



**PETER RIOS ESTATES APARTMENT COMPLEX**  
**14265 Rios Canyon Road**  
**El Cajon CA 92021**  
**UNINCORPORATED COMMUNITY OF**  
**PECAN PARK-FLYNN SPRINGS**  
**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA**  
**APN: 398-110-32**  
**STP14-022**

**BIOLOGICAL LETTER REPORT**

UTM (NAD 83): 11-S: 511,800mE; 3,633,500mN  
Latitude: 32° 50' 50"N; Longitude 116° 52' 30"W

*Prepared for:*  
County of San Diego

*Project Proponent:*  
Mary C. Olivo  
2389 Victoria Circle  
Alpine CA 91901  
619 212 2660

*Prepared by:*  
Pacific Southwest Biological Services, Inc.  
Post Office Box 985  
National City, CA 91951-0985  
Telephone: (619) 477-5333  
Facsimile: (619) 477-5380  
E-mail: mitch@psbs.com

PSBS #W341

7 November 2014

R. Mitchel Beauchamp, M. Sc., President

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**Summary**

Pacific Southwest Biological Services, Inc., (Pacific Southwest) conducted a biological assessment of the Rios Canyon Road site proposed for a multi-family development in the unincorporated community of Pecan Park-Flynn Springs in southeastern San Diego County, California. The assessment of the 3.15-acre site was performed to identify biological resources and sensitive species that are present and potentially impacted by development or preserved by conservation of portions of the site as biological open space.

The property is situated along Rios Canyon Creek in an area of residential development on the west side of Rios Canyon Road, south of Interstate Freeway 8 in the unincorporated neighborhood of Pecan Park.

The survey identified three vegetation communities within the study area: Disturbed Habitat, Urban/Developed, and Riparian Channel (Coast Live Oak Woodland). Implementation of the proposed project would directly impact 1.51 acres of Disturbed Habitat and 1.05 acres of Urban/Developed. The 0.22 acre drainage of Coast Live Oak Woodland is a regulated habitat type in San Diego County and no impact is proposed for this habitat. Mitigation for impact to this type of woodland is required by the County Biological Ordinance (BMO) at a ratio of 2:1.

No narrow endemic or special status plant species were discovered during the thorough botanical survey. No sensitive animals were detected on the property during the survey. Because the site contains trees that could be used by nesting migratory birds protected under the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the California Fish and Wildlife Code, impacts could occur to such species if unsupervised construction on the site takes place between 1 February and 31 August. A mitigation measure is recommended to avoid such impacts.

**Introduction, Project Description, Location and Setting**

Pacific Southwest, at the request of William Snipes, conducted a general biological assessment for the proposed 3.15-acre Tentative Map in the community of Pecan Park, San Diego County, California. The purpose of the survey was to document biological resources and/or any sensitive species occurring on the project site. This report summarizes the current biological conditions of the property, the results of the survey, and includes an analysis of on-site impacts from the proposed project.

This report provides the project applicant, the resource agencies and the public with current biological data to satisfy the review of the project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). It is anticipated that the information herein will be available for public review.

Prior to the field investigation, Pacific Southwest searched the California Department of Fish and Game's (CDFG) Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDDB) for the USGS 7.5' El Cajon and Alpine, California topographic quadrangles. This search revealed several federally- and state-listed species, or MSCP covered species, that may occur in the vicinity of the property. Pacific Southwest reviewed a recent aerial photograph (via Google Earth-no image date) for potential drainage patterns and vegetation types. Pacific Southwest also reviewed a soil survey map (Bowman 1973) of the project site and vicinity for soil types, including hydric soils.

Botanical and zoological resources were searched for on the site. Biologist R. Mitchel Beauchamp conducted a botanical investigation on 15 November 2013. Vegetation communities consisting of different associations of plants were mapped and a list of flora was compiled in the field. Wildlife species on-site were also identified

Wildlife was examined directly (as in the case of birds) and indirectly through tracks, scat, and nests (as in the case of mammals) in the field. Methods consisted of walking slowly over the site while watching and listening for wildlife, pausing frequently to observe and listen. "Pishing," a technique commonly used to attract the interest of passerines and draw them into view, was occasionally employed. Binoculars (8x42) were used to assist in the detection and identification of wildlife. Species presence was confirmed by visual observation and / or auditory detection, scats, bones, dens and burrows. The property area is sufficiently small so that the entire area could be covered during each of the two visits.

As required by County of San Diego Biological Survey Requirements (County of San Diego 2006), a distance of 100 feet beyond the proposed project footprint was surveyed and mapped.

The proposed project is a Apartment Complex Development to construct 8 multi-family dwelling units and associated parking and recreational amenities on the 3.15 acre site. Two existing residences occur on the site and neither would be retained as part of the proposed project. The project does not include fuel/brush management zones around the proposed structures due to the lack of significant vegetation on the parcel.

The project is located in the Pecan Park area of San Diego County, California. Primary access to the Tentative Map project site is via Rios Canyon Road off the south side of Interstate 8 at the Lake Jennings off-ramp, just east of Johnston.

The project site is located in the south eastern portion of the unincorporated community of Lakeside, San Diego County, California. The map location of the area surveyed is within Unsectioned portions of Rancho El Cajon, Tier 15 South, Range 1 East, of the San Bernardino Base and Meridian, USGS 7.5' El Cajon, California quadrangle UTM (NAD 83): 11-S:

511,800mE; 3,633,500mN 32° 50' 50"N Latitude; 116° 52' 30"W Longitude. The project site is accessed from Rio Canyon Road, south of Interstate 8.

The proposed project area is roughly rectangular, extending along the east side of Rios Canyon Creek, west of Rios Canyon Road, with a low point at the northwest corner of approximately 664 feet above mean sea level (amsl). The project area rises to a southeastern high point of approximately 730 feet.

Rios Canyon Creek forms the western boundary of the parcel in a northward direction. Soils for the project area are mapped as Las Posas fine sandy loam 9 to 15 percent slopes (LpD2) on the majority of the site and Visalia sandy loam 2 to 5 percent slope (VaB) along the drainage channel and banks. (Bowman 1973). Geologic strata are mapped as Cretaceous Granodiorite Rock (Tan 2002). Gabbroic-like rocks occur on the site and seem to be correlated with the Las Posas soils of the site.

The project area is bounded to the west by Rios Canyon Creek with residential areas across the creek and to the north, south and across Rios Canyon road to the east. Two single-family homes are located on the site.

The site was once a ranch with a dug well in the lower portion of the site and a two story home still on site. The cultivation of pecan trees on the site and elsewhere in the area is memorialized the name of the area as well as by a massive Pecan tree along the western parcel boundary.

The survey identified three plant cover/habitat types within the project area and the 100-foot study area beyond the project area boundary: Disturbed Habitat, Urban/Developed, and Riparian Channel (Coast Live Oak Woodland). The vegetation / habitat type and acreage occurring within the project footprint are discussed below with appropriate Holland (1986) element codes.

#### **Habitats/Vegetation Communities (on-site)**

##### Disturbed Habitat (#11300) (1.88 acres)

Disturbed Habitat is defined as areas where vegetative cover comprises less than 10% of the surface area and where there is evidence of soil surface disturbance. The southern and lower portions of the site are devoid of vegetation, apparently due to prior clearing or a persistent herbicide.

##### Urban/Developed (#12000) (1.05 acres)

Areas about the established residences, the northeastern orchard area and associated landscaping and driveways were mapped as Urban/Developed.

##### Riparian Channel (Coast Live Oak Woodland) (#11100) (0.22 acre)

The presence of a massive Coast Live Oak (*Quercus agrifolia*) and its equally massive but dead northern partner attest to a prior woodland along the drainage. Understory elements are totally lacking due to the prior use of the site for farming / ranching activities. The death of the northern specimen tree, probably in the age range of 150 years, seems to have occurred within

the past year, based upon the extent of bark dislodgement. A similarly dead, large oak tree trunk occurs to the south of the living specimen. Also about the site are smaller oaks, occurring in an isolated fashion. The limits of the oak woodland are arbitrary, really definable only by the presence of the large, significant specimen. The vegetation along the drainage, which occurs largely off-site, consists mostly of cultivated trees escaped from nearby cultivation, among these being the tall pecan (*Carya illinoensis*), as well as Giant Cane (*Arundo donax*). The extent of the Oak Woodland in the drainage is speculative, due to the filling observed throughout the channel, on and off-site. The isolated oak tree on the site is more associated with the disturbed habitat of this lower portion of the site.

### **Flora**

A total of 64 plant species has been recorded on-site (Appendix 1). Of this total, 56 (88%) are non-native. The site lacks and any significant level of ecological function in terms of native plant species.

### **Fauna**

A total of seven animal species was recorded within the study area (Appendix 2), consisting of 7 species of vertebrates, which are representative of the disturbed conditions and remnant woodland on the site.

### **Sensitive Taxa**

#### **Plants**

The CNDDDB search revealed several federal- or state-listed floral species reported from the El Cajon and Alpine U.S.G.S. 7.5' topographic quadrangles. Appendix 3 lists these plant species, their conservation status, their typical habitat requirements, and potential for occurrence on the property.

#### **Animals**

The CNNDDB search revealed federal- or state-listed animal species reported from the El Cajon and Alpine quadrangles that may occur within the study area. Appendix 4 lists these species, their conservation status, their typical habitat requirements, and potential for occurrence in the study area. Due to habitat degradation on the site, none of the 27 animal species listed in Appendix 4 have a significant probability of occurrence.

