

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Tierra Hermosa CLOMR

Project Type: (NO PROJECT REVIEW) SPECIES LIST ONLY

Latitude/Longitude (DMS): 32.395787 / -106.696680

County(s): DONA ANA

Project Description: This project is a Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) for a floodplain in Las

Cruces (approximately 192-acre study area). This is a This species list is being requested as part of a desktop review for ESA compliance as part of the CLOMR

submittal process with FEMA. There are no proposed areas of ground disturbance at this time, and as such, no equipment would be used on the ground. Timing of any related activities is unknown. Wildlife surveys or mitigation will be determined once the desktop

analysis is complete.

REQUESTOR INFORMATION

Project Organization:

Contact Name: Jean Marie Rieck
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Organization: JE Fuller / Hydrology & Geomorphology, Inc.

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Phone: 9282140887

OVERALL STATUS

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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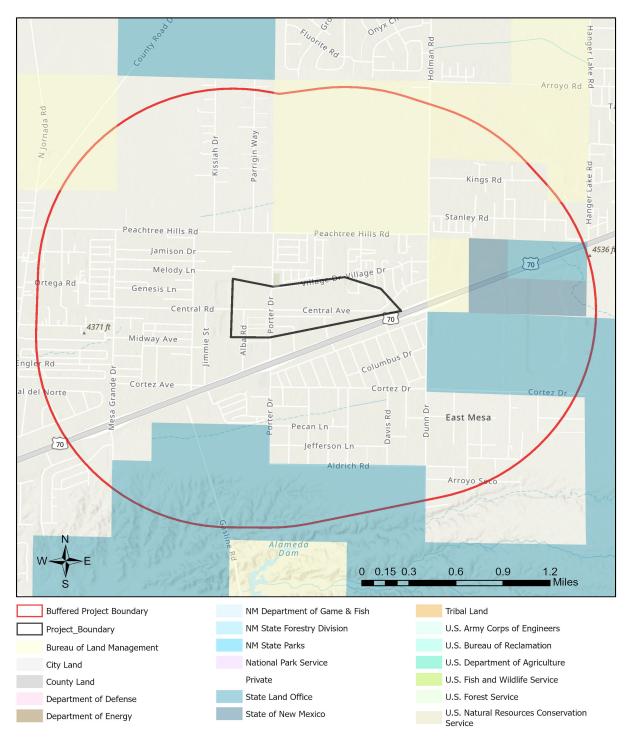
About this report:

- 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.
- This report contains information on wildlife species protected under the ESA and the Wildlife Conservation Act (WCA), Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN), and Species of Economic and Recreational Importance (SERI). Species listed under the ESA are protected from take at the federal level and under the WCA are protected from take at the state level. SGCN are identified in the State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP) for New Mexico; all of these species are considered to be of conservation concern but not all of them are protected from take at the state or federal level. The harvest of all SERI is regulated at the state level. The Department has no authority to designate critical habitat for species listed under the WCA; only the USFWS can designate critical habitat for species listed under the ESA.
- 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, the data layers from which are included in the ERT, is the appropriate system for advising early-stage project planning and design to avoid areas of anticipated wildlife concerns and associated regulatory requirements.

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Tierra Hermosa CLOMR



NHNM, USGS, USFS, US Census Bureau, NMDGF
City of Las Cruces GIS, CONANP, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, Foursquare, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, Bureau of Land Management, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, USFWS

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Special Status Animal Species Potentially within 2000 Meters of Project Area

Special Status Animal Species Fotentially within 2000 Meters of Froject Area												
Common Name	Scientific Name	USFWS (ESA)	NMDGF (WCA)	NMDGF SGCN/SERI	USFS	USFS SCC	BLM					
Barking Frog	Craugastor augusti			SGCN								
Plains Leopard Frog	<u>Lithobates blairi</u>			SGCN			BLM WATCH					
Common Black-Hawk	Buteogallus anthracinus		Т	SGCN	Sensitive Species		BLM WATCH					
Aplomado Falcon	Falco femoralis		E	SGCN								
Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus		Т	SGCN			BLM WATCH					
American Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus anatum		Т	SGCN	Sensitive Species	USFS R3 SCC						
Flammulated Owl	Otus flammeolus			SGCN			BLM WATCH					
Elf Owl	Micrathene whitneyi			SGCN			BLM WATCH					
Western Burrowing Owl	Athene cunicularia hypugaea			SGCN	Sensitive Species	USFS R3 SCC	BLM SENSITIVE					
Common Nighthawk	Chordeiles minor			SGCN								
Lewis's Woodpecker	Melanerpes lewis			SGCN		USFS R3 SCC	BLM WATCH					
Bank Swallow	Riparia riparia			SGCN								
Pinyon Jay	Gymnorhinus cyanocephalus			SGCN		USFS R3 SCC	BLM SENSITIVE					
Pygmy Nuthatch	Sitta pygmaea			SGCN								
Mountain Bluebird	Sialia currucoides			SGCN								
Bendire's Thrasher	Toxostoma bendirei			SGCN		USFS R3 SCC	BLM SENSITIVE					
Sprague's Pipit	Anthus spragueii			SGCN			BLM SENSITIVE					
Loggerhead Shrike	<u>Lanius Iudovicianus</u>			SGCN		USFS R3 SCC	BLM WATCH					
Gray Vireo	<u>Vireo vicinior</u>		Т	SGCN	Sensitive Species	USFS R3 SCC	BLM WATCH					
Virginia's Warbler	<u>Leiothlypis virginiae</u>			SGCN			BLM SENSITIVE					
Lucy's Warbler	<u>Leiothlypis luciae</u>			SGCN			BLM WATCH					
Black-Throated Gray Warbler	Setophaga nigrescens			SGCN			BLM WATCH					

