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BIOLOGY LETTER REPORT

Biological Resources, Project Impacts, and Proposed Mitigation The Ortega Construction Yard Project RECORD ID: PDS2018-STP-98-031W1; APNs 396-111-10 & 396-111-17

15247 Old Highway 80 San Diego County, California 92021

~~March 2019~~
~~September 2019~~
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Summary

The Ortega Construction Yard Project (Record ID: PDS2018-STP-98-031W1) consists of a Preliminary Grading Plan to construct a 20,000 square foot warehouse and associated improvements on a portion of the approximately 5.1-acre APN 396-111-10 and APN 396-111-17 property in Lakeside. The project site adjoins Old Highway 80 in the Los Coches area of unincorporated San Diego County. The property supports three more-or-less discrete plant communities: Urban/Developed Habitat, Coast Live Oak Woodland, and disturbed Southern Coast Live Oak Riparian Forest. The project as designed avoids impacts to sensitive biological resources as a result of proposed design feature limitations. However, an avian nesting survey and/or seasonal restrictions on site development are recommended to ensure project consistency with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the California Fish and Game Code.

Introduction, Project Description, Location, and Setting

The Ortega Construction Yard Project ("Ortega Project") is application for a County of San Diego grading permit to allow for the creation of a new 20,000 square foot warehouse along with required improvements, such as landscaping, brush management, etc. within the western limits of the property. There are no proposed offsite project improvements or impacts. The project takes direct access from the north off Olde Highway 80. The site formerly supported an old residence, which was demolished and most of the site currently functions as a contract yard with vehicle storage, etc.

The Ortega Project site currently supports commercial structures and storage for construction equipment. The site is nearly flat with the exception of an incised drainage (Los Coches Creek) which bisects the western portion of the property. Onsite elevations range between approximately 1,000 feet and 1,017 feet MSL. The soil-type found onsite consists almost entirely of Visalia sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes (VaB). This soil-type is not known to support large numbers or rare or endangered plants or other sensitive biological resources.

The project site is located within the Subregional Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP) Planning Area and also within the County's MSCP Subarea Planning Area for the southwestern portion of San Diego County. It is located outside of the Pre-Approved Mitigation Area and there are no conserved Open Space Easement lands adjacent to the property. The site is located in the Metro-Lakeside-Jamul segment of the "South County" MSCP Subarea Planning area. The site does not qualify as a Biological Resource Core Area (BRCA) due to its small size and lack of significant biological resources.

The author (Vincent Scheidt) conducted a field survey of the Ortega Project site on January 30, 2019 between 12:00-14:30. Weather conditions during the survey included temperatures in the mid 60's, overcast skies, and no measurable wind.

All plants, animals, and habitats encountered during the survey were noted in the field. The entire project site was examined during the survey. Adjoining offsite areas, within a one hundred foot buffer, were examined concurrent with the baseline site surveying. The limits of each habitat-type were mapped in the field utilizing a recent aerial photograph of the property. All plants and animals identified in association with the project site are listed in Table 1, attached. Plants were identified in situ, or based on characteristic floral parts collected and later examined in detail. Floral nomenclature used in this letter follows Hickman (1993). Plant communities, as designated by numerical code, follow Holland (1996, as amended). Wildlife observations were made opportunistically. Binoculars were used to aid in observations and all wildlife species detected were noted. Animal nomenclature used in this report is taken from Stebbins (2003) for reptiles and amphibians, American Ornithologist's Union (1998, as updated) for birds, and Jones, et. al (1992) for mammals.

Vegetation Communities, Flora/Fauna, and Special Status Species

The Ortega Project site supports three plant associations: Disturbed/Developed (DH) habitat, Coast Live Oak Woodland (CLOW), and disturbed Southern Coast Live Oak Riparian Forest (dSCLORF) (Figures 3 and 4). Each of these are assigned a South County MSCP "tier" ranking, consistent with the County's Biological Mitigation Ordinance (BMO) which ranges from Tier I to Tier IV in this case.

Vegetation Communities

Disturbed Southern Coast Live Oak Riparian Forest - Tier I (Holland Code 61310) - 0.53 acre

This highly disturbed, wooded habitat is restricted to the floodway and portions of the floodplain of Los Coches Creek, a tributary to the San Diego River. The creek runs along the southern edge of the more easterly parcel, and bisects the westerly parcel. Native species indicators include mature Coast Live Oaks (*Quercus agrifolia*), California Sycamores (*Platanus racemosa*), Desert Grape (*Vitis girdiana*), Poison Oak (*Toxicodendron diversilobum*), and other riparian and semi-riparian species. However, most of the creek's length, particularly on the easterly parcel, is choked with Giant Wild Reed (*Arundo donax*), a noxious invasive species and other noxious non-natives. Disturbed Southern Coast Live Oak Riparian Forest, an MSCP Tier I habitat, is considered a sensitive biological resource in San Diego County, as defined by the County's Guidelines for Determining Significance and the BMO.

Disturbed /Developed Habitat - Tier IV (Holland Code 11300/12000) - 4.36 acres

The majority of the property supports Disturbed/Developed habitat. This includes structures, paving, parking areas, stored construction materials, various trucks and other vehicles, etc. This part of the property is of no biological resource value and is considered a Tier IV habitat-type as defined by the BMO. Impacts to

this habitat are generally unrestricted from a biological resource perspective and have no habitat mitigation obligations associated with them.

