

## JURISDICTIONAL DELINEATION Luna Road and Highway 395 Commercial/Retail Center CITY OF VICTORVILLE, SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

±3.89 Acre Project, ±3.89 Acres Surveyed

APNs 3096-361-09 and offsite 3096-361-10, City of Victorville, Township 5 North Range 5 West Section 28 USGS Baldy Mesa, CA 7.5' Topographic Quadrangle

#### **Prepared For:**

Beau Cooper United Engineering Group 8885 Haven Avenue, Suite 195 Rancho Cucamonga, Ca 91730 909-466-9240 X203

#### **Prepared By:**

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#### **Report Summary:**

The site is vacant undeveloped land with small dirt trails and dirt roads running throughout. Vegetation onsite is mostly creosote bush with scattered Joshua trees. Wetlands are not present and Federal Waters are assumed absent based on a lack of connectivity. CDFW Streambeds and State Waters present on Site total 613 sq. ft. (0.014 acre). Planned Project related onsite impacts are 613 sq. ft. (0.014 acre). Additional impacts of 555 sq ft (0.012 acre) will occur to the drainage feature located on the adjacent City of Victorville land parcel as a result of the proposed project.

Delineation Conducted By: Leslie Nay Irish & Joshua Ball Delineation Conducted On: December 9, 2022

Report Date: December 14, 2022

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#### MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

At the request of United Engineering Group, L&L Environmental, Inc. (L&L) conducted a preliminary jurisdictional delineation on ±3.89 acres identified as a commercial development located at the southwest corner of the intersection of Luna Road and Highway 395 in the City of Victorville, San Bernardino County, California.

The purpose of this delineation is to quantify that portion of the property subject to the jurisdiction of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). A jurisdictional delineation is performed to map wetland and non-wetland features of the property that may be subject to regulation by state or federal agencies and may require permits prior to disturbance/construction. All jurisdictional delineations are considered preliminary until verified and accepted by the agencies.

L&L's regulatory analysts and wetland delineators (Leslie Irish and Joshua Ball) evaluated the site during a series of actions that included pre-survey research and data review followed by a field survey and mapping effort conducted on the property December 9, 2022. The research consisted of a review of topographic maps, soils information, and aerial photography and a field examination of vegetation, soils, and hydrology present on the site. Post processing of the data included a review of the files collected and synthesized with topographic maps and Google Earth.

The project is located on vacant land about 100 feet west of Highway 395 and about 1.04 miles south of State Route 18/Palmdale Road. It is positioned between Luna Road on the north, Bella Pine Street to the West, and vacant land to the south.

CDFW Streambeds and State Waters present on Site total 613 sq. ft. (0.014 acre). Planned Project related impacts onsite are 613 (0.014 acre), Offsite drainage impacts are 555 sq. ft. (0.012 acre) on an adjacent City of Victorville owned parcel. Federal jurisdiction is assumed absent due to a lack of connectivity/nexus to the Pacific Ocean, however, all delineations are considered preliminary until verified by the regulatory agencies.

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#### 1.0) INTRODUCTION

The following report was prepared by L&L Environmental, Inc. (L&L) for United Engineering Group. It describes the results of a jurisdictional delineation conducted on a proposed development site in the City of Victorville in San Bernardino County, California. The study area consists of Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs) 3096-361-09 and offsite 3096-361-10, and associated offsite areas totaling ±3.89.

Sections 404/401 of the federal Clean Water Act requires permitting of activities that will result in discharge of dredge or fill material into "Waters of the U. S." or adjacent wetlands. Section 1602 of the California Fish and Game Code requires a "Streambed Alteration Agreement" for projects that will alter a stream channel.

This report documents state streambeds subject to Section 1600 of the California Fish and Game Code present on the Project Site. It also documents the presence of State Waters subject to the control of the Regional Water Quality Control Board. The proponent is advised that a CDFW Streambed Alteration Agreement (SAA) (1602) and a RWQCB Waste Discharge Permit (WDR) under Porter Cologne or a 401 Permit under the Clean Water Act will be required. We recommend consultation with the Army Corps of Engineers to confirm the drainages onsite are not subject to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act or apply for an Approved Jurisdictional Delineation (AJD).

