DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, US ARMY GARRISON, PRESIDIO OF MONTEREY
1759 LEWIS ROAD, SUITE 210
MONTEREY, CA 93944-3223

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

Office of the Garrison Commander

Dear Interested Parties:

The Department of the Army invites all interested parties to review and comment on the Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (EA) for implementation of anti-terrorism force protection measures, specifically an expanded perimeter fence and associated structures, at the Camp Roberts Satellite Communications (SATCOM) site. The expanded perimeter fence was originally described in the SATCOM Area Development Plan (ADP) and initially evaluated in the Programmatic EA for the ADP; however, the proposed fence alignment has been modified and expanded, requiring preparation of a Supplemental EA.

The proposed action would include expansion of the perimeter fence at the SATCOM site to the west of its current location. The new portion of the fence would be about 1 mile long and would include a 40-foot-wide clear zone with patrol roads, security cameras, and lights. The proposed action is needed to support the construction of a new facility to respond to new technologies and accommodate additional communications needs associated with an enhanced mission definition and modernized equipment systems.

The Draft EA was prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (Public Law 91-190, 42 U.S. Code §4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality regulations for implementing NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Parts 1500–1508), and Environmental Analysis of Army Actions (32 CFR 651 March 2002). The EA evaluates potential environmental impacts of the proposed action and identifies measures to minimize or avoid adverse environmental effects.

Comments on the Draft EA are due no later than 5:00 p.m. on February 26, 2013.

The Draft EA is available for review at the following locations:

Paso Robles Public Library
1000 Spring Street
Paso Robles, CA 93446
Phone: (805) 237-3870

U.S. Army Garrison, Presidio of Monterey
Department of Public Works
4463 Gigling Road
Monterey, CA 93944
Phone: (831) 242-7925

Presidio of Monterey website at:

http://www.monterey.army.mil/dpw/env_assessment.html

Please forward written comments to:

Attn: Lenore R. Grover-Bullington
Directorate of Public Works, Environmental Division
P.O. Box 5004
Monterey, California 93944-5004
Via electronic mail to: lenore.r.grover-bullington.civ@mail.mil
Via facsimile to: 831-242-7019
http://www.monterey.army.mil/dpw/env_assessment.html

Sincerely,

Enclosure

Joel J. Clark
Colonel, US Army
Commanding

DRAFT

SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR ANTI-TERRORISM FORCE PROTECTION MEASURES

SATCOM, CAMP ROBERTS
SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

United States Army

January 2013

DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR ANTI-TERRORISM FORCE PROTECTION MEASURES, SATCOM, CAMP ROBERTS, SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

January 2013

Reviewed by:

_____ Date: _____

Lenore Grover-Bullington
Chief, Environmental Division
Presidio of Monterey Public Works

_____ Date: _____

James Willison
Director, Directorate of Public Works
Presidio of Monterey

Approved by:

_____ Date: _____

Joel J. Clark
Colonel, U.S. Army
Garrison Commander
Presidio of Monterey

Anti-Terrorism Force Protection Measures Supplemental Environmental Assessment

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

This finding of no significant impact (FONSI) has been prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, Public Law 91-190, 42 U.S. Code §4321 et seq.; the Council on Environmental Quality regulations for implementing NEPA, 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Parts 1500–1508; and Environmental Analysis of Army Actions, 32 CFR 651 (March 2002). The FONSI is the decision document for the attached Environmental Assessment (EA) for implementation of anti-terrorism force protection measures, specifically an expanded perimeter fence and associated structures, at the Camp Roberts Satellite Communications (SATCOM) site (proposed action). The expanded perimeter fence was originally described in the SATCOM Area Development Plan (ADP) and initially evaluated in the Programmatic EA for the ADP; however, the proposed fence alignment has been modified and expanded, requiring preparation of a Supplemental EA.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

Under the proposed action, the perimeter fence at the SATCOM site would be expanded to the west of its current location. The new portion of the fence would be about 1 mile long, and approximately 900 feet of the existing fence would be removed where it is no longer needed inside the new fence. A 40-foot-wide clear zone would be established along the new fence and would include dirt roads on the interior and exterior sides of the fence and adjacent areas maintained clear of vegetation that could obstruct visibility along the fence. Security cameras and lights would be installed along the fence on the interior side (about 20 feet from the fence). The total area of disturbance is approximately 5.2 acres.

The avoidance and minimization measures (Air Measures 1 through 6, Bio Measures 1 through 4, and Geo Measures 1 through 4) described in the Programmatic EA for the ADP were incorporated into the proposed action to minimize environmental effects. In addition, applicable measures and standard operating procedures from the Presidio of Monterey (POM) and Camp Roberts Integrated Natural and Cultural Resources Management Plans will be implemented and adhered to during implementation of the proposed action.

Under the no-action alternative, the perimeter fence would not be expanded, and associated structures (e.g., lighting, cameras) and clear zone establishment would not be necessary. Without these structures, the SATCOM facility could not be securely expanded beyond the existing 24-acre site

because of potential security issues with facilities located outside the perimeter fence. This alternative would not allow the U.S. Army to fully implement the SATCOM ADP.

SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

The EA documents that the proposed action would not have any significant direct, indirect, or cumulative impacts on the human environment. After an initial examination of all resource areas, it has been determined that the proposed action would have no effects on environmental justice, groundwater, population and housing, public services, recreation, and socioeconomics. Based on analyses contained in the 2005 EA for the SATCOM ADP, it has been determined that the proposed action would have insignificant effects on agricultural resources, cultural resources, geology, hazards and hazardous materials, land use, noise, transportation, and visual resources. Upon further analysis, it was determined that the proposed action would not have significant effects on air quality, biological resources, soils, infrastructure, or surface water resources, with implementation of the measures incorporated into the proposed action and the mitigation measures identified in the EA.

CONCLUSION

Based on the environmental analyses contained in the EA, it has been found and determined that implementation of the proposed action, with implementation of mitigation measures, would not have any significant direct, indirect, or cumulative impacts on the human environment (which includes the physical and natural environment and the relationship of people with those environments). Because no significant impacts would result from implementing the proposed action, an environmental impact statement is not required and will not be prepared.

APPROVAL

_____ _____

Joel J. Clark
Colonel, U.S. Army
Garrison Commander
Presidio of Monterey

Date

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The United States (U.S.) Army, represented by the Network Enterprise Technology Command/9th Army Signal Command (NETCOM) and U.S. Army Garrison, Presidio of Monterey (POM), has prepared a Supplemental Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the environmental effects of expanding the perimeter fence around the Camp Roberts Satellite Communications (SATCOM) site. The expanded perimeter fence was described in the SATCOM Area Development Plan (ADP) (Nakata Planning Group, LLC 2004) and initially evaluated in the Programmatic EA for the ADP (U.S. Army 2005); however, the proposed fence alignment has been modified and expanded, requiring preparation of this Supplemental EA. The EA was prepared to supplement, or tier off of, the 2005 Programmatic EA to minimize redundancy and replication of analyses. The EA has been prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, 42 United States Code (USC) §4321 et seq., and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing NEPA, 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Parts 1500–1508.

SUMMARY OF THE PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

Under the proposed action, the perimeter fence at the SATCOM site would be expanded to the west of its current location. The new portion of the fence would be about 1 mile long, and approximately 900 feet of the existing fence would be removed where it is no longer needed inside the new fence. A 40-foot-wide clear zone would be established along the new fence and would include dirt roads on the interior and exterior sides of the fence and adjacent areas maintained clear of vegetation that could obstruct visibility along the fence. Security cameras and lights would be installed along the fence on the interior side (about 20 feet from the fence). The total area of disturbance is approximately 5.2 acres.

The avoidance and minimization measures (Air Measures 1 through 6, Bio Measures 1 through 4, and Geo Measures 1 through 4) described in the Programmatic EA for the ADP were incorporated into the proposed action to minimize environmental effects. In addition, applicable measures and standard operating procedures from the Presidio of Monterey (POM) and Camp Roberts Integrated Natural and Cultural Resources Management Plans will be implemented and adhered to during implementation of the proposed action.

Under the no-action alternative, the perimeter fence would not be expanded, and associated structures (e.g., lighting, cameras) and clear zone establishment would not be necessary. Without these structures, the SATCOM facility could not be securely expanded beyond the existing 24-acre site

because of potential security issues with facilities located outside the perimeter fence. This alternative would not allow the U.S. Army to fully implement the SATCOM ADP.

SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

The EA documents that the proposed action would not have any significant direct, indirect, or cumulative impacts on the human environment. After an initial examination of all resource areas, it has been determined that the proposed action would have no effects on environmental justice, groundwater, population and housing, public services, recreation, and socioeconomics. Based on analyses contained in the 2005 EA for the SATCOM ADP, it has been determined that the proposed action would have insignificant effects on agricultural resources, cultural resources, geology, hazards and hazardous materials, land use, noise, transportation, and visual resources. Upon further analysis, it was determined that the proposed action would not have significant effects on air quality, biological resources, soils, infrastructure, or surface water resources, with implementation of the measures incorporated into the proposed action and the mitigation measures identified in the EA.

Table ES-1 summarizes the environmental consequences of the proposed action and no-action alternative based on the analysis presented in Chapter 3.0, Environmental Conditions and Consequences, of the EA.

In addition to the mitigation measures listed in Table ES-1, the following measures have been incorporated into the proposed action to avoid or minimize adverse effects:

- A spill contingency and containment plan will also be prepared and implemented in the event that hazardous materials are accidentally spilled during construction.
- Relevant measures in the Camp Roberts Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) (e.g., standard operating procedures, erosion control, water pollution prevention, protecting sensitive species, preserving grassland and oak woodland communities, and oak tree replacement policies); the Camp Roberts ICRMP (e.g., standard operating procedures to protect cultural resources, guidance for inadvertent discoveries of paleontological resources); the POM INRMP (e.g., natural resources protection guidance); and the POM ICRMP (e.g., standard operating procedures to protect cultural resources, guidance for inadvertent discoveries of cultural resources or human remains) will be implemented as they apply to the proposed action and at the discretion of POM.
- A Native American advisor/consultant will be present during ground-disturbing activities associated with the proposed action, in response to a request from the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians during consultations.

Table ES-1. Summary of Environmental Consequences

Resource Topic	*Proposed Action*		*No-Action*
	Impacts	*Mitigation Measures*	
Air Quality	▪ Construction activities would emit pollutants, including GHGs, but contribute minimally to regional air quality conditions. ▪ Construction activities would be less than *de minimis* thresholds. ▪ Operational emissions would be minimal from vehicles used during security patrols or maintenance.	Implement air quality measures from the 2005 ADP EA: ▪ **Air Measure 1**: Minimize disturbance – Minimize the area disturbed due to clearing, earthmoving, or excavation activities. ▪ **Air Measure 2**: Water disturbed areas – Sufficiently water all excavated or graded areas to prevent excessive dust generation and increase watering frequency when wind speeds exceed 15 miles per hour. ▪ **Air Measure 3**: Limit vehicle speeds – Limit construction vehicle speeds to 15 miles per hour on unpaved surfaces at the construction site. ▪ **Air Measure 4**: Control dust – Water or chemically treat all unpaved active portions of the construction site as necessary to control windblown dust and dust generated by vehicle traffic. ▪ **Air Measure 5**: Revegetate disturbed areas – Implement native species revegetation and landscape plans as soon as possible following completion of soil disturbing activities. ▪ **Air Measure 6**: Protect truck loads – Ensure that trucks hauling dirt, sand, soil, or other loose materials are covered or maintain at least two feet of freeboard (minimum vertical distance between the top of the load and the top of the trailer).	No change in air quality from existing setting.
Biological Resources	▪ Oak woodlands and grasslands would be removed in the clear zone, which could remove special-status plants and affect special-status wildlife and nesting or roosting migratory birds. ▪ The clear zone would result in a net loss of about 2 acres of woodlands and 3.2 acres of grasslands. ▪ Construction activities could result in	Implement biology measures from the 2005 ADP EA and other measures identified in relevant regulatory and planning documents for Camp Roberts, POM, and SATCOM, as described below: ▪ **Bio Measure 1: Avoid, minimize, and mitigate impacts on blue oak woodland (modified from Bio Measure 1 in the 2005 EA)** – In accordance with the INRMP for Camp Roberts (California Army National Guard 2001), the following measures will be implemented to avoid and minimize impacts on blue oak trees that may be affected by the proposed action	No change in biological conditions from existing setting.

Table ES-1. Summary of Environmental Consequences

Resource Topic	*Proposed Action*		*No-Action*
	Impacts	*Mitigation Measures*	
	the spread of invasive plants. ▪ Construction activities could disturb the federally listed San Joaquin kit fox. The habitat in and near the project area was determined marginally suitable, and the potential for impacts is low. ▪ Construction activities would not affect vernal pool fairy shrimp with implementation of avoidance measures. ▪ Operation-related effects would be minimal and similar to current conditions around the existing fence.	and replace oak trees that must be removed in the clear zone: o During construction activities, no ground disturbance, soil compaction, staging, or vehicle access will be allowed within the dripline of any oak trees outside the clear zone, unless authorized by POM. Protective fencing at the dripline (the furthest point from the tree that is covered by the tree crown) will be used to protect trees during construction activities. o Fasteners will not be allowed on any trees that are protected in place. o When pruning of oak trees or cutting of roots larger than 2 inches in diameter is required, it must be done by an International Society of Arboriculture-certified arborist and in accordance with American National Standards Institute standards for arboriculture operations. o Direct removal of standing oak trees will be subject to the oak replacement policy, which includes the following: ▪ Any oak tree removed will be replaced at a 3:1 ratio with a monitoring program. Small trees, seedlings, or acorns will be planted at appropriate densities on the SATCOM property or in areas approved by California Army National Guard. ▪ Trees/seedlings/acorns will be watered at a frequency to ensure survival. ▪ Plantings should occur during the appropriate season (i.e., acorns should be planted in January or February and container stock should be planted early on in the rainy season) within 1 year of tree removal. ▪ If possible, acorns to be planted for mitigation should be collected from the area where trees are to be removed during October or November.	

Table ES-1. Summary of Environmental Consequences

Resource Topic	*Proposed Action*		*No-Action*
	Impacts	*Mitigation Measures*	
		▪ Replacement plantings will be monitored for a minimum of 5 years. ▪ If a 3:1 survivorship ratio (i.e., three surviving trees or seedlings for each tree removed) is not attained by the end of each year, sufficient numbers of additional trees, seedlings, or acorns will be planted and monitored until the desired success ratio is attained. ▪ As part of the monitoring program, the project proponent will provide an annual monitoring report describing the actions taken, the number of trees/seedlings/acorns planted, and the number of trees/seedlings/acorns remaining alive at the end of the season. o Leave standing dead trees (snags) and fallen logs (coarse woody debris) when they are not safety hazards. Snags and coarse woody debris serve several important ecological functions. They provide structural habitat characteristics for various plant and animal species, are potentially important in long-term nutrient cycling, and help minimize effects, caused by erosion, to soil and water resources. ▪ **Bio Measure 2: Maintain access for San Joaquin kit fox through the perimeter fence (modified from Bio Measure 2 in the 2005 EA)** – Approximately 57.5 acres of suitable San Joaquin kit fox habitat would potentially be lost outside the existing SATCOM fence. To minimize the loss of this habitat, 6-inch diameter holes would be placed in the fence at ground level at ridge tops and valley areas where kit foxes are most likely to be moving. Holes would be placed in the new (extended) perimeter fence as well as the existing perimeter fence. These holes would allow kit foxes and other small animals to pass through the facility or utilize habitat within the	

Table ES-1. Summary of Environmental Consequences

Resource Topic	*Proposed Action*		*No-Action*
	Impacts	*Mitigation Measures*	
		facility and also escape if they become trapped inside of the fence. ▪ **Bio Measure 3: Implement avoidance and minimization measures to protect San Joaquin kit fox (modified from Bio Measure 3 in the 2005 EA)** – The following measures would be implemented to avoid and minimize the potential for injury and mortality of San Joaquin kit fox. These measures were derived from the *Biological Opinion for Normal Operations and Construction Activities in Support of the Satellite Communications Facility at Camp Roberts, San Luis Obispo, California* (1-8-96-F-25), with slight modifications to improve the effectiveness of the measures. Modifications include clarification of the survey area, the timing for preactivity surveys, the qualified biologist requirements, and the guidance to follow for establishing exclusion zones; inclusion of additional requirements for minimizing and avoiding disturbance to dens; and expansion of the worker awareness training requirement. o Conduct preactivity surveys for the presence of kit fox and other special-status animals that may occupy burrows in the project area (e.g., western burrowing owl, American badger) no less than 14 days and no more than 30 days prior to ground-disturbing activities. Surveys will be conducted by qualified biologists in the clear zone and a 150-foot-wide buffer on both sides of the clear zone. The intent of the surveys is to identify active burrows that are used by special-status animals. o Exclusion zones, or no-disturbance buffers, will be established around dens found within the survey area in accordance with the latest guidance from USFWS or CDFG (e.g., *Standard Recommendations for Protection of the San Joaquin Kit Fox Prior to or During Ground*	

Table ES-1. Summary of Environmental Consequences

Resource Topic	*Proposed Action*		*No-Action*
	Impacts	*Mitigation Measures*	
		Disturbance, USFWS 2011; *Burrowing Owl Survey Protocol and Mitigation Guidelines*, California Burrowing Owl Consortium 1993). No ground disturbance or vehicle traffic is allowed within the exclusion zones. If an established roadway falls within the exclusion zone, vehicle traffic shall be allowed only if critical need exists and alternate routes are not available. Foot traffic will be allowed for transit only when necessary and alternate routes are not available. Exclusion zones for kit fox will be based on the following criteria: ▪ Potential or atypical den - 50-foot (15 meter) radius ▪ Known den - 100-foot (30 meter) radius ▪ Known natal or pupping den - 150 foot (45 meter) radius o Potential dens are defined as dens with entrances of sufficient size to allow use by San Joaquin kit foxes (4-inch or greater diameter) and that occur in suitable habitat. Known dens are those that are currently inhabited by kit foxes or where kit foxes have been observed in the past. Known natal or pupping dens are those dens where pregnant females or females with pups have been observed. The exclusion radius is measured from the center of a single den, or from the center of a group of dens. o Only qualified biologists will conduct preactivity den surveys and other activities that pertain to San Joaquin kit fox. The names and credentials of qualified biologists will be supplied to USFWS for its review and approval at least 15 days prior to the onset of activities that they are authorized to conduct.	

Table ES-1. Summary of Environmental Consequences

Resource Topic	*Proposed Action*		*No-Action*
	Impacts	*Mitigation Measures*	
		o Exclusion zones will be clearly staked, encircled with cord or tape, and flagged. Exclusion zones will be established by a qualified biologist. o Disturbance to all potential San Joaquin kit fox dens will be avoided to the maximum extent possible. In the event that the destruction of a potential den is unavoidable, a biologist qualified to conduct preactivity surveys may, after appropriate monitoring, destroy a potential den without prior approval from USFWS. Potential dens shall only be destroyed in the event that construction activities would destroy the den and the den cannot be avoided. A potential den will be carefully excavated with hand tools by a qualified biologist or under the direction of a qualified biologist before construction begins. If at any point during excavation a San Joaquin kit fox is discovered inside the den, the excavation activity will cease immediately and monitoring as described in the *Standard Recommendations for the Protection of the San Joaquin Kit Fox* shall be resumed. Destruction of the den may resume when, in the judgment of the qualified biologist, the animal has escaped from the partially destroyed den. The den will be fully excavated and then filled with dirt and compacted to ensure that kit foxes cannot reenter or use the den during the construction period. o Limited destruction of known kit fox dens may be allowed, but should be avoided except where absolutely necessary. Prior to destruction of any known den, USFWS will be notified in writing of the intent to destroy the subject den(s) and the reasons why alternate courses of action are not possible. United State Fish and Wildlife Service will review the proposal and either concur or	

Table ES-1. Summary of Environmental Consequences

Resource Topic	*Proposed Action*		*No-Action*
	Impacts	*Mitigation Measures*	
		recommend alternate methods to avoid den destruction or reduce impacts. Destruction of known or suspected natal or pupping dens shall be avoided during the breeding season (November 1 to July 31); this may result in the postponement of some construction activities. Destruction of known dens may require mitigation measures such as installation of replacement dens, as directed by USFWS. Destruction of known dens would proceed as described above for the destruction of potential dens. o Construction activities shall be designed to minimize off-road vehicle traffic and be limited to the smallest possible areas of disturbance. Construction personnel should make use of existing roads, trails, and previously disturbed areas whenever possible. Off-road parking and staging areas should be clearly delineated. o All vehicle traffic is subject to a 25 mile per hour speed limit, except where posted lower. Nighttime construction activities will be avoided. o To avoid accidental entrapment of animals, the following measures will be implemented: ▪ All steep-sided excavations greater than 2-feet deep shall be equipped with one or more earth or plank escape ramps. ▪ All excavations will be thoroughly inspected for animals prior to sealing or refilling to avoid accidental burial. Permanent and semipermanent structures installed in-ground or underground shall be constructed so that animals may not become trapped within. ▪ Any pipe, culvert, or similar material with an inside diameter of 4 inches or more shall be thoroughly	

Table ES-1. Summary of Environmental Consequences

Resource Topic	*Proposed Action*		*No-Action*
	Impacts	*Mitigation Measures*	
		inspected for animals prior to sealing or reconnection. If animals are found inside the materials, the material will not be removed, or moved only once to remove it from the path of construction activity, until the animals vacate the area. Pipelines temporarily left open in place shall be covered or blocked until work is completed. o Contour and restoration of disturbed areas shall be performed following conclusion of construction activities. All temporary excavations shall be filled in, contoured, and vegetated where practicable to restore as closely as possible the existing conditions of the site. Permanent and semipermanent construction will be blended into the surrounding landscape and vegetated where practicable. Local native plant species will be used whenever possible. o All trash, especially food-related items, will be deposited in closed containers or bags and regularly moved from the site. o Use of pest control substance, such as rodenticides and herbicides, will be in strict accordance with all Federal, State, local, and Army regulations. In the event that kit foxes are sighted or an active den exists within a 1-mile radius of the SATCOM facility, the Army will use methods of rodent control that have little or no toxicity to kit foxes, such as zinc phosphide or live-trapping, to the maximum extent practicable, particularly during the pupping season from January 1 to April 30. Aluminum phosphide (phostoxin) should be used only in ground holes where ground squirrels are observed using the target holes.	