Coast Live Oak Woodland - Tier IV (Holland Code 71160) – 0.21 acre

Coast Live Oak Woodland is found in a small area within the southern-most limits of the property in the form of a cluster of Coast Live Oaks (*Quercus agrifolia*). This habitat extends offsite to the east and west for a short distance. CLOW, an MSCP Tier I habitat, is considered a sensitive biological resource in San Diego County, as defined by the County's Guidelines for Determining Significance and the BMO.

Flora and Fauna

Forty-three species of vascular plants and eight species of vertebrate animals were detected on the Ortega Project site. The species observed typify the diversity normally found in this part of San Diego County. A complete list of the plants and animals observed, listed alphabetically, can be found in Table 1, attached. This list would be expected to represent at least 80 percent of the naturalized plants occurring on this site. However, many animals are cryptic, seasonal, or nocturnal. At least dozens species of animals are expected to use the site, at least on an occasional basis.

Special Status Species

No special status or "sensitive" plant species were observed on the Ortega Project site during the field survey. Sensitive plants are those listed as "Rare", "Endangered", "Threatened", "of Special Concern", or otherwise considered noteworthy by the County of San Diego, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, or the California Native Plant Society.

Various sensitive plants are known from the general vicinity of the property. These are presented, along with an assessment of the probability of occurrence onsite, in tabular form in Table 3, attached. Most of these are associated with habitats not found here (such as vernal pools, mafic soils, etc.).

No sensitive animals were detected on the Ortega Project site during the field surveys. Sensitive animals are those listed as "Rare", "Endangered", "Threatened", "of Special Concern" or otherwise considered noteworthy by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, or the County of San Diego.

Special status animals known from the vicinity, along with an assessment of the probability of occurrence onsite, are presented in Table 3.

The following sensitive species have a moderate potential to occur on the site:

Monarch Butterfly (<i>Danaus plexippus</i>)	California Leaf-nosed Bat (<i>Macrotus californicus</i>)
Cooper's Hawk (<i>Accipiter cooperi</i>)	Small-Footed Myotis (<i>Myotis ciliolabrum</i>)
Red-shouldered Hawk (<i>Buteo lineatus</i>)	Long Eared Myotis (<i>Myotis evotis</i>)
Common Barn-owl (<i>Tyto alba</i>)	Fringed Myotis (<i>Myotis thysanodes</i>)
Pallid Bat (<i>Antrozous pallidus</i>)	Long Legged Myotis (<i>Myotis volans</i>)
Mexican Long-tongued Bat (<i>Choeronycteris mexicana</i>)	Yuma Myotis (<i>Myotis yumanensis</i>)
Townsend's Big-eared Bat (<i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i>)	Big Free-tailed Bat (<i>Nyctinomops macrotis</i>)
Spotted Bat (<i>Euderma maculatum</i>)	Pocketed Free-tailed Bat (<i>Nyctinomops femorosaccus</i>)
Greater Western Mastiff Bat (<i>Eumops perotis californicus</i>)	Western Red Bat (<i>Lasiurus blossevillei</i>)

All of these are flying birds, bats, or invertebrates that could pass (fly) over or across the property on occasion. None are expected to be resident onsite, and none are essentially dependent on any resources provided by this mostly-disturbed property. None are considered significant site resources for these reasons.

Jurisdictional Wetlands and Waterways

As mentioned, Los Coches Creek crosses the Ortega Project site. Los Coches Creek, which is a tributary to the San Diego River, traverse the southern half of the property in an east to west direction, bisecting the western parcel. This drainage was carefully examined, measured, and photo documented as a part of the study of this site. The drainage runs mostly parallel to the southern property boundary beneath a broken canopy of Coast Live Oaks and California Sycamores. This feature appears to significantly modified from the historic configuration, and portions of it drain through open, non-riparian habitat. The drainage was evaluated as part of a wetland study to determine federal, state, and county jurisdictional status.

Federal jurisdictional wetlands, as defined by the Unified Federal Method for Wetland Delineation (1987), are associated with Los Coches Creek. The term "wetlands" as defined by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) and other federal agencies means those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. According to these agencies, wetlands generally can include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas. Los Coches Creek clearly qualifies as "Wetland Waters of the U.S."

Los Coches Creek also qualifies as California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)-defined wetlands, which is similarly, but more broadly defined. The creek also qualifies as "Waters of the State."

The onsite drainage was assessed as to whether or not they would qualify as County-defined (RPO) wetlands. This assessment was based on the following (from Section 86.602 (q) of the County of San Diego's Resource Protection Ordinance (RPO)):

- (1) *Lands having one or more of the following attributes are "wetlands":*
 - (aa) *At least periodically, the land supports a predominance of hydrophytes (plants whose habitat is water or very wet places);*
 - (bb) *The substratum is predominantly undrained hydric soil; or*
 - (cc) *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."*

At a minimum, the onsite drainage qualifies for RPO wetland status based on criterion (1)(cc) above (an ephemeral or perennial stream). Due to its qualification as an RPO wetland, and pursuant to the requirements of the Ordinance, the project would normally require a minimum 50 foot biological buffer be applied from the limits of the wetlands (Figure 4). In this case, however, pursuant to Section 86.603 of the Resource Protection Ordinance, the Site Plan Modification does not need to demonstrate compliance with the 50-foot buffer. Although the Resource Protection Ordinance buffer may not apply to the project based on requirements of the County of San Diego, any unanticipated impacts to jurisdictional waters and drainages would need to be analyzed through coordination with the applicable resource agencies.

