

## Soar Environmental Consulting, Inc.

Headquarters: 1322 E. Shaw Avenue,

Fresno, CA. 93710 Phone: 559-547-8884

Locations in Sacramento and Bakersfield, CA

Website: SoarHere.com

**Certifications:** 

SB – PW / DVBE #1786933

**SDVOSB** 

**Department of Industrial Relations:** 

Registration No. 1000052849

**Point of Contact:** 

Jon Sarquis

Sr. Marketing Manager <a href="mailto:jsarquis@soarhere.com">jsarquis@soarhere.com</a>

**Tax ID & DUNS:** 

Tax ID: 47-1135739

DUNS: 012089877

**NAICS Codes:** 

541620; 541690

**UNSPSC Codes:** 

77000000 – Environmental Services; 77100000 – Environmental Management; 77101600 – Environmental Planning; 77101700 – Environmental Advisory Services 77101800 – Environmental Auditing; 77102000 – Environmental Reporting Services; 80101600 – Project Management; 81102500 – Permitting Services;

81151700 – Geology

81151701 – Aerial Photography Services;

81151705 – Archaeological Services

#### **Sureties:**

Soar Environmental carries above minimum insurance coverages to support our partners with their projects.

<u>Principal:</u> Michael J. Murphy, CEO



#### About Our Firm

Soar Environmental Consulting, Inc. is an SB/PW/DVBE #1786933 and SDVOSB Certified environmental consulting firm that assists partners in meeting and maintaining environmental requirements and policies from conception through completion. Our tenets are simple; based on military expertise and expounded upon through professional knowledge and practical application, we firmly believe in the importance of safe work, showing up early, identifying and resolving issues, governing the regulations, and producing superior work. Therefore, we will focus on the environmental requirements so your project can get off and stay off the ground.

Since 2014, our team has continued to provide environmental consulting services throughout California. As part of our environmental team, we are comprised of diverse biologists, archaeologists, geologists, environmental scientists, and planners in Fresno and from multiple California regions; therefore, we not only understand the prevalent issues surrounding environmental resources within the local and regional areas, but we also have hands-on experience with the requirements statewide on the West Coast.

We are adept at developing, implementing, and managing tailored and legally defensible individual environmental documents. We support local, regional, state, and federal public agencies. Our team supports utilities, transportation, construction firms, and private developers with individual environmental compliance projects. Our construction management team provides administrative services from bidding to completion. Our in-house UAV team provides media digitally anywhere in the world.

Expect the environmental expertise you require with dedication and drive. The Soar Environmental Consulting team is here to serve you.



# Soar Environmental Consulting Inc.

## Statement of Qualifications

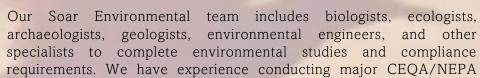
Since 2014, Soar Environmental Consulting, Inc. has served our partners to meet and maintain environmental requirements and policies from plan conception through completion. With

hundreds of years of cumulative experience, our tenets are simple; based on military expertise and expounded upon through professional knowledge and practical application, we passionately believe in the importance of safe work, showing up early, identifying and resolving issues, governing the regulations, and producing superior work. In addition, we will focus on the environment so that you can focus on delivering professional services for your constituents.



Our team comprises

diverse professionals headquartered in Fresno with locations in Sacramento and Bakersfield and with remote staff around the state; therefore, we understand the endemic issues surrounding environmental resources within the local areas and have firsthand experience with local and regional transportation and large infrastructure projects.



Initial Studies and

reviews for the California High-Speed Rail Authority. We have completed several Caltrans projects concerning hazard waste environmental assessments, biological monitoring, and environmental health safety compliance. performed Phase I We've and Environmental Assessments, Biological and Cultural Resources Assessments, HazWaste technical reports, stormwater and spill prevention plans, analysis, and laboratory



testing for regional developers. The breadth of our experiences includes NEPA Environmental Assessments required by HUD for funding projects on tribal lands, including the Picayune Rancheria of Chukchansi Indians.