Table ES-1. Summary of Environmental Consequences

Resource Topic	*Proposed Action*		*No-Action*
	Impacts	*Mitigation Measures*	
		o All construction crews associated with the proposed action will receive environmental awareness training from a qualified biologist before construction begins. The training will include information on all special-status species that may occur in the project area, their habitat, and the need to protect them. Specifically for San Joaquin kit fox, information on its life history, habitat requirements, and photographs of the species will be provided. A fact sheet conveying this information will be prepared for distribution to all contractors, their employees, and military and agency personnel involved in construction. To prevent harassment and mortality of listed species by dogs or cats, pets will not be permitted at the SATCOM site or Camp Roberts at any time. Dogs are only allowed at Camp Roberts if they are used for sheep herding or upland game hunting and must be on post and under strict voice command at all time. ▪ **Bio Measure 4: Minimize injury and mortality of San Joaquin kit fox from traffic on East Perimeter Road** – Traffic levels on East Perimeter Road associated with the SATCOM facility are expected to decrease over the 20-year ADP planning period. While the threat of vehicle strikes along East Perimeter Road will decrease, SATCOM personnel will continue to take measures to avoid and minimize the potential for injury and mortality of kit foxes. The following measures will be implemented: SATCOM personnel and contractors working at the facility will be educated regarding the need to adhere to the posted speed limits and to slow or stop vehicles when in proximity to animals near roads.	

Table ES-1. Summary of Environmental Consequences

Resource Topic	*Proposed Action*		*No-Action*
	Impacts	*Mitigation Measures*	
		▪ **Bio Measure 5: Avoid potential impacts on vernal pool fairy shrimp** – In accordance with the *Programmatic Biological Opinion for Multiple Activities at Camp Roberts, San Luis Obispo and Monterey Counties, California (1-8-08-F-24)*, the following measures will be implemented: o Provide Education to Troops, Contractors, and Camp Roberts Staff: Measures implemented to reduce the risk of harming protected species include training all personnel at Camp Roberts about the presence of threatened and/or endangered species and the Camp Roberts environmental protection measures. Currently, Camp Roberts environmental staff provides information regarding vernal pool fairy shrimp and its habitat at presentations to troops, contractors, and employees. This information will continue to be conveyed to troops, contractors, and employees during individual briefings. In addition, a pamphlet on vernal pool fairy shrimp will be available and distributed at Range Control. The flyer or pamphlet will include a brief description, representative photographs, and legal status of vernal pool fairy shrimp; a description of vernal pool fairy shrimp habitat; the Camp Roberts environmental protection measures for this species including avoiding the placement of tents, latrines, and sumps, and the locations of fortifications, emplacements, and obstacles in vernal pool fairy shrimp habitat; and the penalties for not complying with the protection measures. This pamphlet could be combined with information regarding other federally listed species at Camp Roberts. o Avoid Ground-Disturbing Activities Associated with Training, Maintenance, and Construction during the Wet-Season: To the maximum extent feasible, ground-	

Table ES-1. Summary of Environmental Consequences

Resource Topic	*Proposed Action*		*No-Action*
	Impacts	*Mitigation Measures*	
		disturbing training, maintenance, and construction activities will be avoided during the wet season, typically November 1 through April 30. Avoiding ground disturbance during this time period will minimize disturbance, degradation, and destruction of vernal pool fairy shrimp habitat and will minimize the injury and mortality of vernal pool fairy shrimp during their growing and reproductive phase. o Avoid Cross-County Travel, Especially during the Wet-Season: All military personnel and visitors will be advised to stay on established roads and trails, consistent with CA REG 350-1. Cross-country travel, especially during the wet season, typically November 1 through April 30, will be avoided. This information will be provided to troops, contractors, and employees during all environmental briefings and will be included in the pamphlet discussed above. ▪ **Bio Measure 6: Prevent the spread of invasive plants** – To prevent the introduction or spread of invasive plants in the project area, the following measures will be implemented during construction activities: o Educate construction supervisors and managers on the importance of controlling and preventing the spread of invasive weeds. o Wash construction vehicles and equipment off-site before entering the project area, including prior to re-entry if vehicles or equipment leave the project area prior to the end of the construction period. o Use erosion control materials (e.g., straw wattles) that are certified weed-free. o Restore temporarily disturbed grassland areas with annual	

Table ES-1. Summary of Environmental Consequences

Resource Topic	*Proposed Action*		*No-Action*
	Impacts	*Mitigation Measures*	
		and perennial grasses that are native to the Camp Roberts region. ▪ **Bio Measure 7: Conduct preactivity survey for special-status plants** – A preactivity survey will be conducted by a qualified botanist for the special-status plants listed in Section 3.4.1 in this EA. The survey will be conducted in the project area prior to ground disturbing activities and preferably during the blooming period of the species prior to construction, which may require multiple visits between March and August to cover each species' blooming period. If the survey cannot be conducted during the blooming period, the botanist shall use the survey to identify areas where the species are most likely to occur and conduct a site-specific assessment to determine suitability of the habitat for each species. If populations or individuals of any special-status species are identified during the survey or are highly suspected to occur in the project area, the U.S. Army will coordinate with the USFWS or CDFG to determine appropriate avoidance or minimization measures. Such measures may include realigning the clear zone to avoid the plant(s) or transplanting plant(s) to suitable habitat elsewhere at Camp Roberts (if determined feasible). For the federally listed purple amole, measures identified in the *Programmatic Biological Opinion for Multiple Activities at Camp Roberts, San Luis Obispo and Monterey Counties, California (1-8-08-F-24)* will apply if the plant is identified or highly suspected to occur in the project area based on the preactivity survey. ▪ **Bio Measure 8: Conduct a preactivity survey for nesting migratory birds and roosting bats** – A preactivity survey will be conducted by a qualified wildlife biologist for nesting birds and roosting bats. The nesting bird survey will be necessary if construction activities are scheduled during the	

Table ES-1. Summary of Environmental Consequences

Resource Topic	*Proposed Action*		*No-Action*
	Impacts	*Mitigation Measures*	
		nesting period (February through September); the roosting bat survey is necessary regardless of the construction schedule. The survey will be conducted within 2 weeks prior to the start of construction and will encompass the project area and a 500-foot buffer on either side of the proposed clear zone. All habitat within the survey area will be assessed to identify active bird nests, including identification of the species nesting, and active bat roost sites. For golden eagles, the survey will be conducted in accordance with the guidelines in the *Interim Golden Eagle Inventory and Monitoring Protocols; and Other Recommendations* (Pagel et al. 2010), and if golden eagle nests may be disturbed, incidental take authorization under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (50 CFR Section 22.26) will be requested from the USFWS. If no active nests or roost sites are detected during the survey, no additional measures are necessary. If an active nest or roost site is found in the survey area, a no-disturbance buffer will be established around the site to avoid disturbance or destruction until the end of the bird breeding season (September 30) or until a qualified wildlife biologist determines that the young have fledged and left the nest (this date varies by species) or that the roost site is no longer active. The extent of the buffer will be determined by the biologist in coordination with USFWS or CDFG and will depend on the level of noise or construction disturbance anticipated near the site, the line-of-sight between the nest and the disturbance, and the presence of topographical or artificial barriers. Suitable buffer distances may vary between species. If an active roost site is identified, the biologist may, upon authorization from USFWS or CDFG, establish a one-way barrier at the opening to allow the bats to leave the roost during nighttime hours, but not return to the site. This may be appropriate for trees that must be removed in the clear zone to	

Table ES-1. Summary of Environmental Consequences

Resource Topic	*Proposed Action*		*No-Action*
	Impacts	*Mitigation Measures*	
		allow the tree to be removed after the bats have left on their own accord.	
Infrastructure	▪ Temporary disruptions to existing service lines may occur during installation/expansion of the lines or relocations within the clear zone. ▪ Clear zone would provide a firebreak along fence. ▪ Access around the SATCOM site would be improved, and the potential for expansion would benefit the facility.	No mitigation measures necessary.	No change in access or operations from existing setting, but limited opportunity to expand the SATCOM facility.
Soil Resources	▪ Ground disturbance would expose soils to wind and water erosion. ▪ Cut and fill would be necessary to establish the clear zone, but it would be balanced in the project area. ▪ Shrink-swell soils would have a negligible effect on the structures associated with the fence.	Implement geology measures from the 2005 ADP EA as well as an erosion control plan and SWPPP in compliance with the General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (Order No. 2010-0014-DWQ): ▪ **Geo Measure 1: Clearing procedures** – To the extent possible, the temporary working area should be limited to the minimum area necessary for construction activities. Topsoil should be removed and stockpiled for use during site restoration. In sensitive areas, construction equipment should be used that minimizes surface disturbance, soil compaction, and loss of topsoil. Such equipment includes low ground pressure tracks or tires, blade shoes, and brush rake attachments. Steep, erodible slopes should not be pre-cleared until construction activities are to be carried out on these slopes immediately thereafter. ▪ **Geo Measure 2: Backfilling, trenching, and grading activities** – General and site-specific measures should be implemented to minimize the effects of grading, trenching,	No change in soil or topographic conditions from existing setting.

Table ES-1. Summary of Environmental Consequences

Resource Topic	*Proposed Action*		*No-Action*
	Impacts	*Mitigation Measures*	
		and backfilling; to enhance rehabilitation; and to minimize erosion. These measures include the following: o graded areas should be the minimum size required for construction activities; o the time between trenching and backfilling should be minimized; o backfilling should commence immediately after lowering-in; and o after final grading, all compacted areas should be lightly disked or raked before reseeding. After the completion of backfilling, all disturbed areas (including the permanent easement, temporary workspace, temporary access roads, and stockpile sites) should be restored to approximately the original grade. Any excessively steep cuts that are unstable should be graded back to an acceptable slope or retaining walls installed. Topsoil stockpiled during initial site excavation should be spread over freshly graded areas. Trench backfill should be compacted by driving tracked or rubber-tired equipment over the trench. Because compaction should still be incomplete, a roach (or crown) should be left over the trench. It should be feathered on either side to blend the trench with adjacent areas. ▪ **Geo Measure 3: Revegetation** – Revegetation should be undertaken on any disturbed areas to provide stabilization through erosion control. The area should be immediately reseeded with a native plant species seed mix that is similar in structure and composition to preconstruction conditions. ▪ **Geo Measure 4: Procedures for steep slopes** – Several areas of steep slopes (greater than 15 percent slope) are located on the site. For soils on these slopes, the following measures will	

Table ES-1. Summary of Environmental Consequences

Resource Topic	*Proposed Action*		*No-Action*
	Impacts	*Mitigation Measures*	
		be implemented: o employ erosion control techniques previously listed; o replace topsoil, leaving the seedbed rough and fertilized appropriately; and o use mulch or erosion control matting to protect the seed and seedbed from wind and water erosion.	
Water Resources	▪ Construction activities could discharge sediment and pollutants into surface waters. ▪ Establishment of the clear zone could alter runoff patterns, but culverts under the road and existing drainages would adequately convey runoff.	Implement erosion control plan and SWPPP in compliance with the General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (Order No. 2010-0014-DWQ), as well as Geo Measures 1-4.	No change in runoff or water quality from existing setting.

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ADP	Area Development Plan
AEHF	advanced extremely high frequency
APE	Area of Potential Effects
BMPs	Best Management Practices
CDFG	California Department of Fish and Game
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
EA	Environmental Assessment
ICRMP	Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plan
INRMP	Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NETCOM	Network Enterprise Technology Command/9th Army Signal Command
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
POM	Presidio of Monterey
PVC	polyvinyl chloride
SATCOM	Satellite Communications
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office
SWPPP	Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan
U.S. Army	United States Army
USC	United States Code
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

CHAPTER 1
PURPOSE OF AND NEED FOR ACTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

The United States (U.S.) Army, represented by the Network Enterprise Technology Command/9th Army Signal Command (NETCOM) and U.S. Army Garrison, Presidio of Monterey (POM), has prepared this Supplemental Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the environmental effects of expanding the perimeter fence around the Camp Roberts Satellite Communications (SATCOM) site. The expanded perimeter fence was described in the SATCOM Area Development Plan (ADP) (Nakata Planning Group, LLC 2004) and initially evaluated in the Programmatic EA for the ADP (U.S. Army 2005); however, the proposed fence alignment has been modified and expanded, requiring preparation of this Supplemental EA. This EA was prepared to supplement, or tier off of, the 2005 Programmatic EA to minimize redundancy and replication of analyses. The EA has been prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, 42 United States Code (USC) §4321 et seq., and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing NEPA, 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Parts 1500–1508.

The Programmatic EA for the SATCOM ADP was prepared by NETCOM in 2005 (referred to as the "2005 EA" in this document; U.S. Army 2005). The proposed action described in that EA covered three types of ADP projects at the SATCOM site: FLASH (those needed immediately), short-range (those needed to accommodate growth over an approximately 5-year period), and long-range (those that would be implemented over the 20-year planning period if funding becomes available). The SATCOM facility currently occupies a fenced 24-acre area on the SATCOM property at the southern end of Camp Roberts in San Luis Obispo County, California (see Figures 1 and 2 at the end of this chapter). All of the FLASH and short-range projects and some of the long-range projects were proposed within the existing perimeter fence on the 24-acre SATCOM site; some of these projects have already been completed. Other long-range projects were proposed outside the existing fence, necessitating expansion of the fence to encompass the new developments for security purposes. These long-range projects focus on providing enhanced capacity and growth areas for new technologies as they are developed and implemented as part of the mission for the site. The perimeter fence and associated components (e.g., security lighting, firebreak) were described in the ADP as long-range projects. The fence would allow the expansion of the SATCOM site by approximately 57 acres and would provide a secure area for implementation of other long-range projects identified in the ADP and evaluated in the Programmatic EA.

1.2 PURPOSE AND NEED

The proposed action is needed to facilitate long-term growth and expansion of the SATCOM facility to respond to new technologies and accommodate additional communications needs associated with an enhanced mission definition and modernized equipment systems. As discussed in the 2005 EA, the ADP is needed to respond to increasing demands on the frequency spectrum and continuing advances in technology that cause frequent changes in the equipment and management of communications systems, which have exceeded the capacities and capabilities of the SATCOM facility. The proposed action would expand the SATCOM site and provide a secure area for implementation of other long-range projects. An additional area of about 57 acres is needed to accommodate the continued growth and modernization of the SATCOM facility.

The design of the new perimeter fence needs to comply with Army Regulations and the Field Manual (FM 3-19.30) for Physical Security, which outline requirements for fencing, surveillance, lighting, and visibility. As an anti-terrorism force protection measure, the perimeter fence is needed to protect the expanded area of SATCOM and any new facilities that are constructed in that area. A clear zone, or area cleared of vegetation, rocks, and other debris, is needed along the fence to provide an unobstructed view of the fence and adjacent ground. Security lighting is needed to maintain visual-assessment capability during darkness. The purpose of the perimeter fence is to control and restrict access to the expanded area of SATCOM in order to protect any new facilities constructed in that area.

1.3 SCOPE OF THE DOCUMENT

This EA evaluates the environmental effects of expansion of the perimeter fence at the SATCOM site and focuses on those resource topics that would be affected by the proposed action, with emphasis on changes to those conditions since 2005. The analysis focuses on the project-specific environmental effects of the proposed action and incorporates applicable discussions and mitigation measures from the 2005 EA. It should be noted that although the fence would facilitate further development within the expanded SATCOM site, implementation of other long-range projects in the expansion area has already been evaluated in the 2005 EA or will be evaluated in separate NEPA documents, and those other projects are considered separate, independent actions. Information from the 2005 EA is incorporated by reference, and relevant information, such as current environmental conditions, has been extracted or incorporated by reference from other recent EAs prepared for activities at the SATCOM site. Full titles of the documents incorporated by reference in this EA and the locations of those documents are listed below.

- Final Programmatic Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact for Area Development Plan, SATCOM Complex Expansion, Camp Roberts, CA, September 2005; available at POM and Camp Roberts offices.
- Final Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact for SATCOM Regional Hub Node Project, Camp Roberts, California, December 2010; available at POM and Camp Roberts offices and online at: http://www.monterey.army.mil/dpw/env_assessment.html.

1.4 AGENCY AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

NEPA encourages lead agencies responsible for preparation of an EA to coordinate with the public and other governmental agencies and to solicit input on their proposed action early in the decision-making process. This section discusses agency, tribal, and public involvement in the review of the Draft EA and consultations on the proposed action.

1.4.1 Public/Agency Review of Draft EA

This Draft EA has been made available to the public and other agencies to provide comments on the proposed action, analyses, or other aspects of the document. A list of individuals and organizations that were mailed notices about the availability of the Draft EA and how to comment is provided in Appendix A. A copy of this draft EA is also available for review at the Paso Robles Public Library, 1000 Spring Street, Paso Robles, CA 93446. An electronic version of the Draft EA is available on the POM website at: http://www.monterey.army.mil/dpw/env_assessment.html. Copies of the Draft EA were submitted to the State Clearinghouse for distribution to State agencies and filing with the State.

A Notice of Availability of the Draft EA was published in the *Tribune*, the San Luis Obispo County newspaper, to inform the public about the availability of the EA and how and when to provide comments. The 30-day comment period begins on January 28, 2013 and extends through February 26, 2013. Comments on the document should be sent to the Directorate of Public Works, Environmental Division at P.O. Box 5004, Monterey, California 93944-5004, Attn: Lenore R. Grover-Bullington, or via electronic mail to *Lenore.r.grover-bullington.civ@mail.mil*, or via facsimile to 831-242-7019. This coordination fulfills the requirements of the *Intergovernmental Cooperation Act of 1968* (42 USC 4231(a)) and the *Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs* (EO 12372), which require federal agencies to cooperate with and consider federal, state, and local interests in implementing a proposal.

1.4.2 Endangered Species Act Compliance

A request for an official species list of candidate, proposed, threatened, and endangered species was submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Ventura Field Office via the Information, Planning, and Conservation System (IPaC website, http://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/) on August 23, 2012. The IPaC website includes a form to briefly describe the proposed action and identify the area of effects, which are used by the system and USFWS to determine which species may be affected by the proposed action. A preliminary list was generated by the website, with a note indicating the Ventura Field Office would contact the representative from POM. USFWS followed up with additional clarification questions regarding the proposed action on August 24, 2012. An official list was sent by the Ventura Field Office on September 6, 2012 (Appendix B).

Camp Roberts has a Programmatic Biological Opinion (1-8-08-F-24), dated August 21, 2009, for various activities conducted at Camp Roberts in support of its military training program, as well as livestock grazing and natural and cultural resources program management activities. The Biological Opinion does not specifically include projects at the SATCOM facility, although the measures identified in it may be applied to SATCOM projects. The U.S. Army received a concurrence letter from the USFWS, dated May 6, 2005, regarding the effects of the long-range projects (including the fence) under the ADP on San Joaquin kit fox (not likely to adversely affect) and vernal pool fairy shrimp (no effect). Measures were identified in the ADP EA (U.S. Army 2005) to minimize or avoid adverse effects on San Joaquin kit fox, which were incorporated into the concurrence letter. Prior to the ADP, the USFWS had issued a Biological Opinion for Normal Operations and Construction Activities at SATCOM (1-8-96-F-25), dated May 21, 1996, and amended June 18, 1996. The long-range projects described in the ADP were not covered specifically under the Biological Opinion, but measures identified in it were incorporated into the ADP implementation and described in the 2005 EA. These measures also apply to the proposed action, and POM will send a letter to the USFWS requesting concurrence of the proposed action's effects on federally listed species to comply with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.

1.4.3 National Historic Preservation Act Compliance

A cultural resources inventory was completed for the ADP expansion at the SATCOM site in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). No archaeological sites or historic resources were identified in the expansion area (Moore 2010). Section 106 consultation with the California State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) resulted in concurrence with the POM's determination of No Effect to Historic Properties (July 2010; USA100617A). Additional archaeological survey of the Area of Potential Effect (APE) for the expansion of the perimeter fence was conducted in 2012 by the POM Cultural Resources Manager. No archaeological sites or historic resources were identified in the APE; therefore, per 36 CFR 800.3(1), the POM has

no further obligation to consult with the SHPO because there is no potential to cause effects to historic properties.

The Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians is the only known federally recognized Tribe associated with Camp Roberts. This Tribe was consulted in accordance with Section 106 in light of the ADP expansion and the Regional Hub Node Project. Consultation included site visits as well as written correspondence. While the Tribe's Elders Council had no immediate concerns about the expansion project, they requested the implementation of mitigation measures in the event of an inadvertent discovery. This resulted in the requirement that a Native American advisor/consultant be present at SATCOM during ground-disturbing activities associated with the ADP expansion. This requirement will continue to apply throughout the course of the undertaking being analyzed in this EA (perimeter fence and associated components), and a Native American advisor/consultant will be present during ground-disturbing activities associated with the expansion of the perimeter fence. A copy of the Draft EA will be provided to the Tribe for their review and comment.

Inadvertent discoveries will require implementation of procedures set forth in POM's Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plan (ICRMP) and Army Regulation (AR 200-1), which includes consultation procedures and planning requirements in Section 106 of the NHPA (16 USC. 470f; 36 CFR Part 800). An inadvertent discovery of human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony will require implementation of the procedures set forth above and also procedures set forth in Section 3 and Section 5 of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (25 USC. 3001 et seq.; 43 CFR 10).

