California State University, Bakersfield
Ground Mount Solar and Battery Project
State Clearinghouse No. 2026060645

MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

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MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

California State University, Bakersfield
Ground Mount Solar and Battery Project
Mitigated Negative Declaration
State Clearinghouse No. 2026060645

Introduction

This Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) has been prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to provide for monitoring of the mitigation measures required by certification of the E Ground Mount Solar and Battery Project (project) Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND). Section 21081.6 of the Public Resources Code and Section 15097 of the CEQA Guidelines require public agencies to "adopt a reporting or monitoring program for changes made to the project or conditions of project approval, adopted in order to mitigate or avoid significant effects on the environment." The lead agency must define specific reporting and/or monitoring requirements to be enforced during project implementation prior to final approval of the project.

The California State University Board of Trustees is the lead agency for the project and is responsible for administering and implementing the MMRP. The MMRP stipulates how all required mitigation measures are to be implemented and completed during the appropriate project phase. It also facilitates documentation necessary to verify that mitigation measures were in fact properly implemented.

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Procedures

This MMRP gives the California State University Board of Trustees the primary responsibility for taking all actions necessary to implement the mitigation measures according to the specifications provided for each measure and for demonstrating that the action has been successfully completed. On behalf of the California State University Board of Trustees, California State University, Bakersfield's (CSUB) designated project manager will track and document compliance with mitigation measures, note any problems that may result, and take appropriate action to remedy problems. CSUB, at its discretion, may delegate responsibility for measure implementation and monitoring, or portions thereof, to other responsible individuals, such as a licensed contractor.

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Matrix

The MMRP is organized in a matrix format. The first column identifies the mitigation measure number. The second column identifies the mitigation measure. The third column, entitled "Time Frame for Implementation," refers to when the mitigation measure needs to be implemented. The fourth column, entitled "Responsible Monitoring Agency," refers to the agency responsible for ensuring that the mitigation measure is implemented. The fifth column, entitled "Verification of Compliance," has sub-columns for initials, date, and remarks. This last column will be used by the lead agency to document the person who verified that the mitigation measure was satisfactorily implemented, the date on which this verification occurred, and any other remarks. The mitigation measures in the matrix are presented by environmental issue area.

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

CSUB Ground Mount Solar and Battery Project Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration

State Clearinghouse No. 2026060645

Number	Mitigation Measure/Best Management Practice	Timeframe for Implementation	Responsible Monitoring Agency	Verification of Compliance		
				Initials	Date	Remarks
BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES						
MM-BIO-1	**Nesting Birds:** Project activities, including but not limited to, staging, vegetation removal, gravel road installation, installation of solar components, including pile driving, shall occur outside of the avian breeding season which generally runs from February 1 – August 31 (as early as January 1 for some raptors) to avoid take of birds or their eggs. If avoidance of the avian breeding season is not feasible, qualified biologists with experience in conducting breeding bird surveys shall conduct two (2) nesting bird surveys within one week prior to the initiation of project activities to detect protected native birds occurring on-site and, as access to adjacent areas allows, other suitable habitats within 500 feet of the project site. The second survey shall be conducted no more than three days prior to the initiation of project activities. Further, nesting bird surveys shall be conducted within three (3) days prior to project activities occurring within a new area of the project site, based on the qualified biologist's evaluation of the need for further surveys as work shifts into a new area. If a lapse in project-related work of five days or longer occurs, another nesting bird survey shall occur prior to work resuming. The results of all nesting bird surveys shall be provided to CSUB. If an active nest is located, project activities within 300 feet of the nest (within 500 feet for raptor nests), or as determined appropriate by a qualified biological monitor, must be postponed until the nest is vacated and juveniles have fledged and there is no evidence of	Prior to and During Construction	CSUB			

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	a second attempt at nesting. The qualified biological monitor shall evaluate species-specific information; ambient conditions and the birds' habituation to them; and the terrain, vegetation, and birds' lines of sight between project activities and the nest and foraging areas should a nest buffer reduction be determined appropriate. Flagging, stakes, and/or construction fencing shall be used to demarcate the inside boundary of the buffer. CSUB, project personnel, including all contractors working on site, shall be instructed on the sensitivity of the area.					
MM-BIO-2	**Biological Monitoring:** A qualified biological monitor shall be present on-site daily during site preparation activities involving ground disturbance and vegetation removal, gravel road installation, and installation of solar components, at the discretion of the biological monitor who will consider time of year, construction activity occurring, and observations of any special-status species to date. The qualified biological monitor shall conduct pre-activity clearance surveys of the project site every day that monitoring is determined to be required to confirm the status of any active nests, that no new nests are present, and that no anticipated special-status species are present, including Bakersfield legless lizard and San Joaquin coachwhip. If any wildlife is found, the biological monitor shall flush or relocate the animal(s) to appropriate habitat offsite, or stop work in the vicinity of the species and allow individual species to leave on their own accord. The biological monitor shall confirm that construction activities remain within the project footprint and outside any demarcated nest buffer, that the nest buffer flagging/stakes/fencing is in place, and that the	During Construction	CSUB			

