



Michael Brandman Associates

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES • PLANNING • NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

February 10, 2008

Anne Wulftange
Sprint Nextel
5761 Copley Drive, Suite 100
San Diego, CA 92111

**Subject: Biological Resources Letter Report
Sprint Nextel Cellular Facility SD72XC043 (CA8463), Oak Knoll
County of San Diego Project Number MUP 06-047
Pauma Valley, Unincorporated San Diego County, California**

Dear Ms. Wulftange:

At the request of Sprint Nextel Communications and the County of San Diego (County), Michael Brandman Associates (MBA) has completed a Biological Resources Letter Report for Sprint/Nextel cellular facility SD72XC043 (CA8463, Oak Knoll), herein referred to as project site or site, located in an unincorporated portion of San Diego County. The proposed project is being processed by the County of San Diego as Major Use Permit P06-047.

The subject letter report addresses the findings of a literature review and reconnaissance-level survey conducted as part of a biological resources impact analysis of the project site and surrounding area. The report also details the potential for sensitive biological resources to occur on the site, and analyzes the proposed project against relevant local, state, and/or federal policies as they pertain to biological resources. Recommended mitigation measures according to these policies are provided herein.

This report has been prepared by a San Diego County-approved consultant, in accordance with the County of San Diego requirements and guidelines for conducting a biological resources study.

Bakersfield
661.334.2755

Fresno
559.497.0310

Irvine
714.508.4100

Palm Springs
760.322.8847

Sacramento
916.383.0944

San Bernardino
909.884.2255

San Ramon
925.830.2733

Santa Cruz
831.262.1731

www.brandman.com

mba@brandman.com

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this report, please contact Karl Osmundson or Scott Crawford at 714.508.4100.

Sincerely,



Karl L. Osmundson
Project Manager/Biologist
Michael Brandman Associates
220 Commerce, Suite 200
Irvine, CA 92602



Scott Crawford
Section Manager
Michael Brandman Associates
220 Commerce, Suite 200
Irvine, CA 92602

Enclosures: Exhibit 1: Regional Location Map
 Exhibit 2: Local Vicinity USGS Map
 Exhibit 3: Local Vicinity Aerial Map
 Exhibit 4: Soils Map
 Exhibit 5: Biological Resources Map
 Attachment A: Species Compendium
 Attachment B-1: Sensitive Plant Species Table
 Attachment B-2: Sensitive Wildlife Species Table
 Attachment C: Site Photographs

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SECTION 1: SUMMARY

A biological resources impact analysis was conducted for the proposed Sprint Nextel cellular facility, SD72XC043 (CA8463) Oak Knoll, as required by the County of San Diego Department of Planning and Land Use (County DPLU) in application for a Major Use Permit (MUP). The proposed project is a small, unmanned cellular facility located off South Grade Road near the community of Pauma Valley in unincorporated San Diego County, California.

As currently planned, the proposed project will result in approximately 0.05 acres of impacts to disturbed land, developed areas, and disturbed habitat within the understory of a coast live oak woodland community. The coast live oak woodland provides marginally suitable habitat for two sensitive wildlife species, Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperi*) and turkey vulture (*Cathartes aura*). The woodland also provides marginally suitable habitat for nesting bird species protected under California Fish and Game Code (CFG Code) and the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA).

Mitigation measures for the project include monitoring by a qualified arborist or biologist to ensure that incidental or indirect impacts to coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*) trees do not occur, as well as pre-construction surveys to determine the presence/absence of nesting birds on and in the immediate vicinity of the site.

SECTION 2: INTRODUCTION

The proposed project is currently in application for a Major Use Permit pursuant to § 6980 et al. of the County of San Diego's Zoning Ordinance and thus is required to provide a thorough analysis of all potential on and offsite impacts through preparation of a Californian Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) level biological resources assessment. Per the request of the San Diego County Department of Planning and Land Use, a biological resources assessment was prepared to meet the survey requirements for 32 sensitive plant and wildlife species and address any potential project impacts to native vegetation or other sensitive natural resources.

2.1 - Project Site Location

The project site is generally located north of State Route 76, south and west of State Route 79, and east of Interstate 15, in San Diego County, California (Exhibit 1). The site is depicted on the Boucher Hill, California United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic map (Exhibit 2). The site is specifically located at the Oak Knoll campground, east of the community of Pauma Valley, at 3178 South Grade Road (Exhibit 3). The site is located within the Draft North County Segment Subarea Plan of the County of San Diego Multiple Species Conservation Program; however, this Subarea Plan of the MSCP has not been approved and implemented to date.

2.2 - Project Description

Nextel of California (Sprint/Nextel) proposes to construct a small unmanned cellular telecommunications facility that will provide extended service to the local area. The proposed project is in application with the County DPLU as MUP 06-047. The proposed project generally includes the development of an antenna structure, equipment, and utility line trenching within an existing private campground (see Exhibit 5).

The proposed project specifically includes 15 panel antennas mounted at 50 feet onto a new 56-foot tall faux broadleaf tree, a new approximate 20-foot by 12-foot earth-tone aggregate above-ground equipment shelter with concrete pad and associated equipment, a new above-ground ice bridge to provide coaxial connection between the antennas and the equipment, and associated underground trenching for electrical and telecommunications (telco) utility lines. The faux broadleaf tree and equipment shelter will be enclosed within an approximate 36-foot by 20-foot lease area, surrounded by a 6-foot tall chain link perimeter fence (see Exhibit 5 and Attachment C: Site Photographs).

Underground utility line trench routes for electrical and telco services have been designed to follow existing paved developed roads for the existing campground. Excavation requirements for the proposed underground utility line trenching will be limited to trenches with dimensions of approximately 2 feet 6 inches deep by 2 feet wide to accommodate joint and single conduits. Trenching for electrical utility lines will run for approximately 270 feet from the equipment shelter north to an electrical utility pole. Telco trenching will run for approximately 280 feet from the equipment west to the campground office (see Exhibit 5 and Attachment C: Site Photographs).

Adequate construction access and staging opportunities are provided within the paved developed access roads and cleared disturbed land contained within the existing campground (see Exhibit 5). Main access to be utilized during the construction stage of the proposed project is provided via South Grade Road and the main entrance to the existing campground. Existing paved roads, paved turn-around areas, and paved lots within the campground property will provide further equipment access to all portions of the project impact area. Construction equipment staging opportunities exist within the paved lots in addition to the previously cleared and compacted disturbed land that is extensive throughout the campground and immediately adjacent to portions of the project impact area. Due to the project's limited construction requirements, it is not anticipated that the existing construction access and staging opportunities within the campground will be extensively utilized.

The proposed project does not require any fire clearing requirements and is contained within the maintained grounds of an operating campground.

SECTION 3: METHODOLOGY

Analysis of the biological resources associated with the project site began with a thorough review of relevant literature followed by a reconnaissance-level survey of the site and immediate vicinity.

3.1 - Literature Review

Prior to the reconnaissance-level survey of the project site, a literature review was conducted of the environmental setting of the project site and vicinity. The literature review provides a baseline from which to evaluate the biological resources potentially occurring on the project site, as well as the surrounding area. For reference, the San Diego County Sensitive Plant and Wildlife Lists were reviewed for habitat assessment requirements as well as habitat suitability elements for 32 sensitive plant and wildlife species provided by the County of San Diego for review. The County of San Diego's Resource Protection Ordinance was reviewed for all applicable regulatory policy and potential mitigation requirements for the project.

The literature review also included aerial photographs of the project site and vicinity, as well as the topographic electronic and hard copies of the Boucher Hill, California USGS 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle map.

In addition, a compilation of sensitive plant and wildlife species and their habitats that have been recorded in the vicinity of the project site was derived from the California Department of Fish and Game's (CDFG) California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB), a sensitive species and plant community account database. MBA conducted a query of the CNDDDB for the Boucher Hill, California USGS 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle.

The California Native Plant Society (CNPS) online inventory database was also queried for the project site and vicinity. The CNPS online inventory provided additional sensitive species information for many species that have not been reported to the CNDDDB database. Other references used for the subject analysis include "Rare Plants of San Diego County" by Craig Rieser, posted for the San Diego Chapter of the Sierra Club's website (<http://sandiego.sierraclub.org/rareplants/>), and "San Diego Native Plants" by James Lightner.

3.2 - Habitat Assessment Survey

MBA Biologist Steve Hongola conducted a reconnaissance-level survey of the project site on September 4, 2007. The survey area encompassed an approximately 6.78-acre area, which included the project footprint and an approximately 100-foot area surrounding the perimeter of the project footprint. The area was surveyed on foot in order to document existing conditions, identify suitable habitat for sensitive plant and wildlife species, and analyze potential direct and indirect impacts to sensitive biological resources based on current project plans. Special attention was directed to portions of the survey area that may provide suitable habitat for the 32 sensitive plant and wildlife species provided for analysis by the County.

Parameters assessed regarding the habitat requirements for the 32 sensitive plant and wildlife species include the presence of suitable physical characteristics in topography, vegetation and plant community compositions, and soils. Additionally the presence of suitable nesting, roosting, foraging, including suitable prey base, or dispersing habitat was assessed. Any evidence of previous disturbance on the project site was carefully documented.

The locations of previously documented observations for the 32 sensitive plant and wildlife species were identified and plotted onto aerial and topographic maps to determine connectivity of suitable habitat and/or likely dispersing routes between the locations of observations and the project site. Habitat descriptions, plant communities, and a list of plant and wildlife species observed during the survey were recorded in a Floral and Fauna Compendium (Attachment A).

SECTION 4:HABITAT ASSESSMENT RESULTS

4.1 - Weather Conditions

The reconnaissance-level survey was conducted on September 4, 2007, between the hours of 1045 and 1200. Weather conditions during this survey included mostly clear skies and a temperature of 87 degrees Fahrenheit, with winds ranging from approximately 2 to 4 miles per hour out of the west.

4.2 - Existing Conditions

Investigation of the survey area confirmed that the proposed facility will be constructed within previously developed areas of the Oak Knoll campground. Developed and disturbed land, containing mainly bare ground with scattered ruderal (weedy) plant species, occupies the survey area. General land use beyond the survey area consists of scattered rural residences and undeveloped land to the north, south, east, and west.

The proposed unmanned wireless facility will occur within an approximately 0.05-acre area. The facility is located mainly within paved developed areas and disturbed land associated with campground development and maintenance, including unvegetated areas that are routinely maintained to accommodate campground equipment and vehicle storage, and areas subject to routine brush clearance for fire protection. Project trenching will also occur primarily within paved developed areas contained within the disturbed understory of a coast live oak woodland community.

4.2.1 - Topography and Soils

The project site occurs at an elevation of approximately 2,800 feet above mean sea level on the southwestern fringe of Palomar Mountain, east of Pauma Valley. The site is located within relatively steep hills that slope away from Palomar Mountain from northeast to southwest.

The project site contains one soil map unit belonging to the Soboba soil series. A soil series is a group of soils with similar profiles. These profiles include major horizons with similar thickness, arrangement, and other important characteristics. The project site contains Soboba stony loamy sand (Exhibit 4). No other mapped soil series are present onsite.

The observed surface soils throughout the entirety of the project footprint and majority of the survey area have been significantly altered from their natural state as a result of campground development, landscaping, and maintenance. These soils contain evidence of having been previously cleared of vegetation, and subsequently scraped, graded, and compacted in preparation for various campground uses. A large portion of the project footprint contains soils that have been heavily disturbed and developed over to provide paved access throughout the campground.

4.2.2 - Disturbance

The survey area is heavily disturbed as a result of previous development and ongoing maintenance associated with the campground. The proposed lease area is located on a vacant lot that has been cleared of most vegetation, with the exception of scattered ruderal species, and all proposed utilities trench routes are located within previously cleared, graded, and compacted land that has been paved over for the development of existing asphalt access roads for the campground. Other obvious anthropogenic disturbances to the survey area include regular foot traffic and vehicular use, landscape and facilities maintenance, recreation activity, and campfires.

4.2.3 - Habitats/Vegetation Communities

Installation of the proposed facility will occur within portions of two plant communities: disturbed land and coast live oak woodland (disturbed and developed understory), as well as developed areas that are not considered a natural plant community. Stands of eucalyptus woodland/ornamental, non-native grassland, and Diegan coastal sage scrub occur within the survey area and in the vicinity of the site.

