



**Environmental  
Intelligence, LLC**  
Montrose Environmental Group

**MARINA DEL REY**

**ANNUAL NESTING BIRD SURVEY PROJECT**

**2024 ANNUAL REPORT**

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Prepared For:

**Los Angeles County Department of  
Beaches & Harbors**

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Environmental Intelligence, LLC (EI) was retained by the Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors (DBH) to conduct a colonial waterbird and raptor nesting survey within the unincorporated community of Marina del Rey in Los Angeles County, California. The nesting bird survey is an annual requirement in accordance with Tree Management Policies No. 23 and 34 from the Marina del Rey Land Use Plan (LUP; County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning 2012). This report provides colonial waterbird and raptor species background information, 2024 nesting survey methodology and results, a discussion of colony trends, and recommendations on easing potential conflicts between humans and birds.

### 1.1. Project Location and Description

Marina del Rey is an unincorporated community in Los Angeles County, bound by development to the north, Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve to the east and south, and development and Venice City Beach to the west (Appendix A: Exhibit 1). The 804-acre community includes 401 acres of developed land and 403 acres of water, of which 292 acres of land and 148 acres of water are leased to the private sector. Numerous non-native trees line the streets, medians, and pedestrian pathways of Marina del Rey; species include *Erythrina caffra*, *Eucalyptus globulus*, *Ficus elastica*, *F. rubiginosa*, *Melaleuca quinquenervia*, and *Washingtonia robusta*. Several areas within and adjacent to Marina del Rey have been restored: Oxford Retention Basin (10.27 acres of open water/marsh habitat); Wetland Park (1.46 acres of tidally influenced saltmarsh habitat at Parcel 9); and the margin of Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve Area A (non-native tree/shrub removal).

### 1.2. Purpose and Need

The purpose of the annual nesting bird survey is to comply with Tree Management Policies No. 23 and 34 of the 2012 Marina del Rey LUP (Policies), which are based on recommendations from the Conservation and Management Plan for Marina del Rey (Hamilton Biological, Inc. 2010). Tree Management Policies No. 23 and 34 establish guidelines within Marina del Rey for the pruning and removal of trees in accordance with the Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and California Fish and Game Code (FGC), and ensure the long-term protection of breeding, roosting, and nesting habitats of state- and federally listed species, California Species of Special Concern (SSC), and colonial waterbirds. The Policies also provide County staff with guidelines and procedures for tree pruning and/or tree removal within Marina del Rey to reduce or eliminate impacts to colonial waterbird and raptor species nesting habitats.

## 2.0 REGULATORY SETTING

### 2.1 Federal

#### 2.1.1. MIGRATORY BIRD TREATY ACT

The protection of birds is regulated by the MBTA. Any activity, intentional or unintentional, resulting in take of migratory birds is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS; 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668[a]). The MBTA makes it illegal for anyone to take, possess, import, export, transport, sell, purchase, barter, or offer for sale, purchase, or barter, any migratory bird, or the parts, nests, or eggs of such a bird, except under the terms of a valid permit issued pursuant to federal regulations. The migratory bird species protected by the MBTA are listed in 50 CFR 10.13.

## **2.2. State**

### **2.2.1. CALIFORNIA ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT**

The California Endangered Species Act (CESA) states that all native species of fishes, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals, invertebrates, and plants, and their habitats, threatened with extinction and those experiencing a significant decline which, if not halted, would lead to a threatened or endangered designation, will be protected or preserved. CESA prohibits the take (defined as to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill) of any species of wildlife designated by the California Fish and Game Commission as endangered, threatened, or candidate species. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) works with all interested persons, agencies, and organizations to protect and preserve such sensitive resources and their habitats. CDFW may authorize the take of any such species if certain conditions are met.

The classification of Fully Protected (FP) was the State's initial effort in the 1960s to identify and provide additional protection to those animals that were rare or faced possible extinction. FP species may not be taken or possessed at any time, and no licenses or permits may be issued for their take except for collecting these species for necessary scientific research and relocation of the bird species for the protection of livestock.

### **2.2.2. CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE SPECIAL ANIMALS**

CDFW maintains a list of Special Animals, which refers to all the animal taxa tracked by the CDFW California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB), regardless of their legal or protection status. This list is also referred to as the list of “species at risk” or “special-status species.” SSC is a designation applied to species with declining population levels, limited ranges, and/or continuing threats causing them to be vulnerable to extinction. The goal of designating species as SSC is to halt or reverse their decline by calling attention to their plight and addressing the issues of concern early enough to secure their long-term viability. Watch List (WL) species consist of taxa that were previously designated as SSC but no longer merit that status, or which do not yet meet SSC criteria, but for which there is concern and a need for additional information to clarify status.

### **2.2.3. CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME CODE**

California Fish and Game Code (FGC) Section 3503 states that it is unlawful to take, possess, or needlessly destroy the nest or eggs of any bird, except as otherwise provided by the Code or any associated regulation. Section 3503.5 makes it unlawful to take, possess, or destroy birds of prey or their nests or eggs.

## **2.3. Local**

### **2.3.1. LOS ANGELES COUNTY**

The 2012 Marina del Rey LUP indicates the kind, location, and intensity of land uses; the applicable resource protection and development policies; and a listing of implementing actions. The LUP provides direction for development while conserving natural resources.



### 3.0 EXISTING CONDITIONS

Marina del Rey has been separated into 10 potential colonial waterbird nesting areas (Appendix A: Exhibit 2). A description of each area is provided below.

#### 3.1 Admiralty Way

Admiralty Way runs in a general east-west direction along the northern edge of Marina del Rey. The western portion dead ends at Via Marina and includes Marina Beach, Oxford Retention Basin, and the Marina City Club. The central portion includes Yvonne B. Burke Park, Marvin Braude Bike Path, hotels, and restaurants. The eastern portion ends at Fiji Way and includes commercial buildings and ongoing construction. Suitable nesting/roosting trees line the central portion of Admiralty Way.

Prior to 2024, historic nesting occurred in this area by species of black-crowned night-heron (2009, 2011–2012, 2014–2016), peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*; on Ritz-Carlton hotel, 2014–2016), and Cooper’s hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*; 2018). The peregrine falcon continues to be documented in the area, and ongoing annual nesting is likely but has been undocumented since 2016. No nesting waterbird colonies have been documented within the Admiralty Way area since 2016.

#### 3.2 Palawan Way

Palawan Way runs north of Marina Beach and provides access to Wayfarer Apartments, and Basins D and E. Suitable nesting/roosting trees line Palawan Way and are incorporated into the Wayfarer Apartments landscape. Before 2024, no historic nesting by colonial waterbirds or raptors was documented in this area.

#### 3.3 Panay Way

Panay Way runs south of Marina Beach and provides access to numerous residential complexes, and Basins C and D. Suitable nesting/roosting trees line Panay Way. Prior to 2024, historic nesting by colonial waterbirds (2009) occurred in this area.

#### 3.4 Marquesas Way

Marquesas Way provides access to numerous residential complexes, and Basins B and C. Snowy egret (*Egretta thula*) and black-crowned night heron nest colonies have been observed here each year since annual surveys began in 2009.

#### 3.5 Tahiti Way

Tahiti Way provides access to many residential complexes, and Basins A and B. The 1.46-acre Wetland Park is at the northeast corner of Tahiti Way and Via Marina. A few suitable nesting/roosting trees, mostly palms, are located on Tahiti Way. Historic nesting by colonial waterbirds occurred once in 2018.

#### 3.6 Bora Bora Way

Bora Bora Way provides access to numerous residential complexes and Basin A. Suitable nesting/roosting trees are incorporated into the residential complexes’ landscape. Prior to 2024, historic nesting by colonial waterbirds (2014, 2016) occurred in this area.

#### 3.7 Mariner’s Village

Mariner’s Village is a large residential complex located in the southwest corner of Marina del Rey. Suitable nesting/roosting trees are incorporated into the Mariner’s Village’s landscape. Prior to 2024, historic yearly nesting by colonial waterbirds has occurred in this area since 2009.



### 3.8. Bali Way

Bali Way provides access to the Marina del Rey Hotel and Basins F and G. Suitable nesting/roosting trees line Bali Way. Prior to 2024, no historic nesting by colonial waterbirds or raptors has been documented in this area.

### 3.9. Mindanao Way

Mindanao Way provides access to Burton Chace Park and Basins G and H. Suitable nesting/roosting trees line Mindanao Way and are incorporated into the park's landscape. Prior to 2024, historic nesting by colonial waterbirds (2012, 2017–2023) and Cooper's hawks (2018–2023) occurred in this area.

### 3.10. Fiji Way

Fiji Way runs from the northeast corner to the southeast corner of Marina del Rey, providing access to boatyards, commercial areas, the DBH Headquarters, and the Breakwater Apartment Community. The Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve Area A is located adjacent to Fiji Way to the south and east. Prior to 2024, historic nesting by colonial waterbirds (2009–2012, 2021) previously occurred in this area.