Other Unique Features/Resources

Because of the site's heavily developed nature, it lacks unique features or resources that would enhance its biological significance, with the exception of the onsite drainage, which is a regulated watercourse. The onsite drainage area could qualify as a potential wildlife corridors/linkage and continues offsite east and west of the project site. The onsite drainage area could be suitable for migratory bird and raptor foraging and/or nesting.

Project NCCP and BMO Compatibility

The conversion of native and naturalized habitats in the unincorporated County of San Diego is currently regulated through its Subarea Planning efforts in compliance with the Natural Communities Conservation Program (NCCP) process. The intent of these efforts is to retain large, connected areas of chaparral, oak woodland, coastal sage scrub and other habitats in order to preserve habitat values and reduce the endangerment of "covered" species through the retention of long-term habitat viability.

Project Compliance with the Biological Mitigation Ordinance

The Ortega Project complies with the requirements of the Subregional Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP) and the County of San Diego's "South County" Subarea MSCP Plan. The project also complies with the requirements of the County of San Diego's BMO and the County's interpretation of the California Environmental Quality Act CEQA. The MSCP and the BMO require certain preserve design elements, the avoidance of certain sensitive plant species, and application of specific mitigation ratios. With respect to preserve design, the project avoids the habitats (dSCLORF and CLOW) in the most biologically sensitive areas of the property, impacting only DH vegetation.

Significance of Project Impacts and Proposed Mitigation

Potential development-related impacts associated a build-out of Ortega Project as proposed are subject to review under CEQA per the County's CEQA Guidelines. This means that the County requires that all project related impacts to the site's flora, fauna, and habitats be assessed, and that mitigation be provided in the instance that impacts are considered "significant", as defined by CEQA. Mitigation is designed to reduce the effects of development, keeping all impacts at a level that is "less than significant".

Direct, Indirect, and Cumulative Impacts

Anticipated impacts to habitats were calculated by determining the acreage of each habitat-type affected by site development, including onsite and offsite improvements and fire clearing from all habitable structures.

Measurable direct and indirect impacts would result from the development of Ortega Project site. Direct impacts result from the actual removal of habitat, plants, and animals from the site through grading and brushing clearing or thinning for fire protection purposes, agriculture, etc. These direct impacts are considered permanent, because they result in a conversion of habitats to landscaped areas, structures, parks, roads, etc. Indirect impacts also affect habitats, plants, and/or animals residing on or near the project

site. These are not the direct result of grading or development. Examples of indirect impacts include introduction of exotic species, human or pet intrusions into natural areas, lighting, traffic, and noise. Indirect impacts are often called "edge effects".

Direct Impacts

Site development as proposed could result in the following direct impact (summarized in Table 2):

- (1) Up to 1.53 acres of DH could be impacted as a result of site development. This impact is considered **less than significant**, as defined by CEQA.

Indirect Impacts

Some indirect impacts resulting from changes in land use are anticipated. These are primarily "edge effects" impacting remaining natural areas onsite and adjoining offsite areas. Because the site is small and already impacted by edge effects from the adjacent roads, highway, and development, these indirect impacts are considered **less than significant**. No specific mitigation is required for indirect impacts.

Cumulative Impacts

The project could qualify for the CEQA Section 15183 process by demonstrating that the project is in conformance with the General Plan and mitigation measures outlined in the General Plan EIR. Consequently, no additional review of cumulative impacts is required under CEQA, and no specific mitigation is required.

Proposed Mitigation

In order to reduce all project impacts (see Table 2) to "less than significant", the following mitigation is recommended:

1. To comply with the County Guidelines and the BMO, impacts to DH (a Tier IV habitat-type) do not require mitigation. No other impacts to habitats have been identified and no habitat-based mitigation is required at this time.
2. The County of San Diego is requiring that permanent fencing be retained along the northern edge of Los Coches Creek (Figure 4). In locations where a K-rail is currently located beneath the fence, the K-rail will be removed and the fence will remain. Thus, mitigation for impacts to Disturbed Southern Coast Live Oak Woodland will be avoided by design.
3. The County has indicated that the oak trees at rear of property outside of the floodplain on the north side of Los Coches Creek are to be protected by a continuous ring of 6' long concrete wheel stops placed no closer than the outer edge of the drip line of the tree so as not to allow vehicular traffic or storage under the tree.
4. Site brushing, grading, and/or the removal of native vegetation within 300 feet of any potential migratory songbird or raptor nesting location should not take place during the spring/summer songbird breeding season, defined as from 1 January to 15 September of each year. This is

recommended in order to ensure compliance with the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act and Sections 3503, 3503.5 and 3513 of the California Fish and Game Code, which prevents the “take” of eggs, nests, feathers, or other parts of most native bird species, and the Endangered Species Act. Limiting brushing and grading to the non-breeding season will minimize chances for the incidental take of migratory songbirds or raptors. Should it be necessary to conduct brushing, grading, or other construction activities during the bird breeding season, a preconstruction nesting survey of all areas within 300 feet of the proposed activity will be required. The results of the survey will be provided in a report to the Director, Planning and Development Services, and the Wildlife Agencies (California Department of Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) for concurrence with the conclusions and recommendations.

