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Pierre Martinez
Project Manager
Systems Assessment & Facility Siting Division
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street, MS-15
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT:

Rio Mesa Solar Electric Generating Facility (11-AFC-4) Applicant's Fall 2011

**Botany Report** 

Dear Mr. Martinez:

Rio Mesa Solar I, LLC, Rio Mesa Solar II, LLC, and Rio Mesa Solar III, collectively the "Applicant" for the Rio Mesa Solar Electric Generating Facility project ("Rio Mesa SEGF"), are pleased to provide the attached Fall 2011 Botany Report.

Biologists monitored weather conditions remotely and visited the site, prior to conducting the fall 2011 surveys, in order to assess the entire project site for fall plant growth. Two visits during the first and third week of September 2011 provided sufficient confirmation that rainfall and fall plant growth were restricted to the most northwest portion of the transmission line right-of-way corridor that runs southeast to northwest including the Substation interconnect area (Figure 2).

Survey coverage of the entire site was not conducted due to limited rainfall in the following areas:

- All acreages within the MWD lands
- All BLM lands associated with project site development
- Private lands south of the intersection of the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) and Imperial Irrigation Districts 161kV transmission lines right-of way (Figure 1).

Included in the site visits conducted in the transmission line right-of-way corridor identified above was an inspection of an Abrams' spurge reference population, which indicated that this rare plant and other fall blooming species should have been detectable if present on site.

During the surveys no Rank 1 and 2 plants from the California Rare Plant List were detected in the designated survey area (Figure 2); however, two Rank 4 plants from the California Rare Plant list were found during the fall 2011 survey: Utah vine milkweed and desert unicorn plant.

Sincerely,

**Todd Stewart** 

Senior Director of Project Development

BrightSource Energy, Inc. 1999 Harrison Street Suite 2150 Oakland, CA 94612

# FALL 2011 BOTANY REPORT FOR THE RIO MESA SOLAR ELECTRIC GENERATING FACILITY RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

(11-AFC-04)

Prepared for

BrightSource Energy, Inc. 1999 Harrison St., Suite 2150 Oakland, CA 94612

URS Project No. 27651003

December 2011

## **URS**

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### **SECTION 1 INTRODUCTION**

BrightSource Energy, Inc. (BrightSource or Applicant) filed an Application for Certification (AFC) for the Rio Mesa Solar Electric Generating Facility (Rio Mesa SEGF or Project) with the California Energy Commission on October 14, 2011. The AFC was deemed data adequate by the CEC on December 14, 2011.

#### 1.1 PROJECT LOCATION

The proposed site for the Rio Mesa SEGF is situated 13 miles southwest of Blythe, California, and is located partially on private land owned by Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD), a California public agency, and partially on public land administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) (Figure 1). The site is located in the Colorado Desert region of the Sonoran Desert on the Palo Verde Mesa in Riverside County, California.

The Project will include three concentrating solar thermal power plants and a shared common area to include shared systems. Each plant will have a nominal output of 250 MW. The Project will be executed in three phases. Each 250 MW plant requires about 1,850 acres (2.9 square miles), for a total project area of approximately 5,750 acres required for all three plants. These three plants will be connected via a common overhead 220 kilovolt (kV) generator tie-line (gen-tie line) to the newly approved Southern California Edison (SCE) Colorado River Substation (CRS) approximately 9.7 miles to the north.

The Biological Study Area (BSA) for the Project consists of the main project site where the three solar plants and common area are proposed (plus a 500-foot buffer), the gen-tie line along existing transmission lines that extend to the proposed Colorado River Substation (plus a 650-foot buffer), and access areas from State Route 78 via Bradshaw Trail and 34th Avenue (plus a 100-foot buffer). The BSA totals 11,277 acres. Since spring surveys of the BSA, the gen-tie line has been more precisely located and a 100-foot right-of-way with a 250-foot survey buffer (for a total width of 600 feet) is required to be surveyed.

#### 1.2 SCOPE OF FALL 2011 SURVEY

This report documents the survey methodology and protocol survey results for the fall 2011 botanical survey conducted for the Project. The scope of the survey focuses only on the northern portion of the Project gen-tie line, and not the entire project site. BrightSource and URS biologists discussed this approach with the staff from the CEC, BLM, and California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) in a conference call on September 27, 2011. Staff from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) was invited to attend the conference call but was not able to attend. The request for limited surveys was made by BrightSource and URS because rainfall amounts in the Project area were low during the summer and early fall of 2011 as measured at local weather stations (see more information in Section 2 of this report). All parties attending the conference call agreed that only the northern portion of the gen-tie line had received a suitable amount of rainfall needed for the fall 2011 survey. All parties further agreed that fall-blooming special status plants would not be detectable in most of the BSA due to lack of rainfall. It was further agreed that the remainder of the Project site would be surveyed in the fall of 2012.

URS biologists conducted the limited survey on October 4, 2011. The survey transects and fall survey area are shown on Figure 2. The fall survey area is approximately 200 acres. The northernmost portion of the BSA can be accessed via Wiley Well Road and an existing power line road located directly south of I-10 or via the gen-tie line linked to Bradshaw Trail. Further information regarding the survey is included in Section 2 of this report.

## **SECTION 2 SPECIAL STATUS PLANT SURVEYS**

#### 2.1 BACKGROUND

Special status fall plant surveys are conducted at the time of year when species are both evident and identifiable (i.e., flowering and/or fruiting). This involves multiple visits to the same site (i.e. during fall, and early and late spring survey for flowering plants) to capture the floristic diversity at a level necessary to determine if special status plants are present. The timing and number of visits are determined by geographic location, the natural communities present, and the weather patterns of the year in which the surveys are conducted. The dates on which focused, special status botanical surveys were conducted at the project site are presented in Appendix A.

Nearby weather station precipitation records were monitored for rainfall activity in the months preceding fall rare plant surveys. An average of precipitation from weather stations KBLH Blythe Airport and MCBRA3 Cibola show that the BSA likely received 0.00, 1.44, 0.35, and 0.05 inches during the months of June, July, August, and September 2011, respectively (Table 1) (Weather 2011). This low rainfall amount during August and September may have resulted in a lower incidence of plant growth and seed germination. Although several sensitive species were found on site, their relatively small density may be an underrepresentation of their actual presence had greater precipitation occurred in August and September. Table 1 shows average recorded rainfall near the BSA in the months preceding the survey for the weather stations nearest the Project.

Table 1
Rainfall Near BSA in Months Preceding Survey

Station	Month	Rainfall (in.)
	June	0
KBLH Blythe Airport	July	1.64
RDEIT DIJUTE AILPOIT	August	0
	September	0.08
	June	0
MCDDA2 Cibala	July	1.23
MCBRA3 Cibola	August	0.79
	September	0.02
	June	0
Average of KBLH Blythe Airport and MCBRA3	July	1.44
Cibola	August	0.35
	September	0.05

Monthly temperatures were also monitored in preparation for field efforts. The KBLH Blythe Airport weather station, located approximately 10 miles east of the project area, recorded average high and low temperatures of 103° F and 73° F; 107° F and 81° F; 111° F and 85° F; and 103° F and 76° F for June, July, August, and September, respectively, and are presented in Table 2 (Weather 2011). These temperatures are on par with average temperatures recorded for June, July, August, and September in the Blythe area. It is likely that temperature would not be a factor in determining presence or absence of special status species for fall 2011. Table 2 shows average high and low temperatures near the BSA in the months preceding the survey for the weather station nearest the Project.

Station Month Avg. High Temp Avg. Low Temp 103 73 June 107 81 July **KBLH Blythe Airport** August 111 85 September 103 76

Table 2
Temperature Near BSA in Months Preceding Survey

Biologists monitored weather conditions remotely and visited the project site prior to conducting the fall 2011 survey in order to assess the entire project area for fall plant growth. Two visits during the first and third week of September 2011 provided sufficient confirmation that rainfall and fall plant growth were restricted to the majority of the transmission line corridor that runs southeast to northwest including the gen-tie area. The second site visit, on September 20, 2011, included an Abrams' spurge (*Chamasyce abramsiana*) reference population visit, which indicated that this rare plant and other fall blooming species should have been detectable if present on site.

#### 2.2 SPECIAL STATUS PLANT PROTOCOL SURVEY METHODS

#### 2.2.1 Special Status Potential to Occur

A preliminary list of potentially occurring special status plants was compiled from multiple field offices in the California Desert District (BLM, 2010 a through c), and by conducting nine United States Geological Survey (USGS) quadrangle map searches of the CNDDB RareFind3 database (CDFG, 2011) and the CNPS On-line Inventory (CNPS, 2011). The Project is primarily located within the Roosevelt Mine 7.5' USGS quadrangle (USGS, 1983a). The Roosevelt Mine, McCoy Spring (USGS, 1983b), McCoy Peak (USGS, 1983c), McCoy Wash (USGS, 1975a), Hopkins Well (USGS, 1983d), Ripley (USGS, 1975b), Thumb Peak (USGS, 1971a), Wiley Well (USGS, 1971b), and Palo Verde (USGS, 1983e) 7.5' USGS quadrangles were included in the nine-quadrangle search. The preliminary list was revised after reviewing habitat and distribution information from the following primary sources:

- The Jepson Desert Manual; Vascular Plant of Southeastern California (Baldwin et al., 2002);
- CNPS Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants (on-line edition) (CNPS, 2011); and
- CalFlora: What Grows Here on-line database (CalFlora, 2011).

Information obtained during the literature review and the reconnaissance field visit was used to create Appendix B which summarizes information on special status plants with potential to occur within the BSA. Information on flowering time, status, habitat preferences, geographic distribution, elevation range, and known locations within the vicinity of the BSA was researched prior to the initiation of the field protocol surveys conducted on October 4, 2011. Based on these constraints, a sub-group of species was selected that was deemed most likely to occur in the BSA during the fall rare plant surveys. These species include Abram's spurge, desert unicorn plant (*Proboscidea althaeifolia*) and Utah vine milkweed (*Funastrum utahense*).

Many species protected under the California Desert Species Act (California Food and Agriculture Code, 1981) were also deemed likely to be found in the area surveyed, including but not limited to, ocotillo (Fouquieria splendens), mesquite (Prosopis spp.), blue palo verde (Parkinsonia florida), catclaw acacia (Acacia greggii), desert-holly (Atriplex hymenelytra) and desert ironwood (Olneya tesota). Additionally, all species of Cactaceae, including but not limited to, California barrel cactus (Ferocactus cylindraceus) and Wiggin's cholla (Cylindropuntia echinocarpa [Opuntia wigginsii]) are also protected under the California Desert Species Act.

## 2.2.2 Survey Methods

Protocol-level surveys for special status plants were floristic in nature and followed, to the degree feasible, the USFWS's *Guidelines for Conducting and Reporting Botanical Inventories for Federally Listed Plants* (USFWS, 1996). Surveys conducted for this Project also followed, to the degree feasible, the recommendations of the botanical survey guidelines of the CDFG (CDFG, 2009), the CNPS (CNPS, 2001), and the BLM (BLM, 2009).

The goal of the protocol-level special status plant survey was to census and map every special status plant encountered. For those special status plants species listed exclusively by the California Desert Species Act, e.g., mesquite or catclaw acacia, only a census and mapping occurred. Protocol-level 100 percent surveys were conducted throughout the portion of the BSA that received sufficient rainfall to sustain plant life during the fall survey. Figure 2 shows GPS track logs as they were recorded by biologists during the fall rare plant survey.

Surveyors walked transects spaced at 30 meters. This narrow spacing was selected to permit detection of small, cryptically colored special status plants, which were expected to be scarce and patchily distributed. Survey team leaders carried paper maps, detailing the survey grid. The survey sections shown on the maps corresponded to images in files on the GPS units that were used to navigate and take data in the field. GPS units used during the survey were a Garmin 60CSx, Rino 520, or similar model having a three-to-five meter accuracy.

Surveyors searched for special status plants by scanning the ground 15 meters to either side of their transect line while also frequently turning to look behind them to search for special status plants located at the base of shrubs. Survey team members stayed more or less together while walking each transect. Each time a living special status plant was encountered, a census per unit area was taken of the individual or the population, the special status plant was then mapped with the GPS unit, and recorded on a field form (Appendix C), or in the field notes of the survey team leader. Habitat data included: scientific name, number of individuals, phenology (vegetative, in bud, in flower, old flowers, in fruit), substrate,

vegetation type, associated species, and disturbance condition. For those special status plant species listed exclusively by the California Desert Species Act, only a census and mapping occurred as described above. In addition, when quantifying invasive, non-native species, a census and mapping occurred by the same methods that were used for species listed by the California Desert Species Act.

## 2.2.3 Botanists' Qualifications

All surveyors conducting botanical surveys possessed the following qualifications (Appendix D):

- Experience conducting floristic field surveys;
- Knowledge of plant taxonomy and plant community ecology and classification;
- Familiarity with the plants of the area, including special status and locally significant plants;
- Familiarity with the appropriate state and federal statutes related to plants and plant collecting; and,
- Lead botanists must have experience with analyzing impacts of a project on native plants and communities.

#### 2.3 SPECIAL STATUS PLANT SPECIES SURVEY RESULTS

California Rare Plant Rank List 1 and 2 plants were not detected in the fall survey area (Figure 3); however, two California Rare Plant Rank list 4 plants were found during the fall 2011 survey: Utah vine milkweed and desert unicorn plant. Due to low rainfall in the southern portions of the BSA, including all MWD and BLM lands, only the northernmost 200 acres of the gen-tie line were surveyed (Figure 3). A complete list of all plants detected during fall 2011 survey is provided in Appendix E. The results of the spring 2011 and fall 2011 rare plant surveys are shown on Figure 4.

#### 2.3.1 Utah Vine Milkweed

Regulatory Status: Federal: None; State: None; CA Rare Plant Rank: 4.2; State Rank S3.2

Utah vine milkweed is a perennial herb that is native to California, Arizona, Utah, and Nevada. Found typically at elevations of 150 to 1,435 meters, this species prefers dry, sandy or gravelly soils in Mojave and Sonoran desert scrub habitats. The blooming period for this species occurs from April until June. Before the 2011 spring protocol surveys, there were no known observations in the CNDDB (CDFG, 2011) for the BSA and vicinity. During fall 2011 survey, a total of eight individuals were identified and mapped within the fall survey area (Figure 3).

#### 2.3.2 Desert Unicorn Plant

Regulatory Status: Federal: None; State: None; CA Rare Plant Rank: 4.3; State Rank S3.3

Desert unicorn plant was detected during fall 2011 protocol survey. This perennial herb is typically found in Sonoran creosote bush shrub at elevations ranging from 150 to 1,000 meters. A total of 45 individuals of desert unicorn plant were detected within the fall survey area (Figure 3). The desert unicorn plant has

no known threats other than development and vehicles, and is not endangered or vulnerable in California. Populations of this species occur outside of California in Arizona, New Mexico, Baja California, and Sonora, Mexico. When considering the populations existing outside of California, the desert unicorn plant is considered secure.

## 2.3.3 Invasive Species

Invasive species found during the fall survey were documented for use in future weed management plans. Invasive species were noted when found on fall rare plant focused surveys. The predominant invasive species found on the survey was Asian mustard (*Brassica tournefortii*), an annual herb not native to California. Although this plant blooms from late winter through spring, biologists were able to identify this species from skeletons that remain present after the end of the plant's lifecycle. In previous surveys, Asian mustard was found throughout the BSA, but was prevalent in the northern section of the BSA along the existing transmission line. Fall surveys confirmed that this invasive species remains widespread throughout the gen-tie line portion of the BSA. This documentation of invasive species found on the BSA will continue during upcoming focused surveys and will provide a better picture of the level of effort necessary to control invasive species.

## 2.3.4 Incidental Sightings

Incidental sightings during the fall 2011 rare plant surveys were recorded in field notes of the observer and GPS waypoints were taken whenever possible. One Mojave fringe-toed lizard (*Uma scoparia*) and two kit fox (*Vulpes macrotis arsipus*) dens were found during fall surveys. Appendix F provides a list of all incidentally-observed wildlife in the fall survey area.

## **SECTION 3 CONCLUSIONS**

During the fall 2011 botanical survey, no California Rare Plant Rank List 1 and 2 plants were detected; however, two California Rare Plant Rank List 4 plants were found: Utah vine milkweed and desert unicorn plant. Target species for the survey were Abram's spurge, desert unicorn plant, and Utah vine milkweed. An Abrams' spurge reference population visit indicated that this rare plant and other fall blooming species should have been detectable if present on site.