The other species likely to occur with moderate probability on the site are all fairly common and widespread in the coastal foothills of southern California. The site does not contain any other special status species, although the native shrubs could serve as nesting sites for birds protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and California Fish and Game Code.

#### Coastal California Gnatcatcher

The Threatened Coastal California Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*) is known from the area in intact Coastal Sage Scrub habitat two miles to the west of the site. The site and adjacent residential area, however, totally lack any potential to support this resident bird.

### **Jurisdictional Wetlands and Waterways**

The site involves Rios Canyon Creek which is interpreted to contain state streambed and wetlands and U.S. jurisdictional waters and wetlands. The canyon channel is severely constricted by filling from prior activity on-site as well as by adjacent ownerships, largely destroying its riparian function insofar as intact wetland vegetation is considered.

### **Fuel Modification**

The lack of significant vegetation on site and the presence of developed areas on all sides of the project, preclude any necessity for fuel modification.

### **Other Unique Biological Features/Resources**

Wildlife movement through the area would not be constrained by this project due to its setback from the degraded channel.

#### Raptor Foraging and Nesting

Raptors are likely to use portions of the site because of the trees along the channel and open, disturbed areas. Species potentially involved include Cooper's Hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*), Red-shouldered Hawk (*Buteo lineatus*), Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*), and American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*).

#### Large Mammal Use, Regional Wildlife Corridors and Native Nursery Sites

Because the site lacks native habitat in an otherwise urbanized neighborhood, it is unlikely to as serve a regional or local wildlife corridor and it contains no resources that would constitute a native nursery site.

The project would not substantially interfere with connectivity between existing or potential blocks of habitat, or interfere with any regional wildlife corridor. The project would not noticeably interfere with or eliminate wildlife nursery sites; however, rocky elevated areas northeast of residences that border the site may be used for roosting by certain species of bats.

#### Evaluation as Biological Resource Core Area

The site does not qualify as a Biological Resource Core Area (BRCA) as defined in the County Biological Mitigation Ordinance, Article VI (County 2004). The site may serve as a tenuous linkage for wildlife movement but it does not contain adequate vegetation cover to provide visual continuity so as to encourage use by wildlife. The site does not consist of, nor is it located in, a block of habitat greater than 500 acres.

### **Significance of On-site Project Impacts and Proposed Mitigation**

#### Vegetation Community/Habitat Impacts

Implementation of the project would result in impacts to 1.51 acres of the 1.88 acres of Disturbed Habitat, all of the 1.05 acres of Urban/Developed habitat, with Coast Live Oak Woodland remaining in an open space easement as part of the channel 50 foot setback/buffer. Adjacent, prior residential developments encroach onto the channel edge much more closely than that proposed by this project. Table 1 summarizes the impacts to the vegetation communities from the proposed project (Figure 3).

**Table 1. Summary of Existing Vegetation Types and Potential Impacts within Project Footprint (area in acres)**

Vegetation Type/Ratio	Existing	Directly Impacted	Mitigation
Disturbed Habitat	1.88	1.51	N/A
Urban/Developed	1.05	1.05	N/A
Coast Live Oak Woodland	0.22	0	N/A
<b>Total</b>	3.15	2.56	

The loss of 1.51 acres of Disturbed Habitat and 1.05 acres of Urban/Developed is not considered significant under CEQA because of the relative low-habitat value of these habitats.

The loss of Coast Live Oak Woodland, an uncommon habitat in San Diego County, would be considered significant under CEQA. The delegation of the western portion of the parcel as open space eliminates this impact.

*BIOMIT 1: Coast Live Oak Woodland:*

*The project has been designed to require the remnant woodland habitat to be within an open space easement and a limited building zone easement.*

**Conclusion**

Impacts to Coast Live Oak Woodland is a significant impact under CEQA but would be mitigated to a less than significant level by the conservation of the entire on-site drainage acreage of 0.22 acre. The buffer area will be landscaped as part of the erosion control Best Management Practices to control dust and run off from the project into the channel. Plant materials appropriate for this buffer area function and the soil conditions present are:

Deergrass	<i>Muhlenbergia rigens</i>
California Brome	<i>Bromus carinatus</i> ssp. <i>carinatus</i>
Goldenbush	<i>Isocoma menziesii</i> ssp. <i>vernonioides</i>
Mexican Elderberry	<i>Sambucus mexicana</i>
Blue Wild Rye	<i>Leymus triticoides</i>
Narrow-leaf Milkweed	<i>Asclepias fascicularis</i>
Goldenrod	<i>Solidago californica</i>

Special Status Species

The site does not contain any special status plants. The site may contain some low-sensitivity wildlife species, although none were discovered during the November field survey. However, the site does contain habitat that could support nesting migratory birds protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Nesting migratory birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 and the California Fish and Wildlife Code. If clearing of trees or construction takes place during the spring/summer months (1 February through 31 August), nesting birds may be impacted by direct impacts to nesting sites or indirectly by noise, causing abandonment of nesting sites.

<b>Migratory Bird Group</b>	<b>Nominal Nesting Period</b>
Golden Eagle	Jan 1 - July 31
Tree-Nesting Raptors	Jan 15 - July 15
Ground-Nesting Raptors	Feb 1 - July 15
Non-raptor Migratory Birds	Feb 15 - Aug 31

**BIOMIT 2: Migratory Bird Treaty Act Provisions**

*Prior to any grubbing, clearing, or grading between 1 February and 31 August, a survey must be performed by a qualified biologist that documents that no actively nesting migratory birds would be affected. If active migratory bird nests are detected, an area 300 ft from the nest shall be staked and posted to prohibit all clearing, grubbing and construction work within the perimeter until the qualified biologist determines that the nests are no longer occupied with written notification to the approval of the Director of the Department of Planning and Land Use.*

**Conclusion**

Potential impacts to nesting migratory birds are considered a significant impact under CEQA but would be reduced to a less-than-significant level by application of the recommended mitigation measure.

**Cumulative Impacts**

The following analysis was performed to determine if the proposed project, a subdivision and residential development of 3.15 acres would result in cumulative impacts when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, other current projects and probable future projects in conformance with Section 15130(a) of the State CEQA Guidelines. Impacts to approximately 1.51 acres of Disturbed Habitat would occur as a result of the proposed project. Mitigation for impacts to Coast Live Oak Woodland would be achieved through the conservation of the entire onsite drainage of 0.22 acre of habitat, as detailed in Table 3.

In evaluating cumulative biological impacts the following questions were addressed for the project along.

1. *Would the project have a substantial adverse affect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?*

*No, the project would not have a substantial adverse effect on sensitive species because no sensitive species were observed during directed field assessments of the site and an analysis of the sensitive species potentially inhabiting the site and the onsite surveys revealed that no species generally have a high likelihood of occurring there. Although Coast Live Oak Woodland occurs on the site and often supports special-status plant species, a thorough field assessment determined that no special-status plant species occur on the site.*

2. *Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies,*

*regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?*

*No, the project will not have a substantial adverse effect on a sensitive natural community. Approximately 0.22 acre of Coast Live Oak Woodland habitat would be preserved and buffered as a result of the proposed project.*

3. *Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?*

*No, the project will not impact wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Any Section 404 wetlands, if present, would be associated with the preserved and buffered portion of the project site.*

4. *Would the project interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?*

*No, the project will not interfere substantially with any identified wildlife movement corridors or use of native wildlife nursery sites because the project develops the previously disturbed portions of the site and preserved potential movement and nursery site areas with an adjacent buffer.*

5. *Would the project conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?*

*No, the project will not conflict with local policies or ordinances. The project would mitigate project impacts to important biological resources in conformance with County Standards.*

6. *Would the project conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?*

*No, the project will not conflict with the NCCP. The project is surrounded by existing large-lot residential development, would not impact wetlands and proposes on-site mitigation by open space easement for potential impacts to Coast Live Oak Woodland.*

7. *Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable?*

*No, the project would not contribute to any loss of significant biological resources.*

In summary, the project would not contribute to significant cumulative biological impacts to Coast Live Oak Woodland habitat. Although this habitat on the project is already compromised by being surrounded by residential development and does not have any long-term conservation value even if conserved on site, it remains in accordance with County ordinance. Additionally, although this plant community typically supports special status plants, none were found after a thorough survey.

### **Indirect Effects**

The project is not likely to have any significant indirect effects on biological resources because it would result in infilling of habitat that is already disturbed and would be surrounded by existing residential development on all sides. An appropriate buffer is added to the Rio Canyon Creek to avoid indirect impact to the wetlands.

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**Preparer and Person/Organizations Contacted**

R. Mitchel Beauchamp, M.Sc., President, Pacific Southwest Biological Services, Inc.

**Attachments**

Appendix 1. Floral Checklist

Appendix 2. Faunal Checklist

Appendix 3. Sensitive Plants Reported from the El Cajon and Alpine quadrangles

Appendix 4. Sensitive Animals Reported from the El Cajon and Alpine quadrangles

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**Appendix 1. Floral Checklist of Species Observed****DICOTYLEDONS****Aizoaceae** - Carpet-weed Family

- \* *Aptenia cordifolia* (L.f.) Schwant. Shrubby Dewplant
- \* *Drosanthemum hispidum*

**Amaranthaceae** - Amaranth Family

- \* *Chenopodium murale*
- \* *Salsola tragus* L. Russian-Thistle

**Anacardiaceae** - Sumac Family

- Rhus integrifolia* Wats. Lemonadeberry Bush
- \* *Schinus molle* L. Peruvian Peppertree
- \* *Schinus terebinthifolius* Raddi Brazilian Peppertree

**Apocynaceae** - Dogbane Family

- \* *Nerium oleander* L. Oleander
- \* *Vinca minor* L.

