



**VISTA TOWERS – SANTA YSABEL/ STATE ROUTE 78
WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY
SANTA YSABEL, SAN DIEGO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

Project # 06-095; ER # 06-10-011

APNs: 248-020-10, 248-020-11 and 248-020-02

BIOLOGICAL LETTER REPORT

UTM (NAD 27): 11-S: 528,744mE; 3,662,444mN

Prepared for:
County of San Diego

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PSBS #U888

Revised 18 December 2007


R. Mitchel Beauchamp, M. Sc., President

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Summary

Pacific Southwest Biological Services, Inc., (Pacific Southwest) conducted a biological assessment on the site located at 28223 State Route (SR) 78, west of the community of Santa Ysabel in north-central San Diego County, California. The assessment was performed to identify biological resources and sensitive species that are present and would be impacted by development or preserved by conservation of portions of the site as biological open space.

The property is situated on undeveloped, grazed lands bordered by SR 78 to the north. An area of largely undeveloped land including watershed for the San Diego River is located to the south. The site has a single-family residence to the west, but otherwise is open pasture land.

The survey identified three vegetation types/communities within the study area: Disturbed Habitat, Non-native Grassland, and Open Engelmann Oak Woodland (EOW). An area of approximately 25,045 square feet of dirt road was mapped as Disturbed Habitat. The property does not include any jurisdictional wetlands. Aside from the Engelmann Oak trees, no narrow endemic plant species or sensitive animals were detected on the property during the survey.

Project implementation would impact approximately 16,954 square feet of EOW. Additionally, the road extension and preparation of the site for the equipment shelter would come within the 50-foot root sensitivity area of seven individual Engelmann Oak trees. Impacts to EOW and individual Engelmann Oaks is considered significant under CEQA but the recommended mitigation measures would reduce these effects to a less than significant level.

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 Game Code, significant impacts could occur to such species if unsupervised construction on the site takes place between 1 February and 31 August. If the proposed mitigation measure for preconstruction surveys (and protection of active nests) is made a condition of project approval, impacts to nesting migratory birds are deemed significant but mitigated to a less than significant level.

Introduction, Project Description, Location and Setting

Pacific Southwest, at the request of Mr. Robert MacLachlan, conducted a general biological assessment for the proposed Vista Towers Wireless Telecommunications Facility in central 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 impact

analysis of on-site impacts from the proposed project. This report provides the project applicant, Vista Towers, the County of San Diego, 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 agency review. This report was revised following input from a County of San Diego Department of Planning and Land Use letter dated 6 August 2007, and a subsequent letter dated October 24, 2004.

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' Santa Ysabel, California quadrangle to determine special-status species reported from the project vicinity. Pacific Southwest reviewed a recent aerial photograph (via Google Earth-2006) for potential drainage patterns and vegetation types. Also reviewed a soil survey map (Bowman 1973) of the project site and vicinity for soil types, including hydric soils. The underlying rock formation was determined from a geology map (Rogers 1965).

Biologists R. Mitchel Beauchamp and Geoffrey L. Rogers conducted the survey 27 December 2006 during the period 0920 to 1010 hours. During the survey the temperature was approximately 48°F, skies were overcast and winds from the northwest at 2-10 mph with occasionally higher gusts. 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 the one visit. Vegetation communities on the project site and immediately adjacent area were mapped, and lists of flora and fauna were compiled in the field.

The proposed project is a Major Use Permit for an unmanned telecommunications facility consisting of a 58-foot by 38-foot working area within a block wall enclosure, including: a Verizon equipment shelter and future carrier equipment shelters, proposed standby generator, H-frame for TELCO and 800A service with five meters, and a 50-foot "monobroadleaf" with mounted antenna arrays and microwave antennae. Also proposed is a six-foot wide utility easement extending approximately 200 feet to an existing power pole. An existing 12-foot wide easement (10-foot wide unimproved road) extends approximately 3,000 feet from SR 78 to the proposed lease area. Access will be provided through the existing unimproved private road connecting to SR 78. An existing 10-foot wide primitive road leads from the unimproved road up to the proposed equipment shelter area (it will have to be extended approximately 165 feet to the proposed equipment shelter location). Maintenance activity at the tower site is anticipated to involve one vehicle trip per month. There are no fire clearing requirements because the project does not propose any stand-alone equipment cabinets on the site. All cellular cabinets and equipment will be enclosed in a structure that meets the requirements of item 3 of FP3 (Fire Code Compliance for cellular facilities).

The project site is located west of the unincorporated community of Santa Ysabel, in the north-central mountain foothills of San Diego County, California (Figures 1 and 2). The map

location of the area surveyed is within unsectioned lands of the Santa Ysabel Land Grant, USGS 7.5' Santa Ysabel, California quadrangle (UTM [NAD 27]: 11-S: 528,744mE; 3,662,444mN). The site is accessed by a dirt road from the northwest and SR 78.

