

November 14, 2018

RE: Biological Letter Report the Nordahl Tentative Parcel Map Project, PDS 2017-TPM-21250:

The following represents the Biological Letter Report for a residential subdivision project located at the intersection of Rock Spring Road and Nordahl Road (Assessor Parcel Number (APN) 226-290-50).

## **SUMMARY**

The proposed project involves the subdivision of one existing parcel (APN 226-290-50) into five legal parcels. Each of the new parcels will be fully developed and will ultimately contain a graded residential pad, landscaping and driveway. The remainder parcel will not be developed but as part of this action is counted as impacted with respect to onsite biological resources.

The project is located within the Draft North County Multiple Species Conservation Program Subarea Plan (NC MSCP). Only one habitat type, non-native grasslands occurs on-site. The project will impact 3.1 acres of non-native grasslands requiring 1.55 acres of non-native grasslands to be purchased at a County approved off-site mitigation bank. No sensitive species (plant or wildlife) were observed or are anticipated to be impacted by the project. However, raptor and bird species have the potential to nest onsite and immediately adjacent. To avoid the direct loss of nest(s) protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) a pre-construction nesting survey will be required. If project brushing, clearing, grubbing, grading, or construction activities are proposed within 500 feet of nesting raptor habitat and/or 300 feet of migratory bird nesting habitat during the migratory bird breeding season (January 15th through August 31), a qualified Countyapproved biologist shall conduct a pre-construction survey no more than three days prior to the proposed activities to determine the presence/absence of nesting raptors and/or other migratory birds to ensure that active nests are not impacted. If active nest(s), are detected or breeding behavior observed no construction activities should occur until the young have fledged and are no longer returning to the nest(s), as determined by the project biologist. If no active nests are detected or breeding behavior observed construction activities may commence following concurrence by the USFWS and CDFW that the project will not directly or indirectly impact nesting migratory birds and/or raptors.

## INTRODUCTION, PROJECT DESCRIPTION, LOCATION AND SETTING

## **Project Description**

The proposed project is a residential subdivision which involves splitting APN 226-290-50 (3.1 acres in size) into five parcels including four new parcels and one remainder parcel. The four new parcels will each be less than 0.5-acres in size and will be entirely developed. Each parcel will contain a graded housing pad, residence, landscaping and a driveway. The remainder parcel will not be developed.

## **Project Location**

The proposed project is located within the unincorporated portion of San Diego County between the City of San Marcos and the City of Escondido (Figure 1). The project is specifically located north of Rock Spring Road and west of Nordahl Road (Figure 2). The project site is within the boundaries of the Draft North County Multiple Species Conservation Program Subarea Plan (NC MSCP). However, the project site is outside the Draft NC MSCP Pre-Approved Mitigation Area (PAMA).

#### <u>Project Setting</u>

The site is composed of vacant land that is surrounded by existing residential properties to the north, west and east. The site is bounded on the northern side by Anka Lane, the southern side by Rock Spring Road and the eastern side by Nordahl Road. Five residential parcels are located along the western boundary of the project site. South of Rock Spring Road a large, vacant field occurs.

The study area is shown on the southwest portion of the Valley Center United States Geologic Service (USGS) 7.5-minute Quadrangle Map. The project location is west of Interstate 15 and north of State Route 78. The elevation slopes moderately from the southern boundary upslope to the to the northern boundary. The approximate elevation ranges from 710 feet above mean sea level (AMSL) to 770 feet AMSL.

Three soil types have been mapped on site and they include Huerhuero loam, 2 to 9 percent slopes (Hrc), Escondido very fine sandy loam (EsD2), 9 to 15 percent slopes, eroded, and San Miguel rocky silt loam, 9 to 30 percent (SmE) (Bowman 1973). All portions of the site show signs and evidence of disturbance including minor grading, disking and fuel load maintenance.

#### **SITE SURVEY**

KBC biologist Korey Klutz conducted two general surveys of the project site. The first survey was conducted on May 17<sup>th</sup> between 1000-1100 and the second surveys was conducted on June 12th, 2017 between 1200 and 1330. Conditions during the field surveys consisted of clear skies and a temperature range of approximately 70-77

degrees Fahrenheit. A search of the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB, 2018) Valley Center 7.5' USGS Quadrangle was also conducted to identify sensitive species known to occur in the general vicinity of the project site.

Although the entire project area was surveyed, some sensitive resources may not have been detected due to the duration and season of the survey event. Rare annual plants may not have been apparent due to the seasonal timing of the surveys could have been outside the blooming season, and any wildlife species that are not active during the day (e.g. strictly nocturnal), that are secretive in their habits, or that use the site only periodically like during nesting may not have been detected during the survey.

Mapping was performed following the Biological Resource Mapping Guidelines within the Report Format and Content Requirements: Biological Resources (County 2010). Wildlife was identified directly by sight or by vocalizations, and indirectly by scat, tracks, or burrows. Field notes were maintained throughout the surveys. The primary focus of the surveys were to document and map the size, location, and general quality of all habitat types and the presence or potential presence of any sensitive resources (plant or wildlife) onsite.

Nomenclature for this report conforms to Hickman (2014), for plants, Holland (1986) and Oberbauer (2008) for plant communities and habitat types, American Ornithological Union (AOU 1998 and 2000) for birds, Jennings (1983) and Stebbins (2003) for reptiles and amphibians, Jones (1992) for mammals, and Powell (1979) for insects.

## **Biological Resources Present**

The site does not contain any native habitats. Non-native grassland is the only habitat type that occurs on site.

## **Regional Context**

The project is located within the Draft NC MSCP and is outside of the Draft NC MSCP PAMA. Within the Draft NC MSCP the project site is located approximately 1.5 miles southwest of the currently proposed PAMA (Figure 3). The project is consistent with the Draft NC MSCP and would not interfere or impact the County's ability to achieve the necessary conservation guidelines, nor would the project impact the Draft NC MSCP PAMA.

## **Habitats and Vegetation Communities**

The following is a summary of the existing habitats and vegetation communities on the site. This section includes information on the habitat types, the dominant species present, and the habitat quality. Species abundance, composition, and diversity are discussed in terms of vegetative structure and wildlife, as well as the habitat sensitivity level and regional and local importance of conserving each habitat type. Non-native grassland was the only habitat type observed onsite during the field survey (Figure 4).

