Appendix E Refuge Plant Species List

Plant Species (as per Jepson 2012)	Common Name (* = introduced; ** = invasive)	Family	Fed Status	State Status	CNPS Status	Notes
Sambucus nigra subsp. caerulea	blue elderberry	Adoxaceae				formerly Sambucus mexicana
Amaranthus deflexus	amaranth*	Amaranthaceae				
Toxicodendron diversilobum	western poison oak	Anacardiaceae				
Apiastrum angustifolium	wild celery	Apiaceae				
Apium graveolens	celery*	Apiaceae				
Berula erecta	cutleaf water parsnip	Apiaceae				
Conium maculatum	poison hemlock*	Apiaceae				
Foeniculum vulgare	fennel*	Apiaceae				
Oenanthe sarmentosa	marsh parsley	Apiaceae				
Lemna sp.	duckweed	Araceae				
Wolffiella lingulata	mud-midget	Araceae				
Hydrocotyle ranunculoides	marsh pennywort	Araliaceae				
Hydrocotyle verticillata	marsh pennywort	Araliaceae				
Achillea millefolium	yarrow	Asteraceae				
Ambrosia chamissonis	beach-bur	Asteraceae				
Ambrosia psilostachya	western ragweed	Asteraceae				
Artemisia californica	California sagebrush	Asteraceae				
Artemisia douglasiana	mugwort	Asteraceae				
Artemisia dracunculus	tarragon	Asteraceae				
Aster chilensis	aster	Asteraceae				
Baccharis glutinosa	marsh baccharis	Asteraceae				formerly B.

Plant Species (as per Jepson 2012)	Common Name (* = introduced; ** = invasive)	Family	Fed Status	State Status	CNPS Status	Notes
						douglasii
Baccharis pilularis	coyote bush	Asteraceae				
Cirsium brevistylum	thistle	Asteraceae				
Cirsium occidentale var. occidentale	cobweb thistle	Asteraceae				
Cirsium rhothophilum	surf thistle	Asteraceae		Т	1B.2	
Cirsium scariosum var. loncholepis	La Graciosa thistle	Asteraceae	E	Т	1B.1	formerly Cirsium Ioncholepis
Cirsium vulgare	bull thistle*	Asteraceae				
Conyza canadensis	horseweed	Asteraceae				
Corethrogyne filaginifolia	California aster	Asteraceae				Jepson 2012 does not include Lessingia filaginifolia var. filaginifolia
Cotula coronopifolia	brass buttons*	Asteraceae				
Ericameria ericoides	mock heather	Asteraceae				
Erigeron blochmaniae	Blochman's leafy daisy	Asteraceae			1B.2	
Eriophyllum confertiflorum	golden yarrow	Asteraceae				
Eriophyllum staechadifolium	coastal golden yarrow	Asteraceae				
Euthamia occidentalis	western goldenrod	Asteraceae				
Gnaphalium canescens	everlasting	Asteraceae				
Helminotheca echioides	bristly ox-tongue*	Asteraceae				formerly Picris echioides

Plant Species (as per Jepson 2012)	Common Name (* = introduced; ** = invasive)	Family	Fed Status	State Status	CNPS Status	Notes
Heterotheca grandiflora	telegraph weed	Asteraceae				
Isocoma menziesii var. vernonioides	coastal goldenbush	Asteraceae				
Jaumea carnosa	jaumea	Asteraceae				only known on refuge from Myrtle wetland
Leptosyne gigantea	giant coreopsis, giant tickseed	Asteraceae				formerly (<i>Coreopsis</i> gigantea)
Madia gracilis	gumweed	Asteraceae				Sparganium Pond, west side of shoreline
Malacothrix californica	California dandelion	Asteraceae				
Malacothrix incana	dunedelion	Asteraceae			4.3	
Matricaria doscoidea	pineapple weed*	Asteraceae				formerly Chamomilla suaveolens
Pseudogaphalium californicum	California everlasting	Asteraceae				formerly Gnaphalium californicum
Pseudognaphalium biolettii	bicolored everlasting	Asteraceae				formerly Gnaphalium bicolor
Senecio blochmaniae	Blochman's ragwort	Asteraceae			4.2	
Senecio californicus	California ragwort	Asteraceae				
Senecio elegans	red-purple ragwort**	Asteraceae				
Silybum marianum	milk thistle*	Asteraceae				
Solidago velutina subsp. californica	California goldenrod	Asteraceae				formerly Solidago

Plant Species (as per Jepson 2012)	Common Name (* = introduced; ** = invasive)	Family	Fed Status	State Status	CNPS Status	Notes
						californica
Sonchus asper subsp. asper	prickly sow thistle*	Asteraceae				
Sonchus oleraceus	common sow thistle*	Asteraceae				
Stephanomeria elata	wire lettuce	Asteraceae				
Xanthium spinosum	spiny cocklebur	Asteraceae				
Xanthium strumarium	cocklebur	Asteraceae				
Carpobrotus chilensis	ice-plant/ sea fig**	Azioaceae				
Carpobrotus edulis	freeeway ice-plant**	Azioaceae				
Conicosia pugioniformis	narrowleaf ice-plant**	Azioaceae				
Azolla filiculoides	mosquito fern	Azollaceae				
Amsinckia spectabilis	fiddleneck	Boraginaceae				
Cryptantha leiocarpa	beach cryptantha	Boraginaceae				
Heliotropium curassavicum var. oculatum	seaside heliotrope	Boraginaceae				formerly Heliotropium curassavicum
Phacelia distans	common phacelia	Boraginaceae				
Phacelia douglasii	phacelia	Boraginaceae				
Phacelia ramosissima	branching phacelia	Boraginaceae				
Pholisma arenarium	pholisma / sand food	Boraginaceae				
Brassica nigra	black mustard*	Brassicaceae				
Cakile maritima	sea rocket*	Brassicaceae				
Dithyrea maritima	beach spectaclepod	Brassicaceae		Т	1B.1	

Plant Species (as per Jepson 2012)	Common Name (* = introduced; ** = invasive)	Family	Fed Status	State Status	CNPS Status	Notes
Erysimum suffrutescens	suffrutescent wallflower	Brassicaceae			4.2	formerly Erysimum insulare subsp. suffrutescens
Lepidium draba	heart-podded hoary cress**	Brassicaceae				formerly in genus Cardaria
Lepidium lasiocarpum subsp. lasiocarpum	peppercress	Brassicaceae				
Nasturtium gambelii	Gambel's watercress	Brassicaceae	E	Т	1B.1	
Lonicera involucrata var. ledebourii	twinberry	Caprifoliaceae				
Arenaria paludicola	marsh sandwort	Carophyllaceae	E	E	1B.1	
Cardionema ramosissimum	sand mat	Carophyllaceae				
Silene laciniata subsp. laciniata	Mexican pink	Carophyllaceae				formerly Silene laciniata subsp. major
Atriplex californica	coastal saltbush	Chenopodiaceae				
Atriplex leucophylla	beach saltbush	Chenopodiaceae				
Atriplex patula	spear oracle	Chenopodiaceae				
Atriplex prostratus	spearscale*	Chenopodiaceae				formerly A. triangularis
Chenopodium californicum	California goosefoot	Chenopodiaceae				
Chenopodium littoreum	coastal goosefoot	Chenopodiaceae			1B.2	Previously known as Chenopodium carnosulum Moq. var. patagonicum
Salsola australis	Russian thistle*	Chenopodiaceae				iSalsola tragus

Plant Species (as per Jepson 2012)	Common Name (* = introduced; ** = invasive)	Family	Fed Status	State Status	CNPS Status	Notes
Calystegia soldanella	dune morning-glory	Convolvulaceae				
Convolvulus arvensis	bindweed*	Convolvulaceae				
Cuscuta californica	chaparral dodder	Convolvulaceae				
Dudleya lanceolata	lance-leaved dudleya	Crassulaceae				
Dudleya pulverulenta	chalk dudleya	Crassulaceae				
Carex praegracilis	clustered field sedge	Cyperaceae				
Carex sp.	sedge, unid.	Cyperaceae				Only found at one location - Carex bog in NE section of Refuge
Cyperus eragrostis	nutsedge*	Cyperaceae				
Eleocharis macrostachya	common spikerush	Cyperaceae				
Scirpus microcarpus	small-headed bulrush	Cyperaceae				
Dryopteris arguta	wood fern	Dryopteridaceae				
Equisetum hyemale subsp. affine	common souring rush	Equisetaceae				
Equisetum laevigatum	smooth scouring rush	Equisetaceae				
Croton californicus	California croton	Euphorbiaceae				
Acmispon glaber	deerweed	Fabaceae				formerly <i>Lotus</i> scoparius
Acmispon heermannii	woolly deerweed	Fabaceae				formerly <i>Lotus</i> heermannii
Acmispon prostratus	Nuttall's acmispon	Fabaceae				formerly <i>Lotus</i> nuttallianus
Astragalus nuttallii var. nuttallii	ocean bluff milkvetch,	Fabaceae			4.2	

