

May 11, 2017

Bruce Baracco, Principal Planner  
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**RE: Biological Evaluation Letter Report  
Broad Meadows Estates Project, City of Sutter Creek, CA**

Dear Mr. Baracco,

At your request, ESR, Inc. (ESR) has prepared this letter report to provide the results of the reconnaissance level biological evaluation for the completion of the Broad Meadows Estates single family residential units. The project owners (Mr. David Mabrey and Mr. Frank Trujillo) have proposed completing the next phase of the existing Golden Hills Subdivision. The 10 parcels (averaging approximately 11,290 ft<sup>2</sup>) that were assessed are currently developed with the graded pad sites, easements, and infrastructure (curbs, gutters, storm drains, electrical, water conveyance, etc.) already in place.

It is our understanding, following site visits on October 12, 2017, January 18-19, 2018, February 9, 2018, February 22, 2018, March 1, 2018 and April 22, 2018, including a subsequent meeting at your offices, that the project location lays within the limits of the City of Sutter Creek and that the City of Sutter Creek requested this letter report to complete the environmental documentation for this project. The information requested by the city from a qualified biological professional is to provide data regarding the environmental condition of the already developed project site in order to complete the project.

The results of our assessment indicate that the site is a developed site and the completion of the development would not hinder or impact any sensitive species or habitat. There were no impacts that were identified that would need the implementation of mitigation measures to reduce the impacts to less than significant.

## **ESR, Inc.**

The letter report includes a description of the site; the habitat located on the site with a habitat map; listings of the species identified within a nine USGS 7.5 minute quadrangle; a discussion of the impacts of the proposed development; and, suggested mitigation measures to reduce the impacts to “less than significant”, if needed. No potentially significant impacts are anticipated at this time.

ESR's site and database search assessments coupled with this subsequent letter should provide the information to evaluate the biological resources at the site. The assessment was based on a series of site visits and a background review of the project location habitat and species by accessing various databases, which included the California Department of Fish and Wildlife California Natural Diversity Database, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Information, Planning, and Conservation System (IPaC) lists; California Native Plant Society Rare and Threatened Species Lists, National Wetlands Inventory; and Natural Resources Soil Inventory, etc. to evaluate potential biological concerns.

ESR has completed a review of the data provided in these documents and the results of those studies corroborate the information acquired from the site visits. The site did not exhibit any habitat that would be utilized by any of the special status species due primarily to the advanced state of development at the location and the surrounding residential units. ESR, Inc. is not proposing to conduct any further protocol or reconnaissance level surveys for sensitive species. The closest species listing (Wedge prairie grass) is approximately 2 miles south of the project location and in a different watershed.

The site exhibits no wetlands, open water, seasonal or ephemeral drainages, vernal pools, or any other feature that would meet any criteria as jurisdictional under the Clean Water Act; therefore, no wetland assessments was needed or conducted.

As previously stated, the site has been completely developed with the graded pad sites, easements, and infrastructure (curbs, gutters, storm drains, electrical, water conveyance, etc.) already in place. The areas that are not barren have been inhabited by ruderal weed species of which none are special status species. There are a few areas that have been overtaken by noxious weeds such as thistle and medusa grass. Further development of the site should reduce these noxious weed outbreaks.

