

ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION
PROPOSED LA POSTA BAND OF DIEGUENO MISSION INDIANS NEW
EASEMENT FOR A RIGHT-OF-WAY (ROW) FOR ELECTRIC FACILITIES
TO SERVE 7100-7700 SAGE WAY, BOULEVARD (BIA TRIBAL TRACT T5025)

La Posta Indian Reservation
Boulevard, California
March 20, 2023

Prepared by: Katie Basinski, Environmental Services, San Diego Gas & Electric Company

Introduction: San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) proposes to obtain a new easement for a Right-Of-Way (ROW) to own, operate, and maintain new electric facilities that would provide electric service to seven new lots on Sage Way Road within the La Posta Indian Reservation, BIA Tribal Tract T5025. The new lots at 7100, 7200, 7300, 7400, 7500, 7600, and 7700 Sage Way Road require electric service via underground distribution lines located in two segments within the development parcel, as shown in Attachment 3. The northern segment would connect with existing structure P40930 and extend east approximately 470 feet, and the southern segment would connect with existing structure P40929 and extend east approximately 335 feet. Both existing structures are associated with Circuit 1215 (existing BIA Easement 5773781990¹). The new ROW would be 10 feet wide and in place in perpetuity, unless terminated by the Tribe per 25 C.F.R. Part 169.

Location: New lots at 7100, 7200, 7300, 7400, 7500, 7600, and 7700 Sage Way Road within the La Posta Indian Reservation, between Crestwood Road and BIA Road.

Affected Environment: The project area consists of the 10-foot-wide ROW (Attachment 3) and is highly disturbed with exposed soils and a lack of vegetative cover. The existing overhead poles are located within the disturbed shoulder adjacent to BIA Road. Soils are primarily loamy coarse sand with slopes ranging from 5 to 30 percent (Natural Resources Conservation Service 2023), and the geologic unit includes Mesozoic-age plutonic rocks (grMz; California Geological Survey 2015). The project area is located within the Peninsular Ranges province at approximately 4,500 feet elevation, between the Laguna Mountains and Cleveland National Forest to the west and Anza-Borrego Desert State Park to the east. Dense chaparral and forested riparian corridors are in the hills surrounding the project area, including several tributaries to La Posta Creek more than 0.25-mile to the west, a tributary to Simmons Canyon more than 0.5-mile to the north, and Miller Creek more than 0.5-mile to the south of the project area (Regional Water Quality Control Board 2023).

¹ SDG&E maintains a separate easement numbering system; the existing SDG&E easement number is 115844; eTS 6063201.

An Official Species List was acquired from the United States Department of Interior Fish and Wildlife Service (USDOI-FWS) via the Information for Planning and Conservation (IPaC) website (2023). Official species lists include any threatened, endangered, or candidate species managed by the USDOI-FWS with the potential to occur within a project area based on the known or expected range of each species. There are a total of four threatened, endangered, or candidate species on the Official Species List generated for this project: peninsular bighorn sheep (*Ovis canadensis nelson*, endangered); southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*, endangered); monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*, candidate); and Quino checkerspot butterfly (*Euphydryas editha quino*, endangered). However, these species have no designated critical habitat and no potential to occur within or immediately adjacent to the project area.

Project Objectives: Allow SDG&E to obtain an easement to provide electric service and conduct operations and maintenance (O&M) activities as needed to ensure safe and reliable service to our customers.

Alternatives:

1. Alternative 1 (No Action Alternative) — Under the No Action Alternative, the BIA would not grant SDG&E's request for the ROW to operate and maintain the electric facilities associated with the lots at Sage Way Road. Without approval of a new easement by the BIA, SDG&E could not operate and maintain the new electric facilities, which as a result would leave the tribal members at Sage Way Road without electrical service. Instead, other new facilities and an easement would be required to provide electrical service, potentially in areas that have not been previously disturbed.
2. Alternative 2 (Preferred Alternative) — The Preferred Alternative is to grant SDG&E the ROW to ensure electric service to the new residents of the housing development. The ROW would include two segments: the northern segment would connect with existing structure P40930 and extend east approximately 470 feet; and the southern segment would connect with existing structure P40929 and extend east approximately 335 feet. The Preferred Alternative would allow SDG&E to conduct O&M of the new electric facilities in perpetuity unless terminated by the Tribe per 25 C.F.R. Part 169. O&M activities are those related to the control and upkeep of existing SDG&E facilities, including but not limited to routine, preventive, scheduled, and unscheduled actions aimed at preventing equipment failure or decline with the goal of maintaining or increasing efficiency, reliability, and safety. O&M activities include inspecting, monitoring, and testing existing equipment; operating valves and switches; repairing and replacing existing facilities, structures, wires, and access roads; increasing the height above ground or the depth below ground of facilities; replacing overhead lines with buried underground lines; and vegetation management, including tree removal and pruning. The ROW also includes the right of SDG&E to ingress and egress to, from, along, and within the ROW by a practical route or routes in, upon, over,

and across the La Posta Indian Reservation. The ROW would also require the ROW to be kept clear of structures, including but not limited to buildings, explosives, brush, combustibles and materials, and allows the construction and maintenance of roads as are necessary and appropriate.

SDG&E regularly inspects its electrical infrastructure, including those of the Preferred Alternative, to determine O&M requirements. If O&M requirements are identified during inspections, SDG&E crews or contractors conduct the required maintenance. This typically includes utilizing a five-person crew consisting of two to three four-wheel-drive crew trucks. The potential O&M activities include, but are not limited to, equipment repair and replacement, such as conductors (wires), communications equipment, vegetation management, such as tree trimming or removing flammable materials, access road regrading and erosional repairs, and driving vehicles to and from existing facilities.

Vegetation management plays a critical role in maintaining reliable and safe gas and electrical service throughout the region. Vegetation is managed within and adjacent to all SDG&E facilities including but not limited to overhead electric lines, substations and regulators, access roads, drainage structures, areas around transformers, and buildings. Vegetation is controlled to facilitate the construction and use of roads, allow inspection and maintenance of infrastructure and facilities, expose hazards such as ruts to drivers, eliminate noxious weeds, prevent fires, and provide safe working areas.

SDG&E conducts ongoing vegetation removal and management around electric and gas infrastructure in order to comply with California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) General Orders, California Public Resources Code Section 4292, and other applicable laws for fire prevention or control. These fire control measures can aid in the prevention of fire caused by arcing and can protect the facilities from failure due to a fire in a surrounding area. Areas cleared of vegetation are also required around gas line valve complexes and cathodic test stations for fire protection.

Since 1995, SDG&E has performed all O&M on BIA lands in compliance with SDG&E's Subregional Natural Community Conservation Plan and Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP). SDG&E developed the Subregional Plan under section 10 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) with DOI-FWS and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW).

The HCP avoids and minimizes impacts to numerous wildlife and plant species and their habitats while allowing SDG&E to install, maintain, operate, and repair its existing system and undertake typical expansion of the electric grid. It includes dozens of required operational protocols, which SDG&E has implemented since 1995, that were primarily based upon impact avoidance and minimization.

DOI-FWS (and CDFW) approved the HCP in 1995 and issued SDG&E an incidental take permit (ITP) under Section 10 of the ESA that authorized the “incidental take of 110 species in San Diego County and portions of Orange and Riverside County, California.” The ITP is in effect and provides take authorization for all ESA-listed species on BIA Lands in SDG&E’s service territory.

