least biologically sensitive areas on the site.*

Policy C/NR 3.11: Discourage new development from increasing the urban-wildland interface in undisturbed natural areas through compact design.

Policy C/NR 4.1: Conserve and sustainably manage the County's oak woodlands.

City of Los Angeles General Plan

Ecologically important areas are generally considered as open space and shall be so designated. The following shall apply:

- To the extent feasible, ecologically important areas shall be kept in a natural state.
- In the event a project is proposed within an ecologically sensitive important area, an EIR shall be prepared.
- The construction of roads through ecologically important areas shall be closely controlled in order to protect these areas.

City of Los Angeles Protected Tree Ordinance

The City of Los Angeles Protected Tree Ordinance (No.177404) protects any of the following Southern California native tree species measuring 4 inches or greater in trunk diameter at 4.5 feet above ground level:

Oaks trees including valley oak (*Quercus lobata*) and California [coast] live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*), or any other tree of the oak genus indigenous to California but excluding the scrub oak (*Quercus dumosa*)

- Southern California black walnut (*Juglans californica* var. *californica*)
- Western Sycamore (*Platanus racemosa*)
- California bay laurel (*Umbellularia californica*)

These trees are protected from relocation or removal within the city limits. Relocation and removal includes any act that will cause a protected tree to die, including but not limited to acts that inflict damage upon the root system or other parts of the tree by fire, application of toxic substances, operation of equipment or machinery, or by changing the natural grade of the land by excavation or filling within the drip line of the canopy. Any work activities that will either directly (pruning, removal) or indirectly (grade alteration) impact protected trees within their drip line will require a permit to be issued by the Urban Forestry Division.

4. Methods

The information and analyses presented in this report have been derived from the following sources:

- CDFW California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDDB) (CDFW, 2013a);
- CDFW State and federally listed endangered and threatened animals of California (CDFW, 2013b);
- California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California (CNPS, 2013);
- National Resources Conservation Service Web Soil Survey Database (NRCS 2013);
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Species Reports (USFWS, 2012);
- Relevant literature on biological resources on and in the vicinity of the Project site;
- Topographic imagery and aerial photographs of the Project location and vicinity; and
- A biological resource reconnaissance and habitat assessment survey conducted on July 19th, 2013.

4.1 Biological Resource Reconnaissance and Habitat Assessment Survey

ESA biologists conducted a biological resource reconnaissance survey (or habitat assessment) to identify natural resources present or with the potential to occur on and adjacent to the Project site. Due to the extensive urban setting surrounding Griffith Park, the ESA biologist queried the CNDDDB within a standard United States Geologic Survey 7.52Quadrangle, nine quad search and then assessed existing scientific data on whether populations of special status species are currently within Griffith Park. During the habitat assessment, biologists characterized and quantified on-site and adjacent plant communities and noted any wildlife species present during the site evaluation. The information obtained during the habitat assessment along with information gathered in the literature and database reviews were used to determine the potential for sensitive biological resources to occur within the Project site.

5. Natural Resource Setting

The Project site is located within Griffith Park at the east end of the Santa Monica Mountains northwest of the City of Los Angeles within Los Angeles County, California. The approximately 4,100 acre Griffith Park is surrounded by commercial and residential developments and is the largest municipal park and urban wilderness area within the United States (Cooper 2008). Specifically, Griffith Park is bounded to the east by the Golden State Freeway (Interstate Highway 5) and the City of Glendale and extensive commercial and residential development beyond; to the north by State Route (SR) 134; to the south by Los Feliz Boulevard, Hollywood Reservoir, Hollywood Freeway (Highway 101); and, to the west by Universal City, Highway 101, beyond which is the eastern extent of the Santa Monica Mountains. Griffith Park is situated

within Sections 26, 27, 34, 35, Townships 1N and 1S, Range 14W within the U.S.G.S. Hollywood and Burbank 7.5' series quadrangle maps.

5.1 Climate

The climate of Griffith Park is generally arid, with an average of 14.96 inches of rain per year recorded in Griffith Park (WRCC, 2012). The average annual maximum temperature in Los Angeles is 77.0° F, with an average annual minimum temperature of 43.0° F (WRCC, 2013).

5.2 Soils and Topography

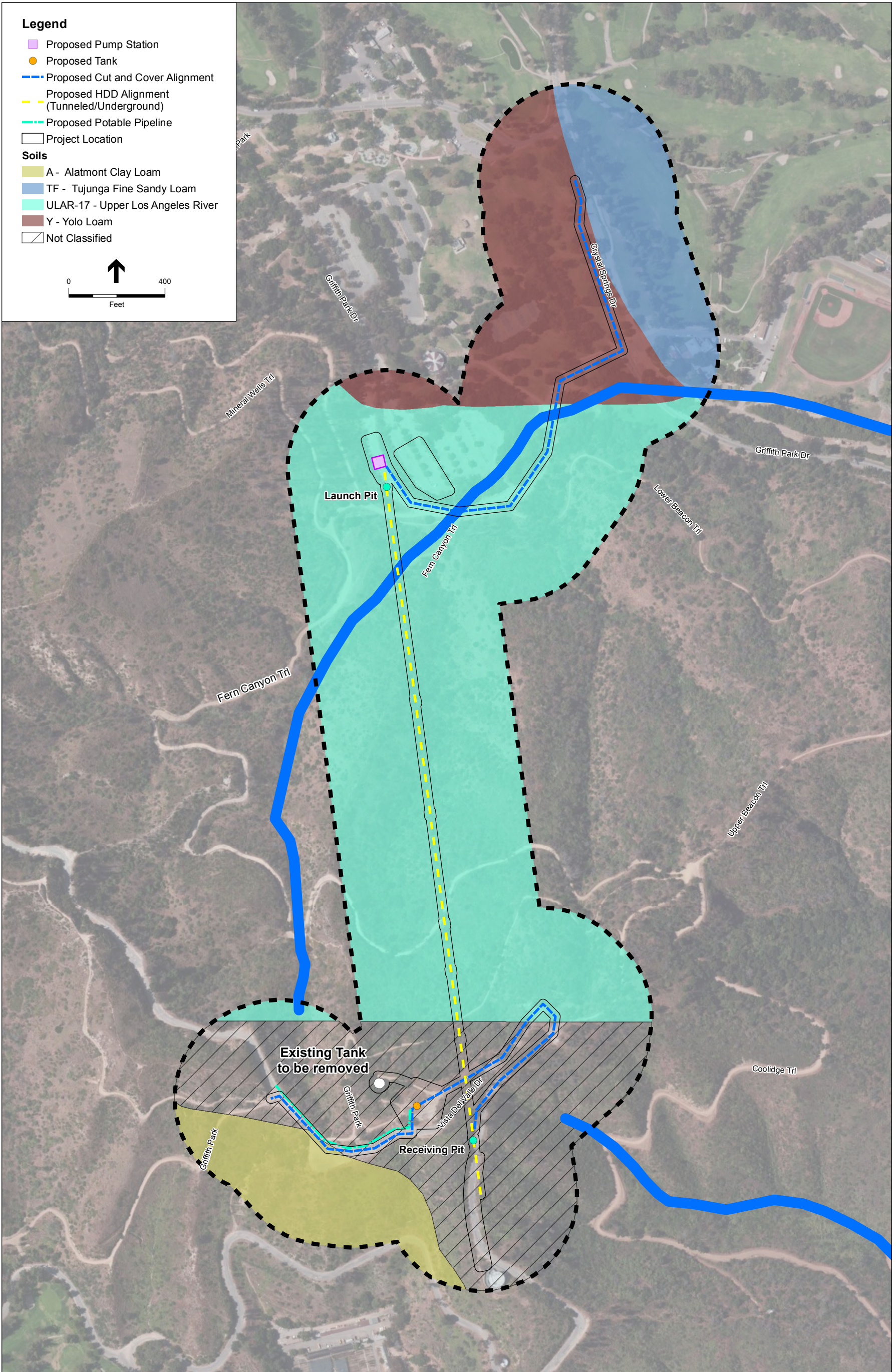
In general, the topography of the Project site slopes from south east to northwest (0-9 percent). Soils on the Project site are excessively drained to well drained, more than 48 inches in depth, with moderate in clay content, and moderately to highly permeable (NRCS, 2013). With the arid climatic regime of the region, these soils generally lack substantial amounts of organic material. Descriptions of the primary soil type found within the Project site is discussed below and are depicted on **Figure 3**.