Plant Species (as per Jepson 2012)	Common Name (* = introduced; ** = invasive)	Family	Fed Status	State Status	CNPS Status	Notes
	locoweed					
Lupinus arboreus	yellow bush lupine	Fabaceae				
Lupinus bicolor	miniature lupine	Fabaceae				
Lupinus chamissonis	silver bush lupine	Fabaceae				
Melilotus albus	white sweet clover*	Fabaceae				formerly <i>Melilotus</i> alba
Melilotus indicus	sour clover*	Fabaceae				formerly <i>Melilotus</i> indica
Trifolium repens	white clover*	Fabaceae				
Erodium cicutarium	red-stemmed filaree*	Geraniaceae				
Geranium dissectum	cut-leaved geranium*?	Geraniaceae				
Ribes divaricatum var. pubiflorum	straggly gooseberry	Grossulariaceae				
Ribes sanguineum	red flowering currant	Grossulariaceae				
Phacelia ramosissima	shrubby phacelia	Hydrophyllaceae				
Juncus bufonius	toad rush	Juncaceae				
Juncus effusus	bog rush	Juncaceae				
Juncus lesueurii	creeping rush	Juncaceae				
Marrubium vulgare	horehound*	Lamiaceae				
Mentha sp.	mint*	Lamiaceae				
Monardella undulata subsp. crispa	crisp monardella	Lamiaceae			1B.2	formerly <i>Monardella crispa</i>
Monardella undulata subsp. undulata	San Luis Obispo monardella	Lamiaceae			1B.2	formerly Monardella

Plant Species (as per Jepson 2012)	Common Name (* = introduced; ** = invasive)	Family	Fed Status	State Status	CNPS Status	Notes
						frutescens
Salvia mellifera	black sage	Lamiaceae				
Lemna sp.	duckweed	Lemnaceae				
Dichelostemma capitatum	blue dicks	Liliaceae				
Malva parviflora	cheeseweed*	Malvaceae				
Malva sylvestris	high mallow*	Malvaceae				
Claytonia perfoliata	miner's lettuce	Montiaceae				
Morela californica	wax myrtle	Myricaceae				formerly Myrica californica
Abronia latifolia	yellow sand verbena	Nyctaginaceae				
Abronia maritima	beach sand verbena	Nyctaginaceae			4.2	
Abronia umbellata	purple sand verbena	Nyctaginaceae				
Camissoniopsis cheiranthifolia	beach evening-primrose	Onagraceae				formerly in genus Cammissonia
Epilobium ciliatum	willow-herb	Onagraceae				
Oenothera elata subsp. hookeri	Hooker's evening primrose	Onagraceae				
Castilleja affinis	Indian paintbrush	Orobanchaceae				
Castilleja exserta	owl's clover	Orobanchaceae				
Orobanche parishii subsp. brachyloba	short-lobed broom-rape	Orobanchaceae			4.2	
Oxalis pes-caprae	Bermuda buttercup*	Oxalidaceae				
Eschscholzia californica	California poppy	Papaveraceae				
Hesperomecon linearis	carnival poppy	Papaveraceae				formerly Meconella linearis

Plant Species (as per Jepson 2012)	Common Name (* = introduced; ** = invasive)	Family	Fed Status	State Status	CNPS Status	Notes
Mimulus guttatus	monkeyflower	Phrymaceae				
Plantago erecta	annual plantain	Plantaginaceae				
Plantago major	common plantain*	Plantaginaceae				
Plantago subnuda	plantain	Plantaginaceae				
Ammophila arenaria	European beachgrass**	Poaceae				
Avena barbata	slender wild oats*	Poaceae				
Avena fatua	common wild oats*	Poaceae				
Bromus diandrus	ripgut brome*	Poaceae				
Bromus hordeaceus	soft-chess brome*	Poaceae				
Bromus madritensis ssp. rubens	red brome**	Poaceae				
Cortaderia jubata	jubata grass**	Poaceae				
Cynodon dactylon	Bermuda grass*	Poaceae				
Distichlis spicata	saltgrass	Poaceae				
Ehrharta calycina	perennial veldt grass**	Poaceae				
Elymus condensatus	giant wild-rye	Poaceae				formerly <i>Leymus</i> condensatus
Elymus glaucus	blue wildrye	Poaceae				
Hordeum marinum	Mediterranean barley*	Poaceae				
Pennisetum clandestinum	kikuyu grass*	Poaceae				
Poa annua	annual bluegrass*	Poaceae				
Polypogon monspeliensis	rabbitfoot grass*	Poaceae				
Eriastrum densifolium ssp. densifolium	giant wool star	Polemoniaceae				

Plant Species (as per Jepson 2012)	Common Name (* = introduced; ** = invasive)	Family	Fed Status	State Status	CNPS Status	Notes
Leptodactylon californicus	prickly phlox	Polemoniaceae			4.2	formerly Leptodactylon californicum
Chorizanthe angustifolia	spineflower	Polygonaceae				
Eriogonum parvifolium	coastal buckwheat	Polygonaceae				
Mucronea californica	California spineflower	Polygonaceae			4.2	
Polygonum aviculare subsp. depressum	common knotweed*	Polygonaceae				formerly Polygonum arenastrum
Rumex crispus	curly dock*	Polygonaceae				
Anagallis arvensis	scarlet pimpernel	Myrsinaceae				
Delphinium parryi subsp. blochmaniae	dune larkspur	Ranunculaceae			1B.2	
Ranunculus occidentalis	western buttercup	Ranunculaceae				
Frangula californica	California coffee berry	Rhamnaceae				formerly Rhamnus californica
Fragaria chiloensis	beach strawberry	Rosaceae				
Horkelia cuneata	horkelia	Rosaceae				
Potentilla anserina subsp. pacifica	cinquefoil	Rosaceae				
Prunus fasciculata var. punctata	sand almond	Rosaceae			4.3	
Rubus ursinus	California blackberry	Rosaceae				
Galium californicum	California bedstraw	Rubiaceae				
Galium nuttallii subsp. nuttallii	Nuttall's bedstraw	Rubiaceae				
Populus trichocarpa	black cottonwood	Salicaceae				formerly Populus balsamifera subsp. trichocarpa

Plant Species (as per Jepson 2012)	Common Name (* = introduced; ** = invasive)	Family	Fed Status	State Status	CNPS Status	Notes
Salix lasiolepis	arroyo willow	Salicaceae				
Anemopsis californica	yerba mansa	Saururaceae				
Nicotiana glauca	tree tobacco*	Solanaceae				
Solanum douglasii	Douglas' nightshade	Solanaceae				
Sparganium eurycarpum var. eurycarpum	broad-fruit bur-reed	Typhaceae				
Typha latifolia	broad-leaved cattail	Typhaceae				
Hesperocnide tenella	western nettle	Urticaceae				
Urtica dioica subsp. holosericea	hoary nettle, stinging nettle	Urticaceae				
Verbena lasiostachys	vervain	Verbenaceae				

Appendix F Refuge Wildlife Species List

Species	Common Name	Family	Order
Invertebrates			
Ixodes pacificus	western black-legged tick	Ixodidae	Acari
Latrodectus hesperus	black widow spider	Theridiidae	Araneae
Apleurus sp.	weevil	Curculionidae	Coleoptera
	California broad-necked darkling		
Colocnemis californicus	beetle	Tenebrionidae	Coleoptera
Cuterbra sp.	rodent bot fly	Oestridae	Diptera
Armadillidium vulgare	pillbug	Armadillidiidae	Isopoda
Acrolophus sp. undet. 1	Acrolophus moth	Acrolophidae	Lepidoptera
Anoncia sp. undet. 1	Anoncia moth	Cosmopterigidae	Lepidoptera
Comadia bertholdi	Comadia moth	Cossidae	Lepidoptera
Dicymolomia metalliferalis	Crambid moth	Crambidae	Lepidoptera
Jocara tarabalis	Crambid moth	Crambidae	Lepidoptera
Loxostege immerens	Crambid moth	Crambidae	Lepidoptera
Pyrasuta nexalis	Crambid moth	Crambidae	Lepidoptera
Aristotelia argentifera	Gelechiid moth	Gelechiidae	Lepidoptera
Aroga "paraplutella"	Gelechiid moth	Gelechiidae	Lepidoptera
Chionodes sp. undet. 1	Gelechiid moth	Gelechiidae	Lepidoptera
Eusarca falcata	Geometrid moth	Geometridae	Lepidoptera
Geometrid moth, unid.	Geometrid moth	Geometridae	Lepidoptera
Neoterpes edwardsata	Geometrid moth	Geometridae	Lepidoptera
Pero macdunnoughi	Geometrid moth	Geometridae	Lepidoptera
Pherne subpunctata	Geometrid moth	Geometridae	Lepidoptera
Plataea personaria	Geometrid moth	Geometridae	Lepidoptera
Synaxis hirsutaria	Geometrid moth	Geometridae	Lepidoptera
Synchlora faseolaria	Geometrid moth	Geometridae	Lepidoptera
Lithariapteryx elegans	Heliodinid moth	Heliodinidae	Lepidoptera

