## Biological Reconnaissance Assessment

APN 316-086-017

September 2020





Prepared for:

Redtail Ranch, MBC

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## **Executive Summary**

Mother Earth Engineering staff conducted several site visits in January 2019 and on September 22, 2020 to assess for potential listed species and species of concern at subject property APN: 316-086-017. The purpose of this assessment is to provide an initial evaluation of the project site, discuss current site conditions, and assess any potential project impacts to biological resources within the Study Area.

Parcel and project areas were scoped using the CDFW's California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) and California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Rare Plant Inventory to determine the extent of project impacts, assess potential habitat for sensitive species and develop guidelines and strategies for mitigation measures, as necessary.

The applicant, Redtail Ranch, MBC, is currently cultivating 20,350 square feet of existing outdoor cultivation pursuant to Humboldt County Commercial Medical Marijuana Land Use Ordinance (CMMLUO). Water is sourced from a groundwater well, a rainwater catchment pond, and two (2) points of diversions. Energy is provided by solar and generators. The loudest generator, Honda EB5000X, is located in the lower barn and is used for emergency purposes only in the event solar cannot be used. Manufacturer's specifications for this generator is 63 decibels (dB) at 50% rated load and 65 dB at 100% rated load at 23 feet. Noise levels are not expected to exceed 50 dB at property boundaries.

The property is situated on an east facing hillside near the ridgetop with variable mild hillslope depressions in a mixed hardwood forest habitat, grassland understory, and conifer encroachment in the riparian areas. The applicant is proposing to address the conifer encroachment by thinning out Douglas firs and saplings to restore oak woodland habitat on-site. Few ephemeral drainages flow across the property towards an unnamed tributary to Redwood Creek. There is one (1) rainwater catchment pond on site. There are no fish bearing streams on site.

The initial assessment of the project sites did not yield any observations of rare, sensitive or special status plant species. Protocol level surveys were not conducted at this time. In general, the site at APN: 316-086-017 was well maintained and established. Road traffic, noise, dust and visual impacts were at a minimum. Solid waste pollution or other discharge into terrestrial and further aquatic habitats were not observed. Nutrients such as fertilizers, and pesticides were observed to be securely stored with secondary containment in an enclosed structure.

- 1. Although the database search resulted in the potential for multiple listed species within the study area, none were observed during initial site evaluation.
- 2. All existing cultivation areas are outside the Streamside Management Areas with a low probability of negatively affecting special status species.
- 3. Noise levels from the generators are not expected to exceed 50 dB at property boundaries.
- 4. Although no American bullfrogs were found at the day of assessment, it is recommended that the pond is monitored for presence of bullfrogs (*Lithobates catesbeianus = Rana catesbeiana*) annually. If presence of bullfrogs is detected, removal and management efforts should be implemented. Management for bullfrogs must be reported to CDFW by the end of each year.

Additional consultation with agency staff including the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Humboldt County and US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFW) will continue throughout the project application, if necessary, and protocol-level surveys will be conducted, if required.



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## 1.0 Introduction

## 1.1 Purpose and Need

The purpose of this assessment is to provide an evaluation of biological resources on site and assess any potential project impacts to biological resources, specifically rare or endangered species within project sites. This document was prepared in response to a 11 April 2019 letter by Humboldt County Cannabis Services Division Case No: CUP-16-601 for Permit Application No. 12269 to provide a preliminary assessment of the biological resources under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), the Regional Water Quality Board (RWQCB), and the Humboldt County Streamside Management Area guidance (SMA) for the 49-acre parcel of Redtail Ranch, MBC which is owned and operated by April Armstrong.

## 1.2 Project Description

Redtail Ranch, MBC at APN: 316-086-017 currently has an interim permit for 20,350 square feet of existing outdoor cultivation pursuant to Humboldt County Commercial Medical Marijuana Land Use Ordinance (CMMLUO). All cannabis related activities, including the proposed cultivation, are referred to as "projects" throughout the duration of this assessment. The "Study Area" includes areas that are used for cannabis related activities, such as existing and proposed cannabis infrastructure and related land disturbance (Appendix A, *Figure 1*).

Water is sourced from a groundwater well, a rainwater catchment pond, and two (2) points of diversions. A Small Irrigation Use Registration (H504169) was approved on 1/16/19 for these diversions in addition to three other surface water diversions located on the adjacent parcel, APN: 316-086-011.

There is approximately 132,600 gallons of water storage in 33 hard tanks and approximately 500,000 gallons of additional storage in a rainwater catchment pond (Pond A) for a total of 632,600 gallons of water storage on-site. The total available water storage exceeds the total annual irrigation and is adequate to support irrigation needs. According to historic water usage, annual irrigation is approximately 126,157 gallons per year.

Energy at this site is provided by a solar array and generators. The applicant utilizes four (4) generators for various purposes, on-site while in operation. The loudest generator, Honda EB5000X is located in the lower barn and is used for emergency purposes only in the event solar cannot be used. Manufacturer's specifications for this generator is 63 decibels (dB) at 50% rated load and 65 dB at 100% rated load at 23 feet. Using the Inverse Square Law Calculator, in the case the generator is used at 100 % rated load, it is expected that the sound pressure level at 100 ft is 52.2 dB.

There are two (2) portable Honda EU2000 generators used for feeding and irrigation needs in the cultivation areas. The Honda EU2000 emits 59 dB at the maximum rated load at 23 feet. It is expected that these generators will not be used at their maximum rated loads. The nearest property line distance to a cultivation area is approximately 100 feet. Using the Inverse Square Law Calculator for a generator used at 100% rated load, it is expected that the sound pressure level at the nearest property line is 46.2 dB (https://www.engineeringtoolbox.com/inverse-square-law-d 890.html).

## 2.0 Environmental Setting

## 2.1 Project Location

The project area is located at 30000 299 Highway, in Blue Lake (Section 13, T6N, R3E) in Humboldt County, California. The project is located on a 49-acre parcel within the U.S. Geological Survey's (USGS) Lord-Ellis Summit 7.5-minute quadrangle map. The parcel is zoned Unclassified (U) with Residential Agricultural and Agricultural Grazing land use designations (AG, RA20) under the current general plan. The USDA Forest Service CALVEG



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("Classification and Assessment with Landsat of Visible Ecological Groupings") system classifies the property and project area as Annual Grassland (AGS), Montane Hardwood (MHW) and Coastal Oak Woodland (COW).

The Annual Grassland habitat type occurs on gently rolling foothills and flat plains composed primarily of introduced annual plant species. Species composition and structure varies with precipitation and livestock grazing. Typical species found in this habitat includes wild oats, ripgut brome, wild barley, foxtail fescue, bur clover, popcorn flower and red brome. Perennial grasses found in more moist sites include Idaho fescue and purple needlegrass<sup>1</sup>.

The Montane Hardwood habitat type is comprised of a pronounced hardwood tree layer, a poorly developed understory with a sparse herb and forb stratum. Middle elevation associates are Douglas fir, tanoak, Pacific madrone, California laurel, black oak, and bristlecone fir. Oregon white oak, foothill pine and coast live oak are abundant in lower elevations<sup>2</sup>.

Coastal oak woodlands vary greatly based on environmental conditions, elevations and distributions. These woodlands, similar to Montane Hardwood, are composed of deciduous and evergreen hardwoods with scattered conifers. Coastal oak woodlands are common to mesic coastal foothills of California and grade into the Montane Hardwood habitat type. Main threats include land clearing, urban expansion, introduction of domestic grazing animals and accompanying land management practices. The change in herbaceous understory from perennial species to aggressive, introduced annuals may have resulted in young oaks being outcompeted for nutrients<sup>3</sup>.

Conifer encroachment has been occurring in the riparian areas of the parcel. The applicant proposes to restore oak woodland habitat by thinning out Douglas-fir overstory and saplings.

## 2.2 Soil, Topography, Hydrology

The soil complex on this parcel is composed primarily of Burgsblock-Coolyork-Tannin complex, 30 to 50 percent slopes, dry (4426) and Yorknorth-Witherell complex, 30 to 50 percent slopes (662). The primary soil complex consists of very deep, well drained soils formed in colluvium and residuum derived from chloritic schist, sandstone, siltstone and mudstone. These soils typically occur on upper mountain side slopes and associate with oak woodland. These soils have a xeric soil moisture regime and are not considered to be hydric4.

The project areas are relatively flat with 15% slopes and generally drain southwest towards an unnamed creek that is tributary to Redwood Creek to the west. The site can be characterized as partially cleared ridgetop with variable mild hillslope depressions. The property is approximately 1,950-2,440 feet above sea level and is located in the Redwood Creek watershed and the Minor Creek subwatershed<sup>5</sup>, which is designated as a cannabis impacted watershed. All cultivation is pre-existing and is not expected to exacerbate the negative impacts of cannabis cultivation within the watershed. Several intermittent streams flow west into an unnamed creek tributary to Redwood Creek.

