

I-6 BARBARA SWANSON

- I-6-1** The comment states that the Project Area is ecologically important to the County and that so much open space and wilderness has been lost to development. The comment provides an introduction to comments that follow. The comment does not raise an issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR; therefore, no further response is required or provided.
- I-6-2** The comment expresses concerns about the potential loss of golden eagle habitat. The comment states that golden eagles nest in the area and need, on average, 36 square miles of foraging habitat; golden eagles are sensitive to human disturbance and may abandon their nests due to human encroachment within a mile of their nest site; and golden eagles require territory that supports enough prey to feed them and their families.
- The comment provides general information about golden eagle. Please refer to **Thematic Response – Golden Eagle**.
- I-6-3** The comment states that if the Village 14 proceeds as planned, it is very likely that the golden eagle habitat, used by at least 10 eagles with tracking devices, will no longer support eagles and questions where these eagles are supposed to go. The commenter states that eagles can fly long distances, but habitat is being lost “all over the country.” The commenter states that it is likely some of the birds will not thrive or raise young and the population will slowly decline. Please refer to **Thematic Response – Golden Eagle**.
- I-6-4** The comment expresses a concern that many other birds and wildlife will also lose their home as a result of the Proposed Project and that many of them will likely die or be unable to raise young. The comment states it has been estimated that nationwide the population of birds is declining 4% a year, and states that if the Proposed Project is approved, the County will be responsible for contributing to this decline. Please refer to the Draft EIR, Section 2.4, Biological Resources. The comment does not raise any issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR; therefore, no further response is required or provided.
- I-6-5** The comment requests the County consider wildlife in the Village 14 area and reduce or relocate the Proposed Project to a less ecologically sensitive area. Please refer to Draft EIR, specifically Section 2.4.3.5, Guideline 4.5: Local Policies, Ordinances, and Adopted Plans; Section 3.1.3.2.2, Conflict with Plans, Policies, and Regulations; and Section 3.1.3.2.3, Conflict with Habitat Conservation Plan or Natural Community

Conservation Plan regarding the Proposed Project's consistency with adopted habitat conservation plans. The Proposed Project is consistent with, and within areas designated for development in the San Diego County General Plan, Otay Ranch General Development Plan/Otay Subregional Plan, Volume II and Otay Ranch Resource Management Plan, and is within areas that are not identified as Preserve in the Multiple Species Conservation Program County of San Diego Subarea Plan, as described in the Draft EIR. The comment does not raise an issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR; therefore, no further response is required or provided.

- I-6-6** The comment provides a quote by Ken Rosenberg of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology that states, "To me, the top three threats to birds are habitat loss, habitat loss, and habitat loss. We're losing the battle acre by acre." The Rosenberg quote is not related to the Draft EIR and does not raise an issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. No further response is required or provided.