



# Northern California / Oregon Pollinator-friendly solar scorecard

The entomologist-approved standard for what constitutes “beneficial to pollinators” within the managed landscape of a PV solar facility.

## 1. PERCENT OF PROPOSED SITE VEGETATION COVER TO BE DOMINATED BY POLLINATOR-FRIENDLY WILDFLOWERS

- 31-45 % +5 points
- 46-60 % +10 points
- 61+ % +15 points

Total points

Note: Projects may have “array” mixes and diverse open area/ border mixes; forb dominance should be averaged across the entire site. The dominance should be calculated from total numbers of forb seeds vs. grass seeds (from all seed mixes) to be planted.

## 2. PLANNED % OF SITE DOMINATED BY NATIVE SPECIES COVER

- 26-50% +5 points
- 51-75% +10 points
- 76-100% +15 points

Total points

## 3. PLANNED SPECIES DIVERSITY (total # of species in re-vegetation, including native grasses)

- 9-11 species +5 points
- 12-15 species +10 points
- 16 or more species +15 points

Total points

Note: exclude invasives from species totals.

## 4. PLANNED SEASONS WITH AT LEAST 3 BLOOMING SPECIES PRESENT (check all that apply)

- Spring (March-May) +5 points
- Summer (June-August) +5 points
- Fall (September-November) +5 points
- Winter (December-February) +5 points

Total points

Note: Check local resources for data on bloom seasons

## 5. ADDITIONAL HABITAT COMPONENTS WITHIN .25 MILES (check all that apply)

- Native bunch grasses, leaf litter, woody debris, bare ground +2 points
- Native trees/shrubs +2 points
- Clean, perennial water sources +2 points
- Created nesting feature(s) +2 points

(i.e., native bee houses) Total points

## 6. SITE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

- Detailed establishment and management plan developed with funding/ contract to implement. +15 points
- Signage legible from a distance of 40 feet or more stating "pollinator friendly solar habitat" (at least 1 every 20ac.). +5 points

Total points

## 7. RE-VEGETATION

- Seed is applied at 50 PLS (Pure Live Seed) per square foot +5 points
- 20% or more of the native species' seed has a local genetic origin within 175 miles of the site +5 points
- For sites located 5 miles or further east of the coastline, re-vegetation includes 1% native milkweed +10 points

Total points

## 8. PESTICIDE RISK

- Planned on-site insecticide use or use of plant material pre-treated with insecticides (excluding buildings/ electrical boxes, etc.) -40 points
- Perpetual bare ground under the panels due to ongoing herbicide treatment (beyond site preparations), no re-vegetation planned, or gravel installation -40 points
- Communication/registration with Local chemical applicators about need to prevent drift from adjacent areas +10 points

Total points

## 9. OUTREACH/EDUCATION

- Site is part of a study with a university, research lab, or conservation organization +5 points

Grand total

Provides Exceptional Habitat >85  
Meets Pollinator Standards 70-84

Project Name:  
Vegetation Consultant:  
Project Location:  
Total acres (array and open area):  
Projected Seeding Date:

Note: Percent “cover” should be based on the percent of the ground surface that is covered by a vertical projection of foliage as viewed from above. Wildflowers in question 1 refer to “forbs” (flowering plants that are not woody or graminoids) and can include introduced clovers and other non-native, non-invasive species beneficial to pollinators.

