

## **Appendix B**

### **Wildlife – Special Status Species**

**Table B-1 Special Status Wildlife Species Identified for the Phoenix Copper Leach Project**

<b>Common Name Scientific Name</b>	<b>Status<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Range Habitat Requirements</b>	<b>Potential for Occurrence Within or Near the Study Area</b>	<b>Eliminated from Detailed Analysis</b>
<b>Mammals</b>				
Pallid bat <i>Antrozous pallidus</i>	BLM; NV-SP	Range: Throughout Nevada.  Habitat: Found in a variety of habitats from desert scrub to forests. Roosts in a variety of structures including mines, caves, buildings and trees. Intolerant of roosts in excess of 40°C.	High. Suitable foraging and roosting habitat occurs within the study area. This species has been observed in the vicinity of the study area.	No.
Townsend's big-eared bat <i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i>	BLM; NV-SPS	Range: Throughout Nevada.  Habitat: Highly associated with caves and mines. Very susceptible to disturbance at roost sites. Periodically moves to alternate roosts and actively forages throughout the winter. Typically forages in open forest habitats.	High. Suitable roosting habitat occurs within the study area. This species has been observed in the vicinity of the study area.	No.
Big brown bat <i>Eptesicus fuscus</i>	BLM	Range: Throughout Nevada.  Habitat: Found in a variety of habitats including forests, shrublands, and agricultural and urban areas. Roosts in a variety of structures including mines, caves, buildings and trees. More tolerant of human habitation than other bat species. Roosts in groups up to several hundred individuals.	High. This species may occur within the study area as suitable foraging and roosting habitat occurs within the study area.	No.

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Silver-haired bat <i>Lasionycteris noctivagans</i>	BLM	Range: Throughout Nevada but occurs primarily in forest and riparian habitats.  Habitat: A forest associated species often found at higher elevations in pinyon-juniper, subalpine fir, aspen, and willow habitats. Roosts almost exclusively in trees in the summer. Frequently alternates roost sites. Maternity roost sites are usually in woodpecker holes.	None.	Yes. No suitable habitat occurs within the study area. Occurrence would be limited to migrating or dispersing individuals.
Small-footed myotis <i>Myotis ciliolabrum</i>	BLM	Range: Throughout Nevada.  Habitat: Found in a variety of habitats from desert scrub to pine-fir forests. Roosts in caves, mines, and trees. Forages in open areas.	High. Suitable roosting and foraging habitat occurs within the study area. This species has been observed in the vicinity of the study area.	No.
Long-eared myotis <i>Myotis evotis</i>	BLM	Range: Throughout Nevada, primarily at higher elevations.  Habitat: Primarily a forest-associated species. Roosts in caves, mines, and under bridges. May forage within mine and cave structures, gleaning moths from the rock walls.	Moderate. This species is not known to occur within or near the study area, although suitable foraging habitat exists within the study area and suitable roosting habitat occurs at the Phoenix Mine.	No.
Fringed myotis <i>Myotis thysanodes</i>	BLM; NV-SP	Range: Central and southern Nevada.  Habitat: Desert scrub to high elevation coniferous forests. Roosts in caves, mines, trees, and buildings. Hibernacula are usually caves and mines. Forages among vegetation gleaning insects.	Low. This species is not known to occur within or near the study area, although suitable roosting and foraging habitat occurs within the study area.	No.

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Long-legged myotis <i>Myotis volans</i>	BLM	<p>Range: Throughout Nevada but absent from the low desert.</p> <p>Habitat: Pinyon-juniper and other higher elevation forest habitats. Night roosts and hibernacula located in caves and mines. Forages in open areas at canopy height.</p>	High. Suitable roosting habitat occurs within the study area. This species has been observed in the vicinity of the study area.	No.
Western pipistrelle bat <i>Pipistrellus hesperus</i>	BLM	<p>Range: Throughout most of Nevada. More common in the western and southern portions.</p> <p>Habitat: Lower and Upper Sonoran desert habitats of blackbrush, creosote, salt desert shrub and sagebrush, with occasional occurrence in ponderosa pine and pinyon-juniper, usually in association with rock features such as granite boulders and canyons. Roosts mainly in rock crevices.</p>	Moderate. This species is not known to occur within or near the study area, although suitable roosting and foraging habitat occurs within the study area.	No.
Pygmy rabbit <i>Brachylagus idahoensis</i>	BLM	<p>Range: Throughout Nevada but limited to areas dominated by sagebrush.</p> <p>Habitat: Requires dense sagebrush for cover as well as appropriate soils for burrowing (i.e., high clay content). Often found in drainages with taller sagebrush present.</p>	Moderate. The study area contains potentially suitable habitat, especially on the western edge near the Willow Creek drainage.	No.

