

Table 2. Species Considered as Focal Species for the East Alameda Conservation Strategy

Species	Status ^a		Criteria ^b				Recommended Focal Species ^c	Notes
	State/ CNPS	Federal	Range	Status	Threat	Data		
Invertebrates								
Longhorn fairy shrimp <i>Branchinecta longiantenna</i>	—	FE	Y	Y	Y?	Y?	Y	Population in Brushy Peak Preserve in Livermore and adjacent private land
Vernal pool fairy shrimp <i>Branchinecta lynchi</i>	—	FT	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Occurrence information not well documented for study area. Three CNDDDB (2008) records in study area, presumed extant. Vernal pools in Springtown Alkali Sink support the species.
Amphibians								
California tiger salamander <i>Ambystoma californiense</i>	CSC	FT	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Occurrences of species in study area; mitigation typically required under CEQA and ESA
California red-legged frog <i>Rana aurora draytonii</i>	CSC	FT	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Occurrences of species in study area; mitigation typically required under CEQA and ESA
Reptiles								
Alameda whipsnake <i>Masticophis lateralis euryxanthus</i>	ST	FT	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Occurrences of species in study area; mitigation typically required under CESA and ESA
Birds								
Golden eagle <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	CSC	BGPA, MBTA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Eastern Alameda county is important source population for region
Tricolored blackbird <i>Agelaius tricolor</i>	CSC	MBTA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Number of breeding colonies is in decline; could become federally or state listed; developing conservation for the species is difficult due to the ephemeral nature of breeding colonies. Species would benefit from wetland restoration in the study area
Western burrowing owl <i>Athene cunicularia hypugea</i>	CSC	MBTA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Species is in decline throughout Bay Area; may become state listed; mitigation typically required under CEQA

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Mammals								
American badger <i>Taxidea taxus</i>	CSC	—	Y	Y	Y	Y?	Y	As more is learned about the species it could become state listed. Species could be a candidate for guiding conservation of movement corridors in grassland ecosystems.
San Joaquin kit fox <i>Vulpes macrotis mutica</i>	ST	FE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	The Altamont Hills provide extensive breeding habitat and a critical linkage in the northern part of species' range
Plants								
<i>Atriplex joaquiniana</i> San Joaquin spearscale	1B.2	—	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Covered in the East Contra Costa County HCP/NCCP
<i>Blepharizonia plumosa</i> big tarplant	1B.1	—	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Not expected to become listed in near future; road maintenance threatens some occurrences; covered in the East Contra Costa County HCP/NCCP
<i>Centromadia parryi</i> ssp. <i>congdonii</i> Congdon's tarplant	1B.2	—	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Populations concentrated in areas subject to possible future development
<i>Cordylanthus palmatus</i> Palmate-bracted bird's-beak	SE/1B.1	FE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Only occurrence in study area in Springtown Wetlands Preserve; threats from potential changes in local hydrology and from recreational uses
<i>Deinandra bacigalupii</i> Livermore Valley tarplant	1B.1	—	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Very rare within study area; high potential for impacts on populations
<i>Delphinium recurvatum</i> recurved larkspur	1B.2	—	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	One occurrence in study area; covered in the East Contra Costa County HCP/NCCP

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Notes								
a. Status			b. Criteria					
<p>State Status</p> <p>FP Fully Protected</p> <p>SE State listed as endangered</p> <p>ST State listed as threatened</p> <p>SR State listed as rare (plants only)</p> <p>CSC California special concern species (July 2005 list)</p> <p>Federal Status</p> <p>BGPA Bald Eagle and Golden Eagle Protection Act</p> <p>MBTA Migratory Bird Treaty Act</p> <p>FE Federally endangered</p> <p>FT Federally threatened</p> <p>California Native Plant Society Ranking</p> <p>1B Rare or endangered in California and elsewhere</p> <p>Native Plant Threat Rankings</p> <p>.1 Seriously threatened in California (high degree/immediacy of threat)</p> <p>.2 Fairly threatened in California (moderate degree/immediacy of threat)</p>			<p>Range: The species is known to occur or is likely to occur within the Conservation Strategy study area, based on credible evidence, or the species is not currently known in the study area but is expected in the study area in the foreseeable future (e.g., through range expansion or reintroduction to historic range).</p> <p>Status: The species is either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ listed under the federal ESA as threatened or endangered, or proposed for listing; ▪ listed under CESA as threatened or endangered or a candidate for such listing, or listed under the Native Plant Protection Act as rare; or ▪ expected to be listed under ESA or CESA within the permit term. Potential for listing during the permit term is based on current listing status, consultation with experts and Wildlife Agency staff, evaluation of species population trends and threats, and best professional judgment. <p>Impact: The species or its habitat would be adversely affected by project related activities in Alameda County.</p> <p>Data: Sufficient data exist on the species' life history, habitat requirements, and occurrence in the study area to adequately evaluate impacts on the species and to develop conservation measures to mitigate these impacts to levels specified by regulatory standards.</p> <p>Species proposed as focal species were limited to those species for which impacts from project in the county were likely, or for which mitigation is often required under CEQA or ESA. However, many other special-status species are expected to benefit from the Conservation Strategy.</p>					
			c. Recommended Status					
			<p>Y recommended as a focal species for East Alameda County Conservation Strategy</p> <p>N not recommended as focal species for East Alameda County Conservation Strategy</p>					