SDG&E would continue to operate and maintain existing facilities in an environmentally sensitive manner by complying with its ITP and following a number of other best management practices and other standard operating procedures that have been developed and implemented by SDG&E over the past 27 years to avoid and minimize environmental impacts, and to comply with applicable environmental laws and regulations. A summary of these is included as Attachment 6.

Consequences of Selected Alternative:

1. **No Action:** If BIA does not grant SDG&E the ROW, SDG&E would not be able to provide electrical service to the La Posta Indian Reservation residences on Sage Way Road. The tribal members would need an alternate energy source and/or route to provide electricity, either provided by SDG&E or obtained independently by the Tribe. New construction of these facilities would be required, as well as O&M activities for the new facilities.
2. **Preferred Alternative:** If BIA granted the ROW, SDG&E would be able to own, install, operate, and maintain electrical service to the new development on Sage Way Road.

Potential Effects to Environment:

1. **Land Resources:** As part of existing O&M procedures, SDG&E routinely evaluates the soil and geologic conditions prior to working in an area and implements the necessary measures to address any concerns. For example, the Best Management Practices (BMP) Manual (SDG&E 2011) includes measures that reduce soil loss and help ensure BMP usage is consistent with applicable rules and regulations. All of these procedures would be implemented as part of the Preferred Alternative. Therefore, the land resources would not change in a significant way or pattern and the Preferred Alternative would not result in direct or indirect effects on land resources.
2. **Water Resources:** As noted above, there are no surface waters within the proposed ROW. In addition, SDG&E utilizes BMPs in accordance with their BMP Manual and would remain in compliance with applicable laws and regulations, including the Clean Water Act. In the unlikely event that O&M activities would result in impacts to jurisdictional waters, SDG&E would acquire the appropriate permits, potentially including (but not necessarily limited to)

- Clean Water Act Section 401 and 404 permits, and follow the permit conditions, which would minimize impacts. Therefore, the Preferred Alternative would not result in direct or indirect effects on water resources.
3. **Biological Resources:** As stated in Attachment 5, the USDOJ-FWS identifies four endangered or candidate species on the Official Species List for the project area; however, the species have no critical habitat and no potential to occur within or adjacent to the project area. There is no native vegetation or species habitat within the project area that will be impacted by the approval/use of the ROW. In addition, pursuant to SDG&E's HCP, SDG&E crews and contractors are required to follow all applicable Operational Protocols while working in natural areas. Operational Protocols include general behaviors (i.e., BMPs) that all field personnel must follow when working in environmentally sensitive areas, training, and pre-activity surveys that can result in additional measures to further minimize impacts to listed species and vegetation communities. Therefore, a field survey is not necessary at this time and the Preferred Alternative would not result in direct or indirect effects on biological resources.
 4. **Cultural Resources:** The project area has previous ground disturbance within the last year and has been modified so extensively that the likelihood of finding any cultural properties is negligible. There are no known historic properties in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register within the vicinity of the project area after a review by BIA Archaeologist Dan Hall. No cultural resources studies were undertaken by SDG&E, but the La Posta Tribe certified that a survey had been conducted in the past with negative results. No further cultural resources evaluation is needed. In the event of a discovery (discovery means any previously unidentified or incorrectly identified cultural resources including, but not limited to, archaeological deposits, human remains, or locations reportedly associated with Native American religious/traditional beliefs or practices), all operations in the immediate vicinity of the discovery will cease and the BIA, Regional Archaeologist will be notified. The Area of Potential Effects for the Preferred Alternative is limited to the ROW, as shown in Attachment 3. Therefore, the Preferred Alternative would not result in direct or indirect effects on cultural resources.
 5. **Sensitive Area Resources:** The Preferred Alternative would not result in visual or lighting alterations to the project area, as the proposed new facilities will be located underground. In addition, there are no underground storage tanks (USTs) or Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) sites located within the vicinity of the project area and SDG&E would comply with all local noise ordinances, as applicable. Therefore, the Preferred Alternative would not result in direct or indirect effects on other sensitive area resources (Attachment 8).
 6. **Air Resources:** The new ROW would allow for standard O&M activities, which could result in minimal and temporary construction activities. However, this minimal amount of construction would not be anticipated to result in harmful or

nuisance emissions to the air. Therefore, the Preferred Alternative would not result in direct or indirect effects related to air quality.

Recommendation:

The Preferred Alternative is recommended because if SDG&E obtains a new easement, the new electric facilities would be able to be owned, operated, and maintained properly, thus ensuring reliable electrical service to tribal members.

References

- California Geological Survey (CGS). 2015. Geologic Map of California. Retrieved January 25, 2023 from <https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/gmc/>
- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Web Soil Survey. Retrieved January 25, 2023 from <https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/WebSoilSurvey.aspx>
- Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). 2023. San Diego Basin Plan Map. Retrieved January 25, 2023 from <https://gispublic.waterboards.ca.gov/portal/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=1f58bd97fdcd45329a5e16e373ede24d>
- SDG&E. 2011. Best Management Practices Manual for Water Quality Construction. Revised July 2011.
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service (2023). IPaC Resources List. Retrieved January 24, 2023 from <https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/>.

Attachments

- Attachment 1: General Site Map
- Attachment 2: Project Site Photographs
- Attachment 3: Location Information for Project Site
- Attachment 4: Cultural/Historical Properties Determination
- Attachment 5: Biological Determination
- Attachment 6: Operational Protocols and Standard Operating Procedures
- Attachment 7: Environmental Overview
- Attachment 8: NEPAssist Report

Attachment 1: General Site Map

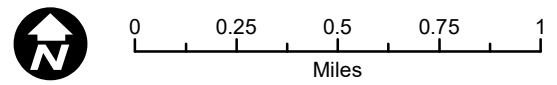
New Easement for Electric Facilities (eTS 6063201)

Attachment 1 General Site Map

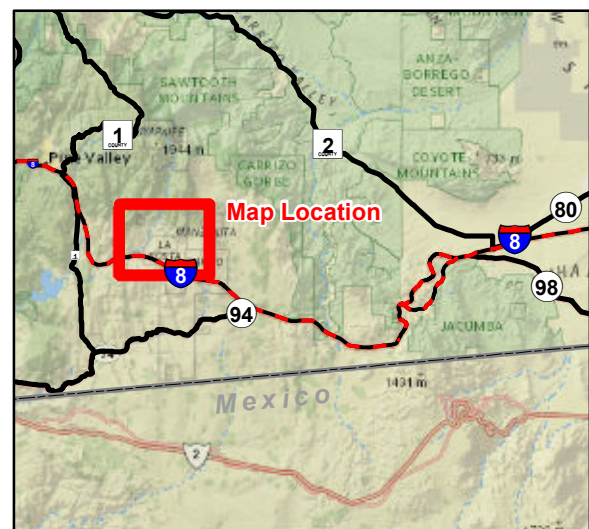


LEGEND

- Project Location
 - Interstate
 - US Route, State and County Highway
 - Local Road
 - National Forest Boundary
 - Reservation Boundary
- Jurisdictional Land Ownership**
- Bureau of Land Management Land
 - U.S. Forest Service Land
 - Bureau of Indian Affairs Land
 - State Land