## Non-native grassland (Habitat Code: 42200)

Onsite areas mapped as non-native grassland are dominated by non-native plant species comprised primarily by slender wild oat (*Avena barbata*), ripgut (*Bromus diandrus*), Bermuda grass (*Cynodon dactylon*) and long beak filaree (*Erodium botrys*). Smaller amounts of morning glory (*Convolvulus arvensis*), Russian thistle (*Salsola tragus*) and yellow star thistle (*Centaureo melitensis*) were also observed. Small mammal activity was observed within this habitat including signs of California ground squirrel (*Otospermophilus beecheyi*) and Botta's pocket gopher (*Thomomys bottae*) burrows.

### **General Wildlife Observations**

The site survey detected the presence of five bird species and two small mammals. Bird species observed included lesser goldfinch (*Spinus psaltria*), mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*), western king bird (*Tyrannus verticalis*), house finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*) and a lone red-tail hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) that was observed flying over the project site. Although not observed specifically burrows of both Botta's pocket gopher and California ground squirrel were detected throughout the site (Attachment B).

### Special Status Species

Following is a summary of all sensitive species with potential to occur on the site or on land immediately adjacent to the project area. Sensitive or special status plant and wildlife species and habitats are those that are considered rare, threatened, or endangered within the state or region by local, state, or federal resource conservation agencies. Sensitive species are so called because of their limited distribution, restricted habitat requirements, susceptibility to human disturbance, degradation due to development or invasion by non-native species, or a combination of these factors.

The following were used in the determination of sensitive biological resources: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) (2007, 2010); California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) (2009, 2010a, 2010b, 2010c), County Sensitive Plant and Animal list (County 2010), California Native Plant Society (CNPS) online inventory (2015), and the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB 2015).

### Sensitive Plants

two special status plant species were identified by the literature search as potentially occurring within the general project vicinity including Orcutt's Brodiaea (*Brodiaea orcuttii*) and southern tarplant (*Centromadia parryi* ssp. *australis*). However, due to the disturbed nature of the site and the lack of suitable soils and hydrology neither of these species were observed or are considered to have potential (moderate or high) to occur on site (Attachment A).

## Sensitive Wildlife

Sensitive or special status wildlife species and habitats are those that are considered rare, threatened, or endangered within the state or region by local, state, or federal

resource conservation agencies. Sensitive species are so called because of their limited distribution, restricted habitat requirements, or susceptibility to human disturbance, or a combination of these factors.

Species identified during the literature search as potentially occurring onsite included: California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*), Dulzura pocket mouse (*Chaetodipus californicus femoralis*), western yellow bat (*Lasiurs xanthinus*), hoary bat (*Lasiurus cinereus*), white faced ibis (*Plegadis chihi*), least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*), big free tailed bat (*Nyctinomops macrotis*), burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*), Sawinson's hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*), American badger (*Taxidea taxus*), pallid bat (*Antrozous pallidus*), coast horned lizard (*Phrynosoma blainvillii*), and orangethroat whiptail (*Aspidoscelis hyperythra*). These species have the potential to occur because they have been previously identified in close proximity to the project site. However, due to the disturbed nature of the site, and the lack of suitable habitat none of the species were identified during the field survey and none of them are likely to occur on site (Attachment C).

## **Burrowing Owl**

The project site contains non-native grassland habitat that is suitable for burrowing owls. However, during the field surveys no burrowing owls or sign of burrowing owls were observed. The closest known extant location for burrowing owl occurs 15 miles southeast of the project site at the Ramona Grasslands. A 1904 historic location for burrowing owl is identified by the CNDDB as occurring 2.5 miles away from the project site. However, the centroid location of this record now consists of developed lands and most of the landscape between the two sites (project site and Escondido CNDDB observation) is heavily disturbed/developed (CNDDB 2018). Thus, burrowing owl are considered to have a low potential to occur on-site.

### **Raptor Nesting and Foraging**

Adjacent to the project site mature trees (primarily eucalyptus species) support potential raptor nesting sites. Raptors are large predatory or scavenger birds that typically require tall trees for perching and nesting associated with adjacent open grasslands to forage. Due to declining habitat and the associated declining numbers of these species on the whole, many raptor species have been designated as California Species of Special Concern by the CDFW. These species are protected, especially during their critical nesting and wintering stages. Raptors are protected under the CDFW California Raptor Protection Act (Title 14, Section 670). No nests were observed onsite but suitable foraging habitat (nonnative grasslands) occurs onsite and adjacent to the project site. Specifically, there is approximately 10 acres of non-native grassland habitat associated with a rural residence southwest of the project site.

#### Migratory Bird Treaty Act

On-site bird species have the potential to nest along the western boundary within the ornamental plantings that are along the fence line, and on the ground within the non-

native grassland habitat. Active bird nests are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA).

## Jurisdictional Wetlands and Waterways

No jurisdictional waters or wetlands occur within the study area or immediately adjacent to the study area.

## Other Unique Features/Resources

## Wildlife Corridors and Linkages

No regional wildlife corridors or regional linkages occur within the project site or adjacent to the project site.

## **Topography/Connectivity**

As detailed in the project setting section, the project site moderately slopes upward from the southern boundary to the northern boundary. The southern portion of the site is approximately 710 feet AMSL and the northern portion is approximately feet AMSL (Figure 2). The project site does not contain any unique topographic or unique connectivity areas.

#### SIGNIFICANCE OF PROJECT IMPACTS AND PROPOSEDMITIGATION

The study area is located within the County of San Diego's Draft NC MSCP but is outside of the PAMA. The impact analysis and associated mitigation requirements are consistent with the Draft NC MSCP.

## **Vegetation Communities**

The proposed project would impact 3.1 acres of non-native grassland habitat within the study area. Impacts to non-native grasslands would be significant and would require mitigation. Impacts are proposed to be mitigated at a 0.5:1 ratio off-site (within an approved County mitigation bank) (Table 1).