Upper Los Angeles River

Upper Los Angeles River soils is composed of a brown to light-brown materials with a texture ranging from sandy loam to a loam, the greater part being a sandy loam. The depth varies from less than a foot to six or more feet; average is two to three feet.

Altamont Clay Loam

Altamont soils are on uplands, hills and mountains with a 0 to 75 percent slope. The Altamont clay loam can occur from 100 to 4,480 feet. These soils formed in material weathered from fine-grained sandstone and shale. Altamont clay loam is well drained with a medium to very high runoff; and low permeability.



SOURCE: Bing; Los Angeles County GIS, 2013.

Yolo Loam

Yolo soils are on nearly level to moderately sloping alluvial fans. The soils formed in fine-loamy alluvium derived from sedimentary formations. Yolo loam occurs from near sea level to 2400 feet. These soils are of moderate to high natural fertility and typically support wildlife and vegetation. Yolo loam is well drained with medium runoff and medium permeability levels.

5.3 Plant Communities and Habitats

Plant communities are assemblages of plant species that co-occur together within similar environmental conditions. They are defined by species composition and relative abundance. Plant communities within and surrounding the Project area were mapped according to the *Preliminary Descriptions of the Terrestrial Natural Communities of California* (Holland 1986). The distribution of habitat types of the Project site are shown in **Figure 4**.

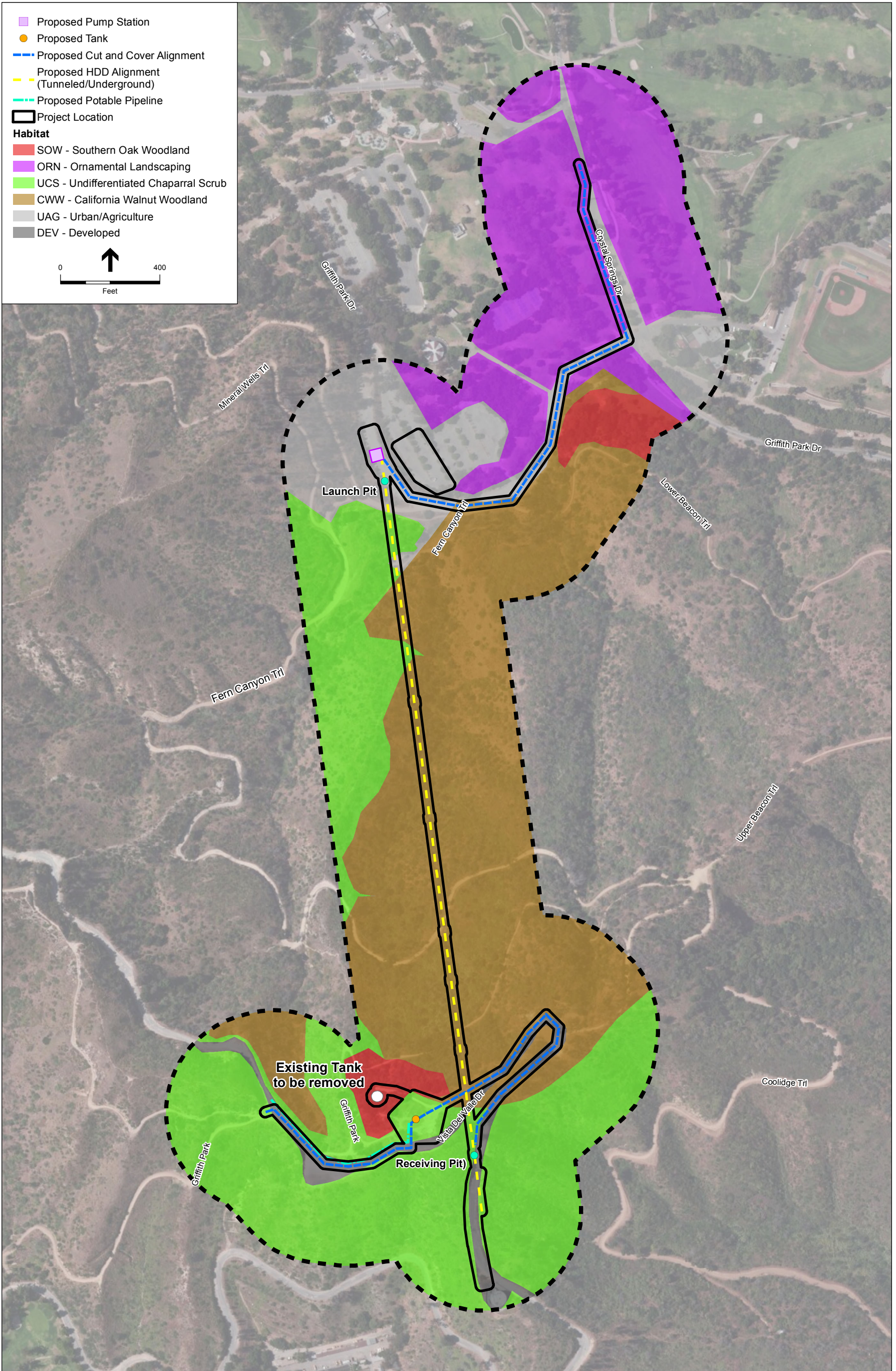
Three native plant communities are found within the limits of the Project site: Southern California black walnut woodland, undifferentiated chaparral scrub, and coast live oak woodland. Ornamental landscaping, as well as developed and urban-agriculture areas also exists within the Project area. The three native plant communities within the Project area show similar species composition, although dominance and cover vary significantly. The Southern California black walnut woodland and the undifferentiated chaparral scrub were impacted by the 2007 Griffith Park fire. The vegetation burned in 2007 is in varying degrees of recovery within the Project site, with the trees and shrubs recovering through epicormic or basal burl shoots. The plant communities found within the Project site are described below, including the disturbed areas.

Southern California Black Walnut Woodland

Southern California Black Walnut Woodland is the predominant vegetation community within the Project site (Figure 4). California Walnut Woodland is a forest form dominated by the Southern California black walnut (*Juglans californica* var. *californica*) with intermittently interspersed coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*). The canopy can be relatively open to continuous. The shrub layer is typically poorly developed with common shrub associates including elderberry (*Sambucus mexicana*), bush monkeyflower (*Mimulus guttatus*), and poison oak (*Toxicodendron diversilobum*). This community supports a relatively low diversity and cover of native annual herbaceous species, with the herbaceous understory typically dominated by annual grasses.

Undifferentiated Chaparral Scrub

Undifferentiated chaparral scrub is typically associated with shallow, dry soils at low elevations on xeric (dry habitat) slopes and ridges. Mature stands are dense and interwoven, reducing the understory component, and making physical access difficult. This chaparral subtype is located in exposed south or west facing slopes within the Project Site. Undifferentiated chaparral scrub is well-adapted to frequent burns due to the ability of many dominant shrubs to stump sprout. The dominant species include: black sage (*Salvia mellifera*), chamise (*Adenostoma fasciculatum*), toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*), and greenbark ceanothus (*Ceanothus spinosus*).