Data Sources: BLM, CalTrans, ESRI, SANDAG, SanGIS, SDG&E, USDA.
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Attachment 2: Project Site Photographs



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**New Easement for
Electric Facilities (eTS
6063201)**

Attachment 2a

**Project Site Photographs -
View of Project Area**



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**New Easement for
Electric Facilities (eTS
6063201)**

Attachment 2b

**Project Site Photographs -
View of Project Area**



**New Easement for
Electric Facilities (eTS
6063201)**

Attachment 2c

**Project Site Photographs -
View of Project Area**

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**New Easement for
Electric Facilities (eTS
6063201)**

Attachment 2d

**Project Site Photographs -
View of Project Area and
Existing Poles**



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**New Easement for
Electric Facilities (eTS
6063201)**

Attachment 2e

**Project Site Photographs -
View of New Homes**



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**New Easement for
Electric Facilities (eTS
6063201)**

Attachment 2f

**Project Site Photographs -
View of Project Area**

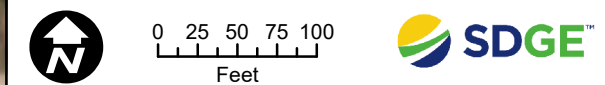
Attachment 3: Location Information for Project Site

**New Easement for
Electric Facilities (eTS
6063201)**

**Attachment 3
Location Information
for Project Site**

LEGEND

- Existing Pole Location
- Distribution Circuit C1215 (Existing Overhead)
- - - Distribution Circuit C1215 (New Underground)
- Proposed Right of Way/APE
- BIA Tribal Boundary
- US Route, State and County Highway
- Local Road



Data Sources: BLM, CalTrans, ESRI, SANDAG, SanGIS, SDG&E, USDA.
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Attachment 4: Cultural/Historical Properties Determination



Shannon E. Foglia
Senior Cultural Resources
Specialist
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San Diego, CA 92123
Email: sfoglia@sdge.com
cell: 619-241-5613

January 26, 2023

Katie Basinski
Senior Environmental Specialist
SDG&E Environmental Services
8315 Century Park Court
San Diego, CA 92123

RE: Attachment 4: Cultural/Historical Properties Determination for the Proposed La Posta New Homes Sage Way Right-of-way (ROW) for Electric Facilities (eTS 6063201)

Dear Ms. Basinski:

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) requires Federal agencies to consider the effects of their undertakings on historic properties. An agency satisfies these obligations by following the process outlined in 36 C.F.R. Part 800.

The granting of the right-of-way (ROW), as described in the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Proposed La Posta New Homes Sage Way Right-of-way (ROW) for Electric Facilities (eTS 6063201), would allow SDG&E to install new electric facilities at a home development site for seven new homes. As detailed below, the installations will occur in areas already prepared for installation by the tribe. Accordingly, the undertaking will not result in any dirt disturbance at this time by SDG&E; SDG&E will install cable to the residences. There are no historic or cultural properties in the area of potential effects of the undertaking, therefore SDG&E recommends that a Section 106 finding of “no potential to cause effects” or “no historic properties affected” pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.2(c)(4) is appropriate after a discussion with BIA Regional Archaeologist, Dan Hall (Hall personal communication 2023). SDG&E also received a letter from the La Posta Band of Mission Indians Tribal Chairwoman, Gwendolyn Parada certifying that no cultural resources are present within the development site (Parada 2021; Attachment 1).

I. Undertaking and Area of Potential Effect (APE)

The undertaking is a new SDG&E ROW for the Proposed Project, the La Posta New Homes Sage Way Right-of-way (ROW) for Electric Facilities (eTS 6063201). The Area of Potential Effects would be limited to the proposed ROW of the project. See EA Attachment 3 for a depiction of the APE.

II. Identification of Historic Properties

Section 106 requires consideration of those properties listed on the National Register, but also of those properties that are eligible for listing.

Here, the Regional Archaeologist of the Bureau of Indian Affairs-Pacific Region, Dan Hall, conducted a desktop review and confirmed that this area was recently developed by the tribe into new home sites and that there are no historical or cultural properties in the APE of the undertaking (Hall personal communication 2023). Additionally, the Tribal Chairwoman certified that an archaeological study had been completed of the home site in 2021 by Tierra Environmental. No cultural resources were identified by Tierra Environmental or the Tribe (Parada 2021).

III. Assess Effects

SDG&E concludes that the approval of the ROW has no potential to cause effects and no historic properties affected pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.4(d)(1) because the project area was recently developed by the tribe as a home site, there is no ground disturbing activities planned, and there are no known cultural or historic properties within the ROW. BIA Regional Archaeologist, Dan Hall (Hall personal communication 2023) and the Tribal Chairwoman supported this recommendation.

Sincerely,



Shannon E. Foglia, M.A., RPA
Senior Environmental Specialist
Cultural Resources
SDG&E Environmental Programs

Attachment 1: Memorandum from Gwendolyn Parada

References:

Hall, Dan
2023, January 26. Email.

Parada, Gwendolyn
2021, Archaeological and Biological Impact Determination; La Posta Band of Mission Indians (2020 IHBG Project Competitive).

Attachment 5: Biological Determination

**BIOLOGICAL EVALUATION
 FOR THE PROPOSED LA POSTA BAND OF DIEGUENO MISSION INDIANS
 NEW EASEMENT FOR A RIGHT-OF-WAY (ROW) FOR ELECTRIC
 FACILITIES TO SERVE 7100-7700 SAGE WAY, BOULEVARD (BIA TRIBAL
 TRACT T5025)**

Special-Status Species:

An Official Species List was acquired from the United States Department of Interior Fish and Wildlife Service (USDOI-FWS) via the Information for Planning and Conservation (IPaC) website (2023) (attached). The results highlighted four species whose range overlap with the boundary of the project. The list includes the following species: Peninsular bighorn sheep, southwestern willow flycatcher, monarch butterfly, and Quino checkerspot butterfly. The table below reviews the potential to occur, including analysis of the habitat and environmental requirements, for each of the four species.

Peninsular bighorn sheep, Quino checkerspot butterfly, southwestern willow flycatcher, and monarch butterfly have no potential to occur within the immediate project area or the surrounding habitat.

Critical habitat:

No mapped critical habitat for any of the species identified in the IPaC report occur within the project boundary or in the surrounding area.