The area is mapped as possessing high levels of instability in the Humboldt County GIS database.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Caltrans Water Quality Planning Tool available at: <a href="http://svctenvims.dot.ca.gov/wqpt/wqpt.aspx">http://svctenvims.dot.ca.gov/wqpt/wqpt.aspx</a>.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> CalVeg habitat description (AGS) at: https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=67384

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> CalVeg habitat description (MHW) at; https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=67338

<sup>3</sup> CalVeg habitat description (COW) at: https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=67344

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Soil Survey Staff, Natural Resources Conservation Service, United States Department of Agriculture. Web Soil Survey. Available online at the following link: <a href="https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/">https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/</a>. Accessed [August 2019]

## 3.0 Methods

Mother Earth Engineering staff conducted site visits in January 2019 and on September 22, 2020 to evaluate potential habitat and record observed, biological resources. The property diagram shows areas of pre-existing cultivation area (*Appendix A, Figure* 1). The Study Area includes areas of direct and indirect impact of cultivation and potential habitat for special status-species. The Study Area was scanned for wildlife sign including tracks, scat, tree habitat (cavities, nests scrapes or accumulated vegetation). Full floristic surveys and/or protocol-level surveys were not conducted at this time.

Before field visits occurred, the site was remotely evaluated for potential habitat value to protected, endangered, threatened, rare, and sensitive species by Geographic Information Systems (GIS), the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) RareFind and BIOS, and the California Native Plant Society Rare Plant Inventory (CNPS). Within one (1) mile of property project areas, the following species have been historically observed in the CNDDB database (*Table 1 / Appendix A, Figure 4*). The localized CNDDB 9-Quad area of Lord-Ellis was queried to generate occurrences of special-status animal species (*Appendix C*, Table 4).

Table 1. CNDDB list of historically observed species within 1 mile of subject property boundaries.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Taxon Group	Date Surveyed	Federal / State Listing
Rana boylii	Foothill yellow-legged frog	Amphibian	2004	State Species of Special Concern
Strix occidentalis caurina	Northern Spotted Owl	Bird	20xx	Federal and State Threatened
Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus pop. 36	Summer-run steelhead trout	Fish	1993	State Species of Special Concern
Oncorhynchus clarkii clarkii	Coast cutthroat trout	Insect	1968	State Species of Special Concern
Arborimus pomo	Sonoma tree vole	Mammal	1990	State Species of Special Concern
Erethizon dorsatum	North American porcupine	Mammal	1960	None
Astragalus umbraticus	Bald mountain milk- vetch	Plant	1883	State Rare Plant Rank – 1B.1*
Erythronium oregonum	Giant fawn lily	Plant	1953	State Rare Plant Rank – 2B.2*
Erythronium revolutum	Coast fawn lily	Plant	1963	State Rare Plant Rank – 2B.2*

<sup>\*</sup>California Rare Plant Ranks designated by CNPS:

- 1A Plant species presumed extirpated in California and either rare or extinct elsewhere
- 1B Plant species considered rare or endangered in California and elsewhere
- 2A Plant species presumed extirpated in California but common elsewhere
- 2B Plant species considered rare or endangered in California but more common elsewhere
- 3 Plant species that need more information



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4 – Plant species of limited distribution

\*Threat Ranks:

0.1 - Seriously threatened

0.2 – Moderately threatened

0.3 - Not very threatened

## 4.0 Results and Discussion

## 4.1 Wetlands and SMA

A preliminary jurisdictional determination pursuant to Section 404 of the Federal Clean Water Act was performed on 31 January 2019 by Mother Earth Engineering staff. The property is located within the USACE Land Resource Region A (LRR: A) within the Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coast Region. The parcel was walked and observed for evidence of potential wetland hydrology based on local topography and vegetation.

The 49-acre parcel contained five (5) features that meet the definition of Section 404 Waters of the U.S. Three (3) features can be classified as riverine, one (1) as a lacustrine perennial feature, and one (1) palustrine, intermittent feature. All riverine features are Class II and III watercourses that display indicators of Ordinary High Water Marks (OHWM) and thus fall within Corps jurisdiction. The lacustrine feature, a constructed pond, displays indicators of ordinary high water marks and evidence of hydraulic connectivity, and falls under USACE jurisdiction (*Appendix A, Figure 2*). The last feature (0.007 acres) in the parcel is determined to be a palustrine-emergent wetland with evidence of surface hydrology, hydric soils and presence of hydrophytic vegetation.

Pursuant to Humboldt County's Streamside Management Ordinance, SMAs are sensitive habitat and need to be identified in relation to proposed developments. The ordinance provides standards pertaining to development within streamside management areas and other wet areas. All cultivation areas are outside SMA areas.

## 4.2 Northern Spotted Owl (NSO)

The nearest NSO Activity Center, HUM1036, was observed in 1991 and is approximately 2,050 feet southwest of the nearest project areas. The nearest positive observation was observed in 1998 and was approximately 0.5 mile east of the nearest project area. (*Appendix A, Figure 3*). The parcel is a mosaic of coastal oak woodland, annual grassland and montane hardwood coniferous forest with potential for NSO activity in the surrounding conifer forests. While there is potential for NSO activity, current cultivation activities within the project areas do not take place within potential habitat and have a low probability of negatively affecting the species. All lights are contained, noise levels are at a minimum, no rodenticides are used, and all projects are established with no future projects proposed. Should development of wooded areas for cannabis cultivation become necessary, Mitigation Measure 3.4-1j of the CCLUO MMRP should be implemented.

As per Humboldt County DEIR and Ordinance requirements<sup>6</sup>, noise standards are implemented to ensure cultivation related noise levels such as generators do not exceed ambient nesting conditions by 20-25 decibels. Where located within one (1) mile of mapped critical habitat, maximum noise exposure from the combination of background and generator created noise may not exceed 50 dBA measured at a distance of 100 feet from the generator or the edge of habitat, whichever is closer. However, no NSO final critical habitat is mapped within one (1) mile of the property boundaries. Energy at this site is provided by a solar array and generators. The applicant utilizes four (4) generators for various purposes, on-site while in operation. The loudest generator, Honda EB5000X is located in the lower barn and is used for emergency purposes only in the event solar cannot be used.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Amendments to Humboldt County Regulating Commercial Cannabis Activities (Accessed at https://humboldtgov.org/DocumentCenter/View/60897/Commercial-Cannabis-Draft-EIR-20mb-PDF)



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Manufacturer's specifications for this generator is 63 decibels (dB) at 50% rated load and 65 dB at 100% rated load at 23 feet. Using the Inverse Square Law Calculator, in the case the generator is used at 100 % rated load, it is expected that the sound pressure level at 100 ft is 52.2 dB.

There are two (2) portable Honda EU2000 generators used for feeding and irrigation needs in the cultivation areas. The Honda EU2000 emits 59 dB at the maximum rated load at 23 feet. It is expected that these generators will not be used at their maximum rated loads. The nearest property line distance to a cultivation area is approximately 100 feet. Using the Inverse Square Law Calculator for a generator used at 100% rated load, it is expected that the sound pressure level at the nearest property line is 46.2 dB (https://www.engineeringtoolbox.com/inverse-square-law-d 890.html).

## 4.3 Special Status Species

The CNDDB BIOS and RareFind, as well as California Native Plant Society (CNPS) databases, were scoped both before and after the field visit to search for reference sites or known occurrences in or around the project area. Scoping results for the nine (9) USGS 7.5 min quads surrounding Lord Ellis are included in Appendix C of this report. Other literature and databases used for consultation to evaluate potential unique biological communities and special-status species include but not limited to:

- USDA's Ecoregion Classification system
- California's Vegetation Classification and Mapping Program (VegCamp)
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Information for Planning and Consultation (IpaC)
- National Marine Fisheries Service California Species List Tool (NOAA 2019)
- CalFlora database
- CNPS Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California online inventory (CNPS)
- CDFW CNDDB/Spotted Owl Viewer online database
- The Jepson Manual, Vascular Plants of California Second Edition (Baldwin et al. 2012)
- NRCS Websoil Survey
- A Manual of California Vegetation Second Edition (Sawyer et al. 2009)

The following Humboldt County listed EIR special status wildlife species have the potential to occur in the study boundary<sup>78</sup>. Impacts to special status animals, including the Northern Spotted Owl, are evaluated in this section based on their likelihood to occur in the area due to habitat needs and natural life history.

Table 2. Humboldt County listed EIR special status wildlife species with potential to occur in the study boundary.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Taxon Group	Regulatory Status	
Rana aurora	Northern red-legged frog	Amphibian	State Species of Special Concern	
Rana boylii	Foothill yellow-legged frog	Amphibian	State Species of Special Concern	
Accipiter gentilis	Northern goshawk	Bird	State Species of Special Concern	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) Rarefind and Bios Commercial Subscription (Accessed via http://https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/data/cnddb/maps-and-data)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Inventory or Rare or Endangered Plants (Accessed via http://www.rareplants.cnps.org/advanced.html)



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			Federal – Delisted
Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Bald eagle	Bird	State – Endangered, Fully Protected
Arborimus pomo	Sonoma tree-vole	Mammal	State Species of Special Concern
Corynorhinus townsendii	Townsend's big-eared bat	Mammal	State Species of Special Concern
Emys marmorata	Western pond turtle	Reptile	State Species of Special Concern

## 4.3.1 Mammals

## Arborimus pomo (Sonoma tree vole)

Species description: The Sonoma tree vole is a small arboreal rodent that occurs along the North Coast fog belt where it feeds almost exclusively on Douglas-fir needles, but will occasionally take needles of grand fir, hemlock or spruce. It is listed on the IUCN Red List as Near Threatened and is a California Species of Special Concern due to habitat loss from harvest, fire and conversion. Males and females occupy tree nests constructed of fir needles that may be occupied by succeeding generations. Predators include the barred owls, raccoons, and fishers. Since the vole is associated with old-growth forests, the vole is often used as an "indicator species" of overall ecosystem health.