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Desert bighorn sheep <i>Ovis canadensis nelsoni</i>	BLM	Range: Throughout the central, southwestern and southern parts of Nevada.  Habitat: Found in all habitats from desert-shrub to pinyon-juniper forests to subalpine-alpine. Forages on a wide variety of forbs and grasses. May migrate to water sources during periods of warm weather and drought.	None.	Yes. This species is not known to occur in the project region.
<b>Birds</b>				
Least bittern <i>Ixobrychus exilis</i>	BLM	Range: Nests on shallow lakes and wetlands from Sheldon National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) to Ruby Lakes NWR south to Mason Valley Wildlife Management Area in western Nevada.  Habitat: Prefers marshes in very fresh water, typically characterized by cattail and/or spikerush. Breeding period is April 15 to July 15.	None.	Yes. No suitable habitat occurs within the study area. Occurrence would be limited to migrating or dispersing individuals.
Bald eagle <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	BLM; NV-E	Range: Throughout Nevada.  Habitat: Generally nests and roosts in close proximity to large water bodies including rivers, lakes, and reservoirs. Breeding period is February 15 to July 15.	Low. Occurrence would be limited to migrating and foraging individuals.	No.

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Northern goshawk <i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	BLM; NV-SPS	Range: Limited to the northern two-thirds of Nevada.  Habitat: Deep conifer-dominated mixed forests. May exhibit seasonal migrations depending on prey availability. Preferred nesting habitat in aspen stands along perennial streams. Breeding period is April 15 to August 1.	None.	Yes. No suitable habitat occurs within the study area. Occurrence would be limited to migrating or dispersing individuals.
Swainson's hawk <i>Buteo swainsoni</i>	BLM	Range: Found throughout Nevada, typically in agricultural areas.  Habitat: Agricultural valleys and associated uplands. Nests in large shrubs and trees such as cottonwood, willows, and aspen. Breeding period is April 1 to July 15.	Moderate. Although, suitable foraging habitat occurs within the study area, no known nests occur within the study area. Nesting habitat (i.e., trees) is lacking within the study area, but present west of the study area along Willow Creek.	No.

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Ferruginous hawk <i>Buteo regalis</i>	BLM	Range: Throughout Nevada mainly in sagebrush grasslands.  Habitat: Dry, open country. Nests usually occur in trees at the interface between pinyon-juniper and sagebrush grasslands. Forages over sagebrush grasslands. Breeding period is March 15 to July 15.	High. Suitable foraging habitat occurs within the study area. No known active nests occur within the study area; however, one inactive nest occurs immediately south of the existing tailings facility and an inactive nest and active nest occur north of the clay borrow area approximately 0.5 mile south of the existing tailings facility.	No.
Golden eagle <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	BLM	Range: Throughout Nevada.  Habitat: Mountain or hilly terrain. Nests usually occur on cliffs or in trees. Forages in open country. Breeding period is March 15 to July 15.	High. This species has been documented in the vicinity of the study area. Suitable foraging habitat occurs within the study area. No known nests occur within the study area.	No.
Prairie falcon <i>Falco mexicanus</i>	BLM	Range: Throughout Nevada.  Habitat: Dry, open country including desert scrub and sagebrush grasslands. Usually nests on cliffs in proximity to suitable foraging habitat. Breeding period is March 15 to July 15.	High. Suitable foraging habitat is found within the study area. No known nests occur within the study area.	No.