The Biological Resources Map (Exhibit 5) provides detailed mapping of these communities within the survey area, which includes the project site and approximately 100 feet beyond the project site. A complete description of each community based on Holland and Oberbauer, and extent to which it occurs within the survey area is provided below. The respective Holland code for each community is provided in parenthesis below following each community section name. A complete list of plant species observed within the survey area during the habitat assessment survey is provided in Attachment A. Site photographs depicting the proposed project in relation to the existing conditions can be found in Attachment C.

Coast Live Oak Woodland (71160)

Coast live oak woodland is a sclerophyllous woodland community dominated by coast live oak. Its canopy ranges from 30 to 75 feet tall and may be open or closed. This community is typically found on north-facing slopes or in shaded ravines. The understory is usually dominated by grass species or covered with leaf litter and has a poorly developed shrub layer.

The proposed project development footprint occurs within approximately 0.01 acre of the developed understory of a disturbed coast live oak woodland (Exhibit 5). Due to existing developments, this 0.01 understory area could just as readily be characterized as developed land as opposed to coast live oak woodland based on its physical composition and fundamental use as a campground, in addition to its relatively poor biological function and value. It has been characterized in this report as coast live oak woodland primarily due to canopy functions and values, and the contiguity of the canopy with adjacent oak woodland habitat.

In general, the community is dominated by coast live oaks, but also contains a few scattered Engelmann oaks (*Quercus engelmannii*), none of which occur in the immediate vicinity of the proposed project development footprint. The understory of the community is heavily disturbed due to campground development and poor in habitat quality, containing asphalt access roads and bare ground with sparsely scattered non-native species such as slender wild oat (*Avena barbata*), ripgut brome (*Bromus diandrus*), and short-pod mustard. The quality of the woodland canopy habitat is considered moderate based on its proximity to the understory disturbances and canopy thinning that has resulted from trimming and maintenance activities. Better quality coast live oak woodland habitat that does not occupy the campground property, and has not been subjected to understory disturbances, occurs further to the general north and northeast.

Developed Land (12000)

Developed land includes areas that have been constructed upon or otherwise covered with a permanent unnatural surface. Areas where no natural land is evident due to a large amount of debris or other materials being placed upon it may also be considered.

The proposed project development footprint occurs within approximately 0.02 acre of developed land associated with the existing asphalt access roads within the campground. No vegetation was observed within the developed land onsite, and no suitable habitat for any plant or wildlife species occurs in these areas.

Diegan Coastal Sage Scrub (32500)

Diegan coastal sage scrub consists of low-growing, drought-deciduous and evergreen shrubs that occur in foothills throughout coastal southern California south into Baja California, below 3,000 feet in elevation. This community is typically located on sites with low moisture availability, such as steep, xeric slopes or clay-rich soils that release stored moisture slowly. It intergrades at higher elevations with chaparral communities and in drier, inland areas with Riversidean sage scrub. Characteristic dominant species include California sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*) and California buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*).

Diegan coastal sage scrub occurs in a few small stands in the southern portions of the survey area and outside of the proposed project development footprint. It is specifically located on slopes above South Grade Road to the south and west of the site. Dominant species present within the community include California buckwheat, white sage (*Salvia apiana*), and California sagebrush.

Disturbed Land (11300)

Disturbed land includes areas in which the vegetative cover comprises less than 10 percent of the surface area (disregarding natural rock outcrops) and where there is evidence of soil surface disturbance and compaction from previous legal human activity; or where the vegetative cover is greater than 10 percent, there is soils surface compaction, in addition to the presence of building foundations and debris (e.g. irrigation piping, fencing, old wells, abandoned farming or mining equipment) resulting from legal activities (as apposed to illegal dumping). Vegetation within disturbed land will have a high predominance of non-native or weedy species that are indicators of soil disturbance, such as Russian thistle (*Salsola tragus*), telegraph weed (*Heterotheca grandiflora*), horehound (*Marrubium vulgare*), and sow thistle (*Sonchus oleraceus*), and a sub-dominance of non-native grasses.

The proposed project development footprint occurs within approximately 0.02 acre of disturbed land associated with graded and compacted areas of the campground. These areas contain mainly bare ground with sparsely scattered ruderal species and non-native grasses. Plant species observed include short-pod mustard (*Hirschfeldia incana*), telegraph weed, and western ragweed (*Ambrosia psilostachya*). The disturbed land onsite provides very poor quality habitat for plant and wildlife species.

Non-Native Grassland (42200)

Non-native grassland, a prevalent community throughout San Diego County, is generally characterized by a dense to sparse cover of non-native annual grasses often associated with numerous weedy species and native annual forbs (wildflowers), especially in years with plentiful rain. Seed germination occurs with the onset of winter rains. Some plant growth occurs in winter, but most growth and flowering occurs in the spring. Plants then die in the summer, and persist as seeds in the uppermost layers of soil until the next rainy season. Dominant plant genera typically found within non-native grasslands include brome (*Bromus* sp.), wild oat (*Avena* sp.), fescue (*Vulpia* sp.), and barley (*Hordeum* sp.).

No portions of the proposed project development footprint occur within this community. Non-native grassland occurs west of the site within areas of the campground that have not been subject to brush clearance and other maintenance activities. The community is dominated by non-native annual grasses such as slender wild oat, ripgut brome, and red brome (*Bromus madritensis* ssp. *rubens*), with scattered forbs such as California croton (*Croton californicus*).

Eucalyptus Woodland/Ornamental (11100)

Eucalyptus woodland/ornamental is a non-native vegetation community characterized by a mix of non-native ornamental trees, shrubs, and groundcover species, often dominated by ornamental gum trees (*Eucalyptus* sp.). Physical structure and canopy ranges from low growing to tall, sparse to dense, often with a high species diversity. This community is associated with previously cultivated areas including parks, agricultural windrows, residential properties, and other urban landscapes.

The proposed project development footprint does not occur within any eucalyptus woodland/ornamental vegetation. A small stand of ornamental shrubs is located immediately north of the equipment lease area, however is not anticipated to be removed as a result of the proposed project. This community also occurs in scattered stands in the southern portions of the survey area, and further to the south and west of the site. Plant species observed within the eucalyptus woodland/ornamental community include a variety of non-native ornamental groundcover, shrub, and tree species typical of ornamental landscaped areas. The dominant species observed within the community was oleander (*Nerium oleander*), with scattered ornamental pines (*Pinus* sp.) also present.

4.2.4 - General Wildlife

The project site and surrounding area provide habitat for wildlife species that commonly occur in disturbed coast live oak woodland communities. Reptile species observed on or in the vicinity of the site include side-blotched lizard (*Uta stansburiana*) and western fence-lizard (*Sceloporus occidentalis*). Avian species observed or detected include acorn woodpecker (*Melanerpes formicivorus*), Steller's jay (*Cyanocitta stelleri*), western scrub-jay (*Aphelocoma californica*), oak titmouse (*Baeolophus inornatus*), white-breasted nuthatch (*Sitta carolinensis*), spotted towhee (*Pipilo crissalis*), and wild turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*). A single mammalian species was detected on the project site; California ground squirrel (*Spermophilus beecheyi*). A complete list of wildlife species observed on and in the immediate vicinity of the project site during the survey is provided in Attachment A.

SECTION 5: SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES

5.1 - Special Status Plant and Wildlife Species

As provided by the County of San Diego records, a list of 32 sensitive plant and wildlife species was reviewed and analyzed. Two sensitive species tables have been prepared (Attachments B-1 and B-2) that detail the 32 sensitive plant and wildlife species, their legal status under endangered species acts, preferred habitat, detection results onsite, and potential for occurrence.

Based on the existing conditions observed on and in the immediate vicinity of the project site during the reconnaissance-level survey, two sensitive wildlife species, Cooper's hawk and turkey vulture, were determined to have a potential to occur within the coast live oak woodland habitat that occurs within the survey area and vicinity. Cooper's hawk is a California State species of special concern and a County of San Diego Sensitive Animal List Group 1 Species that has a moderate potential to forage within the canopy of the coast live oak woodland habitat. Turkey vulture is a County of San Diego Sensitive Animal List Group 1 Species that has a moderate potential to forage within the canopy of the coast live oak woodland habitat. No other sensitive plant or wildlife species were determined to have a moderate or high potential to nest or forage within the survey area.

Potential project-related impacts to Cooper's hawk and turkey vulture are provided in Section 7.1.2 of this report. Proposed mitigation measures for potential impacts to these species are provided in Section 7.2.2 of this report.

5.2 - Nesting Birds

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) protects all common wild birds found in the United States except the house sparrow, starling, feral pigeon, and resident game birds such as pheasant, grouse, quail, and wild turkey. Resident game birds are managed separately by each state. The MBTA makes it unlawful for anyone to kill, capture, collect, possess, buy, sell, trade, ship, import, or export any migratory bird including feathers, parts, nests, or eggs.

Section 3503 of the California Fish and Game (CFG) Code makes it illegal to destroy any birds' nest or any birds' eggs that are protected under the MBTA. Section 3503.5 further protects all birds in the orders Falconiformes and Strigiformes, birds of prey, such as hawks and owls, and their eggs and nests from any form of take.

Construction of the proposed project will occur in the immediate vicinity of the canopy of a disturbed coast live oak woodland, in addition to low quality ornamental landscape vegetation that provide marginal nesting habitat for common bird species protected under the MBTA and CFG Code. Therefore, the proposed project may result in potential significant indirect impacts to nesting birds protected under the MBTA and CFG Code. No sensitive migratory or resident birds, including raptors, are likely to nest within the survey area based on lack of habitat quality and disturbances.

Potential project-related impacts to nesting birds are provided in Section 7.1.3 of this report. Proposed Mitigation Measures for potential impacts are provided in Section 7.2.3 of this report.

SECTION 6: JURISDICTIONAL WETLANDS AND WATERWAYS

The United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) regulates discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States. These waters include wetlands and non-wetland bodies of water that meet specific criteria. USACE regulatory jurisdiction pursuant to Section 404 of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) is founded on a connection or nexus between the water body in question and interstate commerce. This connection may be direct; through a tributary system, linking a stream channel with traditional navigable waters used in interstate or foreign commerce, or may be indirect, through a nexus identified in the USACE regulations.

6.1 - Waters of the U.S.

USACE jurisdiction over non-tidal waters of the United States extends laterally to the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) or beyond the OHWM to the limit of any adjacent wetlands, if present (33 CFR 328.4). The OHWM is defined as "that line on the shore established by the fluctuations of water and indicated by physical characteristics such as a clear natural line impressed on the bank, shelving, changes in the character of soil, destruction of terrestrial vegetation, the presence of litter and debris, or other appropriate means that consider the characteristics of the surrounding area" (33 CFR 329.11(a) (1)). Jurisdiction typically extends upstream to the point where the OHWM is no longer perceptible. Recently, the federal courts have restricted USACE jurisdiction over waters that are not directly connected to traditional navigable waters (isolated waters), thereby increasing the focus on clearly establishing the physical connection between the subject water body(ies) as a tributary to traditional navigable waters or otherwise by directly establishing the nexus with interstate commerce.

During the biological assessment survey, the project site was evaluated according to the guidelines provided in the USACE *Jurisdictional Determination Form Instructional Guidebook* (2007) and the *Guidelines for Jurisdictional Determinations for Waters of the United States in the Arid Southwest* (2001). Waters of the U.S. are absent from the site; no water bodies having a perceptible OHWM were identified on site or adjacent to the site.

No impacts to any waters of the U.S. are expected to occur as a result of the proposed project; therefore, no mitigation is required.

6.2 - USACE Wetlands

The USACE and the Environmental Protection Act (EPA) define “wetlands” as “areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted to life in saturated soil conditions.” In order to be considered a jurisdictional wetland under Section 404 of the CWA, an area must possess three wetland characteristics: hydrophytic vegetation, hydric soils, and wetland hydrology. Each characteristic has a specific set of mandatory wetland criteria that must be satisfied in order for that particular wetland characteristic to be met. Several parameters may be analyzed to determine whether the criteria are satisfied. During the field survey, the site was evaluated in accordance with the USACE *Interim Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Arid West Region* (2006) and the *Wetlands Delineation Manual* (i.e. Environmental Laboratory, 1987).

