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**Appendix F-3**  
2023 Jurisdictional Delineation



# Honor Rancho Compressor Modernization

## Delineation of Potentially Jurisdictional Waterbodies

*prepared for*

**Dudek, Inc.**

38 North Marengo Ave.

Pasadena, CA 91101

Contact: Matthew Valerio

Via email: [mvalerio@dudek.com](mailto:mvalerio@dudek.com)

*prepared by*

**Caskey Biological Consulting, LLC**

2604 B El Camino Real #341

Carlsbad, California 92008

**November 2023**

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# 1 Introduction

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Caskey Biological Consulting, LLC (Caskey) prepared this delineation of potentially jurisdictional waterbodies to document the existing conditions for the Southern California Gas Company's (SoCalGas) Honor Rancho Compressor Modernization Project (Project) and evaluate the potential for Project-related impacts to jurisdictional waters.

The purpose of this document is to provide technical information, and to review the Project to determine to what extent the Project may impact potentially jurisdictional waterbodies.

## 1.1 Project Location

The Project Site is located within the approximately 700-acre Honor Rancho Storage Facility (Facility). The Facility is south of the community of Castaic east of the Newhall Ranch Road and Interstate-5 intersection. The northern portion of the Facility is within the County of Los Angeles and the southern portion within the City of Santa Clarita, California. Regionally, the Project Site is in the northern portion of Los Angeles County (Figure 1). The approximate center of the Project Site within the Facility is at latitude 34.44474°N and longitude -118.58343°W (WGS84) (Figure 2). The Project Site is depicted on the *Newhall, California* United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle (Figure 3). The Project Site is at elevations ranging between approximately 1,100 and 1,260 feet (ft.) above mean sea level (msl).

## 1.2 Project Description

SoCalGas has an agreement with Southern California Edison (SCE) to support the electrification of the existing natural gas turbine-driven compressors at the Project site with more efficient motor-driven compressors that will require 19.4 MW of service. The Project is to connect a total of 19.5 MVA from a 66kV subtransmission service to a newly constructed substation located in the Honor Rancho facility. The Saugus-Haskell-Lockheed 66kV subtransmission line will be looped into the new customer-dedicated, SCE-owned retention 66/12kV substation, and will require reconductoring the Saugus-Haskell-Lockheed 66kV subtransmission lines.



DATE: November 21, 2023  
 COORDINATE SYSTEM: NAD 1983 State Plane California Zone V FIPS 0406 (feet)  
 SOURCE: ESRI World Street Map

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**Figure 1 - Regional Location**

