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PHOTO INSERT:

Habitats and Landforms of Eastern Merced County's Vernal Pool Grasslands:

Vernal pool with wildflowers in bloom: ©John Hale
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View over vernal pool grasslands: ©John Hale

Rare and Unique plants and animals of Eastern Merced County:

Ewan's Larkspur: ©John Vollmar
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Dwarf downingia: ©John Hale
Hoover's calycadenia: ©John Vollmar
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California king snake: ©John Vollmar
Western pond turtle: unknown
Swainson's hawk: ©Gary Hanlon
Tadpole Shrimp, top view: ©Brent Helms;
bottom view: ©Donald Vollmar
San Joaquin Valley kit fox: unknown
Merced kangaroo rat: ©Mark Allaback