**Table 1. Project Impacts to Vegetation Communities** 

Habitat Type	Acres within the Project Site (APN 226- 290-50)	Impacts within Project Footprint (Acres)	Mitigation Ratio	Mitigation Acreage
Non-native grassland	3.1	3.1	0.5:1	1.55-acre

#### Impacts to Special Status Species

No special status species were observed on the site. The loss of non-native grassland, which supports small mammals (Botta's pocket gophers and California ground squirrels), would potentially impact common or special status avian species which may forage on site. In addition, the project has the potential to support MBTA and nesting raptors. A preconstruction nesting bird survey will be required to ensure the project does not directly or indirectly impact MBTA bird species.

## Wildlife Corridors

The project will not impact any regional wildlife corridors or linkages <u>Impacts to Riparian Habitats and Sensitive Natural Communities</u>

The study area does not contain any riparian habitat or sensitive natural communities. Impacts will not occur to riparian habitat or sensitive natural communities.

### Impacts to Local Plans, Ordinances and Adopted Plans

Based upon the County Guidelines for Determining Significance – Biological Resources (2010), a significant impact related to local policies, ordinances and adopted plans would occur if the project would:

- Impact coastal sage scrub vegetation within lands outside of the MSCP more than the County's five-percent habitat loss threshold, or preclude connectivity between areas of high values, as defined by the Southern California Coastal Sage Scrub NCCP Guidelines.
- Preclude or prevent the preparation of the subregional NCCP.
- Impact any amount of wetlands or sensitive habitat lands as outlined in the RPO.
- Not minimize and/or mitigate coastal sage scrub habitat loss in accordance with Section 4.3 of the NCCP Guidelines.
- Not conform with the goals and requirements, as outlined in any applicable
  Habitat Conservation Plan, Habitat Management Plan, Special Area
  Management Plan, Watershed Plan, or similar regional planning effort.
- Not minimize impacts to Biological Resources Core Areas (BRACs) within lands in the MSCP, as defined by the BMO.
- Not avoid impacts to MSCP narrow endemic species and would impact core populations of narrow endemics.
- Reduce the likelihood of survival and recovery of listed species in the wild.
- Result in the killing of migratory birds or destruction of active migratory bird nests and/or eggs (MBTA).
- Reduce functional foraging habitat for raptors.
- Result in the take of eagles, eagle eggs or any part of an eagle (Bald Eagle Protection Act)

## Impact to Coastal Sage Scrub

The project site does not contain any coastal sage scrub habitat. No-native grassland is the only habitat onsite. Therefore, the project will not contribute to the loss of coastal sage scrub habitat or preclude connectivity between habitats of high value; no impact is identified related to this subthreshold.

## Preparation of a Subregional NCCP

The project site is within Draft NC MSCP but is located outside of the Draft PAMA. The project would not impact the preparation of a subregional Conservation Plan (NCCP). Therefore, no impact is identified for this threshold. However, it should be noted that the project will mitigate onsite impacts offsite within the Draft NCMSCP PAMA. Implementation of the project will help the County assemble the Draft NCMSCP Preserve.

## Impact Wetlands or Sensitive Lands as Identified in the RPO

No wetlands or sensitive lands as identified in the RPO exist onsite. Therefore, no impact is identified for this threshold.

## Minimization/Mitigation of Coastal Sage Scrub Habitat Loss

The project site does not contain any coastal sage scrub habitat. The project site only contains non-native grassland. Therefore, the project will not contribute to the loss of coastal sage scrub habitat and no impact is identified related to this subthreshold.

## Non-Conformance with HCP, HMP, Special Area Management Plan, Watershed Plan or Similar Plan

There are no existing/approved County HCPs, HMPs, Special Area Management Plans, or Watershed Plans for the area, and therefore there are no impacts.

### Impacts to MSCP Narrow Endemic Species

No MSCP narrow endemic species have been identified within the project area and therefore there are no impacts.

## Reduce Survival and Recovery of Listed Species

No Listed Species have been identified within the project area and therefore there are no impacts.

#### Reduce Raptor Nesting and Foraging

The project will not directly impact knownraptor nests. However, implementation of the project will impact moderate quality raptor foraging habitat. These impacts will be mitigated by the off-site purchase of 1.55 acres of non-native grasslands at a County approved mitigation bank.

#### MBTA Species

The proposed project will impact 3.1 acres of non-native grassland habitat. No sensitive species will be impacted by the project. Although raptors and MBTA bird species have the potential to nest onsite. To avoid the direct loss of nest(s) protected under the MBTA a pre-construction nesting survey will be required. If project brushing, clearing, grubbing, grading, or construction activities are proposed within 500 feet of nesting raptor habitat and/or 300 feet of migratory bird nesting habitat during the migratory bird breeding season (January 15<sup>th</sup> through August 31), a qualified County-approved biologist shall conduct a pre-construction survey no more than three days prior to the proposed activities to determine the presence/absence of nesting raptors and/or other migratory birds to ensure that active nests are not impacted. If active nest(s), are detected or breeding behavior is observed no construction activities should occur until the young have fledged and are no longer returning to the nest(s), as determined by the project biologist. If no active nests are present or no breeding behavior is observed construction activities may commence following concurrence by the USFWS and CDFW that the project will not directly or indirectly impact nesting migratory birds and/or raptors.

### Take of Eagles or Eagle Eggs

No golden eagles have been recorded in the project area and no nesting sites are known within 4000 feet of the project site. Thus, the project would not have an impact to eagles. No impact is identified for this subthreshold.

## **Cumulative Impacts**

Due to relative size and fact the study area is isolated from other habitat patches the loss of 3.1 acres of non-native grassland habitat is not anticipated to result in a significant cumulative impact.

### **MITIGATION**

As detailed previously, the project will impact 3.1 acres of non-native grassland requiring offsite mitigation at a ratio of 0:5:1. Mitigation credits (1.55 acres) will be purchased at a County approved mitigation bank.