The proposed site is exposed to the west and near the summit of a small hill rising approximately 280 feet above SR 78. Elevation at the site is approximately 3,255 feet above mean sea level. Soils for the project area are mapped as Holland stony fine sandy loam on 5-30 percent slopes and Crouch rocky coarse sandy loam on 5-30 percent slopes (Bowman 1973). Geologic strata are mapped as Pre-Cenozoic granitic and metamorphic rocks (Rogers 1965).

Habitats/Vegetation Communities

The survey identified three vegetation/habitat types within the 100-foot wide study area surrounding the project site: Disturbed Habitat, Non-native Grassland, and Open Engelmann Oak Woodland (Figure 3). The vegetation/habitat types and square footage occurring within the project footprint are discussed below, with appropriate Holland (1986) element codes. Existing habitat areas are only given for Disturbed Habitat (which involves the existing dirt access road); since the other habitats are part of large areas within the same ownership, existing areas are not given for Open Engelmann Oak Woodland and Non-native Grassland.

Disturbed Habitat (#13000)

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. These areas are not analyzed for impact. The existing dirt access road from SR 78 and primitive road to the proposed equipment shelter site was mapped under this category.

Open Engelmann Oak Woodland (#71181)

The proposed project site (tower and support structure foot print plus a 100-foot radius surrounding) is dominated by Engelmann Oak (*Quercus engelmannii*), with Interior Coast Live Oak (*Quercus agrifolia* var. *oxyadenia*) occurring in very low numbers. Based on County direction, the boundary of the woodland is defined as 50 feet from the edge of the canopy. Understory vegetation was largely lacking due to prior cattle grazing, but includes a variety of non-native grassland species. This woodland exhibits an open structure with widely-spaced trees and grassland elements in the understory. Seedling development is limited by persistent grazing pressure of introduced livestock.

County vegetation mapping (J. Buegge, pers. comm.) indicates that approximately 29,078 acres of Engelmann Oak woodland exists in unincorporated San Diego County, including about 13,640 acres of open woodland, 14,013 acres of dense woodland and an additional 1,425 acres of woodland not classified as to density.

Non-native Grassland (#42200)

The 10-foot wide existing dirt road approaching the proposed project site crosses Non-native Grassland before turning upslope into Open Engelmann Oak Woodland. The open field habitat along most of the present access road has been heavily grazed. The native components are largely scattered buckwheat (*Eriogonum gracile*, *E. elongatum* and *E. fasciculatum*). Non-native grasses include Slender Wild Oat (*Avena barbata*), Ripgut Grass (*Bromus diandrus*), Red

Brome (*Bromus madritensis* ssp. *Rubens*), Cheat Grass (*Bromus tectorum*), Hare Barley (*Hordeum murinum* ssp. *leporinum*), and Foxtail Fescue (*Vulpia myuros* var. *hirsuta*). *Clarkia* (*Clarkia purpurea*) was evident from its dried remains from the prior spring. The area of the Open Engelmann Oak Woodland is dominated by Non-native Grassland in areas other than tree canopies. San Diego County contains about 147,200 acres of grasslands, including native grasslands dominated by native bunch grasses (and other species) and non-native grasslands dominated by European grasses (dplumscp.sdcounty.ca.gov/speciesinfo_6/handoutvegcomm4.pdf). Non-native grasslands comprise about 41% of all the San Diego County grasslands, while six native grassland types comprise the remaining 59% of the grasslands (J. Buegge, pers. comm.).

Special Status Species

The observed flora of the study area totals 25 plant species (Appendix 1). Of this total, 9 (36%) are non-native and indicate that the site retains a high level of ecological function in terms of native species.

The CNDDDB search revealed federal- or state-listed species known from the general project area. Appendix 3 lists these species, their conservation status, their typical habitat requirements, and potential for occurrence on the property. Aside from the Engelmann Oak trees, no sensitive plant species were detected during the survey or are expected to occur on the property.

Engelmann Oak

The Engelmann Oak trees about the project site are the only special status plant noticed during the survey. This species is on the County Sensitive Plant List D (plants of limited distribution and are uncommon, but not presently rare or endangered). Several trees on the slope within 100 feet of the access road are exemplary in size and symmetry. Along the access road, the canopy does not appear to extend to such an extent that pruning would be required for the passage of equipment anticipated for this project.

Eight animal species were detected within the study area during the survey (Appendix 2): six bird species and two mammal species. The birds were seen or heard while mammals were detected by scat and other sign. All of the species detected within the study area are considered common and widespread in the foothills of San Diego County.