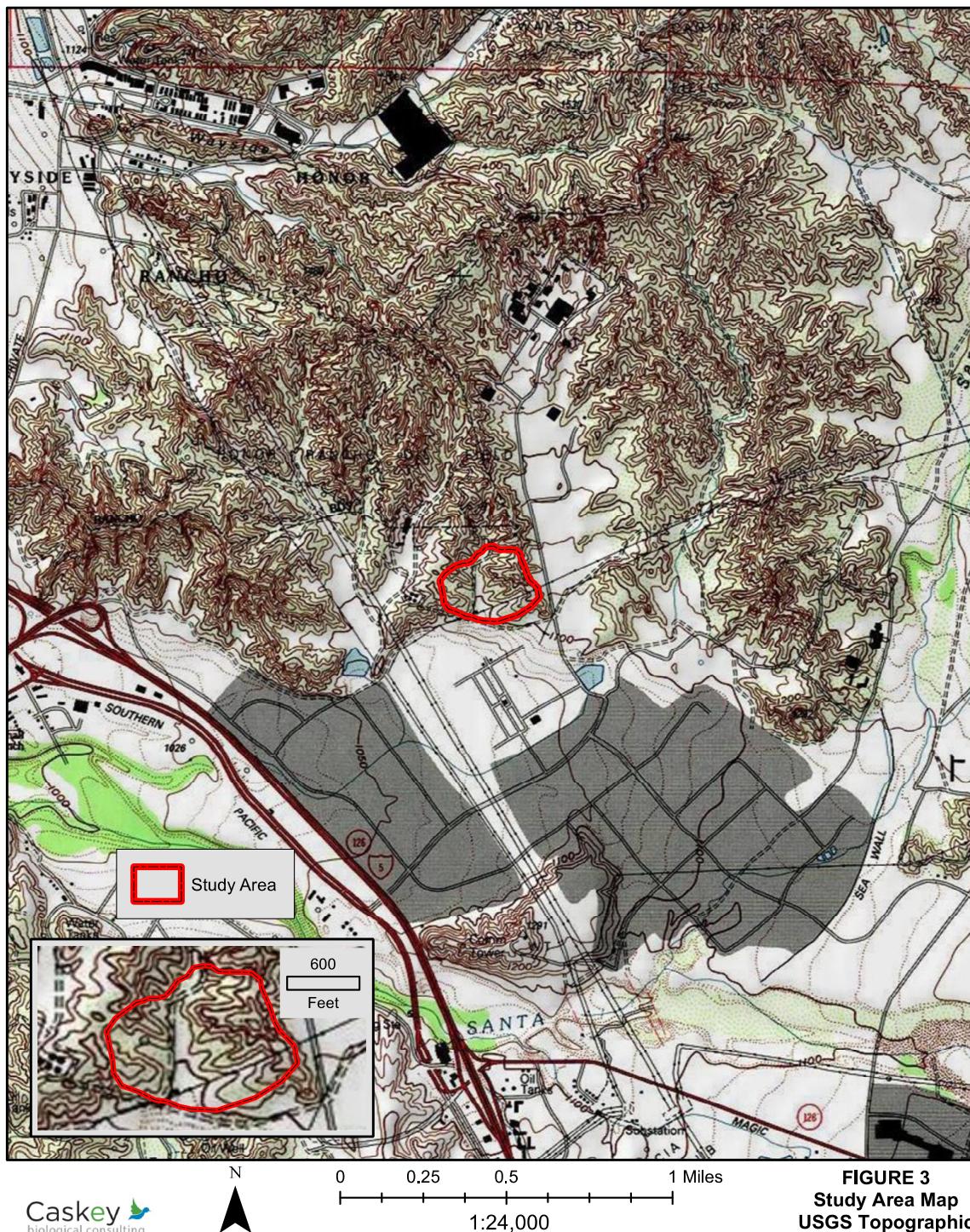


**FIGURE 2**  
**Study Area Map**  
**Aerial Photograph**

DATE: November 21, 2023  
 COORDINATE SYSTEM: NAD 1983 State Plane California Zone V FIPS 0406 (feet)  
 SOURCE: ESRI World Imagery, ESRI World Transportation, SoCalGas, Dudek

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**Figure 2 - Study Area - Aerial Photograph**



**FIGURE 3**  
**Study Area Map**  
**USGS Topographic Map**

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 SOURCE: ESRI USA Topo Maps, SoCalGas, Dudek

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**Figure 3 - Study Area Map – USGS Topographic Map**

## 2 Methodology

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### 2.1 Database and Literature Review

Prior to conducting the delineation, research and desktop review of readily available database resources were conducted by Caskey to obtain comprehensive information about the survey area. The review was conducted in accordance with the following, where applicable:

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Wetlands Delineation Manual (USACE 1987);
- Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Arid West Region (Version 2.0) (USACE 2008a);
- A Field Guide to the Identification of the Ordinary High-Water Mark (OHWM) in the Arid West Region of the Western United States (USACE 2008b);
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) National Wetlands Inventory Wetland Geodatabase (USFWS 2023);
- The National Wetland Plant List (NWPL): 2020 Wetland Ratings (USACE 2020);
- California Soil Resource Lab's Soil Web Google Earth interface (Natural Resources Conservation Service [NRCS] 2023a);
- Hydric Soils List of California, 2023 ([NRCS] 2023b); and
- USGS National Hydrography Dataset (NHD; USGS 2023).

### 2.2 Field Delineation

On November 15, 2023, Caskey biologist, Jason Caskey, conducted a pedestrian survey by walking meandering transects within the entire Study Area to identify potentially jurisdictional waterbodies, including any potential wetlands and non-wetlands waters exhibiting an ordinary high-water mark (OHWM) that could constitute waters of the United States (WOTUS) or waters of the State (WOS), including associated riparian resources. During the surveys, top of bank, including any associated riparian habitat, OHWM, and other observation points were mapped using FieldMaps for ArcGIS connected to a Geode + GNSS submeter unit and antenna global positioning system. General site characteristics were documented, and representative photographs were taken (Appendix A). Current federal and state methods and guidelines were used to identify and delineate potential jurisdictional areas, as described below.

### 2.2.1 Non-Wetland Waters of the United States

The USACE defines non-wetland WOTUS in the Arid West Region by determining the OHWM in stream channels. The OHWM is defined in 33 CFR 328.3(e) as:

*“...that line on the shore established by the fluctuations of water and indicated by physical characteristics such as clear, natural line impresses on the bank, shelving, changes in the character of soil, destruction of terrestrial vegetation, the presence of litter and debris, or other appropriate means that consider the characteristics of the surrounding areas.”*

Identification of OHWM involves assessments of stream geomorphology and vegetation response to the dominant stream discharge. Determining whether any non-wetland water is a jurisdictional WOTUS involves further assessment in accordance with the regulations, case law, and clarifying guidance as discussed below.

### 2.2.2 Wetland Waters of the United States

According to routine delineation procedure within the *Wetlands Delineation Manual* (USACE 1987) and *Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Arid West Region* (USACE 2008b), three indicators are used to classify an area as a wetland under the jurisdiction of the USACE: (1) a predominance of plant life that is adapted to life in wet conditions (hydrophytic vegetation); (2) soils that saturate, flood, or pond long enough during the growing season to develop anaerobic conditions in the upper part (hydric soils); and (3) permanent or periodic inundation or soil saturation, at least seasonally (wetland hydrology). The 2020 USACE National Wetland Plant List was used to determine the indicator status of the examined vegetation by the following indicator status categories: Upland (UPL), Facultative Upland (FACU), Facultative (FAC), Facultative Wetland (FACW), and Obligate Wetland (OBL).

Additionally, sources of water, potential connections, and distances to traditional navigable waters (TNWs), and other factors that affect whether waters qualify as WOTUS under current regulations, specifically regarding the May 25, 2023, United States Supreme Court (SCOTUS) decision in the Sackett vs Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) case, were evaluated. Due to the recent decision by SCOTUS, which impacts the Clean Water Rule, specific attention was dedicated during the survey to any features where jurisdictional status would be affected by the regulatory changes.