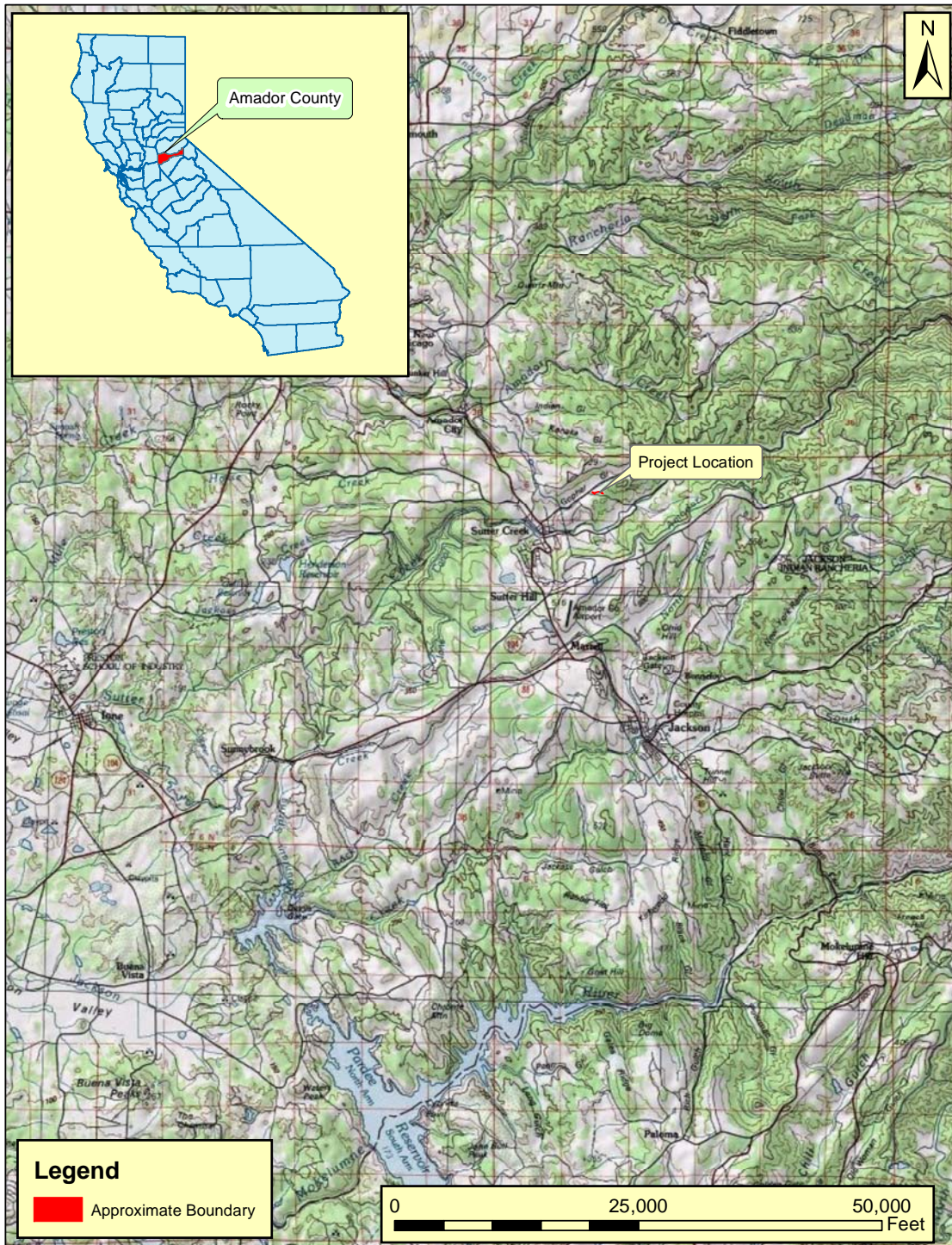


Figure 1 - Broad Meadows Vicinity Map



Figure 2 - Broad Meadows Aerial Site Map



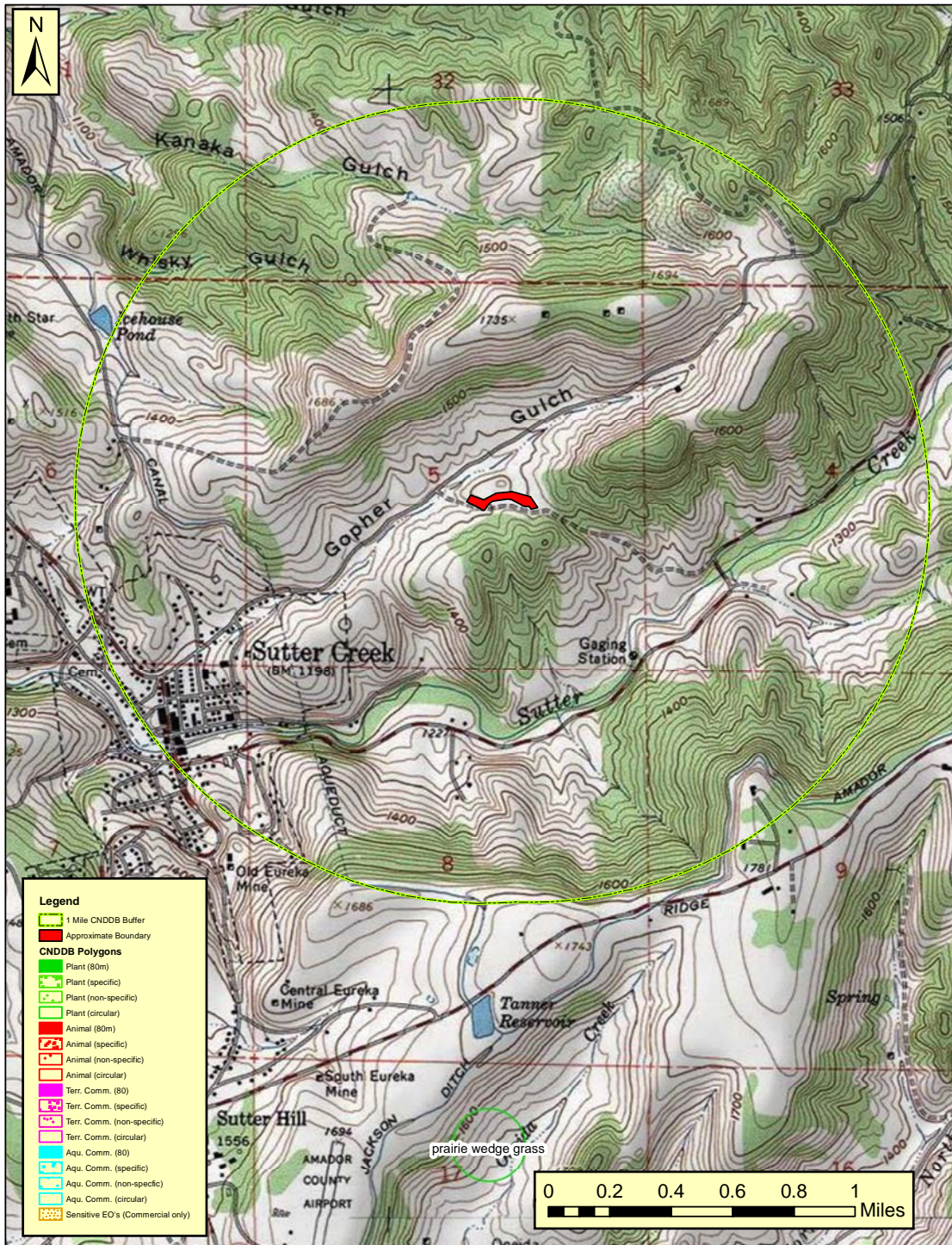


Figure 4 - Broad Meadows Nine Quadrangle CNDDB Search

Table 1 - Special Status Species Summary, May 2018

Scientific Name	Common Name	Taxon Group	Federal List	State List	CNPS Rank	Other Status	Habitats	General Habitat	Micro Habitat	Comments
<i>Agelaius tricolor</i>	Tricolored blackbird	Birds	None	Candidate Endangered		BLM_S-Sensitive   CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern   IUCN_EN-Endangered   NABCI_RWL-Red Watch List   USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	Freshwater marsh   Marsh & swamp   Swamp   Wetland	Highly colonial species, most numerous in Central Valley & vicinity. Largely endemic to California.	Requires open water, protected nesting substrate, and foraging area with insect prey within a few km of the colony.	No suitable habitat located on site. Likelihood of presence is considered low. No species located during site surveys.
<i>Ambystoma californiense</i>	California tiger salamander	Amphibians	Threatened	Threatened		CDFW_WL-Watch List   IUCN_VU-Vulnerable	Cismontane woodland   Meadow & seep   Riparian woodland   Valley & foothill grassland   Vernal pool   Wetland	Central Valley DPS federally listed as threatened. Santa Barbara and Sonoma counties DPS federally listed as endangered.	