The CNDDDB search revealed federal- or state-listed animal species known from the from the Santa Ysabel quadrangle 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. The site does not contain any special status species, although the native trees and shrubs could serve as nesting sites for birds protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and California Fish and Game Code.

Quino Checkerspot Butterfly

The Quino Checkerspot Butterfly (*Euphydryas editha quino*) (Quino) is a federally-listed Endangered species that occurs historically in the coast ranges of San Diego, Orange, and Riverside counties, and northern Baja California, Mexico. Locations in San Diego County where

the species has been detected are concentrated in the southwestern part of the county between Marron Valley and Rancho San Diego; however, a few records come from Campo, the Jacumba area and Oak Grove and adjacent areas in Riverside County. In Riverside County, records are concentrated between Temecula, Perris, and Aguanga. There are no historic or current records for the Quino in central San Diego County, east of SR 67 (except for northwest of San Vicente Reservoir), or otherwise east of U.S Interstate Highway 15, north of SR 78. They appear absent from Escondido, Ramona, Santa Ysabel, Julian or Warner Hot Springs.

The species' eggs are laid on primarily plantain (*Plantago erecta* and *P. patagonica*). Additional plant species used include Purple Owl's-clover (*Castilleja exerta*) and White Snapdragon (*Antirrhinum coulterianum*). Plant species growing on clay soils are preferred for foraging.

It is the professional opinion of the biological consultant that the site is not suitable for the Quino Checkerspot. There were no clay soils observed on the site. While the assessment was conducted in winter, it is unlikely that host plants are present in large number on the site; additionally, the site has been heavily grazed historically and such plants would not have time to establish themselves. Although a potential host plant, *P. patagonica*, is known to occur in the Warner Valley, it apparently has not been collected in the Santa Ysabel-Ramona Area. There are no records of Quino for the site and surrounding area, although it is within an area designated as Critical Habitat for the species. The site was found to be composed entirely of highly disturbed Non-native Grassland and Open Engelmann Oak Woodland with a few specimens of buckwheat (*Eriogonum* spp.) and weedy perennials.

The site does not contain any special status wildlife species, although the native trees and shrubs could serve as nesting sites for birds protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and California Fish and Game Code. Although the site contains openings in the Engelmann Oak woodland, the immediate project site vicinity does not contain large patches of open grassland used by numbers of raptors such as found between the community of Santa Ysabel and Warner Springs.

Jurisdictional Wetlands and Waterways

The site is on a small hill and does not contain any wetlands or jurisdictional waters.

Other Unique Biological Features/Resources

The proposed project lies within an area of Non-native Grassland within an Open Engelmann Oak Woodland. This oak woodland vegetation type has limited distribution in southern California but is locally common. Wildlife movement through the area would not be constrained by this project due to its small size and the anticipated infrequent maintenance activity.

An existing San Diego Gas and Electric easement road will be used to approach the site from the east. The use and associated improvements to the road are covered under that agency's region-wide Habitat Conservation Plan.

Significance of Project Impacts and Proposed Mitigation

Vegetation Community/Habitat Impacts

Table 1 summarizes the impacts to the vegetation communities from the proposed project (see also Figure 3).

Table 1. Summary of Existing Vegetation Types and Potential Impacts within Project Footprint (sf=square feet; ac=acres)

Vegetation Type	Existing	Directly Impacted
Disturbed Habitat	25,045 sf (existing access and primitive road)	N.A. – Maintenance activity once/month post-construction.
Non-native Grassland	N.A.	None
Open Engelmann Oak Woodland	N.A.	16,954 sf [0.39 ac] (includes existing road, proposed road extension, and facility)
Total	--	16,954 sf [0.39 ac]

Jurisdictional Wetlands and Waterways: The site does not contain any jurisdictional wetlands or waterways or other unique biological features or resources that would be impacted by implementation of the project.

Non-native Grassland: Because the project is not going to expand the existing dirt track that leads to the tower site, implementation of the project would result in no direct impact to Non-native Grassland habitat. There may be minor impacts of a limited time duration to the Non-native Grasslands adjacent to the dirt access road because the project proponent intends to blade the road within its existing width, to reduce existing ruts. Since the road will be used only once per month, the preparation and use of the road would have limited indirect effects with little or no edge effects, decline in availability of a key biological resource, habitat fragmentation, changes in ecosystem or watershed integrity, or change in identifiable species population density. The project would not result in the loss of functional foraging habitat for raptors nor will it interfere substantially with the movement of native resident or migratory wildlife corridors nor impede the use of native wildlife corridors. Therefore, impacts resulting from project implementation to Non-native Grassland are considered less than significant under CEQA, and would not require mitigation measures.