Species	Common Name	Family	Order
Icaria icarioides	Boisduval's blue butterfly	Lycaenidae	Lepidoptera
Plebejus acmon	Acmon blue butterfly	Lycaenidae	Lepidoptera
Plebejus icarioides moroensis	Morro blue butterfly	Lycaenidae	Lepidoptera
Autographa californica	Noctuid moth	Noctuidae	Lepidoptera
Cisthene liberomacula	Noctuid moth	Noctuidae	Lepidoptera
Copablepharon robertsoni	Noctuid moth	Noctuidae	Lepidoptera
Cryphia viridata	Noctuid moth	Noctuidae	Lepidoptera
Cucullia antipoda	Noctuid moth	Noctuidae	Lepidoptera
Euxoa formalis	Noctuid moth	Noctuidae	Lepidoptera
Euxoa pluralis	Noctuid moth	Noctuidae	Lepidoptera
Euxoa serricornis	Noctuid moth	Noctuidae	Lepidoptera
Euxoa sp. undet. 2	Noctuid moth	Noctuidae	Lepidoptera
Grammia ornata	Noctuid moth	Noctuidae	Lepidoptera
Lacinipolia patalis	Noctuid moth	Noctuidae	Lepidoptera
Notarctia proxima	Noctuid moth	Noctuidae	Lepidoptera
Oligia marina	Noctuid moth	Noctuidae	Lepidoptera
Orgyia vetusta	Noctuid moth	Noctuidae	Lepidoptera
Orthosia pacifica	Noctuid moth	Noctuidae	Lepidoptera
Parabagrotis insularis	Noctuid moth	Noctuidae	Lepidoptera
Pseudorthodes puerilis	Noctuid moth	Noctuidae	Lepidoptera
Spilosoma vagans	Noctuid moth	Noctuidae	Lepidoptera
Ululonche niveiguttata	Noctuid moth	Noctuidae	Lepidoptera
Zosteropoda hirtipes	Noctuid moth	Noctuidae	Lepidoptera
Furcula scolopendrina	Notodontid moth	Notodontidae	Lepidoptera
Chlosyne leanira	Leanira checkerspot butterfly	Nymphalidae	Lepidoptera
Chlosyne leanira elgans	Oso Flaco patch butterfly	Nymphalidae	Lepidoptera
Danaus plexippus	monarch butterfly	Nymphalidae	Lepidoptera
Papilio rutulus	western tiger swallowtail	Papilionidae	Lepidoptera
Rhagea stigmella	Pyralid moth	Pyralidae	Lepidoptera

Species	Common Name	Family	Order
Toripalpus tarabilis	Pyralid moth	Pyralidae	Lepidoptera
Apodemia mormo	Mormon metalmark butterfly	Riodinidae	Lepidoptera
Apodemia virgulti arenaria	sand dunes metalmark	Riodinidae	Lepidoptera
Smerinthus cerisyi	Sphingid moth	Sphingidae	Lepidoptera
Endothenia hebesana	Tortricid moth	Tortricidae	Lepidoptera
Phaneta misturana	Tortricid moth	Tortricidae	Lepidoptera
Phaneta, new species	Tortricid moth	Tortricidae	Lepidoptera
	California orange-winged		
Arphia ramona	grasshopper	Acrididae	Orthoptera
Conozoa texana	cristate grasshopper	Acrididae	Orthoptera
Melanoplus cinereus ssp. cyanipes	grayish sagebrush grasshopper	Acrididae	Orthoptera
Melanoplus marginatus	margined spur-throat grasshopper	Acrididae	Orthoptera
Microtes pogonata	Microtes grasshopper	Acrididae	Orthoptera
Oedaleontotus phryneicus	Oedaleontotus grasshopper	Acrididae	Orthoptera
Scorpiones, unid.	scorpion, unid.	unk	Scorpiones

Scientific Name	Common Name	Family	Status	Notes
Amphibians				
Anaxyrus boreas halophilus	Southern California toad	Bufonidae	NT	
Pseudacris sierra	Sierran treefrog	Hylidae		species under taxonomic review
Rana draytonii	California red-legged frog	Ranidae	FT, NT	
Reptiles				
Actinemys marmorata	Pacific pond turtle	Emydidae	CSSC, VU	
Sceloporus occidentalis bocourtii	Coast Range fence lizard	Phrynosomidae		species under taxonomic review
Plestiodon skiltonianus skiltonianus	Skilton's skink	Scincidae		
Elgaria multicarinata webbii	San Diego alligator lizard	Anguidae		
Anniella pulchra	California legless lizard	Anniellidae	CSSC	
Diadophis punctatus vandenburghi	Monterey ring-necked snake	Colubridae		species under taxonomic review
Coluber lateralis lateralis	California striped racer	Colubridae		
Pituophis catenifer annectens	San Diego gopher snake	Colubridae		
Thamnophis sirtalis infernalis	California red-sided garter snake	Colubridae		
Thamnophis elegans terrestris	coast garter snake	Colubridae		
Thamnophis hammondii	two-striped garter snake	Colubridae	CSSC	
Crotalus oreganus helleri	southern Pacific rattlesnake	Viperidae		<i>C. v. oreganus</i> and/o <i>r</i> hybrids may also be present

Status Abbreviations: CSC: California State species of special concern; FT: federally threatened; NT (IUCN): near threatened, or candidate; VU (IUCN): vulnerable, considered to be facing a high risk of extinction.

Bird Species	Common Name	Conservation Status - Federal	Conservation Status - State
Accipiter cooperii	Cooper's Hawk		
Accipiter striatus	sharp-shinned hawk		FP
Aquila chrysaetos	golden eagle		
Buteo jamaicensis	red-tailed hawk		
Buteo lagopus	rough-legged hawk		
Buteo lineatus	red-shouldered hawk		
Buteo regalis	ferruginous hawk		
Circus cyaneus	northern harrier		
Elanus caeruleus	white-tailed kite		
Cathartes aura	turkey vulture		
Pandion haliaetus	osprey		
Anas platyrhynchos	mallard		
Calypte anna	Anna's hummingbird		
Selasphorus rufus	rufous hummingbird		
Phalaenoptilus nuttallii	common poorwill		
Charadrius nivosus nivosus	western snowy plover	Т	SSC
Charadrius semipalmatus	semipalmated plover		
Charadrius vociferus	killdeer		
Pluvialis squatarola	black-bellied plover		
Larus californicus	California gull		
Larus heermanni	Heermann's gull		
Larus delawarensis	ring-billed gull		
Larus occidentalis	western gull		
<i>Sternula antillarum</i> browni	California least tern	E	
Himantopus mexicanus	black-necked stilt		
Recurvirostra americana	American avocet		
Actitis macularius	spotted sandpiper		
Arenaria interpres	ruddy turnstone		
Arenaria melanocephala	black turnstone		

Bird Species	Common Name	Conservation Status - Federal	Conservation Status - State
Numenius americanus	long-billed curlew		
Calidris alba	sanderling		
Calidris alpina	dunlin		
Calidris mauri	western sandpiper		
Limnodromus sp.	dowitcher		
Limosa fedoa	marbled godwit		
Numenius phaeopus	whimbrel		
Phalaropus lobatus	red-necked phalarope		
Tringa flavipes	lesser yellowlegs		
Tringa semipalmata	willet		
Hydroprogne caspia	Caspian tern		
Thallaseus elegans	elegant tern		
Thallaseus maxima	royal tern		
Columba livia	rock pigeon*		
Patagioenas fasciata	bandtailed pigeon		
Zenaida macroura	mourning dove		
Falco columbarius	merlin		
Falco mexicanus	prairie falcon		
Falco peregrinus	peregrine falcon		
Falco sparverius	American kestrel		
Callipepla californica	California quail		
Fulica americana	American coot		
Psaltriparus minimus	bushtit		
Eremophila alpestris	horned lark		
Chondestes grammacus	lark sparrow		
Bombycilla cedrorum	cedar waxwing		
Cardinalis cardinalis	northern cardinal		
Passerina caerulea	blue grosbeak		
Pheucticus melanocephalus	blackheaded grosbeak		

Bird Species	Common Name	Conservation Status - Federal	Conservation Status - State
Piranga flava	hepatic tanager		
Piranga ludoviciana	western tanager		
Aphelocoma californica	western scrub jay		
Corvus brachyrhynchos	American crow		
Corvus corax	common raven		
Calamospiza melanocorys	lark bunting		
Junco hyemalis	darkeyed junco		
Melospiza melodia	song sparrow		
Melozone crissalis	California towhee		
Passerculus sandwichensis	savannah sparrow		
Pipilo maculatus	spotted towhee		
Spizella passerina	chipping sparrow		
Zonotrichia atricapilla	goldencrowned sparrow		
Zonotrichia leucophrys	whitecrowned sparrow		
Empidonax difficilis	Pacific slope flycatcher		
Carduelis psaltria	lesser goldfinch		
Carduelis lawrencei	Lawrence's goldfinch		
Carpodacus cassinii	Cassin's finch		
Carpodacus mexicanus	house finch		
Carpodacus purpureus	purple finch		
Hirundo pyrrhonota	cliff swallow		
Hirundo rustica	barn swallow		
Stelgidopteryx serripennis	northern roughwinged swallow		
Tachycineta thalassina	violetgreen swallow		
Agelaius phoeniceus	red-winged blackbird		
Euphagus cyanocephalus	Brewer's blackbird		
Icterus bullockii	Bullock's oriole		
Icterus cucullatus	hooded oriole		
Icterus galbula	Baltimore oriole		

