# STAFF REPORT

**SUBJECT:** Northern Central Valley Energy Center

Project, Plan Participation

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Motion to SJCOG, Inc. to Allow the

Northern Central Valley Energy Center Project to Participate in the SJMSCP

### **DISCUSSION:**

### **SUMMARY:**

The project applicant, Northern Central Valley Energy Storage, LLC, is requesting coverage under the San Joaquin Multi-Species Habitat Conservation and Open Space Plan (SJMSCP) through the San Joaquin County Community Development Department because the site is in an unmapped area of the Plan. Also, due to the need for a United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Section 404 permit with a Section 7 consultation with the United States Fish & Wildlife Service, the project needs to seek coverage under the SJMSCP. The project site is located on the south side of Flood Road and west of Escalon Bellota Road, east of the Community of Linden in the Central Zone (attachments 1 &2).



### **RECOMMENDATION:**

SJCOG, Inc. staff and HTAC recommend the SJCOG, Inc. Board to allow the project to participate under the SJMSCP to provide biological coverage for the project impacts to the habitat types under the federal and state permits.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

If the project is approved, SJCOG, Inc. will be provided mitigation for the project impacts as required under the SJMSCP for approximately 84.14 acres. The impacts for this project would consist of 84.14 acres of Natural (G/G2) habitat impacts.

### **BACKGROUND:**



This project is designed to absorb or output up to 132 megawatts of electricity and will consist of several battery storage containers with associated on-site additional support facilities consisting of a project collector substation, inverters, collector lines, fencing, access roads, operations and maintenance building, supervisory control, a SCADA system and other ancillary facilities or equipment. The project also includes a 115-kV overhead gen-tie line, which would extend to the

adjacent PG&E Bellota substation. An expansion of the existing Bellota substation footprint will be required to adequately interconnect the project. The expansion of the existing Bellota substation footprint will be covered by the PG&E Habitat Conservation Program (attachment 3).

The SJMSCP GIS habitat layer classifies the project site as Natural (G/G2) Habitat.

If allowed to participate in the SJMSCP, the total disturbed area will consist of 84.14 acres of Natural (G/G2) impacts. The project applicant will be responsible for mitigating for the habitat impacts that is consumed by this project by either paying the appropriate fees at the time of ground disturbance or dedicating land in lieu of a fee at the appropriate SJMSCP ratio.



### **Adjacent Vegetation and Land Use**

Location	SJMSCP Vegetation Map Classification	Habitat Type Category	Actual Use Of Property
Site	Natural (G/G2)	Natural (G/G2)	Natural (G/G2), Vernal Pool Grasslands (G3)
North	Natural (G/G2)	Natural (G/G2)	Natural G/(G2), Vernal Pool Grasslands (G3)
South	Agriculture (C34)	Agriculture (C34)	Agriculture (C34)
East	Natural (G/G2)	Natural (G/G2)	Natural (G/G2), Vernal Pool Grasslands (G3)
West	Agriculture (C34)	Agriculture (C34)	Agriculture (C34)

### **COMMITTEE ACTIONS:**

• Habitat Technical Advisory Committee: Recommended Approval

• SJCOG, Inc. Board: Action Required

#### **ATTACHMENTS:**

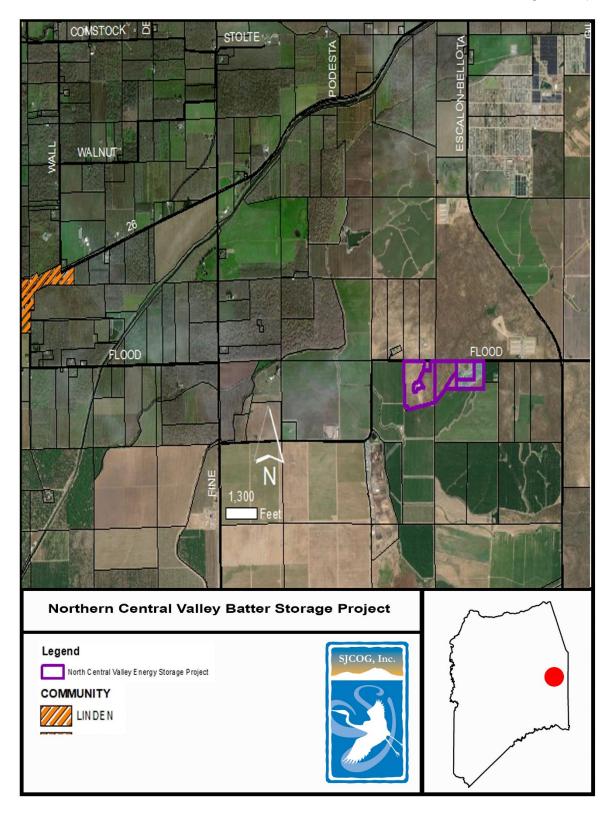
1. General Location Map

2. Project Location Map

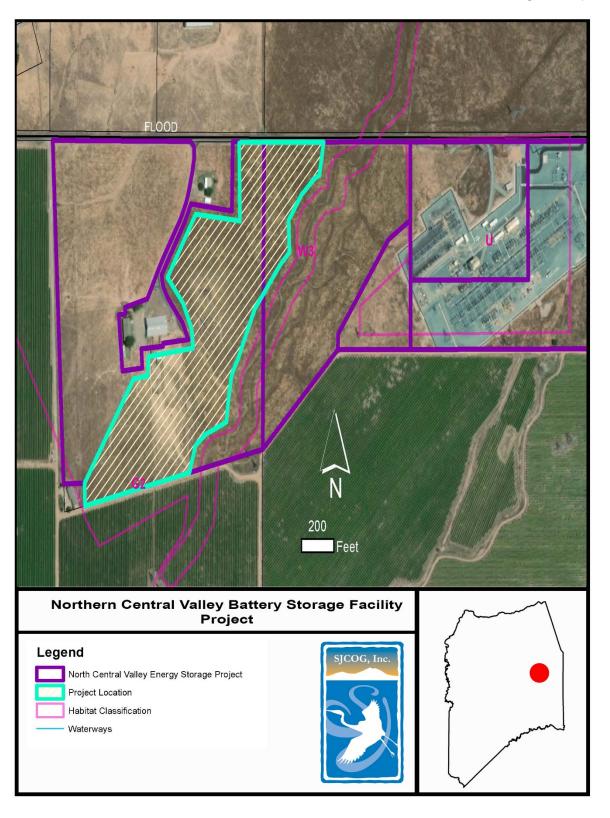
3. Project Site Map

Prepared by: Laurel Boyd, Associate Habitat Planner

### **ATTACHMENT 1**



# **ATTACHMENT 2**



## **ATTACHMENT 3**