The project site occurs within a slightly-sloping upland area characterized by disturbed and developed land and coast live oak woodland. No natural drainage courses, waterways, and/or wetlands containing hydrophytic plant species were observed on or in the immediate vicinity of the site; therefore, it was not necessary to examine the other two wetland criteria, hydrology and soils, since all three criteria must be met where wetlands are present.

No impacts to any USACE-defined wetlands are expected to occur as a result of the proposed project; therefore, no mitigation is required.

6.3 - County of San Diego Wetlands

The County of San Diego in their County Resource Protection Ordinance define “wetlands” as “All lands which are transitional between terrestrial and aquatic systems where the water table is usually at or near the surface or where the land is covered by water. All lands having one or more of the following attributes are wetlands: a) At least periodically, the land supports predominately hydrophytes (plants whose habitat is water or very wet places); b) The substratum is predominately undrained hydric soil; or c) an ephemeral or perennial stream is present, whose substratum is predominately non-soil and such lands contribute substantially to the biological functions or values of wetlands in the drainage system.” In this definition, a “non-soil” substrate includes, but is not limited to, rock outcroppings, deepwater habitats, generally greater than 6.6 feet in depth, cobble rock, bedrock, or scoured channels.

The project site occurs within a slightly-sloping upland area characterized by disturbed and developed land and coast live oak woodland. No drainage features or depression areas subject to ponding exist on or in the immediate vicinity of the site. No hydrophytes were observed during the survey. The underlying substratum of the site is non-hydric, and is mapped as Soboba stony loamy sand.

No impacts to any County-defined wetlands are expected to occur as a result of the proposed project; therefore, no mitigation is required.

SECTION 7: OTHER UNIQUE FEATURES/RESOURCES

7.1 - Wildlife Corridors and Linkages

The County of San Diego Guidelines for Determining Significance defines a corridor as “A specific route that is used for movement and migrations of species. A corridor may be different from a Linkage because it represents a smaller or more narrow avenue for movement.”, and defines a linkage as “An area of land which supports or contributes to the long-term movement of wildlife and genetic exchange by providing live-in habitat that connects to other habitat areas.”. The County of San Diego in their Subarea Plan of the Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP) define regional linkages/corridors as “Land which contains topography which serves to allow for the movement of all sizes of wildlife and is used by wildlife, including large animals on a regional scale; and contains adequate vegetation cover providing visual continuity so as to encourage the use of the corridor by wildlife; or It has been identified as the primary linkage/corridor between the northern and southern regional populations of the California gnatcatcher in the population viability analysis for the California gnatcatcher”.

On a local scale, the project site is located within a relatively flat developed campground surrounded by open space and scattered rural residences. The local area is void of any topographic features or resources, such as canyon and drainage features, or significant stands of habitat (i.e. riparian corridors, habitat linkages, habitat blocks, etc.) that would promote the movement of wildlife, including large mammals, or migratory or resident birds or raptors. Wildlife in the local area likely utilize the constrained undeveloped woodland habitat surrounding the campground for movement rather than moving through the campground itself. Various campground developments, including fencing and buildings, present physical constraints to wildlife movement, and a lack of important resources and presence of various anthropogenic disturbances within the campground and immediate vicinity strongly reduce the potential for wildlife movement in the local area. There are no known wildlife nursery sites, habitat blocks, or core areas in the local vicinity in which development of the proposed project would potentially interfere with wildlife movement to and from. The limited impacts resulting from the proposed project to wildlife movement and nursery sites are considered less than significant on a local scale.

On a regional scale, the general area that supports the project site provides a transition within the Pauma Valley between lower elevation scrub and chaparral habitat to the general west in the communities of Pala, Valley Center, and Fallbrook, and higher elevation chaparral, woodland, and forest habitats to the general east associated with Palomar Mountain, La Jolla Amago, and Lake Henshaw. Expansive unconstrained and undeveloped scrub, chaparral, woodland, and forest habitat occurs in the general vicinity of the project site. These adjacent undeveloped areas in the region provide regional linkage opportunities and other preserve opportunities for long-term resource management and planning efforts as the area approaches future build-out. The limited impacts resulting from the proposed project to wildlife movement and nursery sites are not considered significant on a regional scale and present-day context.

On a local and regional scale, the project site does not function as a wildlife corridor or linkage, and the proposed project would not interfere substantially with the movement of native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species, or with established native resident or migratory corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites. The proposed project is limited in size, and the extent of overall impacts are minimal (0.05 acre) and fundamentally limited to developed land and disturbed habitat within the campground. The operational requirements of the proposed project are minimal as well. Due to the fact that project impacts to existing developed land and disturbed habitat will be limited in size, and due to the abundance of undeveloped woodland habitat that surrounds the project site, impacts to wildlife movement and nursery sites, including corridors and linkages, are expected to be less than significant and no mitigation measures are recommended.

7.2 - Urban/Wildlands Interface and Adjacency Management Issues

An urban/wildlands interface is generally defined as land that presently contains, or will contain as a result of a proposed action, both elements of an urban setting and raw undeveloped land or protected land. This land is situated as such to present a sharply defined physical contrast between the two, potentially creating an adverse edge effect resulting from direct and/or indirect impacts derived from the urban elements. An urban/wildlands interface may be most recognizable in larger multi-use developments that occur within or immediately adjacent to completely undeveloped and undisturbed land that provides habitat for plant and wildlife species in the area.

The project site is located within a developed campground surrounded by open space with scattered rural residences. No design elements are proposed that would result in any significant indirect impacts to any adjacent undeveloped land or protected land, or any wildlife potentially using the project vicinity. The project shall incorporate lighting features that will minimize all lighting to the maximum extent feasible away from the adjacent undeveloped land. External light sources will be designed with internal baffles to direct the lighting towards the ground and have a zero side angle cut off to the horizon.

Due to the limited size and operational requirements of the proposed project, impacts to an urban/wildlands interface are expected to be less than significant and no mitigation measures are recommended.

7.2.1 - Noise-Related Impacts

Given the project site's location within an existing campground, the proposed project is not expected to result in significant additional noise beyond that which is already generated by campground utilities. Nonetheless, the proposed project includes specific design features to minimize and reduce any potential noise impacts to biological resources which may result from the operation of the proposed project. These design features will ensure that operation of the proposed project will achieve compliance with the required noise standards as required by the County. Equipment for the proposed project will be contained within a shelter that has been designed to reduce external noise levels on and in the immediate vicinity of the site.

Potential noise-related impacts resulting from the operation of the proposed project are expected to be less than significant with the proposed noise-reducing design features incorporated.

SECTION 8: SIGNIFICANCE OF PROJECT IMPACTS AND PROPOSED MITIGATION

8.1 - Impact Analysis

This section of the report provides a discussion of potential project-related impacts. Mitigation to reduce these impacts to less than significant is provided in Section 8.2 below.

8.1.1 - Habitats/Vegetation Communities

The total existing acres within the survey area and total impact acres resulting from the proposed project to each habitat type are outlined in Table 1.

Table 1: Habitat Type/Vegetation Communities and Impacts

Habitat / Vegetation Community	Existing (acres)	Impacts (acres)
Coast Live Oak Woodland	2.97	0.01*
Developed Land	1.02	0.02
Diegan Coastal Sage Scrub	0.05	0.00
Disturbed Land	1.91	0.02
Non-Native Grassland	0.45	0.00
Ornamental	0.38	0.00
<u>TOTAL</u>	6.78	0.05

* Project impacts limited to the developed understory of coast live oak woodland

As currently designed, the proposed project will result in approximately 0.01 acre of permanent impacts to paved and developed portions of the understory for a coast live oak woodland, in addition to approximately 0.02 acre of permanent impacts to developed land, and 0.02 acre of impacts to disturbed land. Impacts to 0.02 acre of developed land and 0.02 acre of disturbed land are not considered significant and do not require mitigation. Impacts to 0.01 acre of paved and developed portions of the understory for a coast live oak woodland could be considered potentially significant, however; the project includes avoidance and minimization measures in the proposed design in addition to proposed avoidance and minimization measures during the construction phase to reduce potential project impacts to less than significant.

All potential impacts to coast live oak woodland will be limited to that which may result from oak tree root disturbance. No oak trees will be removed and no direct impacts will result to any of the above-ground vegetation within the coast live oak woodland. Potential impacts to limited oak tree roots within the 0.01-acre impact area would not result in the mortality of any of the existing oak trees within the woodland. As a result of no individual oak trees being removed or directly impacted above the ground, and therefore no portions of the existing oak woodland being removed or directly impacted above the ground, the proposed project is not expected to have any adverse effect on the viability, aesthetics, or biological function and value of the woodland. Consequently, no indirect impacts resulting from any edge effects or loss of biological function and value of the woodland will occur as a result of the proposed project. Furthermore, with no portions of the existing oak woodland being removed or directly impacted above the ground, and potential direct impacts being limited to below-ground oak roots potentially occurring within the 0.01-acre impact area, the project would not provide a significant contribution to the potential additive effects of direct or indirect impacts to oak woodlands over time.

Based on the estimated age of the existing oak trees within the coast live oak woodland, many of these oaks pre-date the development of the existing campground, and the oaks in general, including their above-ground canopies and below-ground root systems, have sustained significant stresses and disturbances as a result of campground development and maintenance. The substrate supporting the existing paved access roads throughout the campground has presumably been subjected to previous excavation, grading and compacting in the construction of the roads. These previous construction activities suggest that the underlying oak root systems for many of the trees that occur in the immediate vicinity of the campground roads have been previously impacted, and that subsequent root growth within the damaged area has potentially responded to construction disturbances by rooting outside and around the existing below-ground disturbances resulting from the roads. Maintenance of the campground has resulted in the trimming and thinning of portions of the coast live oak woodland as well, and this is evident by a reduced canopy density and reduced overall coverage of the woodland throughout the campground. These previous stresses and disturbances, coupled with the existing campground setting have reduced the relative habitat quality of the woodland when compared to other oak woodland habitat in the local and regional area. As a result, wildlife nesting and foraging opportunities within the woodland are limited by these previous disturbances and stresses, and continue to be constrained by the existing campground setting and associated routine anthropogenic disturbances.

Project impacts will result to approximately 0.01 acres of the developed land located immediately beneath the coast live oak woodland canopy for utilities trenching. The proposed project has implemented planning and design features within the proposed trenching that minimize and reduce potential impacts to coast live oak trees and below-ground root systems to the maximum extent feasible. The maximum excavation requirements for the proposed utilities trenching include uniform trenches with depths of 2-feet 6-inches and widths of 2-feet, specifically planned and designed to be contained beneath existing asphalt roads for the campground that have been developed on the surface of disturbed, graded, and compacted soils. As discussed above, the construction and operation of the existing paved roads that are proposed to be used for project trenching has resulted in previous below-ground disturbance to the proposed impact area. All existing below-ground oak tree roots will be avoided and preserved to the maximum extent feasible to accommodate the proposed utilities. However, without being absolutely certain of the extent of oak tree roots below the existing paved roads, the project proposes additional avoidance and minimization measures to be implemented during construction.

The methodology of the construction of the trench will be carried out with careful consideration for the avoidance of significant below-ground oak tree roots and under the direct supervision of a biological monitor. In the event that the installation of the utilities conduits threatens direct contact with an existing oak root (system), the design concept of the trench includes spatial accommodations and substrate specificities to allow for variability in the placement of each power or telco conduit throughout the trench column. As a result, added spatial variability in the placement of the conduit into the trench is permitted by the design, subsequently providing the opportunity during the installation of the conduit to avoid and minimize direct impacts to subsurface constraints, such as sensitive root systems. In other words, the conduit run within the trench can be installed around the oak tree roots that will be preserved in the trench. This can be achieved by implementing smaller trenching construction equipment and hand trenching methodologies within areas potentially supporting below-ground oak tree roots (i.e. under all oak tree canopies and within 50 feet of the drip line or canopy of any single oak tree).

Mitigation Measure MM-1 provided below will ensure that incidental or indirect impacts to coast live oaks to not occur as a result of the proposed project, thereby reducing potential project impacts to less than significant.

8.1.2 - Special Status Species

Based on the existing conditions observed on and in the immediate vicinity of the project site during the reconnaissance-level survey, two sensitive wildlife species from the County of San Diego's records list have a moderate potential to utilize portions of the project site for foraging: Cooper's hawk and turkey vulture. Therefore, the proposed project could result in potentially significant indirect impacts to these species through the loss of foraging habitat and temporary displacement during construction activities.