All jurisdictional delineations conducted by consultants are considered preliminary and are subject to review by regulatory agencies.

#### 2.0) PROJECT LOCATION

The study area includes the parcels and offsite areas associated with the project in the City of Victorville in San Bernardino County, California. The project is located on vacant land about 100 feet west of Highway 395 and about 1.04 miles south of State Route 18/Palmdale Road. It is positioned between Luna Road on the north, Bella Pine Street to the West, and vacant land to the south. The site is within Township 5 North, Range 5 West, Section 28 and is shown on the USGS *Baldy Mesa, CA* 7.5' series topographic quadrangle map (Figure 2).

The parcel can be accessed by taking Interstate 15 to Victorville and using Exit 141 for U.S. 395 toward Bishop/Adelanto. Continuing down the US-395 North for about 6 miles until you reach Luna Road and turn left on Luna Road and the project area is located southwest of the intersection of Luna Road and Hwy 395.

The site is bounded on the north by Luna Road and residential homes beyond, to the East by Highway 395 and Luna Market and vacant land beyond, to the South by Vacant land, and to the West by Bella Pine Street and residential homes beyond.

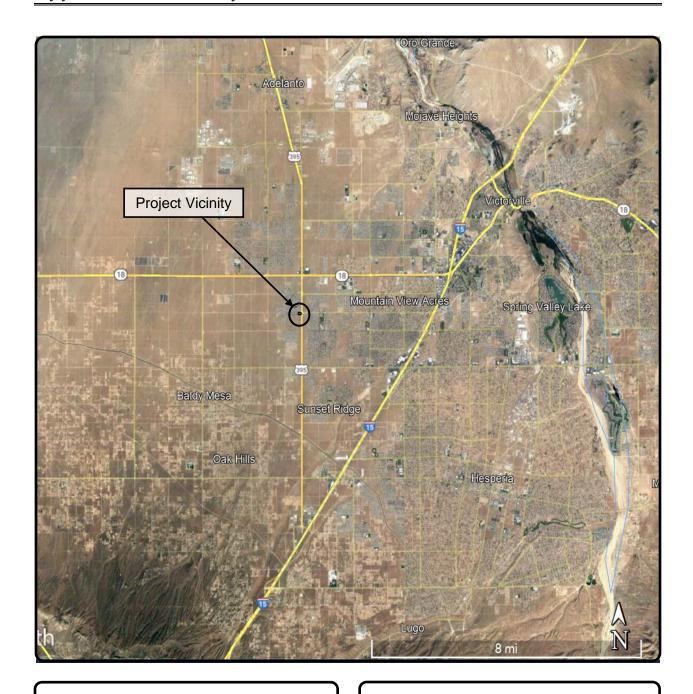
#### 2.1) Project Site Description

The Project Site includes APNs 3096-361-09 and offsite 3096-361-10 (±3.89 acres). Development plans call for three (3) driveways to enter and exit from surrounding roads and a single "right out" exit onto Luna Road. One of the driveways will extend across the city owned flood channel parcel APN 3096-361-10 to connect with Highway 395.

The site is relatively flat but is slightly higher in the western portion and lowest in the eastern portion, that is closer to a well-defined wash. The Site is undeveloped vacant land and mostly undisturbed, except for small dirt trails.

#### 2.2) Proposed Project Description

The project is described as the Southwest corner lot of Luna Road and U.S. highway 395, Victorville, CA. The project is proposed as a retail center that includes a gas station and convenience store with a quick service restaurant space, an express car wash and a retail pad building with a fast-food end cap with drive through. The project would include all onsite infrastructure improvements including primary and secondary access, utilities, streets, and stormwater facilities. 87 Parking stalls will be provided for use of the retail and facilities located onsite.