<u>Potential impact:</u> The CNDDB shows one (1) documented observation in 1990 of a Sonoma tree vole within one (1) mile of the property study area. However, current cultivation activities within the project areas are established, do not take place within potential habitat and have a low probability of negatively affecting the species. No expansion or development is proposed. Should development of wooded areas become necessary, Mitigation Measure 3.4-11 of the CCLUO MMRP should be implemented.

## Corynorhinus townsendii (Townsend's big-eared bat)

<u>Species description:</u> Townsend's big-eared bats are medium-sized bats with broad wings. They live in a variety of habitats from montane coniferous forests to foothill grasslands, and roosts in the open. They are listed as a Species of Special Concern in California where their distribution is strongly correlated with caves. Colonies normally choose roost sites in relatively cold, dark places such as caves, mines, tunnels, or abandoned buildings with open ceilings due to extreme sensitivity to human disturbance. Despite a wide range of habitats, the Townsend's big eared bat is limited to roosting sites of caves, cliffs, mines, tunnels, or buildings with very little human contact.

<u>Potential impact:</u> Low. While there is potential foraging habitat on site at the subject property, there were no signs of guano or potential roost sites. No new development is proposed on the property that may disturb potential roosting sites. The CNDDB shows no documented observations of Townsend's big-eared bat within one (1) mile of the property area. Current cultivation activities do not take place within potential habitat and have low probability of negatively affecting the species. Should development of wooded areas become necessary, Mitigation Measure 3.4-1k of the CCLUO MMRP should be implemented.

## 4.3.2 Birds

## Accipiter gentilis (northern goshawk)



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<u>Species description:</u> The northern goshawk is a medium sized raptor with short, broad wings and a long, rounded tail. Adults re brown-gray to slate-gray on top with a black cap and a pronounced white superciliary line. Underparts are light gray with some black streaking. The northern goshawk is a species on the CDFW Watch List and is considered a California Bird Species of Special Concern. This species breeds in coniferous forests throughout the North Coast ranges and hunts in wooded areas, using tree snags for perching and observation. Northern goshawks build nests in both deciduous and coniferous trees and typically use the largest tree in a nest stand. They generally avoid developed areas, so are impacted by new development in forests.

<u>Potential impact:</u> Potential nesting habitat for these hawks exists near the project area, but no new development is proposed that would disturb potential nesting sites. The CNDDB shows no documented observations of northern goshawk within the property study area. Current cultivation within the project areas do not take place within potential habitat and have a low probability of negatively affecting the species. No expansion or development is proposed. Should development of wooded areas become necessary, Mitigation Measure 3.4-1d of the CCLUO MMRP.

## Haliaeetus leucocephalus (bald eagle)

Species description: The bald eagle is a fully protected and endangered species listed by the state of California. They are one of the largest birds in North America measuring about 27.9-37.8 inches in length with an average wingspan of 80.3 inches. Adult bald eagles have white heads and tails with dark brown bodies and wing and bright yellow legs. Juveniles have mostly dark heads and tails, brown bodies and wings mottled with white in varying amounts. Bald eagles can be found near lakes, rivers, marshes and coasts. Nests in large, old-growth, or dominant live tree with open branches, especially ponderosa pine. Bald eagles are known to nest near Humboldt Bay and the Klamath, Trinity, and Mad Rivers.

<u>Potential impact:</u> Bald eagles are potentially present in the study area because the site falls within their distribution range and has riverine habitat that provides great nesting opportunities. However, current cultivation does not take place within potential habitat and have a low probability of negatively affecting the species. No expansion or development is proposed. The CNDDB shows no documented observations of bald eagles within the property study area. Should further development resulting in disturbance become necessary, Mitigation Measure 3.4-1d of the CCLUO MMRP should be implemented.

## Strix occidentalis caurina (Northern spotted owl)

Species description: The nearest NSO Activity Center, HUM1036, was observed in 1991 and is approximately 2,050 ft southwest of the nearest project areas. The nearest positive observation was observed in 1998 and was approximately 0.5 mile east of the nearest project area. (*Appendix A, Figure 4*). The parcel is a mosaic of coastal oak woodland, annual grassland and montane hardwood coniferous forest with potential for NSO activity in the surrounding conifer forests.

<u>Potential impact</u>: While there is potential for NSO activity, current cultivation activities within the project areas do not take place within potential habitat and have a low probability of negatively affecting the species. All lights are contained, noise levels are at a minimum, no rodenticides are used, and all projects are established with no future projects proposed. There are no NSO final critical habitat mapped within one (1) mile of the property boundaries. Should development of wooded areas become necessary, Mitigation Measure 3.4-1j of the CCLUO MMRP should be implemented. As per Humboldt County DEIR and Ordinance requirements<sup>9</sup>, noise standards are implemented to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Amendments to Humboldt County Regulating Commercial Cannabis Activities (Accessed at https://humboldtgov.org/DocumentCenter/View/60897/Commercial-Cannabis-Draft-EIR-20mb-PDF)



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ensure cultivation related noise levels such as generators do not exceed ambient nesting conditions by 20-25 decibels. Where located within 1 mile of mapped critical habitat, maximum noise exposure from the combination of background and generator created noise may not exceed 50 dBA measured at a distance of 100 feet from the generator or the edge of habitat, whichever is closer. A noise assessment is being prepared by Mother Earth Engineering to ensure noise standards are being met.

## Fish

No perennial water courses flow through the subject property. However, the ephemeral streams on parcel are tributaries to an intermittent stream tributary to Redwood Creek, the nearest river approximately 1.3 miles west of the nearest cultivation area. Redwood Creek is known to host several fish species such as summer-run steelhead trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus pop. 36 & pop. 16*) and chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawtscha pop. 36*). These species area a California Species of Special Concern and Federally Threatened. Declines to fish populations have been linked to habitat degradation from poor timber harvest practices, mining operations, excessive sport harvesting, road construction and increased sedimentation from poor land management practices. Suitable habitat for state and federally listed species is likely present within the flowing waters of Redwood Creek.

The Applicant is currently enrolled with the North Coast Regional Water Board's Cannabis Discharge Waiver Program and will implement sediment and erosion control measures as prescribed by SWRCB Order WQ 2019-0001-DWQ to prevent sediment discharge to nearby watercourses. Current cultivation activities are all outside Streamside Management Areas. Should further development resulting in disturbance become necessary, Mitigation Measure 3.4-2 of the CCLUO MMRP should be implemented. The Applicant has obtained a Small Irrigation Use Registration from the waterboard and adheres to the diversion forbearance requirements of that water right. As such, surface water diversions associated with cannabis irrigation at the project site are not expected to have a significant impact on water levels in Redwood Creek.

Reptiles and Amphibians

## Emys marmorata (Western pond turtle)

<u>Species description</u>: The western pond turtle is the only native freshwater turtle along the West Coast and is listed as a California Species of Special Concern. In the Humboldt region, these turtles have been found in mixed oak-fir forests, open prairies, riparian habitats and along the banks of the Trinity, Little, Van Duzen, Eel, Elk and Mattole Rivers. They need basking sites and suitable upland habitat up to 0.5 km from water for egg-laying. Western pond turtles are also potentially present in riparian corridors adjacent to open water. Population threats include disease, loss of habitat, and increased predation from bullfrogs.

<u>Potential impact:</u> During the assessment, no western pond turtles or nests were observed in and near the pond on site. The CNDDB shows no documented observations of western pond turtles within the property study area. Should further development of riparian areas resulting in disturbance become necessary, Mitigation Measure 3.4-1c and 3.4-4 of the CCLUO MMRP should be implemented.

## Rana aurora (northern red-legged frog)

<u>Species description:</u> Northern red-legged frogs are a California Species of Special concern and are potentially present in lowland moist forested habitats and riparian forest in the vicinity of standing or flowing waters. They are medium-sized frogs with slender bodies, smooth skin, distinct dorso-lateral folds and a dark eye mask. The dorsal color is tan, brown, or olive-brown with varying amount of black spotting and speckling.



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<u>Potential impact:</u> There is potential habitat in the riparian area of the project. The CNDDB does not show any documented occurrences of the Northern red-legged frog within one (1) mile of the project location (*Appendix B, Figure 3*). On the day of assessment, no Northern red-legged frogs were observed. Should further development of riparian areas resulting in disturbance become necessary, Mitigation Measure 3.4-1c and 3.4-4 of the CCLUO MMRP should be implemented.