Although no nests were observed, could the project site contains potential nesting habitat for bird species protected under the MBTA. This represents a potentially significant impact. As a mitigation measure for this potential impact, if any construction work is proposed to occur during the County of San Diego raptor breeding season (January 15–August 31), a qualified County-approved biologist shall conduct a pre-construction survey no more than three days prior to the proposed activities to determine the presence/absence of nesting raptors and/or other migratory birds to ensure that active nests are not impacted. If active nest(s), are detected or breeding behavior observed, no construction activities should occur until the young have fledged and are no longer returning to the nest(s), as determined by the project biologist. If no active nests are detected or breeding behavior is observed, construction activities may commence following concurrence by the USFWS and CDFW that the project will not directly or

indirectly impact nesting migratory birds and/or raptors.

Standard siltation and erosion control Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be implemented during construction, including boundary silt fencing, gravel bags, fiber rolls, weed-free straw wattles and mulch, and slope stabilization. The landscape plan will stipulate that project landscaping will not include exotic plant species listed on the California Invasive Plant Council's (Cal-IPC) "Invasive Plant Inventory" list.

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## Preparer and Persons/Organizations Contacted

Prepared by:

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Henry Heter

**ATTACHMENTS:** 

Figure 1 Regional Vicinity

Figure 2 Project Vicinity

Figure 3 Draft NCMSCP

Figure 4 Biological Resources

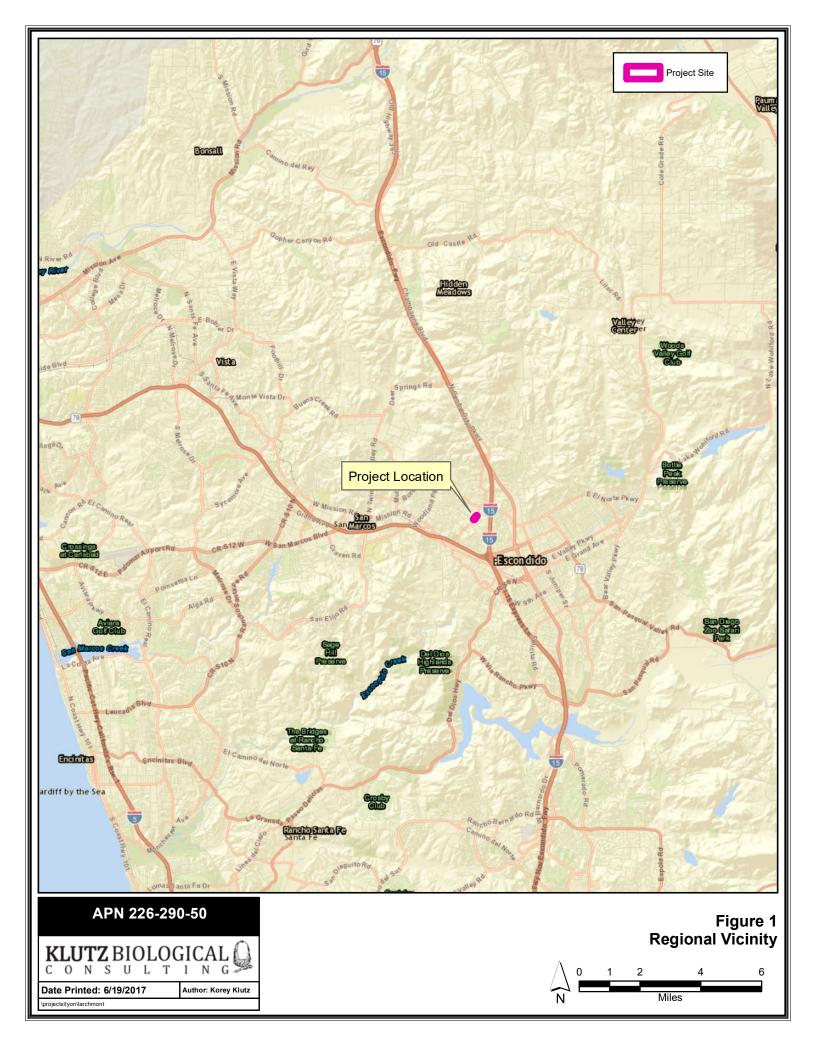
Figure 5 Project Impacts

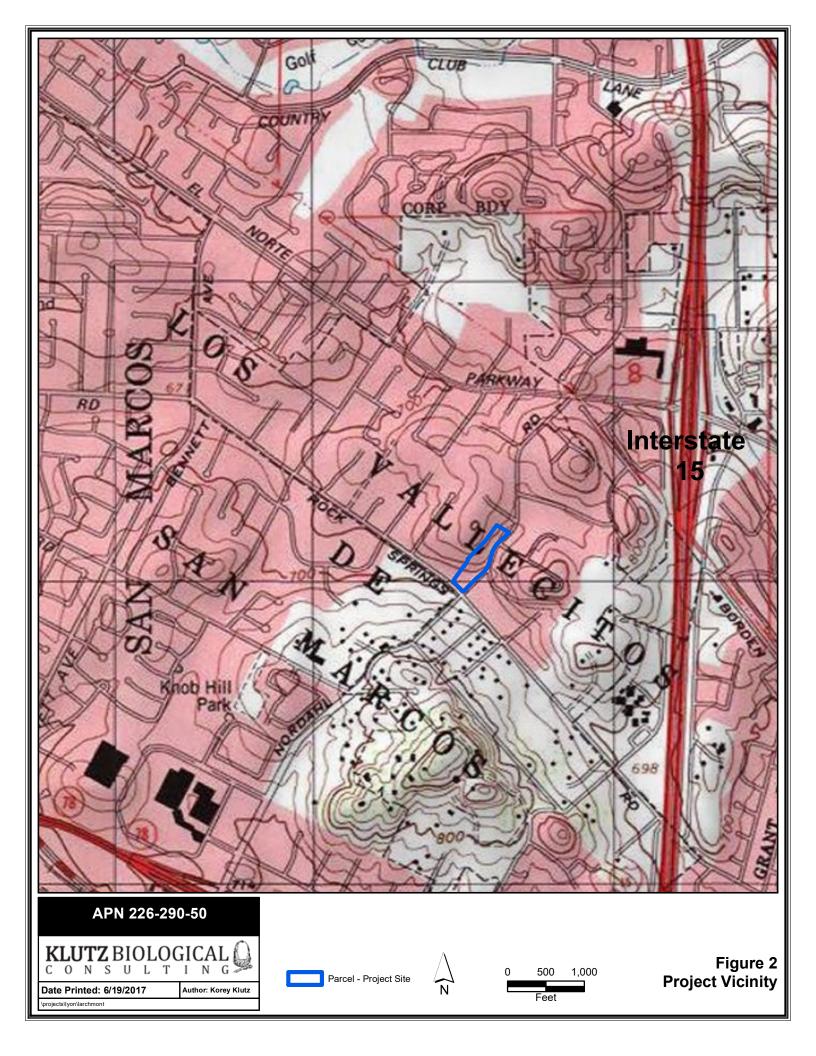
Attachment A Vascular Plant List

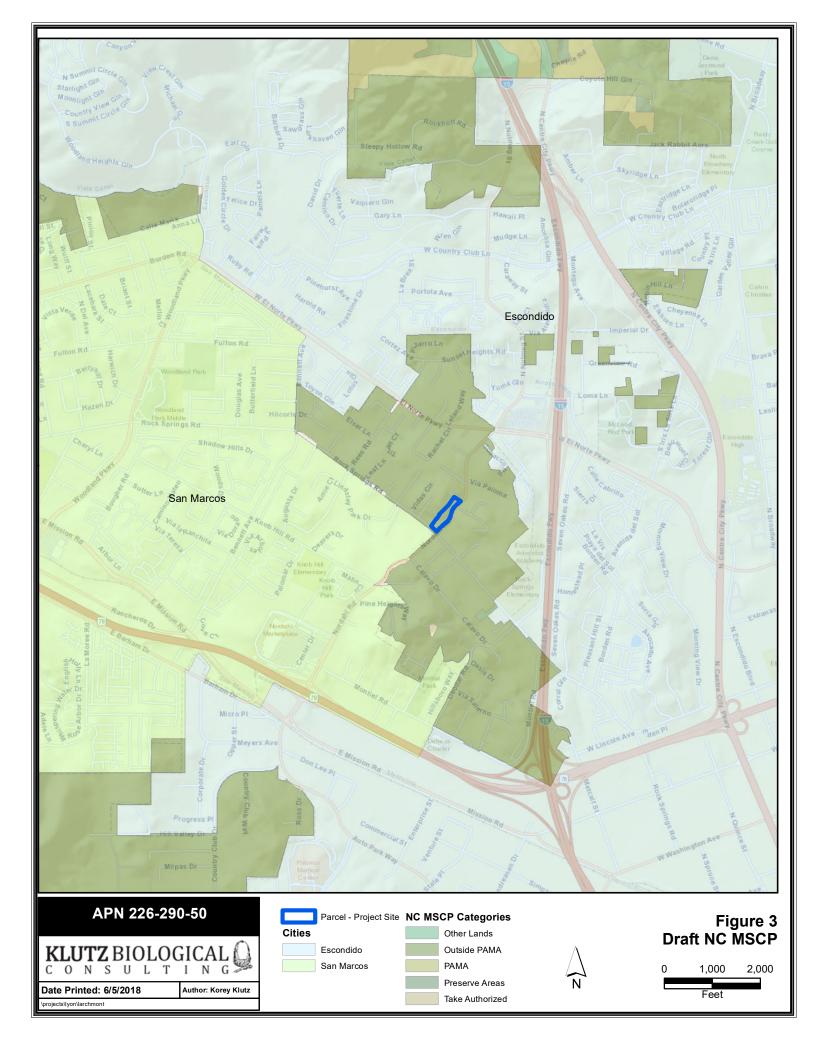
Attachment B Wildlife List

Attachment C Special Status Species with Potential to Occur

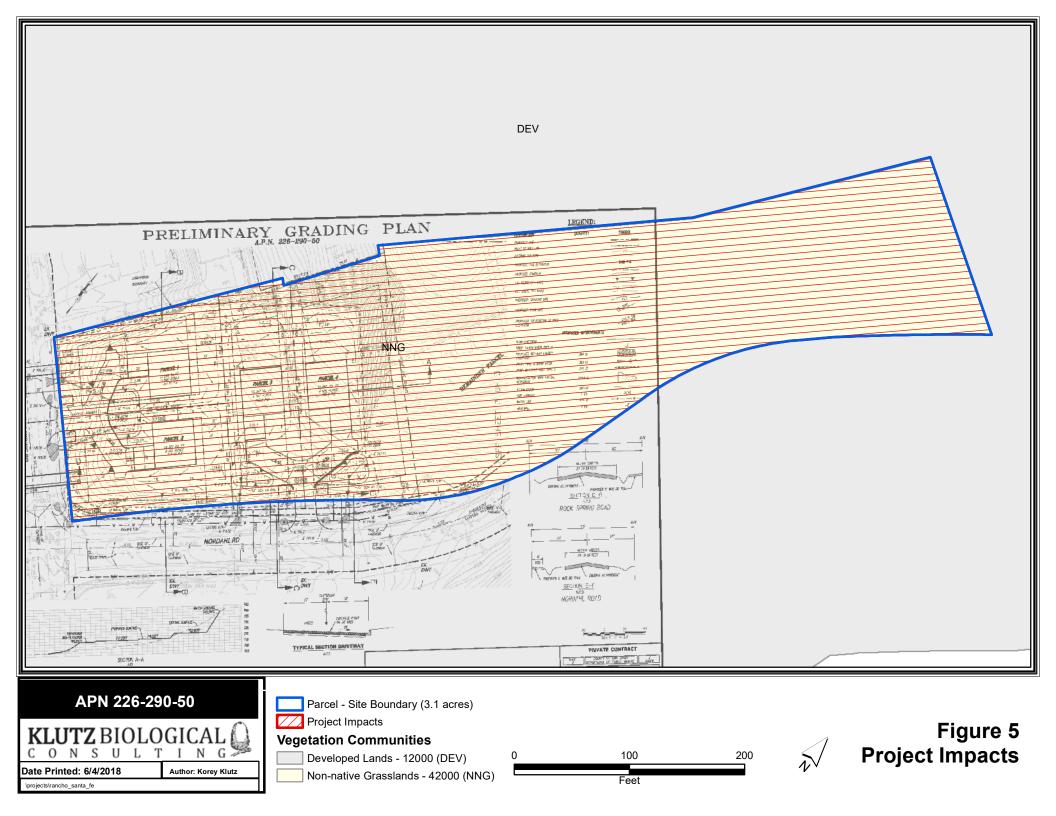
Photographs











# Attachment A – Vascular Plant Species Observed at the Valley Center Tractor Supply Site

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status
Amaranthus sp.*	Amaranthus	
Ambrosia psilostachya	Western ragweed	
Anagalis arvensis*	Pimpernel	
Arundo donax*	Giant reed	
Atriplex semibaccata*	Atriplex	
Avena barbata	Slender wild oat	
Convolvulus arvensis*	Morning glory	
Convolvulus arvensis*	Morning glory	
Conyza sp.*	Horseweed	
Croton setigerus	Doveweed	