Open Engelmann Oak Woodland: Open Engelmann Oak Woodland (EOW) is considered biologically important because of its limited regional distribution and potentially high wildlife value, but is locally common in the inland foothills of San Diego County. San Diego County defines oak woodland habitats from the edge of the canopy with an additional 50-foot buffer in order to protect the sensitive root system. Engelmann Oak Woodland does not necessarily support other special status species of plants or animals, but does supply habitat diversity for a wide-range of wildlife species that could use any woodland for cover and foraging functions. The special status of Engelmann Oaks is discussed below, under Special Status Plant Species.

The existing primitive road to be used by the project does not presently connect with the proposed telecommunication facility site. A 165-foot dirt road extension (covering approximately 1,650 square feet) is proposed to connect the south end of the existing road to the telecommunication facility site. As currently designed, the road, road extension, and equipment shelter would impact approximately 16,954 square feet (0.39 acre) and would be placed closer than 50 feet to seven individual Engelmann Oak trees.

The County considers EOW a sensitive Natural Community (see Section 4.2 of the County Biological Resources Significance Guidelines [2006]), with a 3:1 mitigation ratio required for impacts. Engelmann Oak Woodland does not have a recognized significant wildlife movement, corridor or nursery site function. It falls under the definition of Native Vegetation and can probably be classified as “Sensitive Habitat Lands” (“...is critical to the proper functioning of a balanced natural ecosystem...”) under the County RPO. RPO prohibits activities or uses except “...when all feasible measures necessary to protect and preserve the sensitive habitat lands are required as a condition of permit approval and where mitigation provides an equal or greater benefit to the affected species”.

Thus, project implementation would result in impacts to 0.39 ac of Open Engelmann Oak Woodland, which would be considered a significant impact under CEQA because of the prohibition of these impacts without adequate mitigation under the County RPO.

Mitigation Measure

BIOMIT 1: Engelmann Oak Woodland

The project should be conditioned to require mitigation for impacts to 16,954 square feet of Engelmann Oak Woodland via acquisition of land and/or credits in a County of San Diego-approved mitigation bank at a mitigation ratio of 3:1 (approximately 50,862 square feet or 1.17 acres).

Conclusion: Significant impacts to Engelmann Oak Woodland would be mitigated to a less than significant level if the proposed mitigation measure BIOMIT-1 is made a condition of project approval and implemented prior to construction.

Special Status Plant Species

Engelmann Oaks are on the County Sensitive Plant List D. The project is designed to avoid removal or modification of individual Engelmann Oaks. It is anticipated that some soil compaction over the roots of oak trees extending under the road will occur. Impacts to individual Engelmann Oak trees from using the existing road will be limited to minimal soil compaction along the existing road from grading to remove ruts. No trees will be removed or undergo any crown modification. The project would however, construct the 165-foot road extension and equipment enclosure within 50 feet of the drip line of seven individual Engelmann Oaks. All ground disturbance within 50 feet of Engelmann Oaks is considered a potentially significant impact to the oaks under the County CEQA Significance Guidelines. This impact is potentially significant under CEQA but would be mitigated to a less than significant level if BIOMIT 1 is made a condition of approval because it would require the project proponent to

acquire approximately 1.17 acres of Engelmann Oak Woodland in a County-approved mitigation bank.

BIOMIT 1: Engelmann Oak Mitigation

The project should be conditioned to require mitigation for impacts to 16,954 square feet of Engelmann Oak Woodland via acquisition of land and/or credits in a County of San Diego-approved mitigation bank at a mitigation ratio of 3:1 (approximately 50,862 square feet or 1.17 acres).

Conclusion: Significant impacts to the oak tree root zone would be mitigated to a less than significant level if the proposed mitigation measure BIOMIT-1 is made a condition of project approval and implemented during construction.

Special Status Animal Species

Project implementation would not impact any additional special status species, except for 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 Game Code. If clearing 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. Because of the very small size of the project, implementation is anticipated to have minimal or no impact on raptor foraging habitat, large mammal use, local and regional wildlife corridors, and native wildlife nursery sites. There would be no indirect impacts sufficient to require mitigation.

BIOMIT 2: Nesting Migratory Birds

The project should be conditioned to require a pre-construction survey of the proposed project area for nesting birds, if grubbing, clearing, or construction occurs from 1 February through 31 August. Any active nests located would be flagged and that area protected from impacts until the birds have fledged.

Conclusion: Significant impacts to migratory birds would be mitigated to a less than significant level if the proposed mitigation measure BIOMIT-2 is made a condition of project approval and implemented prior to construction.

Cumulative Impacts

Project implementation would result in impacts to 16,954 square feet of Open Engelmann Oak Woodland and indirectly impact seven individual Engelmann Oak trees, without likely causing their death.

