APPLICATION

PURPOSE OF THIS FORM

Complete this form to apply for incidental take permit coverage under the Yolo Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan (Yolo HCP/NCCP) and submit electronically to your local planning office. The completion of this form satisfies the minimum requirements for permit coverage. The Yolo Habitat Conservancy ("Conservancy") encourages submittal of a preliminary application to your local planning office to ensure timely and accurate completion. Your local agency planning office also may request additional information to clarify or complete your application. Chapter 6 of the Permitting Guide provides instructions for form completion, available along with additional resourceson the Conservancy's web site under the "Permitting" tab. Please note if an application fee is required (see Screening Form, Box D), you should submit this fee to the Conservancy early in the application process. The Conservancy automatically adjusts mitigation fees by March 15th of each year to reflect current land prices and other expenses. If an applicant does not complete their application and issue payment prior to the fee update, the new fees will apply. The applicant may, however, pay mitigation fees early at the previous year's rate consistent with the Conservancy's Early Payment of Mitigation Fees Policy.

Regional-scale data related land cover, sensitive natural communities, and covered species habitats in Yolo is made available through the Yolo HCP/NCCP GeoMapper online mapping tool. The GeoMapper tool is accessible via the Resources tab of the Yolo Habitat Conservancy website below, although it is intended for informational purposes only, All HCP/NCCP permit applicants must have site-specific planning level surveys by a qualified biologist to determine actual land cover and sensitive natural communities and species habitats in and around a project site to determine the correct amount of land cover mitigation fees and project specific Avoidance and Minimization Measures (AMMs).

https://www.yolohabitatconservancy.org/resources

BOX A: Preliminary/Final Application	
Check one box.	
☐ Preliminary Application (signature not required)	☒ Final Application (complete form and signature required)

BOX B: APPLICATION DETAILS		
1 Project name	PG&E I-680C Line 302W ILI Upgrade	
2 Submittal date	5/11/2022	
3 Application/project file number(s) (assigned by local agency)		
4 YHC internal tracking #		
5 Local agency with approval authority	☐ Yolo County ☐ City of Davis ☐ City of Woodland ☐ City of West Sacramento ☐ City of Winters ☐ Other _____	☒ Special Participating Entity (SPE) **Note**: Applicants not subject to approval from the County or cities, or for projects not specifically identified and not specifically excluded as a covered activity under the Plan, should check this box to request permit coverage as an SPE if desired. SPE permit coverage is not guaranteed, are processed by the Conservancy, and must be approved by the Conservancy Board.

BOX C: PROJECT CONTACT			
1 Property Owner			
1.a Property owner name			
1.b Mailing address			
1.c Phone (home/office)		1.d Phone (Cellular)	
1.e Email			
2 Project Agent/Applicant			
2.a Company/organization	Pacific Gas and Electric Co.		
2.b Name of primary contact	Jeff Warshauer		
2.c Mailing address	6111 Bollinger Canyon Road, San Ramon, CA 94583		
2.d Phone (office)	925-973-8047	2.e Phone (Cellular)	925-973-8047
2.f Email	JZWB@pge.com		
Permissions			
3 Local agency and/or the Conservancy may contact the property owner directly	☐ Yes ☒ No		
4 Local agency and/or the Conservancy may contact the project agent/applicant directly	☒ Yes ☐ No		

BOX D: PROJECT INFORMATION	
1 Project address and location	500 feet southeast of the intersection of County Road 4 and the Tehama Colusa Canal, approximately 1.3 mile west of Dunnigan, CA.
2 Assessor parcel number(s) APNs and acreage by parcel (not applicable for linear projects).	
3 Total acreage of parcel(s) (not applicable for linear projects spanning multiple parcels)	
4 Using the GeoMapper's Spatially Defined Planning Unit Map, find your proposed project site. Check the Planning Unit in which your project lies.	**Yolo County Planning Units** ☐ 1 – Little Blue Ridge ☐ 2 – North Blue Ridge ☐ 3 – South Blue Ridge ☐ 4 – Capay Hills ☒ 5 – Dunnigan Hills ☐ 6 – Upper Cache Creek ☐ 7 – Lower Cache Creek ☐ 8 – Upper Putah Creek ☐ 9 – Lower Putah Creek ☐ 10 – Hungry Hollow Basin ☐ 11 – Willow Slough Basin ☐ 12 – Colusa Basin ☐ 13 – Colusa Basin Plains ☐ 14 – North Yolo Basin ☐ 15 – South Yolo Basin ☐ 16 – Yolo Basin Plains ☐ 17 – North Yolo Bypass ☐ 18 – South Yolo Bypass **Cities** ☐ 19 – City of Woodland ☐ 20 – City of Davis ☐ 21 – City of West Sacramento ☐ 22 – City of Winters

BOX D: PROJECT INFORMATION

5	▣	Provide a project description. Please refer to the Permitting Guide for details to include in the project description. Label as **Attachment 1** or indicate in this box the page numbers of the planning level survey where this information can be found**.**
6	▣	Provide a legible vicinity map of the project site and surrounding area (PDF). Refer to the Permitting Guide for more information about details to include on the vicinity map. Label as **Attachment 2.** Rather than a separate PDF, applicant may include the site plan in the planning level survey report. If so, provide page number here**:** _____
7	▣	Provide a site plan that shows the proposed project site and surrounding area. (PDF and CAD or GIS-compatible). Refer to the Permitting Guide for more information about details to include in the site plan and details regarding the required CAD or GIS-compatible digital information to be attached. Label as **Attachment 3.** Rather than a separate PDF, applicant may include the site plan in the planning level survey report or other report. If so, attach report or excerpt and provide report name and page number here**:** _____

BOX E: NATURAL COMMUNITY AND LAND COVER IMPACTS AND MITIGATION FEES

Complete Items 1-26 below, referring to the Permitting Guide for calculation methods.

- Total fee amount for each land cover type will be auto-generated based on acreage amount (and for recurring temporary impacts, number of years out of the 50-year permit term the impact will occur).
- Temporary impact fee formula = land cover fee x area of temporary effect in acres x (F/50) where F = the number of years in which the activity will occur during the rest of the permit term (until 2069).
- Must include required land cover fee buffer area associated with the project. This is generally 10 feet for linear projects (e.g. roads, utility corridors, pipelines) and 50 feet for all other projects. See Chapter 3 of the Permitting Guide.
- Fees will be updated annually, typically in March.
- Wetland fees are in addition to land cover fees. For project proponents transplanting elderberry shrubs from a non-riparian habitat, a per acre maintenance fee of $19,104 is assessed. The maintenance fee is subject to the annual increase in fees pursuant to existing methodology.
- Submit a planning level survey, including a field-verified land cover map and the name and qualifications of the qualified biologist(s) responsible for preparation of the report. Label as **Attachment 4.** Mapped areas shown on the site plan (**Attachment 3** in Box D, Item 7) should be consistent with the acreages entered below. Include photographs of temporary impact areas. Label photos as **Attachment 5**.

Land Cover Types	Land Cover Permanently Impacted by Project (in acres)			Land Cover Temporarily Impacted by Project (in acres)	Years of Recurring Temporary Impact	Fees (Auto Generated)				
	Permanent Impact (acres)	Fee Buffer (acres)	TOTAL			Land Cover Fee (per acre)	Wetland Fee (per acre)	Permanent Impact, Land Cover Fee	Temporary Impact, Land Cover Fee	Wetland Fee
1 ☐ Developed (including ruderal with no covered species habitat)[a]			0.0			$0	$0	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
2 ☐ Ruderal with covered species habitat [a]			0.0			$15,571	$0	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
3 ☐ Barren, No Covered Species Habitat			0.0			$0	$0	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
4 ☐ Barren, With Covered Species Habitat			0.0			$15,571	$0	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
5 ☐ Vegetated Corridor with Covered Species Habitat			0.0			$15,571	$0	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
6 ■ Grassland (all types)			0.0	0.5	1	$15,571	$0	$ 0.00	$ 158.82	$ 0.00
7 ☐ Alkali Prairie			0.0			$15,571	$0	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
8 ☐ Fresh Emergent Wetland (all types)			0.00			$15,571	$80,864	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00

BOX E: NATURAL COMMUNITY AND LAND COVER IMPACTS AND MITIGATION FEES

9	☐ Valley Foothill Riparian			0.00			$15,571	$66,560	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
10	☐ Lacustrine and Riverine			0.00			$15,571	$64,854	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
11	☐ Cultivated Land (all types)			0.0			$15,571	$0	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
12	☐ Citrus/Subtropical			0.0			$15,571	$0	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
13	☐ Deciduous Fruits/Nuts			0.0			$15,571	$0	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
14	☐ Vineyards			0.0			$15,571	$0	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
15	☐ Turf Farm			0.0			$15,571	$0	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
16	☐ Flowers/Nursery/Tree Farms			0.0			$15,571	$0	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
17	☐ Semiag/Incidental to Agriculture			0.0			$15,571	$0	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
18	☐ Eucalyptus			0.0			$15,571	$0	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
								TOTAL	0.00	158.82	0.00

19	**TOTAL LAND COVER IMPACTS AND MITIGATION FEES**	$ 158.82
20	**APPLICATION FEE** (The application fee is credited towards the cost of the mitigation fees if the application fee is paid prior to the submittal of the mitigation fee payment . Application fee as of January 1, 2020: $1,981)	$ 1,981.00
21	**OTHER CREDITS** (Advanced fee payment or in lieu fee credit – must be verified by Conservancy). Add **Attachment 6**	$
22	**TOTAL LAND COVER IMPACTS AND MITIGATION FEES DUE** (Mitigation fees due are determined at the time of payment unless they were paid in accordance with the Yolo HCP/NCCP Early Payment of Mitigation Fees Policy. See www.yolohabitatconservancy.org for current fee schedule.)	$ -1,822.18

[a] Land cover fees may be applicable if covered species habitat is present.