Bird Species	Common Name	Conservation Status - Federal	Conservation Status - State
Quiscalus mexicanus	great-tailed grackle		
Sturnella neglecta	western meadowlark		
Lanius ludovicianus	loggerhead shrike		
Mimus polyglottos	northern mockingbird		
Toxostoma redivivum	California thrasher		
Anthus rubescens	American pipit		
Dendroica coronata	yellowrumped warbler		
Dendroica petechia	yellow warbler		
Dendroica townsendi	Townsend's warbler		
Geothlypis trichas	common yellowthroat		
Setophaga citrina	hooded warbler		
Vermivora celata	orangecrowned warbler		
Wilsonia pusilla	Wilson's warbler		
Passer domesticus	house sparrow*		
Polioptila caerulea	bluegray gnatcatcher		
Phainopepla nitens	phainopepla		
Regulus calendula	rubycrowned kinglet		
Regulus satrapa	goldencrowned kinglet		
Sturnus vulgaris	European starling*		
Chamaea fasciata	wrentit		
Cistothorus palustris	marsh wren		
Thryomanes bewickii	Bewick's Wren		
Troglodytes aedon	house wren		
Catharus guttatus	hermit thrush		
Catharus ustulatus	Swainson's thrush		
Sialia mexicana	western bluebird		
Turdus migratorius	American robin		
Contopus sordidulus	western wood peewee		
Myiarchus cinerascens	ashthroated flycatcher		

Bird Species	Common Name	Conservation Status - Federal	Conservation Status - State
Sayornis nigricans	black phoebe		
Sayornis saya	Say's phoebe		
Tyrannus verticalis	western kingbird		
Tyrannus vociferans	Cassin's kingbird		
Vireo gilvus	warbling vireo		
Ardea herodias	great blue heron		
Bubulcus ibis	cattle egret		
Butorides virescens	green heron		
Nycticorax nycticorax	black-crowned night heron		
Pelecanus erythrorhynchos	American white pelican		
Pelecanus occidentalis californicus	California brown pelican		
Plegadis chihi	white-faced ibis		
Colaptes auratus	northern flicker		
Melanerpes formicivorous	acorn woodpecker		
Melanerpes lewis	Lewis' woodpecker		
Picoides nuttallii	Nuttall's woodpecker		
Sphyrapicus ruber	redbreasted sapsucker		
Aechmophorus clarkii	Clark's grebe		
Aechmophorus occidentalis	western grebe		
Podilymbus podiceps	pied-billed grebe		
Athene cunicularia hypugaea	western burrowing owl		
Bubo virginianus	great horned owl		
Megascops kennicottii	western screech-owl		SSC
Tyto alba	barn owl		
Phalacrocorax auritus	double-crested cormorant		
Phalacrocorax penicillatus	Brandt's cormorant		

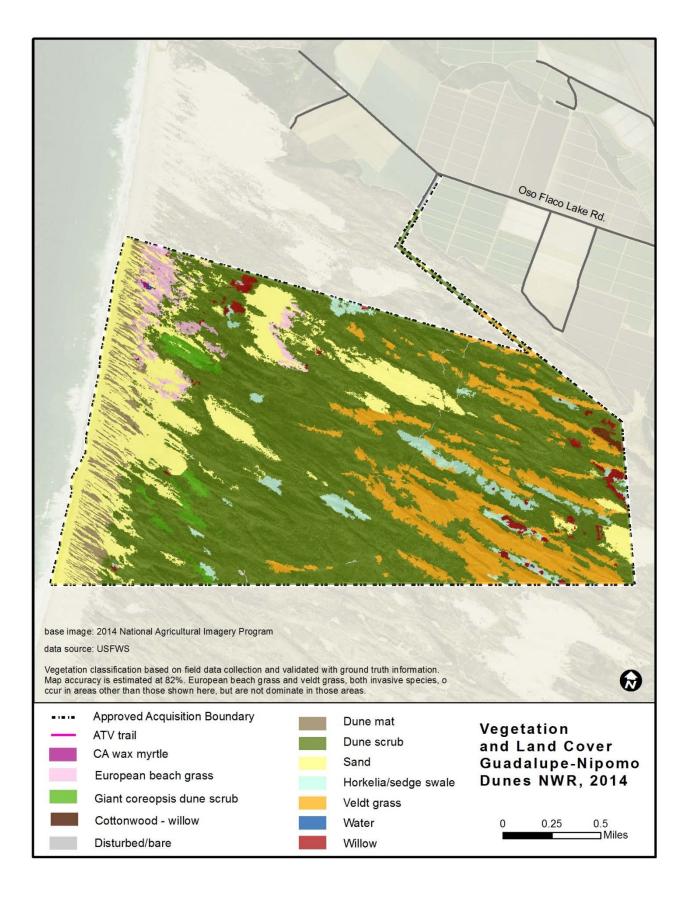
E: endangered; T: threatened; SSC: State Species of Concern

Species	Common Name	Family	Order	Conservation Status
Mammals				
Odocoileus hemionus	mule deer	Cervidae	Artiodactyla	
Sus scrofa	wild pig	Suidae	Artiodactyla	introduced pest
Canis latrans	coyote	Canidae	Carnivora	
Urocyon cinereoargenteus	gray fox	Canidae	Carnivora	
Vulpes vulpes	red fox	Canidae	Carnivora	introduced pest
Lynx rufus	bobcat	Felidae	Carnivora	
Felis catus	domestic cat	Felidae	Carnivora	introduced pest
Felis concolor	mountain lion	Felidae	Carnivora	
Mephitis mephitis	striped skunk	Mephitidae	Carnivora	
Taxidea taxus	American badger	Mustelidae	Carnivora	CSSC
Zalophus califonianus	California sea lion	Otariidae	Carnivora	
Mirounga angustirostrus	northern elephant seal	Phocidae	Carnivora	
Phoca vitulina	Pacific harbor seal	Phocidae	Carnivora	
Procyon lotor	northern raccoon	Proycyonidae	Carnivora	
Ursus americanus	American black bear	Ursidae	Carnivora	
Didelphis virginiana	Virginia oppossum	Didelphidae	Didelphimorphia	
Lepus californicus	black-tailed jackrabbit	Leporidae	Lagomorpha	
Sylvilagus audubonii	desert cottontail	Leporidae	Lagomorpha	
Sylvilagus bachmani	brush rabbit	Leporidae	Lagomorpha	
Microtus californica	California vole	Cricetidae	Rodentia	
Neotoma fuscipes	duskyfooted woodrat	Cricetidae	Rodentia	
Peromyscus maniculatus	deer mouse	Cricetidae	Rodentia	
Peromyscus truei	pińon mouse	Cricetidae	Rodentia	
Reithrodontomys megalotis	western harvest mouse	Cricetidae	Rodentia	
Thomomys sp.	pocket gopher	Geomyidae	Rodentia	
Dipodomys heermani arenae	Lompoc kangaroo rat	Heteromyidae	Rodentia	
Mus musculus	house mouse	Muridae	Rodentia	
Otospermophilus beecheyi	California ground squirrel	Sciuridae	Rodentia	

Species	Common Name	Family	Order	Conservation Status
Sorex sp.	shrew, unid.	Soricidae	Soricomorpha	
Talplid, unid.	mole, unid.	Talpidae	Soricomorpha	

CSSC: CA Species of Special Concern

Appendix G Vegetation Map



Appendix H Refuge Priority Management Area

RPMA #	RPMA Area (Acres)	Description
1	88.00	at least 95% of Refuge's western snowy plover breeding activity occurs in this area; also has good examples of coastal strand and coastal dune mat communities; surf thistle present at many locations; threatened by beach grass, ice plant, and purple ragwort
2	0.82	contains Myrtle Pond and Myrtle Marsh; La Graciosa thistle seeds planted here; marsh sandwort and Gamble's watercress planted here; California red-legged frog breed here; waterfowl; western pond turtle; breeding habitat for red-winged blackbird; also contains California wax myrtle; a hiking destination that should be kept native; perimeter of this area threatened by beach grass
3	18.56	includes Oso Flaco Peak - the highest point on Refuge; good example of coreopsis dune scrub; a hiking destination with great vistas; needs treatment for beach grass and ice plant
4	91.21	largest open sand sheet on Refuge; periodically supports western snowy plover breeding
5	44.65	good coreopsis dune scrub and open sand sheet; beach spectacle-pod present
6	20.24	best and densest coreopsis dune scrub on Refuge
7	15.15	good examples of open sand sheet, coastal dunes scrub, and coastal dunes swale; this area supports one of the densest population of beach spectacle pod on the Refuge
8	85.79	Hidden Willow Valley - the number one hiker destination for the inland portion of Refuge; contains several willow riparian communities; large Juncus/Carex wetlands; good coastal dune scrub; good habitat for neotropical migrant birds present here, primarily in willows; owl and hawk roosting; threatened by beach grass; a hiking destination that should be kept native
9	51.60	Lunar Craters - a very dynamic and very scenic migrating sand sheet; popular hiking destination; has dramatic 40-foot deep hollows from wind scour; threatened by beach grass
10	34.42	Phoebe Valley - one of best examples of coastal dunes scrub in entire dunes complex; a congregation area for Say's phoebe (in winter) and mule deer (year round); threatened by veldt grass (but is still controllable)
11	25.26	tallest forested area on Refuge - cottonwood/willow forest; contains only Santa Barbara sedge wetland on Refuge (1.56 AC); several scattered willow wetlands present; good examples of coastal dunes scrub; owl and hawk roosting; portions of this area threatened by veldt grass and poison hemlock