Conclusion: If implemented under the recommended mitigation measures, the project would not result in significant cumulative impacts to Non-native Grassland, but would result in limited impacts to Open Engelmann Oak Woodland and Migratory Birds which would be mitigated to a less than significant level.

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Attachments

- Appendix 1. Floral Checklist
Appendix 2. Faunal Checklist
Appendix 3. Sensitive Plants Reported from the Santa Ysabel quadrangle
Appendix 4. Sensitive Animals Reported from the Santa Ysabel quadrangle



Figure 1. Project Vicinity, Vista Towers - Santa Ysabel/ State Route 78, Wireless Telecommunications Facility, APN #248-020-11-00, Santa Ysabel, San Diego County, CA - ★



Not to Scale

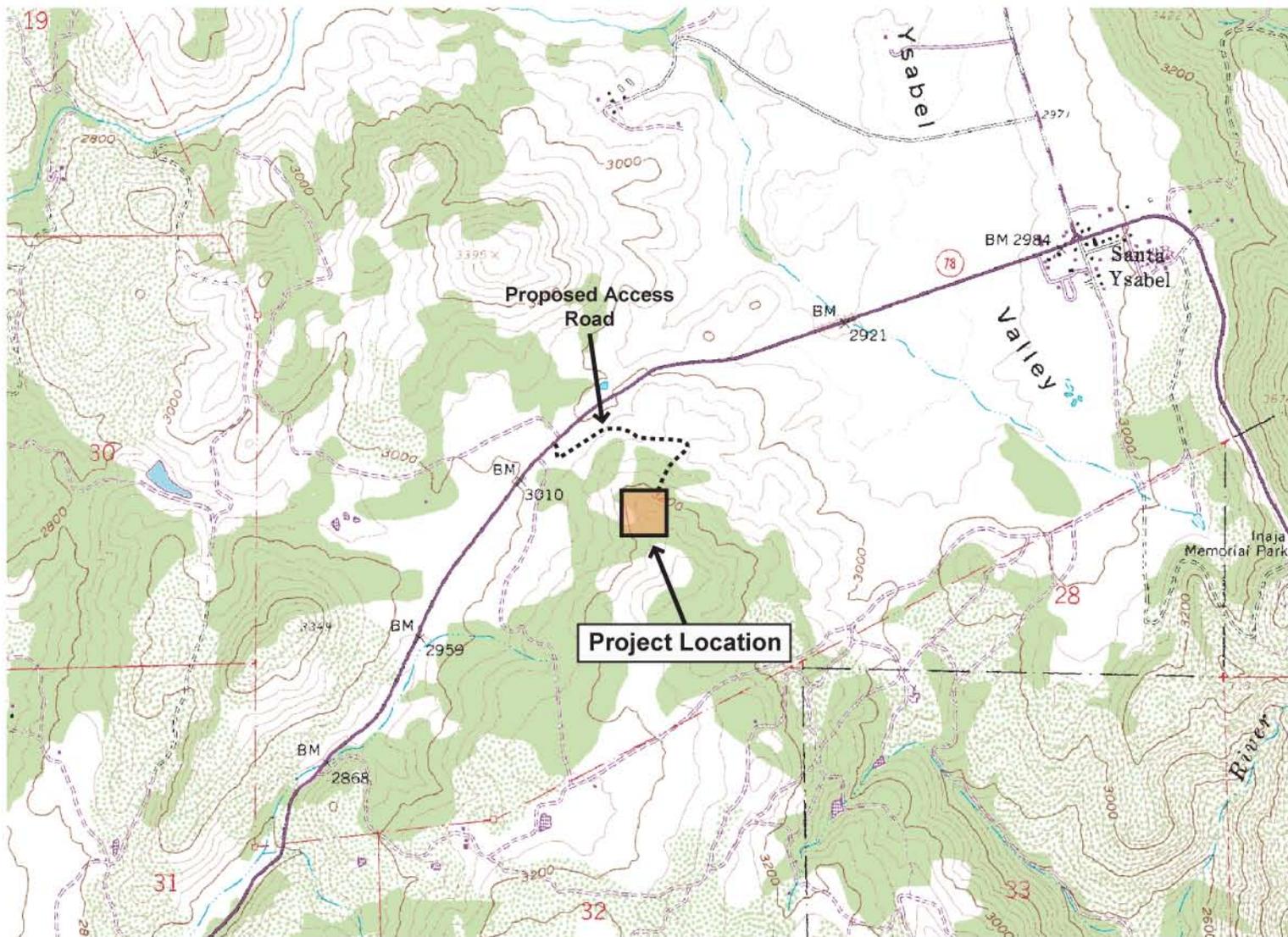


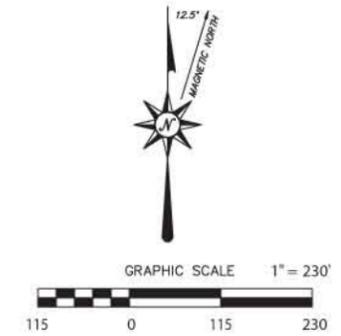
Figure 2. Project Location, Vista Towers - Santa Ysabel/ State Route 78, Wireless Telecommunications Facility, APN #248-020-11-00, Santa Ysabel, San Diego County USGS 7.5' Santa Ysabel, CA Quadrangle