No other biological mitigation associated with the Ortega Project is recommended at this time.

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Preparer and Persons/Organizations Contacted



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Attachments

Table 1. Plants and Animals Observed

Table 2. Habitat Impacts/Mitigation Analysis

Table 3. Sensitive Species Known from the Vicinity

Figure 1. Regional Location

Figure 2. Recent Aerial Photo

Figure 3. Onsite and Offsite Biological Resources on Recent Aerial Photo

Figure 4. Onsite Biological Resources on Preliminary Grading Plans

Table 1. Plants and Animals Observed – Ortega Property

<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>
<u>Plants</u>	
<i>Arundo donax</i> *	Giant Reed
<i>Baccharis sarothroides</i>	Broom Baccharis
<i>Calystegia macrostegia</i>	Morning Glory
<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i> *	Shepherd's-Purse
<i>Chenopodium murale</i> *	Goosefoot
<i>Cynodon dactylon</i> *	Bermuda Grass
<i>Cyperus alternifolius</i> *	Madagascar Umbrella Papyrus
<i>Datura wrightii</i>	Sacred Datura
<i>Dudleya pulverulenta</i>	Chalk Live-forever
<i>Ehrharta erecta</i> *	Veldt Grass
<i>Ehrharta longiflora</i> *	Long-flowered Veldt Grass
<i>Erigeron bonariensis</i> *	Flax-leaved Horseweed
<i>Erodium cicutarium</i> *	Common Stork's-Bill
<i>Erodium moschatum</i> *	Musk Stork's-Bill
<i>Eschscholzia californica</i>	California Poppy
<i>Eucalyptus sp.</i> *	Eucalyptus
<i>Glebionis coronaria</i> *	Garland Daisy
<i>Lamium amplexicaule</i> *	Henbit Deadnettle
<i>Malosma laurina</i>	Laurel Sumac
<i>Malva parviflora</i> *	Cheeseweed
<i>Marah macrocarpus</i>	Man Root
<i>Marrubium vulgare</i> *	White Horehound
<i>Mirabilis californicus</i>	Wishbone Bush
<i>Medicago arabica</i> *	Spotted Medick
<i>Nicotiana glauca</i> **	Tree Tobacco
<i>Oxalis pes-caprae</i> *	Bermuda Buttercup
<i>Phacelia ramosissima</i>	Branching Phacelia
<i>Phoenix canariensis</i> *	Canary Island Palm
<i>Pinus sp.</i> *	Pine
<i>Platanus racemosa</i>	Western Sycamore
<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak
<i>Raphanus sativus</i> *	Wild Radish

Ricinus communis *

Salsola australis *

Sambucus cerulea

Schinus molle *

Sisymbrium irio *

Solanum americanum *

Sonchus oleraceus *

Sorghum bicolor *

*Stellaria media**

Toxicodendron diversilobum

*Urtica urens**

*Vinca major**

Vitis girdiana

Castor Bean

Southern Russian Thistle

Elderberry

Peruvian Peppertree

London Rocket

Common Sow-Thistle

Sorghum

Common Chickweed

Pacific Poison Oak

Dwarf Nettle

Greater Periwinkle

Desert Wild Grape

Birds

Corvus corax

Corvus brachyrhynchos

Sayornis nigricans

Thryomanes bewickii

Zenaida macroura

Common Raven

Common Crow

Black Phoebe

Bewick's Wren

Mourning Dove

Mammals

Procyon lotor

Spermophilus beecheyi

Thomomys bottae

Common Raccoon

California Ground Squirrel

Valley Pocket Gopher

Total: 43 species of native and naturalized plants and 8 species of native vertebrates detected

* = non-native taxon

Table 2. Habitat Impact/Mitigation Analysis - the Ortega Project

<u>Biological Resource / MSCP Tier</u>	<u>Total Acres Onsite</u>	<u>Impacts</u>	<u>Applicable Mitigation Ratio</u>	<u>Mitigation Recommended</u>
Disturbed Southern Coast Live Oak Riparian Forest / MSCP Tier I	0.53 acre	none	3:1	none
Disturbed/Developed Habitat MSCP Tier IV	4.4 acres	1.5 acres	none	none
Coast Live Oak Woodland / MSCP Tier I	0.2 acres	none	3:1	none
TOTALS	5.1 acres	1.5 acres	-	none