TABLE OF SPECIES WITH POTENTIAL TO OCCUR

| Common Name (<i>Scientific Name</i>) | Status | Criteria for Potential Presence/Absence |
|---|--------|--|
| Peninsular bighorn sheep (<i>Ovis canadensis nelsoni</i>) | FE, ST | Peninsular bighorn sheep are found at elevations below 1,400 meters in the mountainous areas within the Peninsular Ranges. Habitat suitability is based on visibility, topography and availability of water and foraging areas. Areas with dense vegetation are avoided to ensure the sheep can observe predators and escape by climbing vertical terrain. Within their range bighorn sheep will utilize canyons, washes, and alluvial fans to forage and find water. These areas between mountainous regions are critical especially during the summer months because they retain high quality foraging areas longer than the higher elevation mountainous terrain. Dense chaparral and forested riparian corridors in the hills surrounding the project area are not suitable habitat, and the immediate project |

| Common Name (Scientific Name) | Status | Criteria for Potential Presence/Absence |
|---|-------------------|--|
| | | area is graded with a lack of vegetative cover. There is no potential for effects to this species. |
| Monarch Butterfly (<i>Danaus plexippus</i>) | Candidate species | The main habitat requirement for monarch butterflies is the presence of milkweed (<i>Asclepias</i> sp.). Monarch butterflies exclusively use milkweed as their host plant. Milkweed species are hardy and grow across a diverse array of habitats from grasslands, meadows, agricultural land, mountain foothills and sandy areas. Spring-blooming nectar plants (blooming approximately March 20 - June 1) fuel the monarch migration northward from Mexico and inland from the California coast. Abundant nectar sources are crucial to their survival across migration corridors. While there are flowering plants in the general surrounding area, the immediate project area is graded with a lack of vegetative cover; therefore, there is no potential for effects to this species to occur. |
| Quino checkerspot butterfly (<i>Euphydryas editha quino</i>) | FE | Quino checkerspot butterfly inhabit shrub communities, such as coastal sage scrub, chaparral, and desert scrub, with 50% shrub cover or less, and the potential to support dot-seed plantain and other larval host plants, but not where vegetation is disturbed and/or covered by understory vegetation to the extent that larval host plants do not grow. Suitable habitat is not present within the immediate project area and there is no potential for effects to this species as a result of the proposed project. |
| Southwestern willow flycatcher (<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>) | FE, SE, NCCP | This species prefers moist, shrubby areas, often with standing or running water such as thickets of willows, whether along streams in broad valleys, in canyon bottoms, around mountain-side seepages, or at the margins of ponds and lakes. It also occurs in riparian forests with or without shrubs. Suitable habitat does not occur within the immediate project area and there is no potential for effects to this species as a result of the proposed project. |
| FE – Federally endangered; SE – State endangered; SSC – species of special concern NCCP – SDG&E Subregional NCCP covered species | | |

Summary:

Implementation of the new easement to operate and maintain new underground electric facilities will result in no effect to the following species of special concern: Peninsular

bighorn sheep, southwestern willow flycatcher, Quino checkerspot butterfly, and monarch butterfly.

Additionally, SDG&E crews are provided an annual NCCP training that covers information on sensitive NCCP-covered species and awareness on how to minimize impacts while conducting work activities. Work crews will follow the Operational Protocols stated in SDG&E's NCCP (Section 7.1 Operational Protocols) to avoid, minimize, or mitigate impacts to biological resources as a result of project-related activities.

IPaC resource list

This report is an automatically generated list of species and other resources such as critical habitat (collectively referred to as *trust resources*) under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) jurisdiction that are known or expected to be on or near the project area referenced below. The list may also include trust resources that occur outside of the project area, but that could potentially be directly or indirectly affected by activities in the project area. However, determining the likelihood and extent of effects a project may have on trust resources typically requires gathering additional site-specific (e.g., vegetation/species surveys) and project-specific (e.g., magnitude and timing of proposed activities) information.

Below is a summary of the project information you provided and contact information for the USFWS office(s) with jurisdiction in the defined project area. Please read the introduction to each section that follows (Endangered Species, Migratory Birds, USFWS Facilities, and NWI Wetlands) for additional information applicable to the trust resources addressed in that section.

Location

San Diego County, California



Local office

Carlsbad Fish And Wildlife Office

☎ (760) 431-9440

📄 (760) 431-5901

2177 Salk Avenue - Suite 250
Carlsbad, CA 92008-7385

NOT FOR CONSULTATION

Endangered species

This resource list is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an analysis of project level impacts.

The primary information used to generate this list is the known or expected range of each species. Additional areas of influence (AOI) for species are also considered. An AOI includes areas outside of the species range if the species could be indirectly affected by activities in that area (e.g., placing a dam upstream of a fish population even if that fish does not occur at the dam site, may indirectly impact the species by reducing or eliminating water flow downstream). Because species can move, and site conditions can change, the species on this list are not guaranteed to be found on or near the project area. To fully determine any potential effects to species, additional site-specific and project-specific information is often required.

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act **requires** Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of such proposed action" for any project that is conducted, permitted, funded, or licensed by any Federal agency. A letter from the local office and a species list which fulfills this requirement can **only** be obtained by requesting an official species list from either the Regulatory Review section in IPaC (see directions below) or from the local field office directly.

For project evaluations that require USFWS concurrence/review, please return to the IPaC website and request an official species list by doing the following:

1. Draw the project location and click CONTINUE.
2. Click DEFINE PROJECT.
3. Log in (if directed to do so).
4. Provide a name and description for your project.
5. Click REQUEST SPECIES LIST.

Listed species¹ and their critical habitats are managed by the [Ecological Services Program](#) of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the fisheries division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries²).

Species and critical habitats under the sole responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are **not** shown on this list. Please contact [NOAA Fisheries](#) for [species under their jurisdiction](#).

1. Species listed under the Endangered Species Act are threatened or endangered; IPaC also shows species that are candidates, or proposed, for listing. See the [listing status page](#) for more information. IPaC only shows species that are regulated by USFWS (see FAQ).
2. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

The following species are potentially affected by activities in this location:

Mammals

| NAME | STATUS |
|---|------------|
| Peninsular Bighorn Sheep <i>Ovis canadensis nelsoni</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4970 | Endangered |

Birds

| NAME | STATUS |
|--|------------|
| Southwestern Willow Flycatcher <i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i> Wherever found There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6749 | Endangered |

Insects

| NAME | STATUS |
|---|-----------|
| Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743 | Candidate |

Quino Checkerspot Butterfly *Euphydryas editha quino* (=E. e. wrighti)

Endangered

Wherever found

There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5900>

Critical habitats

Potential effects to critical habitat(s) in this location must be analyzed along with the endangered species themselves.

There are no critical habitats at this location.

Migratory birds

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act¹ and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act².

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described [below](#).

1. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
2. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Birds of Conservation Concern <https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-birds/species>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incident-take-migratory-birds>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds <https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf>

The birds listed below are birds of particular concern either because they occur on the [USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern \(BCC\) list](#) or warrant special attention in your project location. To learn more about the levels of concern for birds on your list and how this list is generated, see the FAQ [below](#). This is not a list of every bird you may find in this location, nor a guarantee that every bird on this list will be found in your project area. To see exact locations of where birders and the general public have sighted birds in and around your project area, visit the [E-bird data mapping tool](#) (Tip: enter your location, desired date range and a species on your list). For projects that occur off the Atlantic Coast, additional maps and models detailing the relative occurrence and abundance of bird species on your list are available. Links to additional information about Atlantic Coast birds, and other important information about your migratory bird list, including how to properly interpret and use your migratory bird report, can be found [below](#).