## 4.0 TARGET SPECIES

### 4.1. Colonial Waterbirds

The 2012 Marina del Rey LUP defines colonial waterbirds as the following five species: double-crested cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*), great blue heron (*Ardea herodias*), great egret (*A. alba*), snowy egret (*Egretta thula*), and black-crowned night-heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*). These species have likely been nesting in Marina del Rey since the mid-1990s (Hamilton Biological, Inc. 2010). Though not mentioned in the 2012 Marina del Rey LUP, we have included data for a sixth species, the yellow-crowned night-heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*), which is a recent range extension as a nesting colonial waterbird in the area.

#### 4.1.1. DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT (*PHALACROCORAX AURITUS*)

Nesting colonies of double-crested cormorants are on the CDFW Watch List. Double-crested cormorants occur in a variety of aquatic habitats, including ponds, lakes, artificial impoundments, slow-moving rivers, lagoons, estuaries, and open coastlines. Colonies are established at sites safe from ground predators and close to feeding areas (feeding areas are typically less than 6 miles away and within 1.5 miles of shore). When nesting (or roosting) in trees, the trees are usually standing in or near water, on islands, in swamps, or at tree-lined lakes; nesting activity often kills the trees within 3 to 10 years (Dorr et al. 2014).

#### 4.1.2. GREAT BLUE HERON (*ARDEA HERODIAS*)

Great blue herons occur in marine and freshwater habitats. Colony sites, located in habitats from pristine wetlands and woodlands to highly developed areas such as urban centers, are typically located between 1.5 to 4 miles from their primary foraging location. They usually nest near water in trees, bushes, on the ground, and on artificial structures. Nests located in trees can be up to 100 feet or more above ground and can be found with other species of herons and waterbirds (Vennesland and Butler 2011).

#### 4.1.3. GREAT EGRET (*ARDEA ALBA*)

Great egrets nest in colonies with other great egrets or other waterbirds. Colony sites are located in lakes, ponds, marshes, estuaries, human-made impoundments, and on natural and dredge-material islands. Their nests are usually located on or near the top of trees or woody vegetation, and occasionally on the ground or on artificial nest platforms. Great egrets feed in a wide variety of wetland habitats, including marshes,



swamps, streams, rivers, ponds, lakes, impoundments, lagoons, tidal flats, canals, ditches, and fish-rearing ponds (McCrimmon Jr. et al. 2011).

#### 4.1.4. SNOWY EGRET (*EGRETTA THULA*)

Snowy egrets nest in mixed-species colonies. Colony sites are typically located in irrigation channels, estuarine habitats, marshes, and river courses. Their nests are typically placed on stable branches away from the trunk. Snowy egrets prefer to forage in relatively shallow water in saltmarsh pools, tidal channels/flats, freshwater marshes/swamps, ocean inlets, and lake margins (Parsons and Master 2000).

#### 4.1.5. BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON (*NYCTICORAX NYCTICORAX*)

Black-crowned night-herons are known to nest in non-native trees with other colonial waterbirds. Nests in trees have variable locations; they can be near the trunk or in distal forks of branches, in the open, or deep in foliage. They nest in areas that provide good cover with nearby freshwater, saltwater, or brackish foraging areas. Their preferred foraging habitat includes swamps, streams, rivers, margins of pools, ponds, lakes, lagoons, tidal mudflats, salt marshes, freshwater marshes, man-made ditches, canals, ponds, reservoirs, and wet agricultural fields. While some black-crowned night-herons are known to return to their natal colony to breed, others have been known to disperse to new breeding grounds (Hothem et al. 2010).

#### 4.1.6. YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON (*NYCTANASSA VIOLACEA*)

Yellow-crowned night-herons are known to nest in non-native trees with other colonial waterbirds. In coastal areas, the species nests on barrier, spoil, and bay islands; and in inland areas, the species nests in swamps, forested wetlands, and forested uplands near lakes, rivers, and creeks. Yellow-crowned night-heron frequently nests in wooded neighborhoods that have open understories and a parklike appearance (Watts 1989). This species breeding range has extended into coastal southern California in recent years.

## 4.2. Raptors

Some raptor species are tolerant to disturbance and are able to adapt to urban landscapes, nesting in trees, on transmission poles/towers, and on ledges of buildings. The following accipiters and falcons have the potential to occur and nest in and around Marina del Rey:

- osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) – CDFW WL
- white-tailed kite (*Elanus leucurus*) – CDFW FP
- northern harrier (*Circus hudsonius*) – CDFW SSC
- Cooper’s hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*) – CDFW WL
- red-shouldered hawk (*Buteo lineatus*)
- red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*)
- barn owl (*Tyto alba*)
- American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*)
- peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) – CDFW FP

## 4.3. Passerines

Although colonial waterbirds and raptors were the focus of the nesting bird survey, incidental observations of other nesting birds were recorded during the survey. Many passerine species are adapted to nesting in





urban landscapes. The following native species, although not a comprehensive list, have the potential to occur and nest in and around Marina del Rey:

- mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*)
- Anna’s hummingbird (*Calypte anna*)
- Cassin’s kingbird (*Tyrannus vociferans*)
- black phoebe (*Sayornis nigricans*)
- American crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*)
- barn swallow (*Hirundo rustica*)
- bushtit (*Psaltriparus minimus*)
- house wren (*Troglodytes aedon*)
- northern mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*)
- house finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*)
- lesser goldfinch (*Spinus psaltria*)
- dark-eyed junco (*Junco hyemalis*)
- orange-crowned warbler (*Oreothlypis celata*)

**5.0 METHODOLOGY**

EI Qualified Avian Biologists, Curtis Marantz and Sean Wolfe, conducted nesting bird surveys, focusing on colonial waterbirds and raptors and in accordance with the annual nesting bird survey requirements of the 2012 Marina del Rey LUP, on April 29, May 1, May 20, May 21, and June 17, June 18, July 9, and July 10, 2024 (Table 1).

TABLE 1. SURVEY TIMING AND CONDITIONS

Date (2024)	Time	Avian Biologists*	Weather Conditions
April 29	0700–1500	CM, SW	54–68°F, marine layer in AM then partly cloudy, winds 4–6 mph
May 1	0700–1500	CM, SW	57–68°F, marine layer in AM then sunny, winds 6–8 mph
May 20	0700–1400	CM, SW	60–67°F, partly cloudy, winds 0–10 mph
May 21	0700–1500	CM, SW	58–67°F, thin marine layer in AM then partly cloudy, winds 3–10 mph
June 17	0700–1500	SW	63–73°F, heavy marine layer in AM then mostly cloudy, winds 4–10 mph
June 18	0700–1500	SW	64–73°F, heavy marine layer in AM then light clouds, winds 4–10 mph
July 9	0700–1500	SW	64–74°F, light marine layer in AM then sunny, wind 5–10 mph
July 10	0700–1500	SW	65–76°F, light marine layer in AM then sunny, wind 5–10 mph

\*CM = Curtis Marantz; SW = Sean Wolfe

The Avian Biologists conducted pedestrian surveys throughout all accessible areas of the Marina del Rey nesting areas, recording colonial waterbird and raptor nests (active and inactive) and colonial waterbird roost locations (identified by whitewash on vegetation and ground) using Collector for ArcGIS (3-meter accuracy). Historic nesting locations were checked during surveys. Passerine nests incidentally identified



during the surveys were also recorded. Active nests are defined as: (1) nests with adults and/or young observed in the nest; or (2) adults and/or young observed near the nest, and the nest appears to have been used in 2024 (whitewash, feathers, and/or fresh nesting material present). Inactive nests are defined as nests without adults and/or young in or near the nest, and the nest does not appear to have been used in 2024.

**6.0 RESULTS**

The 2024 nesting bird survey was initiated in late April. Colonial waterbird nesting had already been initiated, with nest building, laying/incubation, and 3 black-crowned night heron chicks observed during the first survey. EI identified 156 colonial waterbird nests (121 active, 35 inactive) and 1 active Cooper’s hawk nest during the 2024 nesting bird surveys. Table 2 presents the colonial waterbird nest numbers by species and location. Appendix A Exhibit 3 displays all the nest locations by area and includes historic nest data (most recent year active). Appendix B contains the nest data table showing the nesting history by species from 2009-2024 for each nesting area location and tree number (species-specific data for 2009, 2011, and 2012 is unknown). Appendix C presents site photographs from 2024 surveys. Appendix D lists all avian species identified during 2024 surveys.

TABLE 2. COLONIAL WATERBIRD/RAPTOR NESTS (2024)

Location <sup>1</sup>	Species <sup>2</sup>								
	GBHE	Large Unknown	BCNH	YCNH	SNEG	Small Unknown	DCCO	Total Colonial Waterbird	COHA
Marquesas Way	0	0	37	1	33	35	0	71	0
Mariner’s Village	17	0	0	0	0	0	10	27	0
Mindanao Way	0	0	0	2	0	0	21	23	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>1</b>

<sup>1</sup> No colonial waterbird nests present in Admiralty Way, Bali Way, Palawan Way, Panay Way, Tahiti Way, and Fiji Way.