Table 3. Sensitive Species Known from the Vicinity – the Ortega Project

Latin Name	Common Name	Federally Endangered	Federally Threatened	State Endangered	State Threatened	State Rare	MSCP Narrow Endemic	County Sensitive Plant List	Coastal Sage Scrub	Mixed Chaparral	Grassland	Riparian	Oak Woodland	Chamise Chaparral	Mixed Conifer	Clove Cone Forest	Piñon-Juniper	Freshwater Marsh	Desert Scrub	Desert Wash	Salt or Alkali Marsh	Vernal Pools	Montane Meadow	Coastal or Desert Dune	Lakes and Bays	Extensive Agriculture	Probability of Occurrence	Basis for Determination
<i>Acanthomintha ilicifolia</i>	San Diego Thormmint		X	X			X	A	X	X				X								X					L	1a
<i>Achnatherum diegoensis</i>	San Diego needlegrass							D	X	X											X						L	1a
<i>Ambrosia pumila</i>	San Diego Ambrosia	X					X	A	X	X	X											X					L	1a
<i>Arctostaphylos otayensis</i>	Otay Manzanita							A	X							X											L	1a
<i>Artemisia palmeri</i>	Palmer's sage							D	X		X																L	1a
<i>Astragalus deanei</i>	Dean's Milkvetch							A	X	X	X		X														L	1a
<i>Atriplex parishii</i>	Parish brittle scale							A	X												X						L	1a
<i>Baccharis vanessae</i>	Encinitas Baccharis		X	X			X	A		X				X													L	1a
<i>Brodiaea orcuttii</i>	Orcutt's brodiaea							A		X	X	X	X									X					L	1a
<i>Calochortus duninii</i>	Dunin's mariposa lily					X		A	X	X	X																L	1a
<i>Caulanthus stenocarpus</i>	Slender Pod Jewellflower					X		-	X	X				X													L	1a
<i>Ceanothus cyaneus</i>	Lakeside ceanothus						X	A	X																		L	1a
<i>Ceanothus verrucosus</i>	Wart stemmed ceanothus							B	X					X													L	1a
<i>Chamaebatia australis</i>	Southern mountain misery							D	X					X													L	1a
<i>Chorizanthe leptotheca</i>	Peninsular spine flower							D	X					X													L	1a
<i>Chorizanthe procumbens</i>	Prostrate spineflower							-	X	X				X													L	1a
<i>Clarkia delicata</i>	Campo clarkia							A					X														L	1a
<i>Comarostaphylos diversifolia</i>	Summer holly							A	X							X											L	1a
<i>Cupressus forbesii</i>	Tecate cypress							A	X							X											L	1a
<i>Dichondra occidentalis</i>	Western dichondra							D	X	X				X													L	1a
<i>Dudleya variegata</i>	Variegated dudleya						X	A	X													X					L	1a
<i>Dudleya viscida</i>	Sticky dudleya							A	X	X				X													L	1a
<i>Ericameria palmeri palmeri</i>	Palmer's goldenbush						X	B	X		X																L	1a
<i>Erodium macrophyllum</i>	Large leaf fillary							B	X																		L	1a
<i>Eryngium aristulatum parishii</i>	San Diego button celery	X		X				A	X	X				X								X					L	1a
<i>Fremontodendron mexicanum</i>	Mexican flannelbush	X				X		A	X							X											L	1a
<i>Galium californicum</i>	California bedstraw							?						X													L	1a
<i>Gilia caruifolia</i>	Caraway leaved gilia							D		X				X	X												L	1a
<i>Githopsis diffusa filicaulis</i>	Mission canyon bluecup							C	X	X																	L	1a
<i>Harpagonella palmeri</i>	Palmer's grappling hook							D	X	X				X													L	1a
<i>Hemizonia floribunda</i>	Tecate tarplant							A		X	X																L	1a
<i>Horkelia truncata</i>	Ramona horkelia							A	X																		L	1a
<i>Juglans californica</i>	California black walnut							D				X															L	1a
<i>Juncus acutus leopoldii</i>	Southwestern spiny rush							D			X	X					X										L	1a
<i>Lathyrus splendens</i>	Pride of California							D	X	X		X															L	1a
<i>Lepechinia cardiophylla</i>	Heart leaved pitcher sage						X	A	X																		L	1a
<i>Lepechinia ganderi</i>	Gander's pitcher sage						X	A	X																		L	1a
<i>Lotus crassifolius otayensis</i>	Otay mountain lotus							A	X							X											L	1a
<i>Machaeranthera juncea</i>	Rush like bristle bush							D	X					X													L	1a
<i>Monardella hypoleuca lanata</i>	Felt leaved rock mint							A	X					X													L	1a
<i>Muilla clevelandii</i>	San Diego goldenstar							A	X	X				X								X					L	1a
<i>Navarretia fossalis</i>	Spreading navarretia		X					A	X	X				X								X					L	1a