RPMA #	RPMA Area (Acres)	Description
12	60.27	contains eastern portion of Long Valley, Woodpecker Valley, and Southeast Sand Sheet; Woodpecker Valley contains largest continuous willow forest on Refuge; Snakebite Pond provides habitat for California red-legged frog, many neotropical migrants, and two-striped gartersnake; Gambel's watercress and marsh sandwort previously planted at Snakebite Pond; good examples of dune swales present; owl and hawk roosting; some good examples of native coastal dune scrub also present; this area threatened by veldt grass and feral swine
13	4.21	west end of Sparganium Valley; contains only known population of La Graciosa thistle on Refuge; good willow forest present; California red-legged frog present; Gambel's watercress and marsh sandwort previously planted here; owl and hawk roosting; threatened by feral swine
14	9.14	Four Pond Valley - Colorada Pond, Icebox Pond, and Four Pond Valley East Pond present here; California red-legged frog breed at most of these ponds; Gambel's watercress and marsh sandwort previously planted here; La Graciosa thistle seed planted here; owl and hawk roosting; threatened by feral swine
Total Acreage	549.32	
Percent of Refuge	21%	

Appendix I Feral Swine Control and Monitoring Plan

The potential effects of implementing this Feral Swine Control and Monitoring Plan have been analyzed in the accompanying environmental assessment to the Final CCP.

Feral Swine Control and Monitoring Plan for **Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes National Wildlife Refuge**





Prepared by: Michael Brady, Project Leader, Hopper

Mountain National Wildlife Refuge Complex

Concurred: Ken Convery, Deputy Project Leader, Hopper Mountain National Wildlife Refuge

Complex Concurred:

Refuge Supervisor

Approved: Assistant Regional Director, Refuges (Pacific Southwest Region)

Date: 8/4/16

Date: 8/4/16

Date: 8/12/2016

Table of Contents

App	endix I Feral Swine Control and Monitoring Plan1
1.	Introduction1
2.	Refuge Overview
3.	Refuge Resources
4.	Background4
	Status of Feral Swine in the Dunes Complex and on the Refuge4
	Effects of Feral Swine on the Environment4
	Past Management Actions
5.	Project Purposes
6.	Consistency with Pest Management Laws and Policies
7.	Selected Action
	Inventory Feral Pig Populations and Areas of Resource Damage7
	Removal
	Trapping
	Ground Euthanasia, Potentially with Trained Dogs9
	Fencing
	Monitoring9
	Adaptive Management9
	Public Safety
8.	Conservation Measures
9.	Approvals10
10.	Monitoring11
11.	Alternatives Considered11
	No Action11
12.	Justification11
	Consultation and Coordination with others
13.	References

1. Introduction

Feral swine were first observed in the 2000s within the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Complex (Dunes Complex), an 18-mile long coastal dunes landscape that occupies approximately 20,000 acres of southwestern San Luis Obispo County and northwestern Santa Barbara County. The Dunes Complex is one of the largest coastal dune landscapes along the west coast of North America, and provides habitat for a variety of state and federally listed plant and vertebrate species. Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge) is part of the Dunes Complex. Feral swine not only pose threats to listed plants and wildlife, but also spread harmful invasive plants and diseases which degrade and destroy native habitats.

Currently feral swine are being managed by adjacent land managers, partners and neighboring growers, but no management is taking place on the Refuge or the adjacent Chevron property Because of the lack of swine control on the Refuge, swine are harboring on the Refuge thus reducing the effectiveness of feral swine control conducted by adjacent landowners. It is believed that the most effective and efficient means to control feral swine requires large scale action, where all adjacent land managers use bait stations and lethally remove all individuals routinely.

In accordance with Service policy, this Feral Swine Control and Monitoring Plan, a step-down plan to the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes NWR Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP), has been prepared to describe the details of future actions to control and monitor the presence of feral swine on the Refuge. The potential effects to the human environment of implementing this proposal area analyzed in the CCP/environmental assessment (EA) for The Refuge.

The Service proposes to limit the population of feral swine (*Sus scrofa*) on Refuge lands as they damage native plants, especially wetland and riparian areas which numerous listed and special status plants, including La Graciosa thistle (*Cirsium scariosum*, federally listed as endangered), Gambel's watercress (*Rorippa gambellii* [*Nasturtium gambellii*, federally listed endangered]) and marsh sandwort (*Arenaria paludicola*, federally listed as endangered). Feral swine control would also benefit a wide variety of species of plants and animals, including the western snowy plover (*Charadrius nivosus nivosus*, formerly *Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus*) and red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*, federally listed as threatened). The Service proposes to control rather than eradicate feral swine due to the difficulty and associated costs of completely and continually maintaining the population at or near zero.

Predation by both native and nonnative species has been identified as a major factor limiting western snowy plover reproductive success, which is well documented in the Recovery Plan for the species (USFWS 2007). The Refuge annual plover reports also identify and document numerous instance of known and unknown predator depredation to eggs, chicks and adult plover (Guadalupe NWR Annual Plover Reports 2001-2013, unpublished reports). In 2008, the Service's partner and adjacent land management agency, the ODSVRA, initiated a Predator Management Plan for the protection of western snowy plover and California least tern (*Sterna antillarum browni*) (ODSVRA 2008). The implementation of this plan reduces predation of eggs, chicks and adults to support the recovery plan fledging goal of 1.0 to 1.2 juveniles per western snowy plover male adult. Feral swine are known to predate nests at the Refuge. Feral swine have been documented damaging wetlands, riparian areas and native dune habitat throughout the Refuge (M. Brady, USFWS, pers. observation). Feral swine destroy habitats of both listed wetland plants and red-legged frog.

2. Refuge Overview

The Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge) is located along the Central Coast of California within the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Complex (Dunes Complex), an 18-mile long coastal dunes landscape that occupies approximately 20,000 acres of southwestern San Luis Obispo County and northwestern Santa Barbara County (Figure 1). The Dunes Complex is one of the largest coastal dune landscapes along the west coast of North America, and provides habitat for a variety of state and federally listed plant and vertebrate species.

The Refuge is located to the west of the Santa Maria River Valley, to the east of the Pacific Ocean, to the north of the Guadalupe Restoration Project (former Guadalupe Oil Field), and to the south of the Oso Flaco Lake Natural Area (a management unit of the Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area [ODSVRA]). The Refuge landscape consists of coastal strand and active dunes, central coast foredunes, central coast dune scrub, active interior dunes, coastal dune swale, coastal dune freshwater marshes and ponds, and coastal dune riparian woodland (Holland et al. 1995).

The 2,553-acre Refuge was established in 2000 as a satellite of the Hopper Mountain National Wildlife Refuge Complex (Refuge Complex), a branch of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), which is headquartered in Ventura, California. The Refuge was created to conserve Central California coastal dune and associated wetlands habitats and support the recovery of native plants and animals that are federally listed as threatened or endangered. Specific Refuge goals include: 1) the conservation of federally listed species and critical habitat associations, 2) the protection and restoration of biodiversity, 3) the establishment and management of conservation partnerships, and the facilitation of safe and high-quality opportunities for compatible wildlife-dependent educational and recreational activities (USFWS 2000).

The Refuge is part of the Dunes Collaborative which was established in 2000 as a partnership between federal, state, private, and non-profit organizations committed to restoration of the Dunes Complex and recovery of threatened and endangered species. The land management agencies consist of Guadalupe Nipomo Dunes National Wildlife Refuge, the Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County, California State Parks, the County of Santa Barbara, and Guadalupe Nipomo-Dunes National Wildlife Refuge lands is approximately situated in the center of the Dunes Complex.

3. Refuge Resources

The Refuge was primarily established to conserve imperiled plant and wildlife habitats and species. Several specific Refuge goals include the recovery of the federally endangered La Graciosa thistle (*Cirsium scariosum* var. *loncholepis*), marsh sandwort, Gambel's watercress, California least tern (*Sternula antillarum browni;* formerly *Sterna antillarum browni*), the federally threatened California red-legged frog and western snowy plover (Service 2000). The Refuge also serves to protect designated critical habitats for the La Graciosa thistle and western snowy plover.