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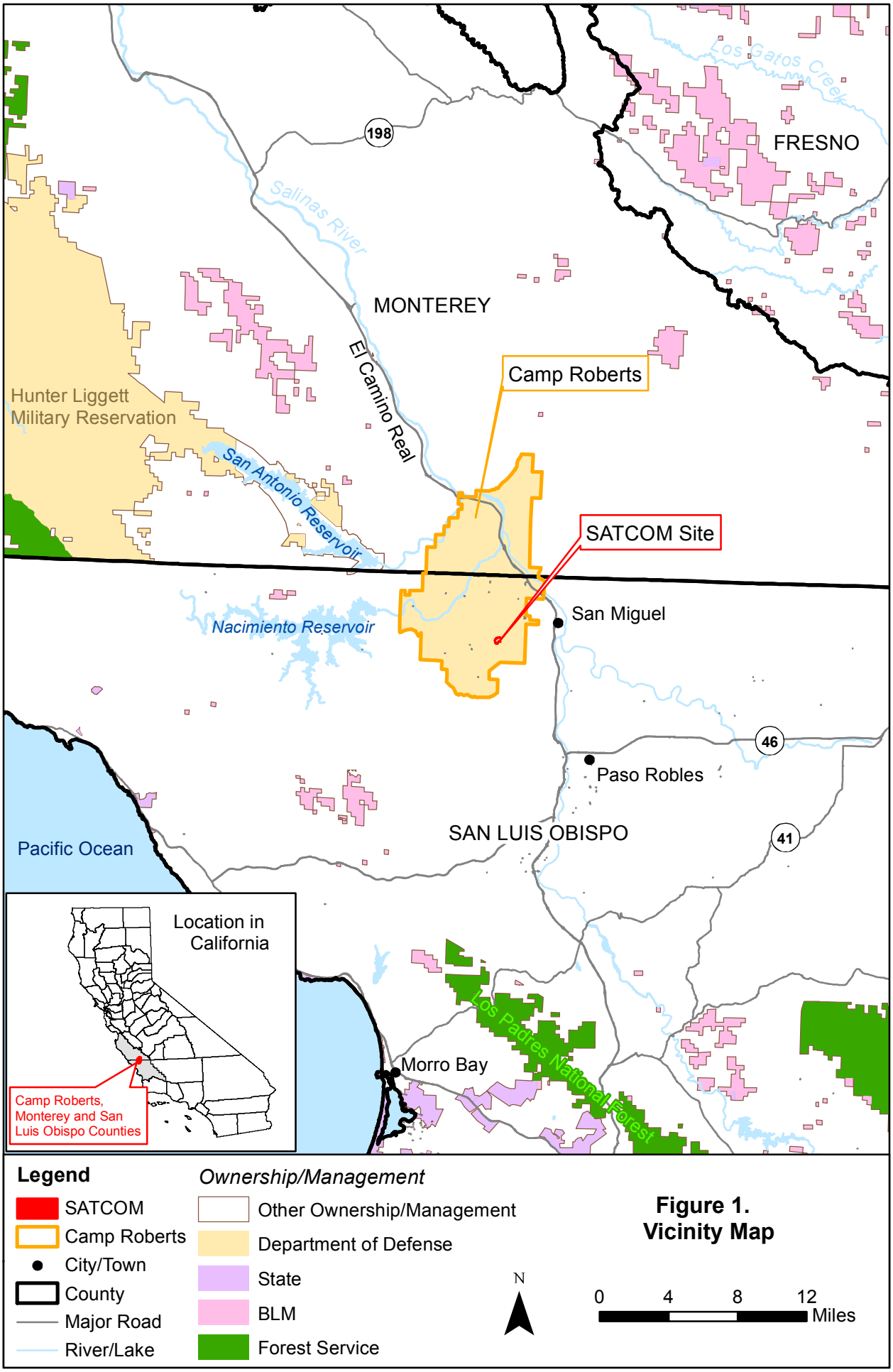

Figure 1.
Vicinity Map

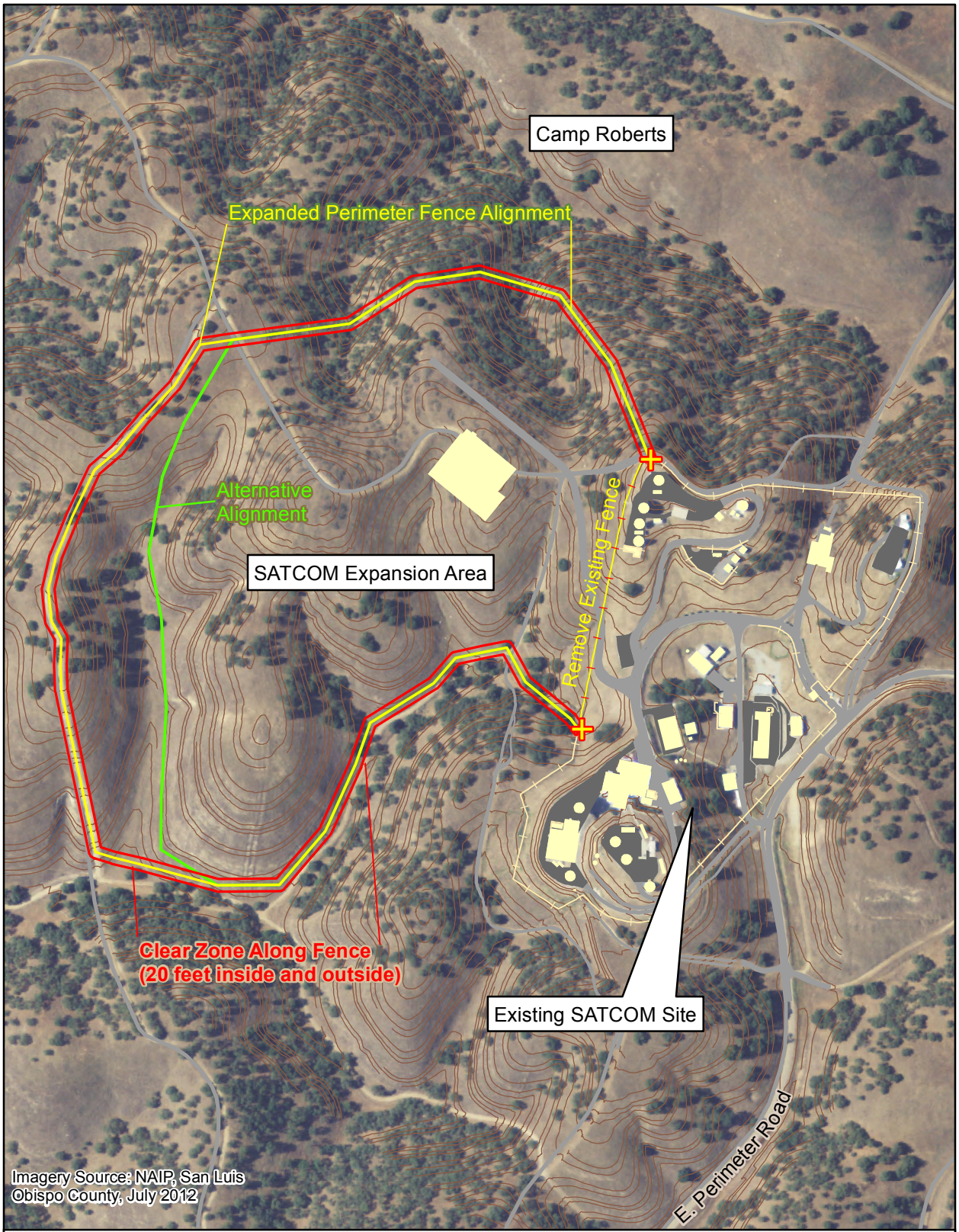

Figure 2.
Proposed Fence Location

CHAPTER 2
DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

2.1 PROPOSED ACTION

2.1.1 Background

The proposed action was described in the 2005 EA as follows:

> "A westward extension of the fence will enclose the operations parking lot and access road, and a northward extension will enclose the long-term projects…The expanded perimeter fence would enclose an additional 57.5 acres, resulting in a total enclosure of 81.5 acres. A firebreak would be maintained along the length of the outside of the perimeter fence…Lighting will be installed along the extended perimeter security fence. Lights will be installed on poles located approximately 20 to 30 feet inside the new fence. The power line to the lighting will be enclosed in polyvinyl chloride (PVC) conduit and buried in the alignment of the poles. Lighting would be oriented such that a 30-foot area on the outside of the fence would be illuminated with a minimum of 0.2 foot-candles (2 lux) measured on the horizontal plane or a minimum 0.4 foot-candles (4 lux) measured on the vertical plane. The illumination measurement is taken 6 inches aboveground during normal visibility at a point 30 feet from the outer fence. The existing perimeter fence would be removed after construction of the new fence is complete." (Page 2-5 of the Programmatic EA for the ADP, U.S. Army 2005)

The anticipated area of disturbance was 1.6 acres, which included the fence and a perimeter road/firebreak along the fence. The perimeter road/firebreak was originally proposed to be 15 feet wide; however, revisions to the Army Regulations for Physical Security have expanded the required clear zone to between 40 and 50 feet, depending on the specific project. As a result of the need to expand the clear zone along the fence and the consideration of a slightly modified alignment, the description of the proposed action was modified such that an additional analysis and NEPA documentation was determined necessary. The revised description of the proposed action is presented below and analyzed in Chapter 3 of this EA.

2.1.2 Description of the Proposed Action

The new fence would consist of an 8-foot-tall chain link security fence with camera surveillance and security lighting. The new fence would be about 1 mile long and would connect to the existing fence at two points (see Figure 2) to expand the SATCOM site to the west of its current location, encompassing approximately 57 acres of additional land outside the existing perimeter fence. Approximately 900 feet of the existing fence between the two new connection points would be removed. The total area of disturbance, which includes a clear zone along the new fence and the fence removal area, is approximately 5.2 acres.

In accordance with Army Regulations for Physical Security (190-11, 13, and 16) and Field Manual 3-19.30 for Physical Security, a 40-foot-wide clear zone would be established along the fence, which would be cleared of all vegetation and debris above 8 inches tall and graded/leveled to allow visibility along the fence. The exterior and interior zones would be 20 feet wide and consist of a dirt road (about 15 feet wide) and adjacent area that is maintained clear of shrubs, trees, and other vegetation that could obstruct visibility. Trees that do not need to be removed outside the clear zone may require trimming to accommodate the security poles or maintain visibility in the clear zone. To improve visibility within the clear zone, the topography along the fence would need to be leveled to minimize steep slopes. Most of the fence would follow an existing dirt road, which would become part of the exterior road in the clear zone. Storm drainage facilities, such as culverts, may be installed at low points or in ephemeral drainages to convey flow under the roads and direct runoff away from the fence. Cattle fencing (a barbed wire line with wood posts) would also be installed along the outside of the exterior road/clear zone to demarcate the boundary between the SATCOM site and California Army National Guard leased land. The clear zone would also serve as a firebreak on both sides of the fence to reduce the potential for wildfires entering the SATCOM site.

The fence would have 10-foot spacings between posts, three lines of barbed wire across the top, and a fiber optic sensory line mounted along the inside of the fence. An electrical line would be installed underground along the new fence to connect to the sensory system and would be aligned to avoid existing underground utilities. It would require excavation of a trench about 2-3 feet wide and 3-4 feet deep. The line would connect to existing lines at the SATCOM facility, near where the new and existing fences would connect. Small openings (approximately 6 inches in diameter) would be incorporated into the fence at peaks and valleys to maintain ingress/egress for kit foxes and other small animals.

Also in accordance with Physical Security requirements, security cameras and lights would be installed along the fence on the interior side (about 20 feet from the fence). Each pole is expected to have a camera and a LED light, and about 55 total poles are anticipated. Each pole would have a concrete base that would be buried up to 4-6 feet below the surface. The concrete base would require excavation of a hole about 2-3 feet in diameter. A PVC conduit with electrical and communication lines would be installed underground between the poles to provide power and a communications system for the cameras and lighting. The conduit would be aligned to avoid existing underground utilities, and the lines would connect to each camera or light through the concrete base and supporting pole (i.e., would not be visible on the outside). A trench about 2-3 feet wide and 3-4 feet deep would be excavated to install the conduit; this disturbance would take place within the clear zone. The lines would connect to existing lines at the SATCOM facility.

Once the new fence is installed, segments of the existing fence that are no longer needed would be removed, and the area would be restored to match adjacent conditions. Some revegetation may be

required to restore native vegetation along the former fence alignment, and plants native to the Camp Roberts region would be used. Vegetation and other debris removed during fence installation and establishment of the clear zone would be properly disposed of or recycled/reused if feasible. Excavated material from the trenches and grading activities would be used to backfill the trenches or fill in low-lying areas to establish level slopes for the fence. The amount of cut and fill associated with the proposed action would be balanced, and all excavated material would remain on-site.

Fence installation and associated construction activities are expected to take approximately 3 months to complete, once all environmental approvals and permits have been obtained and a construction contractor is able to start the work.

2.1.3 Measures Incorporated into the Proposed Action

The avoidance and minimization measures (Air Measures 1 through 6, Bio Measures 1 through 4, and Geo Measures 1 through 4) described on pages 2-6 through 2-10 of the 2005 EA are incorporated by reference into the proposed action (These measures are also listed under the Mitigation Measures for the relevant resource topics in Chapter 3 of this EA). The measures will be implemented prior to and during construction to minimize or avoid adverse effects on air quality; biological resources, specifically the San Joaquin kit fox; and soils. In addition to those measures and in compliance with the General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (Order No. 2010-0014-DWQ), a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) will be prepared to identify appropriate Best Management Practices (BMPs) to implement during construction that would minimize water quality effects. An erosion control plan will be prepared to identify specific measures to implement on steep slopes and in areas susceptible to wind and water erosion; Geo Measures 1 through 4 in the 2005 EA will form the basis for this plan. A spill contingency and containment plan will also be prepared and implemented in the event that hazardous materials are accidentally spilled during construction. These measures are described in the 2005 EA to minimize adverse effects associated with implementation of the ADP.

The construction contractor will also be responsible for complying with relevant measures in the Camp Roberts Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP, California Army National Guard 2001), the Camp Roberts ICRMP (*Draft*, National Guard Bureau 2011), the POM INRMP (U.S. Department of the Army 2001), and the POM ICRMP (Presidio of Monterey 2004), as they apply to the proposed action and at the discretion of POM. Because the SATCOM site is not managed by the California Army National Guard, the Camp Roberts plans do not directly apply to the site; however, the resources managed at Camp Roberts are similar to the resources present at the SATCOM site, and measures in those plans may be relevant to actions at the site, at the discretion of POM. Likewise, the POM plans do not directly apply to the SATCOM site because it is not located within the boundaries of POM or the Ord Military Community. POM intends to update its plans to

include applicable management guidelines from the Camp Roberts plans for the SATCOM site in future plan revisions. In the interim, POM will determine which of the measures in the Camp Roberts plans should be applied to actions at the SATCOM site. If guidance from the Camp Roberts and POM plans conflicts, POM will provide direction on the applicable guidance to follow for the proposed action.

The natural resources and management guidelines described in the POM INRMP are specific to POM and the Ord Military Community and are not necessarily applicable to the resources at the SATCOM site. Applicable general guidance from the POM INRMP includes:

- Protect endangered and threatened species by avoiding adverse impacts to known resources;
- Remove intrusive exotic vegetation from natural areas, to the extent practicable;
- Cover bare ground identified with the potential for erosion with weed-free straw (rice or saltgrass) and biodegradable erosion control matting, until erosion control vegetation becomes established; and
- Revegetate erodible soils with a mixture of native seed that totals 30 lbs per acre and includes only native grasses and forbs or non-invasive non-native grasses and forbs.

The Camp Roberts INRMP identifies management guidelines for standard operating procedures, erosion control, water pollution prevention, protecting sensitive species, and preserving grassland and oak woodland communities. In addition to the oak tree replacement policies identified in Bio Measure 1 in the 2005 EA, applicable measures from the Camp Roberts INRMP that would be implemented as part of the proposed action include:

- Implement standard operating procedures for environmental protection (identified in Table 4-5 of the Camp Roberts INRMP);
- Implement BMPs for erosion control (identified in Table 4-7 of the Camp Roberts INRMP);
- Educate all military personnel who may have contact with listed species and/or their habitats;
- Conduct preactivity surveys for burrowing owls, purple amole, and shining navarretia;
- Leave standing dead trees (snags) and fallen logs (coarse woody debris) when they are not safety hazards. Snags and coarse woody debris serve several important ecological functions. They provide structural habitat characteristics for various plant and animal species, are potentially important in long-term nutrient cycling, and help minimize effects, caused by erosion, to soil and water resources.

The ICRMPs for POM (Presidio of Monterey 2004) and California Army National Guard sites and training installations (*Draft*, National Guard Bureau 2011) identify standard operating procedures to protect cultural resources and comply with applicable federal laws. The standard operating procedures from the POM ICRMP include the following and are generally similar to the Camp Roberts ICRMP:

- Comply with Section 106 of the NHPA
- Comply with the Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1979
- Comply with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act

Specific guidance is provided in the ICRMPs to implement the standard operating procedures. Inadvertent discoveries will require implementation of procedures set forth in the POM ICRMP and Army Regulation (AR 200-1), which include consultation procedures and planning requirements in Section 106 of the NHPA (16 USC. 470f; 36 CFR Part 800). An inadvertent discovery of human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony will require implementation of the procedures set forth above and also procedures set forth in Section 3 and Section 5 of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (25 USC. 3001 et seq.; 43 CFR 10). In addition, as a result of consultation with the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians, a Native American advisor/consultant will be present during ground-disturbing activities associated with the proposed action. In the event of discovery of a paleontological resource during ground-disturbing activities, procedures identified in the Camp Roberts ICRMP will be implemented.

2.2 NO-ACTION ALTERNATIVE

Under the no-action alternative, the perimeter fence would not be expanded, and associated structures and clear zone establishment would not be necessary. Without these structures, the SATCOM facility could not be securely expanded beyond the existing 24-acre site because of potential security issues with facilities located outside the perimeter fence. This alternative would not allow the U.S. Army to fully implement the SATCOM ADP.

2.3 ALTERNATIVES DEVELOPMENT

The U.S. Army considered multiple alternative alignments for the perimeter fence, including the alignment described in the 2005 EA and slight variations of that alignment. The other alignments have been eliminated from further consideration because of increased environmental impacts (e.g., oak tree removal, ground disturbance), concerns regarding security (e.g., poor vantage points due to hills and vegetation, inadequate clear zone width), and the need for a new road (e.g., instead of following an existing road). The proposed action evaluated in this EA was considered the most feasible location for the fence because it primarily follows an existing road along the top of a ridge, which would ensure visibility of the clear zone from multiple locations within the SATCOM site.

CHAPTER 3
ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS AND CONSEQUENCES

3.1 ANALYSIS APPROACH

The analysis of the proposed action tiers off of the analysis of the SATCOM ADP discussed in the 2005 EA. The project area evaluated in this EA has been modified and expanded to encompass a slightly modified fence alignment and a larger clear zone. The project area is depicted in Figure 2 and encompasses approximately 5.2 acres, which includes the clear zone (40 feet wide along the proposed fence alignment) and portion of the existing fence that would be removed. Despite the larger area of disturbance, the types of impacts associated with the proposed action would be very similar to those evaluated in the 2005 EA. For this reason, several resource topics were not carried forward for detailed analysis (see Section 3.2), and the discussion of environmental consequences in this EA focuses on those resources that could be adversely affected by the proposed action and may require mitigation measures to reduce or alleviate impacts. Resources evaluated in detail include:

- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Infrastructure
- Soil Resources
- Water Resources

3.2 RESOURCE AREAS EXCLUDED FROM FURTHER ANALYSIS

After an examination of all resource areas and based on the analyses conducted in the 2005 Programmatic EA, it was determined that the proposed action would have no or insignificant effects on agricultural resources, climate, cultural resources, environmental justice, geology, groundwater, hazards and hazardous materials, land use, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, socioeconomics, transportation, and visual resources. These topics are not discussed further in this document, and the rationale for eliminating them from further consideration is presented in Table 3-1.

Table 3-1. Resource Areas Excluded from Further Analysis

Resource Area	*Reason for Dismissal*	*2005 EA Conclusions*
Agricultural Resources	The SATCOM site does not contain active crop lands and grazing is no longer permitted around the site.	Dismissed from analysis
Climate	The proposed action would not affect climate of the region based on the nature of the activities.	Dismissed from analysis

Table 3-1. Resource Areas Excluded from Further Analysis

Resource Area	*Reason for Dismissal*	*2005 EA Conclusions*
Cultural Resources	No historic properties would be affected. Measures identified in the POM and Camp Roberts ICRMPs, as applicable, will be implemented in the event of a discovery of cultural or paleontological resources or human remains during construction activities. POM will complete tribal consultations for the proposed action, and a Native American advisor/consultant will be present during ground-disturbing activities.	No historic properties would be affected by implementation of the ADP.
Environmental Justice	No communities exist at the SATCOM site, and nearby communities outside of Camp Roberts, including low-income and minority populations, would not be affected.	Dismissed from analysis
Geology	The proposed action would not expose personnel at the SATCOM site to safety risks associated with earthquake activity or other geologic hazards. The fence and other components will be designed in accordance with applicable building code requirements and regulations.	Conformance with applicable building codes and regulations for seismically active areas would minimize risks of exposure of personnel to hazards associated with earthquake activity.
Groundwater	The proposed action would not affect groundwater at the SATCOM site. A spill contingency and containment plan will be implemented to prevent contamination of groundwater.	Hazardous materials associated with the ADP projects could contaminate groundwater, but containment measures will be implemented to minimize impacts.
Hazards and Hazardous Materials	No buildings would be demolished as part of the proposed action, and no hazardous material sites or storage facilities would be affected. A firebreak would be established around the perimeter fence to minimize wildfire hazards. A spill contingency and containment plan will be implemented to prevent environmental contamination from use of hazardous materials during construction.	The ADP projects would result in minimal exposure of personnel to hazards or hazardous materials. Compliance with safety and response measures reduces potential risks.
Land Use	The proposed action would not modify land uses beyond what is described in the 2005 EA. The fence would expand the SATCOM site boundary, which would allow implementation of other projects identified in the ADP.	Some of the ADP projects would result in a change in land use from natural habitat to developed land, but the proposed uses of the SATCOM site are consistent with the current and past uses of the site. Minor conflicts may arise with sheep grazing, military training, and hunting in the vicinity, but these activities take place infrequently around the SATCOM site.

Table 3-1. Resource Areas Excluded from Further Analysis

Resource Area	*Reason for Dismissal*	*2005 EA Conclusions*
Noise	Noise impacts would be temporary and minor, limited to the construction phase, and would affect only workers at the SATCOM site. No sensitive receptors are located near the project area. Most construction would take place away from existing developed areas of the site.	The ADP projects would result in temporary construction-related noise impacts over a 20-year period and minimal operational noise impacts over the long-term. Personnel at the SATCOM site are the only receptors, and they would be exposed to minimal noise impacts.
Population and Housing	The SATCOM site does not support a population or contain any housing.	Dismissed from analysis
Public Services	The proposed action would not affect the demand for public services at the SATCOM site.	Dismissed from analysis
Recreation	No recreation opportunities are available at the SATCOM site.	Dismissed from analysis
Socioeconomics	The proposed action would have a minimal short-term effect on the local economy as a result of construction activities (jobs and purchasing of materials).	Dismissed from analysis
Transportation	The proposed action would result in minimal construction traffic to the SATCOM site and would not affect traffic patterns or transportation outside Camp Roberts.	Dismissed from analysis
Visual Resources	The proposed action would result in minimal changes to the visual setting of the SATCOM site, and the fencing and security lighting would be visually similar to the existing fencing and lighting. The SATCOM facility is not visible from prominent public viewpoints in the vicinity due to the rolling hills that surround it.	New facilities would be visually similar to existing facilities, and surrounding hills partially obstruct views of the SATCOM facility from viewpoints outside Camp Roberts.