SOURCE: Bing; CalVeg, 2013.

Figure 4
Habitat Types

Coast Live Oak Woodland

Coast Live Oak Woodland is typically associated with mesic soils on north facing slopes and canyon bottoms. This woodland is located around the existing water tank. The dominant tree is coast live oak whose limited understory is dominated by annual grass species (*Avena*, *Bromus* sp.). No removal of Coast Live Oak trees is required for removal of the existing water tank.

Ornamental Landscaping

Ornamental landscaping generally exists within the parkways and landscaped areas in Griffith Park that are available for public use. Typical species noted in the landscaping that are native to California include California sycamore (*Platanus racemosa*), toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*), and coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*). Non-natives trees that were noted within the landscaping include the Aleppo pine (*Pinus halapensis*), red river gum (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*), European olive (*Olea europaea*), and Australian silk oak (*Grevillea robusta*). Common shrubs and groundcovers includes non-native ornamental species such as African fortnight lily (*Dietes bicolor*), New Zealand flax (*Phormium tenax*), and lantana (*Lantana camara*). It should be noted that dozens of other species are present within the landscaped areas that are within proximity to the Project site.

Disturbed / Developed / Urban-Agriculture

Disturbed areas are associated with existing facilities, parking lots and access roads (both paved and unpaved) (Figure 4). As described by Holland (1986), disturbed habitats are those that have been physically affected and are no longer recognizable as a native or naturalized plant community, but still maintain an active soil substrate. Species composition is typically dominated by non-native forbs and a limited number of grass species. Soils are variable, although they often lack topsoil due to previous disturbance. Common species include thistles (*Centaurea*, *Carduus*, and *Cynara* spp.) and mustards (*Brassicaceae*).

5.4 Wildlife

Wildlife species observed or expected to occur on the Project site are typical for the coastal range foothills. Reptile species common to the area include western whiptail (*Aspidoscelis tigris*), western fence lizard (*Sceloporus occidentalis*), side-blotched lizard (*Uta stansburiana*), gopher snake (*Pituophis catenifer*), coachwhip (*Masticophis flagellum*), and western diamondback (*Crotalus atrox*). Mammals species typically found within or adjacent to the Project site include California ground squirrel (*Spermophilus beechyi*), Audubon's cottontail (*Sylvagus audubonii*), mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*), gray fox (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*), bobcat (*Lynx rufus*), and coyote (*Canis latrans*). Bird species typically associated with the habitat types found within the Project area include mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*), California quail (*Callipepla californica*), common raven (*Corvus corax*), red tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*), and wrentit (*Chamaea fasciata*); however, dozens of other resident and migratory bird species are expected to occur within the project vicinity. The only amphibian expected to occur within the Project area is

the arboreal salamander (*Aneides lugubris*), a species not dependent on a seasonal body of water for reproduction.

5.5 Special-Status Species

Special – status species are plant or wildlife species that are experiencing population declines within their respective ranges within California as a result of urbanization, agriculture, and industrial development. State and federal agencies; particularly the USFWS, CDFW, and CNPS; have listed a number of wildlife and plant species as threatened, endangered, or otherwise vulnerable to decline. Provided below in **Table 1** and **Table 2** are a list of special-status wildlife species and plant species, respectively, that have been previously recorded to the CNDDDB and CNPS within the nine quad survey area from the Project site. Maps depicting the approximate location of special-status wildlife species and plant species with recorded occurrences within a USGS nine quad buffer of the Project site are provided in **Figures 5-1 and 5-2** and **Figures 6-1 and 6-2**, respectively.

**TABLE 1
SPECIAL-STATUS WILDLIFE SPECIES DOCUMENTED IN PROJECT AREA**

Species	Status: Federal/State	Preferred Habitat	Probability of Occurrence in Project Area
Amphibians			
Coast range newt (<i>Taricha torosa</i>)	-/Species of Special Concern	Chaparral, oak woodland, and grasslands. Requires ponds, reservoirs, and sluggish pools in streams for breeding,	Unlikely: Suitable breeding habitat Is not present within one mile of the project vicinity.
Reptiles			
Silvery legless lizard (<i>Anniella pulchra pulchra</i>)	-/Species of Special Concern	Occurs in moist warm loose soil with plant cover. Occurs in sparsely vegetated areas of beach dunes, chaparral, pine-oak woodlands, desert scrub, sandy washes, and stream terraces with sycamores, cottonwoods, or oaks. Leaf litter under trees and bushes in sunny areas often indicate suitable habitat. Occurs from sea level to around 5,900 ft.	High: Suitable habitat is present within the oak woodland and chaparral communities, particularly where there is a layer of leaf litter present. .
Coastal whiptail (<i>Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri</i>)	-/Species of Special Concern	Found in a variety of ecosystems, primarily hot and dry open areas with sparse foliage - chaparral, woodland, and riparian areas.	High: Suitable habitat Is present within the project vicinity. A survey of Cahuenga Peak in Griffith Park in 2009 found individuals within the scrub habitat that is similar to the habitat onsite.

Species	Status: Federal/State	Preferred Habitat	Probability of Occurrence in Project Area
Coast horned lizard (<i>Phrynosoma blainvilli</i>)	-/Species of Special Concern	Inhabits open areas of sandy soil and low vegetation in valleys, foothills and semiarid mountains from sea level to 8,000 ft. (2,438 m) in elevation. Found in grasslands, coniferous forests, woodlands, and chaparral, with open areas and patches of loose soil. Often found in lowlands along sandy washes with scattered shrubs and along dirt roads, and frequently found near their primary food source harvester ant hills.	High: Suitable habitat is present within the project vicinity. A survey of Cahuenga Peak in Griffith Park in 2009 found a relict population existing within the scrub habitat that is similar to the habitat onsite.
Birds			
Burrowing owl (<i>Athene cunicularia</i>)	-/Species of Special Concern	Open, dry annual or perennial grasslands, deserts, and scrublands characterized by low-growing vegetation. A subterranean nester dependent upon burrowing mammals, particularly the California ground squirrel.	Unlikely: Suitable habitat is not present within the project vicinity.
Southwestern willow flycatcher (<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>)	Endangered/Endangered	Prefers dense vegetation throughout all vegetation layers present in riparian areas. Prefers nesting over or in the immediate vicinity of standing water.	Unlikely: No suitable habitat present on site or in the vicinity of the Project site.
Coastal California gnatcatcher (<i>Poliottila californica californica</i>)	Threatened/Species of Special Concern	Open sage scrub with California sagebrush as a dominant or co-dominant species. Nest placement typically in areas with less than 40 percent slope gradient. Gullies and drainages, when available within territory, used as nest sites. Use proportional to shrub species availability: typically California sagebrush, California buckwheat, California sunflower (<i>Encelia californica</i>), broom baccharis (<i>Baccharis sarothroides</i>), and laurel sumac.	Unlikely: Only marginal foraging habitat is available within 1 mile of the Project site. The project site is isolated from other dispersal sites of gnatcatcher by extensive urban development.
least Bell's vireo (<i>Vireo bellii pusillus</i>)	Endangered/Endangered	Prefers dense, low, shrubby vegetation, generally within early successional stages in riparian areas with a dominance of willows (<i>Salix</i> spp.)	Unlikely: No suitable habitat present on site. The nearest recorded occurrence is at the native portions of the Los Angeles River containing riparian habitat located to the east of Griffith Park.

