



5.4 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

This section describes effects on biological resources that would be caused by implementation development consistent with the General Plan Update. The following discussion addresses existing environmental conditions in the General Plan Planning Area (Planning Area) which is inclusive of the City of Yorba Linda (City) and its Sphere of Influence, identifies and analyzes environmental impacts, and recommends measures to reduce or avoid adverse impacts anticipated from construction and operational activities. In addition, existing laws and regulations relevant to biological resources are described. In some cases, compliance with these existing laws and regulations would serve to reduce or avoid certain impacts that might otherwise occur.

5.4.1 Regulatory Setting

Federal

Federal Endangered Species Act

The Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA) provisions protect federally listed threatened and endangered species and their habitats from unlawful take and ensure that federal actions do not jeopardize the continued existence of a listed species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated critical habitat. Under the FESA, “take” is defined as “to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any of the specifically enumerated conduct.” USFWS regulations define harm to mean “an act which actually kills or injures wildlife.” Such an act “may include significant habitat modification or degradation where it actually kills or injures wildlife by significantly impairing essential behavioral patterns, including breeding, feeding or sheltering” (50 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] § 17.3).

Critical habitat is defined in Section 3(5)(A) of the FESA as “(i) the specific areas within the geographical area occupied by the species on which are found those physical or biological features (I) essential to the conservation of the species, and (II) which may require special management considerations or protection; and (ii) specific areas outside the geographical area occupied by the species upon a determination by the Secretary of Commerce or the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) that such areas are essential for the conservation of the species.”

Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 USC § 703 *et seq.*)

Migratory birds, including raptors (e.g., eagles, hawks, and owls) and their nests are protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). The MBTA makes it unlawful, unless permitted by regulations, to “pursue, hunt, take, capture, kill, attempt to take, capture, or kill, possess, offer for sale, sell, offer to barter, barter, offer to purchase, purchase, deliver for shipment, ship, export, import, cause to be shipped, exported, or imported, deliver for transportation, transport or cause to be transported, carry or cause to be carried, or receive for shipment, transportation, carriage, or export, any migratory bird, any part, nest, or egg of any such bird” (16 USC § 703).

In 1972, the MBTA was amended to include protection for migratory birds of prey (e.g., raptors). Six families of raptors occurring in North America were included in the amendment: Accipitridae (kites, hawks, and eagles); Cathartidae (New World vultures); Falconidae (falcons and caracaras); Pandionidae



(ospreys); Strigidae (typical owls); and Tytonidae (barn owls). The provisions of the 1972 amendment to the MBTA protect all species and subspecies of these families.

Regulated Habitats

Areas meeting the regulatory definition of “Waters of the U.S.” (Jurisdictional Waters) are subject to the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) under provisions of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (1972) and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act (1899). These waters may include all waters used, or potentially used, for interstate commerce, including all waters subject to the ebb and flow of the tide, all interstate waters, all other waters (intrastate lakes, rivers, streams, mudflats, sandflats, playa lakes, natural ponds, etc.), all impoundments of waters otherwise defined as “Waters of the U.S.,” tributaries of waters otherwise defined as “Waters of the U.S.,” the territorial seas, and wetlands (termed Special Aquatic Sites) adjacent to “Waters of the U.S.” (33 CFR, Part 328, Section 328.3).

Construction activities within jurisdictional waters are regulated by USACE. The placement of fill into such waters must comply with permit requirements of USACE. No USACE permit would be effective in the absence of State water quality certification pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. As a part of the permit process the USACE works directly with the USFWS to assess potential project impacts on biological resources.

State of California

California Endangered Species Act (California Fish and Game Code §§2050 et seq.)