### 2.2.3 Waters of the State

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) has formally implemented the *State Wetland Definition and Procedures for Discharges of Dredged or Fill Material to Waters of the State* (SWRCB 2019), which provides a wetland definition, framework for determining if a wetland is a water of the State, and wetland delineation procedures. The SWRCB defines an area as a wetland if, under normal circumstances:

- (i) the area has continuous or recurrent saturation of the upper substrate caused by groundwater, or shallow surface water, or both;

- (ii) the duration of such saturation is sufficient to cause anaerobic conditions in the upper substrate; and
- (iii) the area's vegetation is dominated by hydrophytes or the area lacks vegetation.

The SWRCB's *Implementation Guidance for the Wetland Definition and Procedures for Discharges of Dredge and Fill Material to Waters of the State* (2020), states that WOTUS and WOS should be delineated using the standard USACE delineation procedures, taking into consideration that the methods shall be modified only to allow for the fact that a lack of vegetation does not preclude an area from meeting the definition of a wetland. The SWRCB Procedures only apply to wetlands, and they do not include updated definitions or delineation methods for non-wetland aquatic features

The limits of waters of the State, as defined under the Porter-Cologne Act (California Water Code section 13000 et seq.), were determined by first examining the topography and morphology to identify those features with an OHWM. The extent of waters of the State was delineated within these features as the boundaries of the streams/channels OHWM, coterminous with USACE's jurisdiction.

#### **2.2.4 California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Streams and Riparian Habitat**

The extent of potential streambeds, streambanks, and riparian habitat subject to CDFW jurisdiction under Section 1600 et seq. of the California Code, Fish and Game Code was delineated by reviewing the topography and morphology of potentially jurisdictional features to determine the outer limit of riparian vegetation, where present, or the tops of banks for stream features.

## 3 Existing Conditions

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This section summarizes the results of the literature review and jurisdictional delineation. Discussions regarding the general environmental setting, vegetation communities present, soil types, and regional and local hydrology are described below. Representative photographs of the Study Area are provided in Appendix B.

The Study Area is located south of the community of Castaic, Los Angeles County, California, east of the Newhall Ranch Road and Interstate-5 intersection. Regionally, the Project Site is located in the northern portion of Los Angeles County, north of Santa Clarita. Land uses in and around the Study Area consist of an active natural gas compressor station, an active electrical substation, commercial office buildings, and residential areas.

### 3.1 Soils

The USDA NRCS Web Soil Survey depicts one unique soil units within the Study Area: Castaic-Balcom silty clay loams, 30 to 50 percent slopes, eroded soil map unit (Figure 4).

**Castaic-Balcom silty clay loams (CmF2), 30 to 50 percent slopes** is a well-drained soil that occurs on hillsides and slopes. This soil type derives from residuum weathered from sedimentary rock and has a typical soil profile of silty clay loam to 26-inches. The soil contains a non-saline to very slightly saline content (0.0 to 2.0mmhos/cm) (NRCS 2023) (Figure 4).

### 3.2 Vegetation Communities and Land Cover

Vegetation communities and land cover types in the Study Area include ruderal/sage bush scrub, ruderal grasslands, and Developed/Disturbed, which contain areas of sparse to no vegetation (Figure 5). Characterization of the plant communities are based on *A Manual of California Vegetation* (Sawyer 2009). For a full list of vegetation observed during the reconnaissance survey, please refer to Appendix B.