Species	Status: Federal/State	Preferred Habitat	Probability of Occurrence in Project Area
Mammals			
Western Mastiff bat (<i>Eumops perotis californicus</i>)	-/Species of Special Concern	Open, semi-arid to arid habitats including conifer and deciduous woodlands, coastal scrub, chaparral. Roosts in crevices in cliff faces, high buildings, trees and tunnels.	Moderate: Moderately suitable foraging habitat exists within the vicinity of the Project site. Suitable roosting habitat (crag and artificial structures)(nearby structures) exists within the vicinity of the Project site; however, no potential roost sites are located within the proposed limits of disturbance for the Project. There are no recorded occurrences within one mile of the Project site.
Silver haired bat (<i>Lasionycteris notivagans</i>)	-/- Western Bat Working Group Listed	A solitary, tree-roosting species that is common in forested areas. The species typically hibernates in small tree hollows, beneath sections of tree bark, in buildings, rock crevices, in wood piles, and on cliff faces.	Moderate: Suitable foraging habitat exists within the vicinity of the Project site. Potential roosting habitat is present within the existing trees occurring in the Project site. No recorded occurrences within one mile of the Project site.
Hoary bat (<i>Lasiurus cinereus</i>)	-/- Western Bat Working Group Listed	A solitary species that utilizes diverse forest habitats that contain a mixture of forest and small openings that provide edge habitat. Roosting sites include squirrel nests, woodpecker holes, and out in the open on the trunks of trees, Both breeding and solitary adults prefer older trees for roosting 11.5 to 40 feet above the ground. Roosting preferences include dense vegetation above with unobstructed space below, allowing bats to drop to gain flight and no potential perches beneath, which could aid detection by birds or other animals. Dark-colored ground cover is preferred	Low: Suitable foraging habitat exists within the vicinity of the Project site. However, no potential roosting habitat is present in the existing trees on site. No recorded occurrences within the vicinity of the Project site.

Species	Status: Federal/State	Preferred Habitat	Probability of Occurrence in Project Area
Western yellow bat (<i>Lasiurus xanthinus</i>)	-/Species of Special Concern	Species occurs in a variety of habitats including riparian, arid scrublands and deserts, and forests. The species roosts singly or in groups of up to 15 in trees including <i>Populus fremontii</i> , <i>Quercus agrifolia</i> , and the frond skirts of <i>Washingtonia</i> palms.	Unlikely: Suitable foraging habitat exists within the vicinity of the Project site. Potential roosting habitat is present in the existing trees on site surveys. However, the species is almost exclusively associated with <i>Washingtonia</i> palms for roost sites in California (Bolster 1998). No recorded occurrences within the vicinity of the Project site.
Big free-tailed bat (<i>Nyctinomops macrotis</i>)	-/Species of Special Concern	A migratory species that forms maternity colonies in rock crevices and caves that are typically used long term. Big free-tailed bats roost mainly in crevices and rocks in cliff situations, with occasional roosts occurring in buildings, caves, and tree cavities.	Unlikely: Suitable foraging habitat exists within one mile of the Project Site but no roosting or maternity caves occur in the vicinity for this species.
American badger (<i>Taxidea taxus</i>)	-/ Species of Special Concern	Most abundant in drier, open stages of most shrub, forest, and herbaceous habitats with friable soils. Requires open, uncultivated ground and sufficient burrowing rodent prey.	Unlikely: Suitable habitat is not present within the vicinity of the Project site. The Urban area around Griffith Park limits the foraging ability of this wide ranging species.

Definitions

Unlikely: Habitat is unsuitable for the species and is not expected to occur within or adjacent to the project area
 Low: Marginal habitat is present but the species is not anticipated to occur with any regularity
 Moderate: Moderate quality habitat is present and there are records of species within the CNDDB for the area
 High: Suitable habitat is present for the species with the recent records near the project site.
 Present: The species was sighting within or adjacent to the project site

Table 2 includes a list of rare and special-status plants that have been recorded in the region of the Project site and that have a potential to be present. Table 2 briefly describes the habitat suitability required for each plant species.

**TABLE 2
RARE PLANTS WITH POTENTIAL TO OCCUR IN PROJECT AREA**

Species	Status/CNPS Rank	Growth Habit	Elevation (m)	Habitat	Flowering Period
<i>Berberis nevinii</i> Nevin's barberry	Federal Endangered, State Endangered/ 1B	Evergreen shrub	274-825	Chprl, CoSr, CMwld	March-June
<i>Calochortus clavatus</i> <i>var. gracilis</i> Slender mariposa lily	-/1B.2	Perennial bulbiferous herb	320-1000	CoSr, Chprl, VFG	March-June
<i>Calochortus plummerae</i> Plummer's mariposa lily	-/1B.2	Perennial bulbiferous herb	100-1700	CoSr, Chprl, VFG, CMwld (rocky granitic outcrops)	May-July
<i>Centromadiaparryi</i> <i>ssp. australis</i> Southern tarplant	-/1B.1	Annual herb	50-790	CoSr, Chprl, VFG	April-July
<i>Dudleya multicaulis</i> Many stemmed dudleya	-/1B.2	perennial herb	50-790	CoSr, Chprl, VFG	April-July
<i>Horkelia cuneata</i> ssp. <i>puperula</i> Mesa horkelia	-/1B.1	perennial herb	70-810	Chprl, CoSr, CMwld	February- September
<i>Malacothamnus davidsonii</i> Davidson's bush- mallow	-/1B.2	Perennial deciduous shrub	185-855	Chprl, CoSr, CMwld	June-January

CNPS Status

Rank 1B = Plants Rare, Threatened, Endangered in California and elsewhere

Threat ranks

.1 = seriously Endangered in California

.2 = fairly Endangered in California

Habitat

Chprl = Chaparral, , CMwld = Cismontane Woodland, CoScr = Coastal Scrub, RiWld = Riparian Woodland, VFG = Valley and Foothill Grasslands,