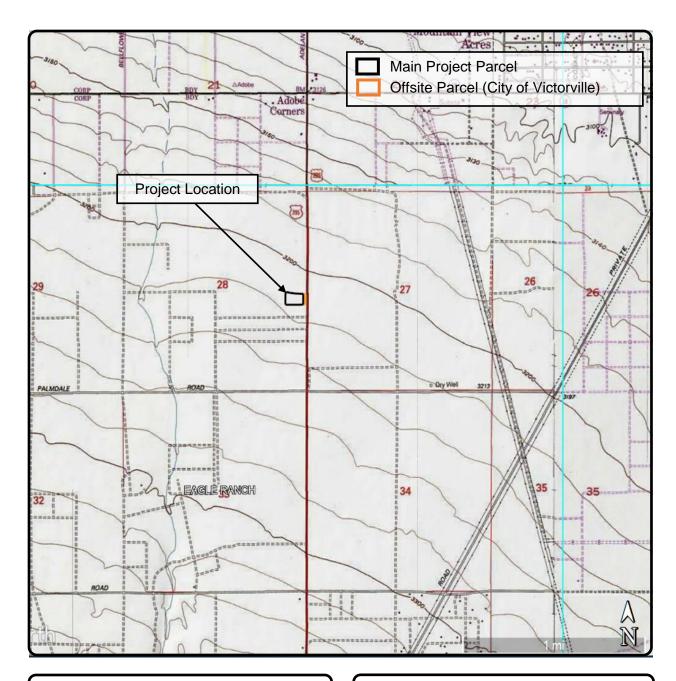


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# Figure 1 Project Vicinity Map

City of Victorville, San Bernardino Co., California

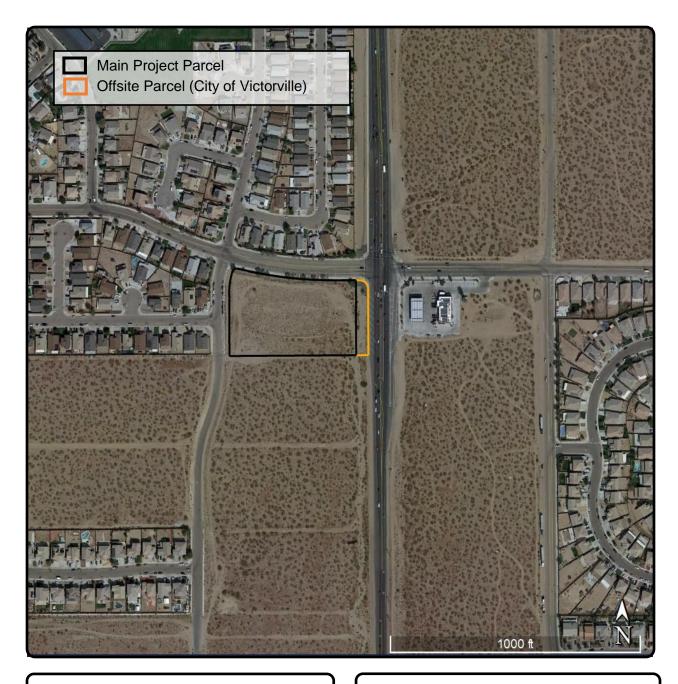


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## Figure 2 Project Location Map

(USGS *Baldy Mesa, CA* [2018] quadrangle, California- San Bernadino County 7.5 Minute Series



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Figure 3

## Aerial Photograph (Aerial obtained from Google Earth, December 2022)

#### 3.0) METHODS

#### 3.1) Pre-Survey Research Methods and Purpose

In this report, the "Project" or "Project Site" refers to the ±3.89 acres comprising the parcels and offsite areas. A wealth of information is available online and is updated at regular intervals by the agencies and universities. To ensure efficiency and greater accuracy in the field, areas of interest are identified during the research stage prior to conducting the field survey. Useful maps are uploaded to handheld GPS and applications are downloaded in preparation for real-time data inquiries. Potential for jurisdictional features to occur onsite is assessed via aerial photography, topographic mapping, soil types, trends to hydric conditions, area hydrology, and USFWS wetlands inventory mapping, etc. Finally, condition of area drainages is forecast based on available rainfall data.