## Rana boylii (foothill yellow-legged frog)

<u>Species description:</u> The foothill yellow-legged (*Rana boylii*) is a California species of special concern. This species is a medium-sized frog typically found in shady streams with sufficient flow and rock and cobble substrates for egg-laying. Unlike most other ranid frogs in California, this species is rarely found far from permanent water. They are sometimes found in isolated pools, vegetated backwaters, and deep, shaded, spring-fed pools. Seasonal variation in streamflow has a strong influence on life history and movement. According to a 2016 technical report by U.S. Forest Service, nonbreeding post-metamorphic foothill yellow-legged frogs have been observed in permanent and intermittent streams with low to relatively high gradients. Adult females have been observed to frequent pools during nonbreeding season and as winter refugia.

<u>Potential impact:</u> There is potential habitat and a 2004 CNDDB observation within one (1) mile of property boundaries. However, on the day of assessment, no foothill yellow-legged frogs were observed and there is no habitat within project sites. All watercourses are intermittent, and few have sufficient flow and rock substrates. Current project activities are outside SMA setbacks, do not take place within potential habitat, and have a low probability of negatively affecting the species. The applicant shall continue to implement sediment and erosion control measures as prescribed by SWRCB Order WQ 2019-0001-DWQ to prevent sediment discharge to the nearby watercourse. Should further development of riparian areas into the watercourse resulting in disturbance become necessary, Mitigation Measure 3.4-1b and 3.4-4 of the CCLUO MMRP should be implemented.

## 4.3.3 Plant Species of Special Concern

Initial site visit did not yield any observations of listed plant species. However, a full floristic survey was not conducted. The plants listed in Table 3 below with a California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR) of 1B and 2B may have the potential to occur within and near the cultivation areas. Other plants that have the potential to occur within the 9-quads nearby Lord-Ellis Summit USGS 7.5' quadrangle is listed in *Appendix C*.

Table 3. List of special status plants that have potential to be present in the study area.

Species	CRPR	Habitat
Astragulus umbraticus  Bald mountain milk-vetch	2B.3	Cismontane woodland, lower montane coniferous forest. Dry open oak and pine woodlands; sometimes on roadsides. 689 to 4,003 ft in elevation. Blooms May-August.
Erythronium revolutum coast fawn lily	2B.2	Wetland. Bogs and fens, broad-leafed upland forest, norther coast coniferous forests. Mesic sites; streambanks. 197 to 4,610 ft in elevation.  Blooms March – August.
Erythronium oregonum giant fawn lily	2B.2	Ultramafic. Cismontane woodland, meadows and seeps. Openings, sometimes on serpentine



		and rocky sites. 984 to 4,708 ft in elevation. Blooms March – July.
Gilia capitate ssp. pacifica pacific gilia	1B.2	Coastal bluff scrub, chaparral, coastal prairie, valley, and foothill grassland. 16 to 4,413 ft in elevation. Blooms April-August.
Sidalcea malviflora ssp. patula Siskiyou checkerbloom	1B.2	Coastal bluff scrub, coastal prairie, north coast coniferous forest. Open coastal forest; roadcuts. 16 to 4,117 ft in elevation. Blooms May-August.

While no special status plant species were observed during the site assessment, the listed species may have the potential to occur within or near existing cultivation areas. It is unlikely that existing activities will have a negative impact on these species. The CNDDB shows no documented observations of any listed plant species within the property study area. Should further development resulting in disturbance become necessary, Mitigation Measure 3.4-3a of the CCLUO MMRP should be implemented.

## 5.0 Regulatory Background

## 5.1 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)

The USACE Regulatory Branch regulates activities that may discharge dredged or fill materials into "waters of the U.S." under Section 404 of the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA) and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act. This permitting authority applies to all "waters of the U.S." where the material (1) replaces any portion of a "waters of the U.S." with dry land or (2) changes the bottom elevation of any portion of any "waters of the U.S.". These fill materials include sand, rock, clay, construction debris, wood chips, and materials used to create any structure or infrastructure in these waters. The selection of disposal sites for dredged or fill material is done in accordance with guidelines specified in Section 404(b)(1) of the CWA, which were developed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

## 5.2 Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB)

The RWQCB is the primary agency responsible for protecting water quality in California through the regulation of discharges to surface waters under the CWA and the California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Porter-Cologne Act). The RWQCB's jurisdiction extends to all "waters of the State" and to all "waters of the U.S.," including wetlands (isolated and non-isolated).

Section 401 of the CWA provides the RWQCB with the authority to regulate, through a Water Quality Certification, any proposed, federally permitted activity that may affect water quality. Among such activities are discharges of dredged or fill material permitted by the USACE pursuant to Section 404 of the CWA. Section 401 requires the RWQCB to provide certification that there is reasonable assurance an activity with the potential for discharge into navigable waters will not violate water quality standards. Water Quality Certification must be based on findings that the proposed discharge will comply with water quality standards, which contain numeric and narrative objectives found in each of the nine RWQCBs' Basin Plans.

## 5.3 California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)

The CDFW has jurisdictional authority over wetland resources associated with rivers, streams, and lakes pursuant to the California Fish and Game Code (§§1600–1616). Activities of state and local agencies, as well as public



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utilities that are project proponents, are regulated by the CDFW under Section 1602 of the California Fish and Game Code.

Because the CDFW includes streamside habitats under its jurisdiction that, under the federal definition, may not qualify as wetlands on a project site, its jurisdiction may be broader than that of the USACE. Riparian forests in California often lie outside the plain of ordinary high water regulated under Section 404 of the CWA, and often do not have all three parameters (wetland hydrology, hydrophytic vegetation, and hydric soils) sufficiently present to be regulated as a wetland.

However, riparian forests are frequently included within CDFW regulatory jurisdiction under Section 1602 of the California Fish and Game Code.

The CDFW jurisdictional limits are not as clearly defined by regulation as those of the USACE. While they closely resemble the limits described by USACE regulations, they include riparian habitat supported by a river, stream, or lake regardless of the presence or absence of hydric and saturated soils conditions. In general, the CDFW extends jurisdiction from the top of a stream bank or to the outer limits of the adjacent riparian vegetation (outer drip line), whichever is greater. Notification is generally required for any project that will take place within or near a river, stream, lake, or their tributaries. This includes rivers or streams that flow at least periodically or permanently through a bed or channel with banks that support fish and other aquatic plant and/or wildlife species. It also includes watercourses that have a surface or subsurface flow that support or have supported riparian vegetation.

## 5.4 Humboldt County-Streamside Management Area (SMA)

"Streamside Management Areas" (SMAs) [Section 3432(5) of the Humboldt County 1984 General Plan] are defined in the Humboldt County General Plan (Page G-8) and include a natural resource area along both sides of streams containing the channel and adjacent land. Updates to the SMA guidance for cannabis activities are defined in the Environmental Impact Assessment Biological Resources Section<sup>10</sup>.

Project applicants proposing development activities within a SMA or wetland areas are required to include a site-specific biological report prepared consistent with these regulations. The written report prepared by a qualified biologist is subsequently referred to CDFW for review and comment. If required, after agency review of the preliminary habitat assessment, protocol level surveys will be completed per recommendations by the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) amendments to the Humboldt County Code Regulating Commercial Cannabis Activities 11.

## 5.5 Additional Laws and Policies

In addition to the above-mentioned policies, numerous other policies exist to protect wetlands, waters and biological resources including the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), California Endangered Species Act (CESA) and the Z'berg-Nejedly Forest Practice Act.

## 6.0 Conclusion and Recommendations

Mother Earth Engineering staff conducted several site visits in January 2019 and on September 22, 2020 to assess for potential listed species and species of concern at subject property APN: 316-086-017. Parcel and project areas were scoped using the CDFW's California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) and California Native Plant Society

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Final Environmental Impact Report: Amendments to the Humboldt County Code Regulating Commercial Cannabis Activities. January 2018. Prepared by Ascent Environmental. Accessed via https://humboldtgov.org/DocumentCenter/View/62689/Humboldt-County-Cannabis-Program-Final-EIR6omb-PDF. Accessed August 2019]



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> https://humboldtgov.org/DocumentCenter/View/58840/Section-311-Biological-Resources-Revised-DEIRPDF

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(CNPS) Rare Plant Inventory to determine the extent of project impacts, assess potential habitat for sensitive species and develop guidelines and strategies for mitigation measures, as necessary. Additional consultation with agency staff including the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Humboldt County and US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFW) will continue throughout the project application, if necessary, and protocol-level surveys will be conducted, if required.

The property is situated on an east facing hillside near the ridgetop with variable mild hillslope depressions in a mixed hardwood forest habitat, grassland understory, and conifer encroachment in the riparian areas. The applicant is proposing to address the conifer encroachment by thinning out Douglas firs and saplings to restore oak woodland habitat on-site. Few ephemeral drainages flow across the property towards an unnamed tributary to Redwood Creek. There is one (1) rainwater catchment pond on site. There are no fish bearing streams on site.

The initial assessment of the project sites did not yield any observations of rare, sensitive or special status plant species. Protocol level surveys were not conducted at this time. In general, the site at APN: 316-086-017 was well maintained and established. Road traffic, noise, dust and visual impacts were at a minimum. Solid waste pollution or other discharge into terrestrial and further aquatic habitats were not observed. Nutrients such as fertilizers, and pesticides were observed to be securely stored with secondary containment in an enclosed structure.