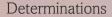


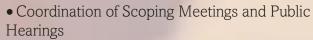
### Our past performance includes the following environmental programs:

- Environmental Technical Reporting
  - Phase I and Phase II Environmental Site Assessments
  - Biological Assessments and Evaluation
  - Phase I and II Cultural Resources Assessments
  - Water, Air Quality, and Noise Assessments and Permitting
  - Wetland Delineations and Permitting (Section 404 Permits)
  - Land Use Consistency and Compatibility Analyses
  - CDFW §1600 Streambed Alteration Agreements



- Services for CEQA, NEPA, and ESA permitting and local planning issues
  - Environmental Constraints Analyses/Screening Reports
  - CEQA Initial Study Technical Reporting and Documentation
  - NEPA Evaluations and Documentation
    - Notices of Intent, Preparations, Availability, Completion, and





- Preparation of Findings of Fact and Statement of Overriding Considerations
- Development of Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plans
- Hydroelectric project permitting
- NPDES and WDR Permitting for Construction Projects and Wastewater Treatment Plants
- Clean Water Act (401 Water Quality Certifications)



#### o Endangered Species Act (ESA) Permitting

- ESA §§ 7 and 10 Consultation
- CDFW §2081 Permits

#### o Biological Surveys

 Habitat Evaluations -Swainson's hawk, California Tiger Salamander, giant garter snake, blunt-nosed leopard lizard, Western pond turtle, Yellow-legged frog, Western Pond Turtle, etc.





- California Red-Legged Frog (CRLF) Surveys
- Vernal Pool Surveys (include Fairy Shrimp and plants
- Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle (VELB) Surveys
- Preconstruction nesting and raptor surveys (Western burrowing owls & Swainson's hawk)
- Coastal California bird nesting habitat assessments and surveys: Rare Plant Surveys and identification.

# o Environmental Documentation and Environmental Compliance

- SWPPP/SPCC
- BMP Inspections/QSE Monitoring and Sampling
- Phase I and Phase II Environmental Site Assessments
- Land Use Consistency and Compatibility Analyses
- EIR/EIS Reviews and Section Write-Ups

#### o Environmental Compliance Monitoring

- Implementation of required mitigation measures
- Habitat restoration and monitoring for upland, wetland, and vernal pool species
- Preconstruction surveys/ monitoring during construction activities



# Soar Environmental Consulting Projects:

Infrastructure, Cultural, Biological, HazWaste, & CEQA Initial Study

Project: California High-Speed Rail Authority



Situation: Soar Environmental served as the PCM Environmental Oversight Management team for Construction Package 1 of the California High-Speed Rail in Fresno and Madera counties. Continuing activities for the Authority include environmental permitting management prior to construction, environmental management during construction, site environmental surveys and investigations, and agency and utility coordination. Soar Environmental Senior Project Manager Evan Studley currently serves as the SWPPP Compliance Coordinator, and Senior Project Manager Elyse Murphy serves as the utility liaison for the entire Construction Package 1.

Services include: Project and Construction
Management Oversight; Environmental and 3<sup>rd</sup>
Party Management During Construction Phase I
& II; Environmental Site Assessment
Management; Tribal Consultations;
Hazardous Soil Analysis and Management;
Financial Forecasting; Utility Coordination
Sustainability Oversight; Permit Development
and Management; Biological Surveying and
Monitoring; Process Development and
Implementation



#### Project: City of Fresno Del Monte Site Phase II Environmental Site Assessment

Situation: One challenging parcel acquired by the Authority is the former Del Monte Food Processing plant in downtown Fresno, California. During the Phase I ESA, it was discovered that the site had a history of leaking underground fuel oil storage tanks. The tanks, built in the 1930s, had been leaking for 50 years. As a result, Soar Environmental staff provided a Phase II ESA for the Del Monte site.



Action: Soar Environmental staff evaluated a Phase I ESA previously prepared on the Del Monte site by another firm, identifying recognized environmental conditions due to the leaking underground storage tanks (UST). In addition, we conducted a Phase II ESA. The Phase II ESAs screened for the presence of contaminants of concern using data collected from the soil borings. We used a

drilling rig to assess subsurface soil conditions to collect soil samples from depth, then submitted them to a California Certified analytical laboratory for chemical analysis. Finally, we provided a Phase II ESA Report that included a summary of field activities performed, analytical results from the laboratory, and recommendations for additional steps.