Provisions of California Endangered Species Act (CESA) protect State-listed Threatened and Endangered species. CDFW regulates activities that may result in “take” of individuals (“take” means “hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill”). Habitat degradation or modification is not expressly included in the definition of “take” under the California Fish and Game (CDFG) Code.¹ Pursuant to CESA and Section 2081 of the CDFG Code, an Incidental Take Permit from the CDFW is required for projects that could result in the take of a State-listed Threatened or Endangered species. Under the CESA, “take” is defined as an activity that would directly or indirectly kill an individual of a species, but the definition does not include “harm” or “harass”, as the federal act does. As a result, the threshold for a take under the CESA is higher than that under the FESA. An incidental take permit authorized by the CDFW would be required where a project could result in the take of a State listed Threatened or Endangered Species. The application for an Incidental Take Permit under Section 2081(b) has a number of requirements, including the preparation of a conservation plan, generally referred to as a Habitat Conservation Plan.

Additionally, the CDFG Code contains lists of vertebrate species designated as “fully protected” (CDFG Code §§ 3511 [birds], 4700 [mammals], 5050 [reptiles and amphibians], 5515 [fish]). Such species may not be taken or possessed.

In addition to federal- and State-listed species, the CDFW also has produced a list of Species of Special Concern to serve as a “watch list.” Species on this list are of limited distribution or the extent of their

¹ The California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) formally changed its name to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) on January 1, 2013. In this document, references to literature and codes published by CDFW prior to Jan. 1, 2013, are cited as “CDFG.” The agency is otherwise referred to by the acronym, CDFW.



habitats has been reduced substantially, such that threat to their populations may be imminent. Species of Special Concern may receive special attention during environmental review, but they do not have statutory protection.

California Environmental Quality Act (14 California Code of Regulations § 15386; California Fish and Game Code § 1802)

The CDFW may play various roles during the CEQA process. As a trustee agency, the CDFW has jurisdiction over certain resources held in trust for the people of California. Trustee agencies are generally required to be notified of CEQA documents relevant to their jurisdiction, whether or not these agencies have actual permitting authority or approval power over aspects of the underlying project (14 California Code of Regulations [CCR] 15386). The CDFW, as a trustee agency, must be notified of CEQA documents regarding projects involving fish and wildlife of the State, as well as Rare and Endangered native plants, wildlife areas, and ecological reserves. Although as a trustee agency the CDFW cannot approve or disapprove a project, lead and responsible agencies are required to consult with the CDFW. The CDFW, as the trustee agency for fish and wildlife resources, shall provide the requisite biological expertise to review and comment upon environmental documents and impacts arising from project activities and shall make recommendations regarding those resources held in trust for the people of California.

Nesting Bird Protection (California Fish and Game Code §§ 3503 *et seq.*)

Section 3503 of the California Fish and Game Code prohibits activities that would result in the taking, possessing, or needlessly destroying of the nest or eggs of bird. Section 3503.5 prohibits taking, possessing, or destroying birds in the orders in the order Falconiformes or Strigiformes (birds-of-prey), including their eggs and nests. Construction-related disturbance during the breeding season could result in the incidental loss of fertile eggs or nestlings or otherwise lead to nest abandonment. Disturbance that causes nest abandonment and/or loss of reproductive effort is considered “take” by the CDFW.

Section 3511 prohibits taking or possessing any fully protected bird; namely: American peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus anatum*); Brown pelican; California black rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus*); California clapper rail (*Rallus longirostris obsoletus*); California condor (*Gymnogyps californianus*); California least tern (*Sterna albifrons browni*); Golden eagle; Greater sandhill crane (*Grus canadensis tabida*); Light-footed clapper rail (*Rallus longirostris levipes*); Southern bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus leucocephalus*); Trumpeter swan (*Cygnus buccinator*); White-tailed kite (*Elanus leucurus*); and Yuma clapper rail (*Rallus longirostris yumanensis*). Under Sections 3503 and 3503.5 of the CDFG Code, activities that would result in the taking, possessing, or destroying of any birds-of-prey, taking or possessing of any migratory nongame bird as designated in the MBTA, or the taking, possessing, or needlessly destroying of the nest or eggs of any raptors or non-game birds protected by the MBTA, or the taking of any non-game bird pursuant to CDFG Code Section 3800 are prohibited. Section 3513 makes it unlawful to take or possess any migratory nongame bird as designated in the MBTA.

