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**PROJECT INFORMATION**

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**Project Title:** DESRI Carne Solar  
**Project Type:** TRANSPORTATION, ROADS AND BRIDGES, ROADS AND BRIDGES-MAINTENANCE/MINOR RETROFIT  
**Latitude/Longitude (DMS):** 32.282501 / -107.732234  
**County(s):** LUNA  
**Project Description:** The inquiry is used for a preliminary desktop assessment of a proposed access road. The information provided will help to identify potential fatal flaws, development constraints, and permitting and regulatory issues with the potential to delay or impede successful development of the Project. No site-specific environmental surveys were conducted.

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**REQUESTOR INFORMATION**

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**Project Organization:**  
**Contact Name:** Heatherlee Leary  
**Email Address:** heatherlee.leary@tetrattech.com  
**Organization:** Tetra Tech, Inc.  
**Address:** 800 E Wetmore Rd. Suite 230, Tucson AZ 85719  
**Phone:** 15206616883

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**OVERALL STATUS**

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The information contained within this report comprises the recommendations of the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (Department) for management and mitigation of proposed project impacts to wildlife and habitat resources; see the Project Recommendations section below for further details. No further consultation with the Department is required based on the project's location and, with implementation of mitigation measures described in the Project Recommendations section below, no adverse effects to wildlife or important habitats are anticipated. However, a Department biologist may be in touch within 30 days if they determine that further review is required.



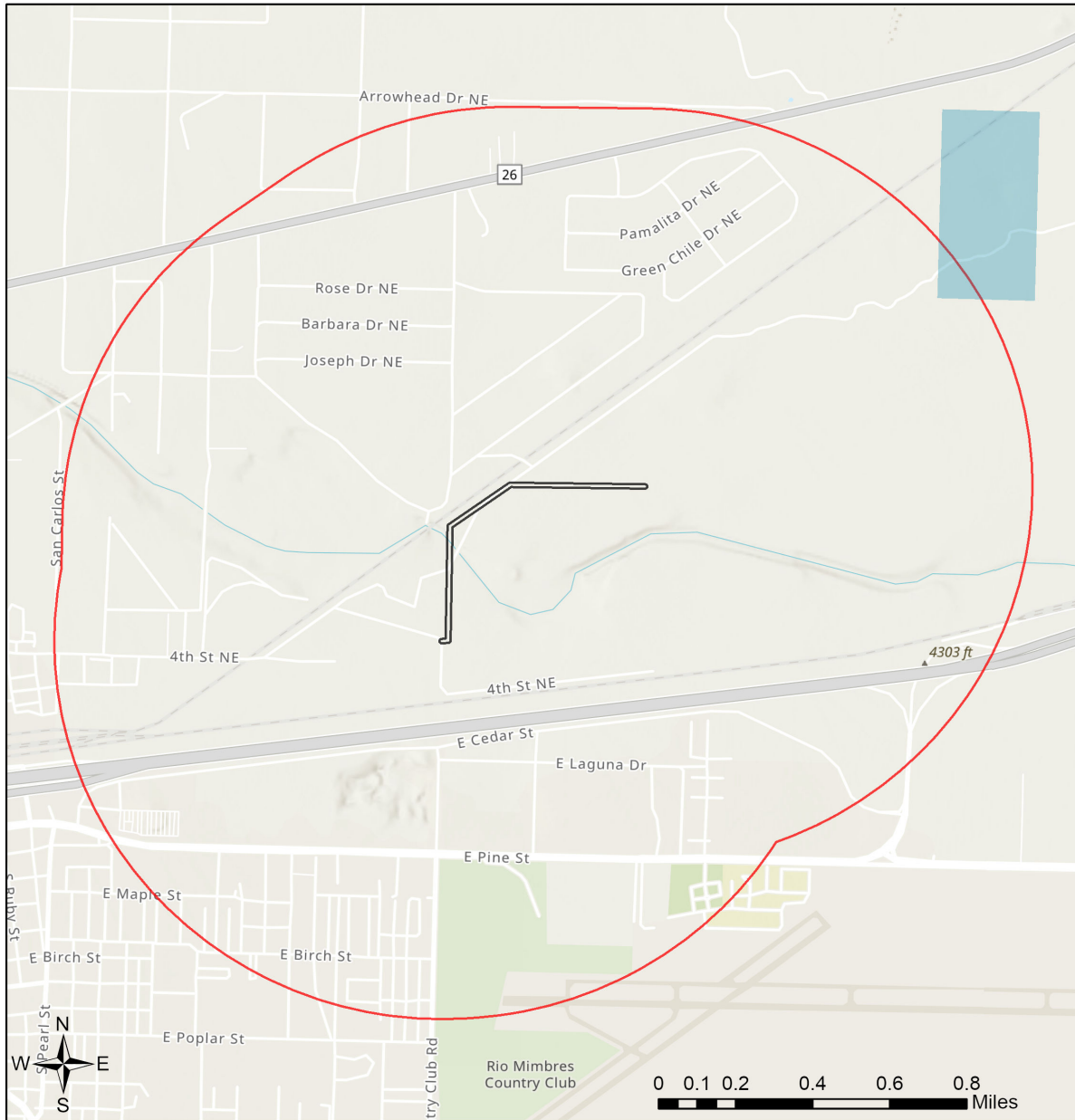
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**About this report:**