Table 3. Sensitive Species Known from the Vicinity – the Ortega Project

<i>Nolina cismontana</i>	Chapparral beargrass						A	X			X										L	1a	
<i>Nolina interrata</i>	Dehesa beargrass			X			X	A	X		X											L	1a
<i>Ophioglossum californicum</i>	California adder's tongue fern						D	X	X								X					L	1a
<i>Pentachaeta aurea</i>	Golden-rayed pentachaeta						D	X	X			X					X					L	1a
<i>Piperia cooperi</i>	Cooper's rein orchid						D	X	X		X											L	1a
<i>Piperia leptopetala</i>	Narrow-petaled rein orchid						D	X			X	X	X									L	1a
<i>Polygala comuta fishiae</i>	Fish's milkwort						D	X			X											L	1a
<i>Quercus cedrosensis</i>	Cedros Island oak						A	X					X									L	1a
<i>Quercus engelmannii</i>	Engelmann oak						D				X	X										L	1a
<i>Ribes canthariforme</i>	Morena currant						A	X														L	1a
<i>Salvia munzii</i>	Munz sage						B	X														L	1a
<i>Satureja chandleri</i>	San Miguel savory						A	X			X											L	1a
<i>Scutellaria bolanderi austromontana</i>	Southern skullcap						A				X		X									L	1a
<i>Selaginella cinerascens</i>	Mesa club moss						D	X	X			X										L	1a
<i>Senecio ganderi</i>	Gander's butterweed				X		A	X			X											L	1a
<i>Sibaropsis hammitii</i>	Hammit's claycress						A				X											L	1a
<i>Stemodia durantifolia</i>	Blue streamwort						B				X				X					X		L	1a
<i>Tetracoccus dioicus</i>	Parry's tetracoccus						A	X			X											L	1a
<i>Viguiera laciniata</i>	San Diego sunflower						D	X														L	1a
<i>Accipiter cooperi</i>	Cooper's hawk							X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X			M	2a
<i>Accipiter striatus</i>	Sharp-shinned hawk							X	X		X	X	X	X								L	1a
<i>Agelaius tricolor</i>	Tricolored blackbird									X	X					X					X	L	1a
<i>Aimophila ruficeps canescens</i>	Rufous-crowned sparrow							X				X										L	1a
<i>Amphispiza belli belli</i>	Bell's sage sparrow							X	X			X										L	1a
<i>Anniella pulchra pulchra</i>	Silvery legless lizard							X		X	X									X		L	1a
<i>Antrozous pallidus</i>	Pallid bat							X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		M	2a
<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	Golden eagle					X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X						L	1a
<i>Asio otus</i>	Long-eared owl										X						X					L	1a
<i>Athene cucularia hypugea</i>	Burrowing owl					X		X		X							X			X		L	1a
<i>Bassaniscus astutus</i>	Ringtail								X		X	X	X									L	1a
<i>Bufo microscaphus californicus</i>	Arroyo toad	X					X				X											L	1a
<i>Buteo lineatus</i>	Red-shouldered hawk										X	X										M	2a
<i>Cathartes aura</i>	Turkey vulture							X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X							L	1a
<i>Chaetodipus californicus femoralis</i>	Dulzura California pocket mouse							X	X	X		X	X	X								L	1a
<i>Chaetodipus fallax fallax</i>	NW San Diego pocket mouse							X	X	X		X					X	X				L	1a
<i>Chaetodipus fallax pallidus</i>	Pallid San Diego pocket mouse									X					X		X	X		X		L	1a
<i>Charina trivirgata roseofusca</i>	Coastal rosy boa							X	X			X	X									L	1a
<i>Choeronycteris mexicana</i>	Mexican long-tongued bat							X									X	X				M	2a
<i>Circus cyaneus hudsonius</i>	Northern harrier							X		X						X			X		X	L	1a
<i>Clemmys marmorata pallida</i>	Southwestern pond turtle					X					X					X					X	L	1a
<i>Cnemidophorus hyperythrus</i>	Orange-throated whiptail							X	X	X	X		X									L	1a
<i>Cnemidophorus tigris multiscutatus</i>	Coastal western whiptail								X		X	X	X									L	1a
<i>Coccyzus americanus occidentalis</i>	Yellow-billed cuckoo				X		X				X											L	1a
<i>Coleonyx variegatus abbottii</i>	San Diego banded gecko							X		X			X									L	1a
<i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i>	Townsend's big-eared bat								X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		M	2a
<i>Crotalus ruber ruber</i>	Northern red diamond rattlesnake							X	X			X			X		X					L	1a
<i>Danaus plexippus</i>	Monarch butterfly								X	X		X								X		M	2a
<i>Dendroica petechia brewsteri</i>	Yellow warbler										X											L	1a
<i>Diadophis punctatus similis</i>	San Diego ringneck snake							X	X		X	X	X	X	X							L	1a