Many imperiled plant species and at least 118 special-status (i.e., state-listed, federally-listed, recognized by a special interest group, or a species of local interest) animal species occur in the Dunes Complex (Blecha et al. 2007). Approximately 60 of these special-status species have been observed on the Refuge.

Figure 1. Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Complex



4. Background

Status of Feral Swine in the Dunes Complex and on the Refuge

The first occurrence of feral swine on the refuge was documented during the summer of 2009 (Annual Plover report 2009) and adjacent farm fields reported damage to crops due to feral swine in the fall of 2008 (S. Little, California State Parks, pers. comm.). Local farmers fenced the agricultural fields and received depredation permits from California Department of Fish and Wildlife to remove swine during the fall of 2009 (M. Mills, Mills Family Growers, pers. comm.). Feral swine can be found throughout the refuge, including the coastal strand. However, the highest levels of wild swine activity tend to be located in riparian woodland, marsh, and pond habitats.

Although the population size is unknown on the Refuge, the occurrence of seeing adult swine, piglets and vegetation damage has increased. Feral swine can grow quite large and depending on food available food resources can weigh as much 250 pounds. Due to their large size, feral swine have few predators. They are sexually mature at six months of age and can have up to two litters per year with an average litter size of three to eight piglets with a high of up to 12 piglets (CDPR 2013). Once present in an area, feral swine populations can grow rapidly and dispersal can result in swine quickly colonizing and populating new areas (Waithman et al. 1999). Even though the farm fields are fenced, swine still find a way to move from the refuge to the agricultural fields. The Refuge source population is unknown, but believed to be expanding.

Effects of Feral Swine on the Environment

Feral swine are considered invasive species in California and the rest of the Americas (CDPR 2013). Although most of the freshwater ponds are fenced, feral swine use or create weak areas in fences to access water. The swine also use or create weak points in the fence between the Refuge and the adjacent agricultural fields to gain access. Once the field is accessed by swine the commercial crop needs to be destroyed due to contamination. (M. Mills, Mills Family Growers, pers. comm.).

The swine destroy and wallow in red-legged frog habitat, as well as disrupt egg mass areas, and potentially, opportunistically predate adult frogs and tadpole. Native upland vegetation and wetland destruction has been documented, additionally predation of a western snowy plover nest occurred in 2011 (M. Brady, USFWS, pers. obs.). Cushman et al. (2004) hypothesized that vegetation changes due to swine rooting and wallowing provides greater opportunities for exotic grass colonization. The presence of these grasses threatens a wide range of sensitive and unique dune habitats. Feral swine can transport invasive seeds in hair and feces. Wild swine seem to favor eating the roots from broad-leaved cattail and narrowleaf iceplant. Of particular note, wild swine leave a crater in the ground (often two feet in diameter by a foot or two deep) when they dig up the long taproots of narrowleaf iceplant. This feeding habit creates a mosaic of craters along Refuge trails, where the wild swine tend to travel and feed. Wild swine also have been rooting in the beach portions of the Refuge. As indicated by the shell remnants in their scat, wild swine seem to also be feeding on sand crabs (amphipods) that live under the beach sand near the high tide line. The first known western snowy plover nest on the Refuge lost to feral swine was documented in 2011. Fences were installed between refuge lands and adjacent agricultural fields; however, the fences are consistently compromised by persistent, aggressive swine (M. Mills, Mills Family Growers, pers. comm.).

Predators and predation can be an important factor limiting least tern and snowy plover reproductive success (Page et al. 1995, Thompson et al. 1997, USFWS 2007, USFWS 1985). Predation of nests and chicks has been identified as an important cause of population decline (Page et al. 1983, Colwell et al. 2005). Predators may impact plovers directly by depredating eggs, chicks, juveniles, or adults. Further, predators may indirectly affect plovers by increasing disturbance, which can increase time spent by adults in vigilance or avoidance behavior, and may limit incubating and brooding behavior. Depredation of

plover may result in egg abandonment or loss of dependent chicks. Predation can occur quickly, leaving little or no evidence, and it is likely that only a small percentage of events are documented. Even when monitors are present, there are limitations in the ability to detect predators. Currently, no lethal predator management activities occur on the Refuge. However, ODSVRA maintains an active predator management program throughout the breeding season. Due to the close proximity of that site, some incidental benefits of their activities may occur on the Refuge. Partners and adjacent landowners continue to participate in predator management in varying degrees as well.

Swine have also been identified as carriers of both Campylobacter and Escherichia coli O157. In 2006 an outbreak of Escherichia coli O157 was associated with three human deaths, caused by consuming spinach from an agricultural field from the Central Coast of California (Jay 2007). The cause was later linked at least partially to the dense population of feral swine. Although domestic cattle are the primary reservoir for Escherichia coli O157, wild swine are the most significant potential source of contamination. (Jay-Russell et al. 2012). This is due to the fact that agricultural fences are adequate to keep cattle out but are not a secure way to exclude feral swine.

A good deal of research has attempted to relate rooting disturbance to feral pig density or abundance (Hone 1988, Vtorov 1993, Choquenot et al. 1996). Results of these studies suggest a curvilinear relationship between pig density and rooting disturbance. In other words, a moderate reduction (20 to 30 percent) in pig density may lead to little or no reduction in damage, whereas a reduction of 40 to 50 percent may significantly reduce rooting in an area (CDPR 2013).

Past Management Actions

Local farmers have removed numerous swine on their properties through a depredation permit. Fences were installed around refuge ponds and wetlands, originally to exclude cattle, but now protect listed plants from rooting caused by feral swine. Additional fences were installed in 2012 around two recently created ponds. These fences need to be monitored and maintained, and have been continually compromised by digging feral swine

5. Project Purposes

The purpose of feral swine management is to minimize and reduce feral swine damage and predation of natural resources (listed species), minimize spread of invasive plants, and reduce human health threats to neighboring agricultural fields. Eradicating feral swine from the Refuge is unlikely. Therefore, seasonal control of feral swine populations on the Refuge is the goal of this plan.

Another purpose for preparing this plan is to complete the necessary planning steps and required analysis under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to enable the Service to become a participant in any coordinated efforts which may take place with partners in the Dune Collaborative on a Dune Complex wide initiative.

The Federal, State, tribal and local governments and agencies participating in the Dunes Collaborative may propose to implement an integrated western snowy plover predator management or feral swine damage management approach wherein the most effective, selective and environmentally desirable method or combination of methods allowed would be tailored to site specific field conditions. Based on variables encountered in the field such as location, topography, land use, vegetation type, specific predator, the Collaborative would have wide latitude and available options to manage swine. The selected action can be implemented at different levels depending on funding levels and ability to carry out the effort. A Memorandum of Understanding would be created to access funding and to ensure goals and objectives are met.

6. Consistency with Pest Management Laws and Policies

In accordance with 569 FW 1 (Integrated Pest Management) of the Service Manual, plant, invertebrate, and vertebrate pests on units of the National Wildlife Refuge System can be controlled to assure balanced wildlife and fish populations in support of refuge-specific wildlife and habitat management objectives. Vertebrate pest control on Federal (refuge) lands is also authorized under the following legal mandates:

- National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, as amended (16 USC 668dd-668ee);
- Plant Protection Act of 2000 (7 USC 7701 et seq.);
- Food Quality Protection Act of 1996 (7 USC 136);
- Executive Order 13112; and
- Animal Damage Control Act of 1931 (7 USC 426-426c, 46 Stat. 1468)

Department of the Interior (Department) policy 517 DM 1 (Integrated Pest Management policy) defines pests as "...living organisms that may interfere with the site-specific purposes, operations, or management objectives or that jeopardize human health or safety," and defines an invasive species as "a species that is non-native to the ecosystem under consideration and whose introduction causes or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health." Similarly, Service policy 569 FW 1 defines pests as "...invasive plants and introduced or native organisms that may interfere with achieving our management goals and objectives on or off our lands, or that jeopardize human health or safety."

Applicable elements of the Service's pest management policy include: 1) promote and adopt pest prevention as the first line of defense by using a pathway management strategy to prevent unintended spread of species and biological contamination; and 2) focus on conserving more pristine habitats, monitor these areas, and protect them from invaders. Service policy also states that we will manage pests if:

- The pest is causing a threat to human health and well-being or private property, the acceptable level of damage by the pest has been exceeded, or State or local government has designated the pest as noxious;
- The pest is detrimental to resource objectives as specified in a refuge resource management plan (e.g., CCP, habitat management plan); and
- The planned pest management actions will not interfere with attainment of resource objectives or the purposes for which a refuge was established.

Control of animal species identified as damaging or destroying Federal property and/or considered detrimental to the management program of a refuge is also permitted as described in 50 CFR 31.14 (Official Animal Control Operations).

The specific justifications for pest management activities on Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes NWR include:

- Protecting human health and safety/food safety;
- Preventing substantial damage to important Refuge resources, including federally listed threatened and endangered species and cultural resources;
- Protecting newly introduced or reestablished native species;
- Controlling non-native (exotic) species in order to support existence for populations of native species; and
- Providing the public with quality, compatible wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities.