<sup>2</sup> GBHE = great blue heron; Large Unknown = great blue heron or great egret; BCNH = black-crowned night-heron; YCNH = yellow-crowned night-heron, SNEG = snowy egret; Small Unknown = black-crowned night-heron or snowy egret; DCCO = double-crested cormorant; COHA = Cooper’s hawk

**6.1 Admiralty Way**

No colonial waterbird nests were observed in the Admiralty Way nesting area in 2024. Two peregrine falcons were seen on multiple surveys, with one or both peregrines associated with the Marina Towers buildings. Historical colonial waterbird nesting had been extensive prior to 2016, with no nesting documented after.

**6.2 Palawan Way**

No colonial waterbird nests were observed in the Palawan Way nesting area in 2024. No historic nesting has occurred in this area.

**6.3 Panay Way**

No colonial waterbird nests were observed in the Panay Way nesting area in 2024. A single unoccupied



roost tree with extensive whitewash was documented at tree PN-2 (Exhibit 3A).

#### **6.4 Marquesas Way**

The eastern portion of Marquesas Way contained 37 black-crowned night-heron nests, 33 snowy egret nests, and one yellow-crowned night heron nest (mostly in paperbark trees), all considered active due to the presence of adults, young, and fresh sign on and around the nests. These active nests were located in nine trees (number of nests per tree ranged from 1-12), situated in the median of Marquesas Way, as well as the north side of the road in one instance (Appendix A, Exhibit 3B). The eastern portion of Marquesas Way appears to be preferred over the western portion due to one or more of the following reasons: (1) closer to the water; (2) more sheltered by the buildings; and/or (3) more densely vegetated and more shaded. Two dead black-crowned night-herons were observed over the course of surveys: one hanging in MQ-08, and another individual on the ground below MQ-6 (Appendix A, Exhibit 3B).

#### **6.5 Tahiti Way**

No nests were observed in the Tahiti Way nesting area in 2024. A single inactive unknown corvid nest was documented in 2023, this nest was not relocated.

#### **6.6 Bora Bora Way**

No nests were documented in the Bora Bora Way nesting area in 2024.

#### **6.7 Mariner's Village**

Mariner's Village contained one double-crested cormorant colony with circa 10 active nests, and a number of nests that appeared to be unoccupied this season. Nine great blue heron nests (all considered active) were documented in 3 trees. Two large pines in the middle of Mariner's Village close to center building contained around 17 large nests, 5 of which were confirmed to be active, one active nest in a eucalyptus near the double-crested cormorant nest colony, and 3 nests split between two trees (Appendix A, Exhibit 3D). Several individual, black-crowned night-heron were seen roosting throughout the area with little site fidelity between visits.

#### **6.8 Bali Way**

No nesting was observed during the 2024 survey. A single unoccupied waterbird roost tree BA-1 was documented by extensive whitewash at its base (Appendix A, Exhibit 3E).

#### **6.9 Mindanao Way**

Nesting observed in 2024 included a double-crested cormorant nest tree, with approximately 20 active nests (CP-220). Two active yellow-crowned night heron nests were found near the community meeting room building, both successfully fledged young (CP-90 and CP-94). Three double-crested cormorant roost trees (MN-24, MN-39, and MN-54 all Eucalyptus) were also documented. A number of individual black-crowned night heron were seen roosting in various trees throughout Chace Park, but with little site fidelity between surveys (Appendix A, Exhibit 3F). A single cooper's hawk nest was documented and observed to fledge to chicks over the course of surveys (Appendix A, Exhibit 3G).

#### **6.10 Fiji Way**

No colonial waterbird or raptor nests were observed in the Fiji Way nesting area in 2024. The most recent documented nesting occurred in 2021 by a single pair of great blue heron.



## 7.0 DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### 7.1. Population Trends

Table 3 presents a 5-year population trend by colonial waterbird species.

TABLE 3. 5-YEAR POPULATION TREND BY SPECIES, BASED ON NUMBERS OF ACTIVE NESTS

Species	Year <sup>1</sup>					Trend
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
Black-crowned night-heron	64	51	41	60	37	Decrease
Snowy egret	32	34	21	34	33	Stable
Great blue heron	12	12	8	19	17	Stable
Double-crested cormorant	26	32	29	34	31	Stable
Yellow-crowned night-heron	0	0	0	0	3	Increase
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>121</b>	Decrease
Small unknown, potentially active nests <sup>1</sup>	2	42	32	33	35	Increase
Large unknown, potentially active nests <sup>1</sup>	0	1	0	0	0	Stable
<b>Total</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>156</b>	Decrease

The number of active black-crowned night-heron nests in 2024 (37 nests), was lower than the previous 2020-2023 surveys (range 41–64 nests). The number of trees containing an active nest in 2024 was 17 compared with 18 trees in 2023. The current decline in nest numbers could be the result of a number of potential factors, including nests falling out of trees; a reduction in the amount of prey available for adults (if the amount of prey in a given year is lower than average, due to climate patterns or some other influence(s), some birds may not nest because there is not enough prey to raise chicks); surveyor biases (over counting questionable nest observations where it's difficult to observe definitive evidence of activity), nesting site selection bias and/or individuals choosing to nest elsewhere (outside of Marina del Rey survey area), and/or nest site competition with other species. Diseases such as Newcastle, West Nile Virus, Avian Influenza (HPAI), and Avian Botulism have been documented from colonial nesting birds in North America and can cyclically impact populations. No evidence of large scale disease mortality was observed during the 2024 nesting bird surveys. A inquiry with staff at the International Bird Rescue facility in San Pedro was made regarding any documented disease events in the Marina del Rey area in 2024, and they indicated they were unaware of any this year. It's also likely that a number of nests had fledged by the start of the 2024 nesting surveys on April 29<sup>th</sup>. Regardless, the black-crowned night-heron nesting population is well-established and continues to be productive in this heavily populated area.

The number of active snowy egret nests in 2023 (33 nests), all located within the Marquesas Way nesting area, was comparable to nest numbers observed during three of the four previous years, and higher than the 2022 count (21 nests).

The number of active great blue heron nests in 2024 (17 nests), all located within the Mariner's Village nesting area, was lower than in 2023 (19 nests) but higher than 2020-2022 (8-12 nests). In 2023, five nesting trees were documented, and four of these five were occupied in 2024; however, nest densities were lower. Based on the observation of several subadult birds during the first survey, it is likely that some nests had fledged by the start of the 2024 nesting surveys on April 29<sup>th</sup>. As discussed above, for the black-crowned night heron, numerous factors can influence the year-over-year change in numbers. No new impacts or changes to the nesting trees or nesting area were noted by the surveyors.



Great egrets have not been observed nesting in Marina del Rey since 2012 (Rincon 2017). It is unknown why great egrets have stopped nesting in Marina del Rey. Their absence could be a result of several factors, including nest site competition with great blue herons, and/or a preference for nesting habitat located elsewhere (e.g., Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve).

The number of double-crested cormorant nests in 2024 (31) was associated with tree 22 at Mariner’s Village and tree CP-220 at Mindanao Way. This is a reduction from the number of trees used over the last four years, but nest numbers remain stable. Selection of nesting areas by colonial waterbirds from year to year is unpredictable and variable. A persistent colony can relocate for a variety of reasons, including human disturbance, predation, severe weather events, and competition for nesting habitat (Parnell et al. 1988).

TABLE 4. 5-YEAR POPULATION TREND BY NESTING AREA, BASED ON NUMBERS OF ACTIVE AND PRESUMED ACTIVE NESTS

Location	Year					Trend
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
Admiralty Way	0	0	0	0	0	No Change
Bali Way	0	0	0	0	0	No Change
Pana Way	0	0	0	0	0	No Change
Fiji Way	0	1	0	0	0	No Change
Marquesas Way	95	127	93	123	71	Decrease
Bora Bora Way	0	1	1	0	0	Decrease
Mariner’s Village	32	31	28	36	29	Decrease
Mindanao Way	9	16	11	21	22	Increase
Tahiti Way	0	0	0	0	0	No Change
<b>Total</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>Decrease</b>

Nesting in the Admiralty Way area was absent in 2024 and has been since 2017. No nesting was documented in the Panay Way or Bali Way areas in 2024 and no nesting has been documented since surveys began in 2009. No nesting in the Fiji Way nesting area was documented in 2024 and nesting has not been observed since 2021 when a single great blue heron nest was documented. No nesting was documented in the Tahiti Way area in 2024, previously only a single small colonial waterbird nest of unknown species was documented in 2018. No nesting was documented in the Bora Bora area in 2024, previously only single active great blue heron nest was documented in 2022 and a single, black-crowned night heron nest in 2021. Nesting numbers in the Marquesas Way area dropped relative to 2020–2023, however the area continues to support a robust population of black-crowned night herons and snowy egrets. Nesting numbers in Mariners Village also dropped relative to the 2020-2023 period but it continues to support a robust population of double-crested cormorants and a small but stable population of great blue herons relative to the 2020-2023 period. Nesting at the Mindanao Way/Burton Chace Park area in 2024 was stable relative to 2023 and increased for the 2020-2022 period with a large population of double-crested cormorants and multiple pairs of yellow-crested night herons. Overall, there was a decrease in active nests, but that decrease is likely attributable to one or more of the reasons mentioned above.