Online data sources include USFWS, WebSoil, GlobeXplorer, Google Earth, 2016 Arid West Regional Wetland Plant List, Natural Resources Conservation Service, FEMA, University of California at Davis, Agriculture and Natural Resources, California Soil Resources Lab, U. S. Department of the Interior Geological Survey and the following web pages:

- http://wetland-plants.usace.army.mil/nwpl\_static/v33/home/home.html
- http://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/WebSoilSurvey.aspx
- https://www.fws.gov/wetlands/Data/Mapper.html
- https://viewer.nationalmap.gov/basic/
- https://hdsc.nws.noaa.gov/hdsc/pfds/pfds\_map\_cont.html?bkmrk=ca
- https://msc.fema.gov/portal/search

#### 3.2) Field Survey Methods and Purpose

Field work was conducted on December 9, 2022 during which two (2) person hours were expended. Project boundaries were investigated to identify areas where water is received onto the property or transmitted offsite to downstream resources. These areas were then walked, measured, and assessed via three (3) criteria to determine presence or absence of evidence of flow, hydrophilic vegetation, or hydric soil conditions. Where evidence of flow is present, combined with or without hydrophytes, soils were examined for anoxic conditions. Soils identified as suitable for development of hydric conditions were given special attention. Where appropriate, soil color characteristics were evaluated using a "Munsell color chart" and all data are reported on appropriate Arid West Wetland Determination Data Forms (WD). The hydrology criterion is satisfied by the observation of standing or flowing water. The soil condition is satisfied by the

development of saturated soils with anoxic conditions. The vegetation criterion is satisfied if half or more of the dominant plant species within a feature are ranked as "obligate wetland," "facultative wetland," or "facultative" species (OBL, FACW, or FAC, respectively, see Table 1) for federal jurisdiction or presence of any of these species for state/local jurisdiction. A Wetland Data Point (WDP) is collected for each pit location and a WD Form is completed where evidence warrants.

During our analysis, L&L personnel used the following indicators of wetlands vegetation:

Table 1. Summary of wetlands vegetation indicator categories.

Indicator Status	Symbol	Definitions
Obligate	OBL	Almost always occur in wetlands. With few exceptions, these plants (herbaceous or woody) are found in standing water or seasonally saturated soils (14 or more consecutive days) near the surface.
Facultative Wetland	FACW	Usually occur in wetlands but may occur in non-wetlands. These plants predominantly occur with hydric soils, often in geomorphic settings where water saturates the soils or floods the soil surface at least seasonally.
Facultative	FAC	Occur in wetlands and non-wetlands. These plants can grow in hydric, mesic, or xeric habitats. The occurrence of these plants in different habitats represents responses to a variety of environmental variables other than just hydrology, such as shade tolerance, soil pH, and elevation, and they have a wide tolerance of soil moisture conditions.
Facultative Upland	FACU	Usually occur in non-wetlands but may occur in wetlands. These plants predominantly occur on drier or more mesic sites in geomorphic settings where water rarely saturates the soils or floods the soil surface seasonally.
Upland	UPL	Almost never occur in wetlands. These plants occupy mesic to xeric non-wetland habitats. They almost never occur in standing water or saturated soils. Typical growth forms include herbaceous, shrubs, woody vines, and trees.

#### Nomenclature Used

L&L used terms in this report that follow CDFW, RWQCB, and USACE guidelines (both published and expressed). We also describe linear features or channels as Streambeds (CDFW) and State Waters (RWQCB) and Wetlands as habitat areas meeting any one (1) of the three (3) criteria of appropriate hydrology, hydric soils, or hydric vegetation.

#### 4.0) RESULTS

#### 4.1) Soils

Topographically, the site is flat with small mounds of dirt, with elevation onsite ranging between 3,210 to 3,219 feet above mean sea level. Elevation onsite varies, but generally slopes downward from southwest to northeast.