BOX F: CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL: CONDUCT PLANNING LEVEL SURVEYS

Based on a planning level survey conducted by a qualified biologist using the land cover definitions described in the Permitting Guide in Table 2-1, indicate which sensitive natural communities and covered species are relevant to your project. Indicate below whether suitable covered species habitats are present (Column A) and, where applicable, if there is a need to conduct a more focused survey(s) for covered species (Column B) to confirm presence. Complete species-specific planning level surveys as needed consistent with protocols referenced in Appendix A of the Permitting Guide. Alternatively, covered species presence can be assumed, which would requires adherence to applicable AMMs and implementation of avoidance measures or preconstruction surveys. Attach all species-specific planning level surveys as **Attachment 7**. Describe, map, and tabulate impacts the project will have on each natural community and each species for which habitat is present. Impact calculations must correspond to the permanent and temporary impact calculations in Box E. Label as **Attachment 8**. Alternatively, the impact assessment can be incorporated into the planning level survey. **Important**: Be aware of the timing requirements for conducting a species-specific planning level survey (Table 6-1 in the Permitting Guide) to avoid project delays.

	A. Project Site Conditions Requiring Planning Level Survey	B. Species-Specific Planning Level Survey Results	C. Documentation
Sensitive Natural Communities			
1 Alkali prairie and vernal pool complex	Are vernal pools or alkali seasonal wetlands present within 250 feet of project footprint? ☐ **Yes**. *Design project to avoid vernal pools or alkali seasonal wetlands by 250 feet or lesser buffer if approved by wildlife agencies (see Permitting Guide Table 2-1). Check Box G, AMMs 9 and 10. Go to Column C.* ■ **No**	N/A	Map attached? (Attachment 4) ☐ **Yes** ■ **No** If vernal pools or alkali seasonal wetlands are present on or near the site, provide map showing how project avoids these wetlands.
2 Valley foothill riparian	Is valley foothill riparian present within 100 feet of the project site boundary? ☐ **Yes**. *Design project to avoid valley foothill riparian by 100 feet or count all portions within 100 feet in the impact acreage (see Permitting Guide Table 2-1). Check Box G, AMMs 9 and 10. Go to Column C and provide map.* ■ **No**	N/A	Map attached? (Attachment 4) ☐ **Yes** ■ **No** Provide map showing the valley foothill riparian in relation to the project footprint.
3 Lacustrine and riverine	Are any streams, rivers, lakes, or ponds within 25 feet of project footprint inside urban planning units, or within 100 feet of project footprint outside urban planning units? ☐ **Yes**. *Design project to avoid these resources by 25 feet inside urban planning units or 100 feet outside urban planning units, or count all portions within these distances in the impact acreage, unless a variance is allowed. Check Box G, AMMs 9 and 10. Go to Column C and provide map.* ■ **No**	N/A	Map attached? (Attachment 4) ☐ **Yes** ■ **No** Provide map showing any streams, rivers, lakes, or ponds in relation to the project footprint.

BOX F: CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL: CONDUCT PLANNING LEVEL SURVEYS			
	A. Project Site Conditions Requiring Planning Level Survey	B. Species-Specific Planning Level Survey Results	C. Documentation
Sensitive Natural Communities			
4 Fresh emergent wetlands	Are there any fresh emergent wetlands within 50 feet of project footprint outside urban planning units? ☐ **Yes**. *Design project to avoid these resources by 50 feet, or count all portions within 50 feet in the impact acreage. Check Box G, AMMs 9 and 10. Go to Column C and provide map).* ***Survey period: May 31–September 30*** ■ **No**	N/A	Map attached? (Attachment 4) ☐ **Yes** ■ **No** Provide map of fresh emergent wetlands in relation to the project footprint.
Plants			
5 Palmate-bracted bird's beak	Is suitable habitat present within 250 feet of the project site boundary? (see Permitting Guide Table 2-2) ☐ **Yes**. *Survey for palmate-bracted bird's beak consistent with Permitting Guide Appendix A. Check Box G, AMM 11. Go to Column B.* ***Survey period: May 31–September 30*** ■ **No**	Is palmate-bracted bird's beak present? ☐ **Yes**. *Design project to avoid occupied habitat as described in AMM 11. Go to Column C.* ■ **No.** *Go to Column C.*	Species-specific planning level survey report attached? (Attachment 7) ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No** *Include report of species-specific planning level survey and map of habitat and any plants found in relation to project footprint.*
Invertebrates			
6 Valley elderberry longhorn beetle	Is there presence of elderberry shrubs in the project site or within 100 feet outside of the project site boundary that could be impacted by the project? ☐ **Yes**. *Identify and map all elderberry shrubs in and within 100 feet of project footprint with stems greater than one inch in diameter at ground level. For mapped shrubs that cannot be avoided, quantify the number of stems greater than one inch in diameter at ground level, and identify any such stems with valley elderberry longhorn beetle exit holes. Check Box G, AMM 12. Go to Column C and provide survey report.* ***Survey period: Year-round*** ■ **No**	N/A	Species-specific planning level survey report attached? (Attachment 7) ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

BOX F: CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL: CONDUCT PLANNING LEVEL SURVEYS

	A. Project Site Conditions Requiring Planning Level Survey	B. Species-Specific Planning Level Survey Results	C. Documentation
Amphibians			
7 California tiger salamander	Is there presence of California tiger salamander aquatic or upland habitat in the project footprint, or aquatic habitat within 500 feet of the project footprint? ☒ **Yes**. *Check box G, AMM 13. Is the habitat within designated critical habitat for California tiger salamander, as determined using the GeoMapper?* ☒ **Yes**. Design project to avoid designated critical habitat. ☐ **No.** *If aquatic habitat cannot be avoided by 500 feet, either conduct surveys as described in the Permitting Guide Appendix A, or assume species presence.* ***Survey period: After rainfall, November 1 to May 15.*** *Go to Column B.* ☐ **No**	Are California tiger salamanders present or assumed to be present in aquatic habitat? ☒ **Yes**. *If the species is present or assumed to be present, the Yolo HCP/NCCP will not allow any loss of occupied aquatic habitat until at least four new occupied breeding pools are discovered or established and protected in the Plan Area. Contact Yolo Habitat Conservancy. Go to Column C.* ☐ **No**	Species-specific planning level survey attached? (Attachment 7) ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**
Reptiles			
8 Western Pond Turtle	Is western pond turtle habitat present in the project footprint? ☒ **Yes**. Check Box G, AMM 14. A qualified biologist is required to evaluate whether there is moderate to high likelihood of western pond turtle presence. *Go to Columns B and C.* ☐ **No**	Moderate to high likelihood of western pond turtle presence? ☐ **Yes:** Check Box F for western pond turtle preconstruction surveys. ☒ **No**	Habitat evaluation attached? (Attachment 7) ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**
9 Giant Garter Snake	Is there any giant garter snake habitat (as defined in the Permitting Guide, Table 2-2) within the project footprint? ☐ **Yes**. *Design project to avoid or minimize impact on giant garter snake habitat to the extent practicable. If habitat cannot be avoided, see AMM 15. Check Box F for giant garter snake Preconstruction surveys, and check Box G, AMM 15.* ☒ **No**	N/A	N/A