California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act

Pursuant to the California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, the SWRCB and the nine RWQCBs may require permits (“Waste Discharge Requirements” [WDRs]) for the fill or alteration of “Waters of the State”. The term “Waters of the State” is defined as “any surface water or groundwater, including saline waters, within the boundaries of the state” (California Water Code § 13050[e]). Although “waste” is partially defined as any waste substance associated with human habitation, the SWRCB interprets this to



include fill discharge into water bodies. The SWRCB and the RWQCBs have interpreted their authority to require WDRs to extend to any proposal to fill or alter “Waters of the State”, even if those same waters are not under USACE jurisdiction. Pursuant to this authority, the SWRCB and the RWQCBs may require the submission of a “report of waste discharge” under Section 13260 of the California Water Code, which is treated as an application for a WDR.

Regional and Local

City of Yorba Linda General Plan Conservation Element

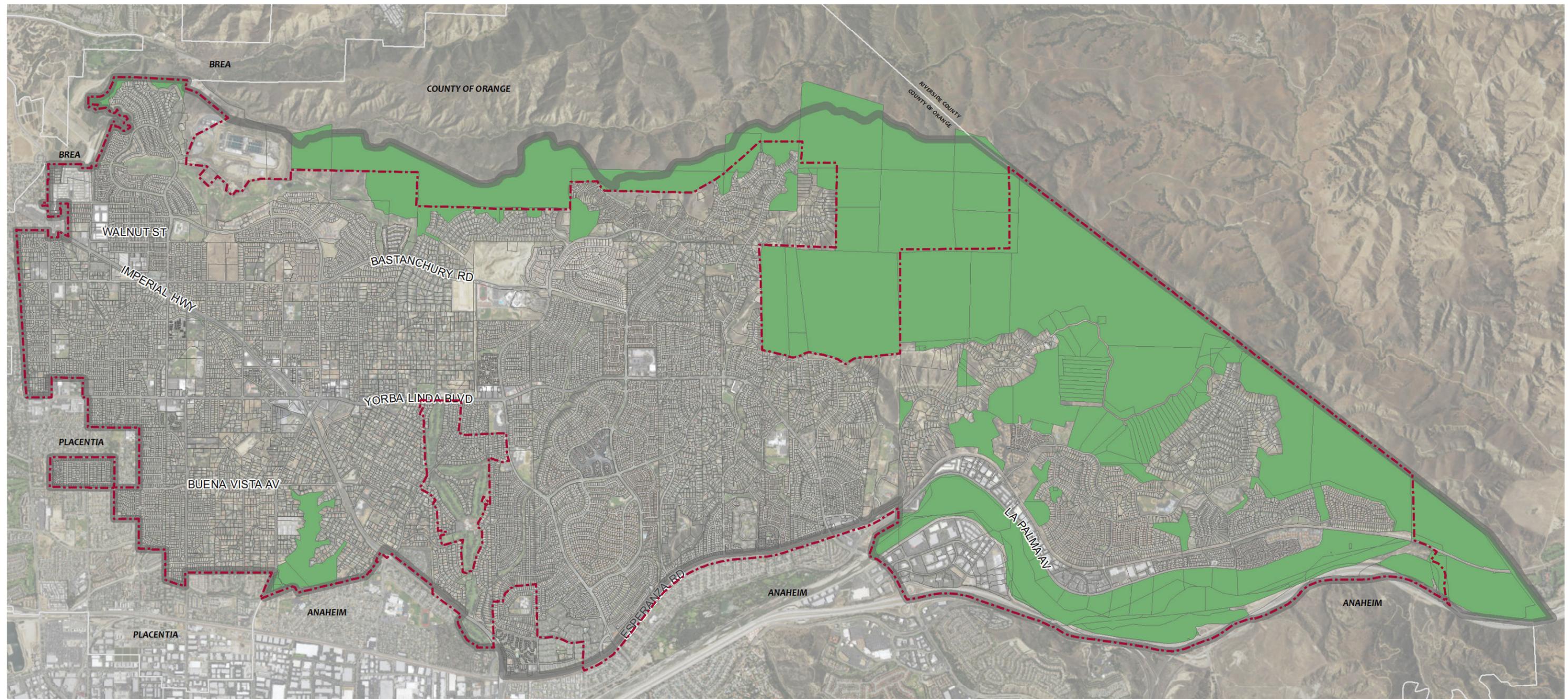
The Conservation Element addresses conservation and utilization of natural resources and the management and protection of open space lands. The Conservation Element provides policy guidance to protect, maintain, and enhance Yorba Linda’s natural resources and open space land.