Results: Soar Environmental completed the Phase II ESA and, through diligent research, determined that all five USTs had been successfully removed with no future Recognized Environmental Conditions. As a result, the Initial Study was able to proceed. Soar Environmental determined that the project had a less than significant impact on hazards and hazardous waste.

Project: California Trout Cultural Resources and Environmental Review – By-Day Creek Mono County, CA

Situation: In conjunction with California Trout and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife,

Soar Environmental works to provide wildlife

habitat restoration and planning. The 460-acre By-Day Creek Ecological Reserve is located in northern Mono County at approximately 7800 feet near the community of Bridgeport, in the beautiful Sierra Nevada. The Reserve is undergoing a program to protect and enhance the habitat of the genetically pure Walker Basin Lahontan cutthroat trout, a federal and state-listed threatened species. A Forest Management Plan will thin native vegetation along the creek beds to



improve forest health, reduce wildfire threat, conduct biodiversity monitoring, and improve watershed health and availability

#### Actions:

Soar Environmental is tasked to provide a full Cultural Resources Assessment, Tribal Consultations, and environmental compliance reviews to existing laws and regulations. Additionally, we use best management practices to provide California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliant services for reviews of contract activities and other permitting as needed. We are reaching out to several indigenous peoples in Mono County to apprise them of this work. These tribes include the Bishop Paiute Tribe, Bridgeport Paiute Indian Colony, Mono Lake Kutzadika Tribe, Walker River Reservation, and the Big Pine Paiute Tribe of Owens Valley.

#### Results:

As this three-year project progresses, our Archaeology Team provides cultural resources assessments, field surveys, and monitoring during forest thinning activities. Our team provides safe work, shows up early, identifies and resolves issues, governs the regulations, and produces



superior work. Therefore, we will focus on assisting our partners to reach for the stars while keeping their feet on the ground.

#### Project: Fresno County CPA, Inc. Pedestrian Archaeological Surveys

**Situation:** Comprehensive Planning Associates, Inc. (CPA, Inc.) requested archaeological support services for their application with Fresno County regarding the development of two properties. In addition, two Native American tribes requested a consultation with Fresno County under Assembly Bill 52 (AB 52) for this project. Due to the consultation request, CPA, Inc. required a professional archaeologist to provide archaeological services to support the AB 52 consultation activities.



Action: Soar Environmental conducted a pedestrian Phase I archaeological survey for CPA, Inc. and prepared an archaeological survey report to support the AB 52 consultation efforts. Soar Environmental ensured compliance with environmental regulations

through performing a pedestrian Phase I

archaeological survey, historical records research, and report preparation. During the Phase I survey, Soar Environmental determined that the project sites had been extensively graded, and it would be unlikely that any archaeological materials would be found.

Results: Soar Environmental completed the work and produced the report for CPA, Inc. in a significantly reduced time frame. In addition, our efforts allowed the application to continue unchecked and aided their construction on schedule.

Project: Stantec/Cardno Big Creek Dam 4 Biological Surveys and Monitoring – Eastern Fresno County, CA





Situation: Due to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, or FERC, licensing along the Big Creek watershed in the Central California Sierra Nevada, Southern California Edison and Cardno Inc., along with Soar Environmental, are assisting with aquatic studies to protect listed species. The aquatic studies include water temperature, Western Pond Turtle populations, and Foothill Yellow-legged Frog locations during the breeding season.

Action: Soar Environmental is providing our biology team to support for these license conditions. Our team assists with installing and maintaining loggers in the Horseshoe

Bend Reach of the San Joaquin River upstream of Big Creek No. 4 Powerhouse of the San Joaquin River. In addition, we assist in assessing Western Pond Turtle population abundance and population structure based on trapping and marking turtles at study sites in several San Joaquin River locations. Additionally, Soar Environmental biologists are collecting eDNA samples for Foothill Yellow-legged Frog at six locations during the expected breeding season, typically during late spring/early summer after high flows have receded and water temperature is appropriate. Sample locations are along the San Joaquin River.



**Results:** Our teams continue to provide outstanding environmental services for these necessary aquatic studies. Some of these sites are in extremely remote locations. However, our biologists are up to the task and support our partners with their expertise, dedication, and drive.