**Araliaceae**

- \* *Hedera helix* L.

**Asteraceae** - Sunflower Family

- \* *Centaurea melitensis* L. Tocalote
- \* *Lactuca serriola* L. Prickly Lettuce
- \* *Sonchus oleraceus* L. Sow-Thistle

**Bignoniaceae**- Bignonia Family

- \* *Jacaranda acutifolia*

**Boraginaceae** - Borage Family

- Amsinckia menziesii* (Lehm.) Nelson & J. F. Macbr.

**Brassicaceae** - Mustard Family

- \* *Hirschfeldia incana* (L.) Lagr.-Fossat Short-pod Mustard
- \* *Raphanus sativus* Radish

**Cactaceae**-Cactus Family

- \* *Cereus peruvianus*
- \* *Opuntia ficus-indica* (L.) Miller Indian-Fig
- \* *Trichocereus spachianus*

**Caryophyllaceae** - Pink Family

- \* *Cerastium fontanum* Baumg. ssp. *vulgare* (Hartman) Greuter & Burdet Chickweed

**Convolvulaceae** - Morning-glory Family

- \* *Convolvulus arvensis* L.

**Crassulaceae**-Stonecrop Family

- \* *Crassula argenta*

**APPENDIX 1. FLORAL CHECKLIST OF SPECIES OBSERVED (CONTINUED)****Euphorbiaceae** - Spurge Family*Chamaesyce polycarpa* (Benth.) Millsp.*Croton setiger* Turkey Mullin\* *Ricinus communis***Fabaceae** - Legume Family\* *Medicago polymorpha* L. Burr-clover\* *Poinciana gillesi***Fagaceae** - Oak Family*Quercus agrifolia* Coast Live Oak**Geraniaceae** - Geranium Family\* *Erodium cicutarium* (L.) L'Hér. Red-stem Filaree\* *Pelargonium zonale***Lamiaceae** - Mint Family\* *Marrubium vulgare* L. Horehound**Malvaceae** - Mallow Family\* *Malva parviflora* L. Cheeseweed**Myrtaceae**-Eucalypts Family\* *Psidium* Strawberry Guava**Oleaceae**-Olive Family\* *Fraxinus*\* *Olea europea* L. Mission Olive**Oxalidaceae**-Sorrel Family\* *Oxalis pes-caprae* L. Bermuda Buttercup.**Pittosporaceae**\* *Pittosporum undulatum***Platanaceae** - Plane Tree Family*Platanus racemosa***Plumbaginaceae**- Leadwort Family\* *Plumbago auriculata* Cape Leadwort**Portulacaceae**-Portulacaceae Family\* *Portulaca oleracea* Verdulago**Primulaceae** - Primrose Family\* *Anagallis arvensis* L. Scarlet Pimpernel**Rosaceae**-Rose Family\* *Eriobotrya japonica* (Thunb.) Lindl Loquat

Apricot

Locuat

**Rutaceae**-Citrus Family\* *Citrus aurantiacum* L. Orange

**APPENDIX 1. FLORAL CHECKLIST OF SPECIES OBSERVED (CONTINUED)****Salicaceae** – Willow Family*Salix gooddingii* Black Willow**Solanaceae** - Nightshade Family\* *Solanum americanum***Ulmaceae** – Elm Family\* *Ulmus parvifolia***Urticaceae**-Nettle Family\* *Urtica urens* L. Nettle**Vitaceae** – Grape Family\* *Vitis vinifera* L.**MONOCOTYLEDONS****Agavaceae** – Century Plant Family\* *Agave americana medio-picta***Amaryllidaceae**- Amaryllis Family\* *Amaryllis bella-donna***Commelinaceae**-\* *Tradescantia***Poaceae - Grass Family**\* *Arundo donax* Giant Cane\* *Avena barbata* Link Slender Wild Oat\* *Bromus diandrus* Roth Ripgut Grass\* *Bromus madritensis* L. ssp. *rubens* (L.) Husnot Red Brome\* *Cynodon dactylon**Distichlis spicata* Salt Grass\* *Penisetum setaceum* Forskaal African Fountain Grass\* *Piptantherum milaceum* (L.) Cosson Millet\* *Vulpia bromoides* (L.) S.F. Gray\* *Vulpia myuros* (L.) Gmelin var. *hirsuta* (Hackett) Asch & Graetoner Foxtail Fescue

\* Denotes non-native plant taxa

**APPENDIX 2. ANIMALS OBSERVED OR DETECTED****COMMON NAME**                      **SCIENTIFIC NAME****BIRDS****Accipitridae** (Hawks, Kites, Eagles, and Allies)Red-tail Hawk                      *Buteo jamaicensis***Columbidae** (Pigeons and Doves)Mourning Dove                      *Zenaida macroura***Trochilidae** (Hummingbirds)Anna's Hummingbird                      *Calypte anna***Tyrannidae** (Tyrant Flycatchers)Black Phoebe                      *Sayornis nigricans***Corvidae** (Jays, Crows, Ravens, Magpies)Common Raven                      *Corvus corax***Fringillidae** (Finches)House Finch                      *Carpodacus mexicanus***MAMMALS****Geomyidae (Pocket Gophers)**Botta's Pocket Gopher                      *Thomomys bottae*

## Appendix 3. Sensitive Plants reported from USGS 7.5' El Cajon and Alpine, California quadrangles

SPECIES NAME	STATUS Federal/State/CNPS	San Diego County Sensitive Species	HABITAT REQUIREMENTS	PROBABILITY OF OCCURRENCE
<i>Acanthomintha ilicifolia</i> San Diego Thorn-mint	FT/CE/1B (2-3-2)	List A	Chaparral, coastal scrub, valley & foothill grassland, vernal pools, endemic to active vertisol clay soils of mesas & valleys, usu on clay lenses within grassland or chaparral communities, 10-935 m.	Low: site lacks clay soils which occur as open clay lenses.
<i>Astragalus oocarpus</i> San Diego Milk-vetch	FSC/None/1B (3-2-3)	List A	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, meadows; endemic to SD Co.; esp. in openings in chaparral or gravelly flats & slopes in thin oak woodland, 305-1500m	Low: site is at low end of elevation range and does not contain proper soil structure.
<i>Baccharis vanessae</i> Encinitas Baccharis	FT/CE/1B (2-3-3)	List A	Chaparral, endemic to SD Co., esp on sandstone soils in steep, open, rocky areas w/chaparral associates, 60-720 m.	Low: site lacks acid igneous rock formation in which species occurs 5000 feet to the east at a about 600' higher elevation.
<i>Ceanothus cyaneus</i> Lakeside Ceanothus	FSC/None/1B (3-2-2)	Narrow Endemic, List A	Closed-cone conif forest, chaparral. In CA, known only fr RIV & SD Cos., 100-1515 m.	Low: not found during botanical survey. Site lacks acid igneous rock formation in which species occurs but which exists 1000' to the east.
<i>Clarkia delicata</i> Delicate Clarkia	None/None/2 (1-2-1)	List B	Cismontane woodland, chaparral, only in SD Co., 235-1,000 m.	Low: sp. requires shade. Site is open chaparral without woodland.
<i>Cupressus forbesii</i> Tecate Cypress	FSC/None/1B (3-3-2)	List A	Closed-cone conif forest, chaparral, esp. on north-facing slopes, groves oft assoc w/chaparral, 250-1500 m.	Low: site is not near source populations on Tecate Pk, Otay and Guatay Mtns. Not found on botanical survey.
<i>Dudleya variegata</i> Variegated Dudleya	FT/SE/1B(3-3-2)	Narrow Endemic, List A	Chaparral, coastal scrub, cismontane woodland, valley & foothill grassland, vernal pools. In CA, known only fr SD Co. Rocky or clay soils, vernal pool margins, 3-550 m.	Low: site lacks clay soils and is above highest-known location. Nearest site is 2 miles to the southwest.
<i>Ericarmona palmeri</i> ssp. <i>palmeri</i> Palmer's Goldenbush	None/None/1B (3-2-1)	Narrow Endemic, List B	Coastal scrub, chaparral, granitic soils, steep hillsides, mesic areas; 30-600 m.	Low: seasonally moist sites and slopes are preferred. Site lacks these criteria.
<i>Eriogonum foliosum</i> Leafy Buckwheat	None/None/1B (3-2-2)	List A	Chaparral, lower montane conif forest, pinyon & juniper woodland/sandy, 1200-2200 m.	Low: nearest known location is well to east and higher elevation.
<i>Erodium macrophyllum</i> var. <i>macrophyllum</i> ( <i>California macrophylla</i> ) Round-leaved Filaree	None/None/2 (2-3-1)	List B	Cismontane woodland, valley & foothill grassland. Clay soils, 15-1200 m.	Low: site lacks gypsophilous clay soils.
<i>Horkelia truncata</i> Ramona Horkelia	None/None/1B (3-1-2)	List A	Chaparral, cismontane wdland, esp in habitats mixed chaparral, vernal streams, & disturbed areas near roads, clay soil, 400-1300 m.	Low: not observed in burned open chaparral habitat.
<i>Lepidium virginicum</i> var. <i>robinsonii</i> Robinson's Pepper-grass	None/None/1B (3-2-2)	List A	Chaparral, coastal scrub ( <u>relatively undisturbed</u> ). Dry soils, shrubland, 1-945 m.	Low: Site too disturbed
<i>Monardella hypoleuca</i> ssp. <i>lanata</i> Felt-leaved Monardella	None/None/1B (2-2-2)	List A	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, esp. in understory in mixed chaparral, chamise chaparral & so, oak woodland; esp. sandy soil, 300-1190 m.	Low: site lacks rocky exposures.
<i>Mulla clevelandii</i> San Diego Goldenstar	FSC/None/1B (2-2-2)	List A	Chaparral, coastal scrub, valley & foothill grassland, vernal pools, esp. mesa grasslands, scrub edges; under 50 m.	Low: site is well above known elevations and lacks open clay soil lenses.
<i>Nolina interrata</i> Dehesa Nolina	FT/CE/1B (3-3-2)	Narrow Endemic, List A	Chaparral, esp. on rocky hillsides or ravines in ultramafic soils (gabbro & peridotite), 185-855 m.	Low: site lacks gabbroic soil. Nearest site is 2 miles to the southwest.