BOX F: CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL: CONDUCT PLANNING LEVEL SURVEYS			
	A. Project Site Conditions Requiring Planning Level Survey	B. Species-Specific Planning Level Survey Results	C. Documentation
Birds			
10 Swainson's Hawk and White-tailed Kite	Are there suitable Swainson's hawk or white-tailed kite nest trees within 1,320 feet of the project footprint? ☒ **Yes**. *If nest trees cannot be avoided by 1,320 feet, check Box F for hawk and kite Preconstruction surveys, and Box G, AMM 16.* ☐ **No**	N/A	N/A
11 Western yellow-billed cuckoo	Is suitable habitat present within 500 feet of the project site boundary? ☐ **Yes**. *If there are breeding records for the western yellow-billed cuckoo within ¼ mile of the project site from the previous three years (as determined by GeoMapper), then assume species is present. If there are no breeding records with ¼ mile, then either assume species is present or survey consistent with Chapter 6 of the Permitting Guide. See columns B and C. Check Box F for western yellow-billed cuckoo Preconstruction surveys and Check Box G, AMM 17.* ***Survey period: June 1–August 30.*** ☒ **No**	Is western yellow-billed cuckoo present or assumed to be present? ☐ **Yes**. *If project cannot avoid occupied habitat by 500 feet, avoid take of nesting birds as described in AMM 17.* ☒ **No.**	Species Survey attached? (Attachment 7) ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**
12 Western Burrowing Owl	Is western burrowing owl habitat present on the project site, or within 500 feet of the project site? ☒ **Yes**. *Conduct planning level surveys for occupied habitat as described in Permitting Guide Appendix A. Go to Columns B and C.* ***Survey period: February 1–August 31 during the breeding season; September 1–January 31 during nonbreeding season.*** ☐ **No**	Are burrowing owls present? ☐ **Yes**. *Check Box G, AMM18. If burrows cannot be avoided, consistent with Table 2-3 in the Permitting Guide, Check Box F for western burrowing owl preconstruction surveys.* ☒ **No**	Species-specific planning level survey attached? (Attachment 7) ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**

BOX F: CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL: CONDUCT PLANNING LEVEL SURVEYS

	A. Project Site Conditions Requiring Planning Level Survey	B. Species-Specific Planning Level Survey Results	C. Documentation
13 Least Bell's Vireo	Is least Bell's vireo habitat present in and within 500 feet of project footprint? ☐ **Yes**. *Check Box G, AMM 19. Are there nesting records for the species within ¼ mile of the site from the previous three years (determined using the GeoMapper)?* ☐ **Yes**. *Assume species is present. See Column B.* ☐ **No.** *Conduct planning level surveys, as described in Permitting Guide Appendix A. See Columns B and C.* ***Survey period: April 1–July 15*** ■ **No**	Are least Bell's vireo nests present or assumed to be present? ☐ **Yes**. *Check Box F for least Bell's vireo preconstruction surveys. Avoid take of birds as described in AMM 19.* ■ **No.**	Species Survey attached? (Attachment 7) ☐ **Yes** ■ **No**
14 Bank Swallow	Is bank swallow nesting habitat present on the project site, or within 500 feet of the project site? ☐ **Yes**. *Check Box G, AMM 20. Conduct planning level surveys as described in Permitting Guide Appendix A. Go to Columns B and C.* ***Survey period: March 1–August 15*** ■ **No**	Are nesting bank swallows present? ☐ **Yes**. *Check Box F for bank swallow preconstruction surveys. Avoid take of birds as described in AMM 19.* ■ **No.**	Species-specific planning level survey attached? (Attachment 7) ☐ **Yes** ■ **No**
15 Tricolored Blackbird	Is tricolored blackbird nesting habitat present on the project site, or within 1,300 feet of the project site? ☐ **Yes**. *Conduct planning level surveys as described in Permitting Guide Appendix A. Check Box G, AMM 21. Go to Column C.* ***Survey period: March 1–July 30*** ■ **No**	N/A	Species-specific planning level survey attached? (**Attachment 7**) ☐ **Yes** ■ **No**

BOX G: CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL: CONDUCT PRE-CONSTRUCTION SURVEYS

Indicate which species in **Items 1-7** are relevant to your project. **Important**: Refer to Chapter 4 of the Permitting Guide for information about survey purpose, the land cover types and site conditions requiring preconstruction surveys, survey area size, and survey timing.

Birds			
1	■ Swainson's hawk	4	■ Western burrowing owl
2	■ White-tailed kite	5	☐ Least-Bell's vireo
3	☐ Western yellow-billed cuckoo		
Reptiles			
6	☐ Giant garter snake	7	■ Western pond turtle

BOX H: CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL: AVOIDANCE AND MINIMIZATION MEASURES (AMMs)		
Check the avoidance and minimization measures below that apply to your project. Refer to the Permitting Guide for assistance. Describe how you will fulfill the requirements of each required condition. Plan your construction carefully around the translocation or other dates required by the AMMs. Label as **Attachment 9**.		
1	■	AMM1: *Establish Resource Protection Buffers*
2	■	AMM 2: *Design Developments to Minimize Indirect Effects at Urban-Habitat Interfaces (this AMM does not apply to new development where it is immediately adjacent to existing developed lands*)
3	■	AMM 3: *Confine and Delineate Work Area*
4	■	AMM 4: *Cover Trenches and Holes during Construction and Maintenance*
5	■	AMM 5: *Control Fugitive Dust*
6	■	AMM 6: *Conduct Worker Training*
7	■	AMM 7: *Control Nighttime Lighting of Project Construction Sites*
8	■	AMM 8: *Avoid and Minimize Effects of Construction Staging Areas and Temporary Work Areas*
9	■	AMM 9: *Establish Resource Protection Buffers around Sensitive Natural Communities*
10	☐	AMM 10: *Avoid and Minimize Effects on Wetlands and Waters*
11	☐	AMM 11: *Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Palmate-Bracted Bird's Beak*
12	☐	AMM 12: *Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Habitat of Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle*
13	■	AMM 13: *Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Habitat of California Tiger Salamander*
14	■	AMM 14: Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Habitat of Western Pond Turtle
15	☐	AMM 15: *Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Habitat of Giant Garter Snake*
16	■	AMM 16: *Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Habitat of Swainson's Hawk and White-Tailed Kite*
17	☐	AMM 17: *Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Habitat of Western Yellow-Billed Cuckoo*
18	■	AMM 18: *Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Western Burrowing Owl*
19	☐	AMM 19: *Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Least Bell's Vireo*
20	☐	AMM 20: *Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Habitat of Bank Swallow*
21	☐	AMM 21: *Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Habitat of Tricolored Blackbird*

BOX I: ATTACHMENT CHECKLIST
Indicate which attachments are provided below. **Note**: Attachments must meet the requirements described in Permitting Guide. If these requirements are not met, your application may be delayed.
All Projects
■ **Attachment 1**. Project Description (Box C). Attach separately or indicate report page #s here:
■ **Attachment 2**. Vicinity map PDF (Box C). Attach separately or indicate report page # here:
■ **Attachment 3**. Site Plan (Box C). Attach separately or indicate report page # here: Also include CAD or GIS compatible data.
Projects with Impacts
■ **Attachment 4**. Planning level survey (Box D)
■ **Attachment 5**. Photos of temporary impact areas. Attach separately or indicate report page #s here:
☐ **Attachment 6**. Documentation if land is offered in lieu of fees (Box D, Item 30)
☐ **Attachment 7**. Species-specific planning level survey(s) (Box E). Attach separately or indicate report page #s here:
☐ **Attachment 8**. Unavoidable impacts on covered species. Attach separately or indicate report page #s here:

BOX I: ATTACHMENT CHECKLIST

☒ **Attachment 9**. Description of compliance with avoidance and minimization measures (Box G). Attach separately or indicate report page #s here:

BOX J: SIGNATURES

☒ **By checking the box and signing below I certify all information in the application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I also certify I understand the requirements of the AMMs, including dates for elderberry translocation or other dates that may affect construction timing.**

1	Property owner name and contact information	Name			
		Phone		Email	
2	Property owner signature			Date	
3	Project agent/applicant name and contact information	Name	Jeff Warshauer		
		Phone	925-973-8047	Email	JZWB@pge.com
4	Project agent/applicant signature	Jeff Warshauer Digitally signed by Jeff Warshauer Date: 2022.05.11 12:05:01 -07'00'		Date	5/11/2022

FORM SUBMITTAL INSTRUCTIONS

Submit this form electronically to the applicable contact below. If the project applicant is seeking HCP/NCCP permit coverage as an SPE, submit the form to the Yolo Habitat Conservancy. The signed Final Application and payment of all other Plan fees is required following project approval and prior to formal Yolo HCP/NCCP approval.