3.3 AIR QUALITY

3.3.1 Existing Conditions

The air quality setting of the SATCOM site and surrounding area and air quality regulations that apply to activities at the SATCOM site are described in the previously prepared EAs for the SATCOM site (U.S. Army 2005, 2010). Air quality standards that establish thresholds for maintaining healthful air quality and the attainment status for the region have not changed since the Regional Hub Node EA was prepared (see Table 2-2 in U.S. Army 2010). Camp Roberts is in an area designated "attainment" for all federal criteria pollutants. Because the region is in attainment status,

the General Conformity Rule under the Clean Air Act does not apply to federal actions in the region. Air quality is relatively good in the region, and violations of federal standards are rare. Air quality monitoring in San Luis Obispo County in 2011 reported a minor violation of ozone (8-hour federal standard), but no violations for other criteria pollutants (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 2012). No sensitive receptors, such as schools, houses, or hospitals, exist near the SATCOM site.

San Luis Obispo County and the City of Paso Robles have published recent inventories of air and/or greenhouse gas emissions for their jurisdictions. Activities at SATCOM and elsewhere at Camp Roberts contribute to emissions in the county, although they are likely a small contributor, and could affect air quality in the nearby city of Paso Robles, depending on the extent of the emissions. A summary of 2009 emissions for the county is presented in Table 3-2, and a summary of 2006 greenhouse gas emissions for the unincorporated portions of the county is presented in Table 3-3. A summary of 2005 greenhouse gas emissions for Paso Robles is presented in Table 3-4. Most emissions in the county are from transportation and commercial/industrial sources, which may include some activities at Camp Roberts. Gasoline, natural gas, and electricity are the primary sources of emissions in Paso Robles, which likely result from transportation sources and residential, commercial, and industrial uses.

Table 3-2. Emissions Inventory for San Luis Obispo County (2009)

TOG	*ROG*	*CO*	*NOx*	*SO2*	*PM10*	*PM2.5*
36,932.8	20,915.6	62,108.0	14,471.5	4,060.4	12,293.7	4,639.6

Source: San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District 2011

Notes: Emissions are in tons per year.

TOG = total organic gases, ROG = reactive organic gases, CO = carbon monoxide, NOx = nitrous oxides, SO2 = sulfur dioxide, PM10 = particulate matter 10 microns in diameter, PM2.5 = particulate matter 2.5 microns in diameter

Table 3-3. Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory for the Unincorporated County (2006)

Land Use	*CO2e (metric tons)*	*CO_2e (% of total)*
Residential	136,360	15%
Commercial/Industrial	215,970	24%
Transportation	365,260	40%
Waste	30,540	3%
Other – Crops	22,630	2%
Other – Livestock	83,420	9%
Other – Off-Road Equipment	63,280	7%
Other – Aircraft	240	<0.1%
TOTAL	**917,710**	**100%**

Source: County of San Luis Obispo 2011

CO2e = carbon dioxide equivalent

Table 3-4. Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory for Paso Robles (2005)

Source of Emissions	*CO2e (metric tons)*	*CO_2e (% of total)*
Electricity	34,531	22.3%
Natural Gas	36,140	23.3%
Gasoline	62,326	40.2%
Diesel	6,845	4.4%
Off-Road Equipment	507	0.3%
Aircraft	1,324	0.9%
Food Waste	2,941	1.9%
Paper Products	7,500	4.9%
Plant Debris	789	0.5%
Wood/Textiles	2,203	1.4%
TOTAL	**155,106**	**100%**

Source: City of Paso Robles 2010

CO2e = carbon dioxide equivalent

3.3.2 Environmental Consequences

No-Action Alternative

No construction activities would be implemented, and the existing perimeter fence around the SATCOM site would remain in place. No construction or fugitive dust emissions would be generated. Ongoing activities at the SATCOM site would continue to generate emissions and contribute to overall emissions in the county, but no new emissions from fence installation or related activities would be generated.

Proposed Action

Construction emissions would be the primary contributor to air quality impacts from the proposed action. Establishment of the clear zone and installation of the new perimeter fence and associated structures would result in the temporary emission of various air pollutants (e.g., CO, SO_2, NO_x, VOC, O_3 precursors), fugitive dust (PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$), and greenhouse gases (e.g., CO_2, CH_4, N_2O) over a period of about 3 months. Construction equipment, such as graders, backhoes, compactors, and dump trucks, and worker vehicles would emit carbon monoxide, nitrogen and sulfur oxides, and/or particulate matter. Soil disturbance associated with establishing the clear zone and excavating trenches and holes for utility and pole installation would generate fugitive dust. Operational emissions associated with the fence would be minimal and limited to indirect emissions associated with electricity use and periodic direct emissions from truck use during security patrols or maintenance.

Specific equipment needs and the schedule for fence installation are not known at this time to quantify emissions, but the construction activities would be similar in nature to the activities discussed in the Regional Hub Node EA, albeit over a larger area (5.2 acres for this proposed action

compared with less than 1 acre for hub node). The estimated emissions for the regional hub node project were well under the *de minimis* thresholds of 100 tons per year for all pollutants (see Table 2-5 in U.S. Army 2010). The proposed action would result in more ground disturbance to establish the clear zone and install the perimeter fence, but emissions are still expected to be below that threshold and would be relatively minimal compared with other emission sources in San Luis Obispo County. Greenhouse gas emissions would also be minimal based on the temporary nature of construction and localized emissions.

Because of the temporary nature of construction emissions and relatively good quality of air in the region, the proposed action is not expected to result in regional violations of federal air quality standards. No sensitive receptors are located near the project area that would be affected by the temporary emissions. Air quality effects would be localized around the project area, with few off-site vehicle-related emissions associated with workers traveling to the SATCOM site. The emissions would be expected to dissipate within the immediate vicinity (i.e., around the SATCOM site) and would not be expected to affect air quality in Paso Robles or other communities in the vicinity. In addition, implementation of Air Measures 1 through 6, as identified in the 2005 EA, would further reduce and minimize air quality impacts during construction activities.

3.3.3 Mitigation Measures

Air Measures 1 through 6, as described in the 2005 EA and listed below, would minimize adverse air quality effects during construction. No additional mitigation measures are necessary.

Air Measure 1: Minimize disturbance
Minimize the area disturbed due to clearing, earthmoving, or excavation activities.

Air Measure 2: Water disturbed areas
Sufficiently water all excavated or graded areas to prevent excessive dust generation and increase watering frequency when wind speeds exceed 15 miles per hour.

Air Measure 3: Limit vehicle speeds
Limit construction vehicle speeds to 15 miles per hour on unpaved surfaces at the construction site.

Air Measure 4: Control dust
Water or chemically treat all unpaved active portions of the construction site as necessary to control windblown dust and dust generated by vehicle traffic.

Air Measure 5: Revegetate disturbed areas
Implement native species revegetation and landscape plans as soon as possible following completion of soil disturbing activities.

Air Measure 6: Protect truck loads

Ensure that trucks hauling dirt, sand, soil, or other loose materials are covered or maintain at least two feet of freeboard (minimum vertical distance between the top of the load and the top of the trailer).

3.4 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

3.4.1 Existing Conditions

The biological setting is based on surveys conducted previously at the SATCOM site and proposed expansion area in support of the ADP (U.S. Army 2005), regional hub node project (U.S. Army 2010), and other projects, as well as a reconnaissance-level survey of the project area conducted in July 2012. In April 2010, a reconnaissance-level field survey was conducted for the regional hub node project on the northeast side of the existing SATCOM facility (U.S. Army 2010). Preactivity surveys for San Joaquin kit fox and other special-status species have also been conducted in some portions of the SATCOM site and proposed expansion area in support of other projects that have been implemented. The potential for special-status species (i.e., federally or state listed or other state status) to occur in the project area was assessed based on updated lists from federal and state sources and information collected during current and previous field surveys (see Appendix B for a complete list of species considered).

Vegetation

The project area supports rolling hills of blue oak woodlands and annual grasslands. Descriptions of these biological communities are provided in the previously prepared EAs for the SATCOM site (U.S. Army 2005, 2010).

Based on the assessment of special-status plant species contained in Appendix B, the following plants may be present in undisturbed grasslands or oak woodlands in the project area (documented occurrences are based on the California Natural Diversity Database records, California Department of Fish and Game [CDFG] 2012; Rare Plant Rank noted after scientific name):

- Dwarf calycadenia (*Calycadenia villosa*, 1B.1) – documented historically at Camp Roberts;
- Jones' bush mallow (*Malacothamnus jonesii*, 4.3) – suitable habitat, but no documented occurrences nearby;
- Koch's cord moss (*Entosthodon kochii*, 1B.3) – documented occurrence at Camp Roberts;
- Lemmon's jewelflower (*Caulanthus coulteri var. lemmonii*, 1B.2) – documented occurrences at Camp Roberts;
- Pale-yellow layia (*Layia heterotricha*, 1B.1) – documented historically at Camp Roberts;

- Purple amole (also referred to as Santa Lucia purple amole) (*Chlorogalum purpureum var. purpureum*, federally threatened, 1B.1) – documented occurrence at Camp Roberts;
- Rattan's cryptantha (*Cryptantha rattanii*, 4.3) – suitable habitat, but no documented occurrences nearby;
- Round-leaved filaree (*Erodium macrophyllum*, 1B.1) – several documented occurrences in San Luis Obispo County outside of Camp Roberts;
- San Benito poppy (*Eschscholzia hypecoides*, 4.3) – suitable habitat, but no documented occurrences nearby;
- San Luis Obispo owl's-clover (*Castilleja densiflora* ssp. *obispoensis*, 1B.2) – documented occurrences at Camp Roberts;
- Shinning navarretia (*Navarretia nigelliformis* ssp. *radians*, 1B.2) – several historic occurrences at Camp Roberts;
- Small-flowered gypsum-loving larkspur (*Delphinium gypsophilum* ssp. *parviflorum*, 3.2) – suitable habitat, but no documented occurrences nearby;
- Straight-awned spineflower (*Chorizanthe rectispina*, 1B.3) – documented historic occurrence at Camp Roberts; and
- Umbrella larkspur (*Delphinium umbraculorum*, 1B.3) – several documented occurrences to the north and south of Camp Roberts.

Wildlife

The biological communities in the project area support a variety of wildlife species, such as coyote (*Canis latrans*), mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*), western burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia hypugea*), and various other raptors and migratory birds. Common species found at the SATCOM site are described in the previously prepared EAs for the SATCOM site (U.S. Army 2005, 2010).

Based on the assessment of special-status wildlife species contained in Appendix B, vernal pool fairy shrimp is not likely to occur in the project area due to a lack of suitable habitat; however, it has been encountered recently in wet tire tracks along dirt roads at Camp Roberts, and presence/absence has not been confirmed at the SATCOM site or in the expansion area.

Based on the assessment of special-status wildlife species contained in Appendix B, the following species may nest, roost, or burrow in the grasslands and oak woodlands in the project area:

- San Joaquin whipsnake (*Masticophis flagellum ruddocki*, California species of special concern) – several documented occurrences from the 1990s to 2000s at Camp Roberts;

- Silvery legless lizard (*Anniella pulchra pulchra*, California species of special concern) – two documented occurrences from the 1990s at Camp Roberts;
- California horned lark (*Eremophila alpestris actia*, California watch list) – two documented occurrences from 1999 at Camp Roberts;
- Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*, California watch list) – no documented occurrences at Camp Roberts, but suitable habitat present;
- Golden eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*, California fully protected) – one documented occurrence from 2000 at Camp Roberts;
- Long-eared owl (*Asio otus*, California species of special concern) – uncommon in the county, but habitat may be suitable for nesting;
- Western burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia hypugea*, California species of special concern) – several documented occurrences from the 1990s to 2000s at Camp Roberts;
- American badger (*Taxidea taxus*, California species of special concern) – several documented occurrences from the 1990s at Camp Roberts;
- Pallid bat (*Antrozous pallidus*, California species of special concern) – one documented occurrence from the 1990s at Camp Roberts;
- Salinas pocket mouse (*Perognathus inornatus psammophilus*, California species of special concern) – several documented occurrences from the 1990s at Camp Roberts; and
- San Joaquin kit fox (*Vulpes macrotis mutica*, federally endangered, state threatened) – several documented occurrences from 1970s to 2000s at Camp Roberts, although recent preactivity surveys in a portion of the project area and a habitat assessment in a portion of the SATCOM expansion area did not identify any signs or dens of kit fox (Madison, L., pers. comm., 2012; Vanherwig 2011).

In addition to the species listed above, the following special-status species may forage in or be occasional migrants to the project area:

- Bald eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*, state endangered and fully protected);
- California condor (*Gymnogyps californianus*, federally and state endangered);
- Ferruginous hawk (*Buteo regalis*, California watch list);
- Loggerhead shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*, California species of special concern);
- Merlin (*Falco columbarius*, California watch list);
- Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*, California watch list);

- Prairie falcon (*Falco mexicanus*, California watch list);
- Sharp-shinned hawk (*Accipiter striatus*, California watch list);
- Swainson's hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*, state threatened);
- White-tailed kite (*Elanus leucurus*, state fully protected); and
- Townsend's (=western) big-eared bat (*Corynorhinus townsendii townsendii*, California species of special concern).

3.4.2 Environmental Consequences

No-Action Alternative

No construction activities would be implemented, and the existing perimeter fence around the SATCOM site would remain in place. No trees would need to be removed, and a clear zone would not need to be established. Wildlife would not be exposed to noise and human disturbance associated with construction. The existing fence would continue to serve as a barrier to some wildlife species, but little habitat exists within the existing SATCOM site to attract wildlife to the site. Biological conditions would be the same as current conditions, and ongoing operations at the SATCOM site would continue to result in periodic disturbance to wildlife in the area. No new impacts on special-status species, such as San Joaquin kit fox, would occur.

Proposed Action

Establishment of the clear zone would require removal of oak trees and other vegetation within a 40-foot corridor (about 5.2 acres). Although the fence alignment has been designed to minimize tree removal, dense areas of oak woodlands surround the SATCOM site and complete avoidance is not feasible. About 60 trees would need to be removed based on a tree inventory conducted for the original fence alignment, and some trees outside the clear zone would need to be trimmed. Tree removal could remove active nest sites of special-status or migratory birds (e.g., long-eared owl, golden eagle, and migratory passerine birds) or roost sites of special-status bats (e.g., pallid bat). Ground-disturbing activities could remove active burrows of western burrowing owl or disturb its nesting activities. Preactivity surveys for nest and roost sites and protection of active sites, as described below, would avoid direct or indirect impacts on nesting and roosting birds and bats during construction (see Bio Measure 8). Oak trees that must be removed within the clear zone will be replaced through plantings elsewhere at Camp Roberts in accordance with Bio Measure 1; the specific number of trees removed and replacement count will be finalized by a certified arborist prior to construction.

The net loss of oak woodland and grassland habitat associated with the proposed action would be about 2 acres of woodlands and 3.2 acres of grasslands. About half of the proposed clear zone already contains an existing dirt road, while the remainder contains relatively undisturbed grasslands and oak woodlands. The densest area of oak woodlands that would be affected is in the northern portion of the

proposed clear zone. The loss of habitat would be relatively minor compared with the availability of similar habitat in surrounding areas of Camp Roberts, much of which is undisturbed. In addition to habitat loss, construction equipment could introduce or spread invasive plant species that could degrade adjacent habitats. Construction measures described below would reduce the potential for spreading invasive plants in the project area (see Bio Measure 6). Foraging habitat for various birds and mammals and habitat for San Joaquin kit fox would not be substantially affected.

The construction activities in the clear zone could remove populations or individuals of special-status plants, such as the federally listed purple amole; injure wildlife, such as San Joaquin whipsnake, Salinas pocket mouse, and other ground-dwelling species; and disturb nesting or roosting wildlife in adjacent habitats. If construction activities are scheduled during the nesting period (typically February through end of September), disturbance to nesting birds could result in loss of young and adverse effects on protected species. Most wildlife, such as American badger and San Joaquin kit fox, would be expected to avoid the project area during construction, returning to the area when construction is finished, and would be able to use nearby habitats at Camp Roberts. Preactivity surveys for special-status plants would be conducted, as described below, and measures to protect plants that are present would be implemented to avoid the potential loss of individuals or populations (see Bio Measure 7).

Much of the project area and adjacent land has been subject to surveys for San Joaquin kit fox and its habitat (U.S. Army 2005, 2010; Vanherwig 2011; Madison, L., pers. comm., 2012). The habitat in and adjacent to the project area has been determined to be marginally suitable for the kit fox because of its steep terrain and the presence of competitor and predator species (e.g., coyote, gray fox). No San Joaquin kit foxes have been encountered during the surveys, and the most recent observation of a kit fox at Camp Roberts was in 2007 (U.S. Army 2010). In addition, the population of kit foxes at Camp Roberts has been declining since 1988. No active dens are expected to be present in the project area, and the potential for impacts on San Joaquin kit fox is considered low. Implementation of Bio Measures 2 through 4 would reduce the potential for adverse impacts on San Joaquin kit fox and its habitat.

Surveys for the federally listed vernal pool fairy shrimp have not been conducted at the SATCOM site or in the expansion area; however, the U.S. Army has scheduled to conduct surveys for the species in 2013 and 2014 and will coordinate with the USFWS on measures that may need to be implemented for future projects at the SATCOM site. Until presence/absence is confirmed, the U.S. Army will prudently adopt the mitigation measures contained in the *Programmatic Biological Opinion for Multiple Activities at Camp Roberts, San Luis Obispo and Monterey Counties, California (1-8-08-F-24)*. Although vernal pool fairy shrimp is not likely to occur in the project area due to a lack of suitable habitat, it has been encountered recently in wet tire tracks along dirt roads at Camp Roberts. Avoidance measures identified in the Programmatic Biological Opinion will be implemented for the proposed action, including educating workers on the species and its habitat and avoiding

ground disturbing activities during the wet season (typically November 1 through April 30) (see Bio Measure 5 below). Compliance with the Programmatic Biological Opinion would avoid potential impacts on the vernal pool fairy shrimp.

Removal of a segment of the existing fence is not expected to affect special-status plants or wildlife because it would take place in a previously disturbed area that is surrounded by ongoing activities associated with the SATCOM facility. No wildlife is expected to use the ruderal or disturbed habitats along the existing fence, and no special-status plants are likely to occur based on the extent of previous disturbance and lack of suitable habitat.

Once the fence and associated structures are installed, periodic disturbance to wildlife from security patrols, maintenance activities, and periodic vegetation trimming or mowing in the clear zone would be the primary long-term effects. Security lighting along the fence would create a new source of light around the expanded SATCOM area, but the lighting would be directed at the clear zone and would produce minimal glare that could disturb wildlife in the surrounding areas. The lighting could discourage some animals, particularly nocturnal animals, from using the habitats in and adjacent to the project area. The fence would incorporate openings to allow small wildlife and San Joaquin kit fox to continue to use habitat at the SATCOM site (see Bio Measure 2), although the lighting may deter some animals from getting too close to the fence and using the openings. With the openings, the new fence would not fully restrict access to habitats within the expanded SATCOM area or serve as a barrier to movement. The overall fence around the expanded SATCOM area would also not result in a major obstruction to wildlife movement in the general area, primarily because of the availability of expansive woodlands and grasslands in the vicinity. Long-term effects would be periodic and minor and would be similar to existing disturbance associated with ongoing operations of the SATCOM facility.

3.4.3 Mitigation Measures

The mitigation measures listed below would ensure that minimal to no impacts on sensitive biological resources result from implementation of the proposed action. The U.S. Army will initiate consultation with the USFWS for the San Joaquin kit fox to request concurrence with the anticipated impacts and measures that would be implemented prior to and during construction, as described below. The proposed action will be implemented in compliance with applicable provisions of the *Programmatic Biological Opinion for Multiple Activities at Camp Roberts, San Luis Obispo and Monterey Counties, California (1-8-08-F-24)* and the *Biological Opinion for Normal Operations and Construction Activities in Support of the Satellite Communications Facility at Camp Roberts, San Luis Obispo and Monterey Counties, California (1-8-96-F-25)*, as amended, and with the Camp Roberts and POM INRMPs, as applicable (California Army National Guard 2001, U.S. Department of the Army 2001).

Bio Measure 1: Avoid, minimize, and mitigate impacts on blue oak woodland (modified from Bio Measure 1 in the 2005 EA)

In accordance with the INRMP for Camp Roberts (California Army National Guard 2001), the following measures will be implemented to avoid and minimize impacts on blue oak trees that may be affected by the proposed action and replace oak trees that must be removed in the clear zone:

- During construction activities, no ground disturbance, soil compaction, staging, or vehicle access will be allowed within the dripline of any oak trees outside the clear zone, unless authorized by POM. Protective fencing at the dripline (the furthest point from the tree that is covered by the tree crown) will be used to protect trees during construction activities.
- Fasteners will not be allowed on any trees that are protected in place.
- When pruning of oak trees or cutting of roots larger than 2 inches in diameter is required, it must be done by an International Society of Arboriculture-certified arborist and in accordance with American National Standards Institute standards for arboriculture operations.
- Direct removal of standing oak trees will be subject to the oak replacement policy, which includes the following:
    - Any oak tree removed will be replaced at a 3:1 ratio with a monitoring program. Small trees, seedlings, or acorns will be planted at appropriate densities on the SATCOM property or in areas approved by California Army National Guard.
    - Trees/seedlings/acorns will be watered at a frequency to ensure survival.
    - Plantings should occur during the appropriate season (i.e., acorns should be planted in January or February and container stock should be planted early on in the rainy season) within 1 year of tree removal.
    - If possible, acorns to be planted for mitigation should be collected from the area where trees are to be removed during October or November.
    - Replacement plantings will be monitored for a minimum of 5 years.
    - If a 3:1 survivorship ratio (i.e., three surviving trees or seedlings for each tree removed) is not attained by the end of each year, sufficient numbers of additional trees, seedlings, or acorns will be planted and monitored until the desired success ratio is attained.
    - As part of the monitoring program, the project proponent will provide an annual monitoring report describing the actions taken, the number of trees/seedlings/acorns

planted, and the number of trees/seedlings/acorns remaining alive at the end of the season.