Recovery plans for various endangered and threatened species present on the Refuge list predation as a threat to the listed species (USFWS 2007, USFWS 2011). Achieving the Refuge's establishment purpose of protecting, managing, and restoring habitats for federally listed endangered and threatened species and migratory birds and maintaining and enhancing the biological diversity of native plants and animals will entail reduction of deleterious effects.

The control of feral swine conforms to Refuge goals presented in the CCP, as well as the following objective:

Objective 1.8 By 2017, implement a seasonal feral swine control plan in order to reduce threats to La Graciosa thistle, marsh sandwort, and California red-legged frog.

7. Selected Action

The selected action to monitor and control feral swine on the Refuge is an integrated feral pig damage management approach wherein the most effective, selective, and environmentally desirable method or combination of methods allowed under this alternative would be tailored to site-specific field conditions. Based on variables encountered in the field such as location, topography, land uses, vegetation type, and numbers of swine, the Service would decide which of the allowable control methods would be most suitable for implementation on the Refuge. The selected action can be implemented at different levels of intensity depending on the amount of funding that is received to carry out the effort. Project activities and control methods are described below.

The initial steps of this Refuge step-down plan include:

- Keeping apprised of current trends in feral swine dispersal and colonization within the region;
- Establishing agreements for controlling feral swine on the Refuge well in advance of determining the extent of their presence on the Refuge; and
- Periodically inspecting Refuge lands for evidence of feral swine activity, adjusting the frequency of these inspections based on current sighting information in the area and regional survey results.

As part of this action, the location(s) and level of infestation would be determined and the extent of resource (e.g., biological, cultural, watershed) damage would be documented. This information would be provided to our regional partners to assist in prioritizing control actions and determining the appropriate method of control. Most animals will be lethally removed by trapping conducted by a contractor in a systematic way.

Inventory Feral Pig Populations and Areas of Resource Damage

Refuge staff and contractors will conduct periodic surveys by UTV and spotlighting in the early morning and/or late evening to looking for signs of feral pig activity. Frequency of surveys could be every few days during the winter and spring when swine are actively foraging or as few as once a week in the fall or summer. In addition, areas that have been damaged by feral swine will be mapped and the extent of damage described. Feral swine location data will be acquired by ground surveys, habitat mapping and modeling, and a review of existing documentation concerning the location of feral pig populations. Future efforts to identify the location of swine may include trail cameras, which can be used to track size and habits of sounders of swine (a family group of swine made up of sows, typically related and representing about three generations, and their piglets). All of this information will help concentrate trapping and hunting efforts in key areas and make those efforts as effective as possible. Contact with other land managers will also be maintained to track swine sightings on nearby lands. If swine activity is identified on the Refuge, staff will respond immediately to initiate the control methods that follow.

Removal

Two methods, trapping and dispatch of individuals, would be employed to remove feral swine from public lands within the project area. The methods will be used strategically and in coordination to maximize the reduction in feral swine numbers. It is believed that most animals will be removed by trapping, with professional ground-based marksmen used to pursue and shoot (dispatch) "trap-averse" animals after trapping efforts have taken place. No more than one to two contracted personnel will be involved in the control effort.

Trapping

Trapping is expected to be the largest part of feral swine control effort on the Refuge. In general, corral style traps large enough to hold multiple animals will be utilized in areas frequented by swine. Open corral-style traps allow large non- target wildlife such as deer to escape. Other trapping options include drop-nets, cage traps, padded leg hold and/or box traps. Traps would be checked on a daily basis, as state law requires. It is expected that no more than eight traps utilized would be based on available and qualified personnel and the population of feral swine in a treatment area. The size of traps may be up to 20 feet wide by 20 feet long.

Determinations as to where traps will be located will be based on the results of ongoing efforts to monitor swine populations and their impacts. They will likely be set near water sources (ponds), riparian areas, swales, or groves of trees where swine are likely to congregate and forage, as well as travel corridors. Traps will be set to avoid resource damage within areas of sensitive biological, cultural, or watershed resources (e.g., wetlands, riparian zones). Trapping would generally take place inland of the beach area. In the event that a trap is necessary on the beach, traps would only be permitted outside the western snowy plover breeding season.

Trapping in areas easily accessible by or visible to the public will be avoided as much as possible. If an important trapping location is used that is accessible or visible by the public, small-scale temporary closures may be erected. Installation of traps by hand may involve minor ground disturbance associated with the installation of fence t-posts and anchors, as well as the activity of the swine themselves while they are inside the traps. Traps will be baited with grain or other food attractive to feral swine.

All proposed trapping locations on the Refuge would be flagged on the ground and GPS locations provided to Service archaeological and biological staff to avoid or minimize impacts to biological and cultural resources. Using GIS location data for proposed trapping locations, Service archaeologists and biologists would complete a records review and field survey, if necessary, to ensure that trapping locations are not located within a cultural resource site, or a site that may have deleterious effect on sensitive species.

Humane treatment of captured feral swine will be emphasized throughout the control program. During all capture operations, traps would be set in the afternoon/evening and checked early the following morning to avoid the possibility of feral swine overheating in traps. Captured swine would be euthanized quickly in the early morning hours by gunshot to the head using non-lead ammunition. For scientific purposes and for evaluating the progress of the control effort for changes in population age structure, basic biological and wildlife disease data will be collected. After euthanasia, all carcasses will be removed as soon as possible and transported off Refuge for disposal in compliance with California Department of Fish and Wildlife codes and regulations and any other applicable laws and regulations. Blood and tissue remaining in or around the traps will be covered with soil or diluted with water to avoid attracting other wildlife. Alternatively, swine carcasses may be used to feed wild condor flock if it can be determined that potential for lead is low.

Through trapping would take place year round as needed, high intensity trapping where as many as eight traps may be used on the Refuge, will take place in the winter and/or spring when swine are out foraging. During the first intensive trapping session of each year, all traps will be set for captures for a minimum of five consecutive nights. Traps should then be locked open and pre-baited for five to seven days prior to being set for another five-day capture period. Traps would typically be in one place no longer than two or three weeks to avoid acclimatizing swine to the traps in those locations. Successive pre-baiting and capture periods would continue for the duration of the trapping session.

Trap locations will be in already disturbed areas adjacent to trails and roads. All trap sites will be preapproved by Refuge Manager or Wildlife Biologist. Technicians would move traps to new locations when no additional captures occur. If large numbers of non-target wildlife are caught, the trap would be moved. At the end of the first session of intensive trapping, all traps would be removed from trapping locations, cleaned, repaired, and stored until the second trapping session. Periodic surveys for fresh rooting disturbance would be used to assist trackers in locating areas with active groups of feral swine.

Although feral swine could and should be removed during any season, intense trapping would generally occur during the winter and spring as new piglets will be present. Additionally, the fall and winter when food resources are low they will enter corral traps more readily (E. Covington, USDA Wildlife Services, pers. comm.).

Ground Euthanasia, Potentially with Trained Dogs

Dispatch of individual feral swine may also be conducted without the use of traps. This method would entail professional, trained personnel to systematically cover terrain and work through swales to track swine. The person could use trained dogs if deemed necessary to assist capture. The dogs will be trained to bark and corner swine, but trained not to attack them nor harass wildlife. Dogs will be outfitted with radio collars and/or GPS units so marksmen will be aware of their locations at all times. Feral swine that have been bayed by dogs will be euthanized as soon as possible to prevent injury to the feral swine or to the dogs. Once cornered, swine would be shot by the marksman. Night dispatch with the use of night vision technology may occur. Non-leaded shot will be used. If pigs are found on the beach, they may also be individually dispatched by trained marksman (traps will only be permitted on the beach outside the western snowy plover breeding season).

Fencing

Fencing will be used to protect environmentally sensitive areas from feral swine damage. Feral swine fences would be constructed with openings at ground level so as not to restrict the movement of rodents, other small mammals, and wildlife. In addition, all temporary fencing would be installed as to not preclude migration patterns of any large native mammals.

Monitoring

As described previously, basic biological information from trapped or dispatched swine will be obtained. Intermittent long-term monitoring on the Refuge is expected to take place indefinitely. Monitoring methods could involve the use of trail cameras and visual surveys of likely use areas for signs of fresh rooting. Local volunteers may be used for monitoring efforts. Monitoring data would be used to adaptively manage where search, trapping, and dispatch activities should occur.

Adaptive Management

If after 5 years of intensive efforts, resource impacts from feral swine have not been reduced from the Refuge, then project goals shall be re-evaluated. If it is determined at that time that control of feral swine from the Refuge is not a effective objective, then efforts would be discontinued.

Public Safety

Public and worker safety will be a top priority during all feral swine management activities. Professional marksmen are highly trained individuals who will only take shots when a target is visible and identifiable. If operations need to occur in an area with public access, there may be temporary trailhead created. Any signage posted will be in English and Spanish and will use standard universal symbols to express the closure.