Need underground refuges, especially ground squirrel burrows, and vernal pools or other seasonal water sources for breeding.	No suitable breeding or aestivation habitat located on site. Likelihood of presence is considered low. No species located during site surveys.
<i>Antrozous pallidus</i>	Pallid bat	Mammals	None	None		BLM_S-Sensitive   CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern   IUCN_LC-Least Concern   USFS_S-Sensitive   WBWG_H-High Priority	Chaparral   Coastal scrub   Desert wash   Great Basin grassland   Great Basin scrub   Mojavean desert scrub   Riparian woodland   Sonoran desert scrub   Upper montane coniferous forest   Valley & foothill grassland	Deserts, grasslands, shrublands, woodlands and forests. Most common in open, dry habitats with rocky areas for roosting.	Roosts must protect bats from high temperatures. Very sensitive to disturbance of roosting sites.	No suitable roosting habitat located on site. Likelihood of presence is considered low. No species located during site surveys.
<i>Arctostaphylos myrtifolia</i>	lone manzanita	Dicots	Threatened	None	1B.2		Chaparral   Cismontane woodland   Lone formation	Chaparral, cismontane woodland.	On lone clay with chaparral associates. Often comprises 50-80% cover. 90-560 m.	No suitable habitat located on site. Likelihood of presence is considered low. No species located during site surveys.

