

Project Name:

SSHCP Project Specific Avoidance and Minimization Measures

THESE AMMS ARE SPECIFIC TO PROJECTS THAT CONTAIN OR ARE ADJACENT TO PRESERVES

Based upon review of the SSHCP Permit Application, the Project must be constructed in compliance with the Avoidance and Minimization Measures (AMMs) listed below. The applicant will be responsible for reporting compliance with AMMs as applicable. Please submit all required reporting documents to SSHCP@saccounty.net and reference the project Control Number in the correspondence.

Instructions: For each Condition and AMM outlined below, indicate how the Project has or will comply with each provision in the 'Project Compliance' box. If a condition is not applicable to your project, indicate such in the 'Project Compliance' box.

Condition 2. Avoid and Minimize Urban Development Direct and Indirect Impacts to Existing Preserves and SSHCP Preserves	
AMMs associated with Condition 2 must be applied to all UDA Covered Activities that border an existing Preserve or planned SSHCP Preserve ¹ .	
Avoidance and Minimization Measure	Project Compliance
EDGE-1 (Compatible Land Uses): To the maximum extent practicable, development project Covered Activities will locate compatible land uses (e.g., designated open space such as parks and ball fields, detention basins, and other land uses with less-intensive human activity) in areas immediately adjacent to existing or planned Preserve boundaries. The compatible land use will provide additional buffering of Preserves from potential indirect effects of adjacent urban development. The soil surfaces in a compatible land use area may be re-contoured provided that the soil restrictive layer remains undamaged and most of the soil profile above the restrictive layer remains intact. The Land Use Authority will determine when it is not practicable to locate a compatible land use adjacent to existing or planned Preserve boundaries.	
EDGE-2 (Single-Loaded Streets): To the maximum extent practicable, the design of Urban Development Covered Activities will locate single-loaded streets adjacent to existing or planned Preserve. The Land Use Authority will determine when single-loaded streets are not practicable.	
EDGE-3 (Preserve Setbacks): Urban Development Covered Activities constructed adjacent to existing or planned Preserves must establish a minimum 50-foot-wide setback outward from the boundary of any existing Preserve or planned SSHCP Preserve. This minimum 50-foot-wide setback will function as a transition between Urban Development and the Preserve, and must be managed to maintain the natural community of vegetation present in the adjacent Preserve. As much of the setback as possible should remain in the same natural habitat as the Preserve. However, as discussed in Section 5.2.5, Covered Activities in Preserve Setbacks in the UDA, where an existing or planned Preserve is adjacent to an existing roadway (e.g., collectors, arterials, thoroughfares), the 50-foot Preserve Setback will not be required, and any bicycle or pedestrian trail will be established in the road right-of-way. In addition, where a planned roadway crosses an existing or planned Preserve, no Preserve Setback will be required, and any bicycle or pedestrian trail will be established in the road right-of-way.	

¹ Additional AMMs specific to the Cordova Hills Master Plan are described in the December 8, 2016 "on-ramp" Biological Opinion (Corps File Number SPK-2004-00116), as discussed in Section 5.2.1.2 and in Appendix K.