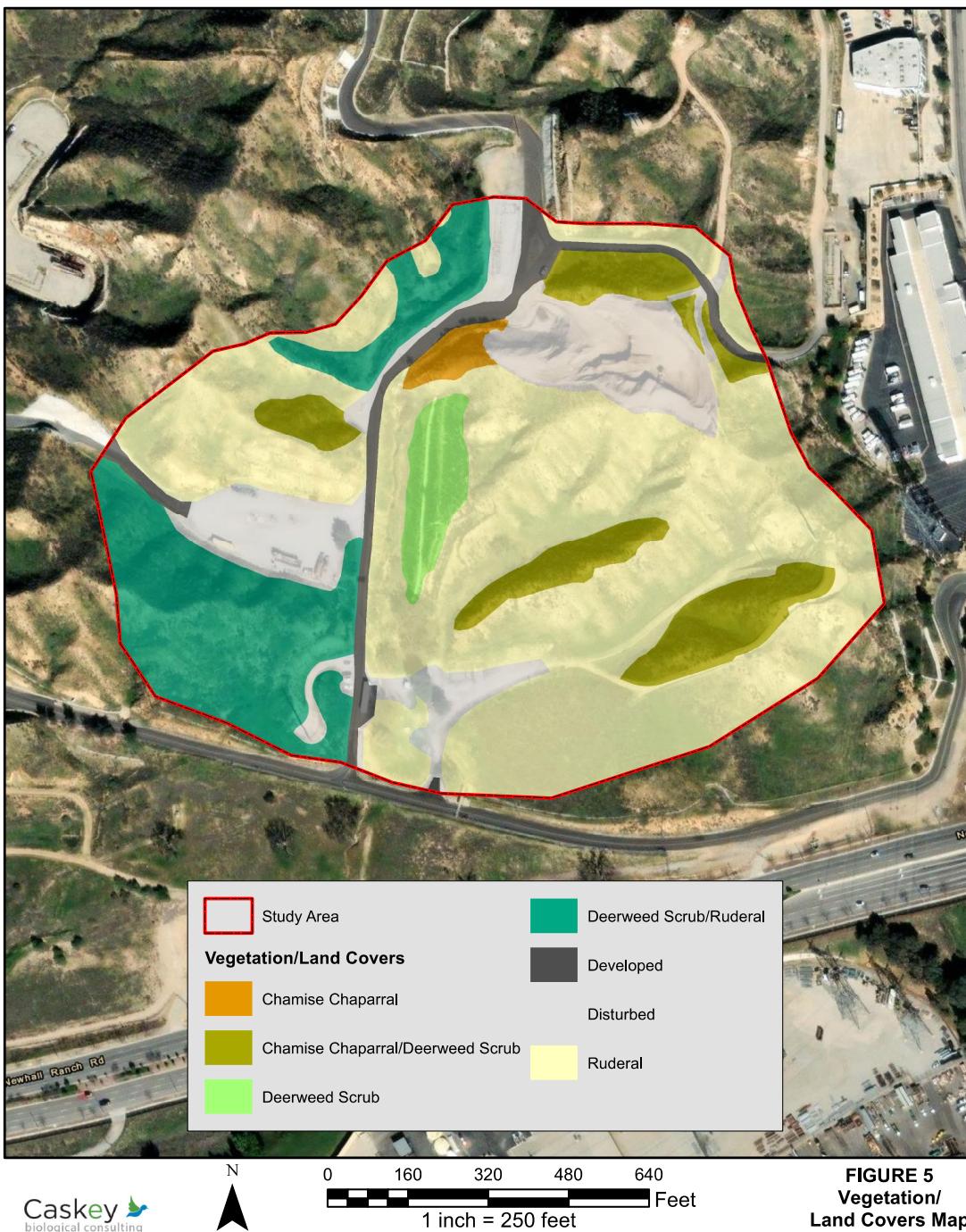
- **Chamise chaparral:** This community was present in the northern portion of the Study Area on a steep south-facing slope below a paved road. Chamise (*Adenostoma fasciculatum*) was dominant with associate species primarily consisting of chaparral bush mallow (*Malacothamnus fasciculatus*), deerweed (*Acmispon glaber*), California buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*), purple sage (*Salvia leucophylla*), and blue elderberry (*Sambucus mexicana*) though those were sparse.



DATE: November 21, 2023  
 COORDINATE SYSTEM: NAD 1983 State Plane California Zone V FIPS 0406 (feet)  
 SOURCE: ESRI World Imagery, ESRI World Transportation, SoCalGas, Dudek, NRCS Web Soil Survey

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Figure 4 – Soils Map



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**Figure 5 – Vegetation/Land Covers Map**

- **Chamise chaparral/Deerweed scrub:** This community was present sporadically throughout the Study Area on north-facing slopes. This area within Honor Rancho appeared to sustain less fire damage, or less fire intensity, than the western area of Honor Rancho from the most recent fire. Though this was the case, the majority of the chamise present consisted of resprouts. Chamise and deerweed, an early successional species in chaparral/sage scrub habitats, were codominant throughout with little understory exposed.
- **Deerweed scrub:** This community was primarily present in the central portion of the Study Area and occurred in a small patch. Deerweed was dominant and dense with very little of the understory exposed.
- **Deerweed scrub/Ruderal:** This mixed community was the second-most abundant vegetation community within the Study Area. It consisted of a mix of deerweed and ruderal habitat described above.
- **Developed:** This land cover consisted of developed areas and included paved main facility and paved roads. It also included hardscape such as concrete storm control facilities and bank stabilization.
- **Disturbed:** This land cover consisted of gravel pads, active construction sites, and unpaved roads/shoulder areas.
- **Ruderal:** Non-native, weedy ruderal habitat was the dominant vegetation land cover within the Study Area. The dominant plant species present included those previously described above of ripgut grass (*Bromus diandrus*), slender wild oat (*Avena barbata*), red brome (*Bromus madritensis* subsp. *rubens*), black mustard (*Brassica nigra*), and tocalote (*Centaurea melitensis*). A few native species were also present and sparsely scattered throughout but were not dense or extensive enough to map individually. This included the occasional deerweed, chamise, purple sage, and California buckwheat.

### 3.3 Hydrology

The Study Area is located within the Ventura Basin Hydrological Unit Code (HUC) 180701 of the Santa Clara River watershed. The Santa Clara River is the largest river system in southern California and drains an area encompassing approximately 1,200 square miles. The river's head waters are located in the northern slope of the San Gabriel Mountains in Los Angeles County and has a terminus at the Pacific Ocean between San Buenaventura and Oxnard in Ventura County (USGS 2023).

Caskey reviewed the USFWS National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) prior to conducting the delineation. There were no mapped areas indicating potential wetlands or waterways within the NWI database search. However, a review of the USGS National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) revealed the potential for an ephemeral stream that has the potential to drain into the nearby Santa Clara River via flood control canals.

## 4 Results

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Based on Caskey's assessment, there was one ephemeral waterway and associated riparian area was observed within the Study Area. No wetland features were observed within the Study Area. Delineation field data sheets are located in Appendix D. The following is a summary of all potentially jurisdictional waterbodies within the Study Area.