**SECTION**FOUR References

## **SECTION 4 REFERENCES**

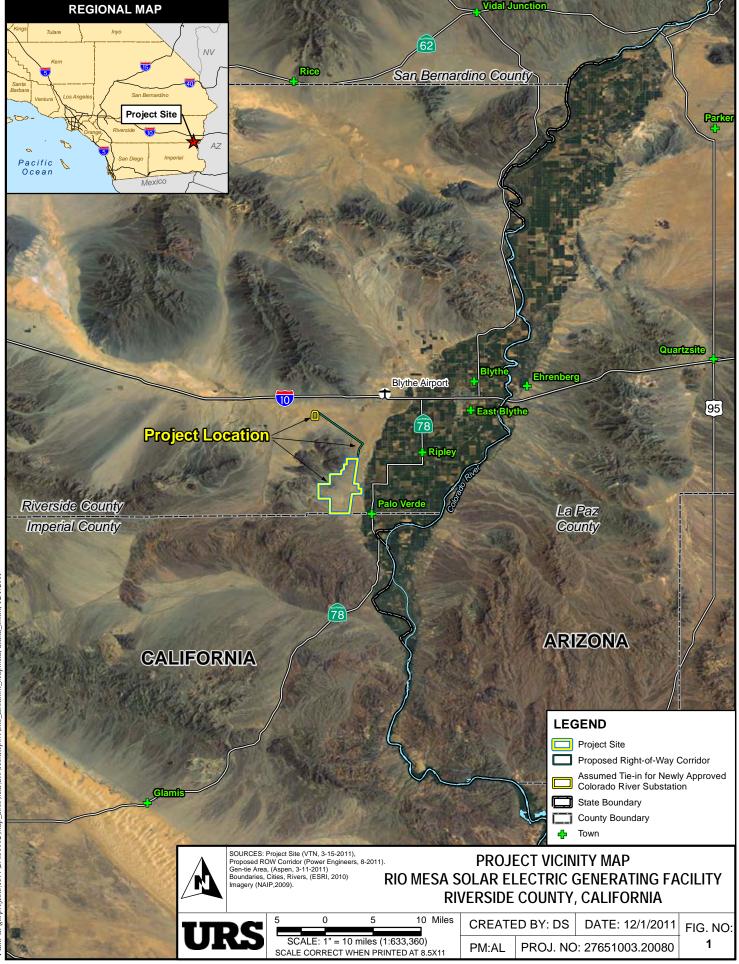
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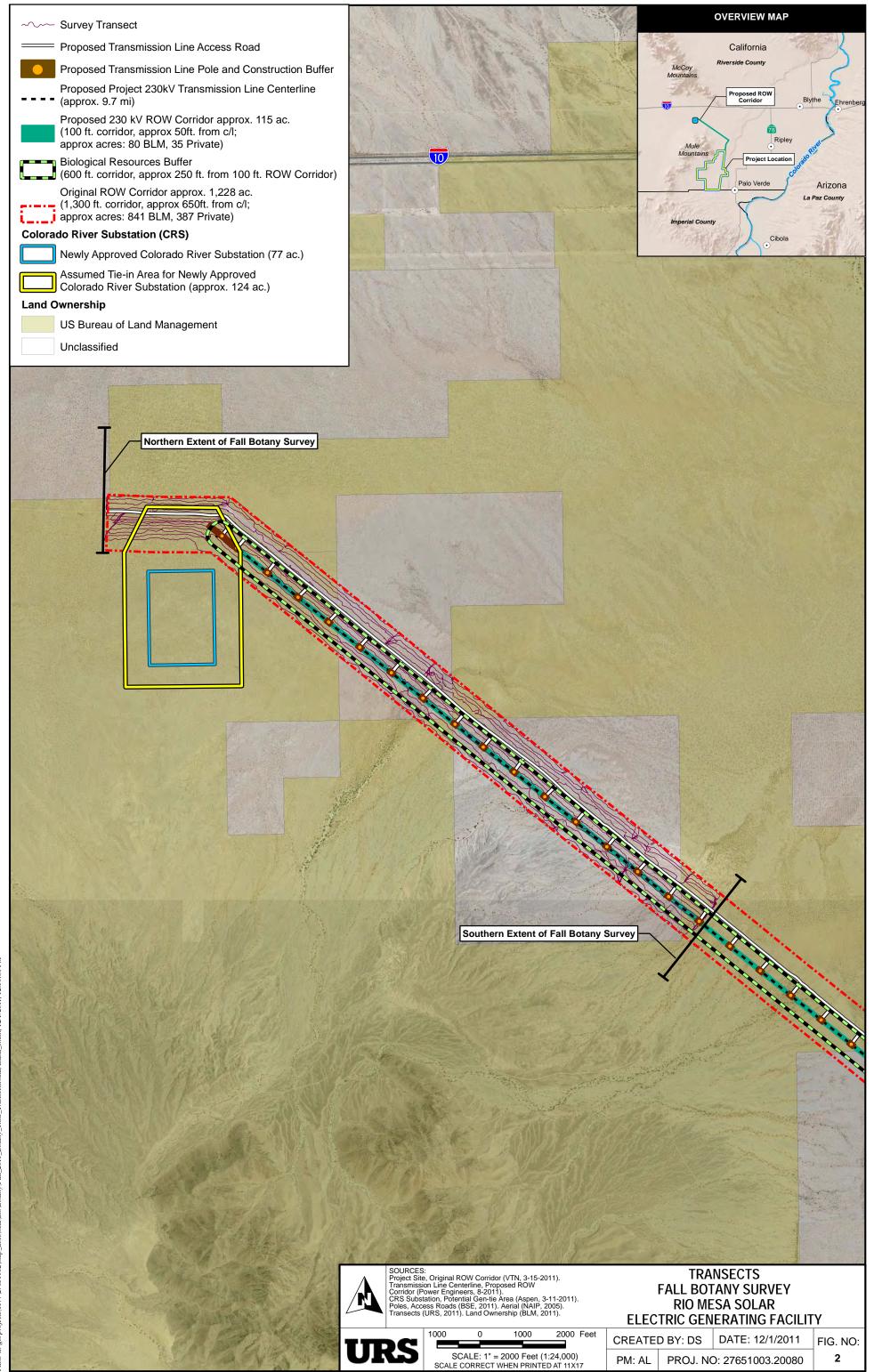
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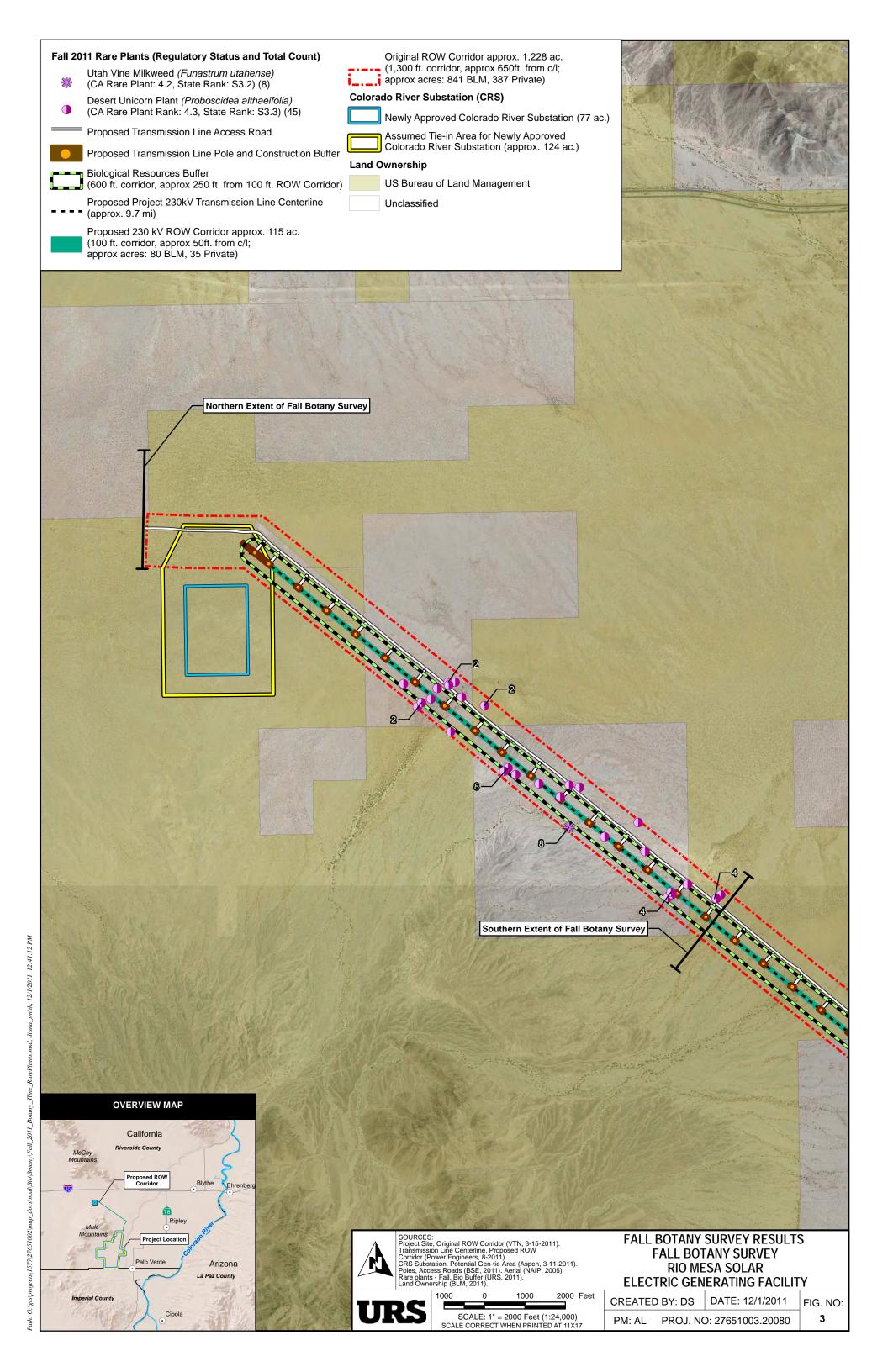
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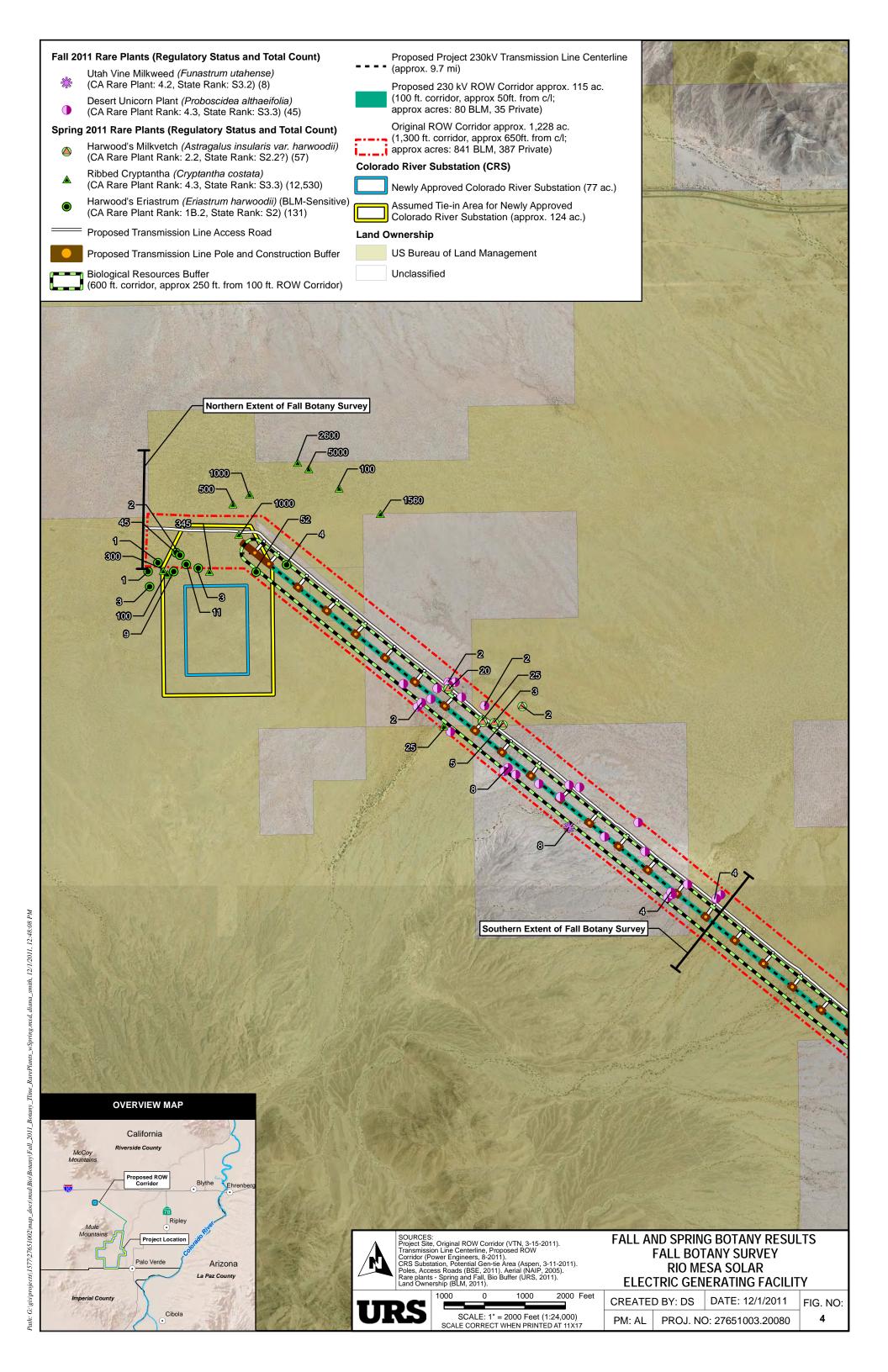


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APPENDIXA Survey Timeline

BSE Rio Mesa Fall '11 Botany Surveys						
Survey Date	Survey Type	Survey Staff				
4-Oct-11	Fall Botany	GW, HR, KC, Mbalk, NK, SR, ST				
Matas						

Notes:

URS Staff: HR-Heather Rothbard

Subcontractors: GW-Gwen Waring (independent), KC-Kyle Christie (independent), Mbalk-Michelle Balk (Balk Biological), NK-Neal Kramer (Kramer Botanical), SR-Suzanne Rhodes (Bill Boarman's group), ST-Steve Till (independent)



	SPE	CIES		SENSITIVI	TY STA	TUS	HADITAT	POTENTIAL		Plant
Family	Common Name	Scientific Name	Growth Habit	Federal/BLM	State	CNPS	HABITAT ASSOCIATIONS	TO OCCUR ON PROJECT SITE	STATUS ONSITE	Species Code
Asclepiadaceae	Utah vine milkweed	Funastrum utahense (Cynanchum utahense)	Perennial Herb/Vine	None	None	Was a 4.2	Sonoran and Mojavean desert scrub. Creosote bush scrub, dry, sandy, gravelly, areas. Blooms April-June.	High	Observed on site.	CYUT
Asteraceae	Bitter hymenoxys	Hymenoxys odorata	Annual Forb/Herb	None	None	2	Sonoran desert scrub, riparian scrub (sandy); blooms February-November	Moderate	Suitable habitat present onsite. Known adjacent occurrences.	HYOD
Boraginaceae	Ribbed cryptantha, Ashen Forget me not	Cryptantha costata	Annual Forb/Herb	None	None	4.3	Mojavean and Sonoran desert scrub, Creosote Bush Scrub, Desert Dunes (sandy); blooms February- May	Moderate	Suitable habitat present onsite.	CRCO15
Boraginaceae	Winged cryptantha, Rough stemmed Forget me not	Cryptantha holoptera	Annual Perennial Forb/Herb	None	None	4.3	Mojavean and Sonoran desert scrub, Creosote Bush Scrub, Joshua Tree Woodland; blooms March- April	Moderate	Suitable habitat present onsite.	CRHO3
Cactaceae	Saguaro	Carnegiea gigantea	Perennial Tree	None	None	2.2	Sonoran desert scrub (rocky); blooms May-June	Low - Moderate	Suitable habitat present onsite. Historical reference for known location adjacent to project area.	CAGI10
Cactaceae	Munz's cholla	Cylindropuntia munzii	Perennial Shrub	BLM Sensitive	None	1B.3	Sonoran desert scrub (sandy or gravelly); blooms May	Low - Moderate	Suitable habitat present onsite.	CYMU12
Cactaceae	Wiggin's cholla	Cylindropuntia echinocarpa (Opuntia wigginsii)	Perennial Shrub	None	None	3.3	Sonoran desert scrub (sandy); blooms March	High	Suitable habitat, present onsite. Known adjacent occurrences.	CYEC3
Cactaceae	Foxtail Cactus	Escobaria alversonii (Coryphantha alversonii)	Perennial Stem Succulent	None	None	4.3	Sandy or rocky, usually granitic. Mojavean desert scrub, Sonoran desert scrub. Blooms April-June	Moderate	Suitable habitat present onsite. Historical reference for known location in vicinity to project area.	ESAL2