LOCAL AGENCY PLANNINGOFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION

Yolo County Stephanie Cormier Planning Division Department of Community Services 292 West Beamer Street, Woodland (530) 666-8041	**City of West Sacramento** David Tilley Community Development Department 1110 West Capitol Ave., 2nd Floor, West Sacramento (916) 617-4645	**City of Davis** Sherri Metzker Community Development & Sustainability 23 Russell Blvd., Suite 2, Davis (530) 757-5610 ext. 7239	**City of Woodland** Cindy Norris Planning Division 300 First Street, Woodland (530) 661-5911	**City of Winters** Kirk Skierski Community Development Department 318 First Street, Winters (530) 794-6714

YOLO HABITAT CONSERVANCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Address: PO Box 2202, Woodland, CA 95776 Phone: 530-666-8150 Email: info@yolohabitatconservancy.org

FOR STAFF USE ONLY			
Project planner name		Phone number	
Email		Date	
Covered activity type			
HCP/NCCP Application	☐ Complete ☐ Not complete	☐ Special Participating Entity	

Attachment 1 – Project Description

The I-680C project would consist of mowing a 12,600 square foot area for workspace and staging to excavate an approximately 32” x 14’6” wide and 5’6” deep excavation to expose the top of an existing natural gas transmission line. The excavation would allow for PG&E to update records on the pipe angle and condition and determine the pipeline’s readiness for future in-line inspections required by the California Public Utilities Commission. Once the line is exposed and information recorded, the trench would be backfilled with native material back to the original contour and the work area would be reseeded and monitored until it is successfully returned to pre-construction condition. The investigative dig is anticipated to take approximately 1 week.

Property Ownership:

Western Parcel

- Owner – Ranjit and Sukhwant Dhillion
- Site Address – 2998 County Road 88, Dunnigan, CA
- APN – 051-140-027

Eastern Parcel (Canal)

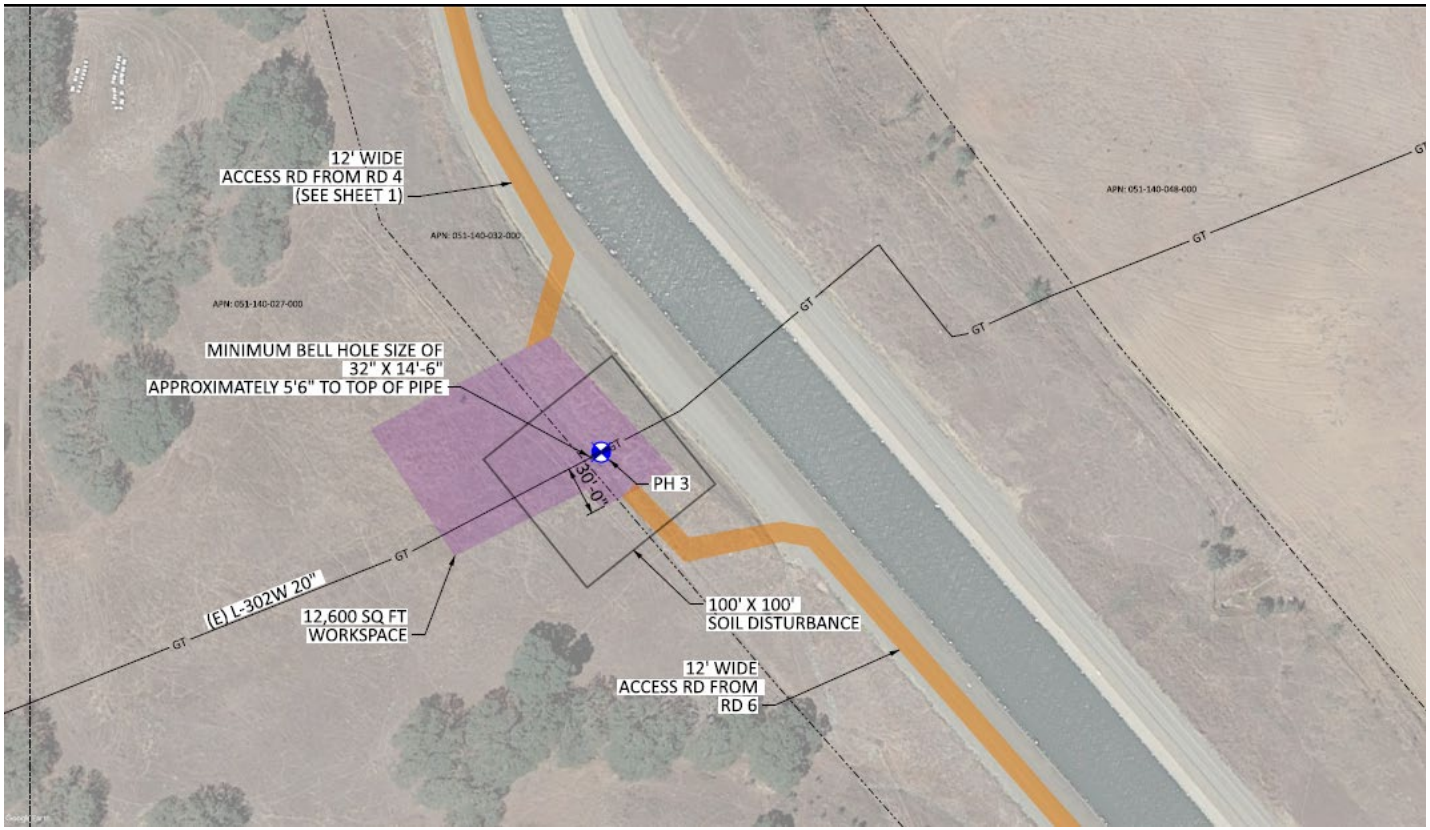
- Owner – Tehama Colusa Canal Authority
- Site Address – None shown
- Office Address – 5513 HWY 163, Willows, CA 95988
- APN – 051-140-032

Attachment 2 – Vicinity Map

Site Location

Access Road

Attachment 3 – Site Plan



Please see Attachment 4 (Planning Level Survey Report) for figures showing HCP/NCCP Land Cover types and discussion of impact acreage.

Attachment 4 – Planning Survey Report

Livermore, CA 94551

To: Marjorie Eisert
Jacobs Engineering Group Inc.

From: Cole Paris
Swaim Biological Incorporated

Date: February 4, 2022

Re: I-680C Dunnigan – Location A – Planning Level Assessment

PG&E plans to perform inspections on an existing natural gas transmission line, located in Yolo County, to detect irregularities or components that need replacement. The area of impact associated with the project for which PG&E seeks take coverage under the Yolo Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan (HCP/NCCP) consists of roughly 0.51 acres that includes access routes and temporary workspaces. The Yolo Habitat Conservancy (Conservancy) considers this a public utility infrastructure operations and maintenance project, which is an HCP/NCCP covered activity.

This memorandum presents the results of a planning level assessment of the I-680 C Location A workspace. A summary of the existing land cover within a 500-foot and ¼-mile buffer of the proposed project area and known species data within 5-miles of the project area are presented in Figures 1-3. Representative site photographs are presented in Attachment 1. An initial project evaluation has not yet been conducted by the Conservancy.

Project Description

Work for this project will be conducted in an area of natural habitat approximately 1.5 miles west of the town of Dunnigan. The project area includes an approximately 0.45-acre temporary workspace. Access to the project area will be from an existing graveled levee road accessed from Road 4 or Road 6.

Species covered under the HCP/NCCP that could be affected by the project include California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*; CTS, upland habitat), white-tailed kite (*Elanus leucurus*; WTKI, foraging and nesting habitat), Swainson's hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*; SWHA, foraging and nesting habitat), burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*; BUOW, foraging and nesting habitat), and western pond turtle (*Actinemys marmorata*; WPT, nesting and overwintering habitat).

Methods

The survey was conducted by Conservancy-approved biologist Cole Paris/SBI on January

14, 2022 by walking the entirety of the project footprint and adjacent habitat within a 500-foot buffer to evaluate the suitability of habitat for CTS and BUOW. Transects were walked in accordance with California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) guidelines for Phase II BUOW burrow surveys. Burrows suitable for use by BUOW were recorded by a hand-held GPS. The area was surveyed on foot or scanned with binoculars within a 0.25-mile buffer for potential foraging and nesting habitat suitable for use by SWHA and WTKI. Photos were taken of potential habitat that could support sensitive species (Attachment 1). Special-status species habitat and impact areas are shown in Tables 1 and 2.

Results

Location A Temporary Workspace

The temporary workspace is located in a natural habitat community west of the town of Dunnigan and adjacent to a United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) managed canal. The 0.45 acres of the proposed temporary workspace is in annual grassland and is surrounded by valley oak woodland. The workspace is located within U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service designated critical habitat for CTS (USFWS 2005) and six records of CTS occur within 1.3 miles of the site (CNDDB 2022) which is the maximum distance CTS have been observed from a breeding site (Orloff 2007; CDFW 2010). The nearest known record is found approximately 650-feet to the southwest and consists of a breeding pond known as Powers Reservoir where CTS breeding was detected as recently as 2005 (CNDDB 2022). No individuals or eggs were observed during the planning level survey, although the turbidity of the water made it difficult to effectively survey. The next closest records are located approximately 0.75-mile to the south and northwest of the project area (CNDDB 2022). No direct or indirect impacts to this pond or any other CTS aquatic breeding habitat are anticipated as a result of project activities.

Clusters of burrows suitable for use by BUOW were found and mapped in the wooded area southwest of the work area. No evidence of use by BUOW (feathers, pellets, whitewash, etc.) was observed.