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<p>EDGE-3a (Setback Recreational Trails): Trails are best suited outside of the setback; however, certain types of recreational trails or facilities (e.g., benches, trash receptacles, shade structures, fencing) that can be constructed with minimum ground disturbance and in compliance with EDGE-7 may be allowed within a Preserve Setback, as specified in Section 5.2.5, Covered Activities in Preserve Setbacks in the UDA. Preserve Setback design must locate trails on the side nearest development, away from the Preserve boundary. Trails may be permeable or semi-permeable hiking trails or paved community trails. The maximum trail width will be 16 feet total, including 2-foot-wide shoulders. Post and cable fencing, split rail, or other open fencing will be installed adjacent to recreation trails to keep pedestrians on the trail.</p> <p>EDGE-3b (Setback Firebreaks): If approved by the local authorities, the Preserve Setback trail may also be used as a firebreak. In instances where a trail cannot act as a firebreak, the firebreak will be located between the trail and the Preserve boundary (see Section 5.2.7). Firebreaks allowed inside the setbacks must be created by methods that will not disturb the soil's restrictive layer, such as mowing, minor scraping of surface vegetation, or shallow tilling, to comply with EDGE-7. Firebreak width within Preserve Setbacks is the minimum width needed to comply with applicable local codes.</p> <p>EDGE-3c (Setback Shade Trees and Landscaping): To prevent potential impacts from irrigation water or from accumulation of leaf litter onto the grasslands or vernal pools of a Preserve, planting of shade trees or landscaping vegetation will be limited to the area of the Preserve Setback located between the recreation trail and the adjacent urban development (i.e., away from Preserves).</p> <p>Only drought-tolerant plant species will be planted. The planting pallet used for Preserve Setback landscaping will not include invasive plant species listed in the California Invasive Plant Council's (Cal-IPC) California Invasive Plant Inventory Database or listed in the Cal-IPC California Invasive Plant Watch List (see http://www.cal-ipc.org/paf/). Any shade trees planted along Preserve Setback trails will be native species that are found in California grasslands and that can survive in the Vernal Pool–Grassland border without long-term irrigation or fertilization (e.g., valley oak, black oak, blue oak, oracle oak). In general, no more than 30% of any 1,000-foot-long segment of a Preserve Setback trail will have canopy cover from tree plantings (to be consistent with maximum tree densities naturally found within native California grasslands and savanna).</p> <p>Drip irrigation will be allowed for a maximum of 5 years to establish shade trees or landscape vegetation between the recreation trail and adjacent urban development. The Implementing Entity has the discretion to allow irrigation to continue past 5 years if extenuating circumstances necessitate it (e.g., during a drought) and the continuance of irrigation will not affect the Preserve. Any irrigation systems located within Preserve Setbacks will be inspected quarterly to determine if such systems are affecting soils or vegetation not part of the intended plantings. Irrigation system repairs will be completed immediately if it is determined that the irrigation system is affecting vegetation or soil moisture not part of the intended tree planting.</p> <p>If, during annual monitoring of the adjacent Preserve (see Chapter 8), adverse indirect effects (e.g., leaf litter accumulation, irrigation runoff, plant encroachment) of the Preserve Setback's planted vegetation are detected, then the SSHCP Implementing Entity, the Preserve Manager, and the entity responsible for the Preserve Setback will identify appropriate adaptive management of the Preserve Setback tree or landscape plantings in accordance with the Preserve Setback Easement (see Section 5.2.5 and Chapter 9).</p>	
<p>EDGE-4 (Locate Stormwater Control Outside Preserves): Roads, sidewalks, and other impermeable surfaces of Urban Development Covered Activities adjacent to existing or planned Preserves will</p>	