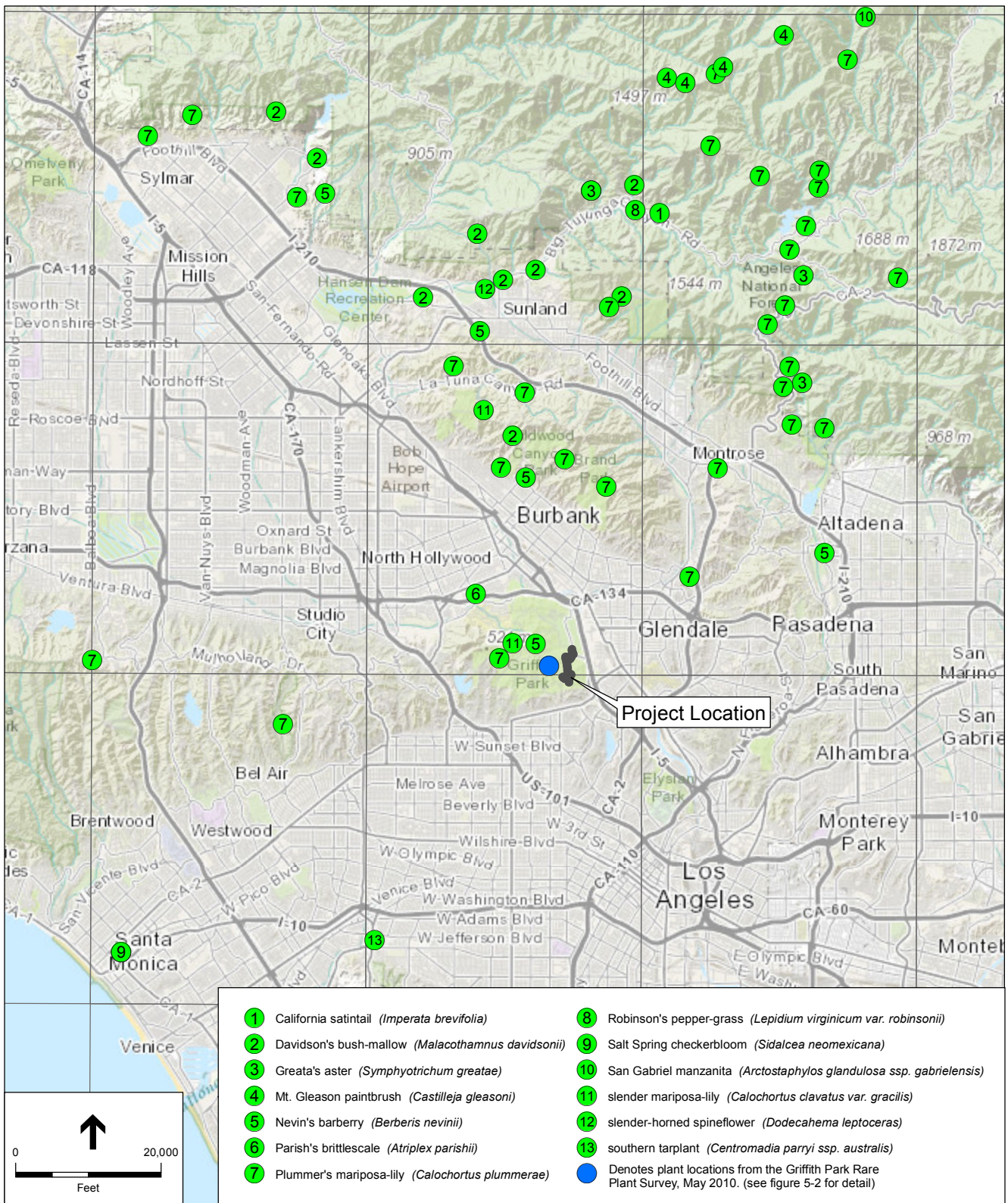
5.6 Natural Communities of Special Concern

Certain natural communities are afforded special status as identified in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or designated by the CDFG and USFWS. A literature review and CNDDDB 9 quad search revealed that the only natural community within the Project area is Southern California Black Walnut Woodland.

5.7 Connectivity and Migration Corridors

Habitat linkages are contiguous areas of open space that connect two larger habitat areas. Linkages provide for both diffusion and dispersal for a variety of species within the landscape. In addition, linkages can serve as primary habitat for some smaller species. Corridors are linear linkages between two or more habitat patches. Corridors provide for movement and dispersal, but do not necessarily include habitat capable of supporting all life history requirements of a species (Cooper 2008).

Griffith Park has become increasingly isolated from the rest of the Santa Monica Mountain Range, the Los Angeles River, and the low elevation habitat remnants within the LA basin, due to construction of the Highway 134, Interstate 5, and Highway 101; the channelization of the Los Angeles River and its tributaries; as well as the intensive urbanization that surrounds the park. Although some species have disappeared from the landscape, midsize mammals with large home ranges such as the coyote, gray fox, and mule deer still maintain populations within the park. Additionally, the Pacific Flyway, a large migration route used by numerous bird species that pass throughout large portions of California, is within the vicinity of the Project area. Terrestrial migratory birds such as warblers and sparrows have the potential to be present in the vicinity of the Project site during spring and fall migration periods.

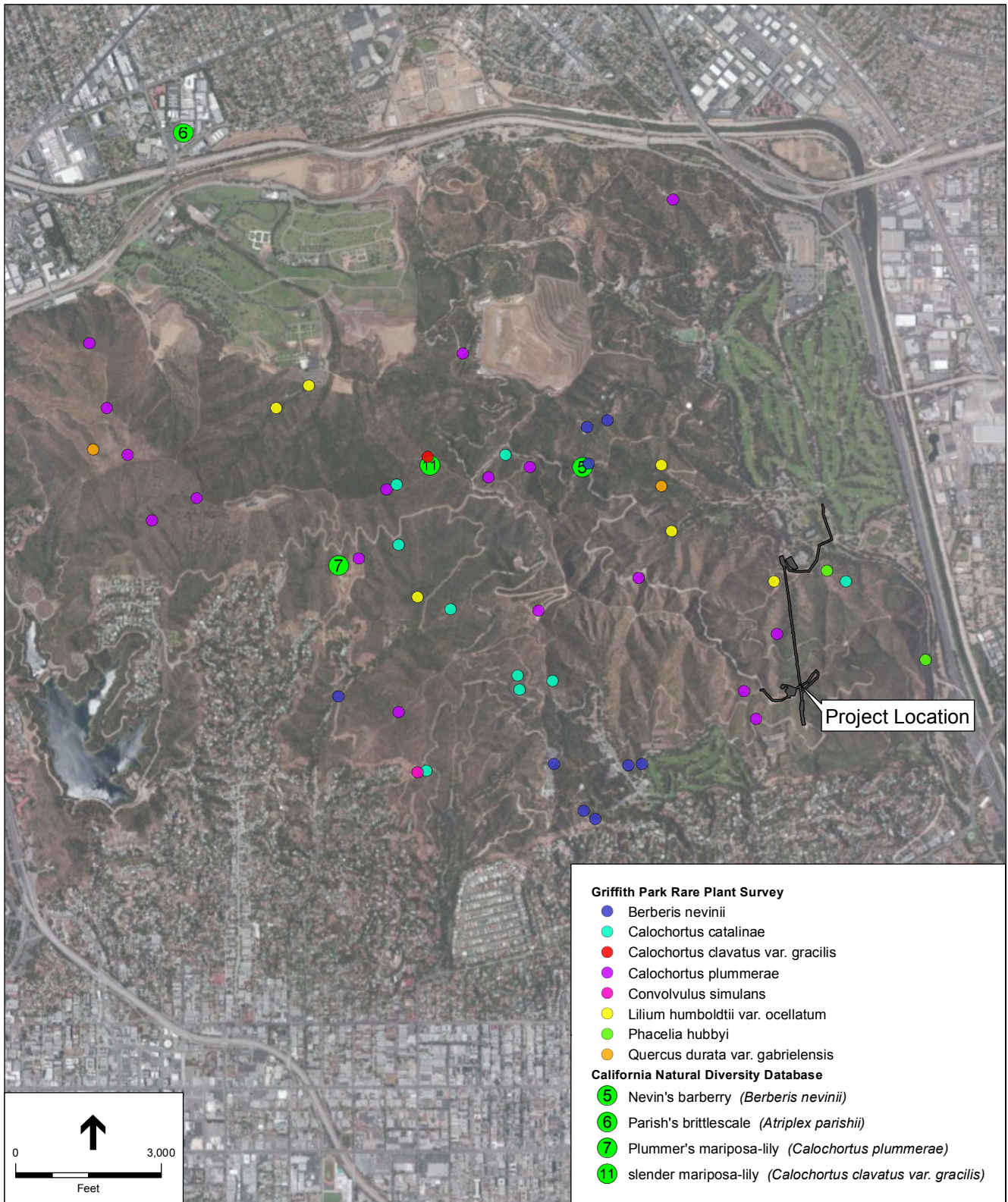


Source: California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB);
Griffith Park Rare Plant Survey, May 2010.