Project: Caltrans Aerially Deposited Lead Study - Tulare, CA



Situation: Based on historical use of leaded gasoline along a half-mile stretch of Mooney Boulevard (State Highway 63) in Tulare, CA, and Caltrans had not conducted Aerially Deposited Lead studies in the area, Soar Environmental was contracted to study soils

within shallow soil (upper three feet) adjacent to the existing traveled road.

Action: The Soar
Environmental geologist and
environmental engineer inspected
the site to observe the existing
surface conditions and
marking of sample
sites. USA Underground was
called to clear all boring
sites. Thirteen sites were
marked. As directed by the
California Department of Toxic



Substance Control, boring depths were outlined. A laboratory testing program of the soils was performed. The Soar Environmental Scientist reviewed and analyzed the lab data accumulated and prepared an in-depth ADL Investigation report with findings and recommendations.

Results: Five soil samples were above thresholds and required further testing. Finally, determinations were made for the project's proper use and disposal of contaminated soil.

#### Project: Caltrans Sacramento I-5 West End Viaduct

Situation: The California Department of Transportation, District 3, sought to strengthen the I-5 West End Viaduct superstructure to allow for increased permitted loads. Caltrans sought out professional and technical services for the project approval and environmental document phase of the project.



Action: Soar Environmental conducted hazardous waste initial site assessments and investigations, involving interviews with past/present owners, operators, and occupants of the



project site, reviewed historical and governmental documentation about the site, and visually inspected the project site and adjoining properties. Soar also investigated a hazardous waste site involving soil, lead-based paint, and asbestos-containing material sampling.

Results: After the hazardous waste assessments, Soar Environmental submitted draft and final

supplemental assessments, necessary technical reports, and lead and asbestos investigative reports. The submitted documentation allowed for the proper disposal of hazardous materials on the project site on time and within budget.

# Project: City of Fresno - N. Willow- E. Shepherd to Copper Avenue Road Widening CEQA Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration

Situation: North Willow Avenue at East Shepherd and extending two miles north to East Copper Ave was proposed to be widened. In addition, the project included the installation of the second and third lanes, traffic signal installation, and associated utility upgrades within the City of Fresno, County of Fresno, and City of Clovis rights-of-way. The Project alignment was developed as a one-lane, asphalt-paved urban road with an unpaved shoulder and is maintained by the cities of Clovis and Fresno. The project's land use consisted primarily of agricultural and farmland properties developed with crops,



irrigation standpipes, wells and associated pumps with turbine motors, single-family rural residences, a mini-storage business, a large church, and an underground irrigation pipeline crossing.





Actions: Soar Environmental's Michael Murphy provided leadership to BC&F of Clovis to develop mitigation measures for impacts on Agricultural land (Pages 3.3 - 3.7) and impacts on schools within the project footprint. His team conducted the CalEEMod for inclusion in the Initial Study, consulted with Cal-EMA, and reviewed the EAPs for Dam Failure due to proximity to the flood plain. Additionally, the team consulted with

appropriate agencies such as the Fresno

Planning Commission to ensure the project conforms with all county and city General Plans. Finally, the Fresno County Municipal Flood Control District was consulted to develop a run-off plan and calculate available basin water storage.

Results: Today, the corridor is a thriving urban area that separates the Cities of Clovis and Fresno. The added lanes support the educational hub of Clovis Community College and Granite Ridge Intermediate school. And the corridor supports traffic from the eastern entrance to the sprawling Copper Ridge Community.



Statewide with locations in Fresno – Sacramento – Bakersfield Contact: Jon Sarquis – Jsarquis@SoarHere.com



### Soar Environmental Team Overview and Biographies

Soar Environmental is comprised of biologists, archaeologists, geologists, environmental scientists, cultural resources specialists, environmental consultants, project managers, program managers, and planners in Fresno and from multiple California regions. Therefore, we understand the prevalent issues surrounding environmental resources within the local and regional areas and have direct experience with the requirements statewide. In addition, our team has longstanding regional agency relationships and can tailor environmental documents and studies that ensure compliance and address each agency's unique concerns, thus streamlining work and avoiding costly resubmittal.



Michael J. Murphy
Chief Executive Officer/
Lead Environmental
Oversight Program
Manager

Michael is the Principal/CEO of Soar Environmental with over 18 years of firsthand experience providing leadership; environmental management; program management; license negotiation and permitting negotiations and implementation; and practical consulting support for clients across California.