## Appendix 3. Sensitive Plants reported from USGS 7.5' El Cajon and Alpine, California quadrangles

SPECIES NAME	STATUS Federal/State/CNPS	San Diego County Sensitive Species	HABITAT REQUIREMENTS	PROBABILITY OF OCCURRENCE
<i>Ribes canthariforme</i> Moreno Currant	FSC/None/1B (3-1-3)	List A	Chaparral, endemic to SD Co., esp among boulders in oak-manzanita thickets, shaded or part shaded sites, 340-1200 m.	Low: occurs 40 miles inland.
<i>Satureja chandleri</i> San Miguel Savory	None/None/4 (1-2-2)	List D	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, riparian woodland, valley & foothill grassland, esp gabbroic or metavolcanic substrate, 120-1005 m.	Low: but does occur on McGinty Mt. in same soil type.
<i>Senecio ganderi</i> Gander's Ragwort	FSC/CR/1B (3-2-3)	List A	Chaparral, esp. recently burned sites, gabbroic outcrops, 400-1200 m.	Low: Site lacks gabbroic soils
<i>Sibaropsis hammittii</i> Hammitt's Claycress	None/None/1B (3-2-3)	List A	Chaparral (openings), valley & foothill grassland/gabbroic-derived clays, 730-1065 m.	Low: site lacks open clay soil lenses.
<i>Tetracoccus dioicus</i> Parry's Tetracoccus	FSC/None/1B (3-2-2)	List A	Chaparral, coastal scrub, esp stony fine sandy decomposed gabbro soil, 165-1000 m.	Low: Site lacks gabbroic soils

## Appendix 4. Sensitive Animals reported from USGS 7.5' El Cajon and Alpine, California quadrangles

SPECIES NAME	STATUS Federal/State/CDFG	San Diego County Sensitive Species	HABITAT REQUIREMENTS	PROBABILITY OF OCCURRENCE
Quino Checkerspot Butterfly <i>Euphydryas editha quino</i>	FE/None/None	Narrow Endemic, Group 1	Sunny openings in chaparral & coastal sage shrublands in parts of RIV & SD Cos; esp on hills & mesas near coast, w/high densities of host plants <i>Plantago erecta</i> , <i>P. insularis</i> , <i>Orthocarpus purpurescens</i> .	Low: historic sighting several miles to south and east and this site has no host plants.
Hermes Copper <i>Hermelycaena hermes</i>	None/None/CSC	Group 1	Endemic to SD Co. Continuous stands of southern mixed chaparral/coastal sage scrub with both <u>mature</u> host plant <i>Rhamnus crocea</i> and primary nectaring plant <i>Eriogonum fasciculatum</i> in very close proximity. Species usually found along fairly open dirt roads/trails.	Low: Site too disturbed and no host plants on site.
Western Spadefoot <i>Spea hammondi</i>	None/None/CSC	Group 2	Grassland habitats, valley & foothill woodlands, requires vernal pools for breeding	Low: proper habitat does not exist on-site.
Arroyo Toad <i>Bufo californicus</i>	FE/None/CSC	Narrow Endemic, Group 1	Semi-arid regions near washes or intermittent streams, incl. valley-foothill & desert riparian, desert wash, etc., esp rivers w/sandy banks, willows, cottonwoods, sycamores w/loose, gravelly areas	Low: proper upland and aquatic habitat does not exist on-site.
Coast (San Diego) Horned Lizard <i>Phrynosoma coronatum</i> (blainvillii population)	None/None/CSC	Group 2	Coastal sage scrub, chaparral in arid and semi-arid climate, esp. friable, rocky, or shallow sandy soils	Low: ant colonies not noted.
Beidling's Orange-throated Whiptail <i>Aspidoscelis hyperythra beidlingi</i>	None/None/CSC	Group 2	Coastal scrub (low elev.), chaparral, valley & foothill hardwood, esp washes & sandy areas w/patches of brush & rocks	Low: Sandy loam soils on site are suboptimal for this species
Coastal Whiptail <i>Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri</i>	None/None/None	Group 2	Deserts & semiarid areas w. sparse vegetation & open areas, also in woodland & riparian areas, esp. where ground may be firm soil, sandy, or rocky	Low: Sandy loam soils on site are suboptimal for this species.
Coastal Rosy Boa <i>Channa trivirgata</i>	None/None/Protected	Group 2	Desert & chaparral from coast to Mojave & Colorado Deserts, esp in moderate to dense vegetation & rocky cover; habitats w/mix of brushy cover & rocky soil like coastal canyons & hillsides, desert canyons, washes & mountains	Low: current stage of vegetation cover is inadequate.
Coast Patch-nosed Snake <i>Salvadora hexalepis virgulata</i>	None/None/CSC	Group 2	Brushy or shrubby vegetation in coastal so. CA, esp. uses small mammal burrows for refuge	Low: current stage of vegetation cover is inadequate. Also no rodent burrows noted.
Northern Red Diamond Rattlesnake <i>Crotalus [exsul] ruber ruber</i>	None/None/CSC	Group 2	Chaparral, woodland, grassland & desert areas, esp in rocky areas & dense vegetation	Moderate: generally appropriate habitat found on site; <u>species not identified in several field visits.</u>
Cooper's Hawk <i>Accipiter cooperi</i>	None/None/CSC	Group 1	Woodland, usu. open, interrupted or marginal type, nests mainly in riparian areas	Low: proper habitat does not exist on-site.
Least Bell's Vireo <i>Vireo bellii pusillus</i>	FE, BCC/CE/None	Narrow Endemic, Group 1	Summer resident in So. Cal., inhabits low riparian growth in vic. of water or in dry river bottoms, below 2000 ft, usu. willow, baccharis, mesquite	Low: proper habitat does not exist on-site.
Coastal California Gnatcatcher <i>Poliopitila californica californica</i>	FT/None/CSC	Group 1	Coastal sage scrub, below 2,500 ft in So. Cal., esp low coastal scrub in arid washes, mesas & slopes	Low: inadequate amount of proper habitat on-site. Habitat assumed to be in transition stage to chaparral.
Southern California Rufous-crowned Sparrow <i>Aimophila ruficeps canescens</i>	None/None/CSC	Group 1	Coastal sage scrub, sparse chaparral, esp rel. steep, often rocky hillsides w/grass & forb patches	Moderate: appropriate habitat that exists on site is not optimal because it lacks sage scrub and grassland elements.

## Appendix 4. Sensitive Animals reported from USGS 7.5' El Cajon and Alpine, California quadrangles

SPECIES NAME	STATUS Federal/State/CDFG	San Diego County Sensitive Species	HABITAT REQUIREMENTS	PROBABILITY OF OCCURRENCE
Pocketed Free-tailed Bat <i>Nyctinomops femorosaccus</i>	None/None/CSC	Group 2	Small colonies in rocky cliffs or crevices. Found in desert scrub, desert riparian, scrublands, pinyon-juniper woodlands. Rocky areas with high cliffs.	Low: generally uses desert habitats. No roosting habitat on-site.
American Badger <i>Taxidea taxus</i>	None/None/CSC	Group 2	Uncommon resident throughout the state. Abundant in drier open shrub, forest, & herbaceous habitats with friable soils.	Low: soils on-site not particularly friable and surrounding development would have displaced species.
Mountain Lion <i>Felis (Puma) concolor</i>	None/None/None	Group 2	Widespread, uncommon resident ranging from sea level to alpine meadows. Variety of habitats except xeric regions of the deserts.	Low: site is isolated from unburned habitat but may occasionally transit area.