Griffith Park South Water Recycling Project . 211490.27

Figure 5-1

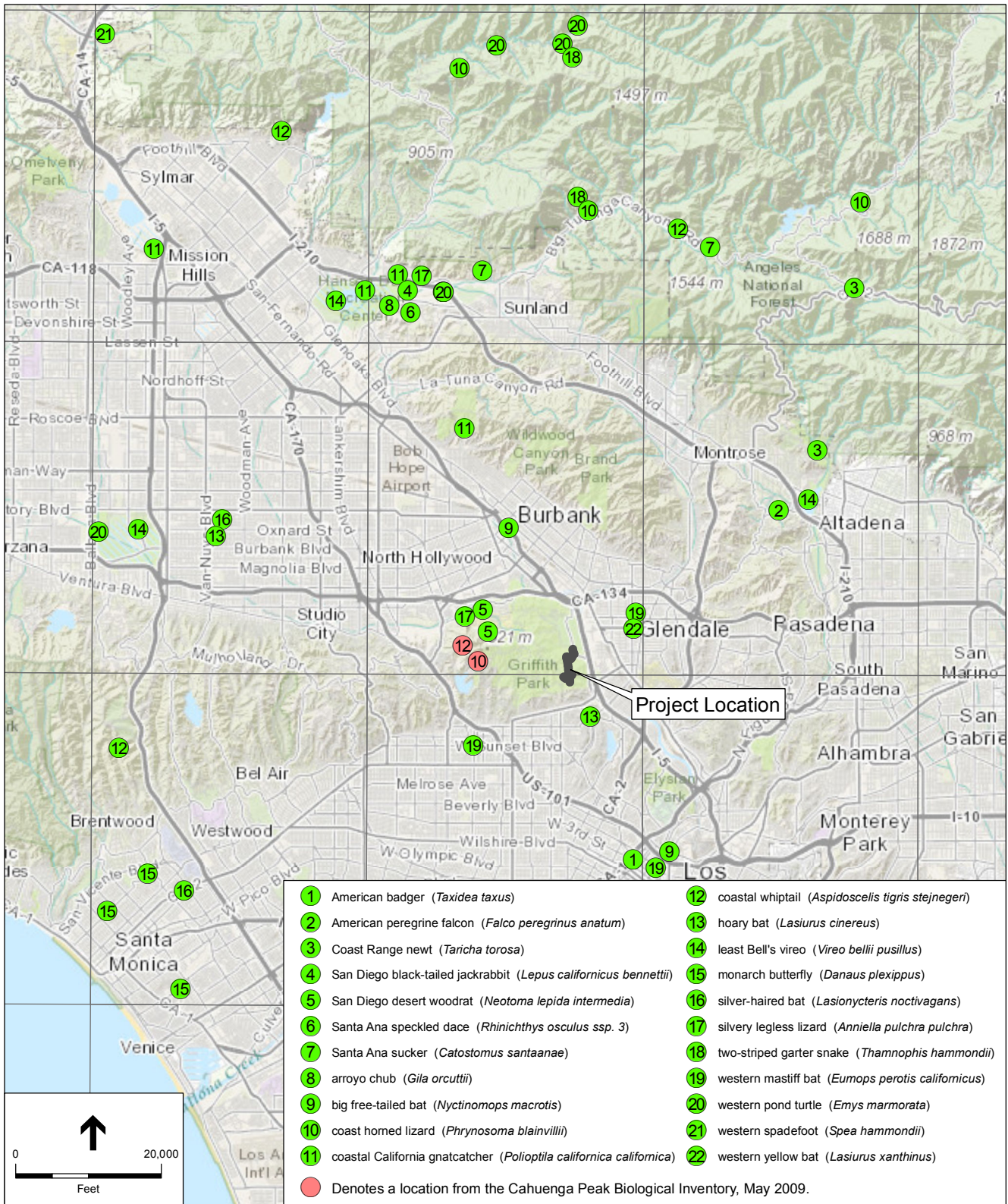
CNDDDB Special Status Plant Species Occurrences
9 USGS Quad Search Area



Source: California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB);
Griffith Park Rare Plant Survey, May 2010.

Griffith Park South Water Recycling Project . 211490.27

Figure 5-2
Griffith Park Plant Occurrences



Source: California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB);
Cahuenga Peak Biological Inventory, May 2009..

Griffith Park South Water Recycling Project . 211490.27

Figure 6-1

CNDDB Special Status Wildlife Species Occurrences
9 USGS Quad Search Area



Source: California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB);
Cahuenga Peak Biological Inventory, May 2009.

Griffith Park South Water Recycling Project . 211490.27

Figure 6-2
Griffith Park Wildlife Occurrences

6. Results

6.1 Special-Status Wildlife Species

This section describes the special-status wildlife species that are known, or have a moderate to high potential to occur in the Project area and the status of their presence based on the field reconnaissance and documented references. Several common wildlife species have been recorded on the Project site; the coast horned lizard, silvery legless lizard, coastal whiptail, western mastiff bat, and the silver haired bat are special-status species with a moderate or greater potential to occur within the Project site.

6.1.1 Coast Horned Lizard, Coastal Whiptail, and Silvery Legless Lizard

According to a biological inventory report prepared for the Trust for Public Land, the coast horned lizard has recently (2009) been confirmed as a rare resident on high ridges of Griffith Park and Cahuenga Peak, where it formerly (until the 1970s) occurred throughout the park's lower slopes and canyons (Cooper, 2009). The coast horned lizard has become extremely rare in the greater Los Angeles metropolitan region, having been extirpated from the entire coastal plain and most of the San Fernando and San Gabriel Valleys. A combination of broad scale habitat modification and the displacement of native harvester ants by non-native Argentine ants have been implicated in declines within Los Angeles County. The coastal whiptail has been found in the upper portions of Griffith Park in open, sparsely vegetated areas. Both reptile species have the potential to occupy portions of the project site.

6.1.2 Bats

The western mastiff, silver haired, and hoary bat were found to have moderate potential to utilize the Project site for foraging while the silver haired and hoary bat have potential to utilize the trees within the project site for breeding. The western mastiff bat is typically considered a cliff-dwelling species, and is known to roost in large maternal colonies. The species is widespread throughout much of western North America, with declines concentrated in the Los Angeles basin. Western mastiff bats will utilize large boulders and buildings as roosting habitat. The species typically forages at a much higher altitude than other species, and is known to range considerable distances from roosting locations during evening foraging. Potentially suitable foraging habitat exists within the general vicinity of the Project site, particularly in the mixed scrub and walnut woodland. No roosting habitat is present within the Project site. The silver-haired and hoary bats are solitary species that roost in a variety of tree species for both roosting and reproduction. These tree roosting species have a moderate potential for roosting on oak, walnut, and Australian silk oak trees within the Project Site.

6.2 Special-Status Plants

Based on the database search results (Table 2), the five species with the potential to occur are perennial species. Two species are perennial herbs; two are bulbiferous perennials, and one a semideciduous shrub. Plummer's mariposa lily and the slender mariposa lily are two bulbiferous

perennials that have known occurrences in Griffith Park (Cooper, 2009). Davidsons' bush mallow is a rare semideciduous perennial shrub that has a moderate potential to occur within the Project site; however, no bush mallow was observed during the site reconnaissance. The precipitation levels for the 2012-2013 rainy season were below average in Southern California and all the plants with a moderate or greater potential to occur would be either drought deciduous or would have bloomed earlier in the season under these drier than average environmental conditions.

6.3 Jurisdictional Waters

Based on the desktop analysis and the reconnaissance survey conducted by ESA biologists on July 19, 2013, no jurisdictional drainages occur within or adjacent to the Project site.