Eriogonum fasciculatum	California buckwheat	
Erodium botrys*	Longbeak filaree	
Eucalyptus sp.*	Eucalyptus	
Euphorbia sp.*	Rattlesnake weed	
Foeniculum vulgare*	Wild fennel	
Hedypnois cretica*	Crete weed	
Hirschfeldia incana*	mustard	
Hordeum marinum*	Barely	
Lactuca serriola*	Lactuca	
Lolium perenne*	Lolium	
Malosma laurina	Laurel sumac	
Malva parviflora*	Mallow	
Melilotus indicus*	Sweet clover	
Nicotiana glauca*	Tobacco tree	
Olea europea*	Olive	
Opuntia ficus-indicus*	Mexican prickly pear	
Opuntia littoralis	Prickly pear	
Pennisetum setaceum*	Fountain grass	
Polygonum sp.*	Knotweed	
Quercus agrifolia	Coast live oak	
Raphanus sativa*	Wild radish	
Salsola tragus*	Russian thistle	
Schinus terebinthifolius*	Brazilian peppertree	
Sonchus asper*	Sonchus	
Stipa pulchra	Purple needle grass	
Xanthium strumarium*	Cocklebur	
*= non-native species		

# Attachment B – Wildlife Species Observed at the Valley Center Tractor Supply Site

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status		
Spinus psaltria	Lesser goldfinch			
Zenaida macroura	Mourning dove			
Haemorhous mexicanus*	House finch			
Buteo jamaicensis	Red-tail hawk			
Tyrannus verticalis	Western king bird			
Thomomys bottae	Botta's pocket gopher (burrows observed)			
Otospermophilus beecheyi	California ground squirrel			
*= non-native species				

# Appendix C. Special Status Species with Potential to Occur Onsite

Species	Status	Habitat	Potential to Occur
<u>Plant Species</u>			
San Diego thornmint (Acanthomintha ilicifolia)	CRPR 1B, FE	Annual wildflower that occurs on friable clay soils.	Not detected. Suitable soils do not occur on-site.
Orcutt's Brodiaea ( <i>Brodiaea orcuttii</i> )	CRPR 1B	Perennial bulbiferous herb that typically blooms from May – July. Occurs in seasonally wet areas (mesic), on clay, and sometimes serpentinite soils. Habitats may include closed-cone coniferous forest, chaparral, cismontane woodland, meadows and seeps, valley and foothill grassland, non-native grasslands and vernal pools.	Not detected. Suitable mesic conditions do not occur on-site.
Del Mar Manzanita ( <i>Arctostaphylos glandulosa</i> ssp. crassifolia)	CRPR 1B, FE	Perennial shrub that occurs in southern maritime chaparral.	Not detected. Suitable habitat does not occur onsite. This species would have been easily identifiable during the field surveys.
San Diego button celery (Eryngium aristulatum)		This species occurs in mesic conditions or vernal pools that are associated with Diegan coastal sage scrub, and grassland habitats.	Not detected. Suitable mesic/vernal pool habitat does not occur on- site.