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, click on the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY at the top of your list to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

| NAME | BREEDING SEASON |
|---|-------------------------|
| <p>Allen's Hummingbird <i>Selasphorus sasin</i></p> <p>This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.</p> <p>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9637</p> | Breeds Feb 1 to Jul 15 |
| <p>Belding's Savannah Sparrow <i>Passerculus sandwichensis beldingi</i></p> <p>This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA</p> <p>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8</p> | Breeds Apr 1 to Aug 15 |
| <p>Black-chinned Sparrow <i>Spizella atrogularis</i></p> <p>This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.</p> <p>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9447</p> | Breeds Apr 15 to Jul 31 |
| <p>Bullock's Oriole <i>Icterus bullockii</i></p> <p>This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA</p> | Breeds Mar 21 to Jul 25 |

California Thrasher *Toxostoma redivivum*

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

Breeds Jan 1 to Jul 31

Cassin's Finch *Carpodacus cassinii*

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9462>

Breeds May 15 to Jul 15

Common Yellowthroat *Geothlypis trichas sinuosa*

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2084>

Breeds May 20 to Jul 31

Golden Eagle *Aquila chrysaetos*

This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680>

Breeds Jan 1 to Aug 31

Lawrence's Goldfinch *Carduelis lawrencei*

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9464>

Breeds Mar 20 to Sep 20

Nuttall's Woodpecker *Picoides nuttallii*

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9410>

Breeds Apr 1 to Jul 20

Oak Titmouse *Baeolophus inornatus*

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9656>

Breeds Mar 15 to Jul 15

Olive-sided Flycatcher *Contopus cooperi*

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3914>

Breeds May 20 to Aug 31

Tricolored Blackbird *Agelaius tricolor*

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3910>

Breeds Mar 15 to Aug 10

Wrentit *Chamaea fasciata*

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

Breeds Mar 15 to Aug 10

Probability of Presence Summary

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read and understand the FAQ "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

Probability of Presence (■)

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. (A year is represented as 12 4-week months.) A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort (see below) can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score. One can have higher confidence in the presence score if the corresponding survey effort is also high.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

1. The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.
2. To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is $0.25/0.25 = 1$; at week 20 it is $0.05/0.25 = 0.2$.
3. The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

To see a bar's probability of presence score, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

Breeding Season (☀)

Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

Survey Effort (|)

Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps. The number of surveys is expressed as a range, for example, 33 to 64 surveys.

To see a bar's survey effort range, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

No Data (—)

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

Survey Timeframe

Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.

■ probability of presence ■ breeding season | survey effort — no data

SPECIES

JAN

FEB

MAR

APR

MAY

JUN

JUL

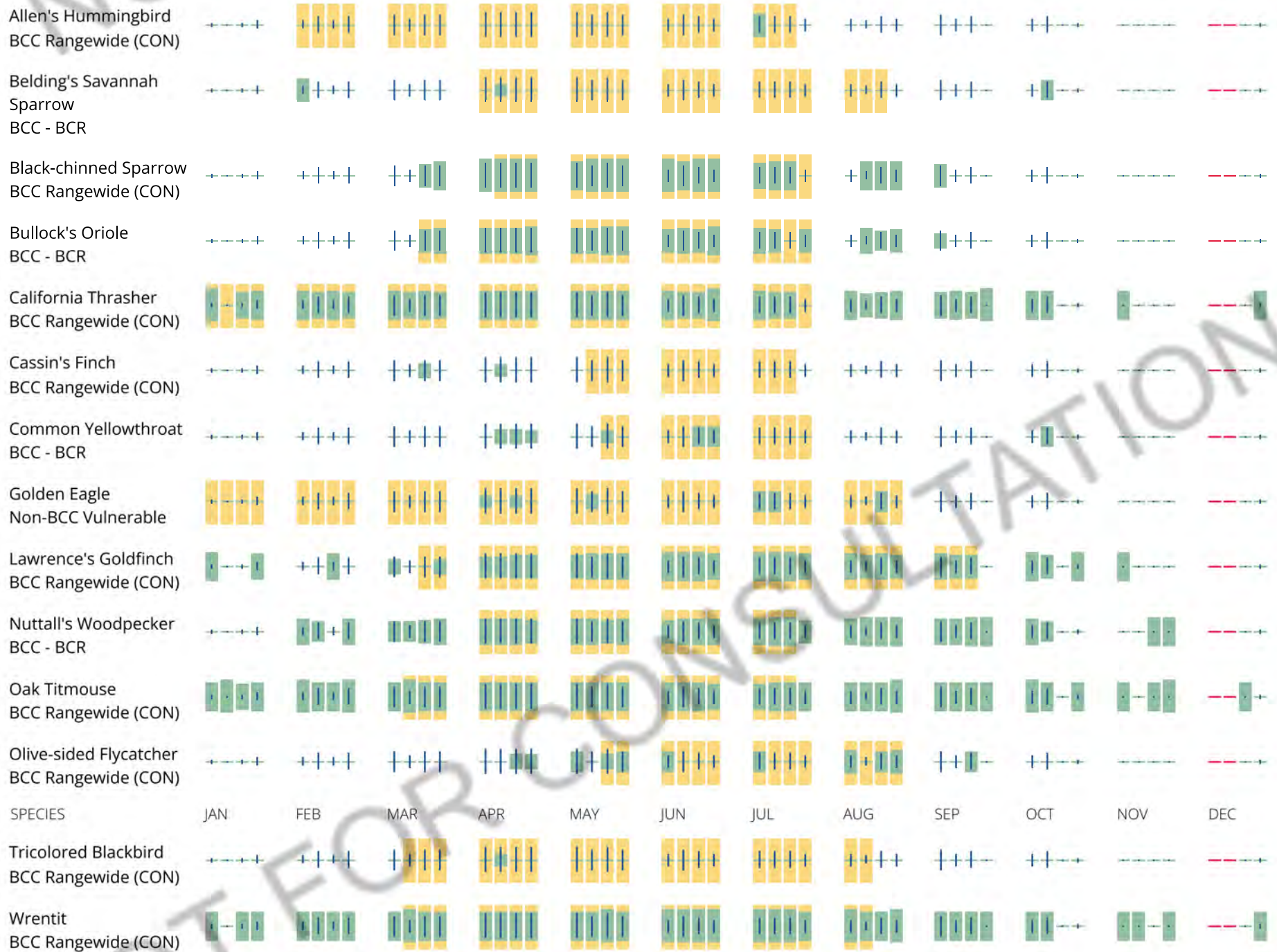
AUG

SEP

OCT

NOV

DEC



Tell me more about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds.

[Nationwide Conservation Measures](#) describes measures that can help avoid and minimize impacts to all birds at any location year round. Implementation of these measures is particularly important when birds are most likely to occur in the project area. When birds may be breeding in the area, identifying the locations of any active nests and avoiding their destruction is a very helpful impact minimization measure. To see when birds are most likely to occur and be breeding in your project area, view the Probability of Presence Summary. [Additional measures](#) or [permits](#) may be advisable depending on the type of activity you are conducting and the type of infrastructure or bird species present on your project site.

What does IPaC use to generate the list of migratory birds that potentially occur in my specified location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS [Birds of Conservation Concern \(BCC\)](#) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#) and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle ([Eagle Act](#) requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the [Rapid Avian Information Locator \(RAIL\) Tool](#).

What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs for the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?

The probability of presence graphs associated with your migratory bird list are based on data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). This data is derived from a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#).

Probability of presence data is continuously being updated as new and better information becomes available. To learn more about how the probability of presence graphs are produced and how to interpret them, go the Probability of Presence Summary and then click on the "Tell me about these graphs" link.

How do I know if a bird is breeding, wintering or migrating in my area?