6.4 Project Impacts

Construction of the proposed Project could impact plants and wildlife in a variety of ways such as road mortality, burrow collapses, and habitat alteration/removal. Construction activities could result in direct mortality or displacement of wildlife through habitat loss and could directly impact special status species. The use of access roads for maintenance operations could also result in the direct injury or mortality of wildlife species. Under the stipulations of CEQA, potential impacts to biological resources could be considered significant if actions associated with the Project:

- a) 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 the CDFW or USFWS.
- b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations, or by the CDFW or USFWS.
- c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the CWA (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means.
- d) 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.
- e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance.
- f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted HCP, NCCP, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan.

6.4.1 Loss of Habitat

Direct impacts as a result of construction activities associated with the proposed Project would include the permanent removal and temporary disturbance of native vegetation that is utilized by both common and rare wildlife, and increased noise levels due to equipment operations occurring

in these areas. Indirect impacts to habitat could include alterations to hydrological regimes such as runoff and percolation, increased erosion and sediment transport, and the introduction of non-native and invasive weeds.

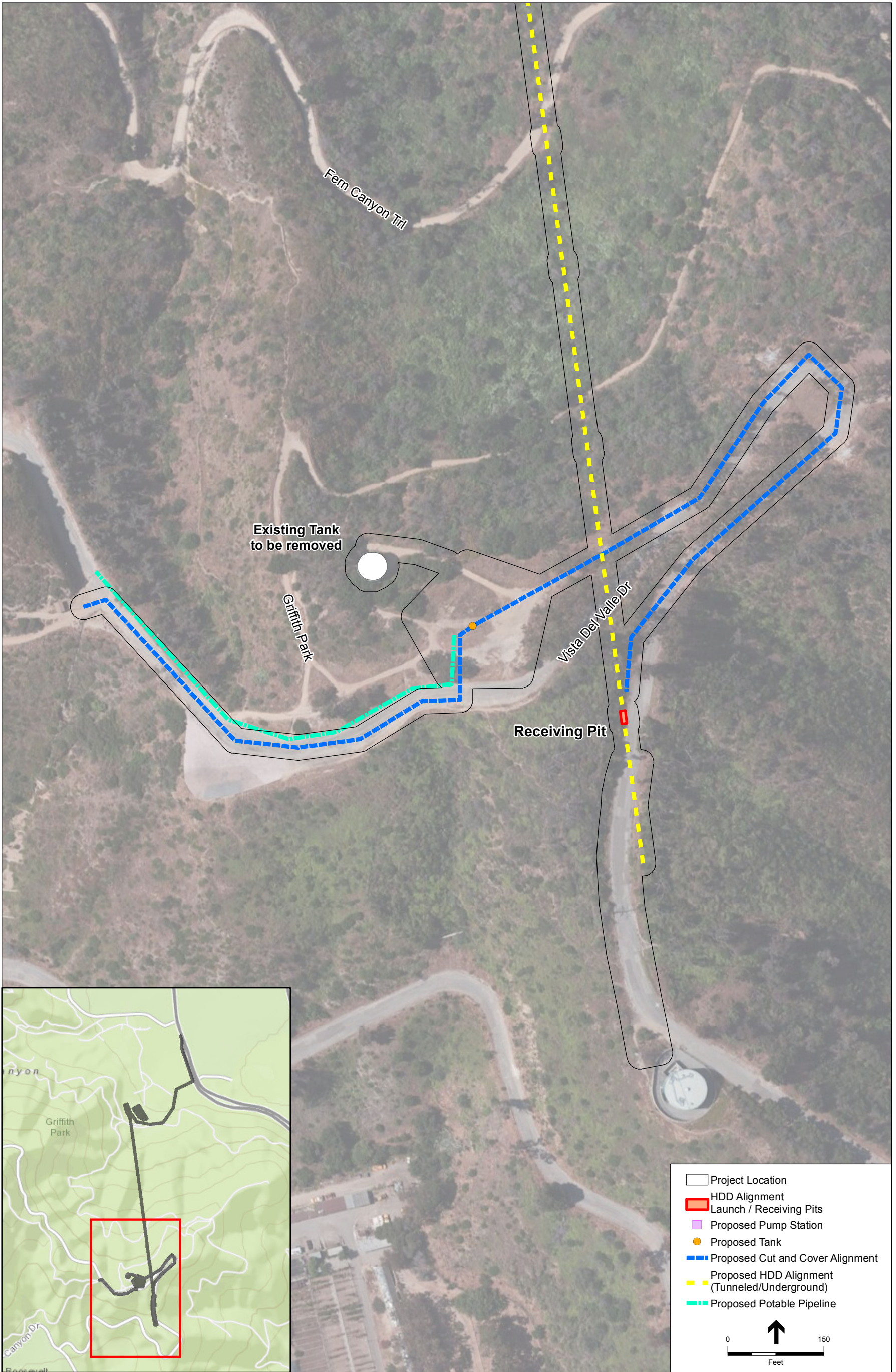
The Project will potentially impact 0.59 acres of Southern California black walnut woodland, 1.29 acres of chaparral scrub, and 0.24 acres of coast live oak woodland (see **Figure 7-1** and **7-2**). **Table 3** below provides a breakdown of anticipated impacts to habitat from Project activities.

**TABLE 3
PROJECT IMPACTS TO HABITAT**

Plant Community/Habitat type	Impacts (acres)
Southern California black walnut woodland	0.59
Undefined coastal chaparral	1.29
Coast live oak woodland	0.24
Ornamental landscaping	0.64
Developed/Urban-Agriculture	1.80/2.38
TOTAL	6.94

As shown in Table 3, project activities are not expected to result in a substantial loss of sensitive habitat that would affect the ability of species to disperse and persist throughout the Project area and the surrounding habitats. This is due to the Project primarily utilizing existing roads and developed/urban-agriculture areas for the installation of Project components. In addition, use of the HDD method for the construction of the proposed pipeline significantly reduces impacts to sensitive biological resources by avoiding direct impacts to the habitat.





6.4.2 Nesting Birds

Direct mortality of, small to medium sized avian species would not likely occur during construction of the Project. However depending on the timing of construction, eggs and nestlings of bird species with small, well-hidden nests could also be subject to loss, which would result in a violation of the MTBA and Fish and Game Code. Impacts to nesting birds would result primarily through direct and indirect disturbances such as through habitat clearing, earth removal, grading, digging, and equipment movement. However, direct impacts to trees are not anticipated. In addition, project activities are not expected to result in a substantial loss of sensitive habitat that would affect the ability of species to disperse and persist throughout the Project area and the surrounding habitats. As shown in Table 3, project activities are not expected to result in a substantial loss of sensitive habitat due to the Project primarily utilizing existing roads and developed/disturbed areas and the use of the HDD method for the installation of Project components. Implementation of the mitigation measures that are recommended in **Section 6.5** would reduce the potential for injury or mortality of nesting birds during construction through construction timing, establishment of nesting buffers, and worker environmental training.

Potential Significance: Disturbances to nesting birds during construction activities could produce direct and indirect impacts. These impacts would be reduced to levels less than significant with implementation of the mitigation measures outlined in **Mitigation Measure 6.5.2, Nesting Birds**.

6.4.3 Special-Status Wildlife Species

6.4.3.1 Reptiles

The Project site contains suitable scrub and woodland habitat for the coast horned lizard, coastal whiptail, and the silvery legless lizard. However, no impacts will likely occur to these species during Project activities because the majority of habitat impact is to disturbed and/or developed areas where these species are less likely to be present. In addition, during mobilization of construction equipment, reptile species within the area would likely disperse due to increased noise level. With implementation of mitigation measures recommended in Section 6.5, such as preconstruction clearance surveys and post construction revegetation, it is unlikely that these species will be impacted during project construction activities.

