

Attachment C

Sensitive Species Descriptions

(for those species that have potential to occur within project areas)

Sensitive Species Included:

Coho Salmon
Steelhead

California Red-legged Frog
Foothill Yellow-legged Frog
San Francisco Garter Snake
Western Pond Turtle

Marbled Murrelet

San Francisco Dusky-footed Woodrat

Map Included:

MROSD Open Space Preserves and Sensitive Species Distribution

COHO SALMON
(*Oncorhynchus kisutch*)



Source: Trout Unlimited

Central California Coast
Evolutionarily Significant Unit (ESU)
(extending from Punta Gorda to San Lorenzo River)

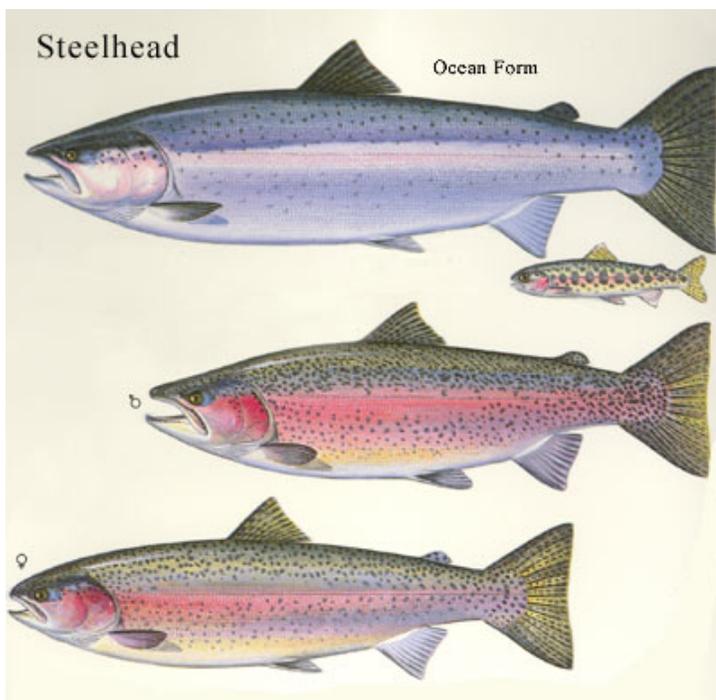
Federal Status: Endangered (6/28/05)

State Status: Endangered (12/31/95)

Species Description: Average adult size is 6 to 12 lbs, though adults can reach over 30 lbs. Adults return at approximately 3 years of age to natal stream to spawn, then die. Ocean-going adult fish have blue sides, transitioning to red sides as they return to freshwater streams to spawn.

Habitat Description: Coho salmon fry spend first year to year and a half in freshwater streams before migrating to the ocean to spend another year to year and a half. Coho spawn within larger streams; within the District's boundaries, the main stem of Pescadero Creek and San Gregorio Creek.

STEELHEAD
(*Oncorhynchus mykiss*)



Source: Trout Unlimited

Central California Coast
Distinct Population Segment (DPS)
(extending from Russian River to Aptos Creek)

Federal Status: Threatened (8/18/97)

State Status: None

Species Description: Average adult size is 8 to 11 lbs, though adults can reach 40 lbs. Steelhead have the most variable life history of all salmonid species, juvenile fish typically spend from 1 to 3 years in fresh water before maturing in the ocean from 1 to 4 growing seasons. Some individuals are capable of remaining in freshwater for their entire life cycle.

Habitat Description: Steelhead can survive in a wide variety of habitat conditions and tolerate much wider range of stream conditions than Coho salmon. Accompanying map shows distribution on District lands.

CALIFORNIA RED-LEGGED FROG

(*Rana aurora draytonii*)



Source: Scott J. Hein

Federal Status: Threatened (5/20/96)

State Status: Species of Special Concern

Species Description: A moderate to large frog ranging up to 5.5 inches in size. Dorsolateral folds (ridge of skin extending from eye to hindlegs); red, pink or salmon coloring on abdomen and underside of hindlegs; and dorsal spotting are characteristic of this species.