- 1. Although the database search resulted in the potential for multiple listed species within the study area, none were observed during initial site evaluation.
- 2. All existing cultivation areas are outside the Streamside Management Areas with a low probability of negatively affecting special status species.
- 3. Noise levels from the generators are not expected to exceed 50 dB at property boundaries.
- 4. Although no American bullfrogs were found at the day of assessment, it is recommended that the pond is monitored for presence of bullfrogs (*Lithobates catesbeianus = Rana catesbeiana*) annually. If presence of bullfrogs is detected, removal and management efforts should be implemented. Management for bullfrogs must be reported to CDFW by the end of each year.

Additional consultation with agency staff including the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Humboldt County and US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFW) will continue throughout the project application, if necessary, and protocol-level surveys will be conducted, if required.



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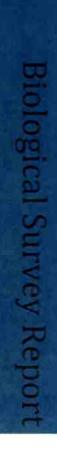
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## Appendix C



CONFIDENTIAL



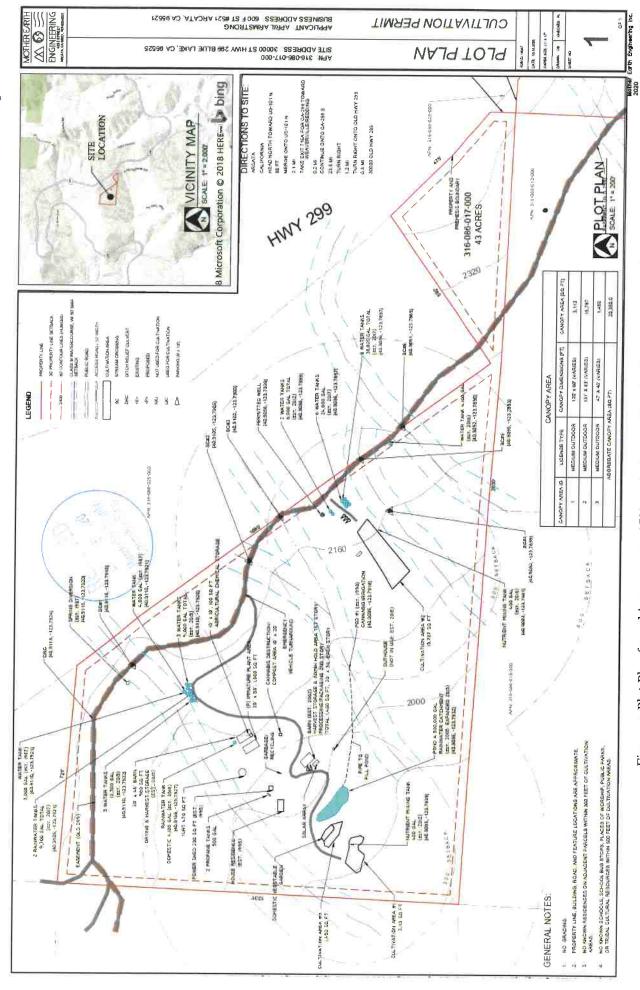


Figure 1: Plot Plan for subject property APN: 316-086-017. The Study Area is outlined in red.



# Mother Earth Engineering

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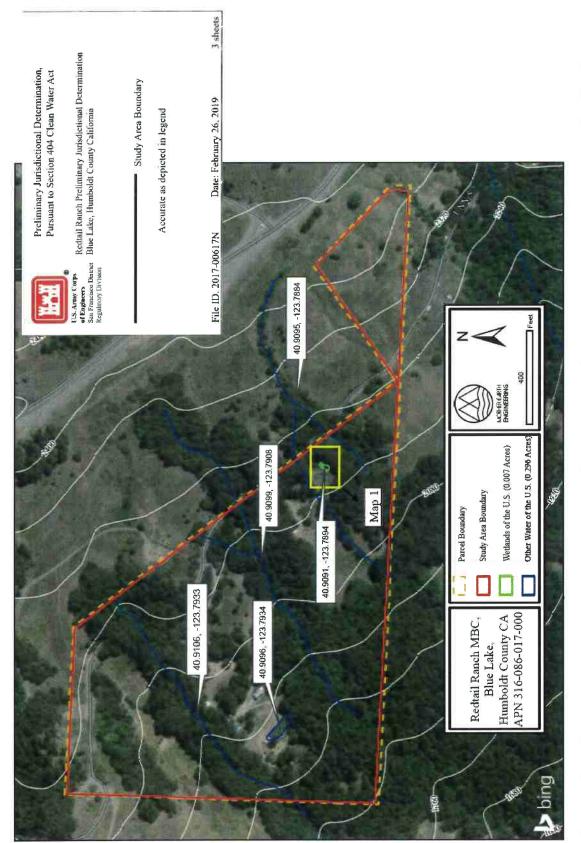


Figure 2: A preliminary jurisdictional determination pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act was performed on 31 January 2019 and confirmed by USACE on 26 February 2019.



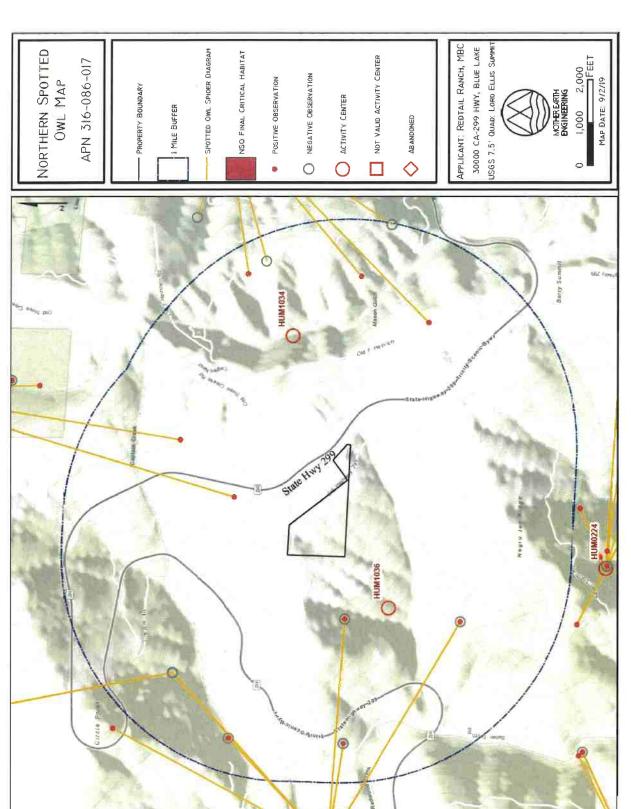


Figure 3: Northern Spotted owl occurrences and final critical habitat observed within 1 mile of the property's project areas.



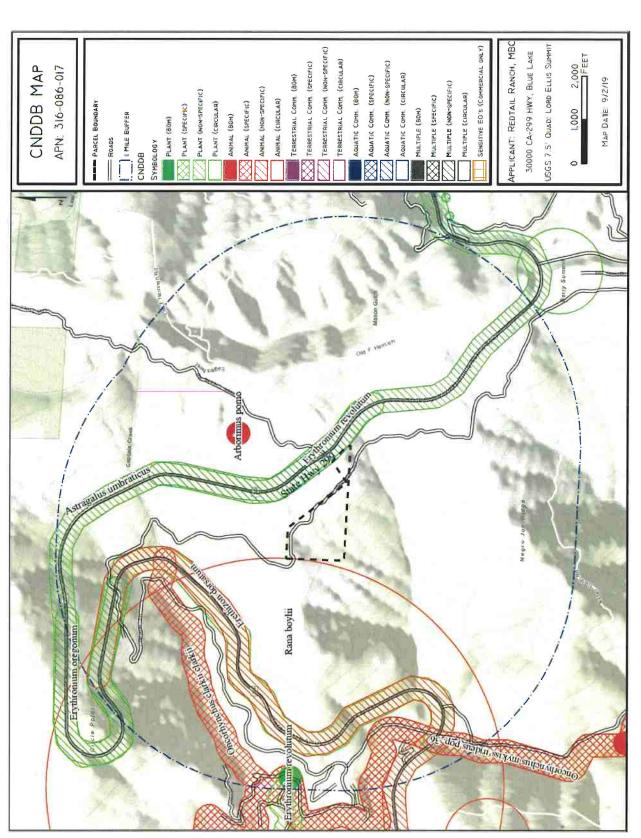


Figure 4: Occurrences of rare plant and special status animal species observed within 1 mile of the property's project areas.





## Appendix **A**

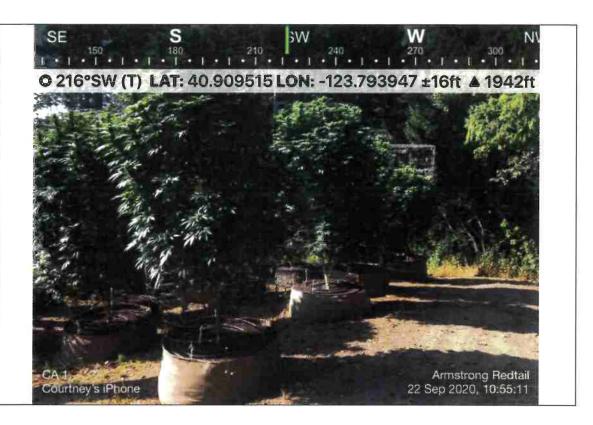


## Picture No. 1

September 22, 2020

## Description:

View of existing cultivation area #1 (CA-1).