The HCP/NCCP land cover types found at this location would be classified as Grassland – California Annual Grassland Alliance, Valley Oak Woodland – Valley Oak Alliance, Other Agriculture – Deciduous Fruits/Nuts, Lacustrine/Riverine – Open Water, and Barren and Developed – Barren-Anthropogenic. Habitat at this location supports CTS (upland), SWHA (foraging and nesting), WTKI (foraging and nesting), BUOW (foraging and nesting), and WPT (nesting and overwintering). Construction activities will temporarily affect 0.51 acres of Grassland including access roads.

Location A Access Road

Access to Location A will make use of an existing, graveled levee road adjacent to the USBR Canal. Three sections of egress will have to be graded to allow access from Road 4 and Road 6, totaling 0.06 acres of Grassland. A small strip of annual grassland will have

to be crossed to access the levee road from Road 4 and similarly, two strips of annual grassland will have to be crossed when accessing the workspace from either the north or the south.

Table 1. Special-Status Species Habitat Found Within Project Area

Species (Buffer)	Habitat Type	Total Area within Buffer (Acres)	Total Area of Impacts (Acres)
CTS (500 feet)	Upland	14.60	0.51
SWHA (1/4 mile)	Foraging and nesting	98.90	0.51
WTKI (1/4 mile)	Foraging and nesting	98.90	0.51
BUOW (500 feet)	Foraging and nesting	20.90	0.51
WPT	Nesting and overwintering	0.51	0.51

Table 2. Project Impacts by Land Cover Types

Land Cover Types	Area Within Workspace (Acres)	Area within 500 ft. (Acres)	Area within 0.25 miles (Acres)	Total Area of Impacts (Acres)
Annual Grassland	0.51	14.60	75.10	0.51
Barren	0.00	1.50	3.90	0.00
Lacustrine/Riverine	0.00	1.40	3.70	0.00
Other Agriculture	0.00	0.40	34.40	0.00
Valley Oak Woodland	0.00	6.30	23.80	0.00
Fresh Emergent Wetland	0.00	0.00	0.36	0.00

Conclusion

Based on the planning level survey, suitable habitat exists for five Covered Species: CTS, SWHA, WTKI, BUOW, and WPT within the project area. Approximately 0.51 acres of Grassland will be temporarily impacted as a result of project implementation.

The following Yolo HCP/NCCP AMMs are proposed for minimizing impacts to these species:

AMM1, Establish Buffers

AMM2, Design Developments to Minimize Indirect Effects at Urban-Habitat Interfaces

AMM3, Confine and Delineate Work Area

AMM4, Cover Trenches and Holes During Construction and Maintenance

AMM5, Control Fugitive Dust

AMM6, Conduct Worker Training

AMM7, Control Night-Time Lighting of Project Construction Sites

AMM8, Avoid and Minimize Effects of Construction Staging Areas and Temporary Work Areas

AMM9, Establish Buffers Around Sensitive Natural Communities: lacustrine & riverine

AMM13, Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Habitat of California Tiger Salamander

AMM14, Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Habitat of Western Pond Turtle

AMM16, Swainson's hawk and white-tailed kite (This AMM does not apply if the construction period is between September 1 and March 14)

AMM18, Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Western Burrowing Owl

Literature Cited

California Department of Fish and Wildlife [CDFW]. 2010. A Status Review of the California Tiger Salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*). Report to the Fish and Game Commission.

California Natural Diversity Database. 2022. [CNDDB] GIS dataset for January 2022.

Orloff, S. 2007. Migratory movements of California tiger salamander in upland habitat – a five-year study (Pittsburg, California). Ibis Environmental, Inc., prepared for Bailey Estates LLC. Dated May.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 2005. [USFWS]. Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Designation of Critical Habitat for the California Tiger Salamander, Central Population; Final Rule. 49380-49458.