Other Applicable Regulations, Plans, and Standards

The mission of the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Rare Plant Program is to develop current, accurate information on the distribution, ecology, and conservation status of California's rare and endangered plants, and to use this information to promote science-based plant conservation in California. Once a species has been identified as being of potential conservation concern it is put through an extensive review process. Once a species has gone through the review process, information on all aspects of the species (listing status, habitat, distribution, threats, etc.) are entered into the online CNPS Inventory. The program currently recognizes more than 2,300 plant taxa (species, subspecies and varieties) as rare or endangered in California (CNPS List, 2016).

5.4.2 Environmental Setting

The City of Yorba Linda is located in northeastern Orange County adjacent to the Chino and Puente Hills. These areas contain extensive oak woodland, chaparral, and coastal sage scrub communities. Topography ranges from gently sloping to steep hillsides. The southern portion of Planning Area is adjacent to the Santa Ana River. **Figure 5.4-1, Natural Habitat Areas** depicts that areas of the Planning Area that contain natural habitats.



- City Boundary
- Sphere of Influence
- Natural Habitat Areas





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Sensitive Animals, Plants, and Communities

Table 5.4-1, Special Status Wildlife and Plants describes animals, plants, or vegetation communities found within the Planning Area that are rated as “Threatened” or “Endangered”.

Table 5.4-1 Special Status Wildlife and Plants																			
Species	Federal Status	State Status	CDFW/Rare Plant Rank																
Animals: Birds																			
<i>Buteo swainsoni</i> Swainson’s hawk	None	Threatened	n/a																
<i>Coccyzus americanus occidentalis</i> Western yellow-billed cuckoo	Threatened	Endangered	n/a																
<i>Empidonax traillii</i> Willow flycatcher	None	Endangered	n/a																
<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i> southwestern willow flycatcher	Endangered	Endangered	n/a																
<i>Passerculus sandwichensis beldingi</i> Belding’s savannah sparrow	None	Endangered	n/a																
<i>Polioptila californica californica</i> Coastal California gnatcatcher	Threatened	SSC	n/a																
<i>Sternula antillarum browni</i> California least tern	Endangered	Endangered FP	FP																
<i>Vireo bellii pusillus</i> Least Bell’s vireo	Endangered	Endangered	n/a																
Animals: Fish and Mollusks																			
<i>Catostomus santaanae</i> Santa Ana sucker	Threatened	None	SSC																
Plants																			
<i>Eriastrum densifolium ssp. Sanctorum</i> Santa Ana River woolly star	Endangered	Endangered	1B.1																
<p>LEGEND:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Federal (USFWS)</td> <td>State (CDFG)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FE Endangered</td> <td>SA Special Animal</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FT Threatened</td> <td>SE Endangered</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FC Candidate</td> <td>ST Threatened</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>SCD State Candidate for Delisting</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>SSC Species of Special Concern</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>WL Watch List</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>FP Fully Protected</td> </tr> </table> <p>California Native Plant Society (CNPS) List Categories</p> <p>List 1A Plants Presumed Extinct in California</p> <p>List 1B Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California and Elsewhere</p> <p>List 2 Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California But More Common Elsewhere</p> <p>List 3 Plants About Which We Need More Information – A Review List</p> <p>List 4 Plants of Limited Distribution ☐ A Watch List</p> <p>California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Threat Code Extensions</p> <p>None Plants lacking any threat information</p> <p>.1 Seriously Endangered in California (over 80% of occurrences threatened; high degree and immediacy of threat)</p> <p>.2 Fairly Endangered in California (20–80% of occurrences threatened)</p>				Federal (USFWS)	State (CDFG)	FE Endangered	SA Special Animal	FT Threatened	SE Endangered	FC Candidate	ST Threatened		SCD State Candidate for Delisting		SSC Species of Special Concern		WL Watch List		FP Fully Protected
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Vegetation Communities