Table 3. Sensitive Species Known from the Vicinity - the Ortega Project

Dipodomys stephensi	Stephen's kangaroo rat	X		X			X	X										L	1a
Elanus caeruleus	Black-shouldered kite							X	X									L	1a
Empidonax traillii extimus	Southwestern willow flycatcher	X			X			X										L	1a
Ensatina eschscholtzii klauberi	Large-blotched salamander							X	X		X							L	1a
Euderma maculatum	Spotted bat							X			X	X	X			X		M	2a
Eumeces skiltonianus interparietalis	Coronado skink						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				L	1a
Eumops perotis californicus	Greater western mastiff bat						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	M	2a
Euphydryas editha quino	Quino checkerspot butterfly	X			X		X	X	X		X				X		X	L	1a
Euphys vestris harbisoni	Dun skipper				X		X	X	X					X				L	1a
Felis concolor	Mountain lion						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	L	1a
Fratercula cirrhata	Tufted puffin (Oceanic)																	L	1a
Ictera virens	Yellow-breasted chat								X									L	1a
Lanius ludovicianus	Loggerhead shrike						X		X	X	X					X	X	L	1a
Lasiurus blossevillei	Western red bat								X	X		X	X				X	M	2a
Lepus californicus bennettii	San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit						X	X	X		X	X	X	X				L	1a
Lycaena hermes	Hermes copper						X	X			X							L	1a
Macrotus californicus	California leaf-nosed bat						X	X	X							X	X	M	2a
Myotis ciliolabrum	Small-footed myotis							X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		M	2a
Myotis evotis	Long eared myotis							X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	M	2a
Myotis thysanodes	Fringed myotis							X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	M	2a
Myotis volans	Long legged myotis							X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	M	2a
Myotis yumanensis	Yuma myotis						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	M	2a
Neotoma lepida intermedia	San Diego desert woodrat						X	X	X	X	X							L	1a
Nyctinomops macrotis	Big free-tailed bat						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	M	2a
Nyctinomops femorosaccus	Pocketed free-tailed bat						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	M	2a
Odocoileus hemionus	Southern mule deer						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	L	1a
Onychomys torridus ramona	Southern grasshopper mouse						X	X	X		X							L	1a
Phrynosoma coronatum blainvilliei	San Diego horned lizard						X	X	X		X							L	1a
Piranga rubra	Summer tanager								X									L	1a
Polioptila californica californica	California gnatcatcher	X					X											L	1a
Rana aurora draytoni	Califomia red -legged frog	X			X				X					X			X	L	1a
Salvadora hexalepis virgultea	Coast patch-nosed snake						X	X			X		X					L	1a
Sialia mexicana	Western bluebird								X	X		X						L	1a
Spea hammondi	Western Spade-foot Toad								X				X					L	1a
Taxidea taxus	American badger						X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	L	1a
Thamnophis hammondi	Two stripe garter snake								X					X				L	1a
Thamnophis sirtalis novum	South Coast garter snake								X					X				L	1a
Tyto alba	Common barn-owl								X	X								M	2a

Probability of Occurrence Codes:

L - Low Probability

M – Moderate Probability

H - High Probability

O - Observed; see text for detailed discussion

Factual Basis for Determination:

1a - no significant habitat (animal or plant)

1b - distinctive perennial that would not have been missed if present onsite (plant)

2a - might be expected to occur on or fly over site based on habitat suitability and quality (plant or animal). Includes wide-ranging foragers.

2b - might be expected to occur onsite, but very rare or cryptic (animal), and/or poorly known (plant or animal)

3a - nearly certain to occur onsite based on habitat suitability and quality (plant or animal)

3b - ephemeral species known from the immediate vicinity and likely to occur onsite, but seasonal in occurrence (plant)

Figure 1. Regional Location – Ortega Project Site
Portion of U.S.G.S. "Alpine, California" 7.5' Quadrangle