The proposed project will result in approximately 0.01 acre of impacts to developed land within the understory of coast live oak woodland, in addition to 0.02 acre of impacts to disturbed land, and 0.02 acre of impacts to developed land. Overall, the survey area and vicinity does not provide relatively high quality foraging habitat for Cooper's hawk and turkey vulture. It is not likely to be used for nesting by either species due to lack of suitability and disturbances resulting from the campground development and ongoing use. Woodland habitat in the surrounding area is much less disturbed and thus provides higher quality habitat and nesting habitat for these species, particularly Cooper's hawk. The canopy of the coast live oak woodland and the disturbed land provide marginal foraging opportunities for Cooper's hawk. Similarly, the paved woodland understory and disturbed land provide marginal foraging opportunities for turkey vulture. The foraging opportunities within the survey area for these two species are limited by the potential for the site and surrounding area to support an adequate prey base and sufficient foraging areas. Based on the habitat assessment survey, the survey area evidently supports a number of common resident and migratory birds that may serve as suitable prey sources for the Cooper's hawk, however the ability for the area to sustain these species in sufficient numbers is limited by the presence of various disturbances associated with the campground. The foraging potential of the survey area for the turkey vulture is difficult to define based on the unpredictable availability of carrion in the area and limited vegetative foraging sources, however on a local and regional scale, the area provides relatively low quality foraging habitat for this species.

Due to the limited impacts associated with the proposed project and current disturbances associated with the campground, as well as the fact that no woodland habitat will be removed, potential impacts to Cooper's hawk and turkey vulture are considered less than significant, and no mitigation measures are recommended beyond that which is proposed for nesting birds.

8.1.3 - Nesting Birds

The project site occurs in the understory of a disturbed coast live oak woodland community and in the immediate vicinity of ornamental landscape vegetation that provide marginal nesting habitat for common bird species protected under the MBTA and CFG Code, such as acorn woodpecker and oak titmouse. Therefore, construction activities that will occur in the immediate vicinity of the oak woodland canopy and ornamental landscape vegetation may result in potential significant indirect impacts to nesting birds protected under the MBTA and CFG Code.

Mitigation Measure MM-2 provided below will reduce potential project impacts to nesting bird species to less than significant.

8.2 - Proposed Mitigation

The following is a list of recommended mitigation measures that will reduce potential project-related impacts to biological resources to less than significant.

8.2.1 - Coast Live Oak Woodland

The proposed project will result in approximately 0.01 acre of impacts to the paved and developed understory of coast live oak woodland habitat. The following biological monitoring condition and avoidance and minimization measures are proposed during the construction phase of the project to reduce potential project impacts to coast live oak woodland to less than significant.

MM-1 A qualified, County-approved biologist shall be onsite during all construction trenching activities that are proposed beneath or within 50 feet of the canopy of any coast live oak trees. All construction activities shall be conducted at the discretion of a County-approved biologist, and trenching shall be strictly contained within the proposed impact area and below the existing paved asphalt access roads for the campground, unless otherwise determined by the County-approved biologist. The County-approved biologist shall be responsible for instructing project construction personnel in the positive identification of coast live oak trees that occur in the immediate vicinity of the project impact area prior to construction. The County-approved biologist shall instruct project construction personnel as to the locations of all potential oak tree root systems within all portions of the project impact area that are proposed beneath or within 50 feet of the canopy of any coast live oak trees.

Construction trenching shall be executed with the least invasive methods feasible, and shall avoid all coast live oak tree roots to the maximum extent feasible. Construction methods shall include implementing the use of lightweight portable trenchers (such as a ditch-witch or small front-loader option) and hand trenching, at the discretion of the County-approved biologist, and within trenching impacts that are proposed beneath or within 50 feet of the canopy of any coast live oak trees. In the event that coast live oak tree roots are encountered during trenching or laying of the utilities conduits, measures shall be taken by the County-approved biologist and project construction personnel to avoid direct impacts to the roots where feasible.

The County-approved biologist shall prepare monitoring progress memorandums and a formal letter confirming the completion of construction monitoring, as appropriate, to the responsible County agent. If substantial inadvertent impacts to any coast live oak tree result from project construction, including oak trunks, oak branches, or oak roots, the impacts shall be recorded and documented by the County-approved biologist, and correctional measures shall be implemented immediately.

8.2.2 - Nesting Birds

The proposed project will be constructed in the immediate vicinity of coast live oak woodland habitat that is potentially suitable for common nesting birds. The following will reduce impacts to nesting birds pursuant to CFG Code and the MBTA to less than significant.

- MM-2** To avoid any direct or indirect impacts to nesting birds, construction activities associated with the proposed project should occur outside of the breeding season between February 15 and August 15. If construction must occur during the breeding season, the applicant shall retain a County-approved biologist to conduct a pre-construction survey for the presence of nesting birds on and within an approximately 200-foot buffer surrounding the construction area. The pre-construction survey must be conducted within 10 calendar days prior to initiating any construction activities, or a set number of days prior according to the County. If nesting birds are detected by the County-approved biologist, a bio-monitor should be present on-site during construction to minimize construction impacts and ensure that no nest is removed or disturbed until all young have fledged.

SECTION 9: CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

The proposed project is a small, unmanned cellular wireless facility that will provide service for the local area. Unmanned wireless facility projects are regionally sparse and limited to specific locations to achieve maximum service coverage. Ideal facility locations are often used by multiple carriers and collocations are common. The proposed project will be limited in overall direct and indirect impacts during the construction and operational phases. It will result in impacts to 0.05 acre of disturbed/developed land within an existing campground. As such, when considered with unmanned cellular wireless facility projects that currently exist or are proposed in the region, cumulative impacts to biological resources resulting from the proposed project are considered less than significant with mitigation incorporated for project-level impacts.

SECTION 10: REFERENCES

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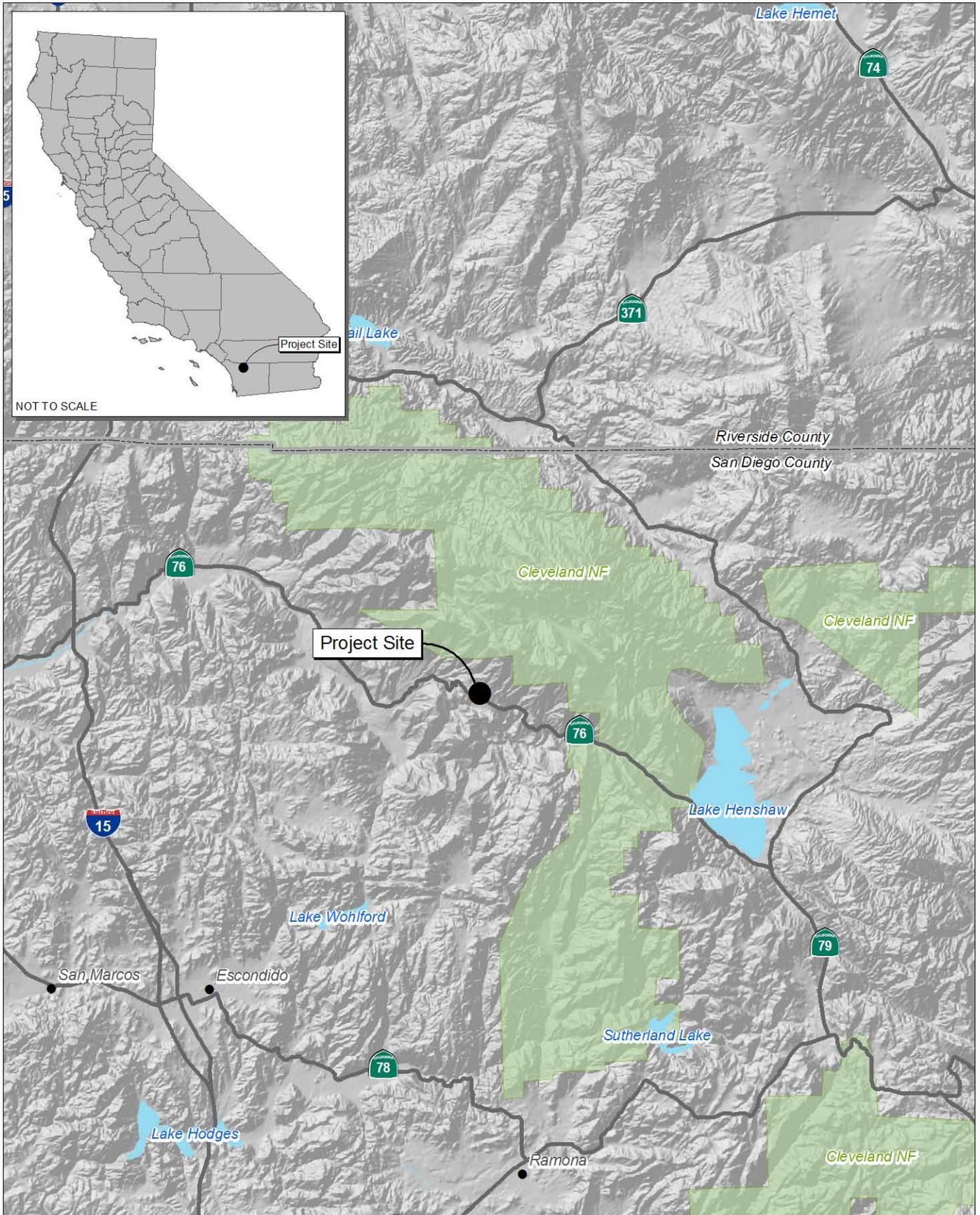
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SECTION 11: PREPARER AND PERSONS/ORGANIZATIONS CONTACTED

This report was prepared in accordance with the County of San Diego report format and content requirements for biological resources by MBA Biologist Steve Hongola. It has been reviewed and approved by MBA Biologist Karl Osmundson, and MBA Senior Biologist Scott Crawford, a County-approved consultant. The statements furnished above and in the attached exhibits present data and information required for this biological evaluation, and the facts, statements, and information presented are true and correct in the professional opinion of MBA.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this report, please contact Karl Osmundson or Scott Crawford at 714.508.4100.

Attachment A: Floral and Faunal Compendia



Source: Census 2000 Data, The CaSIL, MBA GIS 2007.