	SPE	CCIES		SENSITIV	TY STA	ΓUS		POTENTIAL		Plant
Family	Common Name	Scientific Name	Growth Habit	Federal/BLM	State	CNPS	HABITAT ASSOCIATIONS	TO OCCUR ON PROJECT SITE	STATUS ONSITE	Species Code
Euphorbiaceae	Abrams' sandmat, Abrams' prostrate spurge	Chamaesyce abramsiana	Annual Forb/Herb	None	None	2.2	Mojavean and Sonoran desert scrub Creosote Bush Scrub; blooms September- November	Moderate	Suitable habitat present onsite. Known adjacent occurrence	CHAB2
Euphorbiaceae	California silverbush	Agrythamnia californica (Ditaxis serrata var. californica)	Annual Perennial Subshrub Shrub Forb/Herb	None	None	3.2	Sonoran desert scrub, Creosote Bush Scrub; blooms March-December	Moderate	Suitable habitat present onsite	ARCA19
Fabaceae	Harwood's milk- vetch	Astragalus insularis var. harwoodii	Annual Forb/Herb	None	None	2.2	Desert dunes (sandy or gravelly); blooms January-May.	High	Suitable habitat present onsite. Several known adjacent occurrences.	ASINH
Fabaceae	Borrego milkvetch, Borrego milk vetch	Astragalus lentiginosus var. borreganus	Annual Perennial Forb/Herb	None	None	4.3	Mojavean and Sonoran desert scrub, Creosote Bush Scrub (sandy); blooms February-May	Moderate	Suitable habitat present onsite.	ASLEB
Fabaceae	Pink fairy-duster	Calliandra eriophylla	Perennial Subshrub Shrub	None	None	2.3	Sonoran desert scrub (sandy or rocky); blooms January-March.	Moderate	Suitable habitat present onsite. Known adjacent occurrences.	CAER
Lamiaceae	Dwarf germander	Teucrium cubense ssp. depressum	Annual Perennial Forb/Herb	None	None	2.2	Sandy soils, washes, fields; blooms March-May.	Moderate	Suitable habitat present onsite. Known adjacent occurrences.	TECUD2
Loasaceae	Darlington's blazing star	Mentzelia oreophilia (Mentzelia puberula)	Biennial Perennial Forb/Herb Subshrub	None	None	2.2	Mojavean and Sonoran desert scrub (rocky or sandy); blooms March-May.	Moderate	Suitable habitat present onsite. Known adjacent occurrences.	MEOR3
Loasceae	Spinyhair blazing star	Mentzelia tricuspis	Annual Herb	None	None	2.1	Mojavean desert scrub, Creosote Bush Scrub, sandy, gravelly, slopes and washes. Blooms March-May.	Low	Moderate habitat. No known occurances adjacent or close to site.	METR2
Nyctaginaceae	Desert sand verbena	Abronia villosa var. aurita	Annual Herb	BLM Sensitive	None	1B.1	Sandy Chaparral, Coastal scrub, Desert dunes. Blooms January-September	Low-Moderate	Suitable habitat present. No known adjacent occurrences.	ABVIA

	SPE	SPECIES		SENSITIVITY STATUS		LIADITAT	POTENTIAL		Plant Species	
Family	Common Name	Scientific Name	Growth Habit	Federal/BLM	State	CNPS	HABITAT ASSOCIATIONS	TO OCCUR ON PROJECT SITE	STATUS ONSITE	Code
Nyctaginaceae	Angel trumpets	Acleisanthes longiflora	Perennial Herb	None	None	2.3	Sonoran desert scrub (carbonate), Creosote Bush Scrub, Blooms May	Low-Moderate	One known occurrence in Maria Mountains.	ACOL2
Onagraceae	Sand evening primrose	Camissonia arenaria	Annual Perennial Forb/Herb	None	None	2.2	Sonoran desert scrub (sandy or rocky); blooms March-May	Moderate	Suitable habitat present onsite.	CAAR20
Pedaliaceae	Desert unicorn plant, desert devil's claw	Proboscidea althaeifolia	Perennial Forb/Herb	None	None	4.3	Sonoran desert scrub, Creosote Bush Scrub (sandy; blooms May-August	Moderate	Suitable habitat present onsite.	PRAL4
Poaceae	California satintail	Imperata brevifolia	Perennial Rhizomatus Herb	None	None	2.1	Mesic. Chaparral, Coastal scrub, Mojavean desert scrub. Meadows and seeps often alkali. Riparian scrub. Blooms September-May.	Low	Habitat on site has low to no occurrences of mesic areas.	IMBR2
Polemoniaceae	Harwood's eriastrum	Eriastrum harwoodii	Perennial Forb/Herb	BLM Sensitive	None	1B.2	Desert dunes; blooms March-June	Moderate	Suitable habitat present onsite.	ERHA
Rhamnaceae	Las Animas columbrina	Colubrina californica	Perennial Deciduous Shrub	None	None	2.3	Sonoran desert scrub, Creosote Bush Scrub. Blooms April-June	Moderate	Suitable habitat present onsite. Recorded occurrences in vicinity.	COBA18
Rhamnaceae	Spiny crucillo, bitter snakewood, spiny abrojo	Condalia globosa var. pubescens	Perennial Tree Shrub	None	None	4.2	Creosote Bush Scrub (sandy); blooms May-August	Moderate	Suitable habitat present onsite.	COGLP
Simaroubaceae	Emory's crucifixion thorn	Castela emoryi	Perennial Shrub Tree	None	None	2.3	Dry, rocky desert washes, slopes and plains; blooms June-July.	Moderate	Suitable habitat present onsite.	CAEM4
Themidaceae	Small-flowered androstephium	Androstephium breviflorum	Perennial bulbiferous (corm) herb	None	None	2.2	Desert dunes, Mojavean desert scrub (bajadas). Blooms March-April	Low-Moderate	Suitable habitat onsite	ANBR4
•		- Division 23: CALI	FORNIA							
	E PLANTS [80001.	- 80201.] (Act)								
Section 80072 S	Elephant Tree	Bursera	Perennial		80072	2.3	Blooms Early Summer	Low	Not observed on site	BUMI
Daisciaccac	Liopitant 1100	Duiseia	1 Ci Ci ii iiul		00072	2.0	Diodnia Larry Junimor	LOVV	INOT ODSELVED OUT SITE	DOIVII

	SPI	ECIES		SENSITIVI	TY STA	TUS	HADITAT	POTENTIAL		Plant
Family	Common Name	Scientific Name	Growth Habit	Federal/BLM	State	CNPS	HABITAT ASSOCIATIONS	TO OCCUR ON PROJECT SITE	STATUS ONSITE	Species Code
		microphylla	Tree, Shrub						during initial review. Localized populations not mapped on site or within vicinity of the site.	
Cactaceae	California Barrel Cactus	Ferocactus cylindraceus (Ferocactus acanthoides)	Perennial Shrub		80072		Sonoran desert scrub, Creosote Bush Scrub Blooms April-May	High	Observed on site during initial review.	FECY
Crassulaceae	Panamint liveforever	Dudleya saxosa, Dudleya saxosa ssp. saxosa (1B.3)	Perennial Forb/Herb		80072	1B.3	Blooms April-June	Moderate	Rocky desert slopes present on site	DUSA
Pinaceae	Bristlecone Pine	Pinus longaeva	Perennial Tree		80072	4.3	Unknown	Low	Localized populations not mapped on site. Not observed on site during initial review	PILO
Arecaceae	California Fan Palm	Washingtonia filifera	Perennial Tree		80072		Blooms June	Low	Localized populations not mapped on site. Not observed on site during initial review.	WAFI
Section 80073	Species List									
Agavaceae	Century Plants, Yuccas, Nolinas	All Species	Perennial Shrub, Tree		80073		Sonoran desert scrub, Creosote Bush Scrub	Moderate	Not observed on site during initial review.	
Cactaceae			Perennial Shrub, Tree		80073				Observed on site:	
							Consendent		Cylindropuntia echinocarpa	CYEC
		All Species					Sonoran desert scrub, Creosote Bush Scrub	High	Cylindropuntia ramosissima	CYRA
									Ferocactus cylindraceus	FECY
									Mammillaria	MATE

	SPE	CIES		SENSITIVI	TY STA	TUS		POTENTIAL		Plant
Family	Common Name	Scientific Name	Growth Habit	Federal/BLM	State	CNPS	HABITAT ASSOCIATIONS	TO OCCUR ON PROJECT SITE	STATUS ONSITE	Species Code
									tetrancistra	
									Mammillaria grahamii	MAGR
									Opunita basilaris	ОРВА
									Echinocactus polycephalus	ECPO
Fouquieriaceae	Ocotillo, candlewood	Fouquieria splendens	Perennial Shrub		80073		Sonoran desert scrub, Creosote Bush Scrub Blooms March-July	High	Observed on site	FOSP2
Fabaceae	Mesquite	Prosopis sp. All Species	Perennial Tree, Shrub		80073		Sonoran desert scrub, Creosote Bush Scrub Blooms April-Sept	High	Observed on site	PRGL
Fabaceae	Palo Verde	Parkinsonia sp./ All Species	Perennial Tree, Shrub		80073		Sonoran desert scrub, Blooms April-May	High	Observed on site	PAFL
Fabaceae	Catclaw Acacia	Acacia greggii	Perennial Shrub		80073		Sonoran desert scrub, Creosote Bush Scrub Blooms April-June	High	Observed on site	ACGR
Chenopodiaceae	Desert-Holly	Atriplex hymenelytra	Perennial Shrub		80073		Sonoran desert scrub, Creosote Bush Scrub Blooms Jan-April	High	Observed on site	ATHY
Fabaceae	Desert Ironwood	Olneya tesota	including both dead and live desert ironwood		80073		Sonoran desert scrub, Blooms April-May	High	Observed on site	OLTE
Status: Federal Endangere Federal Threatene Federal Candidate Federal Species of State Endangered State Threatened ( State Species of S	d (FT) (FC) Concern (FSC) (SE)	)			Lis Lis Lis Lis Lis	st 1B Pl st 2 Pl st 3 Pl st 4 Pl st is followe	ants Presumed Extinct in Californants Rare, Threatened or Endanants Rare, Threatened, or Endarants About Which We Need Mordants of Limited Distribution, A Ward by threat code (e.g. CNPS List y endangered in California (over	gered in California an igered in California, B e Information, A Revid atch List 1B.2)	But More Common Elsewho Bew List	

## BSE Palo Verde Rare Plant Surveys URS Job #27651003.20070

	SPE	CIES		SENSITIVI	TY STA			POTENTIAL		Plant
Family	Common Name	Scientific Name	Growth Habit	Federal/BLM	State	CNPS	HABITAT ASSOCIATIONS	TO OCCUR ON PROJECT SITE	STATUS ONSITE	Species Code
State Fully Protector California Native P	ed (SFP) lant Society listed (CN	NPS).			.2 -	•	threat) dangered in California (20-80% ry endangered in California (-			

						$\Box$	
Daro	Dlant	Found	on	Thic	Checklist	1 1	
naie	Platt	rouliu	UII	11115	CHECKIIST	$\mathbf{-}$	

Observers:	
Date:	
Cell #'s:	
GPS Unit Name:	

Family Name/Species Name	Rare Pla Code
Acanthaceae	
Justicia californica	
Aizoaseaeae	
Trianthema portulacastrum	
Agavaceae	See dese list
Amaranthaceae	
Amaranthus albus*	AMAL
Amaranthus blitoides	
Amaranthus palmeri	
Tidestromia oblongifolia	
Anacardiaceae	
Rhus integrifolia	
Arecaceae	
Washingtonia filifera	WAFI
Asclepiadaceae	
Asclepias albicans	
Asclepias erosa	
Asclepias subulata  Cynanshym ytahonso	CALLE
Cynanchum utahense	CYUT
Funastrum cynanchoides (Sarcostemma cynanchoides)	
Funastrum cynanchoides ssp. heterophyllum	
(Sarcostemma cynanchoides var.	
hartwegii)	
Funastrum hirtellum (Sarcostemma hirtellum)	
Asteraceae	
Acroptilon repens*	ACRE3
Adenophyllum porophylloides	
Ambrosia acanthicarpa	
Ambrosia artemisiifolia	
Ambrosia dumosa	
Ambrosia ilicifolia	
Antheropeas wallacei	
Atrichoseris platyphylla	
Baccharis salicifolia	
Baccharis sarothroides	
Baileya pauciradiata	
Baileya pleniradiata	
Bebbia juncea	
Brickellia californica  Calucoseris wrightii	
Calycoseris wrightii Chaenactis carphoclinia	
Chaenactis fremontii	
Chaenactis stevioides	
Chloricantha spinosa	
Chrysothamnus nauseosus	
Conyza bonariensis*	СОВО
Dicoria canescens	2020
Encelia farinosa	
Encelia frutescens	
Geraea canescens	
Hymenoclea salsola	
Hymenoxys odorata	HYOD
Lactuca serriola*	LASE
Logfia depressa	1
Malacothrix glabrata	
Monoptilon belliforme	
Monoptilon belliodes	
Palafoxia arida	i e

Family Name/Species Name	Rare Plai Code
Pectis papposa	
Perityle emoryi	
Peucephyllum schottii	
Pleurocoronis pluriseta	
Pluchea sericea	
Porophyllum gracile	
Prenanthella exigua	
Psathyrotes ramosissima	
Rafinesquia neomexicana	
Senecio mohavensis	
Sonchus oleraceus*	SOOL
Stephanomeria pauciflora	
Stylocline micropoides	
Symphyotrichum subulatum var. parviflorum	
Trixis californica	
Trichoptilum incisum	
Verbesina encelioides	
Boraginaceae	
Amsinckia menziesii	
Amsinckia tessellata	1
Cryptantha angustifolia	-
Cryptantha barbigera	
Cryptantha costata	CRCO15
Cryptantha circumscissa	CitCOI
Cryptantha dumetorum	
Cryptantha holoptera	CRHO3
Cryptantha maritima	Citilos
Cryptantha micrantha	
Cryptantha nevadensis	
Cryptantha pterocarya	
Cryptantha sp.	
Heliotropium curassavicum	
Pectocarya heterocarpa	
Pectocarya penicillata	
Pectocarya platycarpa	
Pectocarya recurvata	
Plagiobothrys jonesii	
Plagiobothrys sp.	
Tiquilia canescens var. pulchella	
Tiquilia palmeri	
Tiquilia plicata	
Brassicaceae	
Brassica rapa*	BRRA
Brassica tournefortii*	BRTO
Cressa truxillensis	
Descurainia pinnata	
Dithyrea californica	
Guillenia lasiophylla (Caulanthus lasiophyllus)	
Hirschfeldia incana*	HIIN3
Lepidium lasiocarpum	
Lepidium fremontii	1
Sisymbrium altissimum*	SIAL2
Sisymbrium irio*	SIIR
Streptanthella longirostris	5,,,,
Thysanocarpus curvipes	<del>                                     </del>
	<b></b>
Burseraceae	DIIM
	BUMI