1" = 2,000'

FIGURE 3. VISTA TOWERS – SANTA YSABEL / STATE ROUTE 78
 APN #248-020-11-00

ACCESS ROAD AND
 BORDERING VEGETATION



VEGETATION RESOURCES		
LEGEND		HOLLAND CODE
	DISTURBED HABITAT (DIRT ROAD)	11300
NNG	NON-NATIVE GRASSLAND	42200
OEOW	OPEN ENGELMANN OAK WOODLAND	71181
	PROPOSED ROAD EXTENSION	
	COUNTY REQUESTED 50' LINE FROM EDGE OF CANOPY	

APPENDIX 1. FLORAL CHECKLIST OF SPECIES OBSERVED AT THE VISTA TOWERS - SANTA YSABEL SITE**DICOTYLEDONS****Asteraceae** - Sunflower Family*Achillea millefolium* L. Yarrow*Ambrosia psilostachya* DC. Western Ragweed*Corethrogyne filaginifolia* (H. & A.) Nutt. var. *glomerata* Hall. Sand-aster*Grindelia camporum* Greene var. *camporum* Big Gumplant*Gutierrezia sarothrae* (Pursh) Britt. & Rusby Matchweed**Brassicaceae** - Mustard Family**Hirschfeldia incana* (L.) Lagr.-Fossat Short-pod Mustard**Sisymbrium altissimum* L. Tumble Mustard**Cactaceae** - Cactus Family*Opuntia phaeacantha* Engel. Interior Prickly-Pear**Caryophyllaceae** - Pink Family*Silene antirrhina* L. Snapdragon Catchfly**Euphorbiaceae** - Spurge Family*Eremocarpus setigerus* (Hook.) Benth. Doveweed**Fagaceae** - Oak Family*Quercus agrifolia* Nee var. *oxyadenia* (Torr.) J. Howell Interior Coast Live Oak*Quercus engelmannii* Greene Engelmann Oak**Geraniaceae** - Geranium Family**Erodium moschatum* (L.) L'Hér. White-stem Filaree**Lamiaceae** - Mint Family*Trichostema lanceolatum* Benth. Vinegar Weed**Malvaceae** - Mallow Family*Sidalcea malvaeflora* (DC.) Benth. ssp. *sparsifolia* C.L. Hitchc. Checkerbloom**Onagraceae** - Evening-Primrose Family*Clarkia purpurea* (Curtis) Nelson & Macbr. ssp. *viminea* (Dougl.) Lewis & Lewis Wine Cup Clarkia**Polygonaceae** - Buckwheat Family*Eriogonum elongatum* Benth. var. *elongatum* Tall Buckwheat*Eriogonum fasciculatum* Benth. var. *foliolosum* (Nutt.) S. Stokes Interior Flat-top Buckwheat*Eriogonum gracile* Benth. var. *gracile* Slender Buckwheat**MONOCOTYLEDONS****Poaceae** - Grass Family**Avena barbata* Link Slender Wild Oat**Bromus diandrus* Roth Ripgut Grass**Bromus madritensis* L. ssp. *rubens* (L.) Husnot Red Brome**Bromus tectorum* L. Cheat Grass**Hordeum murinum* ssp. *leporinum* (Link) Arcang. Hare Barley**Vulpia myuros* (L.) Gmelin var. *hirsuta* (Hackett) Asch & Graetoner Foxtail Fescue

* - Denotes non-native plant

APPENDIX 2. ANIMALS OBSERVED OR DETECTED AT THE VISTA TOWERS – SANTA YSABEL SITE

<u>COMMON NAME</u>	<u>SCIENTIFIC NAME</u>
BIRDS	
Accipitridae (Hawks, Eagles, Harriers, Kites) Red-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>
Corvidae (Jays, Crows, Ravens, Magpies) American Crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>
Alaudidae (Larks) Horned Lark	<i>Eremophila alpestris</i>
Paridae (Chickadees and Titmice) Oak Titmouse	<i>Baeolophus inornatus</i>
Regulidae (Kinglets) Ruby-crowned Kinglet	<i>Regulus calendula</i>
Fringillidae (Finches) House Finch	<i>Carpodacus mexicanus</i>
MAMMALS	
Canidae (Foxes, Wolves, and Relatives) Coyote	<i>Canis latrans</i>
Cervidae (Deer, Elk, and Relatives) Mule Deer	<i>Odocoileus hemionus</i>