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	likelihood of project activities causing any active nests to be abandoned or fail is minimized. During monitoring, the biologist shall also confirm that project avoidance and minimization measures are adequately protecting sensitive resources, or if additional measures are needed to provide protection from project impacts. In the event the biological monitor determines additional protection measures are needed or an unanticipated special-status species is detected on-site, the biological monitor shall stop all work within an avoidance buffer determined appropriate to protect the resource and immediately inform CSUB and support further coordination with responsible agencies (California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) or USFWS), as appropriate. The biological monitor shall prepare a monitoring report for each day on-site and provide reports to CSUB on a weekly basis.					
MM-BIO-3	**Burrowing Owl:** A qualified biologist shall conduct four non-breeding season surveys inclusive of a preconstruction survey for burrowing owl 14 days prior to initiation of ground-disturbing activities. If the species is detected or a known burrowing owl den is detected, an avoidance buffer determined appropriate to protect the species or den shall be implemented. Furthermore, if the species is present, and an avoidance buffer is not feasible, coordination with CDFW regarding the need for an Incidental Take Permit pursuant to CFGC Section 2080 et al will be required. Additional preconstruction surveys may be necessary within three days prior to construction to verify the species has not recolonized.	Prior to Construction	CSUB			

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MM-BIO-4	**San Joaquin Kit Fox:** CSUB is currently in the process of obtaining an Incidental Take Permit for impacts to SJKF. In the absence of an approved Incidental Take Permit for construction of the solar photovoltaic system on the project site, or in the event the project is not a covered activity under the Incidental Take Permit, prior to and throughout construction of the proposed project, the following mitigation and avoidance measures shall be adhered to: • A qualified biologist shall survey the construction site for potential SJKF dens no less than 14 days and no more than 30 days prior to ground disturbance. The survey area shall include the entire construction site, including any access and laydown areas, plus a 100-foot buffer of the site or to the edge of the project site boundaries, whichever comes first. The biologist shall produce a map of all potential SJKF dens in the survey area. • If a potential SJKF den is found during the pre-construction den survey and cannot be avoided by a buffer distance determined in consultation with CDFW and USFWS, the qualified biologist shall conduct den monitoring prior to ground disturbance. The biologist shall monitor the den for three (3) consecutive nights using tracking medium and/or infrared motion sensor cameras. If no kit fox activity is observed at the potential den during this period, CSUB shall consult with and obtain approvals from CDFW and USFWS regarding measures to protect SJKF during construction-related activities. • If SJKF activity is observed at a potential den during the monitoring period, the qualified	Prior to and During Construction	CSUB			

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	biologist shall monitor the den for five (5) consecutive nights using tracking medium and/or infrared motion sensor cameras from the time of the observation to allow any resident animal to move to another den during its normal activity. With coordination and approval from CDFW and USFWS, use of the den may be prevented or discouraged during this period. • If a SJKF remains present at a den after five (5) or more consecutive nights of monitoring, in coordination with and with approval from CDFW and USFWS, other methods may be identified to start construction in other areas of the project site, if deemed appropriate. • Prior to ground disturbance, a qualified biologist shall prepare and conduct an employee education program for all construction personnel. The training shall include a brief review of the biology of SJKF, the measures that will be implemented to protect the species during construction-related activities, guidelines to avoid impacts to the species, the penalties for non-compliance, and the boundaries of the construction site. A fact sheet or other supporting materials containing this information shall be prepared by the biologist and distributed to construction personnel. Educational programs will be conducted for any new personnel before they join construction activities. The crew foreman will be responsible for ensuring that all crew members comply with the guidelines. • A qualified biologist shall monitor all initial ground disturbance to ensure SJKF protective					

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	measures are being implemented. Following initial ground disturbance and vegetation removal, the biologist shall train a member of the construction crew (typically the foreman) to act as the construction monitor. The determination of when the construction monitor is sufficiently trained to act independently shall be made by the biologist. The biologist shall inspect the project site at a frequency determined by the biologist during this phase of construction. Both the biologist and the construction monitor shall have the authority to stop work and/or redirect project activities to ensure protection of SJKF and compliance with all environmental permits and conditions of the project. The biologist or the construction monitor shall complete a daily log summarizing activities. • If a SJKF moves into the construction site during project activities, the qualified biologist, CDFW, and USFWS shall immediately be contacted. If the qualified biologist determines that the fox is not a nuisance (e.g., it is not impeding work or posing a safety hazard to property operators or the foxes themselves), it will be left alone and not harassed. In the case of a trapped kit fox, escape ramps or structures shall be installed immediately to allow the animal to escape, or the biologist and CSUB shall contact USFWS and CDFW for guidance. • Any contractor, employee, or other personnel who inadvertently injures or kills a SJKF shall immediately report the incident to construction monitor, the qualified biologist, or the University Police Department. CSUB shall immediately report the incident to USFWS and					