The various vegetation communities found in the Planning Area are detailed below.

Grasslands

Grasslands are found throughout the Planning Area, dominated primarily by non-native annual grasses. Examples include filaree (*Erodium sp.*), wild oats (*Avena barbata*), and wild radish (*Raphanus sativus*). Native and perennial grasses are less common due to past encroachments by the built environment.

Coastal Sage Scrub

These communities occur within the Planning Area primarily along the Santa Ana River, as well as in the north and east of the Planning Area, adjacent to Chino Hills State Park. *Chaparral*

The chaparral vegetation that dominates much of the Southern California landscape, including the Planning Area, can be broken down into several varieties. These include chamise (*Adenostoma fasciculatum*) and ceanothus chaparral including big podded ceanothus (*Ceanothus megacarpus*).

Oak Woodland

There are oak woodlands throughout the Planning Area. These are dominated primarily by the coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*).

Wildlife and Riparian Habitat

Areas in northern and southeastern Yorba Linda provide natural open space and various biological habitats. Exhibit X details these areas, which contain important wildlife. The area of biological activity in the southeast of the City is centered on the Santa Ana River. The norther biologically-active area contains riparian habitat and includes oak woodland, chaparral, and coastal sage scrub adjacent to Chino Hills State Park.

According to the California Department of Parks and Recreation, the open spaces in and around Yorba Linda are ideal locations to observe more than 200 species of birds and mammals, in addition to various reptiles, amphibians, and insects. Bird and mammal species include coyotes, mountain lions, bobcats, mule deer, opossums, raccoons, striped skunks, squirrels, red-tailed hawks, and vultures.

Wildlife Corridors

Wildlife corridors are sections of land connecting two larger areas of habitat. These corridors are free of barriers that could prevent wildlife passage and, as such, are critical to the well-being and stability of species found in the Planning Area. These corridors are also important to wildlife as a means of escape from brush fires as well as for the genetic dispersal of individuals between populations.

The California Essential Habitat Connectivity Project describes parts of northern and eastern Yorba Linda as Natural Landscape Blocks. These are relatively natural habitat blocks that support native biodiversity and can include areas of ecological connectivity.

Watersheds

The Planning Area lies within the Santa Ana Watershed, the largest in Southern California. The watershed begins in the San Bernardino Mountains and travels generally southwest to its discharge at Huntington



Beach. The Planning Area is drained specifically by the Santa Ana River. Its flow is intermittent, wholly dependent on the amount of rainfall in a given period.

5.4.3 Significance Threshold Criteria

According to Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, a project would normally have a significant effect on the environment if the project would:

- BIO-1 Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- BIO-2 Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- BIO-3 Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of Potentially Significant Impact Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated Less Than Significant Impact No Impact the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means.
- BIO-4 Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites.
- BIO-5 Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance.
- BIO-6 Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan.

5.4.4 Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Impact 5.4-1: The General Plan Update would not result in a substantial adverse impact on any special status or sensitive species. [Threshold BIO-1]

Impact Analysis

The City of Yorba Linda is largely built out; there are 2,586 acres of vacant land in the City. It is projected that there is the potential for 3,913 new housing units in the City which would allow for a potential population increase of 10,752 persons. In addition, the adoption of the proposed project would allow for up to 2,005,770 sq. ft. of additional commercial and industrial space. This would take place primarily in the downtown core and in already industrialized areas in the southeastern portion of the City.