## DEFINITIONS OF SENSITIVITY RATINGS

### California Native Plant Society (CNPS)

#### List Status

List 1A	Plants presumed extinct in California. CEQA consideration mandatory
List 1B	Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere. CEQA consideration mandatory
List 2	Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California, but more common elsewhere. CEQA consideration mandatory
List 3	Plants about which we need more information - a review list. CEQA consideration strongly recommended
List 4	Plants of limited distribution - a watch list. CEQA consideration strongly recommended

### CNPS R-E-D Code

#### R (Rarity)

1	Rare, but found in sufficient numbers and distributed widely enough that the potential for extinction is low at this
2	Distributed in a limited number of occurrences, occasionally more if each occurrence is small
3	Distributed in one to several highly restricted occurrences, or present in such small numbers that it is seldom

#### E (Endangerment)

1	Not endangered
2	Endangered in a portion of its range
3	Endangered throughout its range

#### D (Distribution)

1	More or less widespread outside California
2	Rare outside California
3	Endemic to California

### State-Listed/Designated Plants and Animals

CE	State-listed, endangered
CT	State-listed, threatened
CR	State-listed, rare
CC	Candidate for State listing
CSC	California Special Concern Species (Department of Fish and Game)
CFP	California Fully Protected

### Federally-Listed/Designated Plants and Animals

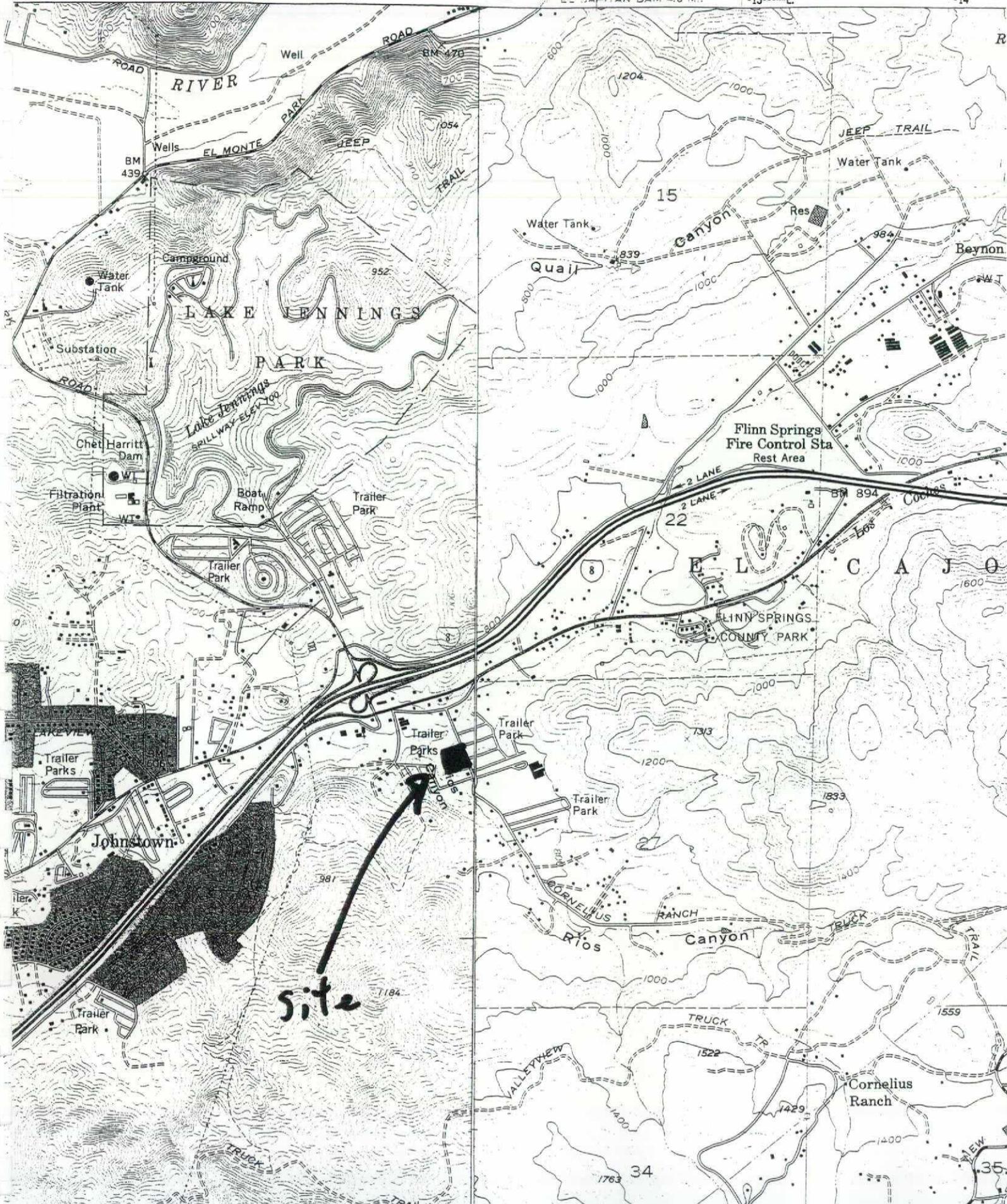
FE	Federally-listed, endangered
FT	Federally-listed, threatened
PE	Federally-proposed, endangered
PT	Federally-proposed, threatened
FC	Candidate for Federal listing
BCC	Birds of Conservation Concern
C2*	Threat and/or distribution data are insufficient to support federal listing, but the plant is presumed extinct
C3c	Too widespread and/or not threatened
USFWS 2002 List	U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service Birds of Conservation Concern 2002 List within jurisdiction of Carlsbad FWO "...to identify species, subspecies, and populations of migratory and non-migratory birds in need of additional conservation actions."

### National Audubon Society WatchList

Red List	Identified by BirdLife International as Threatened or Near-threatened at the global level and by Partners in Flight as Extremely High Priority at the national level
Yellow List	Identified by Partners in Flight at the national level as of Moderately High Priority or Moderate Priority

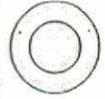
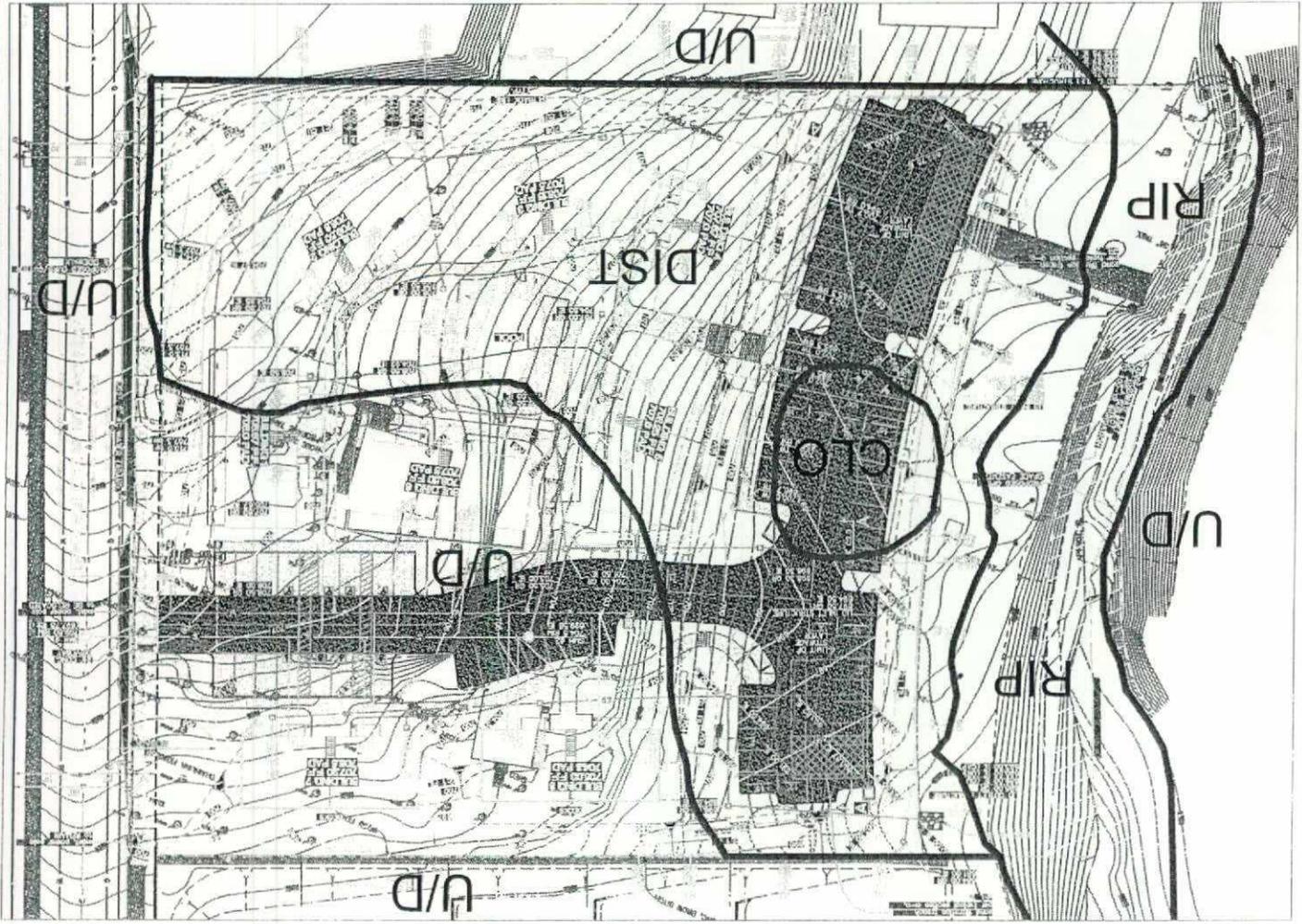
CALIFORNIA—SAN DIEGO CO. 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC), UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

1000 FEET 910 511 116°52'30" EL CAPITAN DAM 4.6 MI. 513000m.E. 514





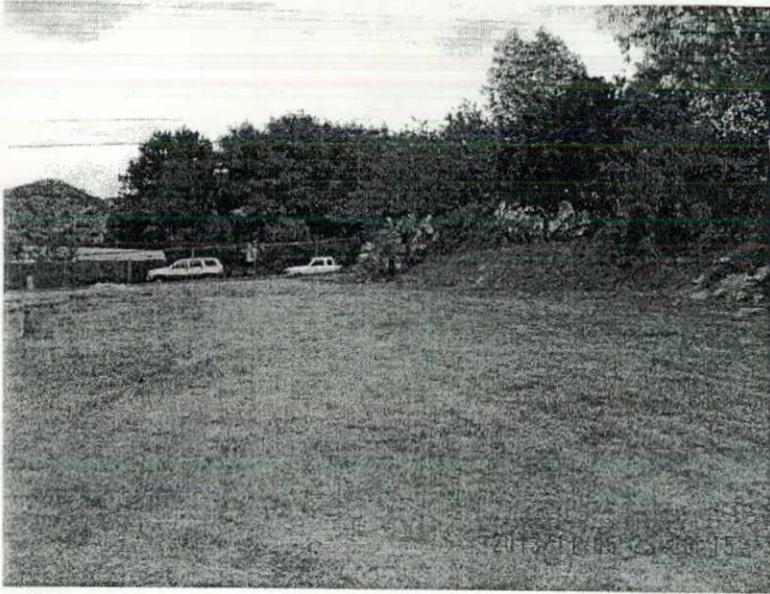
RIP - Riparian Channel  
CLO - Coast Live Oak  
U/D - Urban/  
Developed  
Dist - Disturbed