## 7.2. Potential Conflicts

This section makes recommendations for resolving potential conflicts in ways that best respond to the 2010 Conservation and Management Plan. Before any actions are implemented, consultation with the County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning, USFWS, and CDFW should occur. Hamilton (2010) identified five sources of potential conflict, each described below.



### 7.2.1. NUISANCES AND COSTS TO RESIDENTS, WORKERS, LESSEES, AND THE LANDOWNER

Considerable amounts of waste (guano, feathers, decomposing eggs and food, and other debris) from colonial waterbirds result in foul smells, stains on property, and health risks. Costs are incurred by public and private landowners to clean and maintain these areas. Noise from the nesting colonies can also be a nuisance.

Currently, this potential conflict occurs in the Marquesas Way and Mariner's Village nesting areas. In the Marquesas Way nesting area, numerous black-crowned night-heron and snowy egret nests are densely packed into an approximately 700-foot-long stretch of Marquesas Way and surrounded by residential complexes. In addition to the noise, smell, and potential health risks, some young birds fall from trees into Marquesas Way and are run over by automobiles; there is the potential that an automobile could swerve or brake to avoid hitting a bird and could cause an accident resulting in human injury and/or property damage. At Mariner's Village, nest tree 24 has contained 12–22 double-crested cormorant nests over each of the past 5 years. This nest tree is adjacent to a residential complex, so noise, smell, and health risks exist, and there are parking spaces under the tree that are coated with guano.

Conflict in the Marquesas Way nesting area could be resolved by (1) removing nests during the non-breeding/non-nesting season; (2) pruning the trees during the non-breeding/non-nesting season to make them unsuitable as nest trees (e.g., trim/reduce the canopy, which in turn reduces the amount of shade and protection from predators, wind, and rain; trim/reduce the amount of branching, which in turn reduces the amount of nesting space and the amount of potential nesting materials from within the tree); (3) removing the trees entirely (root systems are causing problems in the street as well); or (4) relocating the entire colony. If nest removal and/or tree pruning is implemented, there are numerous trees in the immediate vicinity (i.e., north side of Marquesas Way) suitable for these two species to relocate to and nest; however, it is impossible to predict where the birds will relocate. The trees selected as nesting sites can and do change from year-to-year, or even within the same year (Hamilton 2010). Should nesting occur in other trees along Marquesas Way, similar conflicts may persist. If tree removal is implemented, replacement trees are required at a 1:1 ratio, as described in the 2012 LUP. Black-crowned night-heron and snowy egrets tend to prefer smaller and more densely vegetated trees, so new tree species (e.g., natives such as *Platanus racemosa*, *Aesculus californica*, and *Lyonothamnus floribundus* var. *aspleniifolius*; non-natives such as *Lophostemon confertus*, *Platanus x acerifolia*, *Eucalyptus nicholii*, *Callistemon viminalis*, and *Washingtonia robusta*) could be selected to avoid future conflict. Great blue herons and double-crested cormorants seem to prefer large trees (often large *Eucalyptus*) with relatively open vegetation, so if this type of tree is selected for replacement, there is the possibility of other colonial waterbird species moving into the area.

Relocating the entire colony would be a significant undertaking, but it is possible. In 1999, the Port of Long Beach relocated a black-crowned night-heron colony (approximately 500 pairs) to a park approximately 1 mile away by transplanting 50 *Ficus*, *Olea*, and *Melaleuca* trees to the new site to supplement existing vegetation. To attract nesting night-herons to the site, night-heron decoys were placed in the trees, heron vocalizations were played, and public access to the site was limited. Early results showed the colony relocation was successful, with nest and chick numbers similar to pre-relocation numbers; however, due to disturbances from Navy cleanup operations, the colony has since dispersed to other locations in southern California (Crouch et al 2002). To conduct a successful colony relocation, an area with existing suitable nest trees would be required to supplement the transplanted trees. Section 7.3 below discusses potential restoration areas that may be suitable for relocation.



### 7.2.2. DEATH OF TREES THROUGH GUANOTROPHY

The deposition of guano on leaves and under trees can cause defoliation and impact the soils to a level that causes the tree to die, which can ultimately result in limbs or the entire tree falling and injuring people or damaging property. This conflict tends to be more evident with double-crested cormorant nest trees. This issue is well-illustrated by the decline and ultimate removal of tree 24 at Mariner's Village sometime prior to the 2022 nesting season after years of utilization as both a nesting and roost tree (active 2014–2022). Current double-crested cormorant nest trees include nest trees 22 (Mariner's Village) and CP-220 (Burton Chace Park). Current double-crested cormorant roost trees include CP-64, MN-24, MN-39, and MN-54 (Chace Park/ Mindanao Way). If trees are removed, replacement trees are required at a 1:1 ratio. Certain species of trees may be more susceptible to guanotrophy than others, so an arborist should be consulted to identify at-risk trees.

### 7.2.3. POTENTIAL HEALTH RISKS

Airborne particles from guano can cause bacterial infections and other health problems. Currently, this potential conflict occurs in the Marquesas Way and Mariner's Village nesting areas. See Section 7.2.1 for possible resolutions.

### 7.2.4. POTENTIAL CONFLICTS WITH NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Some colonial waterbirds (e.g., great blue heron and black-crowned night-heron) prey upon smaller birds. The federal and state endangered California least tern (*Sternula antillarum browni*) and the federal threatened western snowy plover (*Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus*) nest on nearby beaches, so propagating colonial waterbird nesting populations could conflict with conservation and management efforts of other listed species in the vicinity.

This potential conflict addresses the Marina del Rey colonial waterbird population as a whole, and more specifically the great blue heron and black-crowned night-heron populations. The population appears to be relatively stable over the past 5 years, so maintaining the current local population is preferred rather than increasing the local population. Hamilton (2010) recommends against modifying what little natural habitat remains in the area to create still more tree nesting sites for colonial waterbirds that have been thriving in the area since the latter half of the 1990s. Therefore, except for mitigated replacement trees, no new trees should be planted in Marina del Rey that would allow for a noticeable increase in population size.

### 7.2.5. POTENTIAL CONFLICTS WITH PLANNED HUMAN LAND USES

Marina del Rey is an urban landscape. The additional burden of managing colonial waterbird colonies conflicts with the constant need of community maintenance, upgrades, and planning. The colonial waterbird population has adapted to the urban landscape, so they will likely adapt to ongoing community activities and redevelopment. The LUP provides a balance between development and natural resources.

## 7.3. Compensatory Mitigation Measures

As stated above, replacement trees must be mitigated at a 1:1 ratio. The location of the replacement trees can be anywhere within Marina del Rey. Potential mitigation sites would require the creation of suitable nesting, foraging, and/or roosting habitat. To encourage nesting in an area, a mitigation area should be created that satisfies the following criteria: (1) large trees suitable for nesting; (2) close to the water and/or suitable foraging habitat; (3) minimal disturbance (at least to begin with, until the new colony is established); and (4) as close as possible to the current colony location. However, even if an ideal site is created, it may be



difficult to get the birds to move there, and it would be very unpredictable. As discussed above, relocation efforts (e.g., transplanted trees, decoys, vocalizations) can help attract birds to new locations.

### 7.3.1. POTENTIAL MITIGATION AREAS WITHIN MARINA DEL REY

The Oxford Retention Basin was designed primarily for flood protection and water quality improvement, and the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement Project emphasized the removal of non-native species and restoration of salt marsh, coastal sage scrub, and willow scrub habitats. As an area with little potential for human/bird conflict, the Oxford Basin offers opportunity for enhancing colonial waterbird nesting and roosting habitat; however, the LUP requires that any new vegetation planted in Oxford Basin must be locally native.

The primary focus of the Wetland Park restoration project at Parcel 9 is to establish coastal salt marsh habitat typical of this region of southern California, with a native buffer of coastal prairie and coastal sage scrub. As such, the restored Wetland Park is expected to provide foraging opportunities for shorebirds, herons, egrets, and other waterfowl; however, it does not represent a viable area for planting of mitigation trees for colonial waterbird nesting habitat.

Other areas within Marina del Rey available for enhancement of their biological value include Yvonne B. Burke Park and Burton W. Chace Park. However, these areas are high-use pedestrian areas and could succumb to the potential conflicts discussed in Section 7.2.