Family Name/Species Name	Rare Plai
Cylindropuntia acanthocarpa	CYAC8
Cylindropuntia bigelovii	СҮВІЭ
Cylindropuntia echinocarpa (Opuntia wigginsii)	CYEC3
Cylindropuntia munzii	CYMU1
Cylindropuntia ramosissima	CYRA9
Echinocactus polycephalus	ECPO2
Echinocereus engelmannii	ECEN
Escobaria alversonii	ESAL2
Ferocactus cylindraceus	FECY
Mammillaria grahamii	MAGR
Mammillaria tetrancistra	MATE4
Mammillaria sp.	See dese list
Opuntia basilaris	OPBA2
Campanulaceae	
Nemacladus glanduliferus	
Nemacladus rubescens	
Nemacladus tenuis var. aliformis	
Capparaceae	
Wislizenia refracta ssp. palmari	WIREP
Wislizenia refracta ssp. refracta	WIRER
Caryophyllaceae	
Achyronychia cooperi	1
Chenopodiaceae	1
Atriplex canescens	1
Atriplex hymenelytra	ATHY
Atriplex lentiformis	<del>                                     </del>
Atriplex muelleri	1
Atriplex polycarpa	1
Atriplex semibaccata	1
Bassia hyssopifolia	6/1415
Chenopodium album var. missouriense*	CHALM
Chenopodium murale	
Chenopodium sp.	
Monolepis nuttalliana Salsola paulsenii*	CADAO
Salsola tragus*	SAPA8 SATR12
Sueda moquinii	SAINIZ
Convolvulaceae	
Convolvulus arvensis*	COAR4
Crassulaceae	COAR4
Crassula connata	+
Dudleya saxosa	DUSA
Cucurbitaceae	
Brandegea bigelovii	†
Cucurbita digitata	†
Cucurbita aigitata Cucurbita palmata	†
Marah macrocarpus	1
Cuscutaceae	†
Cuscuta denticulata	1
Cyperaceae	†
Schoenoplectus pungens var. longispicatus	
Ephedraceae	1
Ephedra aspera	1
Ephedra fasciculata	
Ephedra nevadensis	1
Ephedra trifurca	1
Euphorbiaceae	1
Argythamnia californica (Ditaxis serrata var.	
californica)	ARCA19
Argythamnia claryana (Ditaxis claryana)	ARCL2
Argythamnia lanceolata (Ditaxis lanceolata)	
Argythamnia neomexicana (Ditaxis	
neomexicana)	<u> </u>
	CHAB2

Family Name/Species Name	Rare Plant Code
Chamaesyce pediculifera	
Chamaesyce polycarpa	
Chamaesyce serpyllifolia ssp serpyllifolia	
Chamaesyce setiloba	
Croton californicus Stillingia linearifolia	
Stillingia spinulosa	
Fabaceae	
Acacia greggii	ACGR
Alhagi maurorum	ALMA12
Astragalus aridus	
Astragalus didymocarpus	
Astragalus insularis var. harwoodii	ASINH
Astragalus lentiginosus var. borreganus	ASLEB
Astragalus lentiginosus var. coachellae	ASLEC2
Astragalus nuttalianus	CAED
Calliandra eriophylla Dalea mollis	CAER
Dalea mollissima	
Hoffmannseggia glauca	
Hoffmannseggia microphylla (Caesalpinia	1
virgate)	
Lotus strigosus	
Lupinus arizonica	
Marina parryi	
Melilotus officinalis*	MEOF
Olneya tesota	OLTE
Parkinsonia florida	PAFL6
Prosopis glandulosa	PRGL2
Prosopis glandulosa var. torreyana Psorothamnus emoryi	PRGLT
Psorothamnus schotti	
Psorothamnus spinosus	
Senna armata	
Senna obtusifolia*	SEOB4
Sesbania herbacea	
Fouquieriaceae	
Fouquieria splendens	FOSP2
Geraniaceae	
Erodium cicutarium*	ERCI6
Erodium taxanum	
Hydrophyllaceae  Emmenanthe penduliflora	
Emmenantine pendulijiora  Eucrypta chrysanthemifolia	
Eucrypta chrysanthennjoha  Eucrypta micrantha	
Nama demissum	1
Nama hispidum var. spathulatum	
Nama pusillum	
Phacelia affinis	
Phacelia crenulata	
Phacelia crenulata var. ambigua (Phacelia	
ambigua)	+
Phacelia crenulata var. crenulata	+
Phacelia crenulata var. minutiflora Phacelia distans	+
Phacelia istans  Phacelia ivesiana	
Phacelia neglecta	1
Phacelia tanacetifolia	1
Krameriaceae	
Krameria erecta	
Krameria grayi	
Lamiaceae	
Hyptis emoryi	
Salazaria mexicana	1
Salvia columbariae	
Teucrium cubense ssp. depressum	TECUD2

2

Family Name/Species Name	Rare Plar Code
Liliaceae	
Hesperocallis undulata	
Loasaceae	
Mentzelia affinis	
Mentzelia albicaulis	
Mentzelia involucrata	
Mentzelia multiflora var. longiloba	
Mentzelia oreophilia (M. puberula)	MEOR3
Mentzelia tricuspis	METR2
Petalonyx thurberi	
Malvaceae	
Eremalche exilis	
Eremalche rotundifolia	
Hibiscus denudatus	NAA DAE
Malva parviflora*	MAPA5
Malvella leprosa*	MALE3
Sphaeralcea ambigua	
Sphaeralcea ambigua ssp. ambigua	
Sphaeralcea angustifolia	
Nyctaginaceae	
Abronia villosa var. aurita	ABVIA
Abronia villosa var. villosa	
Acleisanthes longiflora	ACOL2
Allionia incarnata	
Boerhavia coulteri	
Boerhavia intermedia (B. erecta var.	
intermedia)	
Boerhavia triquetra	
Boerhavia wrightii	
Mirabilis californica	
Mirabilis laevis var. villosa	
Onagraceae	
Camissonia arenaria	CAAR20
Camissonia boothii	
Camissonia boothii ssp. arizonica	
Camissonia boothii ssp. condensata	
Camissonia boothii ssp. desertorum	
Camissonia boothii ssp. pallidula	
Camissonia brevipes	
Camissonia brevipes ssp. arizonica	
Camissonia brevipes ssp. brevipes	
Camissonia brevipes spp. pallidula	
Camissonia cardiophylla	
Camissonia chamaenerioides	
Camissonia claviformis	
Camissonia claviformis ssp. aurantiaca	
Camissonia pallida	
Camissonia refracta	
Camissonia sp.	
Oenothera deltoides	
Orobanchaceae	
Orobanche cooperi	
Papaveraceae	
Argemone munita	
Eschscholtzia glyptosperma	
Eschscholtzia minutiflora	
Pedaliaceae	
Proboscidea althaeifolia	PRAL4
Plantaginaceae	
Plantago ovata	
Poaceae	
Achnatherum hymenoides	
Aristida adscensionis	
Aristida californica	
Aristida purpurea	

Family Name/Species Name	Rare Plan Code
Bouteloua aristidoides var. aristidoides	
Bouteloua barbata	
Bromus rubens*	BRRU2
Cenchrus ciliaris	
Chloris virgata*	CHVI4
Cynodon dactylon*	CYDA
Dactylis glomerata	
Echinochloa colona	
Eragrostis pectinacea	
Eragrostis pectinacea var. pectinacea	
Eriochloa acuminata	
Eriochloa acuminata var. acuminata	
Eriochloa contracta*	ERCO8
Erioneuron pulchellum	
Heteropogon contortus*	HECO10
Hordeum murinum*	
Imperata brevifolia	IMBR2
Leptochloa panicea ssp. brachiate (Leptochloa	
filiformis)	
Leptochloa uninervia	
Muhlenbergia microsperma	
Oryza sativa*	ORSA
Panicum hirticaule	
Phalaris minor*	PHMI3
Pleuraphis rigida	
Polypogon monspeliensis*	POMO5
Saccharum ravennae*	SARA3
Schismus arabicus*	SCAR
Schismus barbatus*	SCBA
Setaria pumila*	SEPU8
Setaria viridis*	SEVI4
Sorghum halepense*	SOHA
Vulpia bromoides *	VUBR
Vulpia octoflora var. octoflora (Festuca	
octoflora)	
Polemoniaceae	
Eriastrum harwoodii	ERHA
Gilia latifolia	
Gilia scopulorum	
Gilia stellata	
Gilia sp.	
Langloisia setosissima ssp. setosissima	
Linanthus filiformis	
Linanthus jonesii	
Linanthus Jemmonii	
Linanthus schottii	-
Loeseliastrum matthewsii	-
Polygonaceae	
Centrostegia thurberi	
Chorizanthe brevicornu	1
Chorizanthe brevicornu var. brevicornu	1
Chorizanthe corrugata  Chorizanthe rigida	
Chorizanthe rigida	-
Eriogonum deflexum	-
Eriogonum deflexum var. deflexum	
Eriogonum inflatum var. doflavum	1
Eriogonum inflatum var. deflexum	
Eriogonum reniforme	
Eriogonum sp.	
Eriogonum thomasii	
Eriogonum trichopes	
Polygonum arenastrum*	POAR11
Polygonum argyrocoleon*	POAR5
Polygonum persicaria*	POPE3
	PORA3
Polygonum ramosissium*	1 010 15

3

Family Name/Species Name	Rare Pla Code
Calyptridium monandrum	
Cistanthe ambigua (Calandrinia ambigua)	
Portulaca oleracea*	POOL
Resedaceae	
Oligomeris linifolia	
Rhamnaceae	
Colubrina californica	COBA1
Condalia globosa var. pubescens	COGLE
Scophulariaceae	
Mimulus bigelovii	
Mohavea confertiflora	
Neogaerrhinum filipes	
Penstemon pseudospectabilis	
Simaroubaceae	
Castela emoryi	CAEM
Simmondsiaceae	
Simmondsia chinensis	
Solanaceae	
Callibrachoa parviflora (Petunia parviflora)	
Datura discolor	
Datura wrightii	
Lycium andersonii	
Lycium pallidum	
Nicotiana glauca*	NIGA
-	INIGA
Nicotiana obtusifolia	
Physalis crassifolia	COEL
Solanum elaeagnifolium*	SOEL
Tamaricaceae	TADA
Tamarix parviflora*	TAPA4
Tamarix ramosissima*	TARA
Themidaceae	
Androstephium breviflorum	ANBR
Urticaceae	
Parietaria hespera	
Visaceae	
Phoradendron californicum	
Zygophyllaceae	
Fagonia laevis	
Fagonia pachyacantha	
Kallstroemia californica	
Kallstroemia grandiflora	
Larrea tridentata	
Tribulus terrestris*	TRTE
Additional Families/Species	
, 1	

GPS File Log	Number / Radius
Fater ODG files with the fill of	
Enter GPS files with the following naming convention: species code_user initials_occurence number	
Example: HYOD_KS_001	35 / 100m <sup>2</sup>
HYOD_KS_002	225 / 500m <sup>2</sup>
2 = <b></b>	. ,

GPS File Log	Number / Radius



## **Heather Rothbard**

Staff Botanist/Wetland Biologist/Planner

## **Areas of Expertise**

- Botanical Surveys
- Wetland Delineations
- NEPA Documentation
- Biological Surveys including Desert Tortoise and Burrowing Owl
- Habitat Enhancement and Restoration Site Development
- Monitoring and Management
- 401/404 Jurisdictional Delineations and Permitting
- Phase I Environmental Site Assessments
- Integrated Natural Resource Management Plans
- Pest Management Plans
- Biological Reviews

## Years of Experience

With URS: <1 year With Other Firms: 7 Years

#### Education

BS/Botany: Emphasis in Environmental Science and Ecology / 2003/ Arizona University, Tempe, Arizona

#### **Permits**

CDFG Voucher Collecting Permit, Threatened and Endangered Plant Species, 2010

#### **Overview**

Ms. Rothbard has eight years of experience in botanical/biological survey and environmental regulatory compliance. Her experience includes rare and sensitive plant surveys, noxious weed surveys, percent cover surveys, rangeland studies including flora identification, habitat enhancement and restoration site development, monitoring, management, biomass and species diversity data collection, biological surveys for desert tortoise and burrowing owl, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation, environmental site assessments, Section 404 delineation and permitting including ephemeral washes, intermittent and perennial steams, and freshwater, tree-dominated wetlands, Phase I Environmental Site Assessments, Integrated Natural Resource Management Plans and Pest Management Plans, and biological reviews. Ms. Rothbard has managed and performed numerous plant surveys, 401/404 jurisdictional delineations, managed and performed a biological and soil salinity study on a major oilseed crop for the USDA-ARS, and held responsibility for arthropod collection and identification, identification of native and nonindigenous plants, soil and plant root collection for mycorrhizal fungi detection, and vegetation sampling and monitoring at sites in the Phoenix metro and surrounding area for the Central Arizona Phoenix Long-Term Ecological Research Project (CAP-LTER). Vegetative areas of study include low to high desert, chaparral, coastal chaparral, juniper/pinyon pine, coniferous and hardwood forests, grasslands, and rangelands.

## **Project Specific Experience**

#### Clean Water Act Section 404 Delineation and Permitting

Ms. Rothbard has prepared Section 401/404 jurisdictional delineations for waters of the U.S., including ephemeral washes, intermittent and perennial steams, and freshwater, tree-dominated wetlands. She has also prepared nationwide and individual permit applications. Her Section 404 work includes projects in Arizona, Oklahoma, California, and South Carolina.

#### **National Environmental Policy Act**

Ms. Rothbard has prepared National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) environmental assessments (EAs), Integrated Natural Resource Management Plans (INRMPs), and technical studies for environmental impact statements (EISs) for water distribution and collection, utility, development, aviation, and transportation projects in Arizona, Hawaii, Oklahoma, Nevada, Kansas, California, and Japan. Clients include municipalities, transportation departments, United States Air Force Bases, United States Naval Bases, United States Marine Corps Air Stations, National Guard Training Facilities, and private developers.

#### **Restoration/Habitat Enhancement**

Ms. Rothbard has served as assistant project manager/field manager for restoration and habitat enhancement projects for United States Marine



Corps Stations, United States Border Protection, and private developers in California and Arizona. Projects include habitat enhancement for endangered species, wetland creation and monitoring, invasive plant removal and monitoring, and developing plans for restoration/habitat enhancement sites.

#### **Botanical/Biological Surveys**

Ms. Rothbard has conducted numerous botanical surveys including noxious weed, rare plant, percent cover, botanical inventories, and rangeland diversity surveys in Arizona, California, and New Mexico. Vegetative areas include low to high desert, coastal-shrub chaparral, coastal dunes, juniper/pinyon pine, coniferous forest, grasslands, and rangelands. Clients include utilities, railroads, and local, state, and federal land management departments. Ms. Rothbard has also conducted several biological surveys for desert tortoise (Gopherus agassizii), burrowing owl (Athene cunicularia), fairy shrimp, and habitat for threatened and endangered bat species in California and Arizona.

#### **Environmental Site Assessments**

Ms. Rothbard has conducted Phase I Environmental Site Assessments (ESAs) of undeveloped, industrial, residential, and commercial facilities in Arizona. Clients included municipalities, commercial developers, Native American Tribes, and residential developers.

## **Botanical/Biological Surveys**

Staff Botanist/Biologist – Field Leader, Rio Mesa Solar Project, Riverside County, CA; BrightSource Energy (BSE), 2011: Ms Rothbard served as Botany Field Lead responsible for the in-part field leadership for the botanical resource and state and federal waters jurisdictional determination tasks. The 13,000 acre site is located near Blythe, California in the southern Mojave Desert adjacent to the Colorado River and included federal and private lands. Ms Rothbard used ArcView to digitize jurisdictional wash boundaries according to agreed protocol with the US Army Corps of Engineers. Botanical surveys were conducted based on a synthesis of protocols outlined by Bureau of Land Management, California Dept. of Fish and Game and the California Native Plant Society. A sampling based inventory was also devised for California Desert native Plants Act species to support a Desert Plant Species Salvage Plan per the requirements of the California Energy Commission.

Staff Botanist - Endangered Species Surveys, San Diego Air Force Space Surveillance Station, CA. (2010). Ms Rothbard served as field botanist for Otay tar plant (*Deinandra conjugens*) endangered species surveys for the US Air Force. The U.S. Air Force contracted AMEC to provide on-going monitoring for this 100-acre antenna array site. Tasks included transect surveys and mapping of Otay tarplant individuals and populations.

Botanist/Field Manager - Spring Canyon Riparian Restoration Project, US Army Corps of Engineers, San Diego County, CA (2009-2010). Ms. Rothbard served as Field manager for this 5-acre site that has



restored, enhanced, and created riparian habitat mitigation associated with impacts from border fence projects. Long-term activities include habitat enhancement, monitoring, and reporting. Yearly surveys included belt, point and transect surveys to evaluate tree survivorship, health of the ecosystem and create a botanical inventory of present species.