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Scientific Name	Common Name	Taxon Group	Federal List	State List	CNPS Rank	Other Status	Habitats	General Habitat	Micro Habitat	Comments
<i>Ardea herodias</i>	Great blue heron	Birds	None	None		CDF_S-Sensitive   IUCN_LC-Least Concern	Brackish marsh   Estuary   Freshwater marsh   Marsh & swamp   Riparian forest   Wetland	Colonial nester in tall trees, cliffsides, and sequestered spots on marshes.	Rookery sites in close proximity to foraging areas: marshes, lake margins, tide-flats, rivers and streams, wet meadows.	No suitable breeding habitat located on site. Likelihood of presence is considered low. No species located during site surveys.
<i>Balsamorhiza macrolepis</i>	Big-scale balsamroot	Dicots	None	None	1B.2	BLM_S-Sensitive   USFS_S-Sensitive	Chaparral   Cismontane woodland   Ultramafic   Valley & foothill grassland	Chaparral, valley and foothill grassland, cismontane woodland.	Sometimes on serpentine. 35-1465 m.	No suitable habitat located on site. Likelihood of presence is considered low. No species located during site surveys.
<i>Banksula rudolphi</i>	Rudolph's cave harvestman	Arachnids	None	None			Limestone	Known only from the type locality, Chrome Cave, Pardee Reservoir, Amador County.	Species is troglitic.	No suitable habitat located on site. Likelihood of presence is considered low. No species located during site surveys.
<i>Central Valley Drainage Hardhead/Squawfish Stream</i>	Central Valley Drainage Hardhead/Squawfish Stream	Inland Waters	None	None						No aquatic habitat located on site. Likelihood of presence is considered low. No species located during site surveys.
<i>Chlorogalum grandiflorum</i>	Red Hills soaproot	Monocots	None	None	1B.2	BLM_S-Sensitive	Chaparral   Cismontane woodland   Lower montane coniferous forest   Ultramafic	Cismontane woodland, chaparral, lower montane coniferous forest.	Occurs frequently on serpentine or gabbro, but also on non-ultramafic substrates; often on "historically disturbed" sites. 265-1695 m.	No suitable habitat located on site. Likelihood of presence is considered low. No species located during site surveys.

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Scientific Name	Common Name	Taxon Group	Federal List	State List	CNPS Rank	Other Status	Habitats	General Habitat	Micro Habitat	Comments
<i>Chrysis tularensis</i>	Tulare cuckoo wasp	Insects	None	None						Likelihood of presence is considered low. No species located during site surveys.
<i>Clarkia biloba ssp. brandegeae</i>	Brandegee's clarkia	Dicots	None	None	4.2	BLM_S-Sensitive	Chaparral   Cismontane woodland   Lower montane coniferous forest	Chaparrals, cismontane woodland, lower montane coniferous forest.	Often in road cuts. 75-915 m.	No suitable habitat located on site. Likelihood of presence is considered low. No species located during site surveys.
<i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i>	Townsend's big-eared bat	Mammals	None	None		BLM_S-Sensitive   CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern   IUCN_LC-Least Concern   USFS_S-Sensitive   WBWG_H-High Priority	Broadleaved upland forest   Chaparral   Chenopod scrub   Great Basin grassland   Great Basin scrub   Joshua tree woodland   Lower montane coniferous forest   Meadow & seep   Mojavean desert scrub   Riparian forest   Riparian woodland   Sonoran desert scrub	Throughout California in a wide variety of habitats. Most common in mesic sites.	Roosts in the open, hanging from walls and ceilings. Roosting sites limiting. Extremely sensitive to human disturbance.	No suitable roosting habitat located on site. Likelihood of presence is considered low. No species located during site surveys.
<i>Crocانthemum suffrutescens</i>	Bisbee Peak rush-rose	Dicots	None	None	3.2		Chaparral   lone formation   Ultramafic	Chaparral.	Often on serpentine, gabbroic, or lone formation soils; in openings in chaparral. 45-840 m.	No suitable habitat located on site. Likelihood of presence is considered low. No species located during site surveys.