### 7.3.2. POTENTIAL MITIGATION AREAS OUTSIDE MARINA DEL REY

The eastern shoulder of Fiji Way adjacent to Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve Area A contains non-native trees and shrubs, including *Nerium oleander*, *Juniperus* sp., and *Eucalyptus* sp. It has been proposed to remove these non-native trees and shrubs to promote the natural, open features along the northern margin of Area A. This area is approximately 0.5 mile east of the Marquesas Way and Mariner's Village nesting areas and likely serves as a corridor from current nesting areas to foraging grounds within Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve. If Area A can be restored to more natural conditions (in coordination with CDFW), colonial waterbirds may be attracted to this area that is closer to preferred foraging grounds and has less disturbance. This could potentially result in colonial waterbirds choosing to nest in trees within the Fiji Way nesting area to be nearer the Area A foraging areas.

Other areas outside Marina del Rey but in the immediate vicinity that could be enhanced include Ballona Lagoon, Del Rey Lagoon, Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve Area B, Ballona Freshwater Marsh, and Ballona Creek. Restoration efforts in these "off-site" areas would need to be in concert with other municipal and/or state agencies. Also, some of these areas are densely populated urban areas, so potential conflicts could occur.





## 8.0 REFERENCES

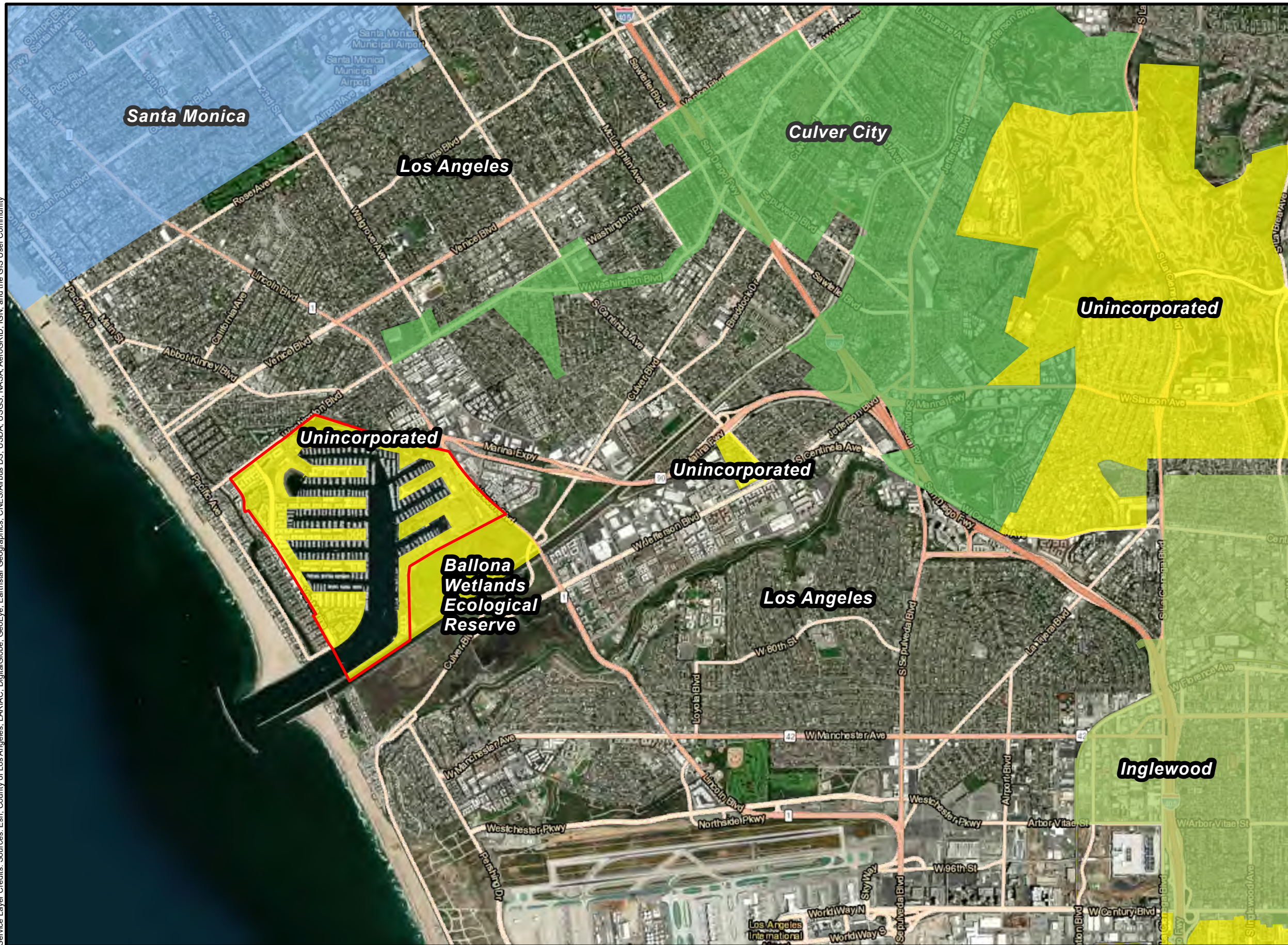
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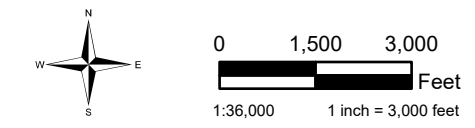
*Appendix A:*  
EXHIBITS



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**Legend**  
Marina del Rey



NAD 1983 State Plane California V FIPS 0405 Feet  
Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic  
Datum: North American 1983

Environmental Intelligence, Date: 8/13/2024, Q:\County\_of\_Los\_Angeles\Beaches and Harbors\2022 Tree Pruning\LABH\_MDR\_EI01\_202110\LABH\_MDR\_EI01\_20211104.aprx



# EXHIBIT 1: REGIONAL VICINITY

## MARINA DEL REY NESTING BIRD SURVEY REPORT | LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CA

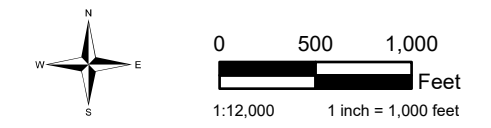
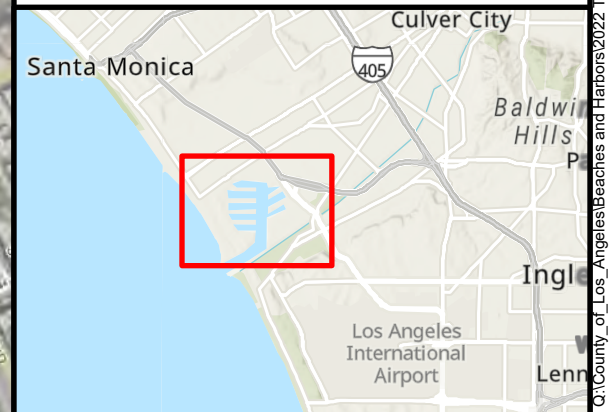


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**Legend**

- Survey Boundary
- Nesting Area



NAD 1983 State Plane California V FIPS 0405 Feet  
Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic  
Datum: North American 1983



# EXHIBIT 2: PROJECT LOCATION AND NESTING AREAS

## MARINA DEL REY NESTING BIRD SURVEY REPORT | LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CA



Environmental Intelligence, Date: 8/13/2024, Q:\County\_of\_Los\_Angeles\Beaches and Harbors\2022 Tree Pruning\LABH\_MDR\_EI01\_2021104\LABH\_MDR\_EI01\_20211104.aprx

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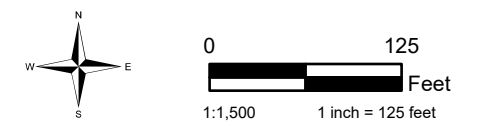


**2024 Results and Historical Nests (Last Year Active)**

**2024 (Active Nest/Roost Trees)**

⊕ Roost

Symbology may include multiple years of nesting. See Appendix for yearly nest data.



NAD 1983 State Plane California V FIPS 0405 Feet  
Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic  
Datum: North American 1983

Environmental Intelligence, Date: 8/13/2024, Q:\County\_of\_Los\_Angeles\Beaches\_and\_Harbors\2022\_Iree\Pinning\LABH\_MDR\_EI01\_2021104\LABH\_MDR\_EI01\_20211104.aprx



**EXHIBIT 3A: PANAY WAY COLONIAL WATERBIRD AND RAPTOR NESTS**  
**MARINA DEL REY NESTING BIRD SURVEY REPORT | LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CA**





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**2024 Results and Historical Nests (Last Year Active)**

**2024 (Active Nest/Roost Trees)**

- DCCO
- GBHE
- + Roost

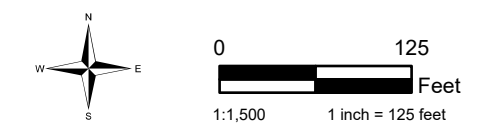
**2023 (Inactive Nest Trees)**

- ▲ GBHE

**2022 (Inactive Nest Trees)**

- ◆ DCCO

Symbology may include multiple years of nesting. See Appendix for yearly nest data.