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating or year-round), you may query your location using the [RAIL Tool](#) and look at the range maps provided for birds in your area at the bottom of the profiles provided for each bird in your results. If a bird on your migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it, if that bird does occur in your project area, there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe specified. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?

Migratory birds delivered through IPaC fall into the following distinct categories of concern:

1. "BCC Rangewide" birds are [Birds of Conservation Concern](#) (BCC) that are of concern throughout their range anywhere within the USA (including Hawaii, the Pacific Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands);
2. "BCC - BCR" birds are BCCs that are of concern only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA; and
3. "Non-BCC - Vulnerable" birds are not BCC species in your project area, but appear on your list either because of the [Eagle Act](#) requirements (for eagles) or (for non-eagles) potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities (e.g. offshore energy development or longline fishing).

Although it is important to try to avoid and minimize impacts to all birds, efforts should be made, in particular, to avoid and minimize impacts to the birds on this list, especially eagles and BCC species of rangewide concern. For more information on conservation measures you can implement to help avoid and minimize migratory bird impacts and requirements for eagles, please see the FAQs for these topics.

Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects

For additional details about the relative occurrence and abundance of both individual bird species and groups of bird species within your project area off the Atlantic Coast, please visit the [Northeast Ocean Data Portal](#). The Portal also offers data and information about other taxa besides birds that may be helpful to you in your project review. Alternately, you may download the bird model results files underlying the portal maps through the [NOAA NCCOS Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf](#) project webpage.

Bird tracking data can also provide additional details about occurrence and habitat use throughout the year, including migration. Models relying on survey data may not include this information. For additional information on marine bird tracking data, see the [Diving Bird Study](#) and the [nanotag studies](#) or contact [Caleb Spiegel](#) or [Pam Loring](#).

What if I have eagles on my list?

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to [obtain a permit](#) to avoid violating the Eagle Act should such impacts occur.

Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report

The migratory bird list generated is not a list of all birds in your project area, only a subset of birds of priority concern. To learn more about how your list is generated, and see options for identifying what other birds may be in your project area, please see the FAQ "What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location". Please be aware this report provides the "probability of presence" of birds within the 10 km grid cell(s) that overlap your project; not your exact project footprint. On the graphs provided, please also look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical bar) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal bar). A high

survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort bar or no data bar means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list is not perfect; it is simply a starting point for identifying what birds of concern have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list helps you know what to look for to confirm presence, and helps guide you in knowing when to implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize potential impacts from your project activities, should presence be confirmed. To learn more about conservation measures, visit the FAQ "Tell me about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds" at the bottom of your migratory bird trust resources page.

Facilities

National Wildlife Refuge lands

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the [National Wildlife Refuge](#) system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

There are no refuge lands at this location.

Fish hatcheries

There are no fish hatcheries at this location.

Wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)

Impacts to [NWI wetlands](#) and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District](#).

This location did not intersect any wetlands mapped by NWI.

NOTE: This initial screening does **not** replace an on-site delineation to determine whether wetlands occur. Additional information on the NWI data is provided below.

Data limitations

The Service's objective of mapping wetlands and deepwater habitats is to produce reconnaissance level information on the location, type and size of these resources. The maps are prepared from the analysis of high altitude imagery. Wetlands are identified based on vegetation, visible hydrology and geography. A margin of error is inherent in the use of imagery; thus, detailed on-the-ground inspection of any particular site may result in revision of the wetland boundaries or classification established through image analysis.

The accuracy of image interpretation depends on the quality of the imagery, the experience of the image analysts, the amount and quality of the collateral data and the amount of ground truth verification work conducted. Metadata should be consulted to determine the date of the source imagery used and any mapping problems.

Wetlands or other mapped features may have changed since the date of the imagery or field work. There may be occasional differences in polygon boundaries or classifications between the information depicted on the map and the actual conditions on site.

Data exclusions

Certain wetland habitats are excluded from the National mapping program because of the limitations of aerial imagery as the primary data source used to detect wetlands. These habitats include seagrasses or submerged aquatic vegetation that are found in the intertidal and subtidal zones of estuaries and nearshore coastal waters. Some deepwater reef communities (coral or tubercid worm reefs) have also been excluded from the inventory. These habitats, because of their depth, go undetected by aerial imagery.

Data precautions

Federal, state, and local regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over wetlands may define and describe wetlands in a different manner than that used in this inventory. There is no attempt, in either the design or products of this inventory, to define the limits of proprietary jurisdiction of any Federal, state, or local government or to establish the geographical scope of the regulatory programs of government agencies. Persons intending to engage in activities involving modifications within or adjacent to wetland areas should seek the advice of appropriate Federal, state, or local agencies concerning specified agency regulatory programs and proprietary jurisdictions that may affect such activities.

Attachment 6: Operational Protocols and Standard Operating Procedures

1.1.1. Operational Protocols and Standard Operating Procedures

SDG&E currently operates and maintains existing facilities in an environmentally sensitive manner by following a number of best management practices and other standard operating procedures that have been developed and implemented by SDG&E over the past 27 years to avoid and minimize environmental impacts, and to comply with applicable environmental laws and regulations. A summary of these is included below.

1.1.1.1. Biological Resources

Since 1995, SDG&E has operated and maintained existing facilities in compliance with its 1995 Subregional Natural Community Conservation Plan and Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP/NCCP). SDG&E developed the HCP/NCCP in collaboration with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). The HCP/NCCP has been designed to avoid and minimize impacts to numerous wildlife and plant species and their habitats while allowing SDG&E to install, maintain, operate, and repair its existing gas and electric system and undertake typical expansion of the electric grid. By its terms, the HCP/NCCP aims to preserve intact the biological and physical resources comprising sensitive habitats (ecosystems) to the greatest extent possible and afford all species within managed habitats greater protections than before (HCP/NCCP §1.3).

To that end, the HCP/NCCP includes 61 required Operational Protocols that SDG&E has implemented since 1995. These Operational Protocols are primarily based upon impact avoidance and minimization and recognize that minor adjustments during planning and execution of activities can often yield major benefits to species and their habitat (HCP/NCCP §7.1). Among other things, they require SDG&E to:

- Conduct pre-activity surveys for O&M occurring off access roads in natural areas. An environmental surveyor also has to determine the extent of habitat and flag habitat boundaries that must be avoided. (HCP/NCCP §7.1.3)
- Design O&M to minimize new disturbance, erosion, and off-site degradation from accelerated sedimentation. (HCP/NCCP §7.1.4)
- Conduct continued monitoring as recommended in the Pre-activity Survey Report and remove all habitat flagging from the construction site. (HCP/NCCP §7.1.4)
- Inspect supplies or equipment to prevent wildlife entrapment or injury. (HCP/NCCP §7.1.4)

The USFWS (and CDFW) approved the HCP/NCCP in 1995 and on December 18, 1995, issued SDG&E an incidental take permit (ITP) (ITP No. PRT-809637) under section 10 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA). That permit authorized the “incidental take of 110 species in San Diego County and portions of Orange and Riverside County, California.” It was subject to compliance with and implementation of the HCP/NCCP.