### 4.1 Summary of Potentially Jurisdictional Areas

Within the Study Area, there was one ephemeral waterway identified during the jurisdictional delineation. Table 1 summarizes the designated acreages of potential jurisdictional waters within the Study Area.

**Table 1 - Potential Jurisdictional Waters within the Study Area**

Feature	Non-Wetland Waters of the United States <sup>1</sup> (acres)	Non-Wetland Waters of the State/CDFW Jurisdictional Area <sup>2</sup> (acres)
Ephemeral A	0.00	0.76
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.76</b>

<sup>1</sup>Calculated to the OHWM  
<sup>2</sup>Calculated to top of bank or outer limits of the associated riparian vegetation (i.e. drip line, whichever is greater.)

**Ephemeral A** – This unmapped, unnamed, non-wetland ephemeral stream is located within the southeast section of the Honor Rancho Compressor Station and centrally located within the Study Area (Figure 6). The ephemeral feature originates outside of the Study Area and flows from the north to the south before terminating in a flood control drainage basin located adjacent to Brady Pkwy. This feature is comprised of an unconsolidated bottom consisting of mostly of sand and gravel. No surface water was present during the time of the field delineation. Changes in soil texture, vegetation densities, and the presence of litter and debris were defining characteristics of the OHWM and top of banks. Dominant vegetation included deerweed, black mustard, and slender oat. A small, riparian area consisting of ruderal species along with three valley oaks (*Quercus lobata*) was observed to be associated with this feature. This feature would be potentially subject to the jurisdiction of the RWQCB and CDFW. Under the May 25, 2023, CWA ruling in the Sackett v. EPA case, this feature would not fall under jurisdiction of the USACE.

**Drainage Basin** – This human-created drainage basin is located within the southern portion of the Honor Rancho Compressor Station property boundary (Figure 6) to control potential flood waters from heavy rains. The drainage basin, when full of water, enters an overflow culvert where it flows through a concrete lined drainage canal before reaching terminus at the

Santa Clara River. Ephemeral A terminates into this feature. The drainage basin is dominated with desiccated herbaceous plants that could not be identified due to regular maintenance activities. No surface water was present during the time of the field delineation. The concrete lined sloped banks were the defining characteristics of the OHWM and top of banks. This feature would be potentially subject to the jurisdiction of the RWQCB and CDFW. Under the May 25, 2023, CWA ruling in the Sackett v. EPA case, this feature would not fall under jurisdiction of the USACE.



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SOURCE: ESRI World Imagery, ESRI World Transportation, SoCalGas, Dudek, CBC, SBS

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**Figure 6 - Jurisdictional Delineation Results**

## 4.2 Conclusion and Recommendations

Based on Caskey's assessment, a total of 0.76 acre of non-wetland waters within the Study Area are potentially under the jurisdiction of the RWQCB and CDFW. Based upon the ephemeral nature of the delineated features, there were no wetlands observed within the Study Area.

The findings and conclusions presented in this report, including the location and extent of waterbodies potentially subject to regulatory jurisdiction, represent the professional opinion of the consulting biologists. These findings and conclusions should be considered preliminary until verified by the appropriate regulatory agencies. We recommend that these agencies be consulted to confirm the jurisdictional assessment, and that all required permits be acquired prior to initiating any future projects.

## 5 References

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Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). 2023a. Web Soil Survey. Available online at the following link: <http://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/>.

NRCS, USDA. 2023b. Lists of Hydric Soils. Available online at the following link: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/soils/use/hydric/>.

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USACE. 2023. The National Wetland Plants List.

United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2023. National Wetlands Inventory. <https://www.fws.gov/wetlands/>

United States Geological Survey (USGS). 2023. Science In Your Watershed. <https://water.usgs.gov/wsc/index.html>