NAD 1983 State Plane California V FIPS 0405 Feet  
Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic  
Datum: North American 1983

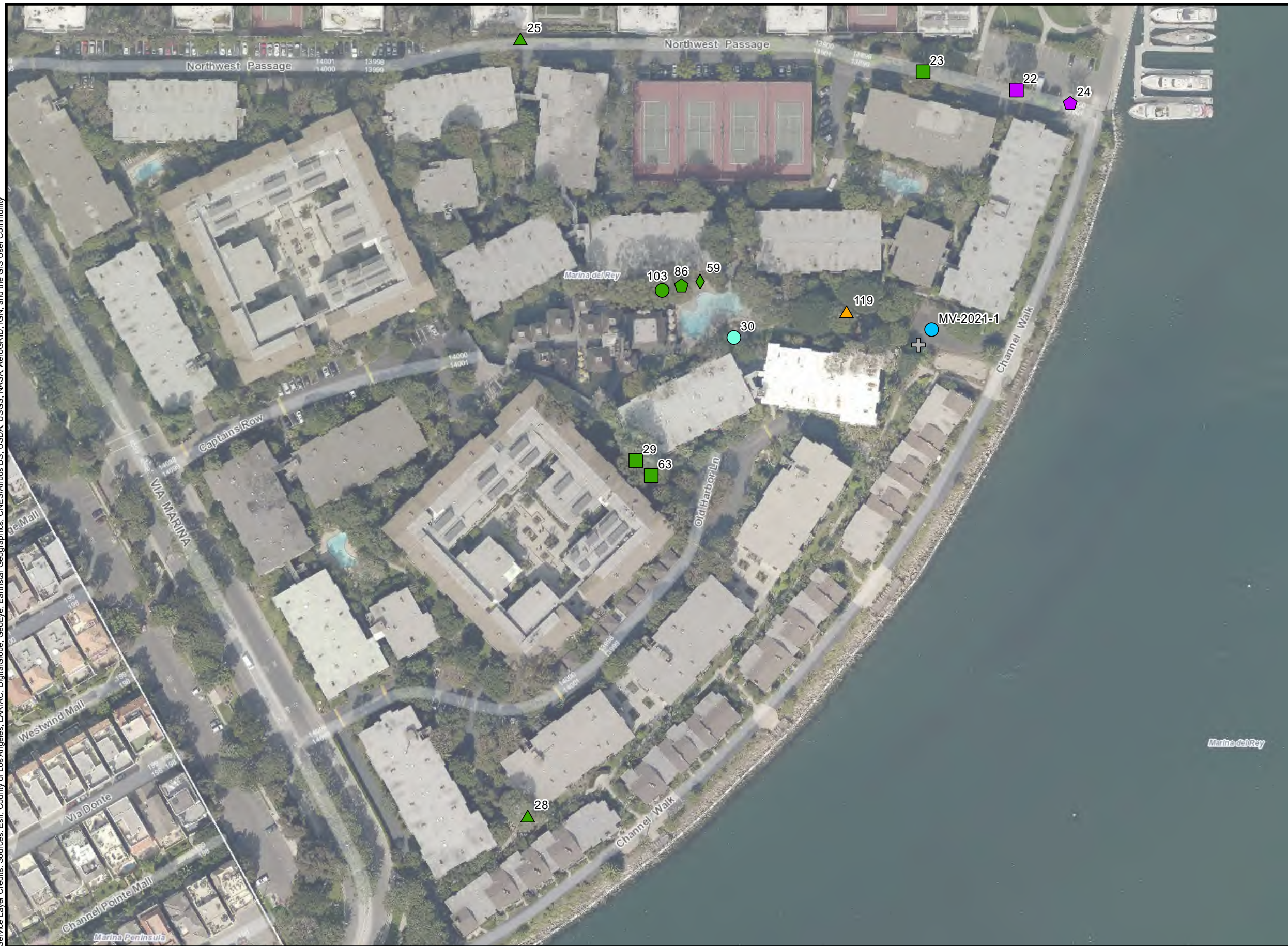
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**EXHIBIT 3C: BORA BORA WAY COLONIAL WATERBIRD AND RAPTOR NESTS**  
**MARINA DEL REY NESTING BIRD SURVEY REPORT | LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CA**



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**2024 Results and Historical Nests (Last Year Active)**

**2024 (Active Nest/Roost Trees)**

- DCCO
- GBHE
- + Roost

**2023 (Inactive Nest Trees)**

- ▲ BCNH
- ▲ GBHE

**2022 (Inactive Nest Trees)**

- ◆ DCCO
- ◆ GBHE

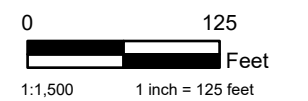
**2021 (Inactive Nest Trees)**

- BCNH/SNEG
- GBHE
- GBHE/GE

**2020 (Inactive Nest Trees)**

- ◆ GBHE

Symbology may include multiple years of nesting. See Appendix for yearly nest data.



NAD 1983 State Plane California V FIPS 0405 Feet  
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 Datum: North American 1983

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**EXHIBIT 3D: MARINER'S VILLAGE COLONIAL WATERBIRD AND RAPTOR NESTS**  
**MARINA DEL REY NESTING BIRD SURVEY REPORT | LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CA**





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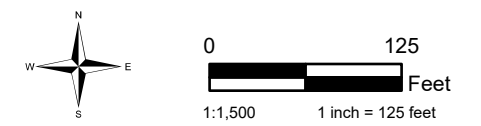


**2024 Results and Historical Nests (Last Year Active)**

**2024 (Active Nest/Roost Trees)**

⊕ Roost

Symbology may include multiple years of nesting. See Appendix for yearly nest data.



NAD 1983 State Plane California V FIPS 0405 Feet  
Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic  
Datum: North American 1983

Environmental Intelligence, Date: 8/13/2024, Q:\County\_of\_Los\_Angeles\Beaches and Harbors\2022 Tree Pruning\LABH\_MDR\_EI01\_2021104\LABH\_MDR\_EI01\_2021104.aprx



**EXHIBIT 3E: BALI WAY COLONIAL WATERBIRD AND RAPTOR NESTS**  
**MARINA DEL REY NESTING BIRD SURVEY REPORT | LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CA**



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**2024 Results and Historical Nests (Last Year Active)**

**2024 (Active Nest/Roost Trees)**

- DCCO
- + Roost
- YCNH

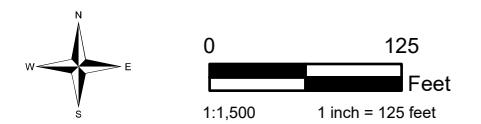
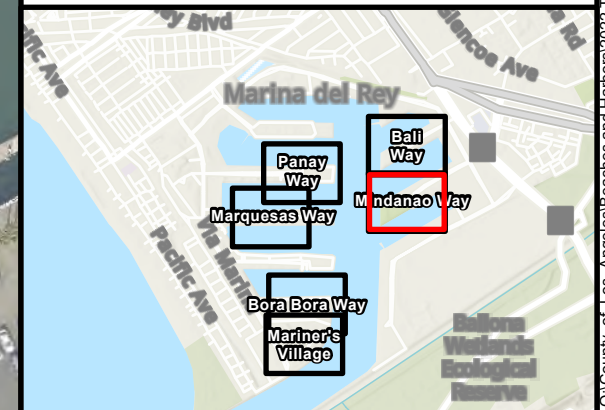
**2023 (Inactive Nest Trees)**

- ▲ BCNH
- ▲ DCCO
- ▲ Small Unknown

**2022 (Inactive Nest Trees)**

- ◆ DCCO

Symbology may include multiple years of nesting. See Appendix for yearly nest data.



NAD 1983 State Plane California V FIPS 0405 Feet  
 Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic  
 Datum: North American 1983

Environmental Intelligence, Date: 8/13/2024, Q:\County\_of\_Los\_Angeles\Beaches and Harbors\2022 Tree Pruning\LABH\_MDR\_EI01\_202110\LABH\_MDR\_EI01\_2021104.aprx



**EXHIBIT 3F: MINDANAO WAY COLONIAL WATERBIRD AND RAPTOR NESTS**  
**MARINA DEL REY NESTING BIRD SURVEY REPORT | LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CA**



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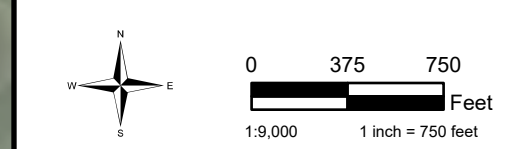


**2024 Results and Historical Nests (Last Year Active)**

**2024 (Incidental Nests)**

- ◆ Allen's Hummingbird
- ◆ American Crow
- ◆ Black Phoebe
- ◆ Cooper's Hawk
- ◆ Eurasian Collared-dove
- ◆ Peregrine Falcon (adult observation)

Symbology may include multiple years of nesting. See Appendix for yearly nest data.



