

DOCKETED	
Docket Number:	22-SPPE-02
Project Title:	San Jose Data Center 04
TN #:	266906
Document Title:	Valley Water ROC
Description:	Record of Conversation between Carol Watson_CEC and Lisa Brancatelli_Valley Water-SJDC 04
Filer:	susan fleming
Organization:	California Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Commission Staff
Submission Date:	10/29/2025 1:04:40 PM
Docketed Date:	10/29/2025



**Siting, Transportation, and
Environmental Protection
Division**

File No. N/A

PROJECT TITLE:

San José Data Center 04

Project Docket:

22-SPPE-02

Technical Area: Biological Resources

☒ Telephone April 12, 2023	☒ Email April 14 and 19, 2023	☐ Meeting Location:	
NAME: Carol Watson, Staff Biologist California Energy Commission (CEC)		DATE: April 12, 2023	TIME: pm
WITH: Lisa Brancatelli, Matthew Sasaki, and Andrew Quan, Valley Water (Santa Clara Valley Water District)			
SUBJECT: Valley Water Notice of Preparation Comment Letter and other Biological Issues			

Notes from April 12, 2023 telephonic meeting:

Carol Watson, CEC, coordinated via telephone and discussed Valley Water's riparian mitigation plantings mentioned in the comment letter (TN: 249099) (Carol Watson requested a map be provided if available) also species planted, duration, monitoring regime, and associated wildlife species, etc. Also, CEC staff mentioned they would like to review Valley Water's recommended mitigation measures (Water Resources Protection Collaborative Design Guides 2 and 3 which are related to landscaping adjacent to creeks and the riparian corridor) to be sure that they understand the measures fully.

Lisa has a GIS layer that shows plantings in the area; she will coordinate with her staff biologists on above questions per today's phone call.

Lisa transmitted the correct link for: Water Resources Protection Collaborative Design Guides 2 and 3: during the telephonic (4-12-2023) call: <https://www.valleywater.org/contractors/doing-business-with-the-district/permits-working-district-land-or-easement>

- (Chapter 4 specifically of the "Guidelines and Standards for Land Use Near Streams").

CEC staff has agreed to incorporate these measures into the analysis of the project; and that they provide value and are necessary and appropriate.

*****The following emails document further information sharing regarding the project among the agencies*****



From: Lisa Brancatelli <LBrancatelli@valleywater.org>

Sent: Friday, April 14, 2023 11:15 AM

To: Watson, Carol@Energy <Carol.Watson@energy.ca.gov>; Colleen Haggerty <CHaggerty@valleywater.org>; Hilliard, Jon@Energy <jon.hilliard@energy.ca.gov>; Matthew Sasaki <MSasaki@valleywater.org>; Andrew Quan <AQuan@valleywater.org>

Subject: RE: Data Center NOP Comments Discussion

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Carol,

See the responses from our biologist below in green.

Questions regarding our mitigation areas adjacent to the project site. They would like to know:

- 1. What plants were planted in the mitigation areas adjacent to the site? Fremont cottonwood, arroyo willow, mulefat, narrowleaf willow, creeping wildrye*
- 2. Where exactly are the mitigation areas and how big are they? (I'm not sure how accurately our mitigation areas are shown in GIS). Approximately 900-foot-long/2-acre planting area on the southwest bank of the river, just upstream of Hwy 101. See attached maps. (Our mitigation areas in GIS should be reliably accurate.)*
- 3. What is the monitoring regime? Monitoring of this mitigation planting area was completed in 2015, and included several years of planting survival, health and vigor, natural recruitment, native and nonnative cover.*
- 4. When were they planted? 2002, maybe 2001*
- 5. Were there any associated wildlife species associated with the mitigation areas? Wildlife monitoring was not required or conducted, but the mitigation was intended to help compensate for impacts to special-status species.*

Please let me know if you have any other questions.

Thank you,

LISA BRANCATELLI

ASSOCIATE ENGINEER (CIVIL)

Community Projects Review Unit

lbrancatelli@valleywater.org

Tel. (408) 630-2479 / Cell. (408) 691-1247

CPRU Hotline: (408) 630-2650

Santa Clara Valley Water District is now known as:



Clean Water • Healthy Environment • Flood Protection

5750 Almaden Expressway, San Jose CA 95118

www.valleywater.org

From: Watson, Carol@Energy <Carol.Watson@energy.ca.gov>

Sent: Friday, April 14, 2023 11:39 AM

To: Lisa Brancatelli <LBrancatelli@valleywater.org>; Colleen Haggerty <CHaggerty@valleywater.org>; Hilliard, Jon@Energy <jon.hilliard@energy.ca.gov>; Matthew Sasaki <MSasaki@valleywater.org>; Andrew Quan <AQuan@valleywater.org>

Subject: RE: Data Center NOP Comments Discussion

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Thank you very much. One follow-up question: for point 5, which special-status species were focal to the mitigation areas? The map is very helpful.