Spreading Navarretia (Navarretia fossalis)	CRPR 1B, FT	This species occurs in mesic conditions or vernal pools that are associated with Diegan coastal sage scrub, and grassland habitats.	Not detected. Suitable mesic/vernal pool habitat does not occur on- site.
Parry's tetracoccus (Tetracoccus dioicus)	CRPR 1B	Perennial shrub that occurs on mafic soils in chaparral habitats.	Not detected. Suitable habitat does not occur onsite. This species would have been easily identifiable during the field surveys.

Southern tarplant (Centromadia parryi ssp. australis).  Narrow-petaled rein orchid (Piperia leptopetala)	CRPR 1B	An annual herb that blooms from May – November. Occurs on the margins of marshes/swamps, vernally mesic grasslands and within vernal pools/vernal swales.  A perennial herb that blooms from May through July. Primary habitats include cismontane	Not detected. Suitable mesic conditions do not occur on-site.  Not detected. Suitable habitat does not occur on-site.
Engelmann oak (Quercus engelmannii)	CRPR 4	A semideciduous tree that occurs in open to dense woodland habitats.	Not detected. Suitable habitat does not occur on-site.
Wildlife Species			
Cooper's Hawk (Accipiter cooperi)	SSC	Nest in woodlands habitats. This species will forage in a variety of habitats including scrub, chaparral and grassland habitats.	Not detected. Suitable foraging habitat occurs onsite.
Sharp-shinned hawk (Accipiter striatus)	CDFW Watch List	Feeds mostly on small birds in a variety of habitats. Nest sites are usually 20 to 60 feet above ground within dense cover.	Not detected. Suitable foraging habitat occurs on-site
Pallid bat (Antrozous pallidus)	SSC	A wide-ranging bat species that occur from Mexico north into western Canada. This species roots in rock crevices, building and bridges.	Not detected. Suitable roosting habitat does not occur onsite. Suitable foraging habitat does occur onsite.
Western red bat (Eumops perotis californicus)	SSC	Roosting habitat includes forests and woodlands, often in edge habitats adjacent to streams, fields, or urban areas. Usually among dense foliage, in forests and wooded areas, making long migrations from the northern latitudes to warmer climes for winter, sometimes hibernates in tree hollows or woodpecker holes.	Not detected. Suitable roosting habitat does not occur onsite.
Townsend's big- eared bat (Corynorhinus townsendii)	SSC	A wide-ranging bat species that is primarily occurs in western portion of the United States but is also found in southwestern Canada and northern Mexico. This species will form maternity roosts sites in mines, caves or buildings. Of note, males roost individually.	Not detected. Suitable roosting habitat does not occur on-site.