## **Appendix A: Site Photographs**



E1 - Upstream



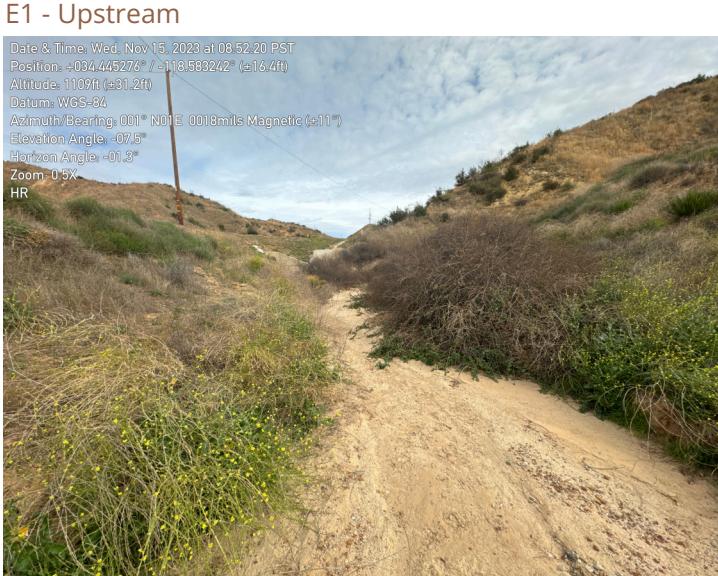
E1 - Downstream



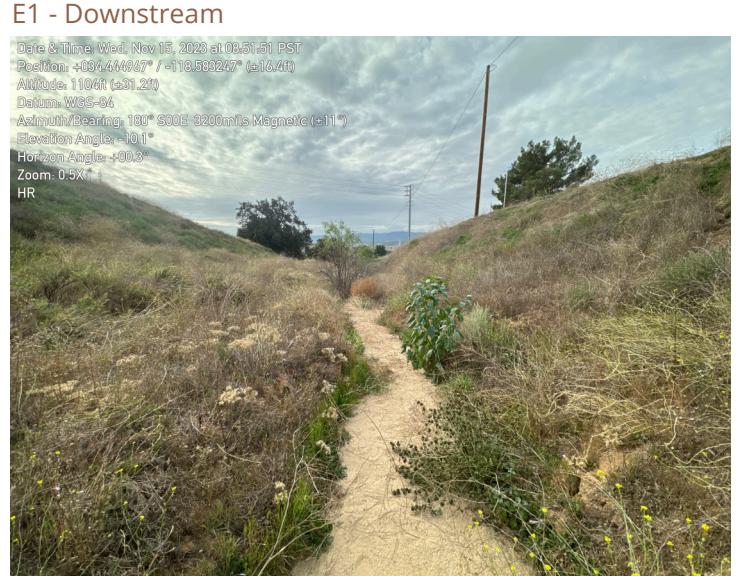
E1 - Upstream



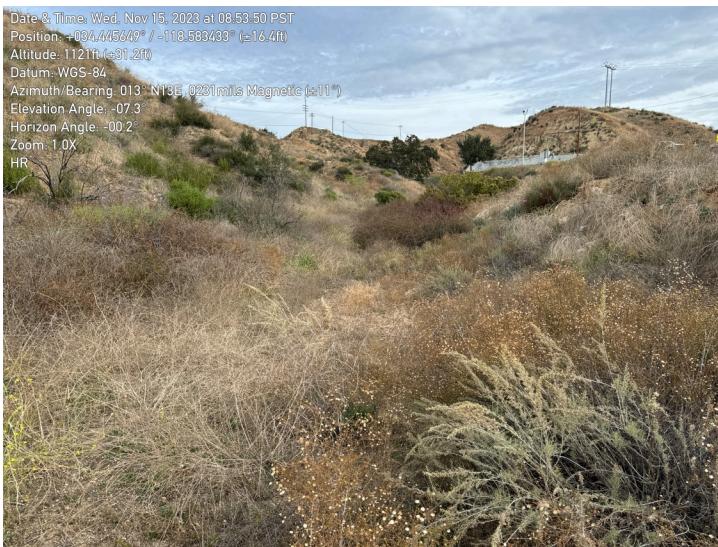
E1 - Downstream



E1 - Upstream



E1 - Downstream



E1 - Upstream



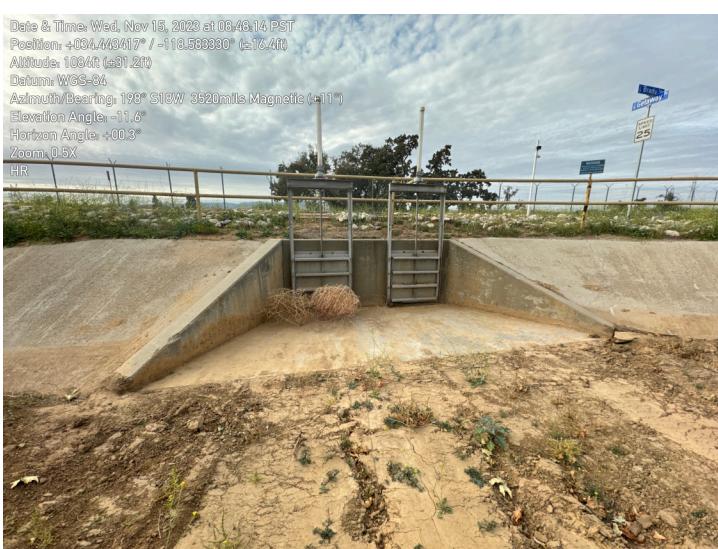
E1 - Downstream



E1 Terminus - Flood Control Basin



E1 Terminus - Flood Control Basin



E1 Terminus - Flood Control Basin



Study Area - Upland



Study Area - Upland



Study Area - Upland

## **Appendix B: Plant Species List**

## Plant Species Observed within Study Area

Scientific Name	Common Name	Indicator
<b>GYMNOSPERMS</b>		
<b>PINACEAE</b>	<b>PINE FAMILY</b>	
<i>Pinus</i> sp.	pine	UNK
<b>ANGIOSPERMS (EUDICOTS)</b>		
<b>ADOXACEAE</b>	<b>MUSKROOT FAMILY</b>	
<i>Sambucus mexicana</i>	blue elderberry	FACU
<b>ASTERACEAE</b>		
<i>Artemisia californica</i>	California sagebrush	UPL
<i>Baccharis pilularis</i>	coyote brush	UPL
<i>Centaurea melitensis</i> *	tocalote	UPL
<i>Encelia farinosa</i>	brittlebush	UPL
<i>Erigeron canadensis</i>	horseweed	FACU
<i>Gutierrezia californica</i>	california matchweed	UPL
<i>Lactuca serriola</i> *	prickly lettuce	FACU
<i>Lasthenia gracilis</i>	common goldfields	FACU
<i>Lepidospartum squamatum</i>	scale-broom	FACU
<b>BORAGINACEAE</b>	<b>BORAGE FAMILY</b>	
<i>Amsinckia menziesii</i>	common fiddleneck	UPL
<b>BRASSICACEAE</b>		
<b>MUSTARD FAMILY</b>		
<i>Brassica nigra</i> *	black mustard	UPL
<i>Lepidium nitidum</i>	shining peppergrass	UPL
<i>Sisymbrium altissimum</i> *	tumble mustard	FACU
<i>Thysanocarpus radians</i>	ribbed fringedpod	UPL
<b>CHENOPodiaceae</b>	<b>GOOSEFOOT FAMILY</b>	
<i>Salsola tragus</i> *	Russian thistle	FACU
<b>CRASSULACEAE</b>		