The proposed General Plan Update has identified seven Focus Areas which are covered by more specialized policy direction that both complements and is consistent with citywide policies. These Focus Areas are listed below:

- West Gateway
- Civic Core
- Community Core
- Yorba Linda County Club



- Fairlynn County Island
- East Gateway
- Cielo/Esperanza

These Focus Areas, except for the Cielo/Esperanza Focus Area, are generally built out and would primarily have infill development and reuse of existing developed sites for commercial, industrial, and residential uses. The six focus areas that are currently developed are not examined here, as there would be no potential impact on any special status or sensitive species; these areas have already been modified.

The Cielo/Esperanza Focus Area is approximately 1,002.48 acres and is proposed for up to 626 new dwelling units under the proposed General Plan Update. This focus area is located within the City's Sphere of Influence and is adjacent to existing residential development. The terrain is characterized by undeveloped hillsides and ravines. EIRs have been prepared for proposed development in this focus area which requires mitigation associated with impacts to biological resources. Additionally, the General Plan Update contains goals and policies to preserve sensitive areas including Goal CN-2 (preservation of natural resource areas of community and regional significance), and Goal CN-3 (protection of sensitive hillsides).

Proposed General Plan Update Policies and Actions

Goal CN-2 – Preservation of natural resource areas of community and regional significance.

Policy CN-2.1 - Support the preservation of native wildlife and plant communities, and their habitats.

Policy CN-2.2 - Work with developers to ensure that resource protection measures are prepared and incorporated into development proposals.

Policy CN-2.3 - Conserve resource areas which are preserved through public and private acquisition by an open space management program.

Policy CN-2.4 - Support responsible management of regionally significant natural resources and wildlife habitat such as the Santa Ana River Corridor and Chino Hills State Park.

Policy CN-2.5 - Support the delineation of permanent open space areas within the City's sphere-of-influence.

Policy CN-2.6 - Support the requirement for development proposals to provide detailed biological assessments in areas which may contain important plant communities and wildlife habitat.

Policy CN-2.7 - Maintain an inventory of existing sensitive resources in and adjacent to the City.

Policy CN-2.8 - Ensure open space areas that contain sensitive biological resources are maintained as passive recreation uses.

Mitigation Measures

MM BIO-1 Any development in the Cielo/Esperanza Focus Area must be preceded by site inspection by a qualified biologist to determine the presence of species that are candidates to become, or currently, protected or special status.

Level of Significance After Mitigation

Less than significant impact.



Impact 5.4-2: The proposed project has the potential to lead to development in the Cielo/Esperanza Focus Area that could affect riparian habitat. [Threshold BIO-2]; and

Impact 5.4-3: The proposed project has the potential to lead to development in the Cielo/Esperanza Focus Area that could affect protected wetlands. [Threshold BIO-3]

Impact Analysis

As discussed above, the majority of new development that could occur under the proposed General Plan Update would occur in one of seven focus areas. Because six of these areas are primarily built out, no significant impacts to biological resources would be anticipated.

CEQA documentation prepared for proposed projects in the Cielo/Esperanza Focus Area have identified the presence of wetland and riparian resources. Mitigation Programs are identified in the EIRs to mitigate impacts to a less than significant level.

Proposed General Plan Update Goals and Policies

Goal CN-2 – Preservation of natural resource areas of community and regional significance.

Policy CN-2.1 - Support the preservation of native wildlife and plant communities, and their habitats.

Policy CN-2.2 - Work with developers to ensure that resource protection measures are prepared and incorporated into development proposals.

Policy-CN-2.3 - Conserve resource areas which are preserved through public and private acquisition by an open space management program.