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Greater sage-grouse <i>Centrocercus urophasianus</i>	FC; BLM	Range: Throughout Nevada in areas with sagebrush.  Habitat: Sagebrush grasslands. Leks are located in open areas in close proximity to escape cover. Nests are located in sagebrush habitat, typically within 2 miles of the lek. Broods are raised in wet, grassy areas near sagebrush. Winter habitat consists of south and east facing slopes with minimal snow cover. Breeding period (including displaying, nesting, and fledging) is March 1 to July 31.	Low. Although potentially suitable habitat occurs within the study area, especially near Willow Creek, NDOW designated nesting, brooding, summer, or winter habitat does not occur within the study area. The nearest occupied habitat is north of the study area in the Battle Mountain Range.	No.
Mountain quail <i>Oreortyx pictus</i>	BLM	Range: Western Nevada and the Sierra Mountains. This species has been reported from the Toiyabe Range in Central Nevada.  Habitat: Frequents areas of dense vegetation on steep mountain slopes and dense shrub vegetation along mountain streams. Breeding period is April 15 to July 31.	None.	Yes. This species is not known to occur near the study area.
Snowy plover <i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	BLM	Range: Found throughout much of the Great Basin portion of Nevada.  Habitat: This species selects barren salt flats or dry mud flats for nesting, usually at playas along valley bottoms. Breeding period is April 15 to July 15.	None.	Yes. No suitable habitat occurs within the study area. Occurrence would be limited to migrating or dispersing individuals.

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Long-billed curlew <i>Numenius americanus</i>	BLM	<p>Range: A confirmed breeder at Sheldon NWR in northern Washoe County, Ruby Lake NWR in Elko County, Lahontan Valley in Churchill County, and Fish Creek Ranch in Eureka County.</p> <p>Habitat: Prefers closely cropped grasslands, pastures, wet or dry meadows, either on the fringe of a marsh or in a meadow or broad riverine floodplain such as the Humboldt River. Non-breeding feeding areas include irrigated pastures and croplands, shallow wetlands, and newly plowed fields. Breeding period is April 15 to July 15.</p>	None.	Yes. No suitable habitat occurs within the study area. Occurrence would be limited to migrating or dispersing individuals.
Western yellow-billed cuckoo <i>Coccyzus americanus</i>	FC; NV-SPS	<p>Range: Found mainly in the western and southern portions of Nevada.</p> <p>Habitat: Found in cottonwood, willow, riparian, and other woodland habitats. Prefer dense understories. Breeding period is April 15 to July 15.</p>	None.	Yes. No suitable habitat occurs within the study area. Occurrence would be limited to migrating or dispersing individuals.

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Western burrowing owl <i>Athene cunicularia hypugea</i>	BLM	Range: Throughout Nevada.  Habitat: Open country from desert scrub to grasslands. Often found in or around prairie dog colonies. Nests in burrows. Breeding period is April 15 to August 15.	High. Suitable foraging and nesting habitat occurs within the study area. This species has been observed within the study area in the past but no evidence of nesting activity has been recorded in recent years. Suitable burrows have been identified within the study area.	No.
Flammulated owl <i>Otus flammeolus</i>	BLM	Range: Mountain ranges in the Nevada portion of the Great Basin.  Habitat: Mature ponderosa and Jeffrey pine forests with large trees. Nests in cavities of large dead snags. Breeding period is April 15 to July 15.	None.	Yes. No suitable habitat occurs within the study area. Occurrence would be limited to migrating or dispersing individuals.
Long-eared owl <i>Asio otus</i>	BLM	Range: Throughout Nevada. Found primarily at higher elevations.  Habitat: Juniper woodlands, riparian forests, and coniferous forests. Often takes over old hawk, crow, or magpie nests. Breeding period is February 15 to July 15.	Moderate. Suitable foraging habitat occurs within the study area; however, roosting and nesting habitat is lacking within the study area.	No.

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Short-eared owl <i>Asio flammues</i>	BLM	Range: Throughout Nevada.  Habitat: Open country from desert-scrub to sagebrush-grasslands. Nests and roosts on the ground. Forages primarily at dawn and dusk. Breeding period is February 15 to July 15.	High. Suitable nesting and foraging habitat occurs within the study area.	No.
Lewis's woodpecker <i>Melanerpes lewis</i>	BLM	Range: A resident breeder in isolated pockets mainly in the northern half of the state.  Habitat: During the breeding season, this species prefers open habitats that facilitate its foraging behavior of hawking for insects. Scattered trees and/or snags are necessary for nesting. Open or park-like ponderosa pine, burned-over stands of Douglas fir, mixed conifer, pinyon-juniper, riparian, and oak woodlands are preferred nesting areas. Furthermore, this species prefers areas with a grassy and bushy understory. Breeding period is April 15 to July 15.	None.	Yes. No suitable habitat occurs within the study area. Occurrence would be limited to migrating or dispersing individuals.
Red-naped sapsucker <i>Sphyrapicus nuchalis</i>	BLM	Range: Common throughout the Great Basin in Nevada.  Habitat: Prefers deciduous trees, nesting in groves of aspen in the mountains and in cottonwoods along streams. Breeding period is April 15 to July 31.	None.	Yes. No suitable habitat occurs within the study area. Occurrence would be limited to migrating or dispersing individuals.