Biological Monitor for Environmental Compliance - San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station Replacement Steam Generator Project, SCE, San Diego, CA (2010). Ms Rothbard served as a Biological Monitor coordinating with a team of eight monitors during the around the clock operation spanning several weeks for each move. As a biologist, Ms Rothbard conducted environmental education and training to all personnel involved with the transport of the replacement steam generators across environmentally sensitive habitats including beaches, dunes, and upland habitat on Camp Pendleton. Ms Rothbard and other monitors marked all sensitive habitats along the transport route, including beach, river outlet crossings, dune habitat, and upland habitat, and worked closely with transport personnel to ensure all persons on site knew what potential impacts could occur each day. During transport, Ms Rothbard provided biological monitoring on up to four different sites along the transport route. Throughout the transport, she worked closely with biologists from SCE, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton and the Public Utilities Commission to ensure impacts remained minimal. Biologists with specialized permits for California Least Tern, Snowy Plover, Fairy Shrimp, and Tidewater Goby conducted pre-transport surveys and delineated areas on the beach section of the route designated for stop over areas, which were required during the transport.

Botanist/Field Manager - Endangered Willowy Monardella Habitat Enhancement, MCAS Miramar, San Diego, CA: (2009-2010). Ms Rothbard served as Field manager for this enhancement project with the overall goal to protect existing populations of willowy monardella (Monardella viminea) and improve current habitat conditions so that these populations can expand. She managed and participated in censoring, mapping, and conducting habitat assessments of existing willowy monardella populations and assisted in the development of on-going enhancement and monitoring techniques.

Botanist/Field Manager - Spring Canyon Riparian Restoration Project, San Diego County, CA (2009-2010). Ms Rothbard served as Field manager for this 5-acre site that has restored, enhanced, and created riparian habitat mitigation associated with impacts from border fence projects. Long-term activities include habitat enhancement, monitoring, and reporting.

Botanist/Assistant Project Manager - Imperial Irrigation District Managed Marsh Planting, Calipatria, CA: (2009-2010). Ms Rothbard served as Assistant Project Manager for developing, planning, and planting of a 365 acre created marsh. The Imperial Irrigation District is developing over 900 acres of a Managed Marsh for the benefit of certain listed species, including the Yuma Clapper Rail and the California Black Rail. This project encompasses 365 acres in 20 cells, and is Phase 1 of the



larger 900 acre project. The team began the planting in early September 2009, with a required completion date of October 31, 2009, which was met. This schedule required the development of a planting and water management plan that would assure the plants adequate water during the hot weather, yet without excessively inundating plants in the lower portions of the cells. The team completed the project on schedule, and with excellent survivorship and health of the introduced plant material. Ms Rothbard supervised the field crews in the planting activities, and handled daily water management tasks in accordance with the needs of the plants and in collaboration with the client.

Staff Botanist - Invasive Plant Species Control at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, San Diego, CA. (2010). Ms Rothbard served as staff botanist and coordinator for the control of invasive weeds in the canyon environments of Marine Corps Air Station Miramar. Target species were sought, mapped, treated, and evaluated in the riparian areas of San Clemente and Rose Canyons on the Base. Ms Rothbard participated in thoroughly surveying all areas of San Clemente Canyon and Rose Canyon on the Station to which access was granted. The purpose was to locate and treat invasive weeds and move towards their total eradication from these selected areas of the Station. Target species included trees, perennial herbs, and annual species. Ms Rothbard served as a biological monitor to assure that sensitive species were protected during treatment events. When new weed species were identified, Ms Rothbard aided in consultation with the Station botanist to determine a plan of action for their treatment. Ms Rothbard also provided photo documentation of the treatment activities, and submitted quarterly reports for this project, including maps, geodatabase updates, and photographs.

Staff Biologist - Burrowing Owl Presence/Absence Survey of the Lake Havasu City Wastewater System Expansion Program Conventional Gravity Sewer Collection System (2010), Lake Havasu City Arizona: Ms. Rothbard served as Assistant Project Manager/Field Leader for conducting Burrowing Owl (*Athene cunicularia*) presence/absence pre-construction surveys for sewer pipe installation in the eastern section of Lake Havasu City. Ms Rothbard also prepared a biological assessment outlining recommendations and instructions according to Arizona Burrowing Owl Working Group's *Burrowing Owl Project Clearance Protocol*.

Biologist - Dye Road Burrowing Owl Clearance Surveys, Ramona, California. (Summer and Winter 2009): Ms. Rothbard performed biological surveys in the right of way footprint for the realignment of Dye Road. These surveys included summer and wintering presence/absence surveys for burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*) Ms Rothbard followed California Fish and Game Burrowing Owl Consortium Guidelines.

Staff Botanist - Rare Plant Survey, San Vicente Road, Poway, California. San Diego County. (2009): Ms. Rothbard performed rare plant surveys along 7 miles of right of way along San Vicente Road in Poway, California. Plants surveyed for included a dozen species on the San Diego County Sensitive Species List.



Staff Botanist/Assistant Project Manager - Vegetation Identification through Airborne Photography, Statewide, Arizona. Private Client (2009-2010): Ms. Rothbard managed and performed plant identification along 4,000-miles of right-of-way using airborne photographs, taken by helicopter. The project included identifying vegetation to species, determining dominant species, and determining percent cover by vegetation type. All plant identification, vegetative habitat determination, and technical writing was performed by Ms. Rothbard. Under this contract, Ms. Rothbard assembled a training manual and training presentation to aid technicians in vegetation identification within and around 4,000 miles of right-of-way using the airborne photographs. Ms. Rothbard quality controlled all vegetation identification before submittal to the end client.

Staff Botanist/Field Manager - Noxious Weed Survey for Palo Verde-North Gila 500kV Conductor Maintenance Project, Arizona Public Service (APS) and BLM Yuma Field Office, Yuma to Gila Bend, Arizona (May 2006, July 2008, March 2009, and 2010): Ms. Rothbard managed and performed noxious weed surveys in the right-ofway of a high voltage power line that extends from Yuma to Gila Bend, AZ. All plant identification, vegetative habitat determination, and technical writing was performed by Ms. Rothbard. The surveys were performed in accordance with an agreement between the APS Land Department and the United States Bureau of Land Management (BLM). For purposes of this survey, noxious and invasive weeds are defined as species included on the Arizona Department of Agriculture's (ADA) Prohibited, Regulated, and Restricted Noxious Weeds List, and the Noxious Weed List for the Yuma Field Office (YFO) of the BLM. The project received funding through Arizona Public Service however all data collection was performed on state and federal lands including BLM and the Yuma Proving Grounds.

Staff Botanist/Field Manager - Revegetation Assessment, Gallup, McKinley County, New Mexico (November-December 2008): Ms. Rothbard managed and performed vegetation surveys within the project site and at nearby point bars to evaluate vegetation recovery resulting from reseeding activities conducted by BNSF Railroad in November 2006. The surveys were conducted to evaluate project site recovery using a random meter<sup>2</sup> plot method to determine if percent cover was within the parameters as specified by the 2006 USACE 404 permit requirements for the project site. Ms. Rothbard prepared a report that summarized information on the recorded occurrence of species, native status, and comparisons between, the project site and a nearby undisturbed site to evaluate vegetation recovery to pre-construction conditions. In addition, recommendations and suggestions were given for future evaluation and timeline of vegetation recovery at the site.

Biologist - Palmdale Power Plant Biological Surveys, Palmdale, California. (April 2008, March 2010): Ms. Rothbard performed biological surveys in the right of way of a high voltage power line. These surveys included rare and sensitive plants, desert tortoise (Gopherus agassizii), and burrowing owl (Athene cunicularia) surveys.



Botanist/Biologist - Threatened and Endangered Species Surveys, United States/Mexico Border Fence Project – Tucson Sector, Gulf South Research Corporation (GSRC)/U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Fort Worth District, Pima and Santa Cruz Counties, Arizona (20008): AMEC has worked as a sub-consultant to GSRC to perform biological surveys along portions of the border fence within the Tucson Sector. Ms. Rothbard performed biological surveys along the United States and Mexico Border for T&E species including Pima pineapple cactus (Coryphantha scheeri var ropustispina), Acuna cactus (Echinomastus erectocentrus var acunensis), Chiricahua leopard frog (Rana chiricahuensis) and habitat for threatened and endangered bat species.

Botanist/Forester - Rare Plant Survey of 6 Mow Areas for the Prescott 500kV Transmission Line Maintenance Project, Chino Valley Ranger District, Prescott National Forest, Arizona. (Spring 2006): Ms. Rothbard managed and performed a plant survey for rare and sensitive plant species in the right of way of a high voltage power line. All plant identification, vegetative habitat determination, and technical writing was performed by Ms. Rothbard. The project received funding through Arizona Public Service however all data collection was performed on the Prescott National Forest.

Botanist - Rangeland Survey of the Roswell Grazing Allotment, BLM Roswell Field Office, New Mexico (Oct 2005): Ms. Rothbard performed plant identification, biomass determination, and species richness and diversity classification on grazing allotments in the Roswell, New Mexico area. Funding was provided by the BLM Roswell Field Office however the project was managed by Southwest Botanical Research, Chino Valley, Arizona.

Biological Technician - Arizona State University Central Arizona Project – Long-Term Ecological Research, Phoenix, Arizona (2004-2005): Ms. Rothbard performed arthropod collections and identification, native and non-indigenous plant identification, vegetation sampling and monitoring at over 32 sites in the Phoenix Metro Area. Funding was provided by the National Science Foundation however all work was managed and performed by the International Institute for Sustainability at Arizona State University.

#### **Publications**

Dierig, D.A., Tomasi, P.R., Dahlquist, G.H., Dawson, H.K\*. <u>Measurements of Lesquerella Interspecific Hybrids and Parents</u>. Abstract 2003.

Dierig, D.A., Rodriguez, D., Foster, M.A., Grieves, C.M., **Dawson, H.K\***., Rodriguez, R. Effects of Salinity on *Lesquerella* at Three Locations. Agronomy Abstracts. 2003.

\*Dawson was Ms. Rothbard's married name at the time of publication.



## **Specialized Training**

Yellow-billed Cuckoo Survey Training, 2010

DoD Plant Conservation Workshop, 2009

40-hour HAZWOPER Training, 2008 and 8-hr Refresher, 2009

Wetland Delineation Training, 2008

Desert Tortoise Survey and Handling Workshop, 2007

Chiricahua Leopard Frog Survey Training, 2007

Southwestern Willow Flycatcher Survey Training, 2007

Integrated Weed Management Workshop, 2007

USFWS Biological Assessment Workshop

Southwest Noxious Weed Short Course, 2006, 2007

Red Brome (Bromus rubens) Grass Symposium, 2006

Arizona Wildfire Academy, 2006

Sahara Mustard (Brassica tournefortii) Workshop, 2005

#### Chronology

Dec 2010-present: Staff Botanist, URS Corp., San Diego, California

May 2009 – Nov 2010: Botanist/Restoration Ecologist/Planner, AMEC

Earth & Environmental, Inc., San Diego, California

2006 - May 2009: Botanist/Environmental Scientist/Planner, AMEC

Earth & Environmental, Inc., Tempe, Arizona

2005 - 2006: Botanist/Forestry Planner, Arizona Public Service,

Cottonwood, Arizona

2004 - 2005: Field Research Technician, International Institute for

Sustainability, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona

2002 – 2004: Research Technician, USDA-ARS Water Conservation Lab.,

Phoenix, Arizona.

#### Resume

## Michelle Balk, Owner/Principal Biologist

Balk Biological Consulting • P.O. Box 235316 • Encinitas, CA 92023-5316 • 760.672.4559 (mobile)

#### **EDUCATION**

- M.S., Biology with Ecology and Evolution emphasis, University of Akron (1999)
- B.S., Zoology, Iowa State University (1997)

#### PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- California Native Plant Society
- Southern California Botanists
- California Botanical Society

#### PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

- CDFG Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Plant Voucher Collection Permit
- Balk Biological Consulting has been certified as a Small Business Enterprise through the Coalition of Southern California Public Agencies and as a Small Business/Microbusiness through the State of California Department of General Services. The company is also registered in the U.S. Government's Central Contractor Registration (CCR) database as a Small Business and a Woman-Owned business.

#### PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Ms. Balk has over 10 years of experience as a biological consultant in California. Project experience includes general and sensitive floral and wildlife surveys, vegetation mapping, wetlands delineation and permitting, mitigation monitoring, construction monitoring, and environmental document preparation. She has also participated in the development of habitat conservation plans pursuant to Section 10 of the Federal Endangered Species Act, and frequently teaches botany classes and workshops for the California Native Plant Society and Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Gardens.

#### SELECT RELEVANT PROJECT EXPERIENCE

- Project Botanist, Ausra Carrizo Plain Solar Farm Project, San Luis Obispo County, California; Sterling Energy Solutions Solar 1, 2, 3, and 6 Projects (Now Calico Solar and Imperial Valley Solar Projects); San Bernardino and Imperial Counties, California.
   March 2008 September 2010. Performed rare plant surveys for proposed solar farm projects totaling approximately 40,000 acres. Project sites were located on the Carrizo Plains of San Luis Obispo County, west of the City of El Centro in Imperial County, and east of Barstow in San Bernardino County, California.
- Project Botanist, Station Fire Reforestation Project, United States Forest Service, San Gabriel Mountains, California. August September 2010. Performed rare plant surveys in approximately 3,000 acres of potential conifer reforestation area.
- CalNev Pipeline Expansion Project, Kinder Morgan Energy Partners, San Bernardino County, California, June July 2009. Surveyed approximately 17 miles of proposed and existing petroleum pipeline alignment for late-blooming sensitive plants. Project site included sensitive areas of western San Bernardino County from the Cajon Pass in the north, along the Cajon Creek Wash in the San Bernardino National Forest, to approximately the City of Devore in the south. Project included visiting of reference populations of rare plants

- and coordinating with Forest Service staff.
- Project Botanist, Trilobite Solar Energy Generating Project, Pacific Gas and Electric Company, San Bernardino County, California. March June 2009. Served as crew leader in the performance of rare plant surveys and vegetation characterization for approximately 6,400-acre proposed solar energy generating site in the central Mojave Desert. Prepared botanical survey report describing results for inclusion into Application for Certification by the California Energy Commission.
- Project Botanist, Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project, Southern California Edison, Los Angeles County, California, April 2010 present. Led teams of botanists and coordinated work effort for rare plant surveys, vegetation mapping, and tree surveys along proposed energy transmission project. Monitored construction crews for conformance to biological mitigation measures during installation of utility line. Project traverses diverse vegetation communities including foothills, mountains, and desert.
- Project Biologist/Botanist, State Route 79 Realignment Project, Riverside County Transportation Commission, Cities of Hemet and San Jacinto, CA; and County of Riverside, CA. March September 2006. Performed wetlands delineations and surveyed for rare upland and wetland sensitive plant species along alternatives for proposed roadway realignment through the cities of Hemet and San Jacinto, CA.
- Project Botanist, Mid-County Parkway, County of Riverside (Lake Mathews-Estelle Mountain Reserve and adjacent privately-owned lands), California. February May 2005. Served as team leader for sensitive plant surveys on publicly- and privately-owned parcels within potential roadway alignment. Verified/updated vegetation mapping for project site.
- Project Biologist, Pole Maintenance Project/Bark Beetle Project, Southern California Edison, San Bernardino and San Jacinto Mountains, San Bernardino and Riverside Counties, California. 2003 2006. Conducted botanical surveys and habitat assessments for sensitive plants at pole replacement locations and along electric lines at numerous locations in the San Bernardino and San Jacinto Mountains and the Mojave Desert. Coordinated with tree removal contractors regarding least biologically impactive methods of tree removal.
- **Project Botanist, Murrieta Hills Project, Riverside County, California. Spring Summer 2008.** Performed rare plant surveys for Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) Criteria Area Species Survey Area (CASSA) and Narrow-endemic Plant Species Survey Area (NEPSSA) species and other sensitive species across a 1,280-acre survey area.
- Project Botanist, Parcel D Project, Otay Land Company, County of San Diego, California. 2009. Performed surveys for a variety of rare plant species on mitigation site in the foothills of the Cuyamaca Mountains.
- Project Botanist, Tejon Mountain Village Project, Kern and Los Angeles Counties, California. February September 2007. Mapped vegetation and served as team leader for rare plant surveys on 28,000-acre proposed housing development project located in the

- Tehachapi Mountains of southern Kern and northern Los Angeles Counties.
- Project Biologist/Botanist, Fanita Ranch Project, Santee, California, Barratt American, Inc. 2004-2006. Performed vegetation mapping, wetlands delineation, rare plant surveys, and Quino checkerspot butterfly surveys on 2,000 acre property and potential mitigation site.
- Project Biologist, Villages of San Jacinto Project, D.R. Horton, San Jacinto, California. March June 2005. Performed vegetation mapping, wetlands delineation, and rare plant surveys on 475-acre property. Prepared biological technical report for California Environmental Quality Act documentation.
- Project Botanist, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, County of San Diego, California. 2005. Conducted rare plant surveys for Pendleton button celery (*Eryngium pendletonensis*) on 246 acres.
- Project Biologist/Botanist, Village 3 Project, Otay Ranch Company, City of Chula Vista, California. 2003. Conducted vernal pool floristic surveys and rare plant surveys, including focused surveys for the federally-listed threatened and state-listed endangered Otay tarplant, on 263 acre site.
- Project Biologist/Botanist, High Meadow Ranch Residential Development Project, Vicar Ventures, LLC, Community of Lakeside, County of San Diego, California. 2004 2006. Performed wetlands delineation and prepared wetlands permit applications, including conceptual mitigation plan, for 800-acre residential development project. Coordinated and negotiated with wetlands resource agencies and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regarding sensitive species issues onsite.

#### OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

- Co-instructor, "Rare Plants of Western San Diego County", February 2008; "Survey of the Sunflower Family (Asteraceae): Introduction to the Fall Bloomers", October 2005 and October 2006; "Survey of the Sunflower Family (Asteraceae): Introduction to the Spring Bloomers", March 2007; "Southern California Winter Plant Identification For Field Biologists", February 2006", Rare Plant Identification and Survey Techniques for Southern California", March 2006.
- Participant, California Native Plant Society (CNPS) workshops: "Vegetation Mapping", October 13-15, 2009, and "Cyperaceae", July 22-24, 2008; Jepson Herbarium workshops: "Poaceae (Grass family)" May 7-8, 2005; "Spring Flora across Kern County" May 6-9, 2004; "Summer Annuals and Fall-Blooming Shrubs of the Eastern Mojave Desert" September 2003; "Morphology and Identification of Flowering Plants" March, 2003.
- **Participant**, "Basic Wetland Delineation" presented by the Wetland Training Institute, Inc. August 2-6, 2004.

## **NEAL KRAMER, M.S.**

#### **Botanist/Ecologist, Certified Arborist**

#### **EDUCATION/TRAINING**

	1981	BA Botany, University of California, Berkeley	
	1984	MS Forest Ecology, University of Idaho, Moscow	
1996-2007 30 different floristic workshops (including <i>Eastern Mojave Deser</i>		30 different floristic workshops (including <i>Eastern Mojave Desert Flora</i> )	
		University of California, Jepson Herbarium	
	2006	Basic Wetland Delineation Certification, Wetland Training Institute	
	2007	Arborist Certification, International Society of Arborists	

#### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

	1995- present	Botanical/Ecological Consulting, Kramer Botanical, Montara CA	
1985-2005 Nursery Management, Nurserymen's Exchange, Half Moon Bay CA		Nursery Management, Nurserymen's Exchange, Half Moon Bay CA	
1982-1984 Graduate Research/Teaching Assistant, Moscow ID		Graduate Research/Teaching Assistant, Moscow ID	
		Published "Mature forest seed banks of three habitat types in central Idaho", Canadian Journal of Botany, Vol. 65, 1987	
	1975-1979	Wildfire Suppression/Helicopter Forman, USFS & BLM, Calif. & Wyoming	

Mr. Kramer has experience with native flora and plant communities in 28 different California counties, in Arizona, Idaho, Nevada and Oregon, and internationally in the countries of Honduras, Ecuador and Peru. His experience includes plant inventories, rare plant surveys, tree surveys, invasive plant survey and eradication work, wetland delineations and revegetation projects for a wide variety of habitats. Rare plant surveys have included more than a dozen different San Francisco Bay Area sites, vernal pools in Fresno and Madera Counties and Delta marshland in Sacramento County. Neal is experienced in wetland delineation for a variety of wetland types including vernal pools. He has extensive experience using GPS systems for the purpose of mapping rare plants, invasive weeds and wetland delineations.

In 2008, Mr. Kramer participated in multi-season floristic surveys across the Mojave Desert for the CalNev pipeline project between Las Vegas and San Bernardino. He has also conducted numerous intensive, multi-season floristic surveys for solar energy development and mining projects in the Mohave and Sonoran Deserts.

Mr. Kramer has 20 years of management experience as a lead grower with Nurserymen's Exchange in Half Moon Bay, Ca. where he was directly responsible for potted plant production on 35 acres of greenhouses and fields with a full time staff of 130 and up to 300 additional seasonal employees.

Neal is an experienced photographer with more than 1100 digital images posted on the Calphotos website. His photos can be found on the California Native Plant Society's online Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants, and have been used in publications by the Peninsula Open Space Trust, Oregon State University Extension, UC Santa Barbara Department of Geology, and PG&E.

# Kyle Christie, M.S.

38 Pine Cone Drive Flagstaff, AZ 86001 (928) 699-8410 kylechristie1@hotmail.com

#### **EXPERTISE**

- Floristics of the Southwestern United States, including the Colorado Plateau, Mojave Desert, Sonoran Desert, southern Rocky Mountains; and high Sierra Nevada
- Rare plant surveys, floristic inventories, vegetation mapping, ecological monitoring surveys, GIS

#### **EDUCATION**

#### Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ

May 2006

- Master of Science with Distinction. Major: Botany
- Biology Department Best Master's Thesis of 2007

#### Colorado College, Colorado Springs, CO

May 2001

• Bachelor of Arts. Major: Biology

#### **EXPERIENCE**

#### Vegetation Ecologist, Kass Green and Associates, Berkeley, CA

Summer 2009 - present

- Assisted in the development of a mapping scheme, and provided field reconnaissance to develop mapping signatures of plant communities at Grand Canyon National Park
- Analyzed and edited spatial and tabular data using ArcGIS to map vegetation communities

#### Biological Technician - Sensitive Plants, USFS, South Lake Tahoe, CA

Summer 2010, Summer 2011

 Surveyed project areas for sensitive vascular and non-vascular plant species in the Sierra Nevada mountains of California and Nevada

#### Consulting Botanist, H.T. Harvey and Associates, Los Gatos, CA

Spring 2010, Spring 2011

• Conducted rare plant surveys in the Central Valley of California

#### Consulting Botanist, TetraTech, Irvine, CA

Spring 2010

 Conducted rare plant surveys in the Mojave Desert of southwestern Nevada, and in the Great Basin Desert of western Nevada

#### Consulting Botanist, Conservation Science Research and Consulting, Spring Valley, CA

Spring 2010

• Conducted rare plant surveys in the Mojave Desert of southern California

#### Research Specialist, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ

Fall 2007 - Spring 2010

- Conducted vegetation surveys for the USGS-NPS National Vegetation Classification and Mapping Program at Grand Canyon National Park
- Supervised an 8-person field crew; authored project reports; managed project data
- Collaborated with *NatureServe* scientists to write vegetation community descriptions

#### Consulting Botanist, National Park Service, Flagstaff, AZ

Fall 2009

- Inventoried springs in Grand Canyon National Park potentially at-risk from uranium mining
- Authored a final status report for the National Park Service

#### Botanist/Crew Leader, Ecological Restoration Institute, Flagstaff, AZ Summer 2009 Sampled vegetation monitoring plots in the southern Rocky Mountains of Colorado Supervised a 4-person field crew Consulting Botanist, USGS/Grand Canyon Monitoring and Research Center, Flagstaff, AZ Summer 2009 Assessed the accuracy of a USGS-NPS vegetation map of the Colorado River corridor Consulting Botanist, Kiva Biological Consulting, Inyokern, CA Spring 2009 Conducted rare plant surveys in the Mojave Desert of southern Nevada Consulting Botanist, Pinnacle Mapping Technologies, Flagstaff, AZ Spring 2009 Mapped vegetation communities along arroyo complexes in the Chihuahuan Desert of southern New Mexico Consulting Botanist, E<sup>2</sup>M, Englewood, CO Spring - Summer 2007 Conducted vegetation surveys for the USGS-NPS National Vegetation Classification and Mapping Program at Grand Canyon National Park Botany Technician, United States Geologic Survey, Flagstaff, AZ Fall 2006 Conducted an accuracy assessment for the USGS-NPS National Vegetation Mapping Program at Petrified Forest National Park Botany Technician, Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Fort Collins, CO Summer 2006 Conducted backcountry vegetation surveys for the USGS-NPS National Vegetation Classification and Mapping Program at Great Sand Dunes National Park

#### Database Analyst, Southwest Rare Plant Task Force, Flagstaff, AZ

Spring 2006

• Collaborated with *NatureServe* database managers to create a list of rare plant species in the Southwestern United States for a regional conference

#### Consulting Botanist, National Park Service, Flagstaff AZ

Summer 2005

 Collaborated on the Herbarium Specimen Verification and Databasing Project for the Southern Colorado Plateau network of National Parks

#### Consulting Botanist, Navajo Natural Heritage Program, Window Rock, AZ

Summer 2004

- Conducted field surveys for *Erigeron rhizomatus*; a federally listed rare plant species; discovered 10 new populations of the species
- Authored a final status report for the United States Fish and Wildlife Service

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

- K. Christie. 2011 (in review). Floristic dynamics across a semi-arid chronosequence in Northern Arizona. *The Southwestern Naturalist*.
- K. Christie, G. Rink, and T. Ayers. 2011 (in press). Additions to the flora of Grand Canyon National Park resulting from National Vegetation Mapping Program fieldwork. *Canotia*.
- K. Christie. 2009. Phytogeography and floristics of Pinyon-Juniper woodlands in northern Arizona. *Western North American Naturalist* 69(2): 155-164.
- K. Christie. 2008. Vascular flora of the lower San Francisco Volcanic Field, Coconino County, Arizona. *Madroño* 55(1): 1-14.
- K. Christie. 2006. Noteworthy Collections Arizona. *Madroño* 53(4): 409.
- K. Christie, M. Currie, L.S. Davis, M. Hill, S. Neal, and T. Ayers. 2006. Vascular Plants of Arizona: Rhamnaceae (Buckthorn Family). *Canotia* 2(1): 23-46.

## **REFERENCES**

- Dr. Tina Ayers, Professor, Northern Arizona University, (928) 523-9482, tina.ayers@nau.edu
- Dr. Michael Kearsley, Vegetation Mapping Coordinator, Grand Canyon National Park, (928) 638-7462, michael\_kearsley@nps.gov
- Shana Gross, Ecologist, United States Forest Service Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, (530) 543-2752, segross@fs.fed.us

## Steven Patrick Till

1781 Devonshire Dr. Sierra Vista, AZ 85635 520.678.7297

steventill@gmail.com

#### **EDUCATION**

- 1999-2002 B.S. in Botany, Northern Arizona University. Flagstaff, AZ. Graduated December 2002. Chemistry minor.
- 1998-1999 Catholic University of America. Washington, D.C.; attended on full-tuition academic scholarship.

#### **EMPLOYMENT**

2011 Botanist, URS Corporation and Ironwood Consulting, Inc.

- Conducted rare plant surveys in the Mojave deserts of California and Nevada.
- Gathered census data for protected plant species and completed lists of plant species on site.

  2010 Botanist, Tetra Tech Inc.
  - Conducted rare plant surveys in the Mojave desert of Nevada.
  - Worked in gathering a comprehensive species list for a solar development project.

2008-2010 Senior Research Specialist. Northern Arizona University.

- Performed botanical inventories at National Parks and Monuments in the southwest.
- Collected, keyed and identified plant species from a wide variety of desert to montane habitats.

2007-2008 Senior Research Specialist. Northern Arizona University, in conjunction with NPS.

- Utilized backcountry knowledge and plant identification skills to assist in development and execution of the vegetation mapping ground work in Grand Canyon National Park.
- Led crews on remote and challenging collection field trips.
- Applied electronic data collection, GPS, satellite phone, national vegetation classification protocol and plant identification/collection skills.

2006-2008 Botanist. Grand Canyon Trust.

- Worked on the North Rim assessing botanical changes post forest fire and cattle grazing, led invasive plant management teams at Grand Canyon and Paria Canyon.
- Advised coordinator of tamarisk/Russian olive monitoring program in project planning.

2002-2007 Backcountry Tamarisk Eradication Crew Leader. Grand Canyon Foundation, Grand Canyon Wildlands Council, Grand Canyon Trust and the National Park Service.

- Gained expert knowledge of project planning, safety protocols, field work methods, and logistical planning of river, backcountry and front-country trips.
- Organized, communicated restoration goals, and supervised volunteer groups of 6-8 into remote backcountry settings with outstanding results of volunteer satisfaction, return rate, and completion of plant eradication from worksites.
- Provided written/photographic documentation that led to acquisition of grants.
- Worked as a botanist for two Colorado River Management Plan monitoring trips.

2003-2005 Botanist. Ecological Restoration Institute of NAU.

- Executed field botanist duties of plant collection/identification and understory/overstory analysis in fire effects and forest management studies.
- Developed expert skills in vegetation sampling, field navigation, maintenance/inventorying of field equipment, and solving database issues.
- Assisted project leaders in logistical planning, filled leadership role when necessary, and built strong communication lines between crew members.

2003 Botany field technician. USGS and Colorado Plateau Field Station at NAU.

- Utilized backcountry knowledge and plant identification skills to assist in development and execution of the vegetation mapping ground work at Petrified Forest National Park.
- Completed the field work following standardized vegetation mapping protocols.

#### 2002 Botanist. Stevens Ecological Consulting with Bucknell University.

- Worked independently on an elevational plant study of Grand Canyon and the San Francisco Peaks.
- Assisted in the biological inventory of springs in Arizona and Utah.
- Collected/identified plant species, processed data, practiced basic surveying skills.

Resume

#### **CURRICULUM VITAE**

#### GWENDOLYN L. WARING

**ADDRESS:** 412 W. Juniper Ave

Flagstaff AZ 86001

**TELEPHONE**: (928) 226-1126

**ACADEMIC DEGREES** Ph.D. Zoology, May 1987

Northern Arizona University

Flagstaff, Arizona

M.S. Entomology, August 1981

University of Arizona Tucson, Arizona

B.S. Biology, June 1979 Northern Arizona University

Flagstaff, Arizona

#### **POSTDOCTORAL WORK:**

Studies of population genetic structure and genetic differentiation in herbivorous insects undergoing host plant shifts, Sponsored by Warren G. Abrahamson, and Daniel J. Howard, and NSF, 1987-1989.

## **POSITIONS HELD:**

2011	Botanist, Rare plant survey.	, southern Mohave Desert,	Pishgah to Lugo,
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CA

2010-2011 Research ecologist and lecturer, A study of the ecology of grassland fire

at Buffalo Park, Flagstaff AZ, City of Flagstaff grant

2009-2010 Research ecologist, A study of honey mesquite

and its changing ecology in Grand Canyon, USGS

2009-2010 Taxonomic survey of regional springs, northern Arizona, Grand Canyon

Wildlands Council.

Taxonomic survey of a wild land park, Flagstaff AZ, Grand Canyon

Wildlands Council.

2008-2009 Lecturer, natural history and art, The Star School, Leupp AZ.