NAD 1983 State Plane California V FIPS 0405 Feet  
 Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic  
 Datum: North American 1983



**EXHIBIT 3G: INCIDENTAL NESTS**  
**MARINA DEL REY NESTING BIRD SURVEY REPORT | LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CA**



Environmental Intelligence, Date: 8/13/2024, Q:\County\_of\_Los\_Angeles\Beaches and Harbors\2022 Tree Pruning\LABH\_MDR\_EI01\_2021104\LABH\_MDR\_EI01\_20211104.aprx

***Appendix B:***  
NEST TABLE DATA 2009–2024









Location	Tree Name	Tree Species	Year	Great Blue Heron	Large Unknown (Great Blue Heron or Great Egret)	Black-crowned Night-heron	Snowy Egret	Small Unknown (Black-crowned Night-heron or Snowy Egret)	Double-crested Cormorant	Peregrine Falcon	Cooper's Hawk	Yellow-crowned Night-heron	
	100	Eucalyptus	2020	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	
	101	Eucalyptus	2020	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	
	102	Eucalyptus	2020	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	
	103	Eucalyptus	2020	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	119	Pinus	2020	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	
			2022	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
			2023	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	MV-2021-1	Ficus	2021	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Marquesas Way	65	Pinus	2015	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	
				2016	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
				2017	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
				2021	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
				2022	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
	66	Pinus	2015	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
				2016	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
				2017	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
				2022	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
	68	Pinus	2015	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
				2016	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
				2017	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0
				2018	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
				2019	0	0	1	0	4	0	0	0	0
	69	Ficus	2015	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	70	Melaleuca quinquenervia	2015	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
				2016	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
	76	Pinus	2016	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
				2017	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
				2019	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
				2020	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
	78	Pinus	2017	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
				2021	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
	79	Pinus	2017	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	81	Olea europaea	2018	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
				2019	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
				2020	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
			2021	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	
			2022	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
			2023	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
82	Olea europaea	2018	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
			2021	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	
			2022	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
			2023	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
84	Eucalyptus	2019	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	
			2021	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	
			2023	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	
87	Pinus	2019	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
			2021	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	
88	Pinus	2019	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		



Location	Tree Name	Tree Species	Year	Great Blue Heron	Large Unknown (Great Blue Heron or Great Egret)	Black-crowned Night-heron	Snowy Egret	Small Unknown (Black-crowned Night-heron or Snowy Egret)	Double-crested Cormorant	Peregrine Falcon	Cooper's Hawk	Yellow-crowned Night-heron
			2021	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
			2022	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
	89	Pinus	2019	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
	90	Pinus	2019	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
			2023	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
	91	Ficus	2019	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0
			2023	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
	200	Melaleuca	2020	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
	201	Pinus	2020	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
	203	Melaleuca	2020	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
		quinquenervia	2022	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MQ-1	Ficus elastica	2018	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MQ-2	Ficus elastica	2018	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
			2019	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0
			2021	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0
			2022	0	0	3	0	3	0	0	0	0
			2023	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0
			<b>2024</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
	MQ-3	Ficus elastica	2011	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0
			2012	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0
			2014	0	0	2	0	4	0	0	0	0
			2015	0	0	6	1	1	0	0	0	0
			2016	0	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	0
			2017	0	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0
			2018	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
			2019	0	0	4	0	1	0	0	0	0
			2020	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
			2021	0	0	1	1	4	0	0	0	0
			2022	0	0	2	0	4	0	0	0	0
			2023	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
	MQ-4	Melaleuca	2011	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0
		quinquenervia	2012	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0
			2014	0	0	4	5	1	0	0	0	0
			2015	0	0	7	6	0	0	0	0	0
			2016	0	0	4	6	3	0	0	0	0
			2017	0	0	0	10	4	0	0	0	0
			2018	0	0	1	7	0	0	0	0	0
			2019	0	0	4	3	4	0	0	0	0
			2020	0	0	5	4	0	0	0	0	0
			2021	0	0	1	5	3	0	0	0	0
			2022	0	0	3	6	3	0	0	0	0
			2023	0	0	4	5	1	0	0	0	0
			<b>2024</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
	MQ-5	Melaleuca	2011	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0
		quinquenervia	2012	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0
			2014	0	0	2	2	1	0	0	0	0
			2015	0	0	3	4	0	0	0	0	0



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		quinquenervia	2012	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0
			2014	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
			2015	0	0	8	2	0	0	0	0	0
			2016	0	0	4	2	3	0	0	0	0
			2017	0	0	9	1	1	0	0	0	0
			2018	0	0	2	6	0	0	0	0	0
			2019	0	0	5	1	0	0	0	0	0
			2020	0	0	3	5	0	0	0	0	0
			2021	0	0	4	7	2	0	0	0	0
			2022	0	0	5	1	4	0	0	0	0
			2023	0	0	4	3	0	0	0	0	0
			<b>2024</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
	MQ-10	Melaleuca	2011	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0
			2012	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0
			2014	0	0	3	2	1	0	0	0	0
			2015	0	0	4	3	1	0	0	0	0
			2016	0	0	4	1	2	0	0	0	0
			2017	0	0	3	2	4	0	0	0	0
			2018	0	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	0
			2019	0	0	3	1	5	0	0	0	0
			2020	0	0	8	2	0	0	0	0	0
			2021	0	0	2	4	2	0	0	0	0
			2022	0	0	2	3	2	0	0	0	0
			2023	0	0	4	2	1	0	0	0	0
			<b>2024</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
	MQ-11	Melaleuca	2011	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0
		quinquenervia	2012	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0
			2014	0	0	3	1	3	0	0	0	0
			2015	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0
			2016	0	0	5	1	0	0	0	0	0
			2017	0	0	4	0	1	0	0	0	0
			2018	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0
			2019	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0
			2020	0	0	7	1	4	0	0	0	0
			2022	0	0	3	0	3	0	0	0	0
			2023	0	0	6	0	7	0	0	0	0
			2024	0	0	3	2	4	0	0	0	0
	MQ-12	Melaleuca	2011	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0
		quinquenervia	2012	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0
			2014	0	0	6	0	2	0	0	0	0
			2015	0	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0
			2016	0	0	4	1	1	0	0	0	0
			2017	0	0	4	0	2	0	0	0	0
			2018	0	0	2	4	0	0	0	0	0
			2019	0	0	4	1	2	0	0	0	0
			2020	0	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	0
			2021	0	0	4	1	3	0	0	0	0
			2022	0	0	3	0	3	0	0	0	0



Location	Tree Name	Tree Species	Year	Great Blue Heron	Large Unknown (Great Blue Heron or Great Egret)	Black-crowned Night-heron	Snowy Egret	Small Unknown (Black-crowned Night-heron or Snowy Egret)	Double-crested Cormorant	Peregrine Falcon	Cooper's Hawk	Yellow-crowned Night-heron
	CP-220	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	2020	0	0	0	0	0	12	0	0	0
			2021	0	0	0	0	0	16	0	0	0
			2022	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0
			2023	0	0	0	0	0	17	0	0	0
			<b>2024</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
	CP-2022-4	Sycamore	2022	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
	CP-2023-1	Eucalyptus	2023	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MN-23	Eucalyptus polyanthemos	2019	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
	MN-24	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	2018	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
			2019	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
MN-18	Eucalyptus polyanthemos	2023	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	
Panay Way	49	Melaleuca	2009	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0
	51	Melaleuca	2009	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0
	52	Melaleuca	2009	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0
	PN-1	Ficus elastica	2019	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
	PN-6	Melaleuca quinquenervia	2020	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
Tahiti Way	58	Washingtonia	2012	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0
	83	Eucalyptus	2018	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0

x = species and/or number of nests undetermined

*Appendix C:*  
SITE PHOTOGRAPHS





PHOTO 1:

VIEW OF BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON WITH WITH CHICK AT TREE MQ-4.

PHOTO 2:

VIEW OF BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON JUVENILES BRANCHING AT TREE MQ-10.

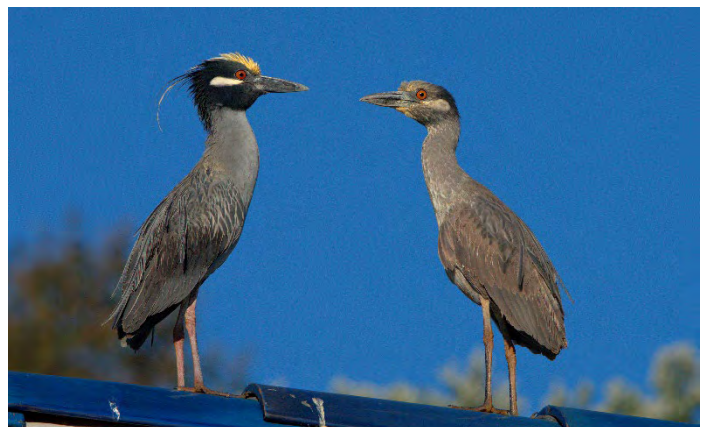


PHOTO 3:

VIEW OF YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON ADULTS ON NEST AT CP-90 IN BURTON CHACE PARK.