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Gray vireo <i>Vireo vicinior</i>	BLM	Range: Southern Nevada  Habitat: Dry brush slopes and pinyon-juniper in mountain foothills. Breeding period is April 15 to July 31.	None.	Yes. The study area is outside the range of this species.
Pinyon jay <i>Gymnorhynchus cyanocephalus</i>	BLM	Range: Throughout Nevada.  Habitat: Pinyon-juniper woodlands. Less frequently found in pine forests and sagebrush grasslands. Distribution is determined by availability of food resources. Nests in loose colonies. Breeding period is April 15 to July 15.	Low. Marginal foraging habitat is found within the study area.	No.
Juniper titmouse <i>Baeolophus griseus</i>	BLM	Range: Found mainly in pinyon-juniper woodlands from I-80 south to the Colorado River.  Habitat: Strongly associated with pinyon-juniper woodlands. Snags and heart rot are assumed to be important in providing nesting cavities. Dense foliage and closed canopies are preferred, while thin understory and ground cover are preferred for feeding activities. Breeding period is April 15 to July 15.	Low. Marginal foraging habitat is found within the study area.	No.
Loggerhead shrike <i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>	BLM; NV-SPS	Range: Throughout Nevada.  Habitat: Open country including desert scrub and sagebrush grasslands. Nests and forages in brushy areas. Breeding period is April 15 to July 15.	High. Suitable nesting and foraging habitat occurs within the study area.	No.

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Crissal thrasher <i>Toxostoma crissale</i>	BLM	Range: Southern Nevada.  Habitat: Joshua trees and catclaw mesquite chaparral. Breeding period is April 15 to July 31.	None.	Yes. The study area is outside the range of this species.
LeConte's thrasher <i>Toxostoma lecontei</i>	BLM	Range: Southern Nevada.  Habitat: Hottest and lowest deserts, often in creosote and desert shrub habitats, occasionally found in catclaw mesquite chaparral. Breeding period is April 15 to July 31.	None.	Yes. The study area is outside the range of this species.
Lucy's warbler <i>Vermivora luciae</i>	BLM	Range: Southern Nevada.  Habitat: Riparian habitats along streams. Breeding period is April 15 to July 31.	None.	Yes. The study area is outside the range of this species.
Yellow-breasted chat <i>Icteria virens</i>	BLM	Range: Throughout Nevada although more common in the eastern portion of the state.  Habitat: Found in cottonwood, willow, riparian, and other woodland habitats. Prefer dense understories. Breeding period is April 15 to July 15.	None.	Yes. No suitable habitat occurs within the study area. Occurrence would be limited to migrating or dispersing individuals.

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Vesper sparrow <i>Pooecetes gramineus</i>	BLM	<p>Range: Nesting has been recorded only in the northern half of Nevada; however, the higher mountain ranges in southern Nevada may provide nesting habitat for the species as well.</p> <p>Habitat: Nests in various open shrub habitats from high elevation valleys to higher mountain slopes and basins. Breeding period is April 15 to July 15.</p>	Moderate. Suitable nesting and foraging habitat occurs within the study area.	No.
Black rosy-finch <i>Leucosticte atrata</i>	BLM	<p>Range: Breeds on the highest mountains of Elko and White Pine counties.</p> <p>Habitat: Breeds and nests in alpine tundra habitat. Nests on high ridges and peaks (9,000 to 13,000 feet amsl) near rock cover, usually in crevices and holes in cliff sides. Breeding period is May 1 to July 15. May be found in low elevation shrub habitats in the winter.</p>	Moderate. Suitable winter and transitional habitat occurs within the study area.	No.
<b>Fish</b>				
Lahontan cutthroat trout <i>Oncorhynchus clarki henshawi</i>	FT	<p>Range: North and northwest Nevada. Found in Pyramid, Walker, and Independence lakes as well as Lake Tahoe; Humboldt, Carson, Truckee, Walker and Marys river basins; and Donner and Prosser creeks. Also present in the Big Smoky Valley.</p> <p>Habitat: Streams and lakes with well oxygenated water in the above basins.</p>	None.	Yes. No suitable habitat occurs within the study area.