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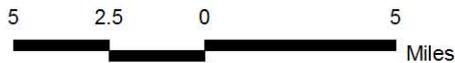
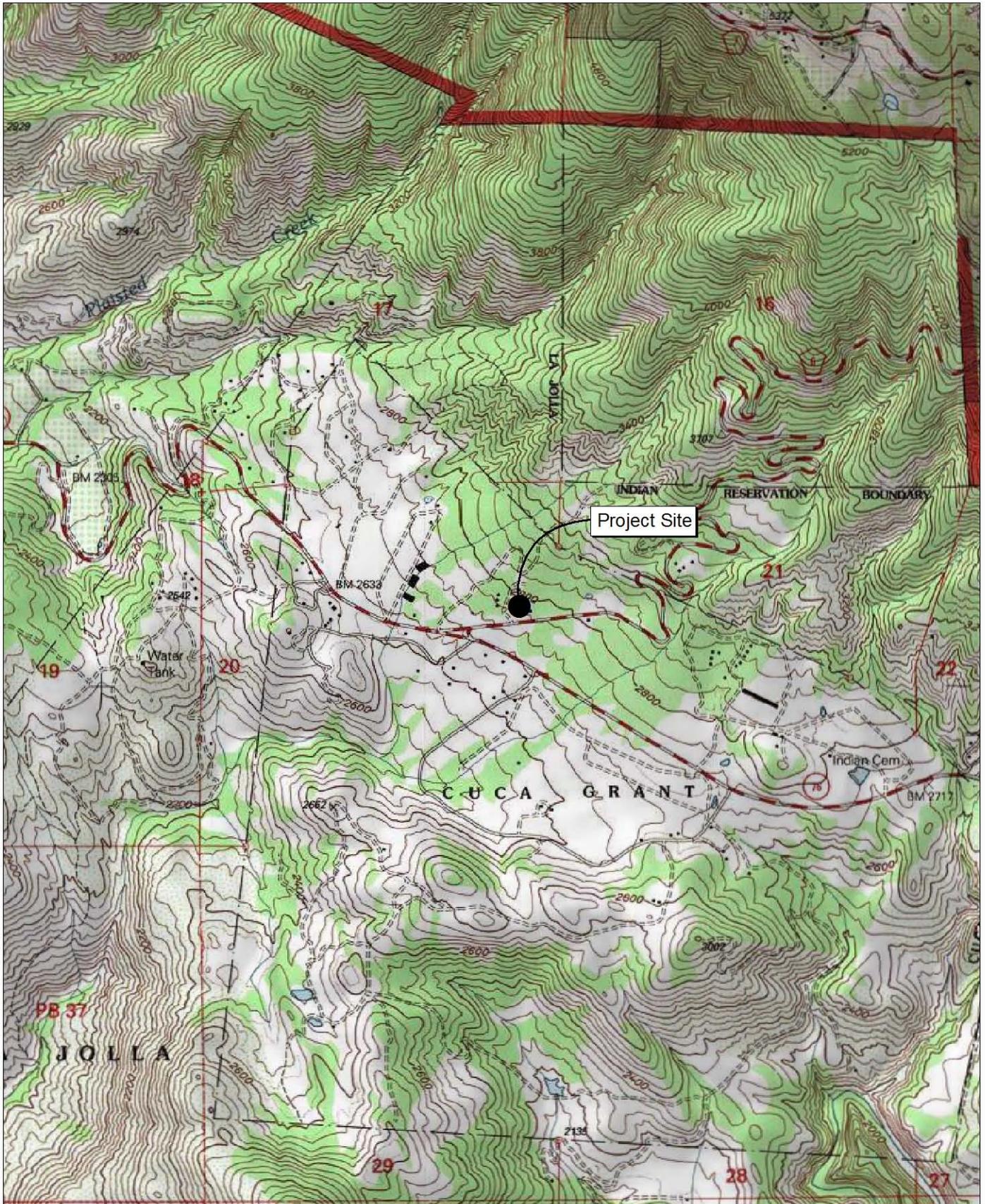


Exhibit 1 Regional Location Map

SPRINT/NEXTEL • SD72XC043, OAK KNOLL
BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES LETTER REPORT

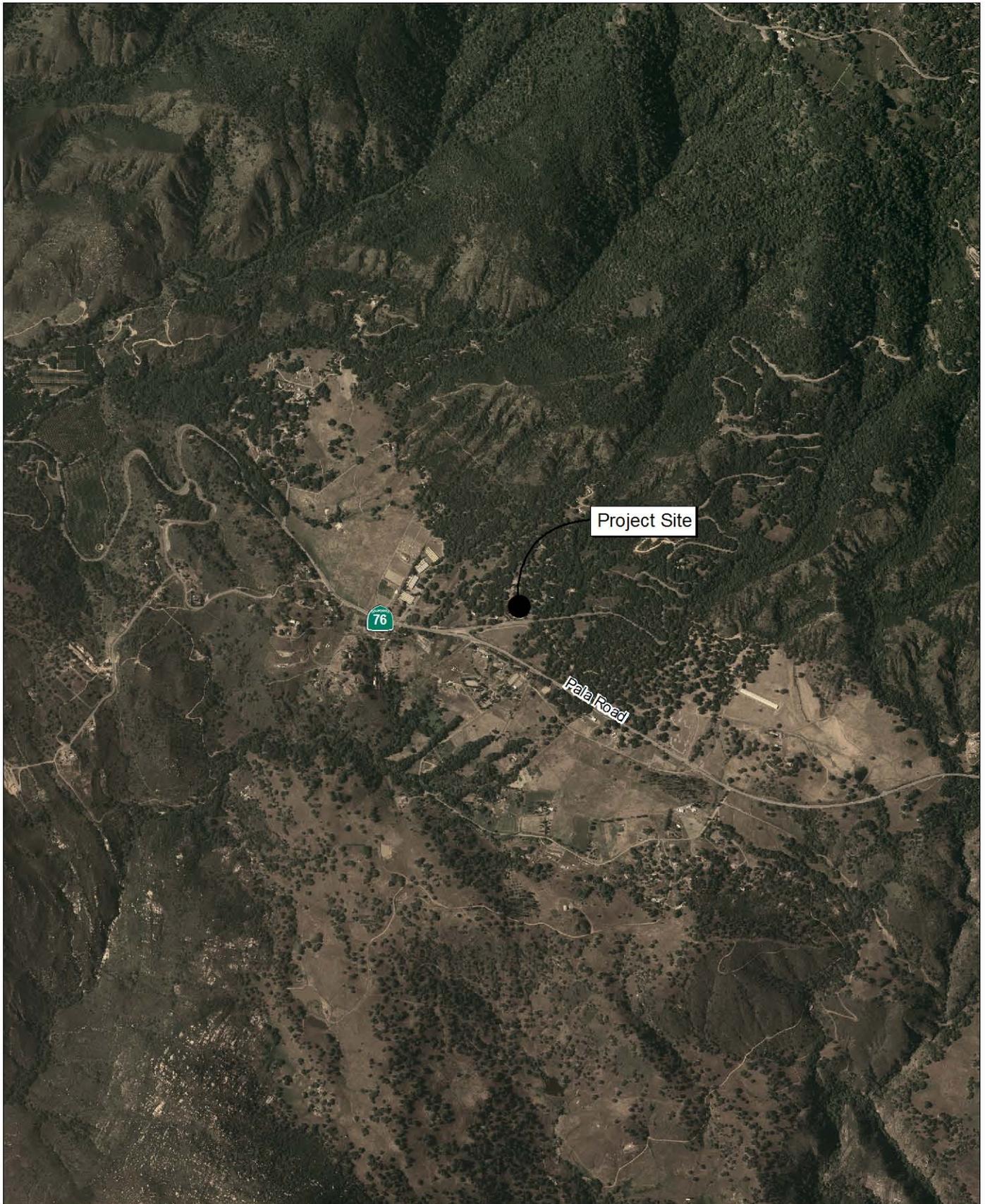


Source: TOPO! USGS Boucher Hill (1997) 7.5' DRG.

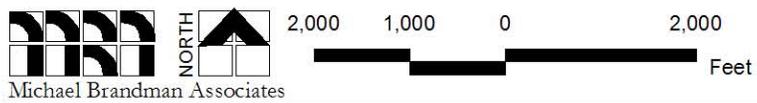
Exhibit 2

Local Vicinity Map
Topographic Base





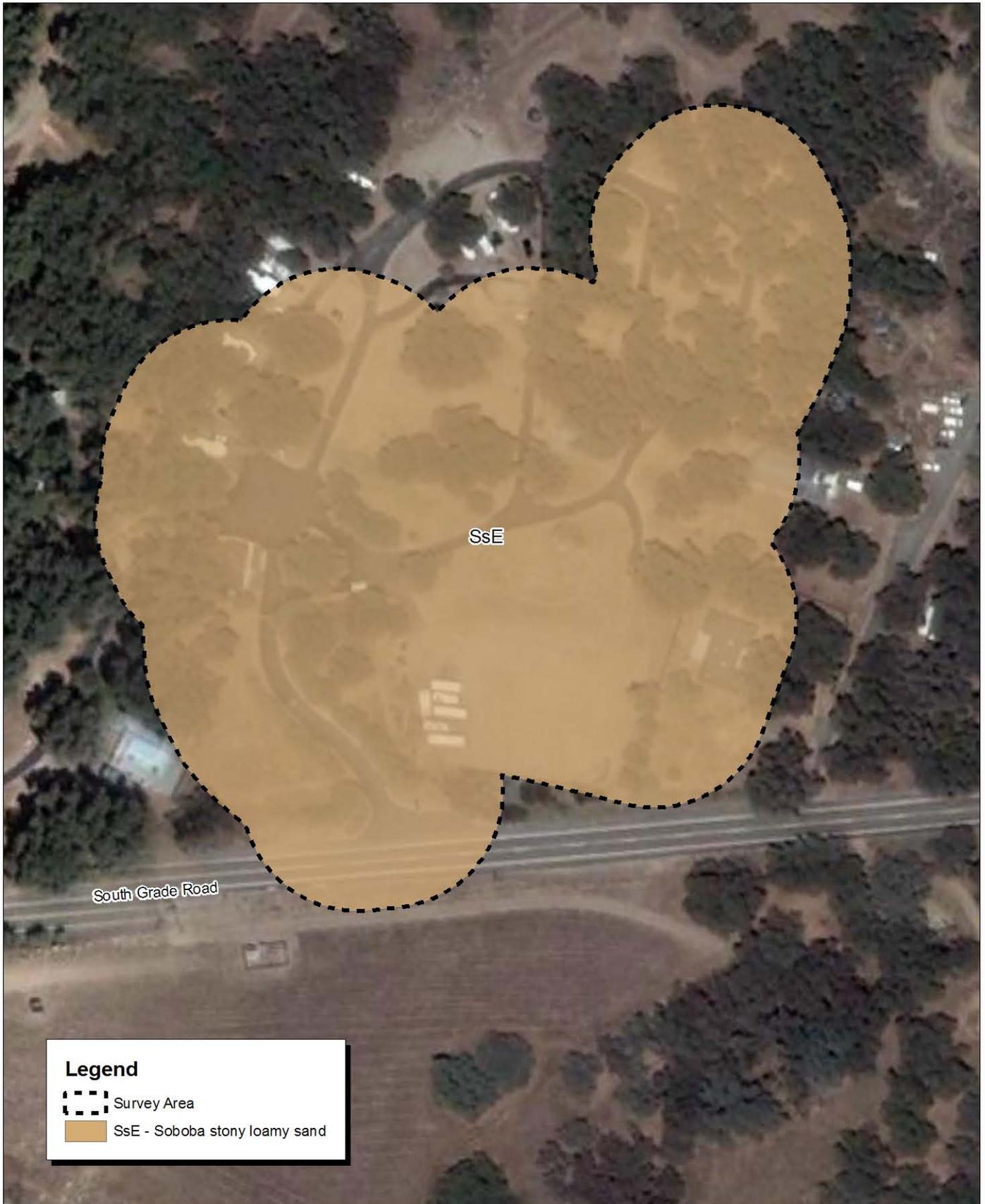
Source: San Diego County NAIP, 2005.



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Exhibit 3 Local Vicinity Map Aerial Base

SPRINT/NEXTEL • SD72XC043, OAK KNOLL
BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES LETTER REPORT



Source: USDA Soils Data and Google Earth Pro.