Soil Survey Geographic (SSURGO) Database shapefiles and Web Soil Survey identify soils onsite as Cajon Sands (0-2% slopes) (Figure 4).

Table 2. Mapped soils.

Map unit		Hydric Percent
symbol	Map unit name	of Map Unit
112	Cajon sand (0-2% slopes)	5

Hydric soils are defined by the National Technical Committee for Hydric Soils (NTCHS) as soils that formed under conditions of saturation, flooding, or ponding of water for periods long enough (during the growing season) to develop anaerobic conditions in the upper part (Federal Register 1994). <a href="https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/WebSoilSurvey.aspx">https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/WebSoilSurvey.aspx</a>.

The NTCHS definition identifies general soil properties that are associated with wetness. To determine whether a specific soil is a hydric soil or a nonhydric soil more specific information, such as the depth and duration of the water table, is needed. Thus, criteria that identify those estimated soil properties unique to hydric soils have been established (Federal Register 2002). These criteria are used to identify map unit components that are normally associated with wetlands. The criteria used are selected estimated soil properties that are described in "Soil Taxonomy" (Soil Survey Staff 1999), "Keys to Soil Taxonomy" (Soil Survey Staff 2014), and the "Soil Survey Manual" (Soil Survey Division Staff 2017).



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## Figure 4

Soils Map

(Aerial obtained from Google Earth, December 2022, USDA Nat. Res. Cons. Serv. SSURGO Data)

If soils are wet for long enough to be considered hydric, they should exhibit certain properties easily observed in the field. These visible properties are indicators of hydric soils and are specified in "Field Indicators of Hydric Soils in the United States" (Vasilas, Hurt and CV Noble 2010).

Soils on the surface of the ground were well drained and no water or evidence of ponding water was observed. No hydric soils or wetland vegetation was present in any of the streambeds.

#### 4.2) Vegetation and Site Condition

Native vegetation onsite is mainly creosote bush and a few scattered Joshua trees. Off-road vehicle tracks and trails are present, and the site is significantly disturbed by anthropogenic influence. Opportunistic dumping has occurred on the vacant site.

The site is within the Mojave Desert. Summers are hot and dry, and winters are cool. Annual precipitation averages 5 to 10 inches and falls mostly in the winter and spring, with occasional snowfall. Thunderstorms may bring sudden, heavy rainfall. Windy days are common and the area has strong winds in fall, late winter, and early spring. In its natural state, the desert typically has low fuel loads and fires are very rare. However, the proliferation of invasive grasses and mustards in recent decades have resulted in fuel loads that support infrequent fires that can devastate native desert vegetation.

#### 4.3) Site Specific Hydrology

No U. S. Geological Survey (USGS) mapped blueline features are present on the property. One main drainage feature has poorly defined beds and banks and is located primarily on an adjacent city owned parcel, extending onto the site at the Southeast corner of the property. All features present are ephemeral and contain water only during a rain event or shortly thereafter. However, anthropogenic disturbances were high in some places. No indication of hyporheic flow (disappearing/reappearing) isolated pools. No indication of macroinvertebrates was observed. No facultative or (water) obligate vegetation was observed. No amphibians or sign of amphibians were observed.

During high flow events water can currently cross the project area at one (1) location. The streambed flows from south to north and crosses onto the project site then leaves the site onto the adjacent city owned parcel via a box culvert crossing under Luna Rd. The project is within HUC 18090208 (https://water.usgs.gov/wsc/cat/18090208.html), an area including Barstow, Victorville, Apple Valley, and Hesperia tributary to a basin/dry lake with no outlet. Flows from the site enter the Mojave River and flow on to the dry lake (https://www.fws.gov/wetlands/Data/Mapper.html).

The Project area is mapped within areas of undetermined Base Flood Elevations. (FIRM Map - https://msc.fema.gov/portal/search).