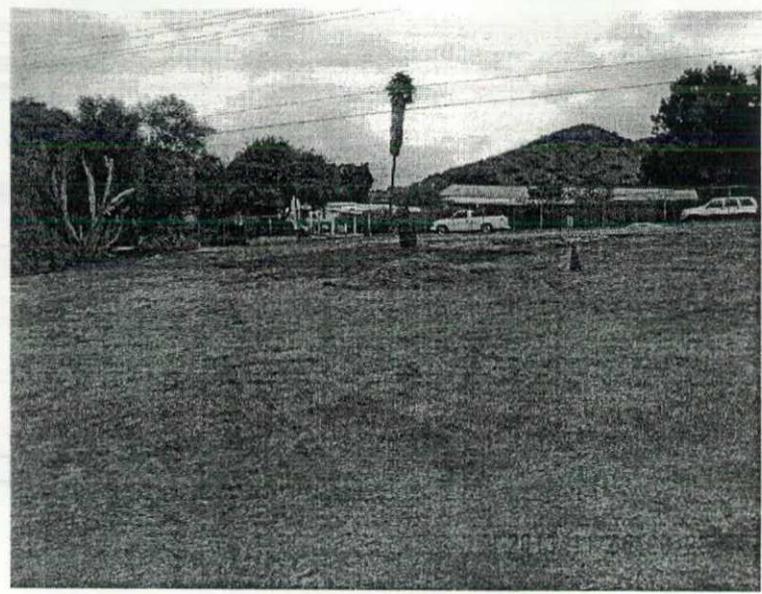
Circle 1/2" = 100' and 1/4" = 200'