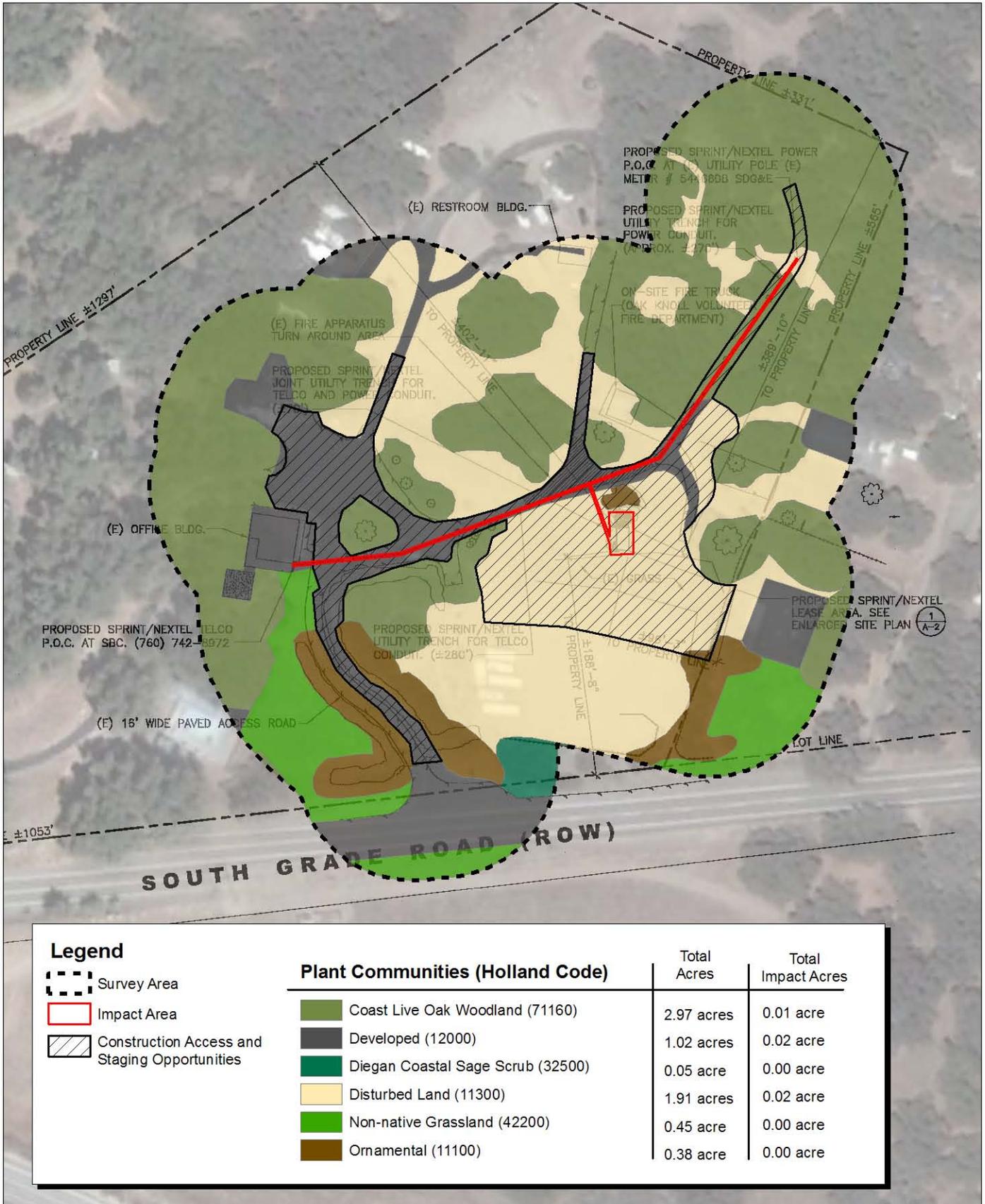


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Exhibit 4 USDA Soils Map

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BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES LETTER REPORT



Source: Google Earth Pro, Russnet USA Inc., and MBA Field Survey.



Exhibit 5 Biological Resources Map

FLORAL COMPENDIUM

Gymnosperms

Pinaceae

Pine Family

C *Pinus* sp.*

pine

Angiosperms (Dicotyledons)

Apocynaceae

Dogbane Family

C *Nerium oleander**

oleander

Asteraceae

Sunflower Family

A *Ambrosia psilostachya*

western ragweed

D *Artemisia californica*

California sagebrush

A *Heterotheca grandiflora*

telegraph weed

Brassicaceae

Mustard Family

A *Hirshfeldia incana**

short-pod mustard

Cactaceae

Cactus Family

D *Opuntia* sp.

cholla

Chenopodiaceae

Goosefoot Family

A *Chenopodium album**

lamb's quarters

Ericaceae

Heath Family

B *Arctostaphylos* sp.

manzanita

Euphorbiaceae

Spurge Family

E *Croton californicus*

California croton

Fagaceae

Oak Family

B *Quercus agrifolia*

coast live oak

B *Quercus engelmannii*

Engelmann oak

Lamiaceae

Mint Family

D *Salvia apiana*

white sage

Polygonaceae

Buckwheat Family

B *Eriogonum fasciculatum*

California buckwheat

Rhamnaceae

Buckthorn Family

B *Rhamnus ilicifolia*

holly-leaved redberry

FLORAL COMPENDIA (CONT.)

Rosaceae	Rose Family
C <i>Prunus ilicifolia</i>	holly-leaf cherry

Angiosperms (Monocotyledons)	
Poaceae	Grass Family
E <i>Avena barbata</i> *	slender oat
E <i>Bromus diandrus</i> *	ripgut brome
E <i>Bromus madritensis ssp. rubens</i> *	red brome
E <i>Bromus tectorum</i> *	downy brome

Plant Community ID Legend

- A – Disturbed Land
- B – Coast Live Oak Woodland
- C – Eucalyptus Woodland/Ornamental
- D – Diegan Coastal Sage Scrub
- E – Non-native Grassland
- * Non-Native Species

FAUNAL COMPENDIUM

Reptiles

Phrynosomatidae

- A *Uta stansburiana*
- A *Sceloporus occidentalis*

Spiny Lizards

- side-blotched lizard
- western fence-lizard

Birds

Accipitridae

- C *Buteo jamaicensis*

Hawks

- red-tailed hawk

Phasianidae

- B *Meleagris gallopavo*

Partridges, Grouse, Turkeys

- wild turkey

Trochilidae

- B *Calypte anna*

Hummingbirds

- Anna's hummingbird

Picidae

- B *Melanerpes formicivorus*
- B *Picoides nuttallii*

Woodpeckers

- acorn woodpecker
- Nuttall's woodpecker

Corvidae

- B *Cyanocitta stelleri*
- B *Aphelocoma californica*
- C *Corvus brachyrhynchos*
- C *Corvus corax*

Jays and Crows

- Steller's jay
- western scrub-jay
- American crow
- common raven

Paridae

- B *Baeolophus inornatus*

Chickadees, Titmice

- oak titmouse

Sittidae

- B *Sitta carolinensis*

Nuthatches

- white-breasted nuthatch

Emberizidae

- A *Pipilo crissalis*
- B *Pipilo maculatus*

Emberizids

- California towhee
- spotted towhee

Fringillidae

- A *Carpodacus mexicanus*

Finches

- house finch

Mammals

Sciuridae

- A *Spermophilus beecheyi*

Squirrels

- California ground squirrel

Plant Community ID Legend

- A – Disturbed Land
- B – Coast Live Oak Woodland
- C – Other (Call Detection, In-Flight Observation, Undetermined)

Attachment B-1: Special-Status Plant Species Table

Special Status Plant Species Table

Species		Status			Preferred Habitat	Life Form	Blooming Period	Potential to Occur / Suitable Habitat
Scientific Name	Common Name	USFWS	CDFG	CNPS				
<i>Brodiaea orcutti</i>	Orcutt's brodiaea	—	—	1B.1	Closed cone coniferous forest, chaparral openings, cismontane woodland, valley and foothill grasslands, meadows and seeps, vernal pools. Clay and serpentine soils. Elevation limits: 30 - 1692m.	Bulbiferous Herb	May - July	Not Likely to Occur - Not Present. No suitable habitat for this species occurs on the site due to previous development and disturbance, and a lack of suitable soils and vegetation characteristics.
<i>Harpoganella palmeri</i>	Palmer's grappling hook	—	—	4.2	Chaparral, coastal scrub, and valley and foothill grassland. lower montane coniferous forest. Open grassy areas within shrublands on clay soils. Elevation limits: 15 - 830m.	Annual Herb	Mar - May	Not likely to Occur - Not Present. No suitable habitat for this species occurs on the site due to previous development and disturbance, and a lack of suitable soils and vegetation characteristics.
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service FE Federal Endangered FT Federal Threatened PE Proposed Endangered PT Proposed Threatened FC Federal Candidate FSC Species of Concern* *No longer recognized as a federal designation.		California Department of Fish and Game CE California Endangered CT California Threatened CR California Rare			California Native Plant Society 1A Plants presumed extinct in California. 1B Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere. 2 Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California, but more common elsewhere. 3 Plants about which we need more information. 4 Plants of limited distribution.			

Special Status Plant Species Table (Cont.)

Species		Status			Preferred Habitat	Life Form	Blooming Period	Potential to Occur / Suitable Habitat
Scientific Name	Common Name	USFWS	CDFG	CNPS				
<p>Not Likely to Occur – Not Present – This species was not observed or otherwise detected on the project site, and it is improbable that this species would be found on the project site. There are no present or historical records of the species occurring on or in the immediate vicinity (within 3 miles) of the project site and the diagnostic habitats strongly associated with the species do not occur on or in the immediate vicinity of the site.</p> <p>Low Potential to Occur - There is a historical record of the species in the vicinity of the project site and potentially suitable habitat on site, but existing conditions (e.g. density of cover, prevalence of non-native species, evidence of disturbance, limited habitat area, isolation) substantially reduce the possibility that the species may occur. The site is above or below the recognized elevation limits for this species.</p> <p>Moderate Potential to Occur - The diagnostic habitats associated with the species occur on or in the immediate vicinity of the project site, but there is not a recorded occurrence of the species within the immediate vicinity (within three miles). Some species that contain extremely limited distributions may be considered moderate, even if there is a recorded occurrence in the immediate vicinity.</p> <p>High Potential to Occur - There is both suitable habitat associated with the species and a historical record of the species on or in the immediate vicinity of the project site (within 3 miles).</p> <p>Species Present – The species was observed on the project site at the time of the survey or during a previous biological survey.</p>								

Attachment B-2: Special-Status Wildlife Species Table

Special Status Wildlife Species Table

Species		Status			Required Habitat	Potential to Occur / Known Occurrence / Suitable Habitat
Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal	State	Other		
Insects						
<i>Danaus plexippus</i>	Monarch Butterfly	—	—	Locally Sensitive	Winter roosts extend along the coast from Mendocino County to Baja California, Mexico. Roosts located in wind-protected tree groves (eucalyptus, Monterey pine, cypress) with nectar and water sources nearby.	Low Potential to Occur. Marginally suitable woodland roosts are located in the immediate vicinity of the project site; however, no nearby water sources are present.
Reptiles and Amphibians						
<i>Anniella pulchra pulchra</i>	Silvery legless lizard	—	—	CDFG: CSC	Sandy or loose loamy soils under sparse vegetation. Prefers soils with high moisture content.	Not likely to Occur - Not Present. No suitable habitat is present on the project site. The site is heavily disturbed due to campground development and lacks soils with high moisture content.
<i>Aspidoscelis hyperythra</i>	Orange-throated whiptail	—	—	CDFG: CSC	Inhabits low-elevation coastal scrub, chaparral, and valley-foothill hardwood habitats. Prefers washes and other sandy areas with patches of brush and rocks. Also in perennial plants where termites, its major food, can be found.	Not Likely to Occur – Not Present. No suitable habitat present on the project site. Habitat beneath woodland canopy is highly degraded by campground disturbances and thus not considered suitable.

<i>Coleonyx variegates abbotti</i>	San Diego banded gecko	—	—	Locally Sensitive	Coastal and cismontane southern California. Found in granite or rocky outcrops in coastal scrub and chaparral habitats.	Not Likely to Occur – Not Present. No suitable rocky outcrop, scrub, or chaparral habitat present onsite.
<i>Phrynosoma coronatum blainvillei</i>	San Diego horned-lizard	—	—	CDFG: CSC	Coastal sage scrub and chaparral habitat with suitable basking areas. Primary prey source is native ant species.	Not Likely to Occur – Not Present. No suitable scrub or chaparral habitat present onsite. Scrub habitat in the vicinity of the site is degraded due to campground disturbances.
<i>Scaphiopus hammondi</i>	Western spadefoot toad	—	—	CDFG: CSC	Primarily a terrestrial toad requiring suitable burrows in loose soils 1 meter in depth. Require temporary rainpools and vernal pools (for breeding) lasting three weeks with cool to warm temperatures and absence of predators (crayfish, bullfrogs, etc.).	Not Likely to Occur – Not Present. No suitable vernal pool or seasonal pond habitat present on the project site.
Birds						
<i>Accipiter cooperi</i>	Cooper's hawk	—	—	CDFG: CSC	(Nesting) Open, uninterrupted or marginal type woodlands. Nest sites in riparian growths of deciduous trees, live oaks.	Moderate Potential to Occur. Suitable woodland foraging habitat present in the immediate vicinity of the project site. The woodland habitat would not likely be used for nesting due to disturbances associated with the campground.
<i>Agelaius tricolor</i>	Tricolored blackbird	—	—	CDFG: CSC	(Nesting colony) Highly colonial species that requires open water, protected nesting substrate, and foraging area with insect prey within a few km of the colony.	Not likely to Occur – Not Present. No suitable open water habitat or protected nesting substrate occurs onsite.