#### 4.4) Precipitation Data and Analysis

#### 4.4.1) Climate and Growing Season

"At 2,875 feet above sea level, Victorville's dry, high-desert climate has cool springs and falls, hot and sunny summers and generally milder winters that can sometimes bring light snow. Average rainfall is approximately 3.9 inches per year, which means low humidity throughout the year. Temperatures can range from below freezing in winter to +110 in the summer" (https://www.victorvilleca.gov/our-city/climate).

#### 4.4.2) Precipitation

Information is available from Natural Resources Conservation Service Wetlands Climate Tables (NRCS WETS) for San Bernardino County, Victorville (https://agacis.rcc-acis.org/?fips=06071). The project area had 1.66 inches of rain during the 90 days preceding the December 9<sup>th</sup> site visit. Rainfall in 2021 was 3.04 inches. L&L delineators concluded from this information that if hydric conditions were to exist onsite some form of evidence would be present during the field surveys.

Table 3. Precipitation and NRCS WETS. WETS Station: Adelanto 3.1 S, CA (https://agacis.rcc-acis.org/?fips=06071).

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
2000	0.03	1.23	0.17	0.84	0.00	0.00	0.00	M	0.00	0.18	0.00	0.00	М
2001	1.54	1.91	0.70	0.30	0.01	0.00	0.27	0.00	0.00	0.15	0.63	0.52	6.03
2002	0.12	0.00	0.27	0.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.13	0.53	1.28
2003	0.00	3.64	1.30	1.18	0.14	0.00	0.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.24	0.45	8.50
2004	0.05	1.95	0.11	0.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.13	0.00	3.32	1.39	2.16	9.34
2005	2.20	4.17	0.43	0.05	0.00	M	0.74	0.88	0.43	1.48	0.00	0.13	М
2006	0.37	0.45	0.83	0.68	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.14	2.49
2007	0.07	0.18	M	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	М	M	0.92	M
2008	1.30	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	М	M	М	M
2009	0.04	1.30	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.18	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.53	2.30
2010	4.34	2.02	0.26	0.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.65	0.02	5.35	M
2011	0.45	1.19	1.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.53	0.00	0.06	0.00	0.64	0.37	4.80
2012	0.07	0.21	0.63	0.84	0.00	0.00	0.67	1.17	0.04	0.00	0.06	0.74	4.43
2013	0.46	0.28	M	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.91	0.21	M
2014	0.00	0.01	0.54	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.03	0.00	0.13	0.95	1.80
2015	1.00	0.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.34	0.00	1.17	0.36	0.20	0.29	4.62
2016	1.04	0.00	0.56	0.62	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.44	0.11	2.23	5.00
2017	1.71	1.91	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.09	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.81
2018	0.69	0.14	0.78	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.02	0.19	1.60	4.45
2019	0.88	1.47	0.72	0.11	0.37	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.71	2.84	8.10
2020	0.00	0.00	2.05	2.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.25	4.55
2021	1.42	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.28	0.00	0.23	0.44	0.00	0.64	3.04
2022	0.00	0.50	0.12	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.45	0.38	0.43	0.85	М	M
Mean	0.77	1.00	0.53	0.36	0.03	0.01	0.19	0.13	0.11	0.45	0.40	0.99	4.66

#### 4.5) Description of Streambeds and Wetlands

All waters/streambeds present on the site are ephemeral in nature and contain water only during or for a short period following rainfall.