## Picture No. 2

September 22, 2020

## **Description:**

View of existing cultivation area #2 (CA-2).



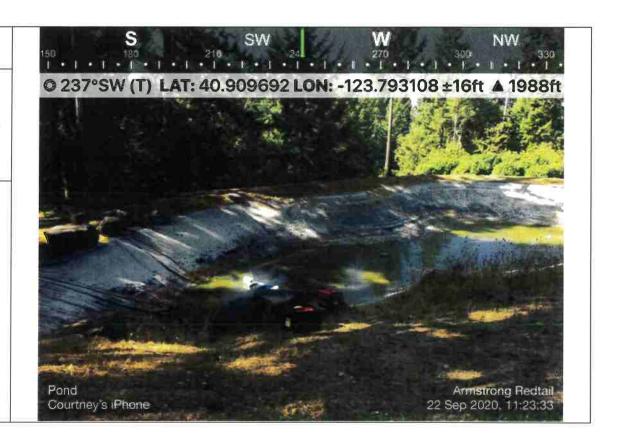


## Picture No. 3

September 22, 2020

## Description:

Rainwater catchment pond.

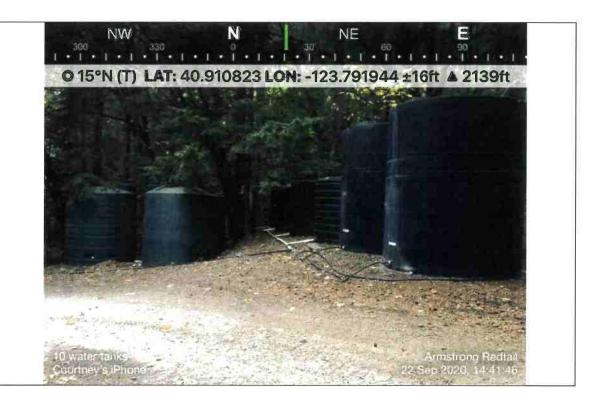


## Picture No. 4

September 22, 2020

## Description:

Water storage tanks on site.







## Appendix B



Photos

Table 1-CNDDB and CNPS nine-quad database results for the Lord-Ellis Summit USGS 7.5' quadrangle August 2019.

## Animals

ial for ies nce in Area	y – no treams in areas	æly	' present	7 present	y – no treams in areas
Potential for Species Occurrence in Project Area	Unlikely – no perennial streams in project areas	Unlikely	Potentially present	Potentially present	Unlikely – no perennial streams in project areas
Micro Habitat	Restricted to perennial montane streams. Tadpoles require water below 15 degrees C.	Cool, moist, stable microclimate, a deep litter layer, closed multi-storied canopy, dominated by large, old trees.	Generally near permanent water, but can be found far from water, in damp woods and meadows, during nonbreeding season.	Needs at least some cobblesized substrate for egg-laying. Needs at least 15 weeks to attain metamorphosis.	Cold, well-shaded, permanent streams and seepages, or within splash zone or on moss-covered rocks within trickling water.
General Habitat	Occurs in montane hardwood- conifer, redwood, Douglas-fir & ponderosa pine habitats.	Old-growth associated species with optimum conditions in the mixed conifer/hardwood ancient forest ecosystem.	Humid forests, woodlands, grasslands, and stream sides in northwestern California, usually near dense riparian cover.	Partly-shaded, shallow streams and riffles with a rocky substrate in a variety of habitats.	Coastal redwood, Douglas-fir, mixed conifer, montane riparian, and montane hardwood-conifer habitats. Old growth forest.
State	None	None	None	Candidate Threatened	None
Fed	None	None	None	None	None
Taxon	Amphibian	Amphibian	Amphibian	Amphibian	Amphibian
Common	Pacific tailed frog	Del Norte salamander	northern red- legged frog	foothill yellow-legged frog	southern torrent salamander
Scientific Name	Ascaphus truei	Plethodon elongatus	Rana aurora	Rana boylii	Rhyacotriton variegatus



Potential for Species Occurrence in Project Area	Potentially present	Potentially present	Potentially present	Unlikely	Potentially present	Unlikely	Unlikely – no perennial streams in project areas
Micro Habitat	Nest sites mainly in riparian growths of deciduous trees, as in canyon bottoms on river flood-plains; also, live oaks.	Usually nests on north slopes, near water. Red fir, lodgepole pine, Jeffrey pine, and aspens are typical nest trees.	Nests in large, old-growth, or dominant live tree with open branches, especially ponderosa pine. Roosts communally in winter.	Rookery sites located adjacent to foraging areas: lake margins, mud-bordered bays, marshy spots.	Large nests built in tree-tops within 15 miles of a good fish- producing body of water.	Requires vertical banks/cliffs with fine-textured/sandy soils near streams, rivers, lakes, ocean to dig nesting hole.	Small, low gradient coastal streams and estuaries. Needs shaded streams with water
General Habitat	Woodland, chiefly of open, interrupted or marginal type.	Within, and in vicinity of, coniferous forest. Uses old nests and maintains alternate sites.	Ocean shore, lake margins, and rivers for both nesting and wintering. Most nests within 1 mile of water.	Colonial nester, usually in trees, occasionally in tule patches.	Ocean shore, bays, freshwater lakes, and larger streams.	Colonial nester; nests primarily in riparian and other lowland habitats west of the desert.	Small coastal streams from the Eel River to the Oregon border.
State	None	None	Endangered	None	None	Threatened	None
Fed	None	None	Delisted	None	None	None	None
Тахоп	Bird	Bird	Bird	Bird	Bird	Bird	Fish
Соттоп	Cooper's hawk	northern goshawk	bald eagle	black- crowned night heron	osprey	bank swallow	coast cutthroat trout
Scientific Name	Accipiter cooperii	Accipiter gentilis	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Nycticorax nycticorax	Pandion haliaetus	Riparia riparia	Oncorhynchus clarkii clarkii



Potential for Species Occurrence in Project Area		Unlikely – no perennial streams in project areas	Unlikely – no perennial streams in project areas	Unlikely – no perennial streams in project areas	Unlikely – no perennial streams in project areas	Unlikely – no perennial streams in project areas
Micro Habitat	temperatures <18C, and small gravel for spawning.	State listing refers to populations between the Oregon border and Punta Gorda, California.		Cool, swift, shallow water & clean loose gravel for spawning, & suitably large pools in which to spend the summer.	Major limiting factor for juvenile chinook salmon is temperature, which strongly effects growth and survival.	Spawn in lower reaches of coastal rivers with moderate water velocities and bottom of
General Habitat		Federal listing refers to populations between Cape Blanco, Oregon and Punta Gorda, Humboldt County, California.	Coastal basins from Redwood Creek south to the Gualala River, inclusive. Does not include summer-run steelhead.	No. Calif coastal streams south to Middle Fork Eel River. Within range of Klamath Mtns province DPS & No. Calif DPS.	Spring-run chinook in the Trinity River and the Klamath River upstream of the mouth of the Trinity River.	Found in Klamath River, Mad River, Redwood Creek, and in small
State		Threatened	None	None	Candidate Endangered	None
Fed		Threatened	Threatened	None	None	Threatened
Taxon		Fish	Fish	Fish	Fish	Fish
Common Name		coho salmon - southern Oregon / northern California ESU	steelhead - northern California DPS	summer-run steelhead trout	chinook salmon - upper Klamath and Trinity Rivers ESU	eulachon
Scientific Name		Oncorhynchus kisutch pop. 2	Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus pop. 16	Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus pop. 36	Oncorhynchus tshawytscha pop. 30	Thaleichthys pacificus



# Mother Earth Engineering Biological Reconnaissance Assessment

	Micro Habitat	pea-sized gravel, sand, and woody debris.
	General Habitat	numbers in Smith River and Humboldt Bay tributaries.
biological Keconnaissance Assessment – Kedtail Kanch, MBC	State	
	Fed	
	Taxon	
	Соштоп	
biological Keconn	Scientific Name	