- Leave standing dead trees (snags) and fallen logs (coarse woody debris) when they are not safety hazards. Snags and coarse woody debris serve several important ecological functions. They provide structural habitat characteristics for various plant and animal species, are potentially important in long-term nutrient cycling, and help minimize effects, caused by erosion, to soil and water resources.

Bio Measure 2: Maintain access for San Joaquin kit fox through the perimeter fence (modified from Bio Measure 2 in the 2005 EA)

Approximately 57.5 acres of suitable San Joaquin kit fox habitat would potentially be lost outside the existing SATCOM fence. To minimize the loss of this habitat, 6-inch diameter holes would be placed in the fence at ground level at ridge tops and valley areas where kit foxes are most likely to be moving. Holes would be placed in the new (extended) perimeter fence as well as the existing perimeter fence. These holes would allow kit foxes and other small animals to pass through the facility or utilize habitat within the facility and also escape if they become trapped inside of the fence.

Bio Measure 3: Implement avoidance and minimization measures to protect San Joaquin kit fox (modified from Bio Measure 3 in the 2005 EA)

The following measures would be implemented to avoid and minimize the potential for injury and mortality of San Joaquin kit fox. These measures were derived from the *Biological Opinion for Normal Operations and Construction Activities in Support of the Satellite Communications Facility at Camp Roberts, San Luis Obispo, California* (1-8-96-F-25), with slight modifications to improve the effectiveness of the measures. Modifications include clarification of the survey area, the timing for preactivity surveys, the qualified biologist requirements, and the guidance to follow for establishing exclusion zones; inclusion of additional requirements for minimizing and avoiding disturbance to dens; and expansion of the worker awareness training requirement.

- Conduct preactivity surveys for the presence of kit fox and other special-status animals that may occupy burrows in the project area (e.g., western burrowing owl, American badger) no less than 14 days and no more than 30 days prior to ground-disturbing activities. Surveys will be conducted by qualified biologists in the clear zone and a 150-foot-wide buffer on both sides of the clear zone. The intent of the surveys is to identify active burrows that are used by special-status animals.
- Exclusion zones, or no-disturbance buffers, will be established around dens found within the survey area in accordance with the latest guidance from USFWS or CDFG (e.g., *Standard Recommendations for Protection of the San Joaquin Kit Fox Prior to or During Ground Disturbance*, USFWS 2011; *Burrowing Owl Survey Protocol and Mitigation Guidelines*, California Burrowing Owl Consortium 1993). No ground

disturbance or vehicle traffic is allowed within the exclusion zones. If an established roadway falls within the exclusion zone, vehicle traffic shall be allowed only if critical need exists and alternate routes are not available. Foot traffic will be allowed for transit only when necessary and alternate routes are not available. Exclusion zones for kit fox will be based on the following criteria:

  - Potential or atypical den - 50-foot (15 meter) radius
  - Known den - 100-foot (30 meter) radius
  - Known natal or pupping den - 150 foot (45 meter) radius

- Potential dens are defined as dens with entrances of sufficient size to allow use by San Joaquin kit foxes (4-inch or greater diameter) and that occur in suitable habitat. Known dens are those that are currently inhabited by kit foxes or where kit foxes have been observed in the past. Known natal or pupping dens are those dens where pregnant females or females with pups have been observed. The exclusion radius is measured from the center of a single den, or from the center of a group of dens.
- Only qualified biologists will conduct preactivity den surveys and other activities that pertain to San Joaquin kit fox. The names and credentials of qualified biologists will be supplied to USFWS for its review and approval at least 15 days prior to the onset of activities that they are authorized to conduct.
- Exclusion zones will be clearly staked, encircled with cord or tape, and flagged. Exclusion zones will be established by a qualified biologist.
- Disturbance to all potential San Joaquin kit fox dens will be avoided to the maximum extent possible. In the event that the destruction of a potential den is unavoidable, a biologist qualified to conduct preactivity surveys may, after appropriate monitoring, destroy a potential den without prior approval from USFWS. Potential dens shall only be destroyed in the event that construction activities would destroy the den and the den cannot be avoided. A potential den will be carefully excavated with hand tools by a qualified biologist or under the direction of a qualified biologist before construction begins. If at any point during excavation a San Joaquin kit fox is discovered inside the den, the excavation activity will cease immediately and monitoring as described in the *Standard Recommendations for the Protection of the San Joaquin Kit Fox* shall be resumed. Destruction of the den may resume when, in the judgment of the qualified biologist, the animal has escaped from the partially destroyed den. The den will be fully excavated and then filled with dirt and compacted to ensure that kit foxes cannot reenter or use the den during the construction period.

- Limited destruction of known kit fox dens may be allowed, but should be avoided except where absolutely necessary. Prior to destruction of any known den, USFWS will be notified in writing of the intent to destroy the subject den(s) and the reasons why alternate courses of action are not possible. United State Fish and Wildlife Service will review the proposal and either concur or recommend alternate methods to avoid den destruction or reduce impacts. Destruction of known or suspected natal or pupping dens shall be avoided during the breeding season (November 1 to July 31); this may result in the postponement of some construction activities. Destruction of known dens may require mitigation measures such as installation of replacement dens, as directed by USFWS. Destruction of known dens would proceed as described above for the destruction of potential dens.
- Construction activities shall be designed to minimize off-road vehicle traffic and be limited to the smallest possible areas of disturbance. Construction personnel should make use of existing roads, trails, and previously disturbed areas whenever possible. Off-road parking and staging areas should be clearly delineated.
- All vehicle traffic is subject to a 25 mile per hour speed limit, except where posted lower. Nighttime construction activities will be avoided.
- To avoid accidental entrapment of animals, the following measures will be implemented:
    - All steep-sided excavations greater than 2-feet deep shall be equipped with one or more earth or plank escape ramps.
    - All excavations will be thoroughly inspected for animals prior to sealing or refilling to avoid accidental burial. Permanent and semipermanent structures installed in-ground or underground shall be constructed so that animals may not become trapped within.
    - Any pipe, culvert, or similar material with an inside diameter of 4 inches or more shall be thoroughly inspected for animals prior to sealing or reconnection. If animals are found inside the materials, the material will not be removed, or moved only once to remove it from the path of construction activity, until the animals vacate the area. Pipelines temporarily left open in place shall be covered or blocked until work is completed.
- Contour and restoration of disturbed areas shall be performed following conclusion of construction activities. All temporary excavations shall be filled in, contoured, and vegetated where practicable to restore as closely as possible the existing conditions of the site. Permanent and semipermanent construction will be blended into the surrounding

landscape and vegetated where practicable. Local native plant species will be used whenever possible.

- All trash, especially food-related items, will be deposited in closed containers or bags and regularly moved from the site.
- Use of pest control substance, such as rodenticides and herbicides, will be in strict accordance with all Federal, State, local, and Army regulations. In the event that kit foxes are sighted or an active den exists within a 1-mile radius of the SATCOM facility, the Army will use methods of rodent control that have little or no toxicity to kit foxes, such as zinc phosphide or live-trapping, to the maximum extent practicable, particularly during the pupping season from January 1 to April 30. Aluminum phosphide (phostoxin) should be used only in ground holes where ground squirrels are observed using the target holes.
- All construction crews associated with the proposed action will receive environmental awareness training from a qualified biologist before construction begins. The training will include information on all special-status species that may occur in the project area, their habitat, and the need to protect them. Specifically for San Joaquin kit fox, information on its life history, habitat requirements, and photographs of the species will be provided. A fact sheet conveying this information will be prepared for distribution to all contractors, their employees, and military and agency personnel involved in construction.
- To prevent harassment and mortality of listed species by dogs or cats, pets will not be permitted at the SATCOM site or Camp Roberts at any time. Dogs are only allowed at Camp Roberts if they are used for sheep herding or upland game hunting and must be on post and under strict voice command at all time.

Bio Measure 4: Minimize injury and mortality of San Joaquin kit fox from traffic on East Perimeter Road

Traffic levels on East Perimeter Road associated with the SATCOM facility are expected to decrease over the 20-year ADP planning period. While the threat of vehicle strikes along East Perimeter Road will decrease, SATCOM personnel will continue to take measures to avoid and minimize the potential for injury and mortality of kit foxes. The following measures will be implemented: SATCOM personnel and contractors working at the facility will be educated regarding the need to adhere to the posted speed limits and to slow or stop vehicles when in proximity to animals near roads.

Bio Measure 5: Avoid potential impacts on vernal pool fairy shrimp

In accordance with the *Programmatic Biological Opinion for Multiple Activities at Camp Roberts, San Luis Obispo and Monterey Counties, California (1-8-08-F-24)*, the following measures will be implemented:

- Provide Education to Troops, Contractors, and Camp Roberts Staff: Measures implemented to reduce the risk of harming protected species include training all personnel at Camp Roberts about the presence of threatened and/or endangered species and the Camp Roberts environmental protection measures. Currently, Camp Roberts environmental staff provides information regarding vernal pool fairy shrimp and its habitat at presentations to troops, contractors, and employees. This information will continue to be conveyed to troops, contractors, and employees during individual briefings. In addition, a pamphlet on vernal pool fairy shrimp will be available and distributed at Range Control. The flyer or pamphlet will include a brief description, representative photographs, and legal status of vernal pool fairy shrimp; a description of vernal pool fairy shrimp habitat; the Camp Roberts environmental protection measures for this species including avoiding the placement of tents, latrines, and sumps, and the locations of fortifications, emplacements, and obstacles in vernal pool fairy shrimp habitat; and the penalties for not complying with the protection measures. This pamphlet could be combined with information regarding other federally listed species at Camp Roberts.
- Avoid Ground-Disturbing Activities Associated with Training, Maintenance, and Construction during the Wet-Season: To the maximum extent feasible, ground-disturbing training, maintenance, and construction activities will be avoided during the wet season, typically November 1 through April 30. Avoiding ground disturbance during this time period will minimize disturbance, degradation, and destruction of vernal pool fairy shrimp habitat and will minimize the injury and mortality of vernal pool fairy shrimp during their growing and reproductive phase.
- Avoid Cross-County Travel, Especially during the Wet-Season: All military personnel and visitors will be advised to stay on established roads and trails, consistent with CA REG 350-1. Cross-country travel, especially during the wet season, typically November 1 through April 30, will be avoided. This information will be provided to troops, contractors, and employees during all environmental briefings and will be included in the pamphlet discussed above.

Bio Measure 6: Prevent the spread of invasive plants

To prevent the introduction or spread of invasive plants in the project area, the following measures will be implemented during construction activities:

- Educate construction supervisors and managers on the importance of controlling and preventing the spread of invasive weeds.

- Wash construction vehicles and equipment off-site before entering the project area, including prior to re-entry if vehicles or equipment leave the project area prior to the end of the construction period.
- Use erosion control materials (e.g., straw wattles) that are certified weed-free.
- Restore temporarily disturbed grassland areas with annual and perennial grasses that are native to the Camp Roberts region.

Bio Measure 7: Conduct preactivity survey for special-status plants

A preactivity survey will be conducted by a qualified botanist for the special-status plants listed in Section 3.4.1 in this EA. The survey will be conducted in the project area prior to ground disturbing activities and preferably during the blooming period of the species prior to construction, which may require multiple visits between March and August to cover each species' blooming period. If the survey cannot be conducted during the blooming period, the botanist shall use the survey to identify areas where the species are most likely to occur and conduct a site-specific assessment to determine suitability of the habitat for each species. If populations or individuals of any special-status species are identified during the survey or are highly suspected to occur in the project area, the U.S. Army will coordinate with the USFWS or CDFG to determine appropriate avoidance or minimization measures. Such measures may include realigning the clear zone to avoid the plant(s) or transplanting plant(s) to suitable habitat elsewhere at Camp Roberts (if determined feasible). For the federally listed purple amole, measures identified in the *Programmatic Biological Opinion for Multiple Activities at Camp Roberts, San Luis Obispo and Monterey Counties, California (1-8-08-F-24)* will apply if the plant is identified or highly suspected to occur in the project area based on the preactivity survey.

Bio Measure 8: Conduct a preactivity survey for nesting migratory birds and roosting bats

A preactivity survey will be conducted by a qualified wildlife biologist for nesting birds and roosting bats. The nesting bird survey will be necessary if construction activities are scheduled during the nesting period (February through September); the roosting bat survey is necessary regardless of the construction schedule. The survey will be conducted within 2 weeks prior to the start of construction and will encompass the project area and a 500-foot buffer on either side of the proposed clear zone. All habitat within the survey area will be assessed to identify active bird nests, including identification of the species nesting, and active bat roost sites. For golden eagles, the survey will be conducted in accordance with the guidelines in the *Interim Golden Eagle Inventory and Monitoring Protocols; and Other Recommendations* (Pagel et al. 2010), and if golden eagle nests may be disturbed, incidental take authorization under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (50 CFR Section 22.26) will be requested from the USFWS. If no active nests or roost sites are detected during the survey, no additional measures are necessary.

If an active nest or roost site is found in the survey area, a no-disturbance buffer will be established around the site to avoid disturbance or destruction until the end of the bird breeding season

(September 30) or until a qualified wildlife biologist determines that the young have fledged and left the nest (this date varies by species) or that the roost site is no longer active. The extent of the buffer will be determined by the biologist in coordination with USFWS or CDFG and will depend on the level of noise or construction disturbance anticipated near the site, the line-of-sight between the nest and the disturbance, and the presence of topographical or artificial barriers. Suitable buffer distances may vary between species. If an active roost site is identified, the biologist may, upon authorization from USFWS or CDFG, establish a one-way barrier at the opening to allow the bats to leave the roost during nighttime hours, but not return to the site. This may be appropriate for trees that must be removed in the clear zone to allow the tree to be removed after the bats have left on their own accord.

3.5 INFRASTRUCTURE

3.5.1 Existing Conditions

The existing perimeter fence and security lighting extend around the 24-acre SATCOM site. Telecommunications and other utility lines extend throughout the SATCOM site, and some utility lines follow existing roads in and near the project area. The East Perimeter Road serves as the main access to the SATCOM site, and unpaved roads extend through the site and into the project area and surrounding portions of Camp Roberts. Discharged water from air conditioning units at the SATCOM facility is released into a small eroded gully near the southeastern end of the project area; this discharge point is being modified and corrected to satisfy Clean Water Act requirements for discharge of wastewater, which would realign it outside of the project area. Additional details on the infrastructure and utilities at the SATCOM site are described in the 2005 EA.

3.5.2 Environmental Consequences

No-Action Alternative

The perimeter fence would not be expanded, and existing access and operations at the SATCOM site would remain. Services at the SATCOM site would be sufficient to serve the existing demand, but further expansion beyond the existing site would be restricted without the expanded perimeter fence. Existing roads would not be modified, and no new roads would be established.

Proposed Action

The expanded perimeter fence and associated structures would require the extension of existing electrical and communications lines into the project area to support the lighting, cameras, and sensory line. Temporary disruptions to existing service lines may be necessary during installation and connection of the new lines, but such disruptions would be limited to operations at the SATCOM facility and would be coordinated with workers and activities that require the services to minimize adverse impacts (e.g., scheduled outside of normal business hours). Installation of the underground conduit and lines could require the relocation of other utility lines under existing roads in the project

area; the locations of known lines would be marked prior to trenching activities to avoid the lines to the extent feasible. If relocations are necessary, they would be done within the proposed clear zone to avoid additional ground disturbance outside the project area. The perimeter fence and associated clear zone would not affect the discharge point of the air conditioning units because the discharge is being reconfigured outside of the project area independent of the proposed action.

The 40-foot-wide clear zone would provide a security buffer between the land outside of the SATCOM site and the facilities and infrastructure within the SATCOM site. This buffer would meet Army Regulation requirements for anti-terrorism force protection measures, as well as serve as a firebreak between the wildlands outside the SATCOM site and the facilities within the site to protect them from potential fire hazards.

The roads established within the clear zone would extend access beyond the existing SATCOM facility and would provide access for security patrols along the expanded perimeter fence, which would maintain security and protection of the SATCOM facility. The perimeter fence would allow the expansion of the SATCOM site, by approximately 57 acres, which would provide additional area for the U.S. Army to expand its communications facilities to respond to new technologies and accommodate additional communications needs. Overall effects to infrastructure would be beneficial with the expanded perimeter fence and security measures.

3.5.3 Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures are necessary for infrastructure-related impacts.

3.6 SOIL RESOURCES

3.6.1 Existing Conditions

General soil conditions of the SATCOM site are described in the 2005 EA. Soils at the SATCOM site and in the project area include Nacimiento-Los Osos complex, 30 to 50 percent slopes, and Balcom-Nacimiento association, steep (Natural Resources Conservation Service 2012). These soils formed from weathered sandstone and shale and are shallow to moderately deep on steep slopes. They are composed of clay loams to shale clay loams, which results in high shrink-swell potential, and are well to excessively well drained. The soils have high erosion potential, particularly from water, such as where the discharge water from air conditioning units has eroded gullies in the southeastern portion of the project area. The steep slopes in the project area also increase the erosion hazard.

3.6.2 Environmental Consequences

No-Action Alternative

No construction activities would be implemented, and the existing perimeter fence around the SATCOM site would remain in place. No soil disturbance would take place. Soils in the project area would continue to be exposed to natural wind and water erosion, and soil conditions would be the same as current conditions.

Proposed Action

Establishment of the clear zone would require vegetation removal and soil disturbance on about 5.2 acres of land, as well as leveling of the topography of the project area to maintain visibility across the clear zone. Some of this land has already been disturbed by establishment of dirt roads, although the roads lack vegetation and are more susceptible to erosion. Vegetation removal would expose soils to increased erosion potential, particularly during periods of high winds and precipitation events. If construction is scheduled outside of the wet season, the potential for water-related erosion would be substantially reduced. Because of the extent of steep slopes in the project area, the leveling of the clear zone would result in a large amount of soil disturbance (approximately 5.2 acres, with trenches up to 4 feet deep), which could result in eroded sediment entering nearby water bodies or increased fugitive dust, as discussed in other sections. As part of the proposed action, an erosion control plan and a SWPPP will be prepared and implemented in compliance with the General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (Order No. 2010-0014-DWQ) to prevent and control erosion during construction and minimize off-site discharge of sediment and other pollutants in runoff. These construction measures would incorporate Geo Measures 1 through 4, as identified in the 2005 EA, as well as other standard BMPs implemented at the SATCOM site (see Water Resources section below). Implementation of the erosion control plan, SWPPP, and Geo Measures 1 through 4 would minimize the potential for soil erosion and protect the soils in the project area during construction.

The amount of cut and fill necessary for the proposed action has not been estimated, but it would be balanced during leveling of the clear zone for fence installation and installing underground utilities. Soil excavated for the trenches would be used to backfill the trenches. Off-site haul truck trips for transport or disposal of soil would not be necessary.

The soils in the project area have high clay content and may shrink and swell during and after precipitation events. The fence and associated structures have been designed to accommodate the existing soil conditions, specifically the concrete bases around the poles and posts, and shrink-swell effects from the soils would have a negligible effect on the structures.

3.6.3 Mitigation Measures

Geo Measures 1 through 4, as described in the 2005 EA and listed below, and implementation of an erosion control plan and SWPPP in compliance with the General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (Order No. 2010-0014-DWQ) would minimize adverse soil-related effects during construction.

Geo Measure 1: Clearing procedures

To the extent possible, the temporary working area should be limited to the minimum area necessary for construction activities. Topsoil should be removed and stockpiled for use during site restoration. In sensitive areas, construction equipment should be used that minimizes surface disturbance, soil compaction, and loss of topsoil. Such equipment includes low ground pressure tracks or tires, blade shoes, and brush rake attachments. Steep, erodible slopes should not be pre-cleared until construction activities are to be carried out on these slopes immediately thereafter.

Geo Measure 2: Backfilling, trenching, and grading activities

General and site-specific measures should be implemented to minimize the effects of grading, trenching, and backfilling; to enhance rehabilitation; and to minimize erosion. These measures include the following:

- graded areas should be the minimum size required for construction activities;
- the time between trenching and backfilling should be minimized;
- backfilling should commence immediately after lowering-in; and
- after final grading, all compacted areas should be lightly disked or raked before reseeding.

After the completion of backfilling, all disturbed areas (including the permanent easement, temporary workspace, temporary access roads, and stockpile sites) should be restored to approximately the original grade. Any excessively steep cuts that are unstable should be graded back to an acceptable slope or retaining walls installed. Topsoil stockpiled during initial site excavation should be spread over freshly graded areas.

Trench backfill should be compacted by driving tracked or rubber-tired equipment over the trench. Because compaction should still be incomplete, a roach (or crown) should be left over the trench. It should be feathered on either side to blend the trench with adjacent areas.

Geo Measure 3: Revegetation

Revegetation should be undertaken on any disturbed areas to provide stabilization through erosion control. The area should be immediately reseeded with a native plant species seed mix that is similar in structure and composition to preconstruction conditions.

Geo Measure 4: Procedures for steep slopes

Several areas of steep slopes (greater than 15 percent slope) are located on the site. For soils on these slopes, the following measures will be implemented:

- employ erosion control techniques previously listed;
- replace topsoil, leaving the seedbed rough and fertilized appropriately; and
- use mulch or erosion control matting to protect the seed and seedbed from wind and water erosion.

3.7 WATER RESOURCES

3.7.1 Existing Conditions

General hydrology conditions of the SATCOM site are described in the 2005 EA. The natural topography of the project area creates a series of hills with intervening low-lying areas that convey seasonal runoff. Based on a reconnaissance-level field visit conducted in July 2012, none of the low-lying areas exhibit a defined bed and bank, and they likely only convey small volumes of runoff during major precipitation events, otherwise water likely percolates into the ground. Discharged water from air conditioning units at the SATCOM facility has created a small ephemeral gully in the southeastern portion of the project area that generally follows an existing road. This artificial gully lacks vegetation and appears to end a short distance from the discharge point, where a road forms a barrier to further flow. The gully also likely conveys runoff and might overtop the road during major precipitation events; however, because of its primarily artificial flow and lack of direct connection to a natural drainage, it would not be considered a water of the United States. No waters of the United States, including wetlands, are present in the project area based on the field reconnaissance in July 2012.

3.7.2 Environmental Consequences

No-Action Alternative

No construction activities would be implemented, and the existing perimeter fence around the SATCOM site would remain in place. No modifications to topography or runoff patterns would occur, and no construction-related water quality impacts would take place.