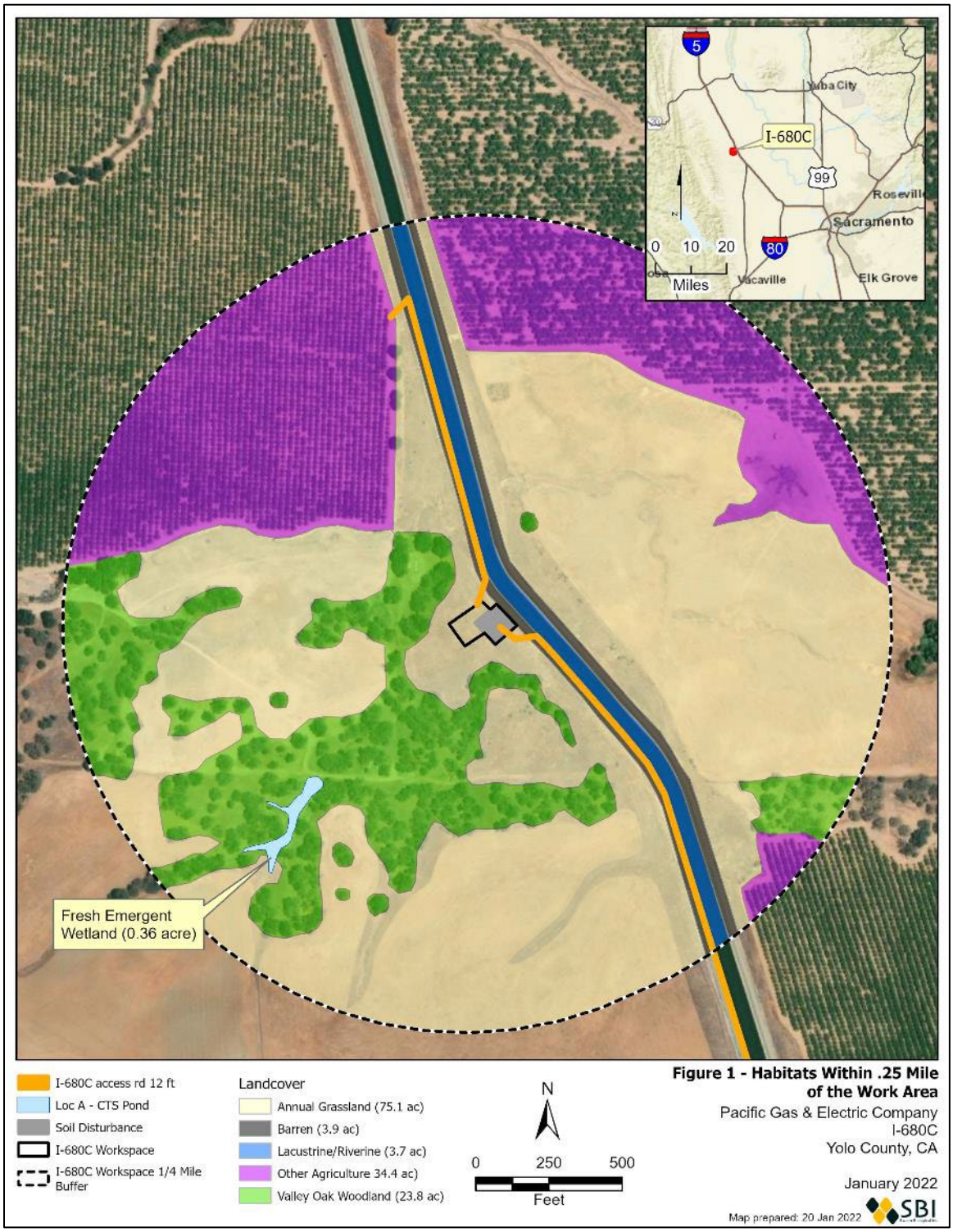


Figure 1. Habitats within 1/4-mile of project footprint

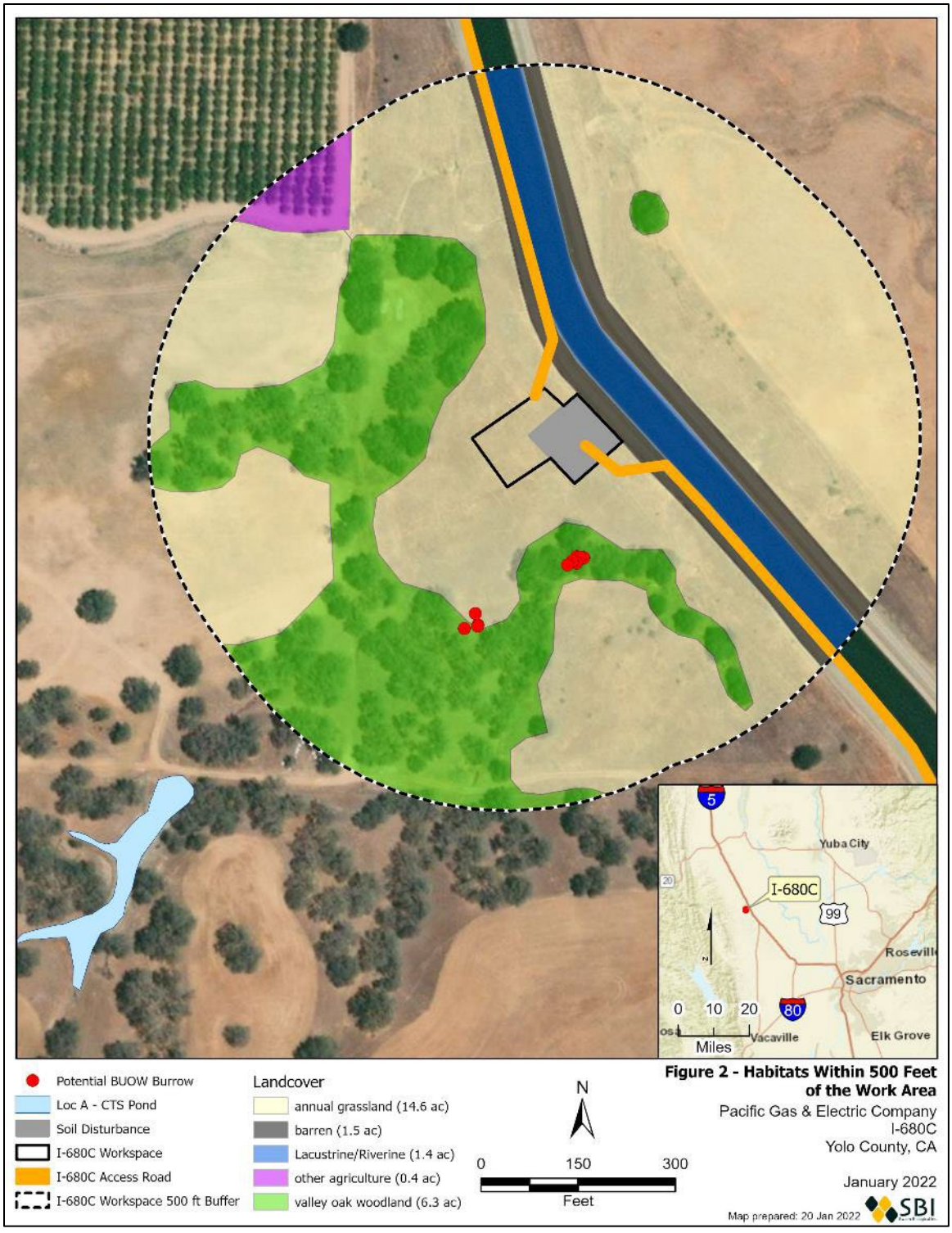


Figure 2. Habitats within 500-feet of project footprint

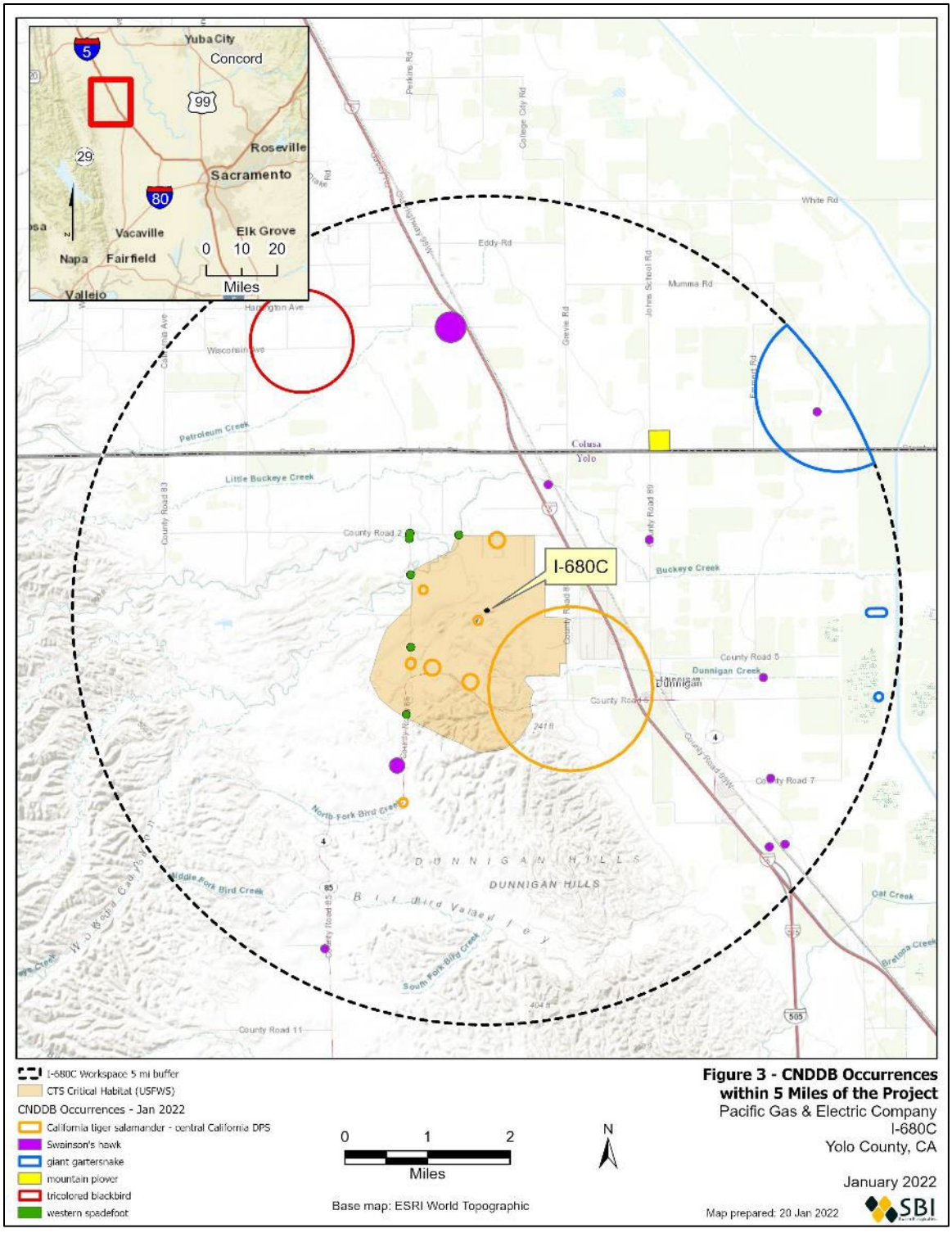


Figure 3. CNDDB Occurrences within 5-mile of project site

Attachment 1 – Representative Site Photos

Photo 1: Section of egress from Road 4 to access along levee road. Taken facing southeast.

Photo 2: Location A temporary workspace. Taken facing west.

Photo 3: PG&E pipeline alignment at Location A. Taken facing east.

Photo 4: Valley oak woodland adjacent to Location A. Taken facing south.

Photo 5: Known CTS breeding bond located approximately 650 feet southwest of Location A. Taken facing north.

Photo 6: Annual grassland habitat adjacent to and within proposed workspace. Taken facing south.

Photo 7: Burrow complexes found within 500 feet of Location A. Taken facing east.

Photo 8: Steep drainages along southern access to Location A from Road 6 and canal levee road. Taken facing southeast.

Attachment 5 – Photographs of Temporary Impact Areas

Please see Attachment 4 (Planning Level Survey Report) for photographs of the project locations and temporary impact areas.

Attachment 6 – Documentation if Land is Offered in Lieu of Fees

Not applicable to this application.

Attachment 7 – Covered Species Planning Survey Reports

Species-specific surveys were not conducted, so presence is assumed for California tiger salamander, Swainson's hawk, and white-tailed kite, burrowing owl, and Western pond turtle. Preconstruction surveys to determine presence/absence will be conducted and buffers and timing restrictions will apply to the project per the applicable Yolo HCP/NCCP AMMs.

Attachment 8 – Unavoidable Impacts on Covered Species

Please see Attachment 4 (Planning Level and Survey Report) for maps and summary of impacts to HCP/NCCP land cover habitats.

Attachment 9 –Description of Compliance with Avoidance and Minimization Measures

PG&E will incorporate avoidance and minimization measures and compensatory mitigation measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate impacts to covered species in the Project area. PG&E's overarching strategy is to avoid and minimize impacts to covered species and their suitable habitat to the maximum extent possible by following Yolo County HCP/NCCP avoidance and minimization measures (AMMs), construction site best management practices (BMPs), and implementation of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP).

The following AMMs will apply to the I-680C project:

AMM1 - Establish Buffers. PG&E will design projects to avoid and minimize direct and indirect effects of permanent development on the sensitive natural communities and covered species habitat by providing buffers, as stipulated in the relevant sensitive natural community AMMs and covered species AMMs.