#### 4.5.1) Streambed 1

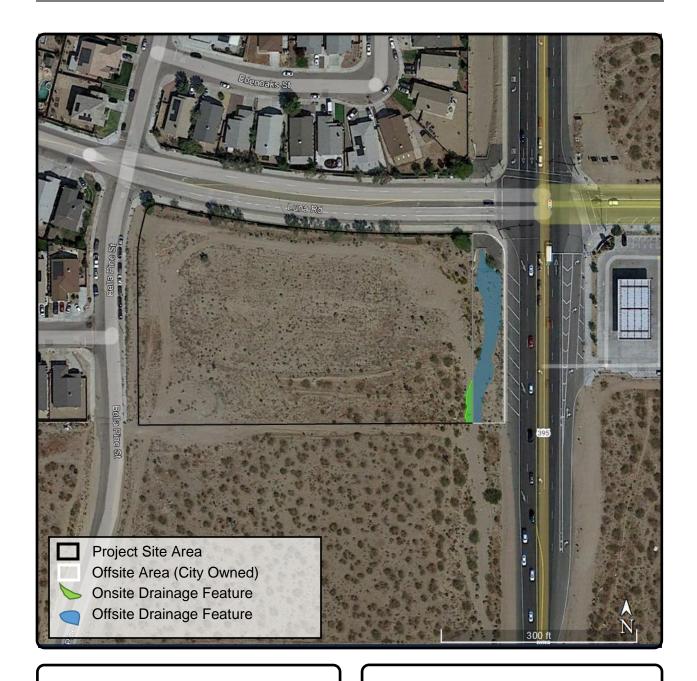
Streambed 1 is primarily located on a parcel adjacent to the project site on a city owned land parcel with a portion of the streambed entering onto the property site. Streambed 1 will be impacted as a result of development on the project site. The average width of the streambed 1 measures 9.375 feet. Drainage 1 is 613 Sq. Ft. The streambed is ephemeral in nature and contains water only during or for a short period following rainfall. Streambed 1 is unvegetated and disturbed. Clear beds and banks are moderately present within the drainage. Jurisdictional area within planned impact areas totals 613 sq. ft. (0.014 acre).

Table 4. Onsite Streambeds/State Waters

Point	Average Width (ft.)	Present Square Feet (acres)	Type of Waters	Latitude Longitude	HGM Code	Comment
Drainage 1	9.375	613 (0.014)	Streambed Unveg/disturbed	° 34.491372° -117.399855°	RIVERINE	Moderately defined wash
Total		613 (0.014)				

Table 5. Offsite Streambeds/State Waters

Point	Average Width (ft.)	Present Square Feet (acres)	Type of Waters	Latitude Longitude	HGM Code	Comment
Drainage 1	19.87	6,048 (0.14)	Streambed Unveg/disturbed	34.491868° -117.399756°	RIVERINE	Moderately defined, City Owned Land Parcel
Total		6,048 (0.14)				

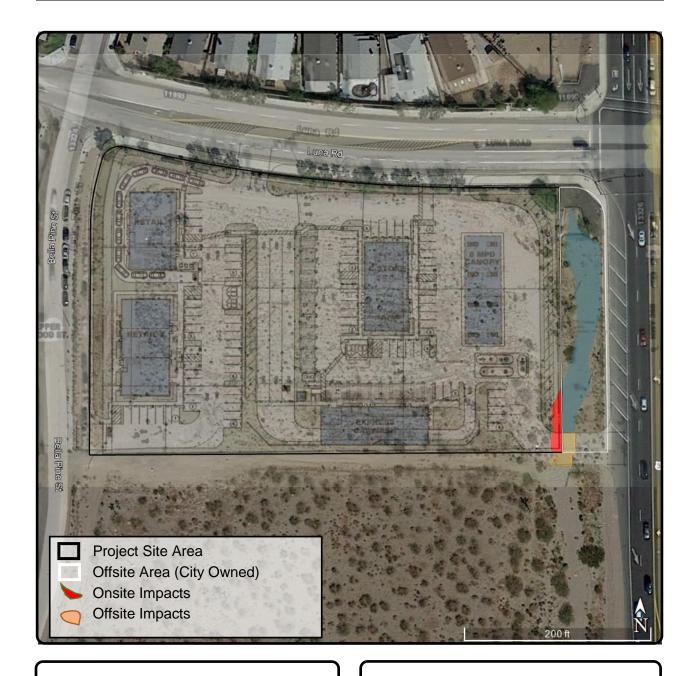


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Figure 6

**CDFW/State Waters Delineation** 



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## Figure 6

CDFW/State Waters Impacts
Onsite and Offsite

#### **Total Resources**

CDFW Streambeds and State Waters present on Site total 6,661 sq. ft. (0.15 acre). These are also subject to regulation by the RWQCB.