- This environmental review is based on the project description and location that was entered. The report must be updated if the project type, area, or operational components are modified.
- This is a preliminary environmental screening assessment and report. It is not a substitute for the potential wildlife knowledge gained by having a biologist conduct a field survey of the project area. Federal status and plant data are provided as a courtesy to users. The review is also not intended to replace consultation required under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), including impact analyses for federal resources from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) using their [Information for Planning and Consultation tool](#).
- The New Mexico Environmental Review Tool (ERT) utilizes species observation locations and species habitat suitability models, both of which are subject to ongoing change and refinement. Inclusion or omission of a species within a report cannot guarantee species presence or absence within your project area. To determine occurrence of any species listed in this report, or other wildlife that may be present within your project area, onsite surveys conducted by a qualified biologist during appropriate, species-specific survey timelines may be necessary.
- The Department encourages use of the ERT to modify proposed projects for avoidance, minimization, or mitigation of wildlife impacts. However, the ERT is not intended to be used in a repeatedly iterative fashion to adjust project attributes until a previously determined recommendation is generated. The ERT serves to assess impacts once project details are developed. The [New Mexico Crucial Habitat Assessment Tool](#) is the appropriate system for advising early-stage project planning and design to avoid areas of anticipated wildlife concerns and associated regulatory requirements.



## DESRI Carne Solar



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|---------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| Buffered Project Boundary | Department of Energy         | State Land Office            | U.S. Department of Agriculture              |
| Project Boundary          | NM Department of Game & Fish | State of New Mexico          | U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service              |
| Bureau of Land Management | NM State Forestry Division   | Tribal Land                  | U.S. Forest Service                         |
| City Land                 | NM State Parks               | U.S. Army Corps of Engineers | U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service |
| County Land               | National Park Service        | U.S. Bureau of Reclamation   |   |
| Department of Defense     | Private                      |                              |   |

USGS, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (NMDGF), Natural Heritage New Mexico (NHNM), and USDA Forest Service,

Compiled by Richard Norwood of NHNM over the period 2020 to 2021.

Sources: Esri, Airbus DS, USGS, NGA, NASA, CGIAR, N Robinson, NCEAS, NLS, OS, NMA, Geodastystreisen, Rijkswaterstaat, GSA, Geoland, FEMA, Intermap and the GIS user community