<i>Ammodramus savannarum</i>	Grasshopper sparrow	—	—	Locally Sensitive	Dense grasslands on rolling hills, lowland plains, in valleys and on hillsides in lower mountain slopes. Favors native grasslands with a mix of grasses, forbs, and shrubs. Loosely colonial when nesting.	Not likely to Occur – Not Present. No suitable grassland habitat on the project site. Grassland in the vicinity of the site is marginal habitat because it is heavily dominated by non-native grasses and occurs as small scattered stands within oak woodland.
<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	Golden eagle	—	—	CDFG: FP	(Nesting and Wintering) Rolling foothills and mountain areas, juniper-sage flats, and deserts. Primarily associated with cliff-walled canyons and large trees in open habitats for nesting.	Low Potential to Occur. No suitable nesting habitat for this species occurs on site due to lack of suitable cliff habitat and large trees in open areas. Marginally suitable foraging habitat occurs within limited portions of the site.
<i>Cathartes aura</i>	Turkey vulture	—	—	Locally Sensitive	Open valley and foothill grassland, scrub, chaparral, savannah, and cismontane woodland habitat with suitable trees for nesting.	Moderate Potential to Occur. Suitable woodland foraging habitat present in the immediate vicinity of the project site. The woodland habitat would not likely be used for nesting due to disturbances associated with the campground.
<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	Northern harrier	—	—	CDFG: CSC	(Nesting) Coastal salt and fresh-water marsh. nests and forages in grasslands, from salt grass in desert sink to mountain cienegas. Nests on ground in shrubby vegetation.	Not likely to Occur – Not Present. No suitable nesting or foraging habitat present.
<i>Elanus leucurus</i>	White-tailed kite	—	—	CDFG: CSC	(Nesting) Rolling foothills/valley margins with scattered oaks and river bottomlands or marshes next to deciduous woodlands. Prefers open grasslands, meadows, or marshes for foraging close to isolated, dense-topped trees for nesting and perching.	Low Potentital to Occur. Site provides marginal foraging habitat and would not likely be used for nesting due to campground disturbances.

<i>Eremophila alpestris actia</i>	California horned lark	—	—	CDFG: CSC	Short-grass prairie, bald hills, mountain meadows, open coastal plains, fallow grain fields, alkali flats.	Not Likely to Occur – Not Present. No suitable habitat present on or in the vicinity of the project site.
<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>	Loggerhead shrike	—	—	CDFG: CSC	(Nesting) Broken woodlands, savannah, pinyon-juniper, Joshua tree and riparian woodlands, desert oases, scrub and washes. Prefers open country for hunting, with perches for scanning, and fairly dense shrubs and brush for nesting.	Low Potential to Occur. Marginal woodland habitat present in the immediate vicinity of the site; however, it is likely to dense to provide suitable “open country” foraging and nesting habitat.
<i>Larus californicus</i>	California gull	—	—	CDFG: CSC	Littoral waters, sandy beaches, waters and shorelines of bays, tidal mud-flats, marshes, lakes, etc. Colonial nester on islets in large interior lakes, either fresh or strongly alkaline.	Not Likely to Occur – Not Present. No suitable lake or other water habitat present on the project site.

Special Status Wildlife Species Table (Cont.)

Species		Status			Required Habitat	Potential to Occur / Known Occurrence / Suitable Habitat
Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal	State	Other		
Mammals						
<i>Antrozous pallidus</i>	Pallid bat	—	—	CDFG: CSC	Roosts in crevices, caves, mine shafts, bridges, buildings and tree hollows. Forages on insects in wide variety of habitats.	Low Potential to Occur. No suitable habitat occurs directly on the project site. Marginal habitat is present in the vicinity of the site but is degraded due to campground disturbances.
<i>Chaetodipus californicus femoralis</i>	Dulzura California pocket mouse	—	—	CDFG: CSC	Variety of habitats including coastal scrub, chaparral, and grasslands in San Diego County. Associated with grass-chaparral edges.	Not likely to Occur – Not Present. No suitable grassland-chaparral edge habitat present on the project site. Scrub and grassland habitat in the vicinity of the site is highly degraded to to campground disturbances.
<i>Chaetodipus fallax fallax</i>	Northwestern San Diego pocket mouse	—	—	CDFG: CSC	Sage scrub, chaparral and grassland habitats with open sandy areas.	Not likely to Occur – Not Present. No suitable habitat chaparral, scrub, or grassland habitat present on site. Scrub and grassland habitat in the vicinity of the site is highly degraded to to campground disturbances.
<i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i>	Townsend’s big-eared bat	—	—	CDFG: CSC	Desert scrub and coniferous forest. Roosts in caves or abandoned mines, occasionally in buildings.	Not Likely to Occur – Not Present. No suitable roosting or foraging habitat for this species occurs on site.
<i>Dipodomys stephensi</i>	Stephens’ kangaroo rat	FE	ST	—	Primarily found in annual and perennial grasslands, but also occurs in coastal scrub and sagebrush with sparse canopy cover. Prefers buckwheat, chamise, brome grass and filaree. Will burrow into firm soil.	Not Likely to Occur – Not Present. No suitable grassland or scrub habitat present on site. Scrub and grassland in the vicinity of the site is highly degraded due to campground disturbances.

<i>Eumops perotis californicus</i>	Greater western mastiff bat	—	—	CDFG: CSC	Rocky areas and cliff faces. Roosts in cliff crevices and buildings.	Not Likely to Occur – Not Present. No suitable roosting or foraging habitat for this species occurs on site.
<i>Lepus californicus bennettii</i>	San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit	—	—	CDFG: CSC	Coastal sage scrub, sparse chaparral and desert scrubs with loose soils for burrowing.	Not Likely to Occur – Not Present. No suitable grassland or scrub habitat present on site. Scrub and grassland in the vicinity of the site is highly degraded due to campground disturbances.

Special Status Wildlife Species Table (Cont.)

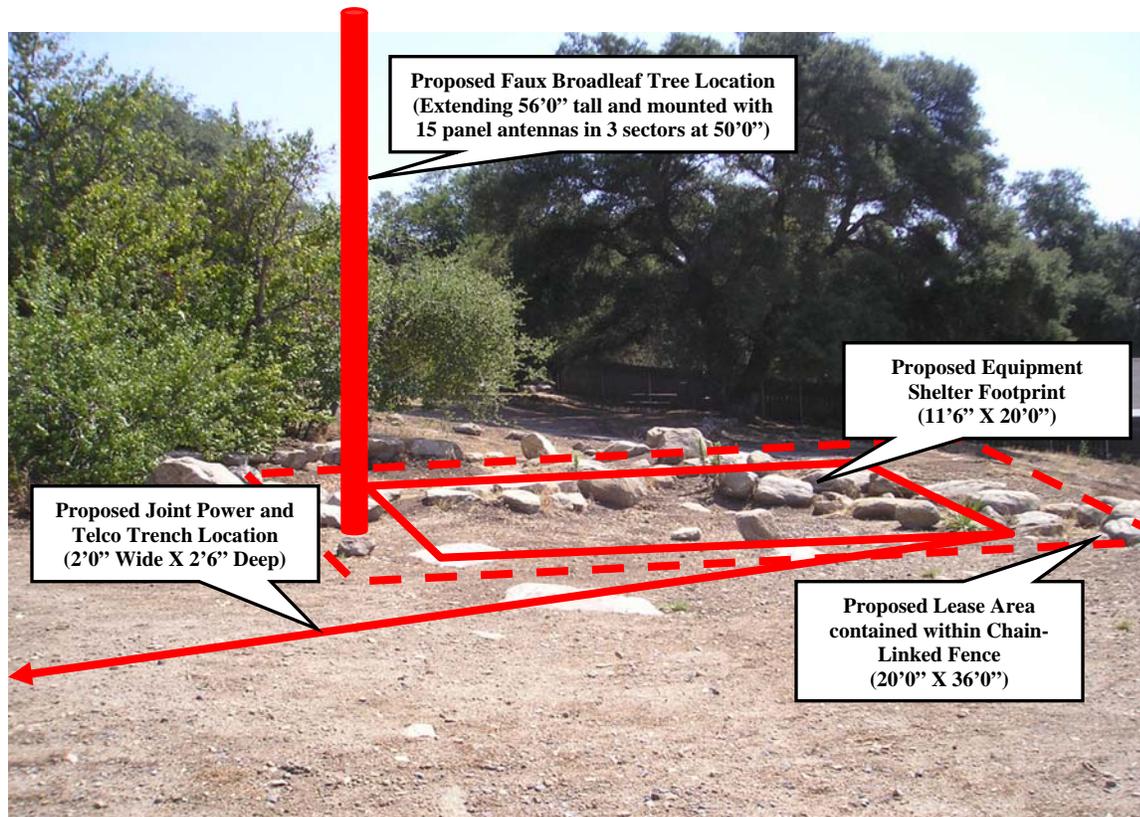
Species		Status			Required Habitat	Potential to Occur / Known Occurrence / Suitable Habitat
Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal	State	Other		
Mammals (Cont.)						
<i>Myotis yumanensis</i>	Yuma myotis bat	—	—	CDFG: CSC	Near lakes, creeks or ponds. Roosts by day under building sidings or shingles. Nursery colonies choose caves, mines, buildings or under bridges.	Not Likely to Occur – Not Present. No suitable roosting or foraging habitat for this species occurs on site.
<i>Nyctinomops femorosacca</i>	Pocketed free-tailed bat	—	—	Locally Sensitive	Inhabits semiarid desert lands. Uses day-roosts in caves, crevices in cliffs, and under the roof tiles of buildings.	Not Likely to Occur – Not Present. No suitable foraging or roosting habitat present on the project site.
<i>Nyctinomops macrotis`</i>	Big free-tailed bat	—	—	CDFG: CSC	Low-lying arid areas in southern California. Needs high cliffs or rocky outcrops for roosting sites. Feeds principally on large moths.	Not Likely to Occur – Not Present. No suitable foraging or roosting habitat present on the project site.
<i>Odocoileus hemionus</i>	Southern mule deer	—	—	CDFG: CSC	Expansive scrub, chaparral, valley and foothill grassland, cismontane woodland, mixed coniferous forest in east County.	Low Potential to Occur. This species may occasionally forage in the vicinity of the site; however, campground disturbances are likely a deterrent.
<i>Onychomys torridus ramona</i>	Southern grasshopper mouse	—	—	CDFG: CSC	Found in desert areas, especially scrub habitats with friable soils for digging. Prefers low to moderate shrub cover.	Not Likely to Occur – Not Present. No suitable desert scrub habitat present on site.