Proposed Action

Establishment of the clear zone would modify topography and drainage patterns of the project area, and construction activities associated with installation of the fence and related structures would disturb soil and could discharge pollutants (e.g., fuel or oil from equipment) and sediment into the environment via runoff. Changes in topography would result in more level ground along the fence, and runoff through the project area would be conveyed away from the fence and into adjacent areas

where it would percolate into the ground or be conveyed through low-lying areas and drainages. Any new storm water culverts installed under the roads in the project area would help convey flow under the roads to prevent erosion of the roads. No impacts to waters of the United States, including wetlands, would occur. Culverts would be installed in low-lying areas, but no natural, defined channels exist in the project area that would be classified as waters of the United States.

Soil erosion from ground disturbing activities could discharge sediment into runoff during precipitation or storm events, which could be carried into downstream drainages and affect water quality. Likewise, pollutants from construction equipment could be carried off-site in runoff if spills are not properly contained. If construction activities are scheduled outside of the wet season, potential adverse effects on water quality in downstream drainages would be substantially reduced. Because construction activities would affect more than one acre, the construction contractor would be required to obtain coverage under the General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (Order No. 2010-0014-DWQ) by filing permit registration documents, including a Notice of Intent, SWPPP, and other compliance related documents. The SWPPP is designed to manage storm water associated with the construction activity and must include BMPs to minimize the potential for exposed soils or other contaminants from construction activities in the project area to reach surface waters. Such BMPs could include application of water sprays to keep soil from becoming airborne, the use of silt fences, covering of soil stockpiles, use of soil sealants, and re-vegetation of disturbed areas. In addition, the contractor will be required to implement a spill contingency and containment plan to prevent hazardous materials and spills of pollutants from entering off-site drainages or polluting the environment. Adherence to the requirements of the general construction permit and implementation of the SWPPP and spill contingency and containment plan would minimize impacts to water quality during construction.

3.7.3 Mitigation Measures

Implementation of a SWPPP and spill contingency and containment plan would minimize adverse water quality-related effects during construction. The contractor will be required to obtain coverage under the General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (Order No. 2010-0014-DWQ) and comply with all terms of the permit. Typical BMPs to be included in the SWPPP and implemented as part of the proposed action include erosion control and restoration measures, as described in Geo Measures 1-4 in Section 3.6.3.

CHAPTER 4
CUMULATIVE IMPACTS AND IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENT OF RESOURCES

4.1 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

This EA also considers the effects of cumulative impacts (40 CFR 1508.7) and concurrent actions (40 CFR 1508.25(1)) that may be implemented at the same time or in the same vicinity as the proposed action. A cumulative impact, as defined by the CEQ (40 CFR 1508.7), is the "impact on the environment which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of which agency (federal or non-federal) or person undertakes such actions. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time."

4.1.1 Related Projects

The U.S. Army has identified a number of projects at the SATCOM site that may be implemented at the same time as the proposed action or result in similar impacts that could result in cumulative impacts. The environmental impacts of the other actions have been or will be analyzed in separate NEPA documents. This EA addresses the environmental impacts of these other actions only in the context of potential cumulative impacts. Other actions considered in this cumulative impacts analysis include:

1. Continued implementation of the SATCOM ADP includes several short-range and long-range projects within the existing SATCOM fence and several long-range projects within the expansion area (U.S. Army 2005).

2. SATCOM Regional Hub Node Project includes three 9.2 meter Ku-Band Antennas on the asphalt helipad along the eastern border of the existing SATCOM site, 53 racks in the Technical Control Facility (Building 18000), and removal of a portion of the access road (U.S. Army 2010).

3. Ka-STARS Terminal includes installation of a Ka-band terminal approximately 250 feet south of Building 18000 and approximately 80 feet south of Building 18028, which would include a Ka-band antenna on a pedestal, a foundation, and an inter-facility link, all located on a previously disturbed 0.1-acre site.

4. The Satellite Earth Terminal Station Facility at Teleport Hill will receive two new advanced extremely high frequency (AEHF) SATCOM terminals consisting of a 10-foot AEHF

antenna group, 15-foot AEHF antenna radome, AEHF communications group, baseband interface equipment, and cabinets.

5. Demolition of Buildings 18012, Building 18015, and associated structures, appurtenances, and equipment at the SATCOM facility, totaling approximately 10,661 square feet, and conversion of sites to a vehicle parking area.

6. Construction of solar photovoltaic grids at the SATCOM site in the expansion area.

7. Construction of a Navy Research Lab antenna pad at the SATCOM site.

8. Various other minor projects at the SATCOM site, such as water well installation, cattle fence installation along some roads, temporary terminals, and security improvements at the main entrance.

4.1.2 Impact Discussion

The analysis of cumulative impacts focuses on the resource topics evaluated in detail in this EA. For other resource topics dismissed in Table 3-1, the proposed action would result in insignificant to no impacts; therefore, the incremental impacts of the proposed action in combination with other projects listed above would not elevate to a cumulative level of significance for those topics.

Air Quality

Air quality impacts associated with the proposed action would be localized around the project area and temporary, limited to the construction period and periodic maintenance activities. Construction-related emissions would contribute minimally to air quality in the region and would not result in violations of air quality standards. Other projects implemented at the SATCOM site during the same construction period as the proposed action would also contribute to emissions in the local area, but cumulative impacts would not be expected to adversely affect regional air quality. The other projects listed above would result in similar emissions and air quality impacts as the proposed action, which would be minor and primarily temporary. Emissions would be expected to dissipate within the vicinity of the SATCOM site, and emission control and reduction measures would be implemented during all projects. Cumulative impacts on local and regional air quality from the proposed action and related projects listed above would be minor, and the greenhouse gas emissions generated as a result of the projects would cause an incremental increase in global greenhouse gas concentrations.

Biological Resources

The proposed action would result in a loss of about 5.2 acres of woodlands and grasslands at Camp Roberts and temporary disturbance to wildlife species that may use the habitats in and adjacent to the project area. No impacts on special-status plants are anticipated with the avoidance and minimization measures described for the proposed action. Other projects listed above could also result in the loss of

grassland and oak woodland habitat, although they would all be implemented within the existing or expanded SATCOM site, which is already somewhat disturbed or developed. Preactivity surveys and avoidance and minimization measures would be implemented with each project to reduce the potential for adverse impacts on special-status plants and wildlife. The cumulative loss of habitat at the SATCOM site would be minimal compared with the expansive amount of habitat available at the surrounding areas of Camp Roberts. Cumulative impacts on San Joaquin kit fox and its habitat would be minimized through the use of mitigation measures provided in the *Programmatic Biological Opinion for Multiple Activities at Camp Roberts, San Luis Obispo and Monterey Counties, California (1-8-08-F-24)* and *Standard Recommendations for Protection of the San Joaquin Kit Fox Prior to or During Ground Disturbance* (USFWS 2011). Cumulative impacts on biological resources would be minimal.

Infrastructure

The proposed action would expand some utility lines and access roads along the perimeter fence and would facilitate the development of other facilities at the SATCOM site in the expanded area. The effects would be primarily beneficial for operations at the SATCOM facility. Other projects listed above would also result in the improvement or expansion of infrastructure and other facilities at the SATCOM site. Cumulative impacts would be beneficial overall and would allow the U.S. Army to fulfill its mission at the SATCOM facility and maintain communications facilities in accordance with the latest technology.

Soil Resources

Soil impacts associated with the proposed action would be localized in the project area and temporary, limited to the construction period and periodic maintenance activities. The impacts would be limited to soil disturbance and erosion in the project area. None of the other projects listed above would result in soil impacts in the project area, but nearby areas of the SATCOM site would also be subject to soil disturbance from the other projects. Overall soil disturbance at the SATCOM site would result in cumulative soil impacts; however, erosion control measures would be implemented with each project to minimize erosion-related impacts. Cumulative impacts on soil would be minor.

Water Resources

Hydrology and water quality impacts associated with the proposed action would be localized in and around the project area. Construction-related water quality impacts would be temporary and minimal, and slope modifications would alter drainage patterns across the project area, although changes in runoff would be minimal. None of the other projects listed above would result in hydrology or water quality impacts in the project area, but they could affect the same watershed and some of the same downstream drainages as the proposed action. Ground disturbance and construction activities associated with the other projects would result in similar water quality impacts as the proposed action;

however, erosion control measures and BMPs would be implemented with each project to minimize water quality-related impacts. Cumulative impacts on water resources would be minor.

4.2 IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENT OF RESOURCES

NEPA CEQ regulations require environmental analyses to identify "...any irreversible and irretrievable commitments of resources that would be involved in the proposal should it be implemented" (40 CFR Section 1502.16). Irreversible and irretrievable resource commitments are related to the use of nonrenewable resources and the resulting effects on future generations. Irreversible effects primarily result from the use or destruction of a specific resource (e.g., energy, minerals) that cannot be replaced within a reasonable timeframe. Irretrievable resource commitments involve the loss in value of an affected resource that cannot be restored as a result of the action (e.g., extinction of a threatened or endangered species or the disturbance of a cultural site).

The proposed action would not have irreversible impacts on the land because the affected area could be used for other activities in the future. However, the loss of blue oak woodlands in the clear zone would be irreversible for more than 50 years due to the time it would take to restore mature trees to the area if it is no longer used as a clear zone. The primary irretrievable impact of the proposed action is from the use of energy, labor, materials, and funds. Irretrievable impacts would result from the use of fuel and other nonrenewable resources for construction. No irreversible or irretrievable commitment of natural or cultural resources is expected to result from installation or operation of the perimeter fence or associated components. Implementation of standard operating procedures from the POM and Camp Roberts ICRMPs, guidance from the POM and Camp Roberts INRMPs, and the mitigation measures identified in this EA for natural resources would reduce the potential for the irreversible or irretrievable loss of natural or cultural resources as a result of the proposed action.

CHAPTER 5
FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

5.1 FINDINGS

After an examination of all resource areas, it has been determined that the proposed action would have no effects on environmental justice, groundwater, population and housing, public services, recreation, and socioeconomics. Based on analyses contained in the 2005 EA for the SATCOM ADP, it has been determined that the proposed action would have insignificant effects on agricultural resources, cultural resources, geology, hazards and hazardous materials, land use, noise, transportation, and visual resources. Upon further analysis, it was determined that the proposed action would not have significant effects on air quality, biological resources, soils, infrastructure, or surface water resources, with implementation of the measures incorporated into the proposed action and the mitigation measures identified in this EA.

5.2 CONCLUSIONS

Based on the environmental analyses contained in this EA, it has been determined that implementation of the proposed action would not have any significant direct, indirect, or cumulative impacts on the human environment. Because no significant impacts would result from implementing the proposed action, an environmental impact statement is not required and will not be prepared. These EA findings and conclusions are the basis for the Finding of No Significant Impact.

CHAPTER 6
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CHAPTER 7 LIST OF PREPARERS AND CONTRIBUTORS

7.1 U.S. ARMY

Lenore Grover-Bullington, Environmental Division Chief, Presidio of Monterey

Lorrie Madison, Natural Resources Program Manager, Presidio of Monterey

Laura Prishmont Quimby, Cultural Resource Manager and NEPA Program Manager, Presidio of Monterey

Tania Leisten, Environmental Protection Specialist, Presidio of Monterey

Shellie Sullo, Social Science Study Manager, Planning Division Sacramento District, US Army Corps of Engineers

7.2 NORTH STATE RESOURCES

Leslie Perry, Project Manager/Environmental Analyst

Wirt Lanning, NEPA Program Manager

Sylvia Cantu, Word Processor/Document Production

APPENDIX A

Interagency and Public Coordination

Draft EA Distribution List

California Department of Fish and Wildlife,
Central Region, Fisheries, Wildlife, and
Environmental Programs
1234 E. Shaw Avenue
Fresno, CA 93710

California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street, MS29
Sacramento, CA 95814

California Native Plant Society
San Luis Obispo Chapter
P.O. Box 784
San Luis Obispo, CA 93406

California Office of Planning and Research,
State Clearinghouse
Attn: Executive Director
1400 10th Street, Room 100
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

California Department of Parks and
Recreation, State Office of Historic
Preservation
Attn: Carol Roland-Nawi
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento. CA 94296

California State Water Resources Control
Board, Division of Water Quality
P.O. Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100

Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control
Board
Attn: John Goni
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Department of the Army, Presidio of Monterey
Attn: Lenore Grover-Bullington
P.O. Box 5004
Monterey, CA 93940

National Marine Fisheries Service
PRD Division
777 Sonoma Avenue, Room 325
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Paso Robles Public Library
Attn: Librarian
1000 Spring Street
Paso Robles, CA 93446

Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

San Luis Obispo County
Air Pollution Control District
3433 Roberto Court
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

San Luis Obispo County
Department of Planning & Building
Courthouse Annex Room 300
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians
Cultural Preservation Consultant
Attn: Freddy Romero
P.O. Box 517
Santa Ynez, CA 93460

Sierra Club
Santa Lucia Chapter
P.O. Box 15755
San Luis Obispo, CA 93406

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency,
Region IX
Federal Agencies Programs Coordinator
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office
Attn: Diane K. Noda
2493 Portola Road, Suite B
Ventura, CA 93003

Union Pacific Railroad Company
Real Estate Dept
1400 Douglas Street, MS 1690
Omaha, NE 68179-1690

Honorable Sam Farr, 17th Congressional
District
Attn: Alec Arago
100 West Alisal Street
Salinas, CA 93901

Department of the Army, HQ IMCOM, G-4
Public Works Division, Environmental Branch,
IMPW-V
Attn: Rich Morris
2450 Stanley Road, Suite 101
Fort Sam Houston, TX 78234-6102

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento
District, CECT-SPK
Attn: Shellie Sulo
1325 J Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-2922

APPENDIX B

Special-Status Species Lists

Notes: Species identified in previous EAs as having no potential to occur at the SATCOM site were eliminated from consideration when developing these tables. The species in these tables represent species that have potential to occur at the SATCOM site based on the previous EAs, their current known distribution (per the California Natural Diversity Database [CNDDB] and other literature), and current site conditions in the project area (proposed fence alignment and 40-foot clear zone) and within 200 feet of the project area. The list was compiled using the previous EAs; the Camp Roberts Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (California Army National Guard, November 2001); wildlife species with documented occurrences in the Paso Robles and five adjacent 7.5-minute quadrangles (CDFG 2012, list is included after table); plant species with documented occurrences in the Paso Robles and eight surrounding 7.5-minute quadrangles (CNPS 2012, list is included after CDFG list); and federally listed species that may be affected by the proposed action (USFWS 2012, list is included after CNPS list). Only species with the following statuses were considered:

- Federally or state listed as threatened or endangered
- Proposed or candidate for listing as threatened or endangered
- Wildlife species of special concern or fully protected in California
- Plant species with Rare Plant Ranks of 1 or 2
- Plant and wildlife species with lower ranks that were evaluated as potentially occurring in the 2005 EA for the Area Development Plan at the SATCOM site or listed in the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan

Table B-1. Special-Status Plants Assessment

COMMON NAME	*SCIENTIFIC NAME*	FED	CA	RPR	HABITAT	DISTRIBUTION	POTENTIAL TO OCCUR
California jewel-flower	*Caulanthus californicus*	E	E	1B.1	Sandy soils in valley and foothill grassland, chenopod scrub, and pinyon-juniper woodland; 200–3,281 feet	Historically common in western San Joaquin Valley and interior foothills, currently known from scattered locations in Fresno, Kern, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo Counties	Not likely to occur; nearest occurrences are more than 30 miles east in San Joaquin Valley and Carrizo Plains; not documented at Camp Roberts; soils are mostly clay loams
Carmel Valley malacothrix	*Malacothrix saxatilis var. arachnoidea*	-	-	1B.2	Rocky areas in chaparral and coastal scrub; 82–3,399 feet	Monterey, Santa Barbara, San Benito, and San Luis Obispo Counties	No suitable habitat; one occurrence from 1970s at Camp Roberts more than 5 miles northwest
Choro Creek bog thistle	*Cirsium fontinale var. obispoense*	E	E	1B.2	Serpentine seeps, drainages, and stream banks in chaparral, oak woodlands, coastal scrub, valley and foothill grassland; 115–1,247 feet	Endemic to San Luis Obispo County	No suitable habitat
Cook's triteleia	*Triteleia ixioides ssp. cookii*	-	-	1B.3	On serpentine seeps in closed cone coniferous forest and cismontane woodland; 492–2,296 feet	Monterey and San Luis Obispo Counties	No suitable habitat
Davidson's bush-mallow	*Malacothamnus davidsonii*	-	-	1B.2	Coastal scrub, chaparral, cismontane woodland, and riparian woodland in sandy washes; 607–2,805 feet	Los Angeles, Monterey, Santa Clara, San Luis Obispo, and San Mateo Counties	No suitable habitat; one historic occurrence at Camp Roberts more than 5 miles northwest
Dwarf calycadenia	*Calycadenia villosa*	-	-	1B.1	Rocky sites in chaparral, oak woodland, juniper woodland, grasslands, open dry flats and hillsides, alluvial fans; below 4,200 feet	Known from 20 occurrences in interior foothills of South Coast Ranges in San Luis Obispo and Monterey Counties; historically in Kern County	**May occur; two historic occurrences at Camp Roberts and one near border more than 2 miles south and northwest**
Gambel's watercress	*Rorippa gambellii*	E	T	1B.1	Usually associated with freshwater or brackish marshes; 15–4,280 feet	Baja California, including Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Venture Counties	No suitable habitat

COMMON NAME	*SCIENTIFIC NAME*	FED	CA	RPR	HABITAT	DISTRIBUTION	POTENTIAL TO OCCUR
Hardham's evening-primrose	*Camissoniopsis hardhamiae*	-	-	1B.2	Sandy, decomposed carbonate in disturbed or burned areas in chaparral and cismontane woodland; 460–3,100 feet	South Coast Ranges, Monterey and San Luis Obispo Counties	Not likely to occur; one occurrence from 1980s at Camp Roberts more than 5 miles north; soils are mostly clay loams
Hooked popcorn-flower	*Plagiobothrys uncinatus*	-	-	1B.2	Chaparral on sandy soils, cismontane woodland, valley and foothill grassland; 984–2,493 feet	Monterey, San Benito, Santa Clara, San Luis Obispo, and Stanislaus Counties	Not likely to occur; two historic occurrences at Camp Roberts more than 2 miles north/northwest; soils are mostly clay loams
Indian Knob Mountain balm	*Eriodictyon altissimum*	E	E	1B.1	Open areas in maritime chaparral, coastal scrub, and oak woodland, on sandstone ridges; 262–886 feet	Endemic to San Luis Obispo County	No suitable habitat
Indian Valley spineflower	*Aristocapsa insignis*	-	-	1B.2	Sandy soils in cismontane woodland; 984–1,968 feet	Inner South Coast Range, Monterey and San Luis Obispo Counties	Not likely to occur; one historic occurrence near Camp Roberts border more than 4 miles northeast; soils are mostly clay loams
Jones' bush mallow	*Malacothamnus jonesii*	-	-	4.3	Chaparral, cismontane woodland	Monterey and San Luis Obispo Counties	**May occur; suitable habitat present, but no known occurrences at Camp Roberts or nearby**
Kern mallow	*Eremalche kernensis*	E	-	1B.1	Valley saltbush scrub with alkaline sandy loam or clay soil; 230–3,281 feet	Carrizo Plains including Kern, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo and Tulare Counties	No suitable habitat
Koch's cord moss	*Entosthodon kochii*	-	-	1B.3	On soil in cismontane woodland; 590–3,281 feet	Known from Mariposa County along the Merced River, Mendocino, Marin, and San Luis Obispo Counties	**May occur; one occurrence at Camp Roberts more than 5 miles northwest**
Lemmon's jewelflower	*Caulanthus coulteri var. lemmonii*	-	-	1B.2	Valley and foothill grassland, pinyon and juniper woodland; 260-4,000 feet	San Joaquin Valley	**May occur; one historic occurrence and one recent occurrence from 2000s at Camp Roberts more than 3 miles west and northwest**
Marsh sandwort	*Arenaria paludicola*	E	E	1B.1	Sandy openings in freshwater or brackish marshes and swamps; 10–558 feet	Coastal distribution from Los Angeles to San Francisco Counties	No suitable habitat

COMMON NAME	*SCIENTIFIC NAME*	FED	CA	RPR	HABITAT	DISTRIBUTION	POTENTIAL TO OCCUR
Mason's neststraw	*Stylocline masonii*	-	-	1B.1	Sandy washes in chenopod scrub and pinyon-juniper woodland; 330–3,940 feet	Kern, Los Angeles, Monterey, and San Luis Obispo Counties	No suitable habitat
Mesa horkelia	*Horkelia cuneata var. puberula*	-	-	1B.1	Sandy or gravelly sites in chaparral, cismontane woodland, and coastal scrub; 230–2,660 feet	Southern California, except Imperial and Kern Counties	Not likely to occur; soils are mostly clay loams
Morro manzanita	*Arctostaphylos morroensis*	T	-	1B.1	Sandy loams in maritime chaparral, cismontane woodland, pre-Flandrian coastal dunes, and coastal scrub; 16–672 feet	Southern Central Coast, Morro Bay, San Luis Obispo County	Not likely to occur; soils are mostly clay loams
Most beautiful jewel-flower	*Streptanthus albidus ssp. peramoenus*	-	-	1B.2	Serpentine outcrops on ridges and slopes in chaparral, valley and foothill grasslands, and cismontane woodland; 390-2,400 feet	Coast Ranges from San Luis Obispo County to Mendocino and Tehama Counties, also San Bernardino and Siskiyou Counties	No suitable habitat
Pale-yellow layia	*Layia heterotricha*	-	-	1B.1	Alkaline or clay soils in coastal scrub, cismontane woodland, pinyon-juniper woodland, valley and foothill grassland in open areas; 984–5,594 feet	Interior foothills of the South Coast Ranges, Transverse Ranges, and Tehachapi Mountains in Fresno, Kings, Kern, Monterey, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Ventura, and possibly San Benito Counties	**May occur; one historic occurrence at Camp Roberts more than 3 miles west**
Pecho manzanita	*Arctostaphylos pechoensis*	-	-	1B.2	Siliceous shale in chaparral, coastal scrub, and closed-cone coniferous forest; 490–2,790 feet	South Central Coast from Santa Barbara to Mendocino County, also San Diego and Mendocino Counties	No suitable habitat
Pismo clarkia	*Clarkia speciosa var. immaculata*	E	R	1B.1	Sandy soils in oak woodland, valley and foothill grassland, grassy openings and margins in chaparral; 82–607 feet	Endemic to San Luis Obispo County	Not likely to occur; soils are mostly clay loams
Prostrate vernal pool navarretia	*Navarretia prostrata*	-	-	1B.1	Vernal pools and mesic areas in coastal scrub and alkali grasslands; 49–2,296 feet	Western San Joaquin Valley, Inner South Coast Ranges, central South Coast, Peninsular Ranges: Alameda, Los Angeles, Merced, Monterey, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, and San Luis Obispo Counties	No suitable habitat; three occurrences from 2000s at Camp Roberts more than 4 miles northwest