**Matthew Fidel**Sr. Sustainability Manager

Matt has 15 years of experience with CEQA/NEPA compliance, specializing in environmental clearances and permits, sustainability, hazardous waste, pollution prevention, environmental management, program management, environmental planning, and project development for major infrastructure projects.



Evan Studley Sr. Geologist

Evan Studley has a wide breadth of experience in developing and managing all facets of Construction Projects, including construction oversight, SWPPP development, HazWaste, and SWPPP compliance oversight, CEQA and NEPA permitting, conducting geological surveys, Phase I and Phase II Environmental Site Assessments (ESA), hydrogeological investigations, fish habitat conservation, stream restoration, biological surveys, and soil and groundwater remediation throughout California and Nevada. His field experience includes observations of the release of hazardous materials through stressed vegetation, soil staining, leachate, waste material buildup, water discoloration, odor, and sheen identification.





**Travis Albert**Senior Biologist

Travis has 15 years of experience conducting biological surveys and monitoring for different public and private agencies. He is well versed in wetland delineation studies, CEQA/NEPA Plant and Animal Biological Resources Assessments, Botanical studies, and collecting and analyzing data using ArcGIS, AGOL, Avenza, Survey 123, and Collector apps. He is also experienced with survey techniques and protocols for special-status species of plants, mammals, raptors, other nesting birds, amphibians, fish, and their associated habitats.



Danielle Aparicio
Staff Biologist

Danielle specializes in animal behavior, biological monitoring, wildlife species surveys, habitat assessments, wetland delineations, biological resources assessments, and jurisdictional delineations, with over five years of experience in the field. She is a USFWS-approved General Biological Monitor for San Joaquin Kit Fox, California Tiger Salamander, and Tipton Kangaroo Rat. In addition, she is a CDFW-approved General Biological Monitor for Swainson's Hawk and San Joaquin Kit Fox, all within Construction Package 2-3 of the California High-Speed Rail Project.



Rebecca Fay Staff Biologist

Rebecca has 15 years of experience with biological monitoring, construction monitoring, pre-construction, rare plant, and sensitive species surveys, specializing in nesting birds. In addition, she has firsthand experience with an extensive list of animal species found throughout California.



Clare Walton Environmental Specialist

Clare's experience spans multiple countries and industries. With over eight years of experience on projects ranging from mega/major infrastructure to minor infrastructure and development. Clare implements client processes and procedures on projects with bespoke delivery strategies. In addition, she currently undertakes desktop investigations and research into the key areas of potential impact, identifying mitigation where necessary, and assists with CEQA/NEPA document development.



**Ignacio Requena** Senior Archaeologist, RPA

Ignacio is a Registered Professional Archaeologist with five years of experience, and emphasis in Cultural Resource Management of Historic and Prehistoric Resources, ArcMap and ArcGIS, Lithic Analysis, technical report writing, Tribal consultations, and cultural resource survey, monitoring, and mitigation.



Jon Sarquis
Sr. Marketing Manager

With several years of insightful leadership, Jon has a senior role with our environmental team. His experience includes project coordination with clients, public agency planning leaders, and state and federal agency leaders. Jon provides genuineness, expertise, dedication, and drive for the prompt delivery of services for our partners. Jon began his career as a broadcaster and transitioned to corporate marketing to assist firms in reaching their full potential. His entry into the environmental community has been met with a true appreciation for his people-first orientation, winning track record, positive attitude, and environmental savvy.



Joe Bashore
Project Manager/
Environmental Planner

With over six years of environmental planning, consulting, and project management, Joe guides projects through the CEQA process from beginning to completion. He currently coordinates and writes environmental impact sections for Soar Environmental projects. He is also involved with projects requiring NEPA experience, local, regional, state, and federal permitting, traffic trip and VMT analysis, and client relations.



Marcus Patton Environmental Scientist, QSD, QSP, QISP

Marcus is an Environmental Scientist/Analyst offering knowledge of environmental inspections and field data collection procedures. He has contributed to various projects ranging from construction to fisheries and flora management. In addition to fieldwork, he has experience with staff management, project budget management, and technical report writing.