	=1						
Potential for Species Occurrence in Project Area		Potentially present	Potentially present	Potentially present	Unlikely	Potentially present	Potential foraging present but no roosts sites on site.
Micro Habitat	pea-sized gravel, sand, and woody debris.	Food plant genera include Baccharis, Cirsium, Lupinus, Lotus, Grindelia and Phacelia.		Variety of coastal habitats, including coastal scrub, riparian forests, typically with open canopy and thickly vegetated understory.	Occupies the habitat from the ground surface to the canopy. Feeds in all layers and nests on the ground under logs or rock.	Feeds almost exclusively on Douglas-fir needles. Will occasionally take needles of grand fir, hemlock or spruce.	Roosts in the open, hanging from walls and ceilings. Roosting sites limiting. Extremely sensitive to human disturbance.
General Habitat	numbers in Smith River and Humboldt Bay tributaries.	Coastal areas from Santa Barbara county to north to Washington state.	Once common & widespread, species has declined precipitously from central CA to southern B.C., perhaps from disease.	Coast Range in southwestern Del Norte County and northwestern Humboldt County.	Mature coastal forests in Humboldt and Del Norte counties. Prefers areas near small, clear streams with dense alder and shrubs.	North coast fog belt from Oregon border to Sonoma County. In Douglas-fir, redwood & montane hardwood-conifer forests.	Throughout California in a wide variety of habitats. Most common in mesic sites.
State		None	None	None	None	None	None
Fed		None	None	None	None	None	None
Taxon		Insect	Insect	Mammal	Mammal	Mammal	Mammal
Common Name		obscure bumble bee	western bumble bee	Humboldt mountain beaver	white-footed vole	Sonoma tree vole	Townsend's big-eared bat
Scientific Name		Bombus caliginosus	Bombus occidentalis	Aplodontia rufa humboldtiana	Arborimus albipes	Arborimus pomo	Corynorhinus townsendii



Potential for Species Occurrence in Project Area	Potentially present	Potentially present	Potential foraging present but no roost sites on site.	Unlikely – no large areas of mature, dense forest	Unlikely	Unlikely – no perennial streams in project areas	Potentially present
Micro Habitat	Wide variety of coniferous and mixed woodland habitat.	Roosts in hollow trees, beneath exfoliating bark, abandoned woodpecker holes, and rarely under rocks. Needs drinking water.	Nursery colonies in buildings, crevices, spaces under bark, and snags. Caves used primarily as night roosts.	Uses cavities, snags, logs and rocky areas for cover and denning. Needs large areas of mature, dense forest.		Prefers lower velocity waters.	Needs basking sites and suitable (sandy banks or grassy open fields) upland
General Habitat	Forested habitats in the Sierra Nevada, Cascade, and Coast ranges, with scattered observations from forested areas in the Transverse Ranges.	Primarily a coastal and montane forest dweller, feeding over streams, ponds & open brushy areas.	Found in all brush, woodland and forest habitats from sea level to about 9000 ft. Prefers coniferous woodlands and forests.	Intermediate to large-tree stages of coniferous forests and deciduous-riparian areas with high percent canopy closure.	Limestone rockslides, litter in coniferous forests, old mine tailings, and along shaded streams in the Klamath Mountains.	Aquatic.	A thoroughly aquatic turtle of ponds, marshes, rivers, streams and irrigation ditches, usually with
State	None	None	None	Threatened	None	None	None
Fed	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Taxon	Mammal	Mammal	Mammal	Mammal	Mollusk	Mollusk	Reptile
Common Name	North American porcupine	silver-haired bat	long-eared myotis	fisher - West Coast DPS	Trinity	western pearlshell	western pond turtle
Scientific Name	Erethizon dorsatum	Lasionycteris noctivagans	Myotis evotis	Pekania pennanti	Helminthoglypta talmadgei	Margaritifera falcata	Emys marmorata



August 2019

Potential for Species Occurrence in Project Area	
Micro Habitat	habitat up to 0.5 km from water for egg-laying.
General Habitat	aquatic vegetation, below 6000 ft elevation.
State	
Fed	
Taxon	
Common Name	
Scientific Name	

## **Plants**

Habitat present in Project Area	No, outside elevation range	No serpentine soils	No serpentine soils	Yes
Micro Habitat	rocky, sometimes serpentinite			sometimes roadside
Habitat	Lower montane coniferous forest, Upper montane coniferous forest	Lower montane coniferous forest (serpentinite)	Lower montane coniferous forest (serpentinite)	Cismontane woodland, Lower montane coniferous forest
SRank	S4	S3	S4	S2
GRank	G4	G4	G5	G4
CRPR	4.3	4.3	4.3	2B.3
Lifeform	perennial bulbiferous herb	perennial stoloniferous herb	perennial rhizomatous herb	perennial herb
Family	Alliaceae	Asteraceae	Asteraceae	Fabaceae
Соттоп	Siskiyou onion	evergreen everlasting	serpentine arnica	Bald Mountain milk-vetch
Scientific Name	Allium siskiyouense	Antennaria suffrutescens	Arnica cernua	Astragalus umbraticus



Saxifragaceae perennial herb
Cyperaceae perennial herb
Cyperaceae rhizomatous herb
Cyperaceae perennial herb
Saxifragaceae perennial herb
Polemoniaceae annual herb
Ranunculaceae rhizomatous herb



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Habitat present in Project Area		No	No	Yes	No	No
Micro Habitat			seeps and streambanks, usually serpentinite		mesic	sandy or rocky
Habitat	coniferous forest (streambanks)	Bogs and fens, Meadows and seeps, North Coast coniferous forest	Bogs and fens, Lower montane coniferous forest	Broadleafed upland forest, Cismontane woodland, Lower montane coniferous forest, North Coast coniferous forest	Bogs and fens, Lower montane coniferous forest, Meadows and seeps, Upper montane coniferous forest	Broadleafed upland forest, North Coast coniferous forest
SRank		S2	S4	S4	S2	S4
GRank		G5	G4	G4	G2	G4
CRPR		2B.2	4.2	4.2	18.2	4:3
Lifeform		perennial rhizomatous herb	perennial rhizomatous herb	perennial rhizomatous herb	perennial herb	perennial herb
Family		Cornaceae	Orchidaceae	Orchidaceae	Onagraceae	Onagraceae
Common		bunchberry	California lady's-slipper	mountain lady's-slipper	Oregon fireweed	Humboldt County fuchsia
Scientific Name		Cornus	Cypripedium californicum	Cypripedium montanum	Epilobium oreganum	Epilobium septentrionale



Habitat present in Project Area	N	No serpentine	Yes	No	No	No, outside elevation range
Micro Habitat	Often serpentinite, often roadsides	usually serpentinite	sometimes serpentinite, rocky, openings	Mesic, streambanks	rocky openings	gravelly
Habitat	Cismontane woodland, Lower montane coniferous forest, Meadows and seeps, Upper montane coniferous forest	Chaparral, Lower montane coniferous forest	Cismontane woodland, Meadows and seeps	Bogs and fens, Broadleafed upland forest, North Coast coniferous forest	Lower montane coniferous forest, Upper montane coniferous forest	Lower montane coniferous forest, Upper montane coniferous forest
SRank	S2	S3	S2	S3	83	Sı
GRank	G2	G4T3T4	G4G5	G4G5	G4	G3
CRPR	1B.3	4.3	2B.2	2B.2	4.3	1B.2
Lifeform	annual herb	perennial bulbiferous herb	perennial bulbiferous herb	perennial bulbiferous herb	perennial herb	perennial herb
Family	Phrymaceae	Liliaceae	Liliaceae	Liliaceae	Asteraceae	Asteraceae
Соттоп	pink- margined monkeyflower	lemon- colored fawn lily	giant fawn lily	coast fawn lily	Siskiyou aster	wayside aster
Scientific Name	Erythranthe trinitiensis	Erythronium citrinum var. citrinum	Erythronium oregonum	Erythronium revolutum	Eucephalus glabratus	Eucephalus vialis



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Habitat present in Project Area	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
Micro Habitat			Often in burned areas	rocky	Openings, roadsides
Habitat	Coastal bluff scrub, Chaparral (openings), Coastal prairie, Valley and foothill grassland	Bogs and fens, Meadows and seeps, Marshes and swamps (streambanks and lake margins)	Chaparral (montane), Lower montane coniferous forest, North Coast coniferous forest (mesic), Riparian scrub (streambanks)	Broadleafed upland forest, Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Lower montane coniferous forest	Lower montane coniferous forest, North Coast coniferous forest
SRank	S2	S3	S2	S2	S3
GRank	G5T3	G5	G2G3	G4T4Q	63
CRPR	18.2	2B.3	1B.2	3.2	4.3
Lifeform	annual herb	perennial rhizomatous herb	perennial herb	perennial herb	perennial bulbiferous herb
Family	Polemoniaceae	Poaceae	Malvaceae	Montiaceae	Liliaceae
Common	Pacific gilia	American manna grass	California globe mallow	Howell's lewisia	Kellogg's lily
Scientific Name	Gilia capitata ssp. pacifica	Glyceria grandis	Iliamna latibracteata	Lewisia cotyledon var. howellii	Lilium kelloggii





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Habitat present in Project Area	No	°N	No	No	No	No, outside elevation range
Micro Habitat		Sometimes serpentinite, sometimes roadsides		often edges, openings, and roadsides	rocky streambanks	mesic
Habitat	Bogs and fens, Meadows and seeps (mesic)	Broadleafed upland forest, Chaparral, Lower montane coniferous forest, North Coast coniferous forest, Upper montane coniferous forest	Bogs and fens, Lower montane coniferous forest, North Coast coniferous forest	Lower montane coniferous forest (mesic), Marshes and swamps, North Coast coniferous forest (mesic)	Riparian forest	Bogs and fens, Lower montane coniferous forest, Meadows and seeps
SRank	S3	S3	S4	S3	S3	Sı
GRank	G5T4	G3	G5	G5	G5	G <sub>2</sub>
CRPR	6.4	c: <del>1</del>	5.4	4.1	4.3	2B.1
Lifeform	perennial bulbiferous herb	perennial bulbiferous herb	perennial herb	perennial rhizomatous herb	perennial rhizomatous herb	perennial herb
Family	Liliaceae	Liliaceae	Orchidaceae	Lycopodiaceae	Saxifragaceae	Asteraceae
Common	Vollmer's lily	redwood lily	heart-leaved twayblade	running-pine	Marshall's saxifrage	northern microseris
Scientific Name	Lilium pardalinum ssp. vollmeri	Lilium rubescens	Listera cordata	Lycopodium clavatum	Micranthes marshallii	Microseris borealis