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<p>slope away from Preserves and Preserve Setbacks or intercept drainage with swales or curbs and gutters to preclude drainage from entering Preserves and Preserve Setbacks. Stormwater flows must be directed away from Preserves and Preserve Setbacks and directed into stormwater control facilities inside the development (outside Preserves and Preserve Setbacks)² (see EDGE-6 for exception to EDGE-4 in certain SSHCP Linkage Preserves).</p>	
<p>EDGE-5 (Stormwater Control in Preserve Setbacks): If trails are established in any Preserve Setback in compliance with EDGE-3, the trail must be sloped away from the Preserve, and rainwater leaving the trail surface must flow into an adjacent low-velocity bio-retention swale or cell to keep rainwater runoff and trail contaminants from entering the Preserve. Low-velocity bio-retention swales or cells are typically small linear features placed on one or both sides of a trail. As required by EDGE-3, trails and their adjacent bio-retention swales or cells must be located on the side of the Preserve Setback nearest development.</p>	
<p>EDGE-6 (Detention Basins in Linkage Preserves): Because planned SSHCP Linkage Preserves L1, L2, L4, L7, L8, L9, and L10 (see Section 7.5) surround natural creeks or streams that must receive stormwater from planned adjacent Urban Development Covered Activities, a limited number of stormwater detention basins will be allowed on those Linkage Preserves. Detention basins within Linkage Preserves (see Section 5.2.7) will be designed and constructed with fill material to build up the perimeter of the detention basin so as not to impact the soil restrictive layer (duripan or hardpan) and function of the soil perched aquifer. Detention basins within Linkage Preserves will capture stormwater flows and runoff, and will discharge water to the stream/creek or percolate collected water to the soil perched aquifer. Detention basin structures that collect stormwater entering the basin or convey stormwater leaving the basin must be designed to avoid and minimize effects to Covered Species habitat in the Linkage Preserve.</p>	
<p>EDGE-7 (Hardpan/Duripan Protection): To protect the soil perched aquifer and the micro-watersheds supporting existing vernal pool hydrology, activities that have the potential to cut into, disrupt, or remove the soil's restrictive layer (hardpan or duripan) will not occur within Preserves or Preserve Setbacks. However, in certain circumstances, the Covered Activities defined in Section 5.2.6, Covered Activities in Stream Setbacks in the UDA, and Section 5.2.8, Covered Activities in the Laguna Creek Wildlife Corridor of the Preserve System, may result in punctures³ or other minor disruptions of the soil hardpan or duripan if approved by the Implementing Entity and the Technical Advisory Committee according to the process described in Chapter 9 of the SSHCP. If a Covered Activity on a Preserve or Preserve Setback results in a puncture or other disruption to the soil hardpan or duripan, the puncture will be sealed using bentonite clay or other material that maintains the functionality of the soil's restrictive layer and associated perched aquifer.</p>	
<p>EDGE-8 (Outdoor Lighting): All outdoor lighting in Urban Development Covered Activity projects will be designed to minimize light pollution into existing and planned Preserves, except where a Land Use Authority Permittee determines lighting is necessary for public safety or security. Minimization measures may include light fixture placement (e.g., as low to the ground as possible), lamp designs (e.g., shielding, low glare, or no lighting), directing light away from Preserves, or other means to avoid or minimize light</p>	

² Detention basins are allowed in some Linkage Preserves consistent with the requirements of EDGE-6. At the time of SSHCP preparation, seven Linkage Preserves with drainages are planned SSHCP Preserves: L1, L2, L4, L7, L8, L9, and L10 (see Section 5.2.7 and Section 7.5). Also see project-specific measures in Section 5.5.1.

³ Punctures may include small holes that penetrate the soil hardpan or duripan such as might occur when digging or drilling holes for the installation of fence posts, sign posts, or trees.