COMMON NAME	*SCIENTIFIC NAME*	FED	CA	RPR	HABITAT	DISTRIBUTION	POTENTIAL TO OCCUR
Purple amole (aka Santa Lucia purple amole)	*Chlorogalum purpureum var. purpureum*	T	-	1B.1	Gravelly or clay soils in cismontane woodland, chaparral, and valley and foothill grassland; 672–1,148 feet	Northeastern outer south Coast Ranges, eastern Santa Lucia Mountains, Monterey and San Luis Obispo Counties; known occurrence on Camp Roberts	**May occur; one occurrence from 2000s at Camp Roberts more than 4 miles northwest**
Rattan's cryptantha	*Cryptantha rattanii*	-	-	4.3	Cismontane woodland, valley and foothill grassland	Fresno, Merced, Monterey, and San Benito Counties	**May occur; suitable habitat present, but no known occurrences at Camp Roberts or nearby**
Robbins' nemacladus	*Nemacladus secundiflorus var. robbinsii*	-	-	1B.2	Dry, sandy, or gravelly slopes in chaparral and valley and foothill grasslands; 1,150–5,580 feet	South Central Coast from Los Angeles to San Luis Obispo County, also San Benito County	No suitable habitat; outside range
Round-leaved filaree	*Erodium macrophyllum*	-	-	1B.1	Open sites, dry grasslands, and shrublands below 4,000 feet	Sacramento Valley, northern San Joaquin Valley, Central Western California, South Coast, & northern Channel Islands (Santa Cruz Island)	**May occur; several occurrences in San Luis Obispo County, one occurrence about 6 miles east**
San Benito poppy	*Eschscholzia hypecoides*	-	-	4.3	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, valley and foothill grassland on serpentinite clay substrates	Fresno, Imperial, Mendocino, Monterey, San Benito, and San Luis Obispo Counties	**May occur; suitable habitat present, but no known occurrences at Camp Roberts or nearby**
San Benito spineflower	*Chorizanthe biloba var. immemora*	-	-	1B.2	Chaparral, cismontane woodland; 1,970–2,630 feet	Eastern inner south Coast Ranges, Fresno, Monterey, and San Benito Counties	Not likely to occur; only documented occurrences more than 20 miles northeast
San Joaquin wooly-threads	*Monolopia congdonii*	E	-	1B.2	Saltbush scrub, sandy soils in valley and foothill grassland, on flats in alkaline or loamy soils; 195–2,625 feet	Carrizo Plain and western San Joaquin valley from San Benito County to Kern County	Not likely to occur; nearest occurrence more than 30 miles away in San Joaquin Valley and Carrizo Plains; not known to occur at Camp Roberts
San Luis Obispo owl's-clover	*Castilleja densiflora ssp. obispoensis*	-	-	1B.2	Valley and foothill grassland; 33–1,312 feet	Endemic to San Luis Obispo County	**May occur; two occurrences from 1970s at Camp Roberts more than 1.5 miles southwest and northwest**

COMMON NAME	*SCIENTIFIC NAME*	FED	CA	RPR	HABITAT	DISTRIBUTION	POTENTIAL TO OCCUR
Santa Cruz microseris	*Stebbinsoseris decipiens*	-	-	1B.2	Broadleafed upland forest, closed-cone coniferous forest, chaparral, valley and foothill grasslands, coastal prairie, coastal scrub, and open grassy areas in other habitat types, sometimes on serpentinite; 33–1,640 feet	Coastal California: scattered occurrences from Marin County to Monterey County	Not likely to occur; outside current known range; one historic occurrence at Camp Roberts more than 5 miles north
Santa Cruz Mountains pussypaws	*Calyptridium parryi var. hesseae*	-	-	1B.1	Sandy or gravelly openings in chaparral and cismontane woodland; 1,001–3,658 feet	Southern San Francisco Bay, Mount Hamilton, Santa Cruz Mountains, northern Inner South Coast Ranges, Monterey, San Benito, Santa Clara, San Luis Obispo, Stanislaus, and Santa Cruz Counties	Not likely to occur; one historic occurrence at Camp Roberts border more than 3 miles south; soils are mostly clay loams
Santa Lucia bushmallow	*Malacothamnus palmeri var. palmeri*			1B.2	Dry rocky slopes in chaparral; 195–1,200 feet	Monterey and San Luis Obispo Counties	No suitable habitat
Santa Lucia dwarf rush	*Juncus luciensis*	-	-	1B.2	Chaparral, Great Basin scrub, lower montane coniferous forest, meadows and seeps, vernal pools; 984–6,693 feet	Lassen, Monterey, Modoc, Napa, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Riverside, Santa Barbara, San Benito, San Diego, Shasta, and San Luis Obispo Counties	No suitable habitat; one occurrence from 1970s at Camp Roberts more than 1 mile southwest
Santa Lucia manzanita	*Arctostaphylos luciana*	-	-	1B.2	Shale outcrops on slopes in chaparral; 1,150–2,790 feet	Monterey and San Luis Obispo Counties	No suitable habitat
Shinning navarretia	*Navarretia nigelliformis* ssp. *radians*	-	-	1B.2	Cismontane woodland, valley and foothill grassland, occasionally vernal pools	Alameda, Contra Costa, Fresno, Merced, Monterey, San Benito, and San Luis Obispo Counties	**May occur; nine historic occurrences at Camp Roberts more than 1 mile southwest and more than 2 miles north/northwest**
Small-flowered gypsum-loving larkspur	*Delphinium gypsophilum* ssp. *parviflorum*	-	-	3.2	Cismontane woodland, grassland	Monterey and San Luis Obispo Counties	**May occur; suitable habitat present, but no known occurrences at Camp Roberts or nearby**
Spreading navarretia	*Navarretia fossalis*	T	-	1B.1	Scrub, freshwater wetlands, wetland-riparian or freshwater-marsh, vernal-pools; 95–4,265 feet	Los Angeles, Riverside, San Diego and San Luis Obispo Counties	No suitable habitat

COMMON NAME	*SCIENTIFIC NAME*	FED	CA	RPR	HABITAT	DISTRIBUTION	POTENTIAL TO OCCUR
Straight-awned spineflower	*Chorizanthe rectispina*	-	-	1B.3	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub; 1,160–3,395 feet	Outer south Coast Ranges, Monterey, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo Counties	**May occur; one historic occurrence at Camp Roberts more than 4 miles northwest**
Succulent owl's clover	*Castilleja campestris spp. succulenta*	T	E	1B.2	Usually found in wetlands, sometimes in non-wetlands; 165–2,460 feet	Fresno, Solano, Madera, Stanislaus, Mariposa, San Joaquin, Monterey	No suitable habitat
Umbrella larkspur	*Delphinium umbraculorum*	-	-	1B.3	Mesic sites in cismontane woodland; 1,312–5,249 feet	Monterey, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, and Ventura Counties	**May occur; nearest occurrence more than 5 miles southwest; distribution extends north and south of Camp Roberts in inland areas**
Woodland woollythreads	*Monolopia gracilens*	-	-	1B.2	Grassy sites in openings with sandy to rocky soils in chaparral, valley and foothill grasslands, cismontane woodlands, broadleafed upland forests, and north coast coniferous forest; 330–3,940 feet	Central Coast from San Luis Obispo to Contra Costa County	Not likely to occur; nearest occurrence more than 5 miles south, but distribution follows coastal areas
Yellow-flowered eriastrum	*Eriastrum luteum*	-	-	1B.2	Bare sandy decomposed granite slopes in broadleafed upland forest, cismontane woodland, and chaparral; 1,180–3,280 feet	Monterey and San Luis Obispo Counties	Not likely to occur; nearest occurrence more than 10 miles northwest; soils are mostly clay loams

Sources: CDFG 2012 (CNDDB, RareFind v. 3.1.0), CNPS 2012 (Rare Plan Inventory, http://www.rareplants.cnps.org/), Calflora (http://www.calflora.org/); USFWS 2012

Federal (FED) and State (CA) Statuses:
E = listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act.
T = listed as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act.
- = no designation.

Rare Plant Rank (RPR):
1B = List 1B species: rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere

3 = List 3 species: more information is needed

4 = List 4 species: limited distribution
(0.1 = Seriously endangered in California; 0.2 = Fairly endangered in California; 0.3 = Not very endangered in California)

Table B-2. Special-Status Wildlife Assessment

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	FED	CA	HABITAT	DISTRIBUTION	POTENTIAL TO OCCUR
Crustaceans and Fishes						
Conservancy fairy shrimp	*Branchinecta conservatio*	E	-	Large, deep vernal pools in annual grasslands	Disjunct occurrences in Solano, Merced, Tehama, Ventura, Butte, and Glenn Counties.	No suitable habitat
Vernal pool fairy shrimp	*Branchinecta lynchi*	T	-	Vernal pools and seasonal wetlands with an impervious soil layer in grassland communities	Central Valley, central and south Coast Ranges from Tehama County to Santa Barbara County; isolated populations also in Riverside County	Not likely to occur; 17 occurrences from 1990s-2000s at Camp Roberts (Note that Camp Roberts has an existing Programmatic Biological Opinion that covers this species, and avoidance measures from it will be incorporated into the EA)
Insects						
Kern primrose sphinx moth	*Euproserpinus euterpe*	T	-	Dry, disturbed, sandy-gravelly washes adjacent to fallow fields where its larval food plant, the evening primrose, occurs	Walker Basin, Kern County	No suitable habitat
Reptiles and Amphibians						
Blunt-nosed leopard lizard	*Gambelia silus*	E	E	Open habitats with scattered low bushes on alkali flats, and low foothills, canyon floors, plains, washes, and arroyos; substrates may range from sandy or gravelly soils to hardpan	San Joaquin Valley from Stanislaus County through Kern County and along the eastern edges of San Luis Obispo and San Benito Counties	No suitable habitat
California red-legged frog	*Rana draytonii*	T	SSC	Permanent and semi permanent aquatic habitats, such as creeks and cold-water ponds, with emergent and submergent vegetation; may aestivate in rodent burrows or cracks during dry periods	Found along the coast and coastal mountain ranges of California from Marin County to San Diego County and in the Sierra Nevada from Tehama County to Fresno County	No suitable habitat

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	FED	CA	HABITAT	DISTRIBUTION	POTENTIAL TO OCCUR
Coast horned lizard	*Phrynosoma blainvillii*	-	SSC	Grasslands, brushlands, woodlands, and open coniferous forest with sandy or loose soil; requires abundant ant colonies for foraging	Sacramento Valley, including foothills, south to southern California; Coast Ranges south of Sonoma County; below 4,000 feet in northern California	Not likely to occur; two occurrences from 1990s-2000s at Camp Roberts more than 6 miles north; soils are mostly clay loams
Giant garter snake	*Thamnophis gigas*	T	T	Wetlands or other grassy riparian habitats with an adequate water supply	Throughout much of central California, in agricultural wetlands or waterways, only a few sightings in the San Joaquin Valley	No suitable habitat
San Joaquin whipsnake	*Masticophis flagellum ruddocki*	-	SSC	Open, dry, vegetative associations with little or no tree cover; valley grassland and saltbush scrub associations; often occurs in association with mammal burrows	From Colusa County in the Sacramento Valley to the southern end of the San Joaquin Valley and westward into the inner Coast Ranges; an isolated population occurs at Sutter Buttes; known elevation range 65 to 295 feet	**May occur in open grasslands; 10 occurrences from 1990s-2000s at Camp Roberts more than 3 miles north**
Silvery legless lizard	*Anniella pulchra pulchra*	-	SSC	Loose soil for burrowing or thick duff or leaf litter; often forages in leaf litter at plant bases; may be found on beaches and sandy washes and in woodland, chaparral, and riparian areas	Along Coast, Transverse, and Peninsular Ranges from Contra Costa to San Diego Counties with spotty occurrences in San Joaquin Valley	**May occur in open grasslands; two occurrences from 1990s at Camp Roberts about 2.5 miles southwest and 5 miles northwest**

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	FED	CA	HABITAT	DISTRIBUTION	POTENTIAL TO OCCUR
Birds						
Bald eagle	*Aquila chrysaetos*	-	E/FP	In western North America, nests and roosts in coniferous forests within one mile of lake, reservoir, stream, or ocean	Nests in Siskiyou, Modoc, Trinity, Shasta, Lassen, Plumas, Butte, Tehama, Lake, and Mendocino Counties and in the Lake Tahoe Basin. Reintroduced into central coast. Winter range includes the rest of California, except the southeastern deserts, very high altitudes in the Sierra Nevada, and east of the Sierra Nevada south of Mono County.	Not likely to nest, but may forage; one occurrence from 2000s at Camp Roberts more than 3 miles northwest
California condor	*Gymnogyps californianus*	E	E	Requires large blocks of open savanna, grasslands, and foothill chaparral with large trees, cliffs, and snags for roosting and nesting	Historically, rugged mountain ranges surrounding the southern San Joaquin Valley; currently, most individuals are in captive populations, but a few birds were recently released in the rugged portions of the Los Padres National Forest; recent sighting on Camp Roberts	No suitable nesting habitat; may forage
California horned lark	*Eremophila alpestris actia*	-	WL	Variety of open habitats, usually where large trees and shrubs are absent; grasslands and deserts to dwarf shrub habitats above treeline	Found throughout much of the state; less common in mountainous areas of the north coast and in coniferous or chaparral habitats	**May nest or forage; two occurrences from 1999 at Camp Roberts more than 7 miles north**

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	FED	CA	HABITAT	DISTRIBUTION	POTENTIAL TO OCCUR
Cooper's hawk	*Accipiter cooperii*	-	WL	Nests in a wide variety of habitat types, from riparian woodlands and gray pine–oak woodlands through mixed conifer forests	Throughout California except high altitudes in the Sierra Nevada; winters in the Central Valley, southeastern desert regions, and plains east of the Cascade Range	**May nest or forage; no documented occurrences at Camp Roberts**
Ferruginous hawk	*Buteo regalis*	-	WL	Open terrain in plains and foothills where ground squirrels and other prey are available	Does not nest in California; winter visitor along the coast from Sonoma to San Diego Counties, east to the Sierra Nevada foothills and southeastern deserts, the Inyo-White Mountains, the plains east of the Cascade Range, and Siskiyou County	No suitable nesting habitat; may forage or migrate through the area
Golden eagle	*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*	-	FP	Nests on cliffs and escarpments or in tall trees overlooking open country. Forages in annual grasslands, chaparral, and oak woodlands with plentiful medium and large-sized mammals	Foothills and mountains throughout California. Uncommon nonbreeding visitor to lowlands such as the Central Valley.	**May nest in woodlands and forage in grasslands; one occurrence from 2000 at Camp Roberts about 5 miles northwest**
Least Bell's vireo	*Vireo bellii pusillus*	E	E	Riparian thickets either near water or in dry portions of river bottoms; nests along margins of bushes and forages low to the ground; may also be found using mesquite and arrow weed in desert canyons	Small populations remain in southern Inyo, southern San Bernardino, Riverside, San Diego, Orange, Los Angeles, Ventura, and Santa Barbara Counties	No suitable habitat; one occurrence from 1980s at Camp Roberts more than 8 miles north

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	FED	CA	HABITAT	DISTRIBUTION	POTENTIAL TO OCCUR
Loggerhead shrike	*Lanius ludovicianus*	-	SSC	Prefers open habitats with scattered shrubs, trees, posts, fences, utility lines, or other perches	Resident and winter visitor in lowlands and foothills throughout California; rare on coastal slope north of Mendocino County, occurring only in winter	Not likely to nest, but may forage; nearest occurrences are more than 40 miles south in San Luis Obispo County; species has been documented at Camp Roberts (per 2001 INRMP)
Long-eared owl	*Asio otus*	-	SSC	Nests in abandoned crow, hawk, or magpie nests, usually in dense riparian and live oak thickets near meadow edges and in adjacent woodland and forest habitats; also occurs in dense conifers at higher elevations	Permanent resident east of the Cascade Range from Placer County north to the Oregon border and east of the Sierra Nevada from Alpine to Inyo Counties; scattered breeding populations along the coast and in southeastern California; winters throughout the Central Valley and southeastern California	**May occur; nearest occurrences more than 50 miles southeast; uncommon in San Luis Obispo County**
Marbled murrelet	*Brachyramphus marmoratus*	T	E	Near-shore mature, old-growth forests with low amounts of edge habitat and proximity to the marine environment	Coastal counties, including Del Norte, Humboldt, Los Angeles, Marin, Mendocino, Monterey, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, Siskiyou, Sonoma, and Ventura Counties California and Oregon and Washington	No suitable habitat
Merlin	*Falco columbarius*	-	WL	Forages along coastline in open grasslands, savannas, and woodlands; often forages near lakes and other wetlands	Does not nest in California; rare but widespread winter visitor to the Central Valley and coastal areas	No suitable nesting habitat; may forage or migrate through area

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	FED	CA	HABITAT	DISTRIBUTION	POTENTIAL TO OCCUR
Mountain plover	*Charadrius montanus*	PT	SSC	Occupies open plains or rolling hills with short grasses or very sparse vegetation; nearby bodies of water are not needed; may use newly plowed or sprouting grain fields	Does not breed in California; in winter, found in the Central Valley south of Yuba County, along the coast in parts of San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura, and San Diego Counties; parts of Imperial, Riverside, Kern, and Los Angeles Counties	Not likely to occur; nearest occurrences are in the Carrizo Plains
Northern harrier	*Circus cyaneus*	-	SSC	Grasslands, meadows, marshes, and seasonal and agricultural wetlands	Occurs throughout lowland California; has been recorded in fall at high elevations	Not likely to occur; no documented occurrences in San Luis Obispo County; habitat not likely suitable
Osprey	*Pandion haliaetus*	-	WL	Nests in snags, trees, or utility poles near the ocean, large lakes, or rivers with abundant fish populations	Winters along the coast from San Mateo to San Diego Counties	No suitable nesting habitat; may forage or migrate through area
Prairie falcon	*Falco mexicanus*	-	WL	Nests on cliffs or escarpments, usually overlooking dry, open terrain or uplands	Winters in the Central Valley, along the coast from Santa Barbara County to San Diego County, and in Marin, Sonoma, Humboldt, Del Norte, and Inyo Counties	No suitable nesting habitat; may forage or migrate through area

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	FED	CA	HABITAT	DISTRIBUTION	POTENTIAL TO OCCUR
Sharp-shinned hawk	*Accipiter striatus*	-	WL	Dense canopy ponderosa pine or mixed-conifer forest and riparian habitats	Permanent resident in the Sierra Nevada, Cascade, Klamath, and North Coast Ranges at mid-elevations and along the coast in Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Cruz, and Monterey Counties; winters over the rest of the state except at very high elevations	No suitable nesting habitat; may forage
Southwestern willow flycatcher	*Empidonax traillii extimus*	E	E	Dense riparian habitats along rivers, streams, or other wetlands dominated by dense growths of willows or oaks within close proximity to water	Imperial, Inyo, Kern, Los Angeles, Mono, Monterey, Orange, Riverside, San Benito, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, and Ventura Counties California, and throughout the southwest	No suitable habitat
Swainson's hawk	*Buteo swainsoni*	-	T	Nests in oaks or cottonwoods in or near riparian habitats. Forages in grasslands, irrigated pastures, and grain fields.	Lower Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys, the Klamath Basin, and Butte Valley. Highest nesting densities occur near Davis and Woodland, Yolo County; known to occasionally perch or forage at Camp Roberts	No suitable nesting habitat; may forage
Western burrowing owl	*Athene cunicularia hypugea*	-	SSC	Level, open, dry, heavily grazed or low-stature grassland or desert vegetation with available burrows	Lowlands throughout California, including the Central Valley, northeastern plateau, southeastern deserts, and coastal areas; rare along south coast	**May occur; 10 occurrences from 1990s-2000s at Camp Roberts more than 1.5 miles north**

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	FED	CA	HABITAT	DISTRIBUTION	POTENTIAL TO OCCUR
White-tailed kite	*Elanus leucurus*	-	FP	Low foothills or valley areas with valley or live oaks, riparian areas, and marshes near open grasslands	Lowland areas west of Sierra Nevada from head of the Sacramento Valley south, including coastal valleys and foothills, to western San Diego County	No suitable nesting habitat, but may forage; nearest occurrences are more than 20 miles south and north
Mammals						
American badger	*Taxidea taxus*	-	SSC	Requires sufficient food, friable soils, and relatively open uncultivated ground; preferred habitat includes grasslands, savannas, and mountain meadows near timberline	Throughout California, except for the humid coastal forests of northwestern California in Del Norte and the northwestern Humboldt Counties	**May occur; 44 occurrences from 1990s at Camp Roberts, several within 1 mile**
Buena Vista Lake Shrew	*Sorex ornatus relictus*	E	SSC	Valley Freshwater Marshes on the perimeter of Buena Vista Lake or Kern Lake	The Tulare Basin within Kern and San Luis Obispo Counties	No suitable habitat; outside known range
Giant kangaroo rat	*Dipodomys ingens*	E	E	Restricted to flat, sparsely vegetated areas with native annual grassland and shrubland habitats; requires uncultivated soils consisting of dry, fine, sandy loams for burrowing.	Occurs at high densities in only 12 square miles of habitat along the western side of the San Joaquin Valley, in five separate localities on Elkhorn Plain, Carrizo Plain, McKittrick Valley, and Cuyama Valley in Kern and San Luis Obispo Counties.	Not likely to occur; topography is hilly and soils are mostly clay loams
Pallid bat	*Antrozous pallidus*	-	SSC	Occurs in a variety of habitats from desert to coniferous forest; most closely associated with oak, yellow pine, redwood, and giant sequoia habitats in northern California and oak woodland, grassland, and desert scrub in southern California; relies heavily on trees for roosts	Occurs throughout California except the high Sierra from Shasta to Kern Counties and the northwest coast, primarily at lower and mid elevations	**May occur; one occurrence from 1990s at Camp Roberts more than 3 miles north**