Habitat present in Project Area	δ	Yes	No	No, outside elevation range	No
Micro Habitat	Metamorphic rock, usually acidic, usually vernally mesic, often roadsides, sometimes carbonate	mesic, sometimes roadsides	vernally mesic, sometimes roadsides	Sometimes roadsides	sometimes serpentinite
Habitat	Broadleafed upland forest, Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Coastal scrub, Lower montane coniferous forest, Meadows and seeps, Subalpine coniferous forest	Broadleafed upland forest, Lower montane coniferous forest, Meadows and seeps, North Coast coniferous forest	Meadows and seeps, North Coast coniferous forest, Vernal pools	Coastal scrub, North Coast coniferous forest	Broadleafed upland forest, Lower montane coniferous forest, North Coast coniferous forest
SRank	\$ <del>.</del>	\$2	S2	S2S3	S3
GRank	G5	G5	G3G4	G4T4	Ġ3
CRPR	8:-	4. G	2B.2	2B.2	18.2
Lifeform	moss	perennial rhizomatous herb	annual herb	perennial rhizomatous herb	perennial herb
Family	Mielichhoferiaceae	Saxifragaceae	Montiaceae	Asteraceae	Orchidaceae
Соштоп	elongate copper moss	leafy- stemmed mitrewort	Howell's montia	seacoast ragwort	white- flowered rein orchid
Scientific Name	Mielichhoferia elongata	Mitellastra caulescens	Montia howellii	Packera bolanderi var. bolanderi	Piperia candida





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Habitat present in Project Area	N <sub>O</sub>	No, outside elevation range	No	No, outside elevation range	No, outside elevation range
Micro Habitat	mesic	mesic	Mesic	Usually epiphytic on trees, fallen and decaying logs, and stumps; rarely on humus over boulders	On dead twigs and other lichens
Habitat	Broadleafed upland forest, Lower montane coniferous forest, North Coast coniferous forest, Upper montane coniferous forest	Lower montane coniferous forest, Meadows and seeps	Lower montane coniferous forest, Meadows and seeps, North Coast coniferous forest, Riparian forest	Lower montane coniferous forest, Upper montane coniferous forest	North Coast coniferous forest
SRank	\$S	S3	S4	S3S4	S2?
GRank	G4G5	G5	G4	G4G5	G5
CRPR	4.2	4.2	2.2	4. 8:	2B.1
Lifeform	perennial herb (achlorophyllous)	perennial herb	perennial rhizomatous herb	liverwort	fruticose lichen (epiphytic)
Family	Ericaceae	Orchidaceae	Orchidaceae Poaceae		Ramalinaceae
Common	California pinefoot	slender bog- orchid	nodding semaphore grass	Pacific fuzz wort	angel's hair lichen
Scientific Name	Pityopus californicus	Platanthera stricta	Pleuropogon refractus	Ptilidium californicum	Ramalina thrausta



Habitat present in Project Area	Yes	N <sub>O</sub>	Й	Yes	No serpentine
Micro Habitat	sometimes roadside	Serpentinite. Often roadsides, sometimes ridges, streambanks, and openings.	often serpentinite	openings	Serpentinite or volcanic
Habitat	North Coast coniferous forest	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland	Bogs and fens, Broadleafed upland forest, Meadows and seeps, Marshes and swamps, North Coast coniferous forest, Riparian forest	Cismontane woodland, Lower montane coniferous forest, Upper montane coniferous forest	Broadleafed upland forest, Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Lower montane coniferous forest, Upper
SRank	S3	S	S2	S4	83
GRank	G5?	G5T3T4	G5?	G4	G5T3Q
CRPR	4.3	1B.3	2B.2	4.2	4.3
Lifeform	perennial deciduous shrub	perennial rhizomatous shrub	perennial rhizomatous herb	perennial herb	perennial herb
Family	Grossulariaceae	Rosaceae	Rosaceae	Apiaceae	Crassulaceae
Common	trailing black currant	Gasquet rose	great burnet	Tracy's sanicle	pale yellow stonecrop
Scientific Name	Ribes laxiflorum	Rosa gymnocarpa var. serpentina	Sanguisorba officinalis	Sanicula tracyi	Sedum laxum ssp. flavidum



Habitat present in Project Area		Yes	Yes	No	No serpentine	No	No
Micro Habitat		Often in disturbed areas	often roadcuts				edges, moist shady banks, streambanks
Habitat	montane coniferous forest	Broadleafed upland forest, Coastal prairie, Coastal scrub, North Coast conferous forest, Riparian woodland	Coastal bluff scrub, Coastal prairie, North Coast coniferous forest	Lower montane coniferous forest, Meadows and seeps, North Coast coniferous forest	Lower montane coniferous forest (gravelly, serpentinite)	Broadleafed upland forest, North Coast coniferous forest	Lower montane coniferous forest, North Coast coniferous forest
SRank		S3	S2	Sı	S4	S2	S2S3
GRank		G3	G5T2	G5T1	G4	G2	G5T5
CRPR		4 5	1B.2	18.2	4.3	1B.2	3.2
Lifeform		perennial herb	perennial rhizomatous herb	perennial herb	perennial herb	perennial rhizomatous herb	perennial rhizomatous herb
Family		Malvaceae	Malvaceae	Malvaceae	Apiaceae	Fabaceae	Saxifragaceae
Common		maple-leaved checkerbloom	Siskiyou checkerbloom	coast	glaucous tauschia	robust false lupine	trifoliate laceflower
Scientific Name		Sidalcea malachroides	Sidalcea malviflora ssp. patula	Sidalcea oregana ssp. eximia	Tauschia glauca	Thermopsis robusta	Tiarella trifoliata var. trifoliata



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Habitat present in Project Area	Yes	No, outside elevation range	
Micro Habitat	On tree branches; usually on old growth hardwoods and conifers		
Habitat	Broadleafed upland forest, North Coast coniferous forest	Subalpine coniferous forest (rocky)	
SRank	\$5	S3	
GRank SRank	G4	G5	
CRPR	4.2	2B.2	
Lifeform	fruticose lichen (epiphytic)	perennial deciduous shrub	
Family	Parmeliaceae	Ericaceae	
Common	Methuselah's beard lichen	little-leaved huckleberry	
Scientific Name	Scientific Name Usnea longissima		



## Appendix C.



Database Results

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APN:	Prepared for



## BULLFROG MONITORING AND MANAGEMENT REPORTING LOG



**BULLFROG MONITORING**: Pond shall be monitored on an annual basis with a minimum of two total survey, no less than two weeks apart, within the months of May to July.

- Pond survey must be completed by a person knowledgeable in bullfrog identification (see reference photos).
- Survey efforts shall include listening for bullfrog calls and slowly walking the complete perimeter of the pond at dusk or later while shining a flashlight to detect movement and eye-shine.
- After a survey effort is completed fill in an entry in the BULLFROG MONITORING LOG
- If bullfrogs are not detected upon completion of two total surveys, or incidentally at any other time of the year then removal efforts (BULLFROG MANAGEMENT) are not required that year.

BULLFROG MONITORING LOG								
Pond Name	Date	Time	Number of Adult Bullfrogs Detected	Number of Bullfrog Tadpoles Detected	Approximate Amount of Time Spent on Monitoring			
		2						

**BULLFROG MANAGEMENT**: The two methods for management in this plan are manual direct removal and reservoir dewatering. Implementing both dewatering and manual direct removal is the most effective method for management.

## MANUAL DIRECT REMOVAL:

- Must occur during, but not limited to the active/breeding season, May through July
- A minimum of two efforts throughout the season are considered necessary.
- Direct removal is considered most effective at night with flashlights, but also possible during the day.
- The entire perimeter of the pond must be investigated.
- A small boat may be necessary to successfully remove all bullfrogs.
- Bullfrog tadpoles must be removed and dispatched, do not relocate or keep as pets.
- After direct removal effort fill in an entry in the BULLFROG MANAGEMENT LOG.

## POND DEWATERING:

- Contact CDFW before any dewatering activities (Kalyn Bocast 707-441-2077 <u>kalyn.bocast@wildlife.ca.gov</u>).
- Drain ponds between September and October.
- While draining employ the manual direct removal described above.
- After dewatering and direct removal efforts are completed fill in the BULLFROG MANAGEMENT LOG.

	BULLFROG MANAGEMENT LOG								
Pond Name	Date	Time	Number of Adult Bullfrogs Removed	Number of Bullfrog Tadpoles Removed	Approximate Amount of Time Spent on Removal				