PHOTO 4:

VIEW OF YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT HERON ADULT AND SUBADULT IN BURTON CHACE PARK.





**PHOTO 5:**

VIEW OF GREAT BLUE HERON  
JUVENILES BRANCHING AT TREE 29  
MARINER'S VILLAGE

**PHOTO 6:**

VIEW OF DOUBLE-CRESTED  
CORMORANTS NESTING AT TREE 22  
MARINER'S VILLAGE.



**PHOTO 7:**

VIEW OF SNOWY EGRET ADULT IN  
NEST WITH JUVENILES AT TREE  
MQ-13 MARQUESAS WAY.



**PHOTO 8:**

VIEW OF COOPER'S HAWK NEST AND  
ADULT AT TREE CP-19 IN BURTON  
CHACE PARK.







**PHOTO 9:**  
VIEW OF RECENTLY DECEASED  
YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON  
CHICK UNDER ACTIVE NEST AT TREE  
CP-94 IN BURTON CHACE PARK.  
TWO ACTIVE LARGER JUVENILES  
REMAINED IN NEST.

**PHOTO 10:**  
VIEW OF WHITESH AND ADULT  
BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON  
ALONG CENTER MEDIAN OF  
MARQUESAS WAY.



**PHOTO 11:** VIEW OF ONE OF TWO  
RECENTLY FLEDGED JUVENILE  
COOPER'S HAWK FROM A  
DOCUMENTED NEST AT BURTON  
CHACE PARK.

**PHOTO 12:**  
VIEW OF CP-31 A WINTER  
DAMAGED TREE POSING A PUBLIC  
SAFETY ISSUE AT BURTON CHACE  
PARK. THIS TREE WAS CAUTIONED  
TAPED UNTIL NESTING IN ITS  
VICINITY WAS COMPLETED TO  
ALLOW FOR TRIMMING WORK.





**PHOTO 13:**

VIEW OF ACTIVE NESTING TREE  
MQ-2 AT MARQUESAS WAY.

**PHOTO 14:**

VIEW OF ACTIVE NESTING TREE MQ-4  
AT MARQUESAS WAY.



**PHOTO 15:**

VIEW OF ACTIVE NESTING TREE  
MQ-5 AT MARQUESAS WAY.





**PHOTO 16:**  
VIEW OF ACTIVE NESTING TREE MQ-6 AT MARQUESAS WAY.

**PHOTO 17:**

VIEW OF ACTIVE NESTING TREE MQ-7 AT MARQUESAS WAY. A MIXED SPECIES NESTING SITE CONSISTING OF BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERONS AND SNOWY EGRETS ON MARQUESAS WAY.



**PHOTO 18:**

VIEW OF ACTIVE NESTING TREE MQ-8 AT MARQUESAS WAY.



**PHOTO 19:**

VIEW OF ACTIVE NESTING TREE  
MQ-9 AT MARQUESAS WAY.

**PHOTO 20:**

VIEW OF ACTIVE NESTING TREE MQ-10  
AT MARQUESAS WAY.



**PHOTO 21:**

VIEW OF ACTIVE NESTING TREE  
MQ-11 AT MARQUESAS WAY.



**PHOTO 22:**

VIEW OF ACTIVE NESTING TREE  
MQ-12 AT MARQUESAS WAY.

**PHOTO 23:**

VIEW OF ACTIVE NESTING TREE AT  
MQ-13 AT MARQUESAS WAY.



**PHOTO 24:**

MQ-24 VIEW OF ACTIVE BLACK  
CROWNED NIGHT HERON NESTING AT  
TREE MQ-24 ON MARQUESAS WAY.  
NOTE EXTENSIVE WHITE-WASH.





**PHOTO 25:**

VIEW OF ACTIVE NESTING TREES  
29 & 63 AT MARINERS VILLAGE  
OCCUPIED BY GREAT BLUE  
HERONS.

*Appendix D:*  
AVIAN COMPENDIUM



**SCREAMERS, SWANS, GEESE, AND DUCKS****Ducks, Geese, and Swans**

Mallard

**GREBES****Grebes**

Western Grebe

**PIGEONS AND DOVES****Pigeons and Doves**

Rock Pigeon

Band-tailed Pigeon

Eurasian Collared-Dove

Mourning Dove

**Hummingbirds**

Anna's Hummingbird

Allen's Hummingbird

**RAILS, CRANES, AND ALLIES****Rails, Gallinules, and Coots**

American Coot

**SHOREBIRDS, GULLS, AUKS, AND ALLIES****Lapwings and Plovers**

Killdeer

**Sandpipers, Phalaropes, and Allies**

Whimbrel

Willet

**Gulls, Terns, and Skimmers**

Western Gull

California Gull

Least Tern

Caspian Tern

Elegant Tern

**FRIGATEBIRDS, BOOBIES, CORMORANTS, DARTERS, AND ALLIES****Cormorants**

Double-crested Cormorant

**PELICANS, HERONS, IBISES, AND ALLIES****Pelicans**

Brown Pelican

**Hérons, Bitterns, and Allies**

Great Blue Heron

Snowy Egret

Black-crowned Night-Heron

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron

**HAWKS, KITES, EAGLES, AND ALLIES****Hawks, Kites, Eagles, and Allies**

Cooper's Hawk

Peregrine Falcon

**ANSERIFORMES****Anatidae***Anas platyrhynchos***PODICIPEDIFORMES****Podicipedidae***Aechmophorus occidentalis***COLUMBIFORMES****Columbidae***Columba livia**Patagioenas fasciata**Streptopelia decaocto**Zenaidura macroura***Trochilidae***Calypte anna**Selasphorus sasin***GRUIFORMES****Rallidae***Fulica americana***CHARADRIIFORMES****Charadriidae***Charadrius vociferus***Scolopacidae***Numenius phaeopus**Tringa semipalmata***Laridae***Larus occidentalis**Larus californicus**Sternula antillarum**Hydroprogne caspia**Thalasseus elegans***SULIFORMES****Phalacrocoracidae***Phalacrocorax auritus***PELECANIFORMES****Pelecanidae***Pelecanus occidentalis***Ardeidae***Ardea herodias**Egretta thula**Nycticorax nycticorax**Nyctanassa violacea***ACCIPITRIFORMES****Accipitridae***Accipiter cooperii**Falco peregrinus*



**PASSERINE BIRDS****Tyrant Flycatchers**

Cassin's Kingbird  
Western Wood-Pewee  
Pacific-slope Flycatcher  
Black Phoebe

**Crows and Jays**

American Crow

**Swallows**

Northern Rough-winged Swallow  
Barn Swallow

**Long-tailed Tits and Bushtits**

Bushtit

**Thrushes**

Swainson's Thrush

**Mockingbirds and Thrashers**

Northern Mockingbird

**Starlings**

European Starling

**Waxwings**

Cedar Waxwing

**Old World Sparrows**

House Sparrow

**Fringilline and Cardueline Finches and Allies**

House Finch

**New World Sparrows**

California Towhee  
Savannah Sparrow  
Song Sparrow  
Dark-eyed Junco

**Blackbirds**

Hooded Oriole

**Wood-Warblers**

Orange-crowned Warbler  
Common Yellowthroat  
Yellow Warbler  
Wilson's Warbler

**Cardinals and Allies**

Western Tanager  
Black-headed Grosbeak

**PASSERIFORMES****Tyrannidae**

*Tyrannus vociferans*  
*Contopus sordidulus*  
*Empidonax difficilis*  
*Sayornis nigricans*

**Corvidae**

*Corvus brachyrhynchos*

**Hirundinidae**

*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*  
*Hirundo rustica*

**Aegithalidae**

*Psaltriparus minimus*

**Turdidae**

*Catharus ustulatus*

**Mimidae**

*Mimus polyglottos*

**Sturnidae**

*Sturnus vulgaris*

**Bombycillidae**

*Bombycilla cedrorum*

**Passeridae**

*Passer domesticus*

**Fringillidae**

*Haemorhous mexicanus*

**Passerellidae**

*Melospiza crissalis*  
*Passerculus sandwichensis*  
*Melospiza melodia*  
*Junco hyemalis*

**Icteridae**

*Icterus cucullatus*

**Parulidae**

*Oreothlypis celata*  
*Geothlypis trichas*  
*Setophaga petechia*  
*Cardellina pusilla*

**Cardinalidae**

*Piranga ludovician*  
*Pheucticus melanoc*