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<p>pollution. The Third-Party Project Proponent will use the best information available at the time of project design to minimize effects of light pollution on target SSHCP Covered Species (e.g., western spadefoot (<i>Spea hammondi</i>), Valley elderberry longhorn beetle (<i>Desmocerus californicus dimorphus</i>), and Ricksecker’s water scavenger beetle (<i>Hydrochara rickseckeri</i>)).</p>	
<p>EDGE-9 (Livestock Access to Preserves): Urban Development Covered Activity projects that include on-site Preserves will include in their design an adequate number of access points and facilities for delivery and pick up of grazing animals (livestock), such that these activities will not significantly alter the Preserve’s habitat and are consistent with the protection of livestock and protection of adjacent public property, and include adequate public safety measures.</p>	
<p>EDGE-10 (Prevent Invasive Species Spread): Completed Covered Activities (including roads) will be maintained in a manner that avoids the spread of invasive species into Preserve and Open Space areas. Such maintenance measures will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To prevent the transport of non-native invasive species onto Preserves, before bringing any equipment onto an SSHCP Preserve or Preserve Setback, equipment must be cleaned of mud, dirt, and plant material. Cleaning will occur in the infested area or another appropriate location as approved by a Plan Permittee. • Mowing rotation will start in un-infested areas and move to infested areas. • Invasive plant prevention techniques will be incorporated into maintenance plans. • The SSHCP Implementing Entity will survey road shoulders, ditches, and rights-of-way that border SSHCP Preserves for invasive weeds or other exotic plant species. Where roadside weed infestations have reached a critical control point, the Implementing Entity or Land Use Authority Permittee will apply the appropriate manual, mechanical, or chemical treatment. 	
<p>Condition 5. Avoid and Minimize Impacts that Result from Public Use of Low-Impact Nature Trails in Preserves</p> <p>AMMs associated with Condition 5 must be applied to all UDA Covered Activities that border or contain an existing Preserve or planned SSHCP Preserve</p>	
<p>Avoidance and Minimization Measure</p>	<p>Project Compliance</p>
<p>NATURE TRAIL-1 (Nature Trail Plan): A nature trail plan must be prepared for each Preserve where a trail is allowed by the Preserve Management Plan. Nature trails will be unpaved trails that vary in width depending on terrain and existing constraints, but will never exceed 4 feet in width. Where a trail crosses a swale, wooden walkways elevated to a height no greater than 2 feet will be installed. Trail improvements may include mowing vegetation to create or maintain a trail, minor grading to remove trip hazards, and signs providing directional and educational information. Public access to land acquired for preservation will be prohibited until a trail plan can be prepared by the Implementing Entity and approved by the Permitting Agencies. A trail plan will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maps identifying areas that contain sensitive habitats or species occurrences. • Maps that show the location and footprint of proposed trails. • Methods used to control public access. • Trail and use monitoring methods, schedules, and responsibilities. • Trail operation and maintenance guidelines and responsibilities. 	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear triggers for use restrictions or closure based on sensitive biological indicators (e.g., seasonal closures of some trails on the basis of activity periods of Covered Species or sensitive species). 	
<p>NATURE TRAIL-2 (Nature Trail Protection of Duripan): Nature trails will be sited and constructed so as not to interfere with existing soil duripan and the perched aquifer that support the existing hydrologic regime of the Vernal Pool–Grassland, and will not interfere with existing pool hydrology. Trails within Preserves will not be paved.</p>	
<p>NATURE TRAIL-3 (Nature Trail Location): Nature trails will be located away from sensitive natural resources (e.g., vernal pools, riparian habitat, woodland habitat, Covered Species occurrences, raptor nesting sites, tricolored blackbird (<i>Agelaius tricolor</i>) colony sites). The Wildlife Agencies will determine the distance necessary to avoid impacts to sensitive natural resources.</p>	
<p>NATURE TRAIL-4 (Biological Studies Prior to Nature Trail Design): Biological studies will be conducted within the area being considered for nature trail construction prior to project design. The studies will include land cover type mapping and focused species surveys and/or wetland delineations. The biological studies will include assessments of potential effects of trail construction on Preserve System resources, and recommendations for avoidance and minimization that may be incorporated into project siting, design, construction, and operation.</p>	
<p>NATURE TRAIL-5 (Monitoring of Nature Trail Impacts): Impacts that could result from use of a nature trail within a Preserve will be monitored according to the Preserve Management Plan (Chapter 8) to ensure that uses do not conflict with the individual Preserve Management Plan. If use of a trail is found to conflict with the individual Preserve Management Plan, use of that trail will be discontinued until adjustments in the use can be made to reduce or eliminate conflicts. The Implementing Entity will make decisions about discontinuing or modifying use of a trail in consultation with the Preserve Manager or other applicable Preserve management agency or organization.</p>	
<p>Condition 6. Avoid and Minimize Impacts When Re-Establishing or Establishing Wetlands</p>	
<p>Avoidance and Minimization Measure</p>	<p>Project Compliance</p>
<p>RE-ESTABLISHMENT/ESTABLISHMENT-1 (Vernal Pool): Re-establish or establish Vernal Pool Wetland according to the following guidelines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-establishment will always take priority over establishment of vernal pools. Establishment will be permitted only after it has been determined that sites with the potential to re-establish vernal pools no longer exist in the Plan Area or cannot be acquired through a willing seller/buyer agreement. • When possible, re-established or established sites will be located adjacent to an existing Preserve(s) to maximize connectivity and Preserve area. • Re-establishment or establishment will not result in direct or indirect adverse impacts to the hydrologic regime of existing vernal pools. Vernal pool re-establishment or establishment actions will not remove more than 10% of any existing vernal pool watershed, as defined by the SSHCP LIDAR analysis (see Section 3.3 and Conservation Action VPI1.2 in Table 7.1). • Vernal pool re-establishment will attempt to restore the historical density and range of vernal pool sizes to the maximum extent feasible using historical aerial photography of the 	