2007-2008	Lecturer, natural history series, The Mountain School. Flagstaff AZ
2003-2007	Lecturer, Public natural history series. Flagstaff AZ
2006-2007	Lecturer, Coconino Juvenile Detention Center, Flagstaff AZ
2000-2008	Public, school and detention center lectures on the natural history of the southern Rockies & Intermountain West. Grant-supported.
2003-2008	Commissioner, Open Space Commission, Flagstaff AZ.
2000-2010	Art teacher, Coconino Community College, and Flagstaff Arboretum, Flagstaff AZ.
2007-2008	Survey for Desert Tortoise, Fort Irwin, CA.
2002-2003	Teacher of regional natural history, Marshall Elementary School, Flagstaff, AZ
2001-2002	Ecologist, Dry-farming Hopi corn study at Wupatki, Desert Archeology, Tucson AZ
2000-2001	Ecologist, Desert Archeology, Devised and conducted experiments on growth of 'Hopi corn' under different conditions and along an elevational gradient.
2000-2001	Ecological consultant, City of Flagstaff, organize and implement large-scale habitat restoration programs on several sites within Flagstaff.
2001-2002	Consultant, Ecologist-restorationist, Museum of Northern Arizona.
1998-2000	Plant taxonomist, Plant surveys in the Sonoran Desert, Az National Guard.
1997-	Owner, Restored Landscapes. A Flagstaff company devoted to restoring wild and urban landscapes with native species and providing education about these landscapes.
1994-1996	Member, Arizona Commission on Water Resource Protection. Arizona Department of Water Resources.
1994	Rare plant survey, AT&T
1992-2005	River guide and naturalist, San Juan River and Grand Canyon, AZ
1993-1998	Founder, Co-Owner, Flagstaff Native Plant & Seed. A Flagstaff company devoted to landscaping with native plants.
1993-1996	Adjunct Assistant Professor, School of Forestry, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ.

1993-1996	Research Ecologist, Glen Canyon Environmental Studies, Photogrametric/GIS analysis of the history of vegetation change along the Colorado River in Grand Canyon.
1992-1993	Research Ecologist, Bureau of Reclamation, literature review on the impact of dams on riparian vegetation.
1991-1995	Research ecologist, National Park Service, Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, A study of interactions between native and exotic species of riparian plants and animal communities associated with exotic plants along Lake Powell.
1991-1992	Research Ecologist, The Nature Conservancy, A study of the impact of tamarisk and Russian olive on plant and insect diversity in riparian habitats along the San Juan River.
1990-1991	Research Ecologist, The Nature Conservancy, A study to determine recruitment requirements of <u>Salix bebbiana</u> in northern Arizona.
1988	Postdoctoral fellowship, with Warren G. Abrahamson, MNA and Bucknell University, A study of the genetics of populations of the gallforming herbivore, <i>Eurosta solidaginis</i> , colonizing new host plant species.
1987-1988	Postdoctoral fellowship, with Daniel Howard, MNA, A study of genetic differentiation in field crickets.
1984-1986	Research ecologist, National Park Service, Grand Canyon National Park, A study of the effects of flooding on the riparian plant community along the Colorado River in Grand Canyon.
1981-1987	Graduate research, with Peter W. Price, NAU, A study of the ecology and evolution of a gallforming group on the desert-adapted plant, creosote bush ( <u>Larrea tridentata</u> ), including a study of the effects of water stress on plant physiology and susceptibility to herbivores.
1981-1986	Research assistantship, with Peter W. Price, NAU, A study of the effects of water and nutrient stress in willow ( <u>Salix lasiolepis</u> ) on an associated gallforming insect; this work involved a series of water and fertilizer experiments and a biochemical assessment of plant quality.
1980-1983	Instructor, UA Renewable Resources Department, Forest insect workshop for forestry students at UA. Biology and methodology for studying forest insects.
1979-1981	Research assistantship, with Dr. Robert L. Smith, UA: A comparative study of insect herbivory in <u>Agave</u> spp. in wild and urban settings; this study involved comparing the success of herbivores on agaves in the wild and cultivation, and the bases for observed differences.
1977-1979	Research assistant, USFS Rocky Mountain Station, Flagstaff, AZ. A comparative study of insect populations in healthy ponderosa pine forests

and in dog-hair thickets, in Coconino National Forest.

## AWARDS, GRANTS AND CONTRACTS:

2010	Grant to study the impact of fire on Buffalo Park grasslands, Flagstaff Community Foundation, with Flagstaff High School students, \$8,000
2009	Grant to conduct a pilot study on honey mesquite in Grand Canyon, USGS, \$30,000.
2007	Grant to review USGS experimental flood research in Grand Canyon, \$20,000
2007	Botanical illustration for book on ponderosa pine, Dr, Michael Wagner. \$3,000.
2000-2008	Flagstaff Arts & Sciences Commission Grants. Teach natural history of northern Arizona to a public forum and in Flagstaff schools.
2005	Grant to teach natural history in public forum, Flagstaff AZ. \$7,000.
2004	Grant to teach natural history in public forum, Flagstaff AZ. \$7,000.
2004	Grant to write a book on the natural history of the western United States, A Natural History of the Intermountain West, Its Ecological and Evolutionary Story, private grantor. \$30,000.
2004	Grant to teach natural history in public forum, Flagstaff AZ. \$8,000.
2002	Grant to teach natural history in local schools, Flagstaff AZ. \$1,000.
1998-2000	Botanical surveys, Arizona National Guard Bases, Camp Navajo (northern Arizona), and Florence (southern Arizona).
2001	Principal investigator, City of Flagstaff, road survey work and development of a plant list for restoration efforts. \$1,200.
2000	Principal investigator, Desert Archeology, Hopi Corn experiments, \$7,000. Dry-farming Hopi corn near Wupatki
2000	Principal investigator, City of Flagstaff, restoration projects, \$25,000.
1996	Endangered plant survey for roadway expansion project, central Arizona, funded by AT&T.
1996	Owner, lending grant of \$350,000 to establish Flagstaff Native Plant & Seed.
1995	Principal investigator-research ecologist, GCES contract to evaluate

	species-specific historical change of riparian vegetation along the Colorado River in Grand Canyon using GIS. \$88,000.
1994	Principal investigator-research ecologist, GCES contract to evaluate historical change of riparian vegetation along the Colorado River in Grand Canyon using GIS. \$145,000.
1993	Principal investigator-research ecologist, GCES contract to evaluate historical change of riparian vegetation along Colorado River using GIS. \$120,000.
1992	Principal investigator-research ecologist, Bureau of Reclamation contract to summarize literature on effects of dams on riparian ecosystems. \$17,000.
1991	Principal investigator-research ecologist, The Nature Conservancy study grant, research on the impact of tamarisk and Russian olive on plant and insect diversity along the San Juan River, Utah. \$11,000.
1990	Principal investigator-research ecologist, The Nature Conservancy study grant, experimental study of germination and establishment requirements of <u>Salix bebbiana</u> . \$9,000.00.
1990	Native plant inventory and survey for Navajo Bridge expansion and habitat restoration project. Arizona Department of Transportation.
1988	Travel Grant, ESA, to present invited paper at ESA Vancouver meetings.
1988	Principal investigator-research ecologist, NPS study grant, experimental study of interactions of native and exotic plants in a developing riparian plant community in southern Utah. \$44,500.00.
1985	Organized Research Grant, NAU
1985	Travel grant, NAU, funding to participate in an ESA symposium on gallforming insects
1985	Principal investigator-research ecologist, NPS study grant #4-AA 40-01930, experimental study of flooding effects on riparian vegetation in the Grand Canyon. \$25,000.00.
1984	Sigma Xi Grants-in-Aid of Research
1982	Sigma Xi Grants-in-Aid of Research.

#### **INVITED PAPERS:**

1996, 1997 Restoration of native plants in northern Arizona', Arizona Native Plant Society.

'The ecology and evolution of a gallforming group on creosote bush
(<u>Larrea tridentata</u>) in the southwestern United States', invited for the
Workshop on gallforming herbivores, Int'l. Ent. Congress, Vancouver,
B.C., Canada.

'Galls in harsh environments', presented in Symposium on Gallforming Insects, Ent. Soc. Amer. Nat'l. Meetings, Hollywood, Fla.

#### **EXHIBITS PREPARED:**

2009 Elemental show, Coconino Center for the Arts, Flagstaff, November Flagstaff Open Studios 2003-2010 2000-2002 Northland Hospice show 2001 **Tucson Winter Fest** 1998-2003 The Artist's Gallery, Flagstaff AZ 1999-2000 Sedona Art Festival 1999 Phoenix Temple of Music and Art exhibit Art in the Park, Flagstaff AZ 1999-2002 1989 'The History of Extinction', Museum of Northern Arizona, Flagstaff, Arizona.

#### **PAPERS PRESENTED:**

2011	The changing ecology of mesquite in Grand Canyon, Grand Canyon Utilities Group, Phoenix AZ
1992	'The impact of exotic plants on riparian faunal diversity along a southwestern river', Arizona, Riparian Council, Cottonwood, Arizona.
1989	'Plant stress and herbivore responses', Southwestern Association of Population Biologists, Ghost Ranch, New Mexico.
1988	'Genetic differentiation in the gallformer <u>Eurosta solidaginis</u> along host plant lines', Southwestern Association of Population Biologists, Portal, Arizona.
1983	'Coexistence of a species groups (Cecidomyiidae: <i>Asphondylia</i> ) on

creosote bush', Guild of Rocky Mountain Population Biologists, Gothic, Colorado.

'The ecological consequences of evolutionary steps in a gallforming group on creosote bush', Southwestern Association of Population Biologists, 1987

Payson, Arizona.

#### **COURSES TAUGHT:**

2000-2008	Natural History of the Flagstaff Area/Lecture Series
1995	Landscaping with Flagstaff's native plants, Museum of Northern Arizona.
1992-1993	Dendrology, NAU, Flagstaff, Arizona.
1985	The natural history of northern Arizona, NAU, Flagstaff, Arizona.
1980-1983	Forest insect ecology, UA, Tucson, Arizona.

#### **BOOKS PUBLISHED:**

A Natural History of the Intermountain West: Its Ecological and Evolutionary Story. University of Utah Press, SLC. 2011

#### **PUBLICATIONS, TECHNICAL REPORTS:**

- Waring, G.L. The biodiversity of plants on the Colorado Plateau. Arizona Native Plant Society Journal, Spring.
- Waring, G.L. Landscaping with native drought-hearty plants. Arizona Native Plant Society Journal. Spring.
- Waring, G.L. Hopi corn and volcanic cinders: a test of the relationship between tephra and agriculture in northern Arizona. Center for Desert Archaeology. Anthropological Papers No. 33:59-68.
- 1996 Current and historical riparian vegetation trends in Grand Canyon, using multitemporal remote sensing analysis of GIS sites. NAU-NPS Cooperative Agreement CA 8000-8-0002.
- Historical vegetation patterns along the Colorado River in Grand Canyon: a proposal to identify large scale and species-specific trends. NAU-NPS Cooperative Agreement CA 8000-8-0002.
- Mast, J. and G.L. Waring. Historical vegetation patterns along the Colorado River in Grand Canyon: changes in Goodding Willow detected with dendrochronology. Proceedings of the Third Biennial Conference of Research on the Colorado Plateau, pp 115-127.
- Howard, D.J., G.L. Waring, C.A. Tibbets, and P.G. Gregory. Survival of hybrids in a mosaic hybrid zone. Evolution 47:789-800.
- Waring, G.L. The impact of dams on riparian vegetation. Special Report to the Bureau of Reclamation, SLC, Utah.
- Waring, G.L. The impact of exotic plants on faunal diversity along a southwestern river. Special Report to The Nature Conservancy. 33pp.
- Waring, G.L. and N. Cobb. The impact of plant stress on herbivore population dynamics. Insect-Plant interactions. 6:171-233.
- Howard, D.J. and G.L. Waring. Topographic diversity, zone width, and the strength of reproductive isolation in a zone of overlap and hybridization. Evolution. 45:1120-1135.
- Gagne, R.J. and G.L. Waring. The <u>Asphondylia</u> (Cecidomyiida:Diptera) on creosote bush (<u>Larrea tridentata</u>) in North America. Proc. Ent. Soc. Wash. 92:649-671.
- Waring, G.L., W.G. Abrahamson and D.J. Howard. Genetic differences among host-associated populations in the gallmaker <u>Eurosta solidaginis</u> (Diptera:Tephritidae). Evolution. 44:1648-1655.
- Waring, G.L. and P.W. Price. Plant water stress and gallformation (Cecidomyiidae: <u>Asphondylia</u>) on creosote bush. Ecological Entomology. 15:87-95.

- 1990. Waring, G.L. Developing shoreline communities and potential for natural vegetation in Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, Arizona-Utah. In Boyce, M.S. & G.E. Plumb, eds., National Park Service Research Center, 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Report. Laramie, WY. Pp73-75.
- Price, P.W., G.L. Waring, R. Julkunen-Tiitto, J. Tahavaninen, H.A. Mooney and T.P. Craig. Carbon/nutrient balance hypothesis in within species phytochemical variation of <u>Salix lasiolepis</u>. Journal of Chemical Ecology, 15:1117-1131.
- Waring, G.L. and P.W. Price. Parasitoid pressure and the radiation of a gallforming group (Cecidomyiidae: <u>Asphondylia</u> spp.) on creosote bush (<u>Larrea tridentata</u>). Oecologia 79:293-299.
- 1988 Craig, T.M., P.W. Price, G.L. Waring, K.M. Clancy and C.F. Sacchi. Forces preventing coevolution in the three trophic level system: Willow, a gallforming herbivore, and parasitoids. <u>In</u> Chemical mediation of coevolution, K. Spencer (ed.). Pergamon, New York.
- Waring, G.L. and P.W. Price. Consequences of host plant chemical and physical variability to an associated herbivore. Ecological Research 3:205-216.
- Stevens, L.E. and G.L. Waring. 1988. Effects of post-dam flooding on riparian substrates, vegetation and invertebrate populations in the Colorado River corridor in Grand Canyon, Arizona. USBR Glen Canyon Environmental Studies Publication No. 21, 79 pp. US Dept. Commerce, Springfield, VA.
- Waring,G.L. and L.E. Stevens. 1988. The effects of recent flooding on riparian plant establishment along the Colorado River in Grand Canyon. USBR Glen Canyon Environmental Studies Publication No. 21, 79 pp. US Dept. Commerce, Springfield, VA.
- Waring, G.L. and R.L. Smith. Patterns of faunal succession in <u>Agave palmeri</u>. Southwestern Naturalist 32:489-497.
- 1987 Price, P.W., G.W. Fernandes and G.L. Waring. Adaptive nature of insect galls. Forum, Environmental Entomology. 16:15-24.
- Price, P.W., G.L. Waring and G.W. Fernandes. Hypotheses on the adaptive nature of galls. Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington 88:361-363.
- Waring, G.L. Galls in harsh environments. Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington. 88:376-380.
- Waring, G.L. The ecological and evolutionary history of creosote bush (<u>Larrea tridentata</u> Cov.) in North America. Agave 2:3-15.

- Waring, G.L. and R.L. Smith. Natural history and ecology of Scyphophorus acupunctatus (Coleoptera: Curculionidae) and its associated microbes in cultivated and native agaves. Annals of the Entomological Society of America 79:334-340.
- Stevens, L.E. and G.L. Waring. Effects of prolonged flooding on riparian vegetation in Grand Canyon. <u>In</u> Riparian ecosystems and their management, R.R. Johnson (ed.). USDA Technical Report. RM-120. Fort Collins.

# Suzanne Rhodes 901 West Coconino Avenue Flagstaff, Arizona 86001 928-607-7791 slr314@gmail.com

## **Education, Training, and Certifications**

- M.A., Sustainable Landscape Design and Planning, Conway School of Landscape Design, Conway, Massachusetts, June 2009
- B.S., Botany, minor in Anthropology, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, December 1999
- PSMJ Resources, Inc. Project Manager Boot Camp, 2007
- NEPA training, 2004

#### **Areas of Expertise**

I am an experienced botanist familiar with the riparian and terrestrial plant communities of the mountains, canyons, and deserts of the Southwest, including special-status and non-native plant species and vegetation types. I have conducted surveys and mapped vegetation in both the high desert and lower desert areas of Arizona, California, Colorado, New Mexico, Nevada, and Utah. I am adept with vegetation mapping and map interpretation. I have extensive field experience; including the use of Garmin and Trimble GPS units, hiking in remote and challenging terrain and driving four-wheel drive vehicles in difficult topography. In addition to plants, I have conducted surveys for protected fish and avifauna.

## **Professional Experience**

**Botanist, Self-employed; Flagstaff, AZ (2009-present):** Participated in numerous rare plant surveys, riparian restoration, and vegetation mapping projects throughout Arizona, southern California, Nevada, and New Mexico.

**Botanist, Natural Channel Design; Flagstaff, AZ (2009):** Conducted vegetation mapping and vegetation identification for a riparian restoration project near Phoenix, AZ.

