Species Recommended for Potential Inclusion in HCP/NCCP
(as of September 2006, ongoing analysis will result in adjustments to the list)

Amphibians and Reptiles
- California Tiger Salamander
- California Red-legged Frog
- Foothills Yellow-legged Frog
- Western Pond Turtle

Birds
- Bank Sallow
- Golden Eagle
- Least Bell’s Vireo
- Purple Martin
- Saltmarsh Common Yellowthroat
- Tricolored Blackbird
- Western Burrowing Owl

Fish
- Central California Coast Steelhead (ESU)
- Central Valley Fall Run Chinook Salmon (ESU)
- Monterey Roach
- Pacific Lamprey
- South Central California Coast Steelhead (ESU)

Insects (Invertebrates)
- Bay Checkerspot Butterfly
- Unsilvered Fritillary Butterfly

Mammals
- San Joaquin Kit Fox
- Townsend’s Western Big-eared Bat

Plants
- Arcuate Bush Mallow
- Big-scale Balsamroot
- Chaparral Harebell
- Coyote Ceanothus
- Fragrant Fritillary
- Hall’s Bush Mallow
- Loma Prieta Hoita
- Metcalf Canyon Jewelflower
- Most Beautiful Jewelflower
- Mt. Hamilton Thistle
- Robust Monardella
- Rock Sanicle
- San Francisco Collinsia
- Santa Clara Valley Dudleya
- Smooth Lessignia

Species Recommended for No-Take Status:

Birds
- California Condor

Plants
- Tiburon Indian Paintbrush
- Pink Creamsacs
- Robust Spinflowers
- Contra Costa Goldfields
- Hairless Popcornflower
- Showy Indian Clover
- Caper-fruited Tropidocarpum

For more information please visit www.scv-habitatplan.org or contact Program Manager Ken Schreiber at (408) 299-5789.
In response to land use-related projects, the County of Santa Clara, Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority, Santa Clara Valley Water District, and the cities of Gilroy, Morgan Hill, and San Jose (Local Partners) initiated a collaborative process to prepare and implement a joint Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan (HCP/NCCP) to promote the recovery of endangered species while accommodating planned development and infrastructure. The Local Partners, in association with regulatory wildlife agencies including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, California Department of Fish and Game, and National Marine Fisheries Service, will develop a long-range plan to protect and enhance ecological diversity and function within more than 500,000 acres of Santa Clara County.

Habitat Conservation Plans/Natural Community Conservation Plans are a relatively new tool for protecting endangered species and represent an innovative integration of land-use planning and habitat conservation. The Santa Clara Valley HCP/NCCP will provide a more efficient process for protecting the environment while streamlining the permitting process. Under the current system, local governments evaluate projects with the potential to affect endangered species individually in consultation with federal and state regulatory agencies -- a lengthy process that can cost considerable time and money. Rather than surveying, negotiating, and securing mitigation for habitat loss on a project-by-project basis, the Santa Clara Valley HCP/NCCP will provide a more effective process for protecting the environment by creating a number of new habitat reserves that will be both larger in scale, more ecologically valuable, and easier to manage than the fragmented, piecemeal habitats currently yielded by mitigating projects on an individual basis.

The process works like this: When state or local governments, private developers, or other non-federal entities wish to conduct activities on land that might result in harming or significantly modifying the habitat of a threatened or endangered species, they must obtain an incidental take permit from one or more regulatory wildlife agencies (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, and the California Department of Fish and Game). An approved incidental take permit authorizes the landowner to legally proceed with an activity (such as building a road, installing a water pipeline, or constructing a development) that would otherwise result in an illegal impact to a listed species (i.e., take). By means of the Santa Clara HCP/NCCP, the Local Partners will ensure there is adequate mitigation for the cumulative effects of authorized incidental take and will request permits from regulatory Wildlife Agencies to cover federal or state listed species and species likely to become listed during the Plan’s permit term. If the HCP/NCCP is approved by participating Wildlife Agencies, incidental take permits will be issued for a list of projects and activities identified within the Plan as likely to occur during the permit term. These activities are expected to include urban and rural development consistent with current city and County land use plans; maintenance and operations of public infrastructure (water, transportation); activities within streams; and management and monitoring activities within habitat reserve lands. By collaboratively agreeing on covered species, no-take species, covered activities, conservation requirements, and the permit term, infrastructure and development projects included in the HCP/NCCP will be able to proceed as scheduled with the assurance that permitting and critical habitat issues have already been addressed.

Terms

Endangered – Species at risk of becoming extinct

Threatened – Species at risk of becoming endangered in the foreseeable future

Take – Defined in the Federal or State Endangered Species Act as to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, or collect a species

Incidental Take Permit – Permits allowing the “take” of endangered species incidental to an otherwise lawful activity (such as building a road or constructing a development)