Small-footed myotis ( <i>Myotis</i> <i>ciliolabrum</i> )		Found throughout most of western North America, from southwestern Canada south into Mexico. There is not much information on the habitat requirements of this species, but it has been documented under rock slabs and in crevices, mine tunnels, under loose tree bark, and in buildings.	Not detected. Suitable roosting habitat does not occur on-site.
Long eared myotis ( <i>Myotis</i> evotis)		Brush, woodland and forest habitats from sea level to 9000 ft. Lives in coniferous forests in mountain areas, roosts in small colonies in caves, buildings and under tree bark.	Not detected. Suitable roosting habitat does not occur on-site.
Long legged myotis ( <i>Myotis</i> volans)		Likes forested mountainous areas, sometimes desert lowlands. Roosts in tree hollows and under bark, in crevices and buildings.	Not detected. Suitable roosting habitat does not occur on-site.
Yuma myotis (Myotis ymanensis)		Open forests and woodlands with sources of open water for foraging.	Not detected. Suitable habitat does not occur on-site.
Fringed myotis (Myotis thysandodes)		Widespread in California, occurring in all but the Central Valley and Colorado and Mojave Deserts. Optimal habitats are pinyon-juniper, valley foothill hardwood and hardwood-conifer, generally at 4,000-7,000 ft.	Not detected. Suitable habitat does not occur on-site.
Golden eagle (Aquila chrysaetos)	CDFW Fully Protected, BEGEPA	Nest site include cliff ledges and sometimes large trees. Golden eagles forage in a variety of habitats including grasslands, scrub and chaparral.	Not detected. Suitable roosting habitat does not occur on-site.

San Diego desert woodrat (Neotoma lepida intermedia)	SSC	Common to abundant in Joshua tree, pinyon- juniper, mixed and chamise-redshank chaparral, sagebrush, and most desert habitats. Also found in a variety of other habitats. Moderate to dense canopies preferred. Particularly abundant in rock outcrops and rocky cliffs and slopes. Elevational range from sea level to 8500 ft.	Not detected. Suitable habitat does not occur on-site.
San Diego black- tailed jackrabbit	SSC	Found in herbaceous and desert-shrub areas and open, early stages of forest and chaparral habitats. Mostly found on the coastal side of local San Diego County mountains in open habitats, usually avoiding dense stands of chaparral or woodlands.	Not detected. Due to the isolated nature of the site (no other large open space areas occur nearby) it is unlikely that this species occurs on-site.
Ringtail (Bassariscus astutus)	CDFW Fully Protected	There are only a few documented locations in San Diego County. Known locations include Mt. Woodson, Laguna Mountains and Montezuma Grade. Smaller populations are though to persist but not a lot is known about them. This species prefers rocky, steep hillsides where it typically nests in hollows of trees.	Not detected. Suitable habitat does not occur on-site.
San Diego Ringneck snake	None	Prefers moist habitats, including wet meadows, rocky hillsides, gardens, farmland, grassland, chaparral, mixed coniferous forests, and woodlands	Not detected. Suitable moist habitats do not occur on-site.
Red-shouldered hawk ( <i>Buteo</i> lineatus)		Nests in woodlands and mixed forest with tall trees and relatively open understory vegetation. Forages in a variety of habitats including, scrub, chaparral and grasslands.	5 5
Turkey vulture (Cathartes aura)	None	Open areas including mixed farmland, forest, and rangeland, especially within a few miles of rocky or wooded areas. Rocky outcroppings, cliffs, and dry forests provide nesting sites, while open areas act as foraging habitat.	Not detected. Potential nesting habitat occurs onsite.
Costal rosy boa (Charina trivirgata roseofuscaz)	None	Typically occurs in rocky areas in coastal sage scrub, chaparral, and desert scrub. Often associated with riparian areas, although does not require permanent water source.	Not detected. Suitable habitat does not occur on-site.
Coastal western whiptail ( <i>Cnemidophorus</i> tigris	SSC	Found in arid and semiarid desert to open woodlands where the vegetation is sparse to allow for greater mobility (running) from sea level to 6,986 ft.	Not detected. Suitable habitat does not occur on-site.

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Orange-throated whiptail lizard (Aspidoscelis hyperythra)	SSC	Semi-arid brushy areas, typically with loose soil and rocks, including washes, streamsides, rocky hillsides, and coastal chaparral.	Not detected. Suitable habitat does not occur onsite.
Monarch butterfly ( <i>Danaus</i> plexippus)	Status under review	Typically overwinter in wind-protected groves of Eucalyptus sp., Pinus radiata, or Hesperocyparis macrocarpa along the California coast with nectar and water sources nearby. In San Diego County monarch can occur along the coast where they cluster in eucalyptus groves. Host plants include Asclepias spp.	Not detected. Suitable habitat does not occur on-site.
Large-blotched salamander (Ensatina eschscholtzii klauberi)	None	A terrestrial salamander that lays its eggs in moist places on land. Breeding takes place in Fall and Spring but may also occur throughout the Winter. This species prefers moist shaded evergreen and deciduous forests/woodlands.	Not detected. Suitable habitat does not occur on-site.
Loggerhead shrike ( <i>Lanius</i> ludovicianus)	SSC	Breed and forage in shrublands, open sage scrub, chaparral, desert scrub or open woodlands with a grassland understory and areas of bare ground.	Not detected. Suitable habitat doesn't occur on-site.
Southern mule deer (Odocoileus hemionus)		Common across the western U.S. in a variety of habitats from forest edges to mountains and foothills.	Not detected. Due to the disturbed nature of the site this species is considered to have a low potential to occur.