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Scientific Name	Common Name	Taxon Group	Federal List	State List	CNPS Rank	Other Status	Habitats	General Habitat	Micro Habitat	Comments
<i>Desmocerus californicus dimorphus</i>	valley elderberry longhorn beetle	Insects	Threatened	None			Riparian scrub	Occurs only in the Central Valley of California, in association with blue elderberry ( <i>Sambucus mexicana</i> ).	Prefers to lay eggs in elderberries 2-8 inches in diameter; some preference shown for "stressed" elderberries.	No Elderberry plants located on site. Likelihood of presence is considered low. No species located during site surveys.
<i>Emys marmorata</i>	Western pond turtle	Reptiles	None	None		BLM_S-Sensitive   CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern   IUCN_VU-Vulnerable   USFS_S-Sensitive	Aquatic   Artificial flowing waters   Klamath/North coast flowing waters   Klamath/North coast standing waters   Marsh & swamp   Sacramento/San Joaquin flowing waters   Sacramento/San Joaquin standing waters   South coast flowing waters	A thoroughly aquatic turtle of ponds, marshes, rivers, streams and irrigation ditches, usually with aquatic vegetation, below 6000 ft elevation.	Needs basking sites and suitable (sandy banks or grassy open fields) upland habitat up to 0.5 km from water for egg-laying.	No suitable aquatic habitat located on site. Likelihood of presence is considered low. No species located during site surveys.
<i>Erethizon dorsatum</i>	North American porcupine	Mammals	None	None		IUCN_LC-Least Concern	Broadleaved upland forest   Cismontane woodland   Closed-cone coniferous forest   Lower montane coniferous forest   North coast coniferous forest   Upper montane coniferous forest	Forested habitats in the Sierra Nevada, Cascade, and Coast ranges, with scattered observations from forested areas in the Transverse Ranges.	Wide variety of coniferous and mixed woodland habitat.	No suitable habitat located on site. Likelihood of presence is considered low. No species located during site surveys.
<i>Eriogonum apricum</i> var. <i>apricum</i>	lone buckwheat	Dicots	Endangered	Endangered	1B.1	SB_UCBBG-UC Berkeley Botanical Garden	Chaparral   lone formation	Chaparral.	In gravelly openings on lone formation soil. 85-150 m.	No suitable habitat located on site. Likelihood of presence is considered low. No species located during site surveys.

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Scientific Name	Common Name	Taxon Group	Federal List	State List	CNPS Rank	Other Status	Habitats	General Habitat	Micro Habitat	Comments
<i>Eriogonum apricum</i> <i>var. prostratum</i>	Irish Hill buckwheat	Dicots	Endangered	Endangered	1B.1		Chaparral   lone formation	Chaparral.	Gravelly openings on lone formation soils. 90-100 m.	No suitable habitat located on site. Likelihood of presence is considered low. No species located during site surveys.
<i>Eryngium pinnatisectum</i>	Tuolumne button-celery	Dicots	None	None	1B.2		Cismontane woodland   Lower montane coniferous forest   Vernal pool   Wetland	Vernal pools, cismontane woodland, lower montane coniferous forest.	Volcanic soils; vernal pools and mesic sites within other natural communities. 70-915 m.	No suitable habitat located on site. Likelihood of presence is considered low. No species located during site surveys.
<i>Erythranthe marmorata</i>	Stanislaus monkeyflower	Dicots	None	None	1B.1		Cismontane woodland   Lower montane coniferous forest	Cismontane woodland, lower montane coniferous forest.	300-1435 m.	No suitable habitat located on site. Likelihood of presence is considered low. No species located during site surveys.
<i>Horkelia parryi</i>	Parry's horkelia	Dicots	None	None	1B.2	BLM_S-Sensitive   USFS_S-Sensitive	Chaparral   Cismontane woodland   lone formation	Chaparral, cismontane woodland.	Openings in chaparral or woodland; especially known from the lone formation in Amador County. 85-1115 m.	No suitable habitat located on site. Likelihood of presence is considered low. No species located during site surveys.
<i>Hydroporus leechi</i>	Leech's skyline diving beetle	Insects	None	None			Aquatic	Aquatic.		No aquatic habitat located on site. Likelihood of presence is considered low. No species located during site surveys.