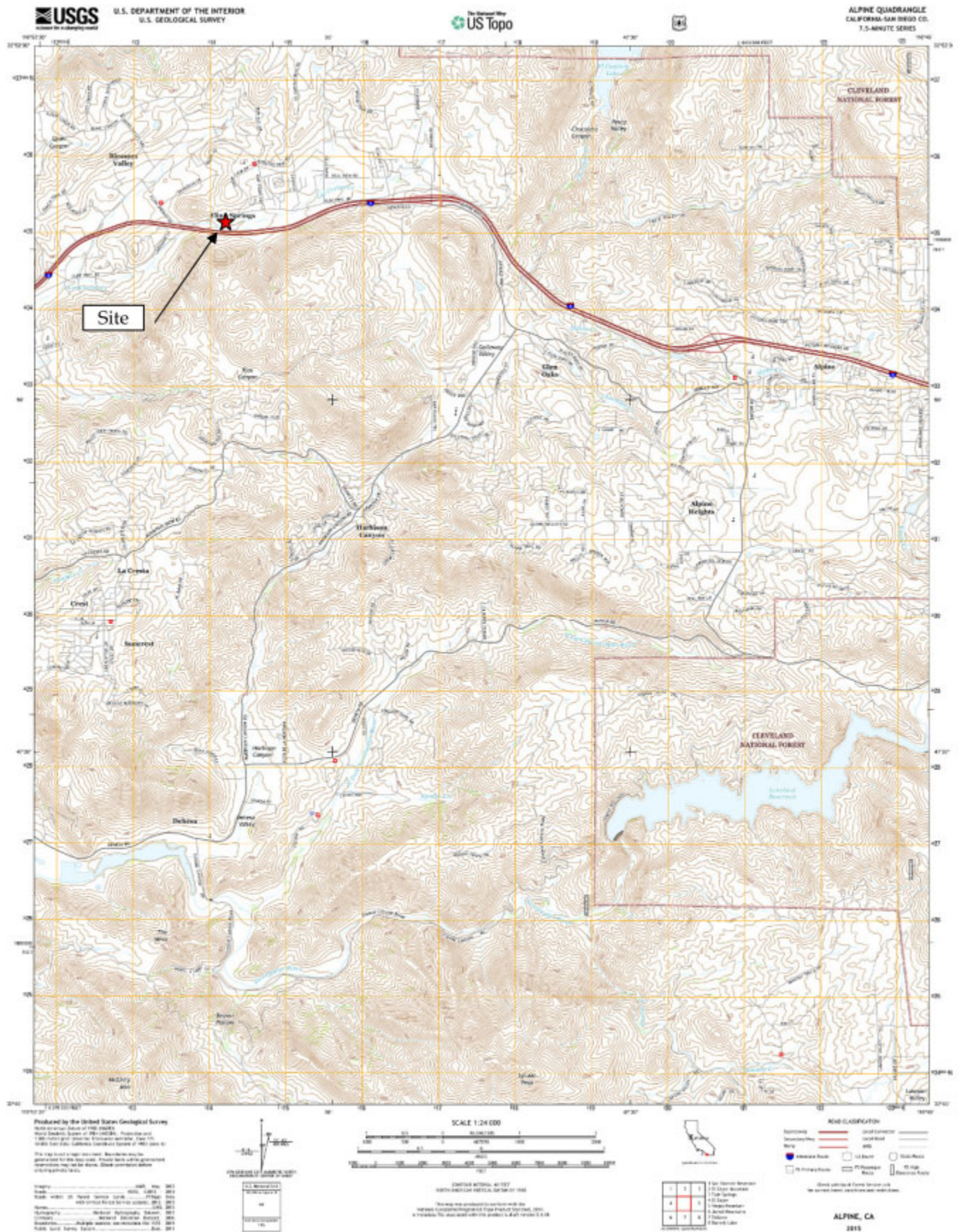
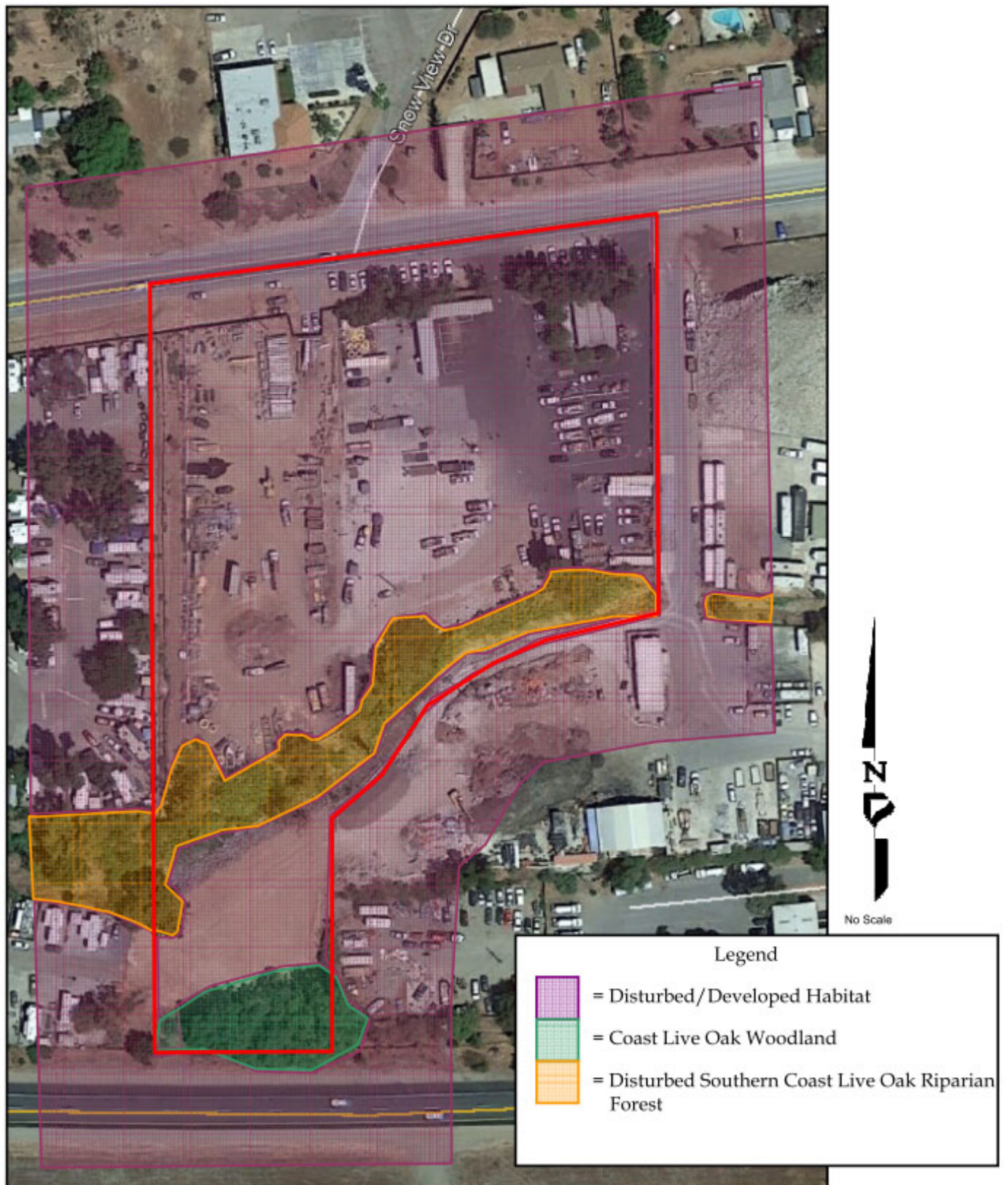


Figure 2. Recent Aerial Photo - Ortega Project



Figure 3. Onsite and Offsite Biological Resources on Aerial Photo - Ortega Project



PRELIMINARY GRADING PLAN