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	CDFW. • The contractor shall implement the following best management practices during construction activities: o All pipes or openings with a diameter of three (3) inches or larger shall be inspected and then capped or covered. o All holes and trenches shall be inspected and covered at the end of each workday. If a trench cannot be closed, one or more escape ramps constructed of earthen-fill or wooden planks shall be installed. o Screening (e.g., chain-link fence) shall be laid on the ground underneath elevated structures to reduce den digging. o No pallets shall be left on the ground that could allow SJKF to colonize the area. o All vehicles shall be inspected (under and around) for SJKF before they are moved. o Construction-related vehicle traffic shall be restricted to established roads and designated access, staging, and parking areas. o Construction vehicle speeds shall not exceed 20 miles per hour on paved roads and five miles per hour on dirt roads. o Feeding of SJKF shall be prohibited. o Pets shall be prohibited in construction sites. o Firearms shall be prohibited. o During project activities, all trash that may					

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	attract SJKF shall be properly contained, removed from the work site, and disposed of at least once a week from the project site. Following construction, all trash and construction debris shall be removed from work areas. o Work shall be prohibited after sunset and before sunrise, when kit foxes are most active. o Use of rodenticides on the project site shall be prohibited and the use of herbicides shall be restricted. All uses of herbicides shall observe label and other restrictions mandated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, California Department of Food and Agriculture, and other State and Federal legislation, and be approved for use by the University.					
MM-BIO-5	**Crotch's Bumble Bee:** A qualified biologist shall conduct two preconstruction surveys, the first of which would include a habitat assessment, for nesting Crotch's bumble bee prior to initiation of ground-disturbing activities. A report documenting the results of the habitat assessment and surveys shall be submitted to CSUB for their records. If the species is detected, a 50-feet avoidance buffer of small mammal burrows shall be implemented until coordination with CDFW can occur. If avoidance is not feasible, coordination with CDFW regarding the need for an Incidental Take Permit pursuant to CFGC Section 2080 et seq. will be required.	Prior to Construction				

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CULTURAL RESOURCES						
MM-CUL-1	Prior to any ground-disturbance activities, CSUB shall retain a qualified professional archaeologist who meets the Secretary of the Interior's professional qualifications for archaeology. The qualified professional archaeologist shall oversee archaeological monitoring by a qualified archaeological monitor for ground disturbance within the project site, specifically during the site preparation activities deeper than approximately 12 inches, gravel road installation, and conduit installation phases. If, in the course of monitoring, the qualified professional archaeologist finds that excavations are within disturbed soil, or the sensitivity for buried resources is otherwise low, then archaeological monitoring may be reduced or suspended at the discretion of the qualified professional archaeologist with the approval of CSUB. If any subsurface cultural resources are encountered during earth-moving activities, regardless of whether work is actively being monitored, all work shall be halted in the vicinity of the discovery until the qualified professional archaeologist can evaluate the find and make recommendations. The archaeologist shall evaluate the find in accordance with federal, state, and local guidelines, including California Public Resources Code Section 21083.2, to assess the significance of the find and identify avoidance or treatment measures as appropriate. If the find is determined to be a tribal resource, the appropriate tribes would be notified. If the resource is determined to be potentially significant and cannot be avoided, then a plan of treatment shall be developed and implemented by the qualified archaeologist in consultation with interested tribes. The site shall not be released for work until treatment has been completed to the satisfaction of CSUB.	Prior to and During Construction	CSUB			

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GEOLOGY AND SOILS						
MM-GEO-1	Should any paleontological resources be discovered during construction or the course of any ground-disturbance activities, all such activities within 100 feet of the find shall be halted immediately and the construction site supervisor shall notify CSUB. At this time, CSUB shall retain and consult with a Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP)-qualified paleontologist. The SVP-Qualified Paleontologist shall assess the significance of the find in accordance with SVP (2025) standards. If any find is determined to be significant, appropriate avoidance measures shall be followed at the discretion of the SVP-qualified paleontologist in coordination with CSUB, unless avoidance is determined to be unnecessary or infeasible by CSUB. If avoidance is unnecessary or infeasible, other appropriate measures (e.g., data recovery, paleontological monitoring for other project activities) shall be instituted.	During Construction	CSUB			