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Mountain lion (Felis concolor)	ssc	Prefers rocky areas, cliffs, and ledges that provide cover within open woodlands and chaparral.	Not detected. Suitable habitat does not occur on-site.
Grater western mastiff bat (Eumops perotis californicus)	SSC	Inhabits open, semi-arid to arid habitats, including conifer and deciduous woodlands, coastal scrub, annual and perennial grasslands, palm oases, chaparral, desert scrub, and urban areas. Roosts in crevices on vertical cliff faces, high buildings, trees, and tunnels.	Not detected. Suitable roosting habitat does not occur on-site.
Big free-tailed bat (Nyctinomops femorosaccus)	SSC	Prefer rocky terrain, feed largely on moths and roosts in buildings, caves and occasionally in holes within trees	Not detected. Suitable roosting habitat does not occur on-site.
Pocketed free-tailed bat	SSC	Associated with creosote scrub or chaparral, and large rock features such as large boulder piles or rocky canyons. Colonial and roosts primarily in crevices of rugged cliffs, high rocky outcrops and slopes. It has been found in a variety of plant associations, including desert shrub and pine-oak forests. The species may also roost in buildings, caves, and under roof tiles.	Not detected. Suitable habitat does not occur on-site.
Burrowing owl (Athene cunicularia hvauaea)	SSC	Open grasslands, prairies, farmland, airfields. Favors areas of flat open ground with very short grass or bare soil.	Not detected. Suitable non-native grassland habitat with ground squirrel burrows occur onsite.  Burrowing owls are considered to have a low potential to occur due to the lack of sign or evidence observed during the field surveys the isolated nature of the project site. Specifically, the project site is not near any major open space areas and the distance to the closest extant burrowing owl location is approximately 15 miles northwest (Ramona Grasslands CNDDB).
Coast horned lizard ( <i>Phrynosoma</i> <i>blainvillii</i> )	SSC	Inhabits open areas of sandy soil and low vegetation in valleys, foothills, and semiarid mountains from sea level to 8,000 feet (2,438 meters) in elevation.	Not detected. Suitable habitat does not occur onsite.
Coastal California gnatcatcher ( <i>Polioptila</i> californica californica)	FT, SSC	Diegan Coastal Sage Scrub and Chaparral/Sage Scrub transitional habitat.	Not detected. Suitable habitat does not occur onsite.

Least Bell's vireo (Vireo bellii pusillus)	FE, CE	Riparian habitats including southern willow scrub, mule fat scrub, and southern coast live oak riparian forest.	Not detected. Suitable habitat does not occur onsite.
Dulzura pocket mouse ( <i>Chaetodipus</i> californicus femoralis),	SSC	A subspecies of the California pocket mouse (C. californicus). California pocket mouse occurs in chaparral (and occasionally desert grassland) communities in the Sierra Nevada,	Not detected. Low to moderate potential remains for this species to occur onsite.
Western bluebird (Sialia mexicana)		Breeds and forages in open coniferous and deciduous woodlands, wooded riparian areas, grasslands, farmlands, and edge and burned areas. Nests in cavities.	Moderate potential to forage onsite. Unlikely to nest onsite due to the lack of suitable nesting cavities.
American badger (Taxidea taxus)	SSC	Inhabit a diversity of habitats with principal requirements of sufficient food, friable soils, and relatively open, uncultivated ground. Grasslands, savannas, and mountain meadows near timberline are preferred.	Not detected. Suitable habitat does not occur on-site.

Species	Status	Habitat	Potential to Occur
		Coast, Transverse, and Peninsular ranges of southern California and northern Baja California, Mexico. The distribution of <i>C.c. femoralis</i> spans the United States-Mexico border, and Dulzura pocket mouse is predominantly found in San Diego County, with scattered occurrences in the San Joaquin Valley.	
Western yellow bat (Lasiurs xanthinus)	SSC	Prefers riparian woodland habitat, especially where palm trees are found nearby.	Not detected. Suitable habitat does not occur onsite.
Hoary bat ( <i>Lasiurus</i> cinereus)	NA	The most widely distributed U.S. bat found from southern Canada through most of continental United States and Hawaii. Usually among dense foliage, in evergreen forests and wooded areas. Occurs in small numbers, rarely seen.	Not detected. Low to moderate potential exists for this species to occur within the eucalyptus trees onsite.
White faced ibis ( <i>Plegadis chihi</i> )	NA	Fresh marshes, irrigated land, tules. For foraging, favors very shallow water, as in marshes, flooded pastures, irrigated fields.  Sometimes in damp meadows with no standing water. Prefers fresh water marsh, but sometimes forages in salt marsh.	Not detected. Suitable habitat does not occur onsite.
Southern California rufous crowned sparrow (Aimophila ruficeps canescens)	NA	Coastal sage scrub and chaparral	Not detected. Suitable habitat does not occur onsite.
Swainson's hawk (Buteo swainsoni)	СТ	Swainson's Hawks often nest peripheral to riparian systems. They will also use lone trees in agricultural fields or pastures and roadside trees when available and adjacent to suitable foraging habitat. Swainson's hawk is a rare winter migrant in San Diego County.	Not detected. Suitable habitat does not occur onsite.

Western spadefoot toad ( <i>Spea</i> (Scaphiopus) hammondii)	SSC	Occurs primarily in grasslands, but occasional populations also occur in valley-foothill hardwood woodlands. Breeding and egg laying occur almost exclusively in shallow, temporary pools formed by heavy winter rains.	Not detected. Suitable breeding habitat (temporary pools) does not occur on-site.
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FE = Federal Endangered, FT = Federal Threatened, FC = Federal Candidate Species, FP = fully protected, BBC = Birds of Conservation Concern CE =

California Endangered, CT = California Threatened, SSC = Species of Special Concern, DFG Watch List

CRPR 1B = California Rare Plant Rank 1B Plants that are considered rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere, CRPR 2B = California Rare Plant Rank Plants that are considered rare, threatened, or endangered in California but more common elsewhere

# **Attachment C Photographs**



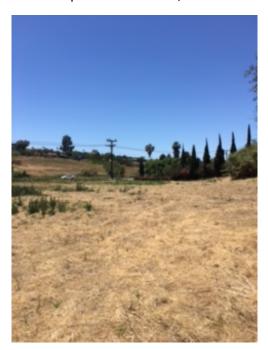
Photograph 1 Western portion of the site, view toward Rock Spring Road.



Photograph 2 Northern portion of the site view, towards Anka Lane.



Photograph 3 Central portion of the site, view towards the north.



Photograph 4 Central portion of the site, view towards the south.