**Special Status Animal Species Potentially within 1 Miles of Project Area**

Common Name	Scientific Name	USFWS (ESA)	NMDGF (WCA)	NMDGF SGCN/SERI
<a href="#">American Bittern</a>	<a href="#">Botaurus lentiginosus</a>			SGCN
<a href="#">Bald Eagle</a>	<a href="#">Haliaeetus leucocephalus</a>		T	SGCN
<a href="#">Aplomado Falcon</a>	<a href="#">Falco femoralis</a>		E	SGCN
<a href="#">Peregrine Falcon</a>	<a href="#">Falco peregrinus</a>		T	SGCN
<a href="#">Elf Owl</a>	<a href="#">Micrathene whitneyi</a>			SGCN
<a href="#">Western Burrowing Owl</a>	<a href="#">Athene cunicularia hypugaea</a>			SGCN
<a href="#">Common Nighthawk</a>	<a href="#">Chordeiles minor</a>			SGCN
<a href="#">Bank Swallow</a>	<a href="#">Riparia riparia</a>			SGCN
<a href="#">Pinyon Jay</a>	<a href="#">Gymnorhinus cyanocephalus</a>			SGCN
<a href="#">Juniper Titmouse</a>	<a href="#">Baeolophus ridgwayi</a>			SGCN
<a href="#">Mountain Bluebird</a>	<a href="#">Sialia currucoides</a>			SGCN
<a href="#">Bendire's Thrasher</a>	<a href="#">Toxostoma bendirei</a>			SGCN
<a href="#">Sprague's Pipit</a>	<a href="#">Anthus spragueii</a>			SGCN
<a href="#">Loggerhead Shrike</a>	<a href="#">Lanius ludovicianus</a>			SGCN
<a href="#">Lucy's Warbler</a>	<a href="#">Leiothlypis luciae</a>			SGCN
<a href="#">Black-Throated Gray Warbler</a>	<a href="#">Setophaga nigrescens</a>			SGCN
<a href="#">Black-Chinned Sparrow</a>	<a href="#">Spizella atrogularis</a>			SGCN
<a href="#">Vesper Sparrow</a>	<a href="#">Pooecetes gramineus</a>			SGCN
<a href="#">Baird's Sparrow</a>	<a href="#">Ammodramus bairdii</a>		T	SGCN
<a href="#">Thick-billed Longspur</a>	<a href="#">Rhynchophanes mccownii</a>			SGCN
<a href="#">Chestnut-Collared Longspur</a>	<a href="#">Calcarius ornatus</a>			SGCN
<a href="#">Chihuahua Chub</a>	<a href="#">Gila nigrescens</a>	LT	E	SGCN
<a href="#">Spotted Bat</a>	<a href="#">Euderma maculatum</a>		T	SGCN
<a href="#">Pale Townsend's Big-Eared Bat</a>	<a href="#">Corynorhinus townsendii pallescens</a>			SGCN
<a href="#">Mule Deer</a>	<a href="#">Odocoileus hemionus</a>			SERI
<a href="#">Sonoran Mud Turtle</a>	<a href="#">Kinosternon sonoriense</a>			SGCN
<a href="#">Gray-Checkered Whiptail</a>	<a href="#">Aspidoscelis tesselata</a>		E	SGCN
<a href="#">Rock Rattlesnake</a>	<a href="#">Crotalus lepidus</a>			SGCN
<a href="#">Desert Massasauga</a>	<a href="#">Sistrurus catenatus edwardsii</a>			SGCN

ESA = Endangered Species Act, WCA = Wildlife Conservation Act, SGCN = Species of Greatest Conservation Need, SERI = Species of Economic and Recreational Importance, C = Candidate, E = Endangered, LE = Listed Endangered, LT = Listed Threatened, T = Threatened, XN = Non-essential Experimental Population, for other ESA codes see this website: <https://nhnm.unm.edu/node/1378928>.



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## Project Recommendations

Since the proposed highway project includes bridge or road construction activities, the Department recommends implementation of its [Bridge and Culvert Construction Guidelines for Stream, Riparian, and Wetland Habitats](#) for any rivers, streams, washes, springs, seeps, or riparian areas that are fall within the impact footprint of this project. These guidelines should assist in minimizing impacts to the river or wetland, and should be incorporated into the standard best management practices for these types of construction activities.

The Department also recommends that preconstruction bat surveys be conducted during summer months to determine if bats occur. If bats are determined to occur at bridge sites, work should be scheduled to avoid impacting bats that may roost there (i.e., conduct work in winter months).

Burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*) may occur within your project area. Before any ground disturbing activities occur, the Department recommends that a preliminary burrowing owl survey be conducted by a qualified biologist using the Department's [burrowing owl survey protocol](#). Should burrowing owls be documented in the project area, please contact the Department or USFWS for further recommendations regarding relocation or avoidance of impacts.

### Disclaimers regarding recommendations:

- The Department provides technical guidance to support the persistence of all protected species of native fish and wildlife, including game and nongame wildlife species. Species listed within this report include those that have been documented to occur within the project area, and others that may not have been documented but are projected to occur within the project vicinity.
- Recommendations are provided by the Department under the authority of § 17-1-5.1 New Mexico Statutes Annotated 1978, to provide "communication and consultation with federal and other state agencies, local governments and communities, private organizations and affected interests responsible for habitat, wilderness, recreation, water quality and environmental protection to ensure comprehensive conservation services for hunters, anglers and nonconsumptive wildlife users".
- The Department has no authority for management of plants or Important Plant Areas. The [New Mexico Endangered Plant Program](#), under the Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department's Forestry Division, identifies and develops conservation measures necessary to ensure the survival of plant species within New Mexico. Plant status information is provided within this report as a courtesy to users. Recommendations provided within the ERT may not be sufficient to preclude impacts to rare or sensitive plants, unless conservation measures are identified in coordination with the Endangered Plant Program.
- Additional coordination and/or consultation may also be necessary under the federal ESA or National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Further site-specific mitigation recommendations may be proposed during ESA consultation and/or NEPA analyses or through coordination with affected federal agencies.