SHIPPES-DYER ASSOCIATES 4346 CENTER DRIVE SUITE G LA MESA CA 91942-2910 (619) 897-8224 FAX (619) 450-2025

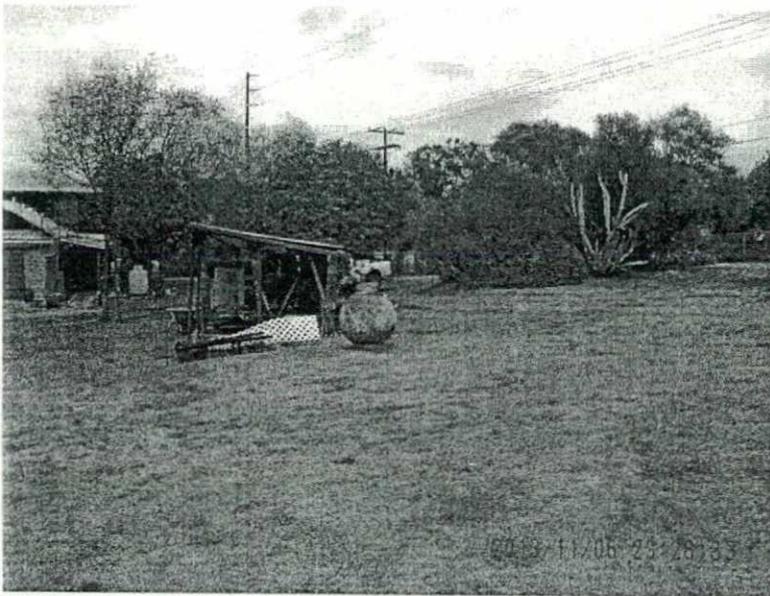




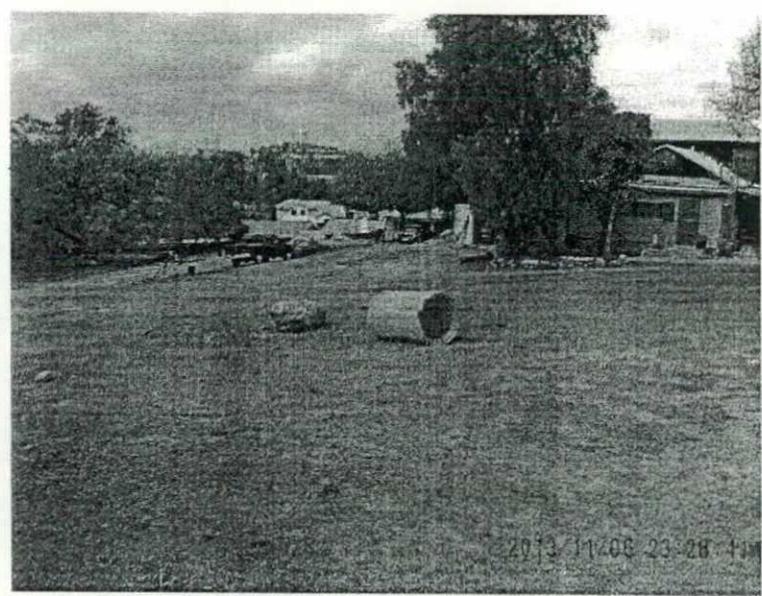
SE corner of site



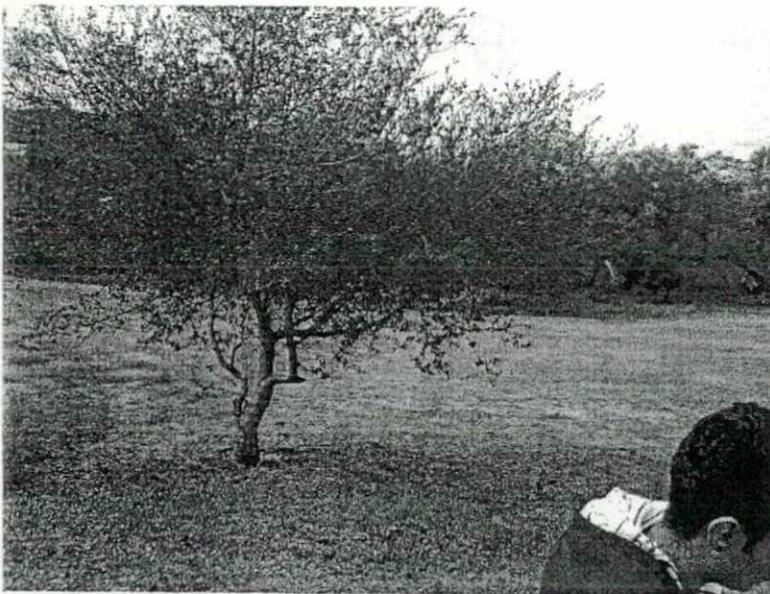
Eastern border of site



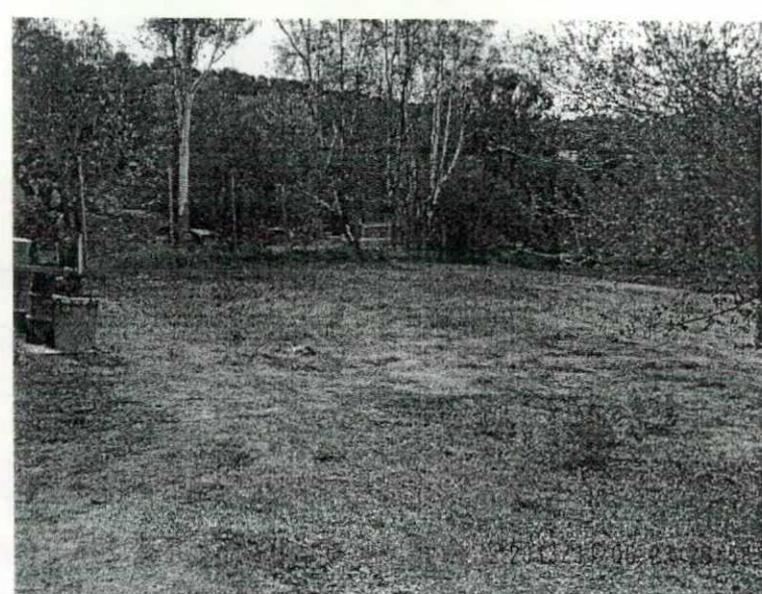
View N from SE area of site



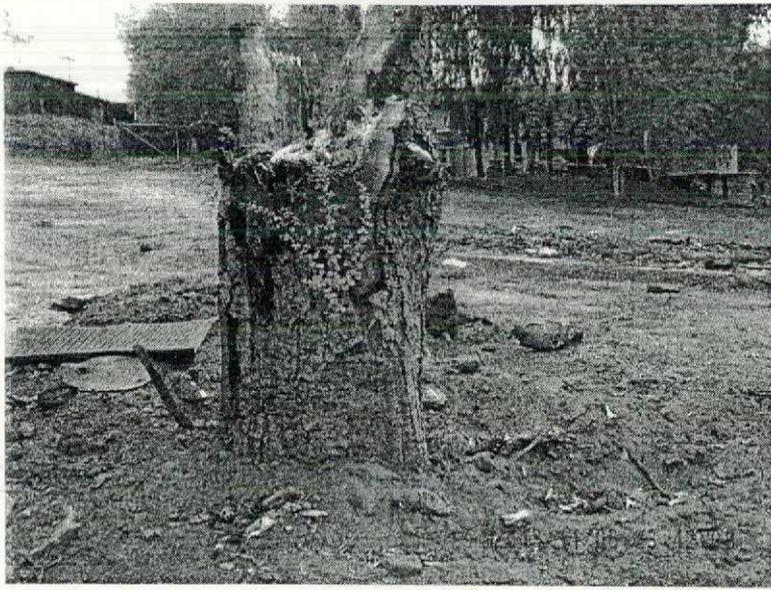
View NNW from SE area of site



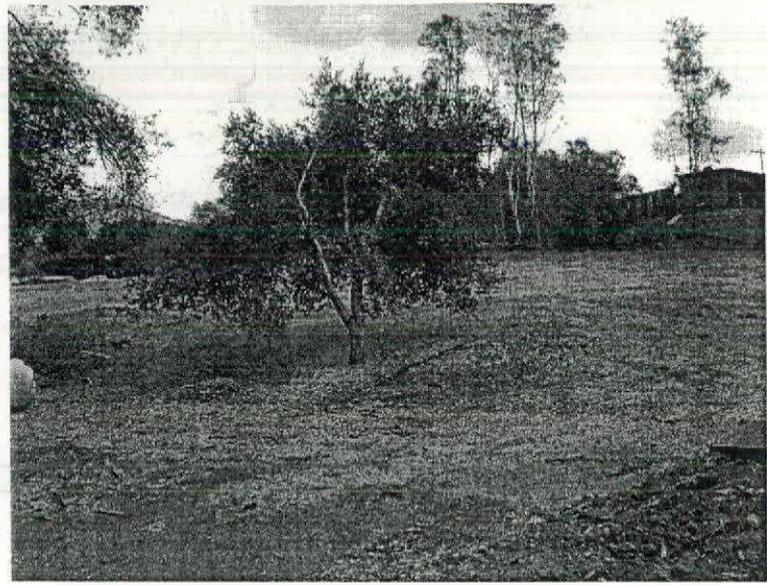
View to W from SE area of site



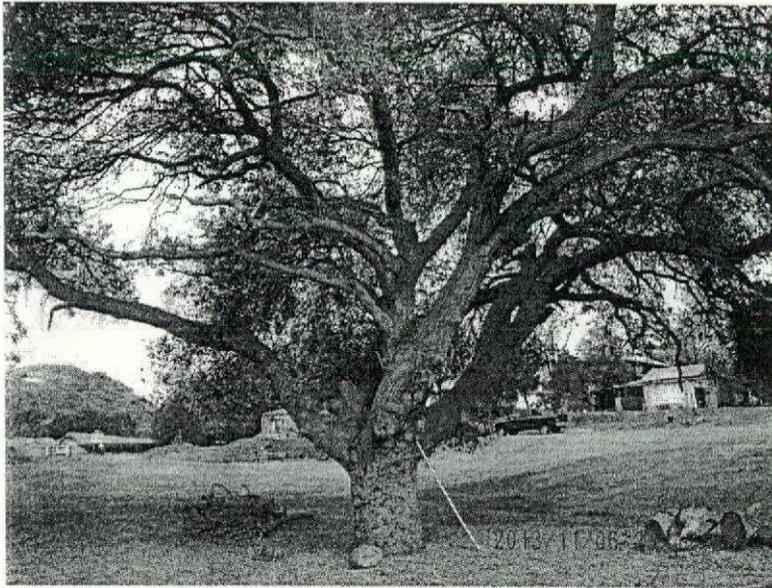
View of SW corner of site



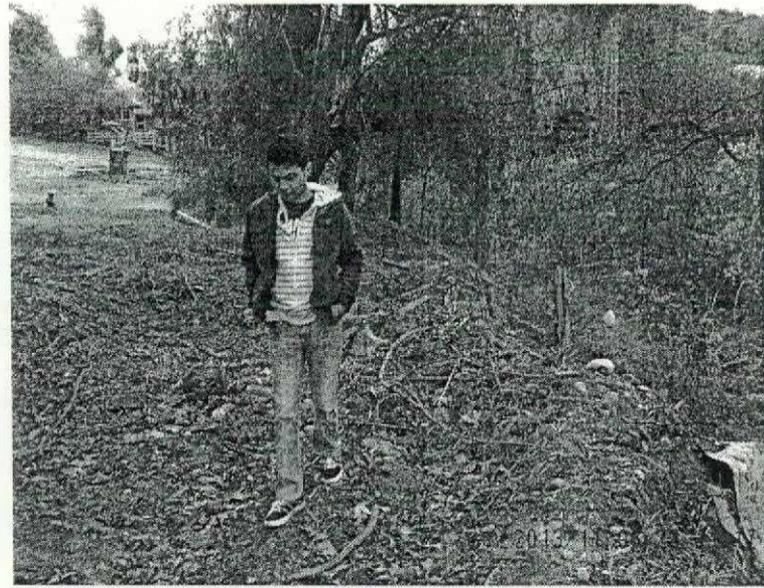
Remains of Live Oak at center of site.



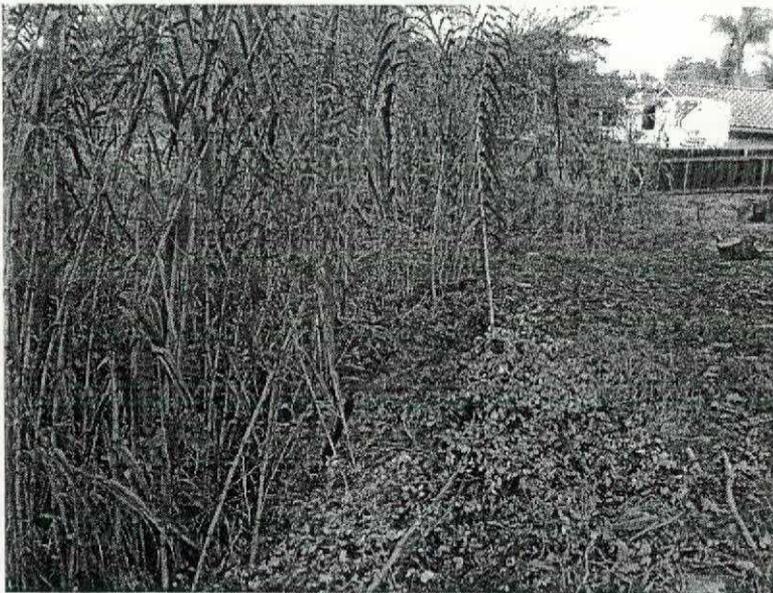
Small live oak in center of lower area.



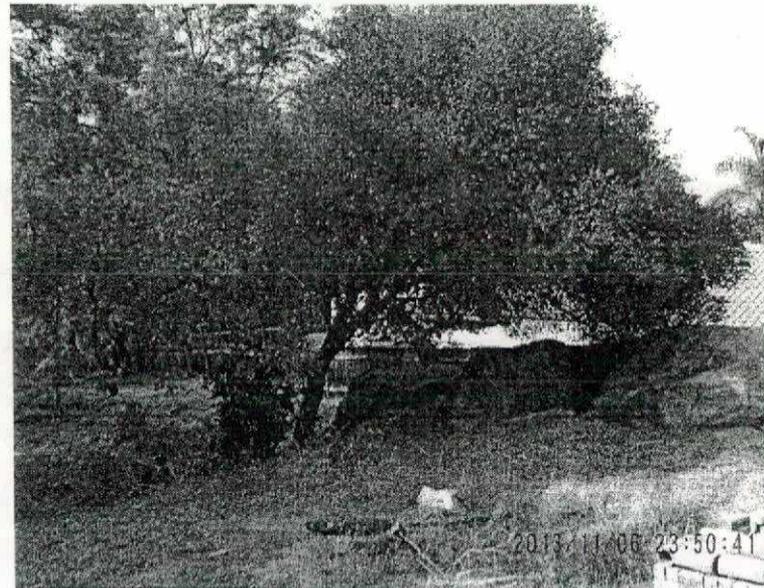
Sole remaining specimen Live Oak in lower area of site.



Fill along channel edge near downstream end.