<i>Perognathus longimembris brevinasus</i>	Los Angeles pocket mouse	—	—	CDFG: CSC	Lower elevation grasslands and coastal sage associations with suitable fine sandy soils for burrow substrate.	Not Likely to Occur – Not Present. No suitable habitat was present on the project site. Scrub and grassland in the vicinity of the site is highly degraded due to campground disturbances.																																																	
<i>Taxidea taxus</i>	American badger	—	—	CDFG: CSC	Friable soils in most drier open stages of shrub, woodland, and herbaceous habitats. Digs its own burrows. Requires rodents for foraging.	Low Potential to Occur. Marginal woodland habitat present; however, campground disturbances are likely a deterrent.																																																	
<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Federal</td> <td></td> <td>State</td> <td></td> <td>Other</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>FE</td> <td>Federal Endangered</td> <td>SE</td> <td>State Endangered</td> <td>CDFG:SC</td> <td></td> <td>California Species of Special Concern</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FT</td> <td>Federal Threatened</td> <td>ST</td> <td>State Threatened</td> <td>CDFG:FP</td> <td></td> <td>Fully Protected Species</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FSC</td> <td>Federal Species of Concern</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>CDFG: P</td> <td></td> <td>Protected Species</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PFT</td> <td>Proposed Federal Threatened</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Locally Sensitive</td> <td></td> <td>Species Considered Sensitive by Local Jurisdiction</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C</td> <td>Candidate for Federal Listing</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>D</td> <td>Delisted</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>							Federal		State		Other			FE	Federal Endangered	SE	State Endangered	CDFG:SC		California Species of Special Concern	FT	Federal Threatened	ST	State Threatened	CDFG:FP		Fully Protected Species	FSC	Federal Species of Concern			CDFG: P		Protected Species	PFT	Proposed Federal Threatened			Locally Sensitive		Species Considered Sensitive by Local Jurisdiction	C	Candidate for Federal Listing						D	Delisted					
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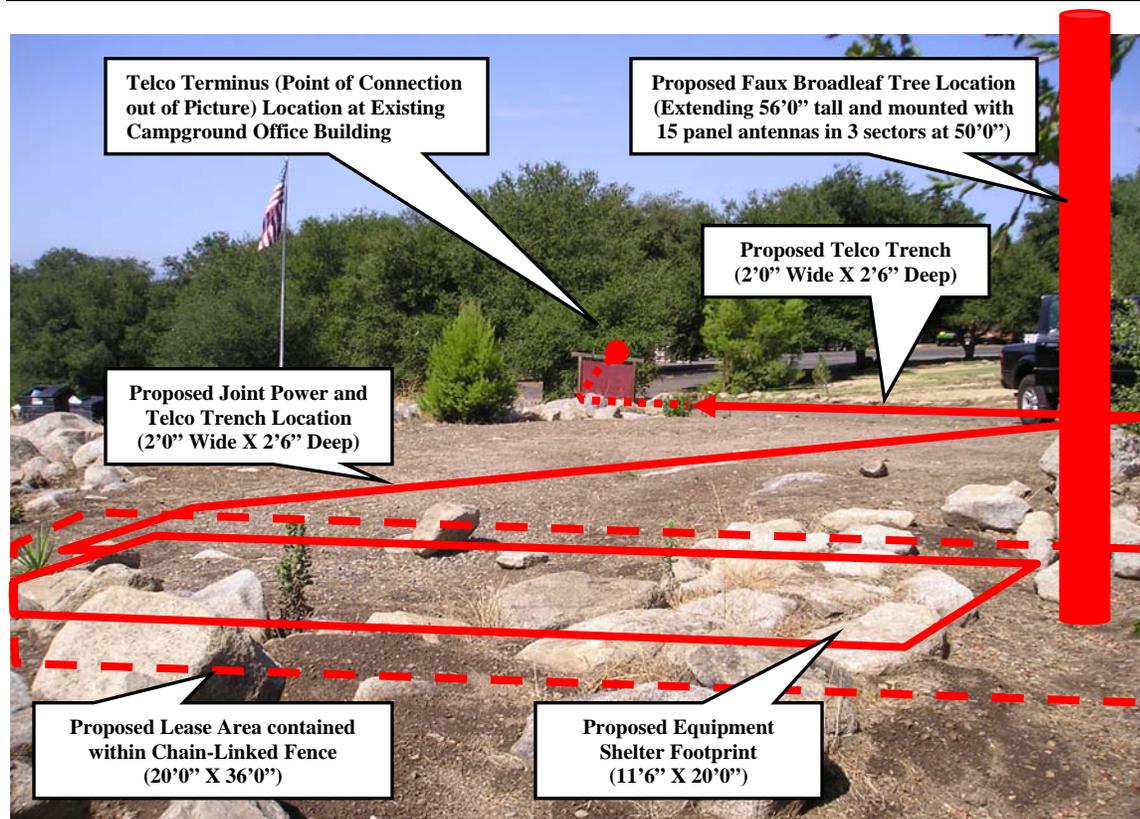
Special Status Wildlife Species Table (Cont.)

Species		Status			Required Habitat	Potential to Occur / Known Occurrence / Suitable Habitat
Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal	State	Other		
<p>Not Likely to Occur - Not Present - This species was not observed or otherwise detected on the project site, and it is improbable that this species would be found on the project site. There are no present or historical records of the species occurring on or in the immediate vicinity (within 3 miles) of the project site and the diagnostic habitats strongly associated with the species do not occur on or in the immediate vicinity of the site.</p> <p>Low Potential to Occur - There is a historical record of the species in the vicinity of the project site and potentially suitable habitat on site, but existing conditions (e.g. density of cover, prevalence of non-native species, evidence of disturbance, limited habitat area, isolation) substantially reduce the possibility that the species may occur. The site is above or below the recognized elevation limits for this species.</p> <p>Moderate Potential to Occur - The diagnostic habitats associated with the species occur on or in the immediate vicinity of the project site, but there is not a recorded occurrence of the species within the immediate vicinity (within three miles). Some species that contain extremely limited distributions may be considered moderate, even if there is a recorded occurrence in the immediate vicinity.</p> <p>High Potential to Occur - There is both suitable habitat associated with the species and a historical record of the species on or in the immediate vicinity of the project site (within 3 miles).</p> <p>Species Present - The species was observed on the project site at the time of the survey or during a previous biological survey.</p>						

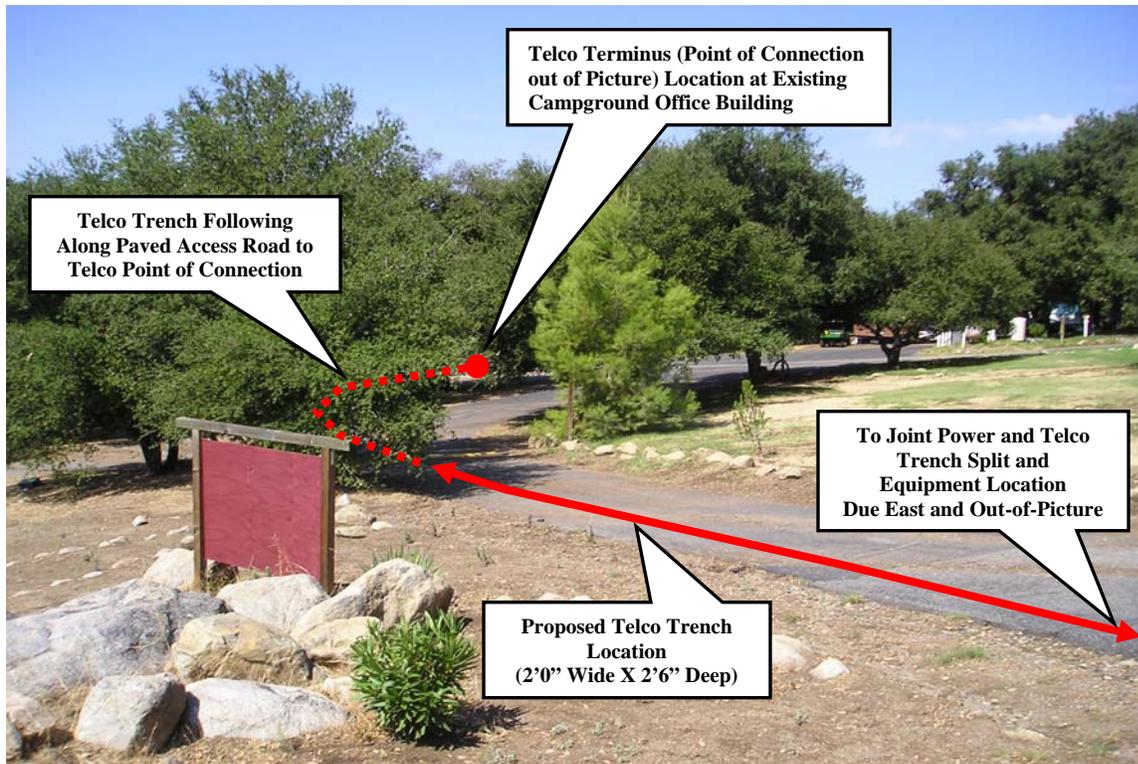
Attachment C: Site Photographs



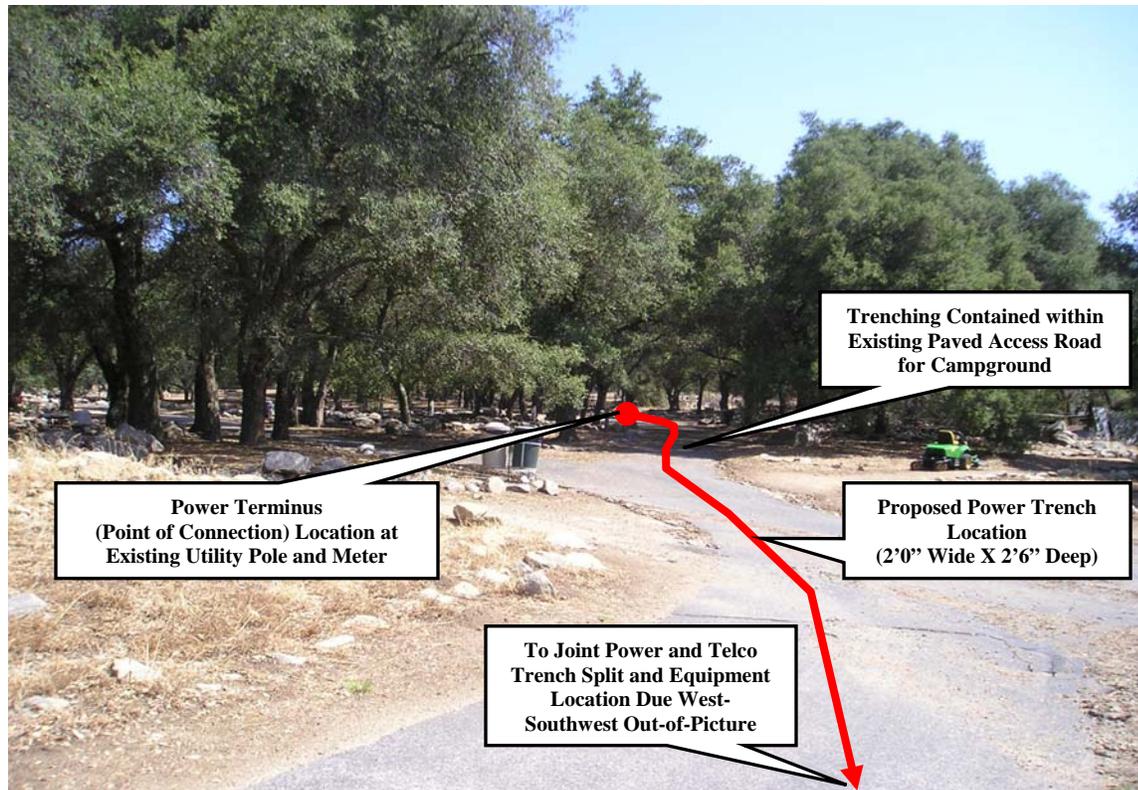
Photograph 1 - Location of proposed faux broadleaf tree, equipment shelter, and portions of joint power and telco trench, facing east. The footprint of the chain-linked perimeter fence for the lease area is indicated in a red dashed line. The area is characterized by disturbed land (primarily bare earth) and a small stand of ornamental shrubs to the left (immediate north) of the faux broadleaf tree.



Photograph 2 - Location of proposed faux broadleaf tree, equipment shelter, joint power and telco trench, and portions of telco trench and terminus, facing west. The footprint of the chain-linked perimeter fence for the lease area is indicated in a red dashed line. The area is characterized by disturbed land (primarily bare earth) and a small stand of ornamental shrubs immediately adjacent to the faux broadleaf tree. All trenching for joint power and telco trench will be entirely contained within existing disturbed land characterized by bare earth, all trenching for telco trench will be entirely contained within developed and paved portions of the existing access roads for the campground.



Photograph 3 - View of proposed telco trench route, facing west. Existing point of connection and telco trench terminus at existing campground office building in background. All trenching for telco trench will be entirely contained within developed and paved portions of the existing access roads for the campground. Note that disturbed land and developed paved access roads for the existing campground serve as the understory for a relatively low quality coast live oak woodland. This disturbed and developed understory has been previously cleared, graded, and compacted for various existing campground developments. To minimize or eliminate potential impacts to existing above- and below-ground resources, including the existing coast live oak trees (*Quercus agrifolia*) and associated coast live oak woodland, the proposed project has been specifically designed to contain all development and construction activities within the existing disturbed and developed portions of the campground.



Photograph 4 - View of proposed power trench route, facing northeast. Existing point of connection and power trench terminus at existing utility pole and meter for campground in background. All trenching for power trench will be entirely contained within developed and paved portions of the existing access roads for the campground. Similar to the proposed telco trench location, disturbed land and developed paved access roads for the existing campground serve as the understory for a coast live oak woodland. The understory has been previously cleared, graded, and compacted for various existing campground developments. The proposed developments and construction activities will be restricted to the existing disturbed and developed portions of the campground. No significant impacts are anticipated to any above- and below-ground resources, including the existing coast live oak trees (*Quercus agrifolia*) and associated coast live oak woodland.