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	FED	CA	HABITAT	DISTRIBUTION	POTENTIAL TO OCCUR
Salinas pocket mouse	*Perognathus inornatus psammophilus*	-	SSC	Dry, open grasslands with sandy soils	The known range extends from near Soledad to Hog Canyon in the Salinas Valley, Monterey County	**May occur, although soils are more clay loam than sandy; six occurrences from 1990s at Camp Roberts more than 2 miles southwest and northeast**
San Joaquin kit fox	*Vulpes macrotis mutica*	E	T	Saltbush scrub, grasslands, oak, savanna, and freshwater scrub	Principally occurs in the San Joaquin Valley and adjacent open foothills to the west; recent records from 17 counties extending from Kern County north to Contra Costa County.	**May occur; 33 occurrences from 1970s-2000s at Camp Roberts, several within 2 miles**
Tipton kangaroo rat	*Dipodomys nitratoides nitratoides*	E	E	Arid valleys of the Tulare basin in level or nearly level terrain, and comprised of interior dune grassland and saltbush scrub communities	Pixley National Wildlife refuge and Kern, Kings, San Luis Obispo, Tulare and Fresno Counties	No suitable habitat
Townsend's (=western) big-eared bat	*Corynorhinus townsendii townsendii*	-	SSC	Roosts in caves, tunnels, mines, and dark attics of abandoned buildings; very sensitive to disturbances and may abandon a roost after one onsite visit	Coastal regions from Del Norte to Santa Barbara Counties	No suitable roosting habitat; may forage

Sources: CDFG 2012 (CNDDB); USFWS 2012

Federal (FED) and State (CA) Statuses:
E = listed as endangered under the federal or California Endangered Species Act
T = listed as threatened under the federal or California Endangered Species Act
PT = proposed for listing as threatened
FP = Federally Protected by the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act now)
SSC = considered a State Species of Special Concern by California Department of Fish and Game
WL = considered a watch list species by California Department of Fish and Game
- = no designation

California Department of Fish and Game
Natural Diversity Database
Selected Elements by Common Name - Portrait
Camp Roberts - SATCOM TEA

	Common Name/Scientific Name	Element Code	Federal Status	State Status	GRank	SRank	CDFG or CNPS
1	American badger *Taxidea taxus*	AMAJF04010			G5	S4	SC
2	Atascadero June beetle *Polyphylla nubila*	IICOL68040			G1	S1	
3	California horned lark *Eremophila alpestris actia*	ABPAT02011			G5T3Q	S3	
4	Carmel Valley malacothrix *Malacothrix saxatilis var. arachnoidea*	PDAST660C2			G5T2	S2.2	1B.2
5	Cook's triteleia *Triteleia ixioides ssp. cookii*	PMLIL210A2			G5T2	S2.3	1B.3
6	Davidson's bush-mallow *Malacothamnus davidsonii*	PDMAL0Q040			G1	S1.1	1B.2
7	Hardham's evening-primrose *Camissoniopsis hardhamiae*	PDONA030N0			G1Q	S1	1B.2
8	Indian Valley spineflower *Aristocapsa insignis*	PDPGN0U010			G2	S2.2	1B.2
9	Jared's pepper-grass *Lepidium jaredii ssp. jaredii*	PDBRA1M0G1			G1T1	S1.2	1B.2
10	Kellogg's horkelia *Horkelia cuneata var. sericea*	PDROS0W043			G4T1	S1.1	1B.1
11	Koch's cord moss *Entosthodon kochii*	NBMUS2P050			G1	S1	1B.3
12	Lemmon's jewel-flower *Caulanthus lemmonii*	PDBRA0M0E0			G2	S2.2	1B.2
13	Lompoc grasshopper *Trimerotropis occulens*	IIORT36310			GH	SH	
14	Mason's neststraw *Stylocline masonii*	PDAST8Y080			G1	S1.1	1B.1
15	Monterey dusky-footed woodrat *Neotoma macrotis luciana*	AMAFF08083			G5T3?	S3?	SC
16	Pecho manzanita *Arctostaphylos pechoensis*	PDERI04140			G2	S2.2	1B.2
17	Robbins' nemacladus *Nemacladus secundiflorus var. robbinsii*	PDCAM0F0B2			G3T2T3	S2S3	1B.2
18	Salinas pocket mouse *Perognathus inornatus psammophilus*	AMAFD01062			G4T2?	S2?	SC
19	San Joaquin kit fox *Vulpes macrotis mutica*	AMAJA03041	Endangered	Threatened	G4T2T3	S2S3	
20	San Joaquin pocket mouse *Perognathus inornatus inornatus*	AMAFD01061			G4T2T3	S2S3	
21	San Joaquin whipsnake *Masticophis flagellum ruddocki*	ARADB21021			G5T2T3	S2?	SC
22	San Luis Obispo owl's-clover *Castilleja densiflora ssp. obispoensis*	PDSCR0D453			G5T2	S2.2	1B.2
23	Santa Cruz Mountains pussypaws *Calyptridium parryi var. hesseae*	PDPOR09052			G3G4T2	S2	1B.1

	Common Name/Scientific Name	Element Code	Federal Status	State Status	GRank	SRank	CDFG or CNPS
24	Santa Cruz microseris *Stebbinsoseris decipiens*	PDAST6E050			G2	S2.2	1B.2
25	Santa Lucia dwarf rush *Juncus luciensis*	PMJUN013J0			G2G3	S2S3	1B.2
26	Santa Lucia manzanita *Arctostaphylos luciana*	PDERI040N0			G2	S2.2	1B.2
27	Santa Lucia purple amole *Chlorogalum purpureum var. purpureum*	PMLIL0G051	Threatened		G2T2	S2	1B.1
28	Valley Oak Woodland	CTT71130CA			G3	S2.1	
29	bald eagle *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*	ABNKC10010	Delisted	Endangered	G5	S2	
30	burrowing owl *Athene cunicularia*	ABNSB10010			G4	S2	SC
31	coast horned lizard *Phrynosoma blainvillii*	ARACF12100			G4G5	S3S4	SC
32	dwarf calycadenia *Calycadenia villosa*	PDAST1P0B0			G2	S2.1	1B.1
33	ferruginous hawk *Buteo regalis*	ABNKC19120			G4	S3S4	
34	golden eagle *Aquila chrysaetos*	ABNKC22010			G5	S3	
35	great blue heron *Ardea herodias*	ABNGA04010			G5	S4	
36	hoary bat *Lasiurus cinereus*	AMACC05030			G5	S4?	
37	hooked popcorn-flower *Plagiobothrys uncinatus*	PDBOR0V170			G2	S2.2	1B.2
38	least Bell's vireo *Vireo bellii pusillus*	ABPBW01114	Endangered	Endangered	G5T2	S2	
39	most beautiful jewel-flower *Streptanthus albidus ssp. peramoenus*	PDBRA2G012			G2T2	S2.2	1B.2
40	oval-leaved snapdragon *Antirrhinum ovatum*	PDSCR2K010			G3	S3.2	4.2
41	pale-yellow layia *Layia heterotricha*	PDAST5N070			G2	S2	1B.1
42	pallid bat *Antrozous pallidus*	AMACC10010			G5	S3	SC
43	prairie falcon *Falco mexicanus*	ABNKD06090			G5	S3	
44	prostrate vernal pool navarretia *Navarretia prostrata*	PDPLM0C0Q0			G2	S2	1B.1
45	round-leaved filaree *California macrophylla*	PDGER01070			G2	S2	1B.1
46	shining navarretia *Navarretia nigelliformis ssp. radians*	PDPLM0C0J2			G4T2	S2	1B.2

	Common Name/Scientific Name	Element Code	Federal Status	State Status	GRank	SRank	CDFG or CNPS
47	silvery legless lizard *Anniella pulchra pulchra*	ARACC01012			G3G4T3T4Q	S3	SC
48	straight-awned spineflower *Chorizanthe rectispina*	PDPGN040N0			G1	S1.2	1B.3
49	tricolored blackbird *Agelaius tricolor*	ABPBXB0020			G2G3	S2	SC
50	umbrella larkspur *Delphinium umbraculorum*	PDRAN0B1W0			G2G3	S2S3.3	1B.3
51	vernal pool fairy shrimp *Branchinecta lynchi*	ICBRA03030	Threatened		G3	S2S3	
52	western pond turtle *Emys marmorata*	ARAAD02030			G3G4	S3	SC
53	western spadefoot *Spea hammondii*	AAABF02020			G3	S3	SC
54	woodland woollythreads *Monolopia gracilens*	PDAST6G010			G2G3	S2S3	1B.2
55	yellow warbler *Dendroica petechia brewsteri*	ABPBX03018			G5T3?	S2	SC
56	yellow-flowered eriastrum *Eriastrum luteum*	PDPLM03080			G2	S2.2	1B.2

CNPS California Native Plant Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants

Plant List

40 matches found. *Click on scientific name for details*

Search Criteria

Found in 9 Quads around 35120F6

Scientific Name	Common Name	Family	Lifeform	Rare Plant Rank	State Rank	Global Rank
Calycadenia villosa	dwarf calycadenia	Asteraceae	annual herb	1B.1	S2.1	G2
Horkelia cuneata var. sericea	Kellogg's horkelia	Rosaceae	perennial herb	1B.1	S1.1	G4T1
Horkelia cuneata var. puberula	mesa horkelia	Rosaceae	perennial herb	1B.1	S2.1	G4T2
Layia heterotricha	pale-yellow layia	Asteraceae	annual herb	1B.1	S2	G2
Navarretia prostrata	prostrate vernal pool navarretia	Polemoniaceae	annual herb	1B.1	S2	G2
California macrophylla	round-leaved filaree	Geraniaceae	annual herb	1B.1	S2	G2
Calyptridium parryi var. hesseae	Santa Cruz Mountains pussypaws	Montiaceae	annual herb	1B.1	S2	G3G4T2
Chlorogalum purpureum var. purpureum	Santa Lucia purple amole	Agavaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	1B.1	S2	G2T2
Navarretia fossalis	spreading navarretia	Polemoniaceae	annual herb	1B.1	S1	G1
Malacothrix saxatilis var. arachnoidea	Carmel Valley malacothrix	Asteraceae	perennial rhizomatous herb	1B.2	S2.2	G5T2
Malacothamnus davidsonii	Davidson's bush-mallow	Malvaceae	perennial deciduous shrub	1B.2	S1.1	G1
Camissoniopsis hardhamiae	Hardham's evening-primrose	Onagraceae	annual herb	1B.2	S1	G1Q
Plagiobothrys uncinatus	hooked popcorn-flower	Boraginaceae	annual herb	1B.2	S2.2	G2
Aristocapsa insignis	Indian Valley spineflower	Polygonaceae	annual herb	1B.2	S2.2	G2
Lepidium jaredii ssp. jaredii	Jared's pepper-grass	Brassicaceae	annual herb	1B.2	S1.2	G1T1
Caulanthus lemmonii	Lemmon's jewelflower	Brassicaceae	annual herb	1B.2	S2.2	G2
Castilleja densiflora ssp. obispoensis	San Luis Obispo owl's-clover	Orobanchaceae	annual herb	1B.2	S2.2	G5T2
Stebbinsoseris decipiens	Santa Cruz microseris	Asteraceae	annual herb	1B.2	S2.2	G2
Malacothamnus palmeri var. palmeri	Santa Lucia bush-mallow	Malvaceae	perennial deciduous shrub	1B.2	S2.2	G3T2Q
Juncus luciensis	Santa Lucia dwarf rush	Juncaceae	annual herb	1B.2	S2S3	G2G3
Navarretia nigelliformis ssp. radians	shining navarretia	Polemoniaceae	annual herb	1B.2	S2	G4T2
Monolopia gracilens	woodland woolythreads	Asteraceae	annual herb	1B.2	S2S3	G2G3

Eriastrum luteum	yellow-flowered eriastrum	Polemoniaceae	annual herb	1B.2	S2.2	G2
Triteleia ixioides ssp. cookii	Cook's triteleia	Themidaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	1B.3	S2.3	G5T2
Entosthodon kochii	Koch's cord moss	Funariaceae	moss	1B.3	S1	G1
Chorizanthe rectispina	straight-awned spineflower	Polygonaceae	annual herb	1B.3	S1.2	G1
Delphinium umbraculorum	umbrella larkspur	Ranunculaceae	perennial herb	1B.3	S2S3.3	G2G3
Micropus amphibolus	Mt. Diablo cottonweed	Asteraceae	annual herb	3.2	S3.2?	G3
Delphinium gypsophilum ssp. parviflorum	small-flowered gypsum-loving larkspur	Ranunculaceae	perennial herb	3.2	S3?	G4T3?Q
Amsinckia douglasiana	Douglas' fiddleneck	Boraginaceae	annual herb	4.2	S3.2	G3
Hesperevax caulescens	hogwallow starfish	Asteraceae	annual herb	4.2	S3.2	G3
Clinopodium mimuloides	monkey-flower savory	Lamiaceae	perennial herb	4.2	S3.2	G3
Antirrhinum ovatum	oval-leaved snapdragon	Plantaginaceae	annual herb	4.2	S3.2	G3
Arctostaphylos obispoensis	Bishop manzanita	Ericaceae	perennial evergreen shrub	4.3	S3?	G3?
Eriogonum elegans	elegant wild buckwheat	Polygonaceae	annual herb	4.3	S3	G3
Eriophyllum jepsonii	Jepson's woolly sunflower	Asteraceae	perennial herb	4.3	S3	G3
Nemacladus secundiflorus var. secundiflorus	large-flowered nemacladus	Campanulaceae	annual herb	4.3	S3?	G3T3?
Astragalus macrodon	Salinas milk-vetch	Fabaceae	perennial herb	4.3	S3.3	G3
Eschscholzia hypecoides	San Benito poppy	Papaveraceae	annual herb	4.3	S3.3	G3
Senecio astephanus	San Gabriel ragwort	Asteraceae	perennial herb	4.3	S3	G3

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Natural Resources of Concern

This resource list is to be used for planning purposes only — it is not an official species list.

Endangered Species Act species list information for your project is available online and listed below for the following FWS Field Offices:

VENTURA FISH AND WILDLIFE OFFICE
2493 PORTOLA ROAD, SUITE B
VENTURA, CA 93003
(805) 644-1766

Endangered Species Act species list information for your project is NOT available online for the following FWS Field Offices:

SACRAMENTO FISH AND WILDLIFE OFFICE
FEDERAL BUILDING
2800 COTTAGE WAY, ROOM W-2605
SACRAMENTO, CA 95825
(916) 414-6600

Project Name:

SATCOM Fence

Natural Resources of Concern

Project Location Map:

Project Counties:

San Luis Obispo, CA

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Natural Resources of Concern

Geographic coordinates (Open Geospatial Consortium Well-Known Text, NAD83):

MULTIPOLYGON (((-120.7548768 35.738201, -120.755239 35.7385631, -120.7556403 35.7388209, -120.7564708 35.7389428, -120.7585272 35.7388328, -120.7595046 35.7386603, -120.7598218 35.7381849, -120.7598255 35.7381808, -120.7604233 35.7376729, -120.7610593 35.7364716, -120.760784 35.735941, -120.7607819 35.73593, -120.7608266 35.7354414, -120.7603995 35.7342048, -120.7596586 35.7338783, -120.7591918 35.7337865, -120.7584739 35.733718, -120.7577729 35.7345828, -120.7576238 35.7350668, -120.757622 35.735071, -120.7574288 35.7354019, -120.7574243 35.7354071, -120.7574184 35.7354106, -120.7569912 35.7355667, -120.7564564 35.7358965, -120.7564516 35.7358987, -120.756056 35.7360169, -120.7560366 35.7361438, -120.7560339 35.7361512, -120.7560286 35.7361569, -120.7560216 35.7361602, -120.7560138 35.7361606, -120.7560064 35.7361579, -120.7560007 35.7361526, -120.7559974 35.7361456, -120.755997 35.7361378, -120.7560184 35.7359984, -120.7560209 35.7359913, -120.7560258 35.7359857, -120.7560325 35.7359822, -120.7564376 35.7358611, -120.7569719 35.7355316, -120.7569755 35.7355298, -120.7573979 35.7353755, -120.7575863 35.7350528, -120.7577358 35.7345673, -120.7577394 35.7345606, -120.7584496 35.7336845, -120.7584545 35.7336802, -120.7584605 35.7336776, -120.758467 35.7336772, -120.7591966 35.7337468, -120.7591986 35.7337471, -120.7596685 35.7338395, -120.7596727 35.7338408, -120.7604237 35.7341717, -120.7604303 35.7341765, -120.7604345 35.7341835, -120.7608658 35.7354324, -120.7608668 35.7354407, -120.7608223 35.7359278, -120.7610997 35.7364625, -120.7611019 35.7364718, -120.7610996 35.7364811, -120.7604569 35.7376951, -120.7604521 35.7377009, -120.7598535 35.7382094, -120.7595331 35.7386896, -120.7595274 35.7386952, -120.75952 35.7386982, -120.758533 35.7388724, -120.7585306 35.7388727, -120.756471 35.7389829, -120.756467 35.7389827, -120.7556302 35.7388599, -120.7556223 35.7388569, -120.7552156 35.7385956, -120.7552123 35.7385929, -120.7548465 35.7382272, -120.754843 35.7382226, -120.7546069 35.737788, -120.7546046 35.7377806, -120.7546053 35.7377728, -120.754609 35.7377659, -120.754615 35.7377609, -120.7546224 35.7377586, -120.7546302 35.7377593, -120.7546371 35.737763, -120.7546421 35.737769, -120.7548768 35.738201)))

Project Type:

Land - Clearing

Endangered Species Act Species List

There are a total of **9** species in your species list

Species that may be affected by your project:

Amphibians

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Natural Resources of Concern

California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*) Population: Entire	Threatened	species info		Ventura Fish And Wildlife Office
Birds				
California condor (*Gymnogyps californianus*) Population: Entire, except where listed as an experimental population below	Endangered	species info		Ventura Fish And Wildlife Office
Least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*)	Endangered	species info		Ventura Fish And Wildlife Office
Southwestern Willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*)	Endangered	species info		Ventura Fish And Wildlife Office
Crustaceans				
Vernal Pool fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta lynchi*)	Threatened	species info		Ventura Fish And Wildlife Office
Flowering Plants				
Marsh Sandwort (*Arenaria paludicola*)	Endangered	species info		Ventura Fish And Wildlife Office
Purple amole (*Chlorogalum purpureum*)	Threatened	species info		Ventura Fish And Wildlife Office
Spreading navarretia (*Navarretia fossalis*)	Threatened	species info		Ventura Fish And Wildlife Office
Mammals				
San Joaquin Kit fox (*Vulpes macrotis mutica*)	Endangered	species info		Ventura Fish And Wildlife Office

FWS National Wildlife Refuges

There are no refuges found within the vicinity of your project.

FWS Migratory Birds

Not yet available through IPaC.

Natural Resources of Concern

FWS Delineated Wetlands

Not yet available through IPaC.

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office
2493 Portola Road, Suite B
Ventura, California 93003

IN REPLY REFER TO:
08EVEN00-2012-SLI-0476

September 06, 2012

Lorrie Madison
U.S. Army
4463 Gigling Road
Seaside, California 93955

Subject: Species List Request for the SATCOM Perimeter Fence Expansion, Camp Roberts, San Luis Obispo County, California

Dear Ms. Madison:

We are responding to your request received through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) internet-based Information, Planning, and Conservation (IPaC) decision support system on August 23, 2012. You requested information on federally proposed or listed threatened and endangered species, candidate species, and designated critical habitat that may be affected by your proposed project, referred to as Camp Roberts SATCOM Perimeter Fence Expansion. The proposed fence will consist of a 1-mile long, 8-foot tall chain link fence with adjacent firebreaks of 25 feet on each side. Segments of existing dirt roads would be incorporated into the alignment to maintain the required clear zones. Removal of oak trees and other vegetation would be necessary to establish new roads along the fence where no roads currently exist.

Based on the best available information, including the information you provided through the IPaC system, scientific and technical literature, and information in our files, we have generated the enclosed species list for you to use in meeting the requirements of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). Newer information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of listed species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential presence of federally proposed, listed, or candidate species and designated critical habitat. Pursuant to Federal regulation (50 CFR 402.12(e)), this species list is valid for 90 days. The Service recommends that you visit the IPaC site at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the Endangered Species Consultation Handbook at: http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF

The enclosed species list fulfills the requirements of the Service under section 7(c) of the Act. The U.S. Army, as the lead Federal agency for the project, has the responsibility to review its proposed activities and determine whether any listed species may be affected. If the project is a construction project[1] which may require an environmental impact statement, the Army has the responsibility to prepare a biological assessment to make a determination of the effects of the action on the listed species or critical habitat. If the Army determines that a listed species or critical habitat is likely to be adversely affected, it should request, in writing through our office, formal consultation pursuant to section 7 of the Act. Informal consultation may be used to exchange information and resolve conflicts with respect to threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat prior to a written request for formal consultation. During this review process, the Army may engage in planning efforts, but may not make any irreversible commitment of resources. Such a commitment could constitute a violation of section 7(d) of the Act.

Only federally listed species receive protection under the Act; however, species listed by the State of California or otherwise considered to be sensitive should be considered in the planning process in the event that they become listed or proposed for listing prior to project completion. We recommend that you also review information in the California Department of Fish and Game's Natural Diversity Database and that you contact the California Department of Fish and Game at (916) 324-3812 for information regarding other sensitive species that may occur in this area.

If you have any questions, please call Kirstina Barry at (805) 644-1766, extension 357.

Sincerely,

for

Douglass M. Cooper
Deputy Assistant Field Supervisor

1 "Construction project" means any major Federal action which significantly affects the quality of the human environment designed primarily to result in the building of structures such as dams, buildings, roads, pipelines, and channels. This includes Federal actions such as permits, grants, licenses, or other forms of Federal authorizations or approval which may result in construction.

FDERALLY LISTED OR PROTECTED SPECIES
THAT MAY OCCUR NEAR THE CAMP ROBERTS SATCOM FACILITY
SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Mammals		
San Joaquin kit fox	*Vulpes macrotis mutica*	E
Birds		
Bald eagle	*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*	*
Golden eagle	*Aquila chrysaetos*	*
Invertebrates		
Vernal pool fairy shrimp	*Branchinecta lynchi*	T
Plants		
Spreading navarretia	*Navarretia fossalis*	T

Key:
E - Endangered T - Threatened

* Although not a federally listed species, eagles are still protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (Eagle Act). More information is available on the internet at http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/baldeagle.htm. We recommend seeking further coordination with the Service's division of Migratory Birds to ensure that appropriate steps are taken to avoid project related impacts to migratory birds. This may include obtaining permits, if necessary, and receiving guidance on the development of the project-specific avian protection plan. Please contact our office of Migratory Birds at (760) 431-9440 for more information.