AMM2 – Design Developments to Minimize Indirect Effects at Urban-Habitat Interfaces. For development projects implemented adjacent to non-agricultural natural communities and covered species habitats, PG&E will incorporate urban-habitat interface elements into project design to minimize the following indirect effects of the development on adjacent habitat areas:

- Noise and visual disturbances that diminish the ability of covered and other native wildlife species to use the habitat.
- Increased numbers of pets (e.g., dogs, cats) that can result in harassment and mortality of covered and other native wildlife species.
- Increased levels of direct habitat disturbances associated with increased human access to habitats (e.g., destruction of vegetation and injury or mortality of wildlife associated with use of off-road vehicles).
- Escape or planting of invasive nonnative plants.

This AMM does not apply to development where it is immediately adjacent to existing developed lands.

PG&E will implement the following urban-habitat interface design elements and activities, as applicable, to each discretionary project:

- Place roads or other non-residential spaces, such as parks or greenbelts, rather than lots at the urban-natural community interface. The benefits of this may include a reduction in the number of incidences of pets entering the natural communities.
- Design roads, bike paths, and trails to discourage entry of humans and pets into adjacent natural communities and promote citizen policing at the natural community periphery.
- Establish barriers that discourage entry of humans and pets into natural community areas.
- Design fences to prevent pets from escaping yards into adjacent natural communities, control entry and dumping of trash into adjacent natural communities, and when appropriate, shield adjacent natural communities from visual disturbances that may interfere with normal wildlife behavioral patterns.
- Fence new public roads associated with developments to prevent unauthorized public access into habitat areas and effectively direct wildlife to specially designed crossing structures.

- Design development drainage systems and implement appropriate best management practices to avoid changes to overland flow and water quality in natural community areas, including streamcourses.
- Design development lighting to avoid projecting light into adjacent natural community areas. For lights at or near the urban-natural community interface, use low-glare lighting to minimize lighting effects on natural communities.

AMM3 - Confine and Delineate Work Area. Where natural communities and covered species habitat are present, workers will confine land clearing to the minimum area necessary to facilitate construction activities. Workers will restrict movement of heavy equipment to and from the project site to established roadways to minimize natural community and covered species habitat disturbance. PG&E will clearly identify boundaries of work areas using temporary fencing or equivalent and will identify areas designated as environmentally sensitive. All construction vehicles, other equipment, and personnel will avoid these designated areas.

AMM5 - Control Fugitive Dust. Workers will minimize the spread of dust from work sites to natural communities or covered species habitats on adjacent lands.

AMM6 - Conduct Worker Training. All construction personnel will participate in a worker environmental training program approved/authorized by the Conservancy and administered by a qualified biologist. The training will provide education regarding sensitive natural communities and covered species and their habitats, the need to avoid adverse effects, state and federal protection, and the legal implications of violating the FESA and NCCPA Permits. A pre-recorded video presentation by a qualified biologist shown to construction personnel may fulfill the training requirement.

AMM7 - Control Nighttime Lighting of Project Construction Sites. Workers will direct all lights for nighttime lighting of project construction sites into the project construction area and minimize the lighting of natural habitat areas adjacent to the project construction area.

AMM8 - Avoid and Minimize Effects of Construction Staging Areas and Temporary Work Areas. PG&E should locate construction staging and other temporary work areas for covered activities in areas that will ultimately be a part of the permanent project development footprint. If construction staging and other temporary work areas must be located outside of permanent project footprints, they will be located either in areas that do not support habitat for covered species or are easily restored to prior or improved ecological functions (e.g., grassland and agricultural land). Construction staging and other temporary work areas located outside of project footprints will be sited in areas that avoid adverse effects on the following:

- Serpentine, valley oak woodland, alkali prairie, vernal pool complex, valley foothill riparian, and fresh emergent wetland land cover types.
- Occupied western burrowing owl burrows.
- Nest sites for covered bird species and all raptors, including noncovered raptors, during the breeding season.

PG&E will follow specific AMMs for sensitive natural communities and covered species in temporary staging and work areas. For establishment of temporary work areas outside of the project footprint, PG&E will conduct surveys to determine if any of the biological resources listed above are present.

Within one year following removal of land cover, PG&E will restore temporary work and staging areas to a condition equal to or greater than the covered species habitat function of the affected habitat.

Restoration of vegetation in temporary work and staging areas will use clean, native seed mixes approved by the Conservancy that are free of noxious plant species seeds.

AMM9 - Establish Buffers around Sensitive Natural Communities. The buffers for each sensitive natural community are as follows:

- Fresh emergent wetland: Fifty feet from the edge of the natural community.

AMM13- Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Habitat of California Tiger Salamander. PG&E will retain a qualified biologist to identify any suitable aquatic and upland habitats for California salamander present in and within 500 feet of the project footprint during planning-level surveys. The qualified biologist will also assess whether critical habitat could be affected by the covered activity.

Except for habitat management and enhancement, all covered activities will provide a 500-foot setback from aquatic California tiger salamander habitat. If a covered activity is outside the Dunnigan Creek Unit of California tiger salamander critical habitat and, as designed, will not avoid aquatic habitat by at least 500 feet, the project proponent will either conduct visual and dip-net surveys, consistent with CDFW protocol, during the period for November 1 to May 15 (California Department of Fish and Game 2003) or assume presence. If the species is present or assumed to be present, the covered activity will not remove aquatic habitat until at least four new occupied breeding pools are discovered or established in the Plan Area and protected in the Plan Area. After the four new occupied breeding pools are protected, and with concurrence of USFWS and CDFW, up to three breeding pools may be affected. The breeding habitat may not be removed if USFWS and CDFW determine that the covered activity would remove a significant occurrence of this species that could be necessary for maintaining the genetic diversity or regional distribution of the species. This AMM applies to California tiger salamander aquatic habitat and surrounding uplands, as defined by reference to the setbacks described above; it does not apply to cultivated agricultural lands (i.e., agricultural lands other than grazing lands) or other low-value upland habitat for California tiger salamander.

AMM14- Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Habitat of Western Pond Turtle. There are no specific design requirements for western pond turtle habitat, however, PG&E must follow design requirements that require a 100-foot (minimum) permanent buffer zone from the canopy drip-line (the farthest edge on the ground where water will drip from the tree canopy, based on the outer boundary of the tree canopy). If modeled upland habitat will be impacted, a qualified biologist must be present and will assess the likelihood of western pond turtle nests occurring in the disturbance area (based on sun exposure, soil conditions, and other species habitat requirements).

If a qualified biologist determines that there is a moderate to high likelihood of western pond turtle nests within the disturbance area, the qualified biologist will monitor all initial ground disturbing activity for nests that may be unearthed during the disturbance and will move out of harm's way any turtles or hatchlings found.

AMM16 - Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Habitat of Swainson's Hawk and White-Tailed Kite. PG&E will retain a qualified biologist to conduct planning-level surveys and identify any nesting habitat present within 1,320 feet of the project footprint. Adjacent parcels under different land ownership will be surveyed only if access is granted or if the parcels are visible from authorized areas.

If a construction project cannot avoid potential nest trees (as determined by the qualified biologist) by 1,320 feet, PG&E will retain a qualified biologist to conduct preconstruction surveys for active nests consistent, with guidelines provided by the Swainson's Hawk Technical Advisory Committee (2000), between March 15 and August 30, within 15 days prior to the beginning of the construction activity. The results of the survey will be submitted to the Conservancy and CDFW. If active nests are found during preconstruction surveys, a 1,320-foot initial temporary nest disturbance buffer shall be established. If

project related activities within the temporary nest disturbance buffer are determined to be necessary during the nesting season, then the qualified biologist will monitor the nest and will, along with PG&E, consult with CDFW to determine the best course of action necessary to avoid nest abandonment or take of individuals. Work may be allowed only to proceed within the temporary nest disturbance buffer if Swainson's hawk or white-tailed kite are not exhibiting agitated behavior, such as defensive flights at intruders, getting up from a brooding position, or flying off the nest, and only with the agreement of CDFW and USFWS. The designated on-site biologist/monitor shall be on-site daily while construction-related activities are taking place within the 1,320-foot buffer and shall have the authority to stop work if raptors are exhibiting agitated behavior.

For covered activities that involve pruning or removal of a potential Swainson's hawk or white-tailed kite nest tree, the PG&E will conduct preconstruction surveys that are consistent with the guidelines provided by the Swainson's Hawk Technical Advisory Committee (2000). If active nests are found during preconstruction surveys, no tree pruning or removal of the nest tree will occur during the period between March 1 and August 30 within 1,320 feet of an active nest, unless a qualified biologist determines that the young have fledged and the nest is no longer active.

AMM18 - Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Western Burrowing Owl. PG&E will retain a qualified biologist to conduct planning-level surveys and identify western burrowing owl habitat (as defined in Appendix A, Covered Species Accounts) within or adjacent to (i.e., within 500 feet of) a covered activity. If habitat for this species is present, additional surveys for the species by a qualified biologist are required, consistent with CDFW guidelines (2012).