I'll write up the Record of Conversation (ROC) and circulate it to you for your review next week, as we discussed Wednesday. Thanks again.

Best,

Carol

Carol Watson
Staff Biologist
Siting, Transmission & Environmental Protection Division
California Energy Commission
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Cell: (916) 237-2542



Wed 4/19/2023 3:05 PM

Hi Carol,

See the response below to your follow-up question for point 5.

The special status spp. were steelhead, salmon, and western pond turtle. That said, burrowing owls are nearby, nesting raptors, etc.

I hope this helps.

Thank you,

LISA BRANCATELLI
ASSOCIATE ENGINEER (CIVIL)
Community Projects Review Unit
lbrancatelli@valleywater.org
Tel. (408) 630-2479 / Cell. (408) 691-1247

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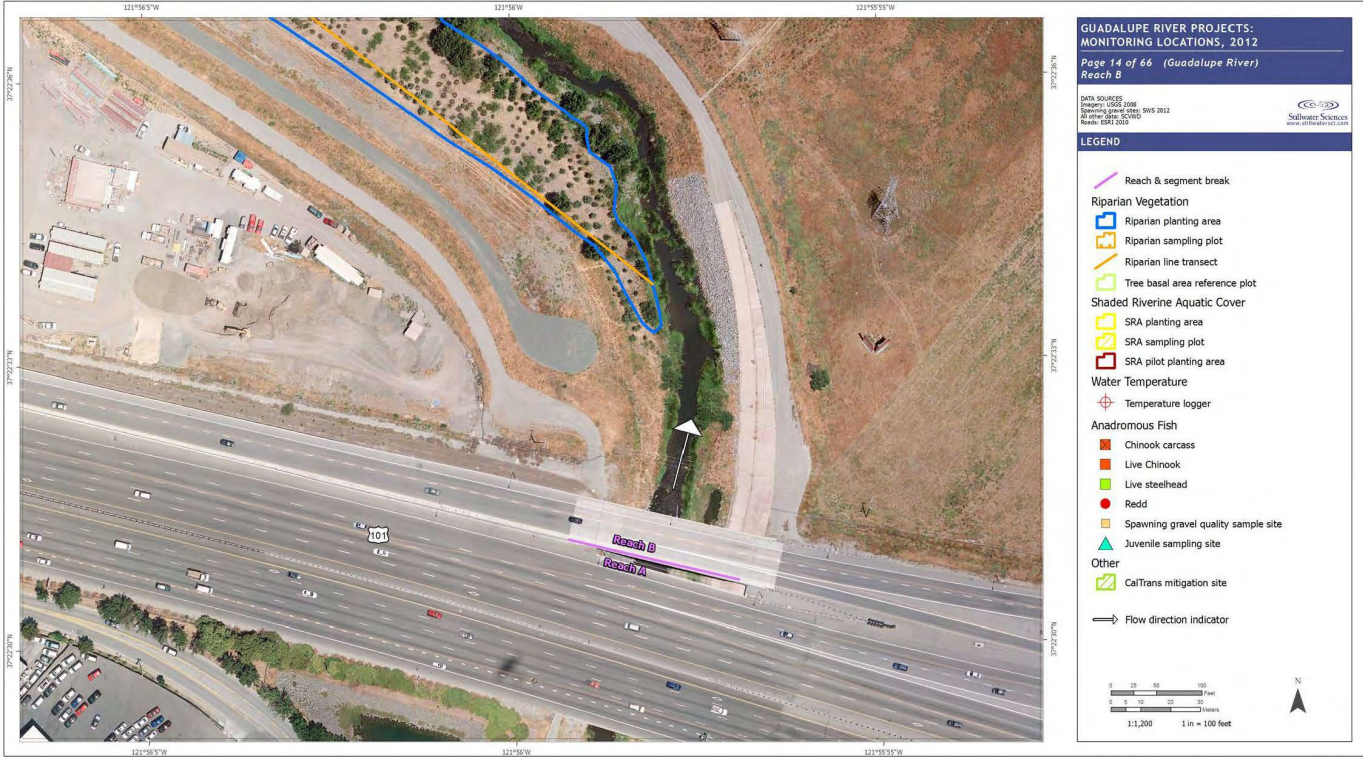


Figures Received via email on April 14, 2024 @ 11:15am from Lisa Brancatelli









cc:

Date:
8/8/2025

Signed: Carol Watson

Name: /s/