1.1.1.2. Cultural Resources

Where a potentially significant intact resource is known and could be affected, SDG&E develops and implements measures to avoid or minimize impacts to the resource. Site protection measures that are routinely implemented for O&M activities include:

- Establishing work exclusion zones;
- Finding alternate work locations or access routes;
- Prohibiting vehicles, staging, or construction within resource boundaries;
- Hand digging pole holes, micrositing construction methods, or setting poles by helicopter to minimize overland travel;
- Assigning an archaeological and/or Native American construction monitor within or near known or suspected archaeological sites;
- Developing and/or facilitating cultural resources awareness training for crews; and
- Completing archaeological excavations when impacts cannot be avoided.

Generally, O&M on existing facilities takes place in areas that have been previously disturbed during the initial placement of infrastructure; thus, the potential for significant impacts to cultural resources from these activities are considered low. Nonetheless, SDG&E implements Standard Protection Measures that minimize ground disturbance and require work to stop if resources are discovered. These measures, described below, help protect cultural resources by reducing the potential for disturbance or damage.

- If cultural resources are discovered during the Project, stopping Project activities at the discovery location until a qualified archaeologist can assess the significance of the find and, if necessary, develop appropriate treatment measures in consultation with an SDG&E Cultural Resource Specialist and the agency;
- Leaving artifacts where they are found;
- Containing ground disturbance to the extent of the project area;
- Keeping vehicles on existing roads as feasible;
- Keeping information about cultural discoveries and archaeological site data confidential to the extent allowed under applicable law;
- Not collecting or otherwise touching or disturbing these resources without prior coordination with the relevant agency/Tribe;
- Having SDG&E's Tribal Liaison coordinate with the Tribe to apprise them of the work and schedule.

1.1.1.3. Other Standard Operating Procedures

In addition to biological and cultural resources, SDG&E routinely implements standard procedures related to stormwater management, hazardous materials and waste, fire prevention, and other environmental resources. For example, the Best Management Practices Manual for Water Quality Construction (BMP Manual; SDG&E 2011) provides standardized BMPs to reduce or eliminate pollutants in runoff from SDG&E construction projects and construction activities for water quality protection.

Attachment 7: Environmental Overview Form

Environmental Overview (E)

The external Environmental Overview is used for programmatic or project-orientated actions (i.e. waste clean-up, road maintenance, well drilling, studies) that have ground disturbing or other destructive activities associated with the proposed federal action. Please contact the Regional NEPA Coordinator at jacilyn.snyder@bia.gov for more information.

* Required

1. Date *

3/21/2023



2. Requestor Name *

Please enter your name.

Katie Basinski

3. Requestor Email Address *

Please enter your email address.

kbasinski@sdge.com

4. Requestor Contact Information *

Please enter your phone number without special characters (i.e. commas, hyphens, etc)

858-753-5601

5. Pacific Region Environmental Reviewer Email Address *

Please enter the BIA Environmental contact email address

john.lin@bia.gov

6. Pacific Region Program Office Representative Email Address

Please enter the BIA Program Office representative email address you are working with on your project.

Jacilyn.Snyder@bia.gov

7. Project Identification Number

ETS 6063201

8. Project Name *

Please use DECRMS recommended nomenclature.

PROPOSED LA POSTA BAND OF DIEGUENO MISSION INDIANS NEW EASEMENT FOR A RIGHT-OF-WAY (ROW

9. Tribal Nation *

La Posta Band of Diegueno Mission Indians

10. Property Address *

7100, 7200, 7300, 7400, 7500, 7600, and 7700 Sage Way

11. County *

San Diego

12. County Parcel Number

60803004

13. BIA/Tribal Tract Number

T5025

14. Property Section, Township and Range

S3, T17S, R6E

15. Property Locational Data

Latitude/Longitude

32.726374, -116.364632

16. Purpose and Need *

Please briefly describe project.

The purpose of the proposed project is for San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) to obtain a new 10-foot wide easement to own, operate, and maintain electric facilities that would provide electric service to seven new lots on Sage Way Road within the La Posta Indian Reservation in perpetuity, unless terminated by the Tribe per 25 C.F.R. Part 169. The proposed northern easement would connect with existing structure P40930 and extend east approximately 470 feet, and the proposed southern easement would connect with existing structure P40929 and extend east approximately 335 feet. Both existing structures are associated with Circuit 1215 (BIA Easement 5773781990). The proposed project is needed to allow SDG&E to own, install, operate, and maintain reliable electric service to the seven new homes on

17. Scope of Work *

Please identify category of action(s) undertaken.

- Agricultural Lease and/or Permit
- Business Lease (existing infrastructure)
- Business Lease (new build)
- Contracting without ground disturbing activities.
- Contracting with ground disturbing activities.
- Fire
- Forestry
- Gift deed or other transfers
- Homesite lease without ground disturbing activities.
- Homesite lease with ground disturbing activities.
- Land Conveyance
- Operations and Maintenance of Facilities
- Natural Resources
- Rights-of-Way/Easements
- Road construction along existing alignment
- Road construction with minor alignment changes.
- Road construction with major alignment changes.
- New road construction
- Other

18. If Other is selected in Scope of Work (Question 12), please describe activity proposed to be completed.

n/a

19. Description of Ground Disturbance *

- Ground disturbance is not anticipated.
- All ground disturbance activities are restricted to previously disturbed areas.
- All ground disturbance activities occur within an Area of Potential Effect.
- All ground disturbance activities are significant and/or is new construction.

20. Wetlands *

Is there a potential for Wetland resources to be present in the project area?

- Yes
- No
- Evaluation required

21. Streams and Rivers *

Are there streams, rivers and lakes within 200 feet of the proposed project area?

- Yes
- No

22. Threatened or Endangered Species *

Is there a potential for Threatened or Endangered Species to be present in the project area.

- Yes
- No
- Evaluation required

23. Historic and Cultural Resources *

Is there a potential for Historic and Cultural Resources to be present in the project area?

- Yes
- No
- Evaluation Required

24. Land Cover *

Briefly describe the land cover of the project area.

Highly disturbed area with exposed soils and a lack of vegetative cover

25. Permits *

Are permits required for the activities associated with this project.

- Clean Water Act, Section 402
- Clean Water Action, Section 404
- Section 9/10 Rivers and Harbors Improvement Act
- Other Permits
- Not required

26. If Other is selected in Question 22 Permits, please describe the permit(s) required for the project.

No additional permits are needed at this time. If future O&M activities are required, SDG&E would obtain any necessary permits to remain in compliance with applicable regulations. However, permits are unlikely to be necessary due to the highly disturbed nature of the proposed ROW.

27. Additional Project Details

If applicable

Operation and maintenance (O&M) activities are those related to the control and upkeep of existing SDG&E facilities, including but not limited to routine, preventive, scheduled, and unscheduled actions aimed at preventing equipment failure or decline with the goal of maintaining or increasing efficiency, reliability, and safety. O&M includes inspecting, monitoring, and testing existing equipment; operating valves and switches; repairing and replacing existing facilities, structures, wires, and access roads; increasing the height above ground or the depth below ground of facilities; replacing overhead lines with buried underground lines; and vegetation management, including tree removal and pruning. The ROW also includes the right of SDG&E to ingress and egress to, from, along, and within the ROW by a practical route or routes in, upon, over, and across the La Posta Indian Reservation. The ROW easement would also require the ROW to be kept clear of structures, including but not limited to buildings, explosives, brush, combustibles and materials, and allows the construction and maintenance of roads as are necessary and appropriate.