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Special Status Animal Species Potentially within 2000 Meters of Project Area

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Common Name	Scientific Name	USFWS (ESA)	NMDGF (WCA)	NMDGF SGCN/SERI	USFS	USFS SCC	BLM
Black-Chinned Sparrow	Spizella atrogularis			SGCN			BLM WATCH
Vesper Sparrow	Pooecetes gramineus			SGCN			
Thick-billed Longspur	Rhynchophanes mccownii			SGCN			BLM SENSITIVE
Chestnut-Collared Longspur	Calcarius ornatus			SGCN			BLM SENSITIVE
Spotted Bat	Euderma maculatum		Т	SGCN	Sensitive Species	USFS R3 SCC	BLM SENSITIVE
Pale Townsend's Big-Eared Bat	Corynorhinus townsendii pallescens			SGCN	Sensitive Species	USFS R3 SCC	BLM SENSITIVE
Mule Deer	Odocoileus hemionus			SGCN			
Pronghorn	Antilocapra americana			SGCN			
Rock Rattlesnake	Crotalus lepidus			SGCN			
Desert Massasauga	Sistrurus catenatus edwardsii			SGCN			

Common Name hyperlink takes you to species account in bison-m.org; Scientific Name hyperlink takes you to information in NatureServe Explorer; ESA = Endangered Species Act, C = Candidate, LE = Listed Endangered, LT = Listed Threatened, XN = Non-essential Experimental Population, for other ESA codes see this website; WCA = Wildlife Conservation Act, E = Endangered, T = Threatened; SERI = Species of Economic and Recreational Importance; SGCN = Species of Greatest Conservation Need; USFS = U.S. Forest Service, Sensitive Species = A species likely to occur on USFS lands that is of concern for a potential reduction in population viability; SCC = Species of Conservation Concern; BLM = Bureau of Land Management, BLM SENSITIVE = A species that occurs on BLM lands and whose viability is at risk, BLM WATCH = Species that may be added to the sensitive species list in future pending new information regarding species status.

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Project Recommendations

This report includes a preliminary species list that may be used during early stages of project or conservation planning. Even if this report indicates that your proposed project location would require a custom review from a biologist, **no review will be returned** until additional project details are provided. **To obtain a project review**, please submit additional details regarding the **type** of project, project **objectives**, anticipated project **duration**, **timing** of project construction, the composition and dimensions/quantities of **materials** that will be utilized for project implementation, any **equipment** that will be used, anticipated **ground disturbance** that will occur, wildlife surveys or observations that have occurred on or near the project site, and **any other relevant details** regarding potential effects of project activities on wildlife or wildlife habitat. **Photographs** of the project site are especially useful.

Although this project report may include management recommendations based on the project location, additional conservation measures may be needed. The Department can not fully assess potential effects and associated management recommendations until a **project type and description** have been submitted and an appropriate **impact buffer** for that project type has been applied. Also, the species list within this report represents an estimation of special status species that could be present at the site of a small-scale project. Species lists for projects that occur across **broader geographic scales** (e.g., one or more counties, multiple habitat types) are more appropriately obtained from the **Department's Biota Information System of New Mexico (BISON-M) database**. Species lists generated by the ERT may contain modeled species distributions in order to predict species occurrences within areas that lack previous wildlife inventories or surveys. This list can be refined using occurrence-based information within BISON-M regarding wildlife-habitat relationships and biological needs for species that might be present within the project footprint.

Burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*) may occur within your project area. Burrowing owls are protected from take by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and under New Mexico state statute. 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 <u>burrowing owl survey protocol</u>. Should burrowing owls be documented in the project area, please contact the Department or USFWS for further recommendations regarding relocation or avoidance of impacts.

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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
 <u>Endangered Plant Program</u>, 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.

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