8. Conservation Measures

The following conservation measures will be implemented as part of the selected alternative to avoid negative effects to resources and public safety as a result of implementation:

- <u>Pre-Activity Surveys for Feral Swine Damage and Focused Removal E</u>fforts: Prior to initiation of feral swine removal activities, surveys will be carried out to identify specific locations being impacted by feral swine. Swine removal efforts will be highly focused and limited to such areas.
- <u>Trap Placement and Vegetation Trimming</u>: Proposed trap locations and vegetation trimming activities will be screened and/or surveyed to ensure that no ground disturbance or vegetation removal is proposed that could impact an archeological site or would result in disturbance within or damage to designated critical habitat, sensitive vegetation communities, or other habitat supporting threatened, endangered, and sensitive species. Traps may be placed in riparian areas, but will not be placed directly in or directly adjacent to wetlands to avoid water quality impacts. In addition, no riparian vegetation will be destroyed or removed. Trap placement will avoid areas visible from recreation trails and interpretive infrastructure to protect recreation resources and avoid potential vandalism. A qualified biologist will periodically visit active trapping sites to ensure that all practicable measures are being employed to avoid incidental disturbance of stream habitat and any listed or sensitive species.
- <u>Lead Free Ammunition</u>: To avoid lead contamination and the potential for adverse effects to wildlife, only lead free ammunition will be used during aerial and ground dispatch and the euthanization of trapped swine.
- <u>Short Term Closures</u>: During periods of active ground based dispatch operations, limited areas of the Refuge might be closed to public access for safety reasons. Closures will be restricted to the minimum size and duration needed for public safety. Closures during weekends and holidays will be avoided whenever possible.
- <u>Use of Weed-Free Feed for Traps</u>: Certified weed-free feed will be used in traps to minimize chances of introducing non-native and noxious weeds into the project area.

9. Approvals

Following the approval of this step-down plan, the Service may choose to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with other agencies to participate in the implementation of a five- year integrated feral swine eradication and control approach wherein the most effective, selective, and environmentally desirable method, or combination of methods allowed under this alternative, would be tailored to site-specific conditions.

10. Monitoring

The numbers and locations of feral swine within the region will be monitored during the implementation of this plan. In addition, sites where control has occurred will be surveyed to determine if the actions taken successfully removed all swine from the area. Monitoring on the Refuge will initially address whether or not swine activity or swine have been identified on refuge lands, and areas in proximity to the Refuge where swine have been documented will be noted.

11. Alternatives Considered

No Action

In addition to the selected monitoring and eradication plan presented above, the No Action alternative for addressing the control of feral swine on the Refuge was considered. Under this alternative, no feral swine control efforts would be undertaken on the Refuge. As stated in the CCP/EA for Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes NWR, no action to stop feral swine from establishing populations on the Refuge would result in an expanding swine population throughout the Refuge along with the associated damage to sensitive habitats and species, cultural resources, and water quality. Allowing swine to establish populations on the Refuge would hamper the efforts of other land managers to control feral swine populations on their lands. This alternative would also be inconsistent with Department and Service policy related to integrated pest management, Refuge goals and objectives for protecting the Refuge's sensitive natural and cultural resources, and regional conservation goals.

12. Justification

Feral swine represent a serious threat to the diversity of habitats and species protected within the region's conserved lands, including the range of listed and sensitive species supported on the Refuge. Their presence also threatens the integrity of cultural resource sites, the quality of habitats and water within our protected watersheds, and potentially human health. There is currently an opportunity to successfully eradicate feral swine from the region, however, this effort requires participation by a range of land managers, governments, tribes, and other stakeholders, including Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes NWR. Actions to eliminate this threat are consistent with Service policy and regulations, are compatible with the purposes for which the Refuge was established, and will assist in achieving the goals and objectives for the Refuge as stated in the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes NWR CCP.

Consultation and Coordination with others

The management of predators for the benefit of listed species is best conducted over a larger geographic area. The refuge is 1.8 miles of plover habitat in the center of 18 miles of continuous plover habitat. Many of the partners within the Dunes Collaborative are currently managing for feral swine and there is a benefit for the Service to manage cooperatively in a consistent and unified way. The Service participation with partners on this issue would be more cost effective.

The Federal, State, tribal and local governments and agencies participating in the Dunes Collaborative may propose to implement an integrated feral swine damage management approach wherein the most effective, selective and environmentally desirable method or combination of methods allowed would be tailored to site specific field conditions. Based on variables encountered in the field such as location, topography, land use, vegetation type, specific predator, the Collaborative would have wide latitude and available options to manage swine. The selected action can be implemented at different levels depending on funding levels and ability to carry out the effort. A Memorandum of Understanding would be created to access funding and to ensure goals and objectives are met.

The partners would be consulted annually during an annual meeting to discuss the feral swine management. Any new techniques of predator management could be discussed for employment in future seasons. Any new techniques would be draft in a Memo and attached to the Predator Management Plan prior to enacting.

13. References

- [CDPR] California Department of Parks and Recreation. 2013. Final Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) Feral Pig Eradication and Control Project, San Diego County (SCH# 2013061008).
- Choquenot, D., J. McIlroy, and T. Korn. 1996. Managing Vertebrate Pests: feral pigs. Bureau of Resource Sciences. Canberra, Australia. [USFWS] U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 1985. Revised California Least Tern (*Sterna antillarum browni*) Recovery Plan. Region 1, Portland, OR.
- Colwell, M.A., Z. Nelson, S. Mullin, C. Wilson, S.E. McAllister, K.G. Ross, and R.R. LeValley. 2005. Final Report: 2005 Snowy Plover breeding in coastal northern California, Recovery Unit 2. Unpublished report, Mad River Biologists, Inc., and Humboldt State University Wildlife Department, Arcata, CA. 11 pp.
- Cushman, J. H., T. A. Tierney, and J. M. Hinds. 2004. Variable effects of feral pig disturbances on native and exotic plants in a California grassland. Ecological Applications 14(6):1746-1756.
- Holland, V.L., D.J. Keil, and L.D. Oyler. 1995. Botanical Study of the Nipomo Dunes Preserve. Surveys conducted between March 1990 and December 1992. Prepared for The Nature Conservancy, San Luis Obispo, CA. March 1995. 168 pp.
- Hone, J. 1988. Evaluation of methods for ground survey of feral pigs and their sign. Acta Theriologica 33:451-465.
- Jay, M.T., M. Cooley, D. Carychao, G.W. Wiscomb, R.A. Sweitzer, L. Crawford-Miksa. 2007. Escherichia coli O157:H7 in feral swine near spinach fields and cattle, central California coast. Emerg. Infect. Dis. Available from http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/13/12/07-0763.htm.
- Jay-Russell, M.T., Bates, A., Harden, L., Miller, W.G. and R.E. Mandrell. 2012. Isolation of *Campylobacter* from Feral Swine (*Sus scrofa*) on the Ranch Associated with the 2006 *Escherichia coli* O157:H7 Spinach Outbreak Investigation in California. Zoonoses and Public Health, 59: 314– 319. doi: 10.1111/j.1863-2378.2012.01465.x
- [ODSVRA] Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area. 2008. Interim Predator Management Plan for Protection of Breeding Western Snowy Plovers and California Least Terns at Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area Marsh 01 2008 Through September 30 2008.
- Page, G.W., L.E. Stenzel, D.W. Winkler, and C.W. Swarth. 1983. Spacing out at Mono Lake: breeding success, nest density, and predation in the snowy plover. The Auk 100:13-24.
- Page, G.W., J.S. Warriner, J.C. Warriner, and P.W.C. Paton. 1995. Snowy plover (*Charadrius alexandrinus*). *In* The Birds of North America, No. 154 (A. Poole and F. Gill, eds.). The Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, PA, and The American Ornithologists' Union, Washington, D.C. 24 pp.
- Thompson, B.C., J.A. Jackson, J. Burger, L.A. Hill, E.M. Kirsch, and J.L. Atwood. 1997. Least Tern (*Sterna antillarum*). *In* The Birds of North America, No. 290 (A. Poole and F. Gill, eds.). The Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, PA, and The American Ornithologists' Union, Washington D.C.

- [USFWS] U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 1985. Revised California least tern recovery plan. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Portland, OR. 112 pp.
- [USFWS] U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 2000. Conceptual management plan, proposed Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes National Wildlife Refuge, San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara Counties, California. Prepared by USFWS, Hopper Mountain National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Ventura, CA. July 2000. 18 pp., plus appendices.
- [USFWS] U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 2007. Recovery Plan for the Pacific Population of the Western Snowy Plover (*Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus*). California/Nevada Operations Office, Sacramento, CA.
- [USFWS] U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 2011. *Cirsium loncholepis* [*Cirsium scariosum* var. *loncholepis*] (La Graciosa thistle) 5-Year Review: Summary and Evaluation. Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office, Ventura, CA.
- Vtorov, I. 1993. Feral pig removal: effects on soil microarthropods in a Hawaiian rain forest. Journal of Wildlife Management 57:875-880.
- Waithman, J. D., R. A. Sweitzer, A. J. Brinkhaus, I. A. Gardner, D. Van Vuren, and W. M. Boyce. 1999. Range Expansion, Population Sizes, and Management of Wild Pigs in California. Journal of Wildlife Management 63:298-308.