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<p>site, if available. Where aerial photography of the site's historical conditions is not available, vernal pool re-establishment will include a range of pool sizes (area and depth) to accommodate the different habitat needs and life history characteristics of the vernal pool invertebrate Covered Species.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Established vernal pools must be located on sites with vernal pool soils, defined as any Plan Area soil type where vernal pools currently exist.• Established vernal pool sites will include a range of pool sizes to accommodate the different habitat needs and life history characteristics of the three vernal pool invertebrate Covered Species.• The total density of vernal pools will not exceed 10% of the suitable soil areas in any vernal pool re-establishment and/or establishment site, unless it can be shown that the suitable areas of that site historically supported greater densities.• Re-establishment or establishment may include inoculation when it is likely that no seed or cyst bank of vernal pool species remains at a site. Vernal Pool inocula will come from nearby vernal pools that are on the same geologic formation and soil type. <p>Each SSHCP vernal pool re-establishment/establishment project is required to achieve the SSHCP Performance Standards for Vernal Pool Re-Establishment or Establishment, (which will be developed by the South Sacramento Conservation Agency within 18 months of Permit issuance).</p> <p><u>This AMM has been revised to reflect USFWS and/or CDFW permit conditions</u></p>	
<p>RE-ESTABLISHMENT/ESTABLISHMENT-3 (Re-Establishment/Establishment of Freshwater Marsh or Open Water Near Airports): During review of proposed re-establishment/establishment projects for freshwater marsh or open water on SSHCP Preserves, the Implementing Entity shall consider the potential for the location of the re-establishment/establishment projects to increase the risk of wildlife strikes or generation of ground fog at airports. If a re-establishment/ establishment project would result in (1) a net increase in open water or freshwater marsh acreage over baseline conditions⁴ within 5 miles of Mather Field, Sacramento Executive Airport, or Franklin Field; or (2) replacement of open water/freshwater marsh habitat that is located 2 or more miles from Mather Field or Sacramento Executive Airport with open water/freshwater marsh habitat that is located less than 2 miles from those airports, a qualified biologist shall prepare a concise letter report. The letter report shall summarize the biologist's findings regarding (1) the species likely to use the re-established/established habitat, (2) a rough order of magnitude estimate on the peak number of birds that might use the re-established/established habitat, and (3) potential movement patterns for birds using the re-established/established habitat and whether they might cross through the airport safety zones (e.g., to reach foraging habitat or another wildlife attractant). The letter report will also provide recommendations to the Implementing Entity on how they could reduce any of the identified wildlife hazards if there are any feasible means to do so that would not conflict with the biological goals and measurable objectives of the Conservation Plan.</p> <p><u>This AMM has been revised to reflect USFWS and/or CDFW permit conditions</u></p>	
<p>Condition 8. Avoid and Minimize Impacts to Covered Species from Utility and Utility Maintenance Covered Activities</p>	

⁴ For purposes of establishing SSHCP land cover baseline conditions (including the baseline conditions of the Freshwater Marsh and Open Water land covers), baseline acreages will be calculated using the final SSHCP Land Cover Baseline Map (see discussions in Sections 3.3.1 and Section 10.4.2.3)..