Appendix 3. Sensitive Plants reported from USGS 7.5' Santa Ysabel, California quadrangle (CNDDDB)

SPECIES NAME	STATUS Federal/State/CNPS	San Diego County Sensitive Species	HABITAT REQUIREMENTS	PROBABILITY OF OCCURRENCE
<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: grazing has eliminated the potential of occurrence.
<i>Brodiaea orcuttii</i> Orcutt's Brodiaea	FSC/None/1B (1-3-2)	List A	Vernal pools, valley & foothill grassland, closed-cone conif forest, cismontane woodland, chaparral, meadows, esp mesic, clay habitats, occ serpentine, in vernal pools & small drainages, 30-1615 m.	Low: the lack of clay soils and drainage features precludes the presence of this perennial.
<i>Chorizanthe polygonoides</i> var. <i>longispina</i> Long-spined Spineflower	FSC/None/1B (2-2-2)	List A	Chaparral, coastal scrub, meadows valley & foothill grassland, esp. gabbroic clay, 30-1450 m.	Low: grazing has eliminated the potential of occurrence.
<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: grazing has eliminated the potential of occurrence.
<i>Delphinium hesperium</i> ssp. <i>cuyamaca</i> Cuyamaca Larkspur	None/Rare/1B (2-2-3)	List A	Lower montane conif forest, meadows, esp. on dried edge of grassy meadows, mesic sites, 1210-1630 m.	Low: the lack of clay soils precludes the presence of this perennial.
<i>Grindelia hirsutula</i> var. <i>halli</i> San Diego Gumplant	None/None/1B (2-2-3)	List A	Chaparral, lower montane conif forest, meadows & seeps, valley & foothill grassland, 185-1745 m.	Low: the <i>Grindelia</i> on site is the common <i>G. robusta</i> .
<i>Limnanthes gracilis</i> var. <i>parishii</i> Parish's Meadowfoam	None/CE/1B (2-2-3)	List A	Meadows & seeps, vernal pools. Known only fr RIV & SD Cos. Vernal moist areas & temporary seeps of highland meadows & plateaus, oft bordering lakes & streams, 600-1760 m.	Low: the lack of wet meadow habitat precludes the presence of this annual.
<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: the site lacks rocky habitat.
<i>Quercus engelmannii</i> Engelmann Oak	None/None/4 (1-2-2)	List D	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, riparian woodland, valley and foothill grassland; elevation 120-1300 m.	Present: conspicuous aspect of site.
<i>Rorippa gambelii</i> Gambel's Water Cress	FE/CT/1B (3-3-2)	List A	Marshes & swamps (freshwater or brackish)), 5-330 m. Known in CA fr/only 4 occurs.	Low: the lack of drainage features precludes the presence of this perennial.
<i>Scutellaria bolanderi</i> ssp. <i>austromontana</i> Southern Skullcap	None/None/1B (2-2-3)	List A	Chaparral, cismontane woodlands, lower montane conif forest, esp in gravelly soils on stream banks or in mesic sites in oak or pine woodland, 425-2000 m.	Low. Grazing has eliminated the potential of occurrence.
<i>Stemodia durantifolia</i> Purple Stemodia	None/None/2 (3-3-1)	List B	Sonoran desert scrub (often mesic, sandy), 180-300 m.	Low: the lack of drainage features precludes the presence of this perennial.

Appendix 3. Sensitive Plants reported from USGS 7.5' Santa Ysabel, California quadrangle (CNDDDB)

SPECIES NAME	STATUS Federal/State/CNPS	San Diego County Sensitive Species	HABITAT REQUIREMENTS	PROBABILITY OF OCCURRENCE
<i>Symphotrichum defoliatum</i> San Bernardino Aster	None/None/1B (2-2-3)	N.A.	Grows in grasslands and disturbed places to ~1372 m in San Gabriel, San Bernardino Mts, and possibly further south.	Low: grazing has eliminated the potential of occurrence.
<i>Thermopsis californica</i> var. <i>semota</i> Velvet False-lupine	FSC/None/1B (2-2-3)	List A	Cismontane woodland, lower montane conif forest, meadows & seeps, valley and foothill grassland, 1035-1870 m.	Low: grazing has eliminated the potential of occurrence.