<b>STONECROP FAMILY</b>		
<i>Crassula connata</i>	pygmy-weed	FAC
<b>CUCURBITACEAE</b>		
<b>GOURD FAMILY</b>		
<i>Cucurbita palmata</i>	coyote melon	UPL
<b>EUPHORBIACEAE</b>		
<b>SPURGE FAMILY</b>		
<i>Croton setiger</i>	turkey-mullein	UPL
<b>FABACEAE</b>		
<b>LEGUME FAMILY</b>		
<i>Acmispon glaber</i>	deerweed	UPL
<b>FAGACEAE</b>		
<b>OAK FAMILY</b>		
<i>Quercus lobata</i>	valley oak	FACU
<b>GERANIACEAE</b>		
<b>GERANIUM FAMILY</b>		
<i>Erodium cicutarium</i> *	red-stemmed filaree	UPL
<b>LAMIACEAE</b>		
<b>MINT FAMILY</b>		
<i>Salvia leucophylla</i>	purple sage	UPL
<i>Salvia mellifera</i>	black sage	UPL

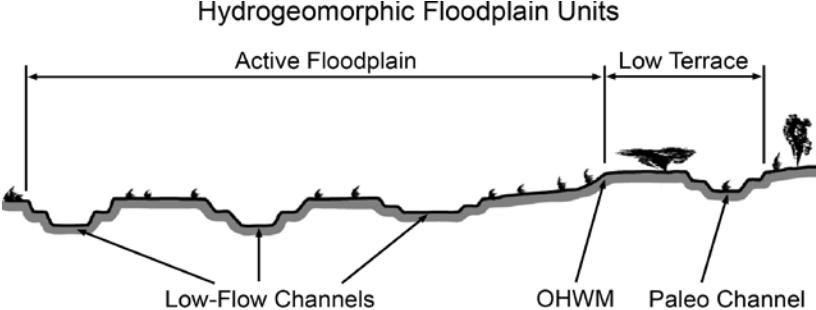
<b>MALVACEAE</b>	<b>MALLOW FAMILY</b>	
<i>Malacothamnus fasciculatus</i>	mesa bushmallow	UPL
<i>Malva parviflora</i> *	cheeseweed	UPL
<b>NYCTAGINACEAE</b>	<b>FOUR O'CLOCK FAMILY</b>	
<i>Mirabilis laevis</i>	wishbone bush	UPL
<b>POLYGONACEAE</b>	<b>BUCKWHEAT FAMILY</b>	
<i>Eriogonum fasciculatum</i>	California buckwheat	UPL
<b>RHAMNACEAE</b>	<b>BUCKTHORN FAMILY</b>	
<i>Ceanothus cuneatus</i>	buck brush	UPL
<b>ROSACEAE</b>	<b>ROSE FAMILY</b>	
<i>Adenostoma fasciculatum</i>	chamise	UPL
<i>Heteromeles arbutifolia</i>	toyon	UPL
<b>SOLANACEAE</b>	<b>NIGHTSHADE FAMILY</b>	
<i>Nicotiana glauca</i> *	tree tobacco	FAC
<b>ANGIOSPERMS (MONOCOTS)</b>		
<b>POACEAE</b>	<b>GRASS FAMILY</b>	
<i>Avena barbata</i> *	slender wild oat	UPL
<i>Bromus diandrus</i> *	ripgut grass	UPL
<i>Bromus madritensis</i> subsp. <i>rubens</i> *	red brome	UPL
<i>Bromus tectorum</i> *	cheat grass	UPL
<i>Elymus condensatus</i>	giant wild rye	UPL
<i>Festuca microstachys</i>	small fescue	UPL
<i>Festuca myuros</i> *	rat-tail fescue	UPL
<i>Hordeum murinum</i> *	glaucous foxtail barley	FACU
<i>Stipa pulchra</i>	purple needlegrass	UPL