SDG&E currently operates and maintains existing facilities in an environmentally sensitive manner by following a number of best management practices and other standard operating procedures that have been developed and implemented by SDG&E over the past 27 years to avoid and minimize environmental

28. Tribal Environmental Lead Name

Diane McHenry (Consultant)
CCIX Inc.

29. Tribal Environmental Lead Email Address and Telephone Number

Office 760.432.6667
Cell phone 760.884.6102

30. Tribal Biologist Lead Name

n/a

31. Tribal Biologist Lead Email Address and Telephone Number

n/a

32. Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Name

This tribe does not have a THPO.

33. Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Email and Telephone Number

n/a

34. Other Contacts

n/a

35. I certify that the responses provided in this questionnaire are accurate based on my knowledge of the proposed project and affected project area.

I Certify my responses and statements.

I Decline

Submit

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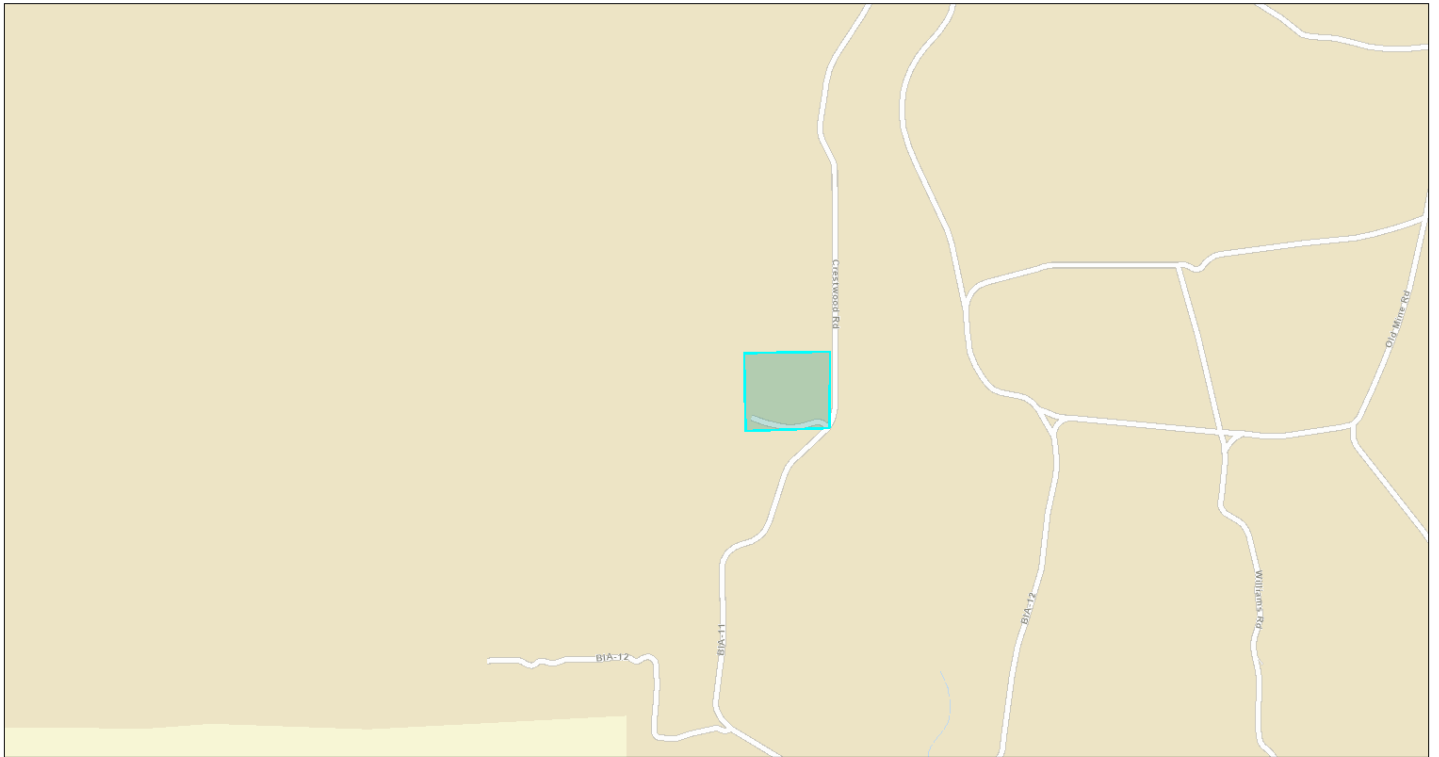
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Attachment 8: NEPA Assist Report

NEPAssist Report

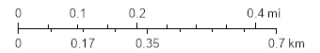
Sage



January 25, 2023

Sage

1:11,466



Erii Community Maps Contributors, SarGIS, California State Parks, Esri, HERE, Garmin, Foursquare, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, Bureau of Land Management, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA

Input Coordinates: 32.727109,-116.364974,32.727145,-116.362485,32.725286,-116.362506,32.725214,-116.364931,32.727109,-116.364974

| Project Area | 0.02 sq mi |
|--|------------------|
| Within an Ozone 8-hr (1997 standard) Non-Attainment/Maintenance Area? | no |
| Within an Ozone 8-hr (2008 standard) Non-Attainment/Maintenance Area? | yes |
| Within a Lead (2008 standard) Non-Attainment/Maintenance Area? | no |
| Within a SO2 1-hr (2010 standard) Non-Attainment/Maintenance Area? | no |
| Within a PM2.5 24hr (2006 standard) Non-Attainment/Maintenance Area? | no |
| Within a PM2.5 Annual (1997 standard) Non-Attainment/Maintenance Area? | no |
| Within a PM2.5 Annual (2012 standard) Non-Attainment/Maintenance Area? | no |
| Within a PM10 (1987 standard) Non-Attainment/Maintenance Area? | no |
| Within a Federal Land? | no |
| Within an impaired stream? | no |
| Within an impaired waterbody? | no |
| Within a waterbody? | no |
| Within a stream? | no |
| Within an NWI wetland? | Available Online |
| Within a Brownfields site? | no |
| Within a Superfund site? | no |
| Within a Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) site? | no |
| Within a water discharger (NPDES)? | no |
| Within a hazardous waste (RCRA) facility? | no |

| | |
|--|-----|
| Within an air emission facility? | no |
| Within a school? | no |
| Within an airport? | no |
| Within a hospital? | no |
| Within a designated sole source aquifer? | yes |
| Within a historic property on the National Register of Historic Places? | no |
| Within a Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) site? | no |
| Within a Land Cession Boundary? | yes |
| Within a tribal area (lower 48 states)? | yes |
| Within the service area of a mitigation or conservation bank? | yes |
| Within the service area of an In-Lieu-Fee Program? | no |
| Within a Public Property Boundary of the Formerly Used Defense Sites? | no |
| Within a Munitions Response Site? | no |
| Within an Essential Fish Habitat (EFH)? | no |
| Within a Habitat Area of Particular Concern (HAPC)? | no |
| Within an EFH Area Protected from Fishing (EFHA)? | no |
| Within a Bureau of Land Management Area of Critical Environmental Concern? | no |
| Within an ESA-designated Critical Habitat Area per U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service? | no |
| Within an ESA-designated Critical Habitat river, stream or water feature per U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service? | no |

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