#### **Project Impacts**

CDFW resources total 613 sq. ft. (0.014 acre). Onsite Project related impacts are 613 sq. ft. (0.014 acre) An additional 555 sq. ft. (0.12 acre) will be impacted on the adjacent City of Victorville land parcel by the project development.

Table 6. Onsite Project Impacts.

Point	Average Width (ft.)	Present Square Feet (acres)	Impacted Square Feet (acres)	Type of Waters	Latitude Longitude	HGM Code	Comment
Drainage 1	9.375	613 (0.014)	613 (0.014)	Streambed Unveg/disturbed	° 34.491372° -117.399855°	RIVERINE	Moderately defined wash
Total		613 (0.014)	613 (0.014)				

Table 7. Offsite Project Impacts.

Point	Average Width (ft.)	Present Square Feet (acres)	Impacted Square Feet (acres)	Type of Waters	Latitude Longitude	HGM Code	Comment
Drainage 1	19.87	6,048 (0.14)	555 (0.012)	Streambed Unveg/disturbed	34.491868° -117.399756°	RIVERINE	Moderately defined, City owned Land Parcel
Total		6,048 (0.14)	555 (0.012)				

#### 5.0) CONCLUSIONS

L&L found jurisdictional "waters of the state" present within the Project site. "Waters of the state" means any surface water or groundwater, including saline waters, within the boundaries of the state (Water Code Section 13050[e]). Drainages that connect to downstream flows are also jurisdictional. Ca Code Regs § 1.72 defines "Waters" as a Body of water that Flows at least periodically or intermittently, has a bed or channel that has banks, supports fish or other aquatic life Including surface/subsurface flow that supports or has supported riparian vegetation.

CDFW Streambeds are also present. CDFW Streambeds are governed by the California Department of Fish and Game Code under Section 1602 which requires any person, state or local governmental agency, or public utility to notify CDFW prior to beginning any activity that may do one or more of the following:

- Divert or obstruct the natural flow of any river, stream, or lake;
- Change the bed, channel, or bank of any river, stream, or lake;
- Use material from any river, stream, or lake; or
- Deposit or dispose of material into any river, stream, or lake.

Wetlands are not present within the Project site. Wetland areas within or adjacent to features are regulated by the state of California where they exhibit any one (1) of the three (3) parameters (water modified soils, facultative vegetation, or surface or subsurface water).

Federal Waters of the US were not found within the Project site as they are currently defined by the US Army Corps of Engineers as the drainage feature lacks connectivity or nexus with the Pacific Ocean.

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All jurisdictional determinations are considered preliminary until verified by the agencies.

#### **APPENDIX B - Site Photos**



Project site facing Northeast



Project site facing Southwest



Joshua Tree remains facing Northwest



Joshua Tree facing Southwest



Box Culvert underneath Luna Rd. Facing North



Box culvert at Luna Rd. and Hwy 395 Intersection



Drainage 1 facing Southeast



Drainage 1 Facing North



Test Pit 1



Drainage 1 facing Northwest towards Luna Rd.



Drainage 1 facing southwest



Drainage 1 facing Northeast towards Hwy. 395



Test Pit 2



Project site and drainage 1 facing Southwest



Trail parallel with Luna Rd. facing Northeast



Northwest corner of property site

#### **APPENDIX C – Certification**

Certification: I hereby certify that the statements furnished above and in the attached exhibits present the data and information required for this biological evaluation, and that the facts, statements, and information presented are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

DATE: December 14 ,2022 SIGNED:	aslie Cris
	eslie Irish, Principal, L&L Environmental, Inc. 909-335-9897
1) Fieldwork Performed By:	2) Fieldwork Performed By:
Leslie Irish	Joshua Ball
Name	Name

#### **APPENDIX D – Literature Citations and References**

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