Policy CN-2.4 - Support responsible management of regionally significant natural resources and wildlife habitat such as the Santa Ana River Corridor and Chino Hills State Park.

Policy CN-2.5 - Support the delineation of permanent open space areas within the City's sphere-of-influence.

Policy CN-2.6 - Support the requirement for development proposals to provide detailed biological assessments in areas which may contain important plant communities and wildlife habitat.

Mitigation Measures

Please refer to Mitigation Measure BIO-1. Project-specific mitigation would be required for development projects in the Cielo/Esperanza Focus Area.

Level of Significance After Mitigation

Less than significant impact.

Impact 5.4-4: The General Plan Update would not result in development that substantially interferes with the movement of wildlife. [Threshold BIO-4]



Impact Analysis

As mentioned above, the only area of the Planning Area expected to have impacts on biological resources is the Cielo/Esperanza Focus Area. Although the undeveloped hillsides provide for the local movement and dispersal of local wildlife, the area is constrained by urban development to the south and west. This existing development limits regional connectivity to other habitat areas. Development within this focus area would not be expected to substantially interfere with wildlife movement. Impacts would be less than significant.

Proposed General Plan Update Goals and Policies

Please refer to the General Plan Update goals and policies identified in this section.

Mitigation Measures

Please refer to Mitigation Measure BIO-1.

Level of Significance After Mitigation

Less than significant impact.

Impact 5.4-5: The General Plan Update would not conflict with any ordinance such as a tree preservation ordinance. [Threshold BIO-5]

Impact Analysis

The General Plan Update would not significantly impact biological resources within the City because it is predominately virtually built out and any new development would occur in areas that are already disturbed. As mentioned above, the only new development on undeveloped land that could occur would be in the Cielo/Esperanza study area which currently lies adjacent to the City in unincorporated Orange County. There are no applicable Orange County ordinances or policies such as tree preservation that would be affected by any development in that area.

Proposed General Plan Update Goals and Policies

Please refer to the General Plan Update goals and policies identified in this section.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation is required.

Level of Significance After Mitigation

Less than significant impact.

Impact 5.4-6: Although portions of the Project area are located near the Orange County Natural Communities Conservation Plan and Habitat Conservation Plan, there would be no impact on these areas as a result of Project implementation. [Threshold BIO-6]



Impact Analysis

Yorba Linda is a participating jurisdiction to the Orange County Central-Coastal Natural Communities Conservation Plan and Habitat Conservation Plan (NCCP/HCP). As discussed above, there is the potential for new development under the proposed General Plan Update in the Cielo/Esperanza Focus Area on land that is previously undeveloped. The forecasted commercial, residential, and industrial growth in the other six Focus Areas would be infill in nature as it would occur on previously disturbed or currently developed land.

The Cielo/Esperanza Focus Area is adjacent to the Central-Coastal NCCP/HCP; however, CEQA documentation prepared for projects within this Focus Area have not identified impacts to conservation goals and policies. Any new development would also be subject to Mitigation Measure BIO-1, which requires that a sensitive species survey be conducted in any area of new growth in order to determine potential impacts and identify required mitigation.

Proposed General Plan Update Goals and Policies

Please refer to the General Plan Update goals and policies identified in this section.

Mitigation Measures

Please refer to Mitigation Measure BIO-1.

Level of Significance After Mitigation

Less than significant impact.

5.4.5 Cumulative Impacts

Although there is the potential for commercial, residential, and industrial growth in the City of Yorba Linda and its Planning Area upon implementation of the proposed General Plan Update, it is anticipated that cumulative impacts would be less than significant. This is because much of any new growth would be limited to areas that are previously or currently developed within the City, excepting the Cielo/Esperanza Focus Area. This area would not be of a significant size relative to the portions of the Planning Area that are already developed, would not impede the movement of wildlife, and would be analyzed in detail by a qualified biologist to ensure less than significant impacts on biological resources before any construction.

5.4.6 Significant Unavoidable Impacts

No significant unavoidable impacts are identified.