Appendix 4. Sensitive Animals reported from USGS 7.5' Santa Ysabel, California quadrangle (CNDDDB)

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	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: site lacks adequate habitat and is outside known range of species.
Coast Range Newt <i>Taricha torosa torosa</i>	None/None/CSC	Group 2	Coastal drainages, esp in terrestrial habitats. Will migrate over 1 km to breed in ponds, reservoirs & slow-moving streams	Low: site lacks adequate habitat.
Arroyo Toad <i>Bufo californicus</i>	FE/None/CSC	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: site lacks adequate habitat.
Southwestern (Southern Pacific) Pond Turtle <i>Actinemys marmorata pallida</i>	None/None/CSC	Group 1	Permanent or nearly permanent water in many habitat types; below 6000 ft, esp w/basking sites	Low: site lacks adequate habitat.
Large-blotched Salamander <i>Ensatina escholtzii klauberi</i>	None/None/None	Group 1	Moist or flowing drainages in coastal and montane so CA	Low: site lacks adequate habitat.
Coast (San Diego) Horned Lizard <i>Phrynosoma coronatum</i> (<i>blainvillii</i> population)	None/None/CSC	Group 2	Coastal sage scrub, chaparral in arid and semi-arid climate, esp. friable, rocky, or shallow sandy soils	Low: although less active above ground during winter when field survey was performed. Presence of Harvester Ant (<i>Pogonomyrmex</i> spp.) undetermined.
San Diego Mountain Kingsnake <i>Lampropeltis zonata pulchra</i>	None/None/CSC	Group 2	Variety of habitats, incl. valley & foothill hardwood, conif, chaparral, riparian & wet meadows.	Low: may occur although site is relatively exposed and lacks damper conditions preferred by sp.
Prairie Falcon <i>Falco mexicanus</i> (nesting)	BCC/None/CSC	Group 1	Dry, open terrain, level or hilly, breeding sites on cliffs	Low: may forage on prey in adjoining grassland and may use oaks near site for perches.
Dulzura (California) Pocket Mouse <i>Chaetodipus californicus femoralis</i>	None/None/CSC	Group 2	Variety of habitats incl coastal scrub, chaparral, sagebrush, & grassland. Attracted to grassland-chaparral edges	Low: single record exists for location several miles to west.
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.	Moderate: could occur onsite or in vicinity; several records exist in project vicinity.

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 reported

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

VISTA TOWERS -SANTA YSABEL/ STATE ROUTE 78
SITE PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo #1. Existing primitive road and telephone line.



Photo #2. Engelman Oak Woodland.

VISTA TOWERS -SANTA YSABEL/ STATE ROUTE 78
SITE PHOTOGRAPHS

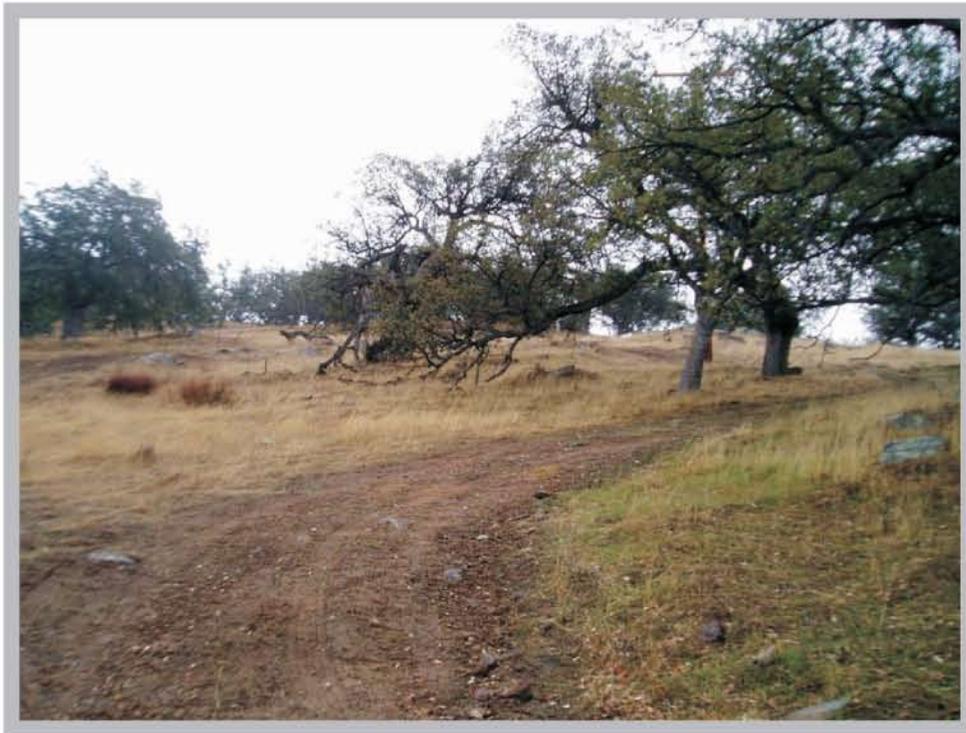


Photo #3. Existing road.



Photo #4. Proposed equipment shelter site.