\*Non-Native Species, +Ornamental, Unlikely to be Invasive

**Appendix C:**

**USACE Arid West Ephemeral & Intermittent Streams OHWM Datasheet**

## Arid West Ephemeral and Intermittent Streams OHWM Datasheet

<b>Project:</b> Honor Rancho Compressor Modernization <b>Project Number:</b> <b>Stream:</b> E1 <b>Investigator(s):</b> J. Caskey	<b>Date:</b> 11/15/23 <b>Town:</b> Santa Clarita <b>Photo begin file#:</b>	<b>Time:</b> 0830 <b>State:</b> CA <b>Photo end file#:</b>																		
Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> / N <input type="checkbox"/> Do normal circumstances exist on the site?		<b>Location Details:</b> Southeast section of station																		
Y <input type="checkbox"/> / N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Is the site significantly disturbed?		<b>Projection:</b> <b>Datum:</b> <b>Coordinates:</b>																		
<b>Potential anthropogenic influences on the channel system:</b> Feature is influenced by stormwater runoff stemming from the Honor Rancho compressor station. Multiple culverts and drainages observed leading into Ephemeral 1.																				
<b>Brief site description:</b> Study Area is within an active natural gas compressor station operated by SoCalGas																				
<b>Checklist of resources (if available):</b> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aerial photography            Dates:         </td> <td style="width: 50%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Stream gage data            Gage number:         </td> </tr> <tr> <td> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Topographic maps         </td> <td> <input type="checkbox"/> Period of record:  <input type="checkbox"/> History of recent effective discharges         </td> </tr> <tr> <td> <input type="checkbox"/> Geologic maps         </td> <td> <input type="checkbox"/> Results of flood frequency analysis         </td> </tr> <tr> <td> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vegetation maps         </td> <td> <input type="checkbox"/> Most recent shift-adjusted rating         </td> </tr> <tr> <td> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Soils maps         </td> <td> <input type="checkbox"/> Gage heights for 2-, 5-, 10-, and 25-year events and the most recent event exceeding a 5-year event         </td> </tr> <tr> <td> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rainfall/precipitation maps         </td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td> <input type="checkbox"/> Existing delineation(s) for site         </td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Global positioning system (GPS)         </td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td> <input type="checkbox"/> Other studies         </td> <td></td> </tr> </table>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aerial photography Dates:	<input type="checkbox"/> Stream gage data Gage number:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Topographic maps	<input type="checkbox"/> Period of record: <input type="checkbox"/> History of recent effective discharges	<input type="checkbox"/> Geologic maps	<input type="checkbox"/> Results of flood frequency analysis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vegetation maps	<input type="checkbox"/> Most recent shift-adjusted rating	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Soils maps	<input type="checkbox"/> Gage heights for 2-, 5-, 10-, and 25-year events and the most recent event exceeding a 5-year event	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rainfall/precipitation maps		<input type="checkbox"/> Existing delineation(s) for site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Global positioning system (GPS)		<input type="checkbox"/> Other studies	
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<b>Hydrogeomorphic Floodplain Units</b>  <p>The diagram illustrates the hydrogeomorphic floodplain units. It shows a cross-section of a river channel with a wavy base. The top part is labeled 'Active Floodplain' with a double-headed arrow. To the right, a higher, more stable area is labeled 'Low Terrace'. A vertical line marks the 'OHWM' (Overbank Floodplain Margin). Below the OHWM, a wavy line represents 'Low-Flow Channels'. To the right of the OHWM, a small area is labeled 'Paleo Channel'.</p>																				
<b>Procedure for identifying and characterizing the floodplain units to assist in identifying the OHWM:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walk the channel and floodplain within the study area to get an impression of the geomorphology and vegetation present at the site.</li> <li>2. Select a representative cross section across the channel. Draw the cross section and label the floodplain units.</li> <li>3. Determine a point on the cross section that is characteristic of one of the hydrogeomorphic floodplain units.       <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Record the floodplain unit and GPS position.</li> <li>b) Describe the sediment texture (using the Wentworth class size) and the vegetation characteristics of the floodplain unit.</li> <li>c) Identify any indicators present at the location.</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Repeat for other points in different hydrogeomorphic floodplain units across the cross section.</li> <li>5. Identify the OHWM and record the indicators. Record the OHWM position via:       <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Mapping on aerial photograph  <input type="checkbox"/> Digitized on computer       </td> <td style="width: 50%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> GPS  <input type="checkbox"/> Other:       </td> </tr> </table> </li> </ol>			<input type="checkbox"/> Mapping on aerial photograph <input type="checkbox"/> Digitized on computer	<input type="checkbox"/> GPS <input type="checkbox"/> Other:																
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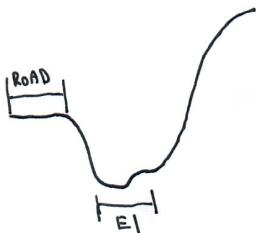
Project ID:

Cross section ID:

Date:

Time:

**Cross section drawing:**



**OHWM**

GPS point: 34.444941, -118.583226

**Indicators:**

Change in average sediment texture  
 Change in vegetation species  
 Change in vegetation cover

Break in bank slope  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:**

**Floodplain unit:**  Low-Flow Channel  Active Floodplain  Low Terrace

GPS point: 34.444941, -118.583226

**Characteristics of the floodplain unit:**

Average sediment texture: Medium to Coarse Sand

Total veg cover: 90 % Tree: 5 % Shrub: 15 % Herb: 70 %

Community successional stage:

NA  Mid (herbaceous, shrubs, saplings)  
 Early (herbaceous & seedlings)  Late (herbaceous, shrubs, mature trees)

**Indicators:**

Mudcracks  
 Ripples  
 Drift and/or debris  
 Presence of bed and bank  
 Benches

Soil development  
 Surface relief  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:**

Small riparian area dominated by 3 valley oaks associated with E1 near the flood control basin.