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Fish Springs tui chub <i>Gila bicolor euchila</i>	BLM; NV-SP	Range: This subspecies of tui chub is known from near Fish Springs in the Little Smoky Valley, and also may occur in the Newark Valley to the north of the Little Smoky Valley.  Habitat: Spring-fed small streams in the valleys identified above.	None.	Yes. No suitable habitat occurs within the study area.
Big Smoky Valley tui chub <i>Gila bicolor</i> ssp.	BLM; NV-SPS	Range: Big Smoky Valley between the Toiyabe and Toquima mountains ranges in Nevada.  Habitat: Perennial spring-fed streams in the Big Smoky Valley.	None.	Yes. No suitable habitat occurs within the study area.
Big Smoky Valley speckled dace <i>Rhinichthys osculus lariversi</i>	BLM; NV-SPS	Range: Big Smoky Valley between the Toiyabe and Toquima mountains ranges in Nevada.  Habitat: Perennial spring-fed streams in the Big Smoky Valley.	None.	Yes. No suitable habitat occurs within the study area.
<b>Amphibians</b>				
Columbia spotted frog <i>Rana luteiventris</i>	FC; NV-SP	Range: Central (Nye County) and northeast (Elko and Eureka counties), usually at elevations between 5,600 and 8,700 feet amsl.  Habitat: Quiet aquatic habitats including perennial streams, ponds, springs, lakes, and marshes. May travel to uplands during wet weather. Females typically lay eggs in late April and May. Tadpoles develop into frogs from late summer to late fall.	None.	Yes. This species is not known to occur within or near the study area.

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<b>Invertebrates</b>				
Big Smoky wood nymph <i>Cercyonis oetus alkalorum</i>	BLM	Range: Known only from the Big Smoky Valley between the Toiyabe and Toquima mountains ranges in Nevada.  Habitat: Grassy alkaline flats.	None.	Yes. This species is not known to occur within or near the study area.
Elongate Cain Spring pyrg <i>Pyrgulopsis augusta</i>	BLM	Range: Reese River Valley on the west side of the Toiyabe Range in central Nevada.  Habitat: This freshwater snail occurs in spring pools in the Reese River Valley.	None.	Yes. No suitable habitat occurs within the study area.
Large-gland Carico pyrg <i>Pyrgulopsis basiglans</i>	BLM	Range: Middle Humboldt River Valley in northern Lander County, Nevada.  Habitat: This freshwater snail occurs in aquatic habitats within the above drainage.	None.	Yes. No suitable habitat occurs within the study area.
Ovate Cain Spring pyrg <i>Pyrgulopsis pictilis</i>	BLM	Range: Reese River Valley on the west side of the Toiyabe Range in central Nevada.  Habitat: This freshwater snail occurs in spring pools in the Reese River Valley.	None.	Yes. No suitable habitat occurs within the study area.

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California floater <i>Anodonata californiensis</i>	BLM	Range: Known to occur in the Humboldt River.  Habitat: Calm lakes and streams with a silt bottom.	None.	Yes. No suitable habitat occurs within the study area.

FT - Federally Threatened Species

FC - Federal Candidate Species

BLM - BLM Sensitive Species

NV-E - Nevada State Endangered

NV-SP - Nevada State Protected

NV-SPS - Nevada State Protected Sensitive

Sources: AGFD 1993; Birds of North America Online 2008; BLM 2002a; Bradley et al. 2006; Connelly 2000; Floyd et al. 2007; GBE 2008; Hall 1995; Harvey et al. 1999; Herron et al. 1985; JBR 2011b, 2007b; Johnsgard 1990; Lamp 2008a; NDOW 2008a,b,d; Neel 1999; NNHP 2008; USFWS 2008a,b; USFWS-MPR 2008; WAPT 2006.