

The larger tributaries within the corridor are Salt Creek, Warm Springs Creek, Tucalota Creek, Santa Gertrudis Creek, Long Valley Creek, Temecula Creek, Pechanga Creek, Murrieta Creek, and Santa Margarita River.

3.11.2.6 Riparian Scrub

Riparian habitats in the corridor are associated with intermittent or perennial streams, agricultural runoff, or ponding along roadways. Riparian scrub (RCIP vegetation code 630) is generally a pure stand of mule fat (*Baccharis salicifolia*). Arroyo willow (*Salix lasiolepis*), narrow leaf willow (*Salix exigua*), or saplings of other riparian tree species may be present in low numbers within the habitat.

3.11.2.7 Riparian Forest

Riparian forest habitat (RCIP vegetation code 610) is sustained by groundwater sources and frequently overflowed lands along rivers and streams. Habitat is dominated by mature willows (*Salix* sp.) and other riparian tree species such as cottonwood (*Populus* sp.) and sycamore (*Platanus racemosa*). Understory species are generally shrubby willows and mule fat.

3.11.3 Federal or State Listed Species or Candidates Associated with Aquatic, Wetland, and Riparian Habitats

Listed species are species that are designated as endangered or threatened by the State of California or the federal government. Proposed status includes species proposed for federal listing or delisting as threatened or endangered. The state candidate designation is for species proposed for listing as threatened or endangered. Federal “candidate” species are former USFWS Category 1 candidates.

Of the 164 species proposed to be covered under the MSHCP, 16 federal or State listed species are associated with aquatic, wetland, and riparian habitats of western Riverside County (see table below). The species are known to occur in the Riverside lowland bioregion (the WT Corridor) and surrounding mountain ranges. The list of species and their associated habitats are excerpted from data compiled and reported in the Riverside County Integrated Plan Existing Setting Report (LSA, 1999), Preliminary Draft Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Alternatives Development Document (Dudek & Associates, Inc. 2000), and by the Department of Earth Sciences at University of California-Riverside (University of California 2001).