**Botanist, SWCA Environmental Consultants; Flagstaff, Arizona (2000–2008):** Conducted habitat assessments and collected field data concerning the Endangered Species Act, Clean Water Act, National Environmental Policy Act, organized and interpreted field data, wrote technical documents and correspondence, managed projects and coordinated with clients, other project managers, and technical staff.

**Botany Consultant–Subcontractor, Rob Weber for the Hopi Tribe; Arizona (1999):** Provided field interpretation and baseline vegetation inventory incorporating airborne imagery and aerial photography to create vegetation distribution maps for long term monitoring on the Blue Canyon Restoration and Monitoring Pilot Project.

Botanist–Subcontractor, Dr. Thomas Mitchell-Olds for The Max-Planck Institute for Ecology; Jena, Germany (1999): Performed independent field work involving collection and identification of voucher specimens and seed samples from isolated populations of *Arabis* in the southwestern United States.

Assistant Curator, Deaver Herbarium, Northern Arizona University; Flagstaff (1998–2000): Processed herbarium specimens, maintained computer database, managed loan and exchange programs, ordered supplies, and assisted visitors.

Research Assistant, Dr. Michael Kearsley at Northern Arizona University; Flagstaff (1997-2001): Entered and analyzed data, created hand-drawn vegetation distribution maps, and provided plant identification for the Grand Canyon riparian vegetation monitoring program in the field and the office.

#### **Selected Projects**

Wetland Plant Identification Workshop-White Mountain Apache Tribe, Whiteriver, Arizona (2010): Led a one day workshop on wetland plant identification. Provided hard copies of plant reference materials on common and site-specific wetland plants, taught field characteristics to help identify wetland plants, and conducted on site wetland plant identification workshop to a group of eight tribal members. Client: Natural Channel Design

#### Riparian Vegetation Mapping- Santa Clara Pueblo, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico (2010):

Vegetation mapping of riparian and upland areas in the floodplain of the Rio Grande as it flows through the Santa Clara Pueblo in northern New Mexico. Used aerial photos and Trimble GPS to locate vegetation polygons and 300-foot long transects to support Pueblo and Army Corp of Engineers invasive species eradication and native species restoration efforts. Classified vegetation using Hink and Ohmart, National Wetlands Inventory (NWI), and the Combined Habitat Assessment Protocol (CHAP) protocols developed by P. Ashley. Client: SWCA Inc.

Vegetation Inventory and Rare Plant Identification, Pahranagat National Wildlife Refuge, Lincoln County, Nevada (2010): Provided botanical expertise in identifying common and rare plants including Arctomecon merriamii, Asclepias eastwoodiana, Astragalus amphioxys var. musimonum, Astragalus eurolobus, Astragalus funereus, Astragalus geyeri var. triquetrus, Astragalus gilmanii, Camissonia megalantha, Chrysothamnus eremobius, Cryptantha welshii, Cymopterus ripleyi var. saniculoides, Opuntia pulchella, Penstemon concinnus, Phacelia beatleyae, Phacelia parishii, Porophyllum pygmaeum, Sclerocactus schlesseri, and Spiranthes diluvialis to establish a baseline plant inventory for Refuge managers. Client: SWCA Inc.

Rare Plant Surveys and Vegetation Identification, Amargosa Valley, Nye County, Nevada (2010): Provided botanical expertise in identifying, locating, and documenting rare plants including *Arctomecon merriamii, Eriogonum bifurcatum, Eriogonum contiguum, Penstemon albomarginatus,* and *Penstemon fruticiformis* ssp. *amargosae* on approximately 2,500 acres of public lands proposed for solar power development. Client: Tetra Tech Corporation.

Rare Plant Surveys and Vegetation Identification, San Bernardino County, California (2010): Provided botanical expertise in identifying, locating, and documenting rare plants including Androstephium breviflorum, Astragalus lentiginosus var. borreganus, Calochortus striatus, Castela emoryi, Cryptantha clokeyi, Cryptantha costata, Cryptantha holoptera, Cynanchum utahense, Eriastrum harwoodii, Eriophyllum mohavense, Mentzelia tridentata, Mimulus mohavensis, Muilla coronata, Nemacaulis denudata var. gracilis, Penstemon albomarginatus, Phacelia parishii, and Polygala acanthoclada on 8,000 acres of public lands east of Barstow proposed for solar power development. Client: URS Corporation.

**Sage Grouse Habitat Classification, Carbon County, Wyoming (2009):** Provided botanical expertise in identifying, locating, and classifying sagebrush (*Artemisia*) populations on checkerboard lands proposed for wind turbine construction. Client: Bureau of Land Management.

Rare Plant Surveys; Roan Plateau, Garfield and Rio Blanco Counties, Colorado (2008): Provided botanical expertise in identifying, locating, and documenting rare plant populations including *Arabis fernaldiana* var. *fernaldiana*, *Astragalus detritalis*, *Cryptantha rollinsii*, *Eriogonum ephredroides*, *Gentianella tortusa*, *Gilia stenothyrsa*, *Lesqurella conquesta*, *Lesquerella parviflora*, *Oenothera acutissima*, *Penstemon grahamii*, *Penstemon scariosus* var. *albifluvis*, *Physaria obcordata*, and *Spiranthes divuvialis* on lands proposed for oil and natural gas extraction. Client: Bureau of Land Management.

**Noxious Weed Surveys; Gila County, Arizona (2005):** Provided botanical expertise in identifying, locating, and documenting noxious weed populations during surveys to determine the effects of the Picture and Rodeo-Chedeski fires on vegetation. Client: Tonto National Forest.

Rare Plant Surveys; St George, Washington County, Utah (2003): Conducted surveys for endangered dwarf bearclaw poppy (*Arctomecon humilis*) for a proposed gas pipeline. Client: Bureau of Land Management.

Rare Plant and Noxious Weed Surveys; Lincoln County, New Mexico (2003): Conducted surveys on 14 miles of road right-of-way for endangered Kuenzler's cactus (*Echinocereus fendleri* var. *kuenzleri*) and noxious weed populations; performed wetland delineation for 30 miles of road improvements and widening of US 70. Client: Sierra Blanca Construction.

Sensitive Plant and Wildlife Surveys; Chaves County, New Mexico (2003): Conducted surveys for sensitive plant and wildlife species on three sites in Chaves County. Client: El Paso Natural Gas.

**Sensitive Plant and Wildlife Surveys; Santa Fe County, New Mexico (2003):** Conducted surveys for sensitive plant and species and noxious weed populations in Santa Fe County. Client: City of Santa Fe, Santa Fe County, and Las Campañas Limited Partnership.

**Sensitive Plant and Wildlife Surveys; Bagdad, Yavapai County, Arizona (2003):** Conducted surveys for sensitive plant and wildlife species along a proposed water line near Bagdad. Client: Phelps Dodge Corporation.

Pima Pineapple Cactus Presence/Absence Surveys; Tucson, Pima County, Arizona (2001): Conducted presence/absence surveys for the endangered Pima pineapple cactus (*Coryphantha scheeri* var. *robustispina*) southeast of Tucson. Client: El Paso Global Networks Company.

Pima Pineapple Cactus Presence/Absence Surveys; Tucson, Pima County, Arizona (2001): Conducted presence/absence surveys for endangered Pima pineapple cactus (*Coryphantha scheeri* var. *robustispina*) on airport land in Tucson. Client: Tucson Airport Authority.

**Colorado River Vegetation Mapping; Grand Canyon, Arizona (1999-2007):** Identified and mapped vegetation changes at 60 sites along the Colorado River in Grand Canyon. Client: Northern Arizona University.

Rare Plant and Noxious Weed Surveys; Southern New Mexico, Arizona, and California (2001): Identified rare plants and noxious weeds along roadways within a proposed fiber optic right-of-way from El Paso Texas to Los Angeles, California. Client: EPNG Company.

**Habitat Identification and Mapping; Prescott National Forest, Arizona (2001):** Conducted habitat identification and mapping of rare and sensitive plants (*Heuchera eastwoodiae* and *Lupinus latifolius*) in the Prescott National Forest for a prescribed burn project. Client: Prescott National Forest.

**Colorado River Environmental Surveys; Grand Canyon, Arizona (1998):** Conducted surveys of seeps and springs along the Colorado River within Grand Canyon National Park. Client: Grand Canyon Monitoring and Research Center.

#### **Publications**

Rhodes, S. R. and T.J Ayers. 2010. Two New Taxa of *Scutellaria* Section *Resinosa* (Lamiaceae) from Northern Arizona. The Journal of the Botanical Research Institute of Texas (BRIT).

Rhodes, S. R., J. Beasley, and T.J Ayers. In Press. Vascular Plants of Arizona: Fabaceae, Part I, *Errazurizia, Marina, Parryella,* and *Psorothamnus* 

#### **Professional Affiliations and Committees**

Southwest Vegetation Management Association
Arizona Native Plant Society
Southwest Vegetation Management Association 2006-2008 Board member
American Society of Landscape Architects 2009

Rio Mesa Fall Rare Plant Survey Plant Species List			
Scientific Name	Common Name		
ANGIOSPERMS (	Flowering plants)		
MON	осотѕ		
Liliaceae	Lily Family		
Hesperocallis undulata**	desert lily		
Poaceae	Grass Family		
Aristida adscensionis**	sixweeks three-awn		
Bouteloua barbata**	sixweeks grama		
Pleuraphis rigida	big galleta grass		
Schismus sp.	Mediterranean grass		
EUD	ICOTS		
Amaranthaceae	Amaranth Family		
Tidestromia oblongifolia	Arizona honeysweet		
Asclepiadaceae	Milkweed Family		
Asclepias subulata	rush milkweed		
Funastrum utahense <sup>1</sup>	Utah vine milkweed		
Asteraceae	Sunflower Family		
Ambrosia dumosa	white bur-sage		
Baileya pauciradiata	laxflower		
Dicoria canescens	desert dicoria		
Encelia farinosa	brittlebush		
Encelia frutescens	button brittlebush		
Geraea canescens**	desert-sunflower		
Palafoxia arida	Spanish needle		
Pectis papposa	chinch-weed		
Stephanomeria pauciflora	desert straw		
Boraginaceae	Borage Family		
Cryptantha angustifolia**	Panamint cryptantha		
Cryptantha sp. **	cryptantha		
Tiquilia palmeri	Palmer's coldenia		
Tiquilia plicata	fanleaf crinklemat		
Brassicaceae	Mustard Family		
Brassica tournefortii <sup>2</sup> **	Asian mustard		
Chenopodiaceae	Goosefoot Family		
Salsola tragus ² **	prickly Russian thistle		
Euphorbiaceae	Spurge Family		
Argythamnia californica (Ditaxis serrata var. serrata or			
Ditaxis serrata var. californica)	California ditaxis		
Argythamnia claryana (Ditaxis claryana)	desert silverbush		
Argythamnia neomexicana (Ditaxis neomexicana)	New Mexico silverbush		
Chamaesyce micromera	Sonoran sandmat		
Chamaesyce polycarpa	smallseed sandmat		
Chamaesyce setiloba	Yuma sandmat		
Croton californicus	California croton		
Stillingia spinulosa**	annual toothleaf		
Fabaceae	Legume Family		
Dalea mollis	hairy prairie clover		
Olneya tesota <sup>3</sup>	desert ironwood		
Parkinsonia florida ³	blue palo verde		

Prosopis glandulosa ³	honey mesquite
Prosopis glandulosa var. torreyana	western honey mesquite
Psorothamnus emoryi	dyebush
Krameriaceae	Rhatany Family
Krameria grayi	white rhatany
Loasaceae	Loasa Family
Mentzelia multiflora var. longiloba	Adonis blazing star
Molluginaceae	Carpet-weed Family
Mollugo cerviana	threadstem carpetweed
Nyctaginaceae	Four O'Clock Family
Allionia incarnata	trailing windmills
Boerhavia wrightii	Wright's spiderling
Onagraceae	Evening Primrose Family
Oenothera deltoides**	birdcage evening primrose
Pedaliaceae	Sesame Family
Proboscidea althaeifolia <sup>1</sup>	desert unicorn plant
Plantaginaceae	Plantain Family
Plantago ovata**	desert Indianwheat
Polygonaceae	Buckwheat Family
Chorizanthe brevicornu**	brittle spineflower
Chorizanthe rigida**	spiny-herb
Eriogonum inflatum	desert trumpet
Eriogonum trichopes**	little deserttrumpet
Visaceae	Mistletoe Family
Phoradendron sp.	mistletoe
Zygophyllaceae	Caltrop Family
Kallstroemia californica	California caltrop
Larrea tridentata	creosote bush
<sup>1</sup> denotes sensitive species (Fed, State, or CNPS)	
<sup>2</sup> denotes invasive non-native species	
<sup>3</sup> denotes desert species	
** denotes spring plant skeletons	

Scientific Name	Common Name	Regulatory Status **		
	Reptiles			
Callisaurus draconoides	zebra-tailed lizard	_		
Cnemidophorus tigris	western whiptail	_		
Phrynosoma platyrhinos	desert horned lizard	_		
Uma scoparia	Mojave Fringe-toed lizard	BLM-S, DFG-SSC		
Uta stansburiana	common side blotched lizard	_		
Dipsosaurus dorsalis	desert iguana	_		
Urosaurus graciosus	long-tailed brush lizard	_		
Mammals				
Lepus californicus	black-tailed jackrabbit	-		
Birds				
Buteo jamaicenis	red-tailed hawk	MBTA		
Cathartes aura	turkey vulture	_		
Polioptila caerulea	blue-gray gnatcatcher	_		
Zenaida macroura	mourning dove	_		

Key	Regulatory Status **
FT	Threatened (U.S. Endangered Species Act)
BLM-S	Sensitive (Bureau of Land Management)
BCC	Bird of Conservation Concern (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)
MBTA	Protected (Migratory Bird Treaty Act)
SE	Endangered (California Endangered Species Act)
ST	Threatened (California Endangered Species Act)
DFG-FP	Fully Protected (California Department of Fish and Game)
SSC	Species of Special Concern (California Endangered Species Act)



# BEFORE THE ENERGY RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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#### APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION FOR THE RIO MESA SOLAR ELECTRIC GENERATING FACILITY PROJECT

DOCKET NO. 11-AFC-4 PROOF OF SERVICE (Est. 12/21/11)

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## **DECLARATION OF SERVICE**

Rio Mes Docket I recent P	<u>la Leiba</u> , declare that on, <u>January 11, 2011</u> , I served and filed copies of the attached sa <u>Solar: Fall Botany Report</u> , dated <u>December 2011</u> . The original document, filed with the Unit or the Chief Counsel, as required by the applicable regulation, is accompanied by a copy of the most Proof of Service list, located on the web page for this project at:
	vww.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/riomesa/index.html].
	cument has been sent to the other parties in this proceeding (as shown on the Proof of Service list) and to the ssion's Docket Unit or Chief Counsel, as appropriate, in the following manner:
(Check	all that Apply)
For serv	vice to all other parties:
X	Served electronically to all e-mail addresses on the Proof of Service list;
_X_ AND	Served by delivering on this date, either personally, or for mailing with the U.S. Postal Service with first-class postage thereon fully prepaid, to the name and address of the person served, for mailing that same day in the ordinary course of business; that the envelope was sealed and placed for collection and mailing on that date to those addresses <b>NOT</b> marked "e-mail preferred."
	ng with the Docket Unit at the Energy Commission:
	•
<u>X</u>	by sending an original paper copy and one electronic copy, mailed with the U.S. Postal Service with first class postage thereon fully prepaid and e-mailed respectively, to the address below (preferred method); <b>OR</b>
	by depositing an original and 12 paper copies in the mail with the U.S. Postal Service with first class postage thereon fully prepaid, as follows:
	CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION – DOCKET UNIT Attn: Docket No. 11-AFC-4 1516 Ninth Street, MS-4 Sacramento, CA 95814-5512 docket@energy.state.ca.us
OR, if fi	iling a Petition for Reconsideration of Decision or Order pursuant to Title 20, § 1720:
	Served by delivering on this date one electronic copy by e-mail, and an original paper copy to the Chief Counsel at the following address, either personally, or for mailing with the U.S. Postal Service with first class postage thereon fully prepaid:
	California Energy Commission Michael J. Levy, Chief Counsel 1516 Ninth Street MS-14 Sacramento, CA 95814 mlevy@energy.state.ca.us
	e under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct, that I bloyed in the county where this mailing occurred, and that I am over the age of 18 years and not a party to the ling.