If burrowing owls are identified during the planning-level survey, PG&E will minimize activities that will affect occupied habitat as follows. Occupied habitat is considered fully avoided if the project footprint does not impinge on a nondisturbance buffer around the suitable burrow. For occupied burrowing owl nest burrows, this nondisturbance buffer could range from 150 to 1,500 feet (Table 1, Recommended Restricted Activity Dates and Setback Distances by Level of Disturbance for Burrowing Owls), depending on the time of year and the level of disturbance, based on current guidelines (California Department of Fish and Game 2012). The Yolo HCP/NCCP generally defines low, medium, and high levels of disturbances of burrowing owls as follows.

- Low: Typically 71-80 dB, generally characterized by the presence of passenger vehicles, small gas-powered engines (e.g., lawn mowers, small chain saws, portable generators), and high-tension power lines. Includes electric hand tools (except circular saws, impact wrenches and similar). Management and enhancement activities would typically fall under this category. Human activity in the immediate vicinity of burrowing owls would also constitute a low level of disturbance, regardless of the noise levels.
- Moderate: Typically 81-90 dB, and would include medium- and large-sized construction equipment, such as backhoes, front end loaders, large pumps and generators, road graders, dozers, dump trucks, drill rigs, and other moderate to large diesel engines. Also includes power saws, large chainsaws, pneumatic drills and impact wrenches, and large gasoline-powered tools. Construction activities would normally fall under this category.
- High: Typically 91-100 dB, and is generally characterized by impacting devices, jackhammers, compression ("jake") brakes on large trucks, and trains. This category includes both vibratory and impact pile drivers (smaller steel or wood piles) such as used to install piles and guard rails, and large pneumatic tools such as chipping machines. It may also include large diesel and gasoline engines, especially if in concert with other impacting devices. Felling of large trees (defined as dominant or subdominant trees in mature forests), truck horns, yarding tower

whistles, and muffled or underground explosives are also included. Very few covered activities are expected to fall under this category, but some construction activities may result in this level of disturbance.

Table 1. Recommended Restricted Activity Dates and Setback Distances by Level of Disturbance for Burrowing Owls

	Level of Disturbance (feet) from Occupied Burrows		
Time of Year	**Low**	**Medium**	**High**
April 1 – August 15	600	1,500	1,500
August 16 – October 15	600	600	1,500
October 16 – March 31	150	300	1,500

If the project does not fully avoid direct and indirect effects on nesting sites (i.e., if the project cannot adhere to the buffers described above), PG&E will retain a qualified biologist to conduct preconstruction surveys and document the presence or absence of western burrowing owls that could be affected by the covered activity. Prior to any ground disturbance related to covered activities, the qualified biologist will conduct the preconstruction surveys within three days prior to ground disturbance in areas identified in the planning-level surveys as having suitable burrowing owl burrows, consistent with CDFW preconstruction survey guidelines. The qualified biologist will conduct the preconstruction surveys three days prior to ground disturbance. Time lapses between ground disturbing activities will trigger subsequent surveys prior to ground disturbance.

If the biologist finds the site to be occupied (occupancy of burrowing owl habitat during preconstruction surveys is confirmed at a site when at least one burrowing owl or sign [fresh whitewash, fresh pellets, feathers, or nest ornamentation] is observed at or near a burrow entrance) by western burrowing owls during the breeding season (February 1 to August 31), PG&E will avoid all nest sites, based on the buffer distances described above, during the remainder of the breeding season or while the nest is occupied by adults or young (occupation includes individuals or family groups that forage on or near the site following fledging). Construction may occur inside of the disturbance buffer during the breeding season if the nest is not disturbed and PG&E develops an AMM plan that is approved by the Conservancy, CDFW, and USFWS prior to project construction, based on the following criteria:

- The Conservancy, CDFW, and USFWS approves the AMM plan provided by PG&E.
- A qualified biologist monitors the owls for at least three days prior to construction to determine baseline nesting and foraging behavior (i.e., behavior without construction).
- The same qualified biologist monitors the owls during construction and finds no change in owl nesting and foraging behavior in response to construction activities.
- If the qualified biologist identifies a change in owl nesting and foraging behavior as a result of construction activities, the qualified biologist will have the authority to stop all construction related activities within the non-disturbance buffers described above. The qualified biologist will report this information to the Conservancy, CDFW, and USFWS within 24 hours, and the Conservancy will require that these activities immediately cease within the non-disturbance buffer. Construction cannot resume within the buffer until the adults and juveniles from the occupied burrows have moved out of the project site, and the Conservancy, CDFW, and USFWS agree.
- If monitoring indicates that the nest is abandoned prior to the end of nesting season and the burrow is no longer in use by owls, PG&E may remove the nondisturbance buffer, only with

concurrence from CDFW and USFWS. If the burrow cannot be avoided by construction activity, the biologist will excavate and collapse the burrow in accordance with CDFW's 2012 guidelines to prevent reoccupation after receiving approval from the wildlife agencies.

If evidence of western burrowing owl is detected outside the breeding season (December 1 to January 31), PG&E will establish a non-disturbance buffer around occupied burrows, consistent with Table 8-1, as determined by a qualified biologist. Construction activities within the disturbance buffer are allowed if the following criteria are met to prevent owls from abandoning important overwintering sites:

- A qualified biologist monitors the owls for at least three days prior to construction to determine baseline foraging behavior (i.e., behavior without construction).
- The same qualified biologist monitors the owls during construction and finds no change in owl foraging behavior in response to construction activities.
- If there is any change in owl roosting and foraging behavior as a result of construction activities, these activities will cease within the buffer.
- If the owls are gone for at least one week, PG&E may request approval from the Conservancy, CDFW, and USFWS for a qualified biologist to excavate and collapse usable burrows to prevent owls from reoccupying the site if the burrow cannot be avoided by construction activities. The qualified biologist will install one-way doors for a 48-hour period prior to collapsing any potentially occupied burrows. After all usable burrows are excavated, the buffer will be removed, and construction may continue.

Monitoring must continue as described above for the nonbreeding season as long as the burrow remains active.

A qualified biologist will monitor the site, consistent with the requirements described above, to ensure that buffers are enforced and owls are not disturbed. Passive relocation (i.e., exclusion) of owls has been used in the past in the Plan Area to remove and exclude owls from active burrows during the nonbreeding season (Trulio 1995). Exclusion and burrow closure will not be conducted during the breeding season for any occupied burrow. If the Conservancy determines that passive relocation is necessary, PG&E will develop a burrowing owl exclusion plan in consultation with CDFW biologists. The methods will be designed as described in the species monitoring guidelines (California Department of Fish and Game 2012) and consistent with the most up-to-date checklist of passive relocation techniques. This may include the installation of one-way doors in burrow entrances by a qualified biologist during the nonbreeding season. These doors will be in place for 48 hours and monitored twice daily to ensure that the owls have left the burrow, after which time the biologist will collapse the burrow to prevent reoccupation. Burrows will be excavated using hand tools. During excavation, an escape route will be maintained at all times. This may include inserting an artificial structure, such as piping, into the burrow to prevent collapsing until the entire burrow can be excavated and it can be determined that no owls are trapped inside the burrow. The Conservancy may allow other methods of passive or active relocation, based on best available science, if approved by the wildlife agencies. Artificial burrows will be constructed prior to exclusion and will be created less than 300 feet from the existing burrows on lands that are protected as part of the reserve system.

AMM21 - Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Tricolored Blackbird. PG&E will retain a qualified biologist to identify and quantify (in acres) tricolored blackbird nesting and foraging habitat within 1,300 feet of the footprint of the covered activity. If a 1,300-foot buffer from nesting habitat cannot be maintained, the qualified biologist will check records maintained by the Conservancy (which will include CNDDB data, and data from the tricolored blackbird portal) to determine if tricolored blackbird nesting colonies have been active in or within 1,300 feet of the project footprint during the previous five years.

If there are no records of nesting tricolored blackbirds on the site, the qualified biologist will conduct visual surveys to determine if an active colony is present, during the period from March 1 to July 30, consistent with protocol described by Kelsey (2008).

Operations and maintenance activities or other temporary activities that do not remove nesting habitat and occur outside the nesting season (March 1 to July 30) do not need to conduct planning or construction surveys or implement any additional avoidance measures.

If an active tricolored blackbird colony is present or has been present within the last five years within the planning-level survey area, the project proponent will design the project to avoid adverse effects within 1,300 feet of the colony site(s), unless a shorter distance is approved by the Conservancy, USFWS, and CDFW. If a shorter distance is approved, the project proponent will still maintain a 1,300-foot buffer around active nesting colonies during the nesting season but may apply the approved lesser distance outside the nesting season. Adjacent parcels under different land ownership will be surveyed only if access is granted or if the parcels are visible from authorized areas.