Habitat Description: Majority of life cycle spent in ponds, marshes, springs, streams, and reservoirs. Access to vegetation cover within pond habitats is an important characteristic of successful breeding habitat. Larvae require 3 to 7 months to metamorphose to adults capable of surviving outside of water. Accompanying map shows distribution on District lands.

FOOTHILL YELLOW-LEGGED FROG

(*Rana boylei*)



Source: Suzanne L. Collins, 2001

Federal Status: None

State Status: Species of Special Concern

Species Description: Small sized frog with dorsum grey, brown or reddish, commonly spotted or mottled but occasionally plainly colored; yellow under legs and may extend to abdomen; triangular, buff-colored patch on snout; no eye stripe; throat and chest often dark spotted; indistinct dorsolateral folds with granular skin.

Habitat Description: Breeding sites occur in shallow, slow flowing water with at least some pebble and cobble substrate. Pebble/cobble creek margins or bars with at least some shading seem to be preferred by sub-adults and adults. Appropriate habitat may be present within Sierra Azul OSP.

SAN FRANCISCO GARTER SNAKE (*Thamnophis sirtalis tetrataenia*)



Source: Don Roberson

Federal Status: Endangered (3/11/67)

State Status: Endangered (6/27/71)
*Fully Protected

Species Description: Medium sized snake from 1 to 3 feet in length with copper colored head, and solid red stripe along sides of body and faint turquoise stripes and underside. Diurnally active during summer, hibernate during winter.

Habitat Description: Most commonly found around ponds, marshes, and other wetlands that support prey species, particularly California red-legged frog. Also can be found in upland areas near aquatic habitats. Presence on District lands potentially restricted to San Mateo County ridge and coastal areas.

WESTERN POND TURTLE (*Actinemys* [a.k.a. *Clemmys*, *Emys*] *marmorata*)



Source: Gerald and Buff Corsi

Federal Status: Species of Concern

State Status: Species of Special Concern

Species Description: Average adult size is 15 to 18 inches. Carapace (shell) is a dark brown or dull olive with darker marks or streaking pattern. Plastron (breast plate) can be a yellowish, sometimes with dark areas. The foot is webbed to the base area of the claws. Sides of head lacks any colored stripes.

Habitat Description: Pond turtles are found within and near a wide variety of wetland habitats, typically ponds, marshes, and slow moving streams. Habitats include adequate vegetative cover and exposed basking sites such as logs and boulders. Accompanying map shows distribution on District lands.

MARBLED MURRELET
(*Brachyramphus marmoratus*)



Source: Tom Hamer

Federal Status: Threatened (9/30/92)

State Status: Endangered (3/12/92)

Species Description: Small seabird (8 inches) with dark and/or mottled upper plumage and light, mottled underparts. Entire lifespan spent within ocean environments except for breeding occurring within old-growth forest habitats.

Habitat Description: San Mateo and Santa Cruz counties are near the southern extent of the species breeding range. Begin breeding in April/May where utilize large trees with nest “platform” branches extending out from main trunk of tree to build small nest. Appropriate breeding habitat within Purisima Creek Redwoods OSP and potentially occurring within El Corte de Madera Creek OSP and La Honda Creek OSP.

**SAN FRANCISCO DUSKY-FOOTED
WOODRAT**
(*Neotoma fuscipes annectens*)



Source: B Moose Peterson

Federal Status: None

State Status: Species of Special Concern

Species Description: Medium sized rodent up to 7 inches in length (excluding tail) with large ears and eyes. Fur on underside of body lighter than that on back and sides. Tail has fur on upper side.

Habitat Description: Relatively common and widespread throughout hardwood and mixed forest types. Mounded stick lodges can extend up to 8 feet across. Adults build multiple lodges in colonies throughout habitat. Widespread throughout District lands.