Potential Significance: Direct impacts to special status reptile species could occur due to project implementation. These impacts would be reduced to less than significant levels with the implementation of mitigation measures as outlined in Section 6.5.

6.4.3.2 Bats

Although the Project site contains suitable roosting habitat for hoary and silver-haired bats, it is unlikely that these species would be impacted by Project implementation because the Project will be restricted by mitigation measures provided in Section 6.5, that prohibits tree trimming activities during the bat breeding season from March to August. Additionally, potential roosting sites may occur within the trees found within the Project site; however, no direct impact to oak, walnut, and Australian silk oak trees are anticipated to be removed by the proposed project.

Potential roosting habitat for the western mastiff bat can be found within existing buildings and crags adjacent to the Project site in Griffith Park. Potential roost sites would not be impacted by Project activities because no existing buildings and crags would be impacted by the project. The project includes removal of the existing water tank and replacement with a larger recycled water tank in the same general area. Therefore, if the existing water tank was used as a potential roosting site, the tank would be replaced for a similar use at project completion. With implementation of mitigation measures recommended in Section 6.5, these potential roosting sites will be identified prior to project implementation and implementation of mitigation would reduce impacts to less than significant levels.

Potential Significance: Direct impacts to western mastiff bat are not expected to occur because the Project will not impact potential roosting habitat. Construction for the project will be limited primarily to the existing roads and other facilities. Direct impacts to the tree roosting species (hoary, silver-haired bat) will be minimized by conducting any pruning activities outside of the breeding season for bats as specified by CDFW. Implementation of mitigation would reduce impacts to less than significant levels.

6.4.4 Special-Status Plant Species, Protected Trees, and Natural Communities

No special-status plant species were found within the Project site during the habitat assessment. However, focused surveys for special status plants were not conducted. Due to the below average rainfall in 2012-2013 rainfall season, the drought deciduous species (multistemmed dudleya, mesa horkelia, and Plummer's mariposa lily) may not have been prevalent during the habitat assessment. Southern California black walnut woodland was identified within the Project site during the habitat assessment. The Southern California black walnut woodland within and adjacent to the Project site contained two tree species protected by the City Tree Protection Ordinance; coast live oak and southern California black walnut.

Potential Significance: Project elements as well as the access roads contain or are adjacent to suitable habitat for five special status plants as well as an undetermined number of City protected trees. Coast live oaks and Southern California black walnut are found surrounding the existing water tank proposed to be removed. An evaluation of each individual tree was not conducted during the habitat assessment. However, the Project would not remove these trees as part of the tank removal; no impact to these protected trees would occur during Project implementation.

6.5 Mitigation Measures

6.5.1 Loss of Habitat

Project construction activities will occur primarily on developed access roads and previously disturbed areas, and will disturb approximately 0.59 acres of California walnut woodland, 1.29 acres of chaparral scrub, and 0.24 acres of coast live oak woodland. Because there are specific areas within the construction footprint that contain native plant communities, the following mitigation measure is recommended to reduce potential impacts from the removal of native habitat during construction activities:

- Prior to the clearing or removal of native habitat, the first six inches of soil shall be salvaged or stockpiled for reuse once construction activities are completed. Once construction is completed, areas within the project footprint that clear or remove native habitat and that are no longer required to be kept clear of vegetation shall be revegetated with salvaged soil and locally sourced material, as approved by the project biologist. The restored habitat areas will be monitored for one year subsequent to the cessation of project activities to ensure the reestablishment of native habitat.

6.5.2 Nesting Birds

A number of resident and seasonal bird species have the potential to nest on the Project site in trees and adjacent vegetation. The following mitigation measures are recommended to reduce potential impacts to nesting birds during construction activities:

- If construction is scheduled to occur during the non-nesting season (September through January 31), no preconstruction surveys or additional measures are recommended. If construction is scheduled to occur during the breeding season (February 1–August 31), it is recommended that a qualified wildlife biologist conduct preconstruction surveys of all potential nesting habitats within 500 feet of construction activities. At least one surveys should be conducted no more than 3 days prior to construction activities.
- If active nests are found, no-disturbance buffers shall be implemented around each nest based on the species and location of the nest as determined by a qualified biologist. A general buffer distance generally includes 500-foot around any confirmed active raptor nest and a 250-foot buffer around nests of passerine bird species protected in accordance with the MBTA and/or Fish and Game Code. The buffers should be implemented until it is determined by a qualified wildlife biologist that young have fledged and the nest is determined to be inactive.

6.5.3 Special-Status Wildlife Species

Special-status wildlife species such as the coast horned lizard, coastal whiptail, the silvery legless lizard, hoary and silver-haired bats may occur within scrub and woodland habitat and within the trees. Therefore, the following mitigation measures are recommended:

- Construction activities shall be minimized to the greatest extent feasible in the construction area to minimize potential impacts to special status wildlife species including, reptiles and roosting bats.
- Prior to ground disturbing activities within scrub and woodland habitat, a qualified biologist shall conduct pre-construction clearance surveys. If any ground dwelling species are identified within proposed construction zones, they shall be captured and/or moved beyond the construction zone in neighboring scrub and woodland habitat.
- Tree trimming activities shall be conducted during the non-breeding season for hoary and silver-haired bats (March – August). If tree trimming activities need to be conducted during bat breeding season, a qualified biologist shall conduct a bat survey of the affected trees. Tree trimming shall not be allowed if trees have active bat roosts.

6.5.4 Special-Status Plant Species, Protected Trees, and Natural Communities

6.5.4.1 Special Status Plants

Special-status plant species such as the Mesa horkelia may occur in openings within black walnut woodland. Additionally, Slender mariposa lily and Plummer's lily may occur along exposed ridgelines and clearings in undifferentiated chaparral scrub. There is a potential for Davidson's bush mallow to occur in clearings on mesic slopes and canyon bottoms. Therefore, the following mitigation measures are recommended:

- Every effort should be made to minimize vegetation removal and permanent loss at the Project construction site. In order to minimize disruption to special-status plant habitat, the construction contractor shall utilize existing parking lots and disturbed roadways for construction staging areas.
- Prior to the implementation of Project construction activities, a qualified botanist shall identify whether any mesa horkelia or other sensitive plant species are present within the proposed Project footprint. If any plant or suitable habitat for the plant is present, the biologist will assist in avoiding impacts to the greatest extent feasible, by staking and flagging areas to be avoided by construction activities.

6.5.3.2 Protected Trees

The presence of protected trees shall be considered during Project construction activities including the creation of staging areas, as well as trenching, staging areas and demolition. The following mitigation measures are recommended to avoid impacts to protected trees with the project area:

- A qualified arborist shall be present to identify and demarcate protected trees (and its protected zones [i.e., driplines]) within the entire Project site that have the potential to be impacted by construction activities and to assist in guiding construction activities to avoid or minimize impacts to protected trees.
- Situate all project elements including trenching paths, on existing access routes or within the clearing outside of the drip lines of protected trees to the greatest extent feasible to prevent damage to protected trees.
- If any impacts to city protected trees are unavoidable, then the qualified arborist shall assist in processing a permit application with the City of Los Angeles Urban Forestry Division. In such circumstances, a permit shall be obtained prior to performing any project activities that may impact a protected tree.

6.5.4 Worker Environmental Awareness Program

- The Project proponent should provide Worker Environmental Awareness Program (WEAP) training to all personnel working on the site during Project construction with a qualified biologist. The training shall include a pre-construction meeting that would review all special-status plants, protected wildlife and protected trees within the Project

site to promote their awareness and to review mitigation measures for avoiding impacts, and all responsible parties.

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