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Scientific Name	Common Name	Taxon Group	Federal List	State List	CNPS Rank	Other Status	Habitats	General Habitat	Micro Habitat	Comments
<i>Ione Chaparral</i>	Ione Chaparral	Scrub	None	None			Chaparral			No suitable habitat located on site. Likelihood of presence is considered low. No species located during site surveys.
<i>Navarretia myersii</i> <i>ssp. myersii</i>	Pincushion navarretia	Dicots	None	None	1B.1		Vernal pool   Wetland	Vernal pools.	Clay soils within non-native grassland. 45-100 m.	No wetland or vernal pool habitat located on site. Likelihood of presence is considered low. No species located during site surveys.
<i>Rana boylei</i>	Foothill yellow-legged frog	Amphibians	None	Candidate Threatened		BLM_S-Sensitive   CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern   IUCN_NT-Near Threatened   USFS_S-Sensitive	Aquatic   Chaparral   Cismontane woodland   Coastal scrub   Klamath/North coast flowing waters   Lower montane coniferous forest   Meadow & seep   Riparian forest   Riparian woodland   Sacramento/San Joaquin flowing waters	Partly-shaded, shallow streams and riffles with a rocky substrate in a variety of habitats.	Needs at least some cobble-sized substrate for egg-laying. Needs at least 15 weeks to attain metamorphosis.	No suitable breeding or aestivation or aquatic habitat located on site. Likelihood of presence is considered low. No species located during site surveys.

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Scientific Name	Common Name	Taxon Group	Federal List	State List	CNPS Rank	Other Status	Habitats	General Habitat	Micro Habitat	Comments
<i>Rana draytonii</i>	California red-legged frog	Amphibians	Threatened	None		CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern   IUCN_VU-Vulnerable	Aquatic   Artificial flowing waters   Artificial standing waters   Freshwater marsh   Marsh & swamp   Riparian forest   Riparian scrub   Riparian woodland   Sacramento/San Joaquin flowing waters   Sacramento/San Joaquin standing waters   South coast flow	Lowlands and foothills in or near permanent sources of deep water with dense, shrubby or emergent riparian vegetation.	Requires 11-20 weeks of permanent water for larval development. Must have access to aestivation habitat.	No suitable breeding or aestivation habitat located on site. Likelihood of presence is considered low. No species located during site surveys.
<i>Sphenopholis obtusata</i>	Prairie wedge grass	Monocots	None	None	2B.2		Cismontane woodland   Meadow & seep   Wetland	Cismontane woodland, meadows and seeps.	Open moist sites, along rivers and springs, alkaline desert seeps. 15-2625 m.	No suitable habitat located on site. Likelihood of presence is considered low. No species located during site surveys. Nearest sighting ~2 miles south.
<i>Strix nebulosa</i>	Great gray owl	Birds	None	Endangered		CDF_S-Sensitive   IUCN_LC-Least Concern   USFS_S-Sensitive	Lower montane coniferous forest   Old growth   Subalpine coniferous forest   Upper montane coniferous forest	Resident of mixed conifer or red fir forest habitat, in or on edge of meadows.	Requires large diameter snags in a forest with high canopy closure, which provide a cool sub-canopy microclimate.	No suitable habitat located on site. Likelihood of presence is considered low. No species located during site surveys.
<i>Stygobromus gradyi</i>	Grady's Cave amphipod	Crustaceans	None	None		IUCN_VU-Vulnerable	Limestone	Known only from Central California.	Known only from springs and caves in the Mother Lode karst region.	No suitable habitat located on site. Likelihood of presence is considered low. No species located during site surveys.



Figure 5 - Broad Meadows Habitat Map

**ESR, Inc.**

ESR appreciates the opportunity to provide this letter report for the completion of the Broad Meadows Estates project. If there are questions, or clarification concerning this letter report, please do not hesitate to contact ESR at (559) 683-5335 or (559) 760-0468.

Sincerely,

**ESR, Inc.**

*William Stolp*

William Stolp  
VP/Senior Biologist