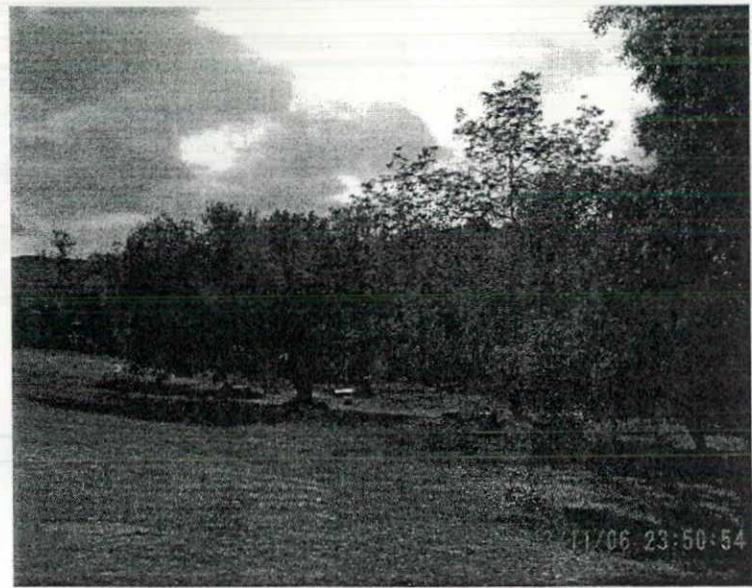
Giant Cane infestation at downstream end of channel



Rock out crops along northern boundary



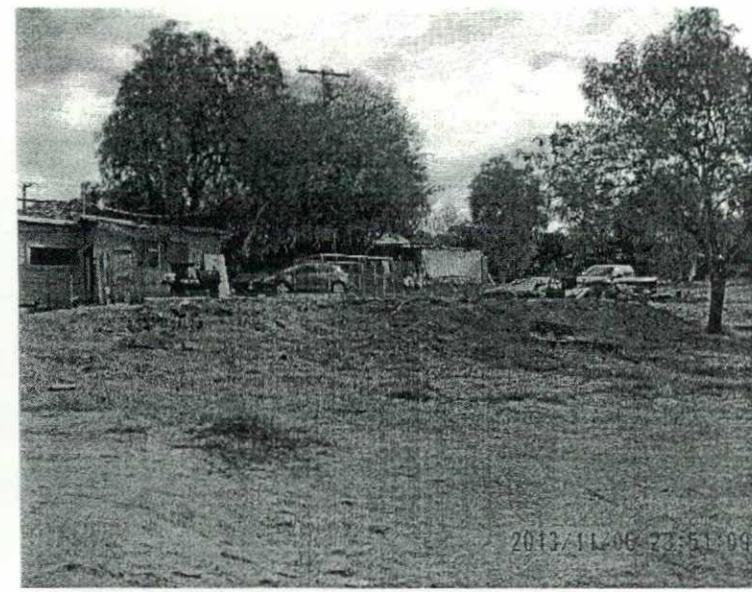
Live Oak dead from unknown cause after ca.150 years



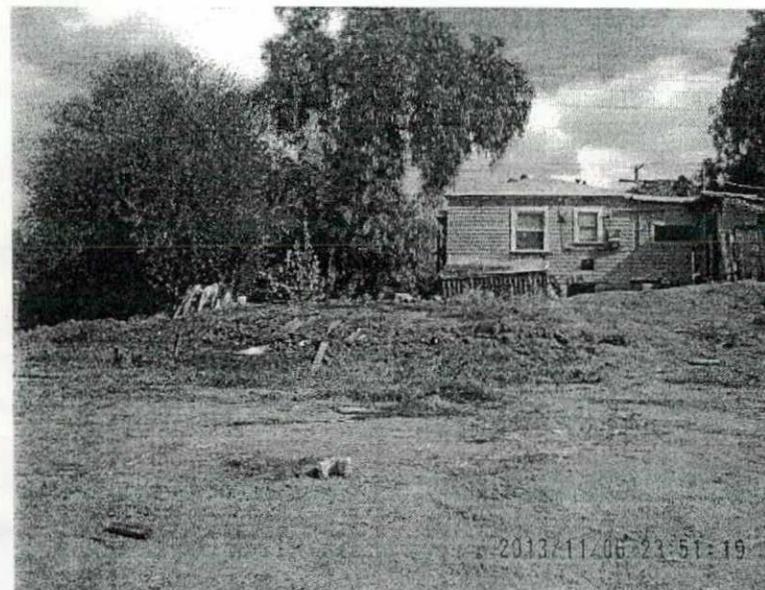
View to SW across lower portion of site.



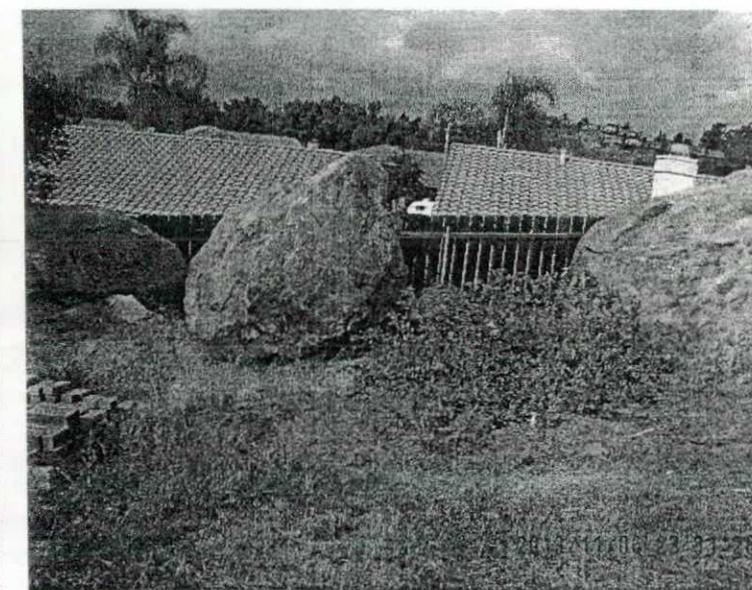
View to SE from NW area of site.



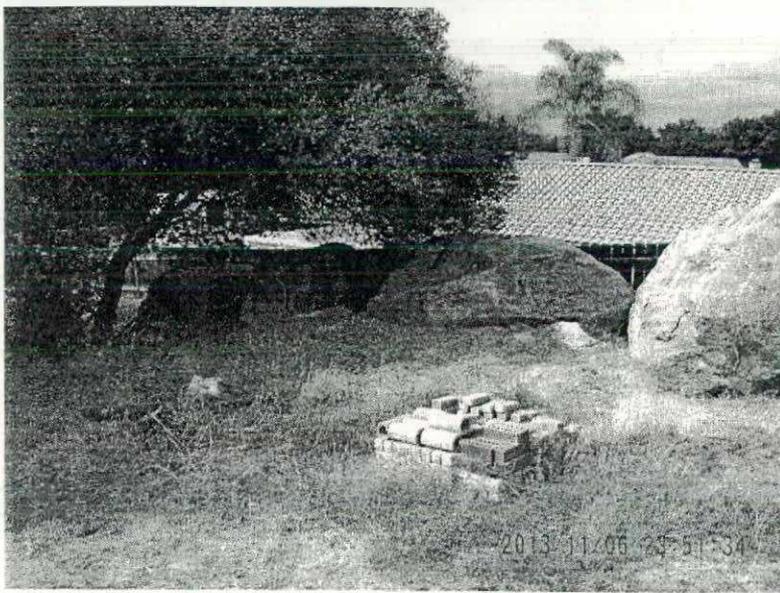
View of lower, western residential area.



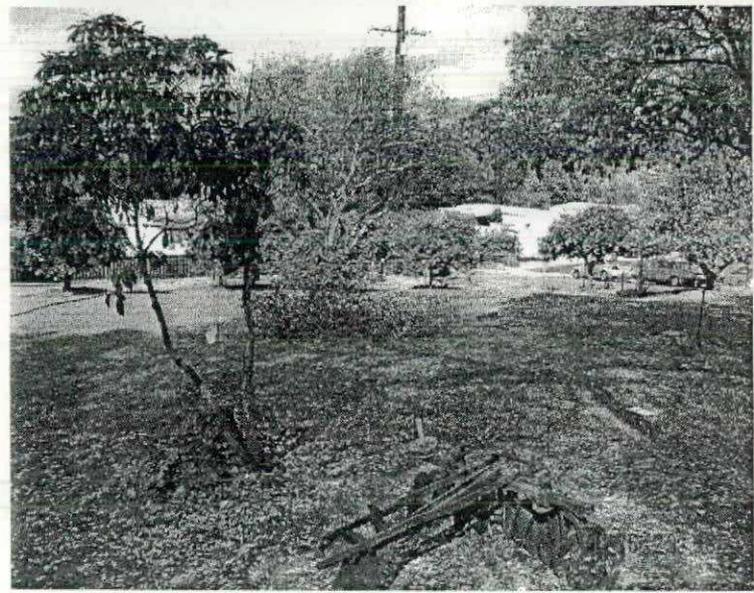
View to E from lower NW area of site.



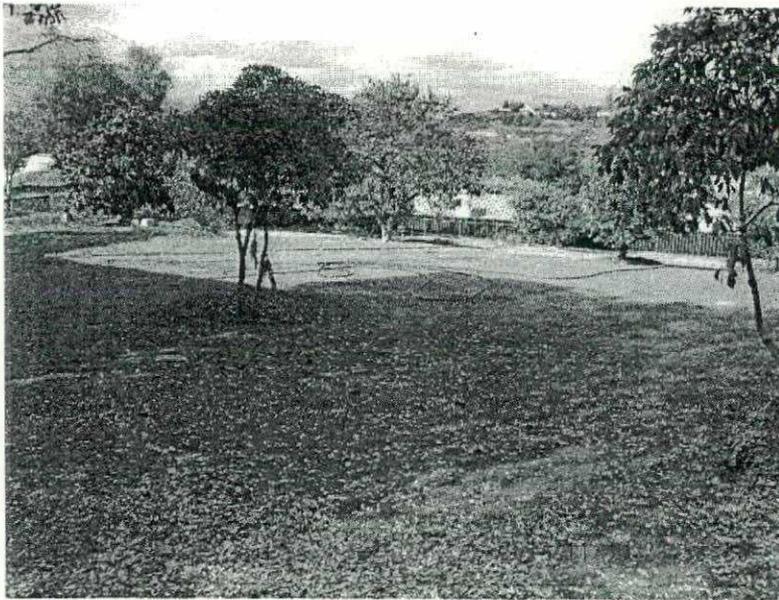
Closer view of rocks on site.



View along northern boundary of site.



Orchard at NE area of site.



View to NE of orchard area.