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Note: AMMs associated with Condition 8 must be applied to all Covered Activities associated with construction and maintenance of infrastructure projects.	
Avoidance and Minimization Measure	Project Compliance
UTILITY-1 (Avian Collision Avoidance): Installation of new, or relocation of existing, utility poles, lines, and cell towers located within the Preserve System or within 1,000 feet of a Preserve boundary will be coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and California Department of Fish and Wildlife. The applicant or relevant utility/service provider will install utility poles, lines, and cell towers in conformance with Avian Powerline Interaction Committee (APLIC) standards for collision-reducing techniques, as outlined in Reducing Avian Collisions with Power Lines: State of the Art in 2012 (APLIC 2012), or any superseding document issued by the APLIC.	
UTILITY-2 (Utility Maintenance on Preserves): Utility maintenance inside SSHCP Preserves and SSHCP Preserve Setbacks containing vernal pools will occur only when vernal pools have been dry for 30 days, except in emergency situations related to human health and safety.	
UTILITY-3 (Trenchless Construction Methods): Where a pipeline or conduit crosses an existing or planned Preserve or will be located between adjacent Preserves (e.g., under a roadway that has a Preserve on both sides), trenchless construction methods will be used to minimize impacts to the existing soil profile (including impacts to a hardpan or duripan) to maintain the perched aquifer in Vernal Pool Grassland land cover type.	
UTILITY-4 (Siting of Entry and Exit Location): The entry and exit locations for the trenchless construction method (see Utility-3) will be sited to avoid impacts to vernal pools and Riparian Woodland, and to avoid direct take of SSHCP Covered Species.	
Condition 9. Avoid and Minimize Impacts That Might Result From Removing or Breaching Levees to Establish or Re-establish Riparian Habitat	
Avoidance and Minimization Measure	Project Compliance
LEEVE-1 (Preparation of Hydrologic Analysis): Prior to approving a draft Preserve Management Plan that includes (1) modifying or breaching an existing levee, or (2) would place a potential impedance to high-water event flood-flows on the water side of an existing levee (including new riparian vegetation plantings or other new Preserve facilities), a hydrologic analysis will be conducted. The Preserve activity will only be implemented if the hydrologic analysis concludes that the activity will not result in a substantial increase in flood stage elevations or flood risk on lands outside the Preserve.	
Condition 10. Avoid and Minimize Impacts That Might Result From Potential Residual Contamination of Preserves and Related Exposure of People to Such Hazardous Materials	
Avoidance and Minimization Measure	Project Compliance
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS-1 (Preparation of Phase I Environmental Site Assessment): Prior to the acquisition of a preserve site or implementation of a stream or riparian restoration project, a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment shall be conducted in general accordance with the American Society for Testing and Materials Standard Practice E1527-05. The purpose of this Environmental Site Assessment is to identify, to the extent feasible pursuant to the American Society for Testing	

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<p>and Materials Standard, recognized environmental conditions in connection with the potential site. The term “recognized environmental condition” means the presence or likely presence of hazardous substances or petroleum products on the property under conditions that may indicate an existing release, a past release, or a material threat of release of these substances to the property. If the Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment indicates the presence of a recognized environmental condition, the Implementing Entity shall consider the following options.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Determine that the acquisition/project can proceed on the basis that the Habitat Plan goals and objectives can be met on the site even with the presence of a recognized environmental condition.• Conduct a Phase II Environmental Site Assessment, including soil and groundwater testing, to further study the potential for contamination to limit the Implementing Entity’s management activities.• If the results of the Phase I (or Phase II) Environmental Site Assessment indicate that the Habitat Plan goals and objectives cannot be met on the site, the Implementing Entity should not acquire the site.	
<p>HAZARDOUS MATERIALS-2 (Contingency Plan): As part of each Preserve Management Plan or site restoration plan, a Contingency Plan shall be prepared to address the actions that would be taken during construction in the event that unexpected contaminated soil or groundwater is discovered. The Contingency Plan shall include health and safety considerations, handling and disposal of wastes, reporting requirements, and emergency procedures. The Contingency Plan shall include a requirement that if evidence of contaminated materials is encountered during construction, construction would cease immediately and applicable requirements of the Comprehensive Environmental Release Compensation and Liability Act and the California Code of Regulations Title 22 regarding the disposal of waste would be implemented.</p>	