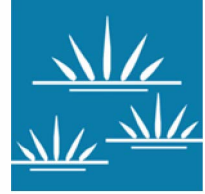


# TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

## GLENN LUKOS ASSOCIATES

Regulatory Services



**PROJECT NUMBER:** 1115-6WOOD

**TO:** Tom DiPrima

**FROM:** Tony Bomkamp

**DATE:** July 26, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Crotch's Bumblebee Survey Results, Impacts and Mitigation for NorthLake Project, Los Angeles County

---

Biologists from Glenn Lukos Associates (GLA) conducted focused surveys for the Crotch's Bumblebee (*Bombus crotchii*) (CBB) on the NorthLake project site [Project site; Exhibits 1 and 2], including areas proposed for development and areas within the NorthLake open space that also included adjacent parcels owned by NorthLake that have been identified for mitigation through establishment of a long-term conservation mechanism. Exhibit 3 depicts the proposed development area and areas of onsite and offsite open space, wherein the offsite open space is under the ownership of NorthLake.

### **Background**

The CBB was petitioned to the State of California in 2018 for listing of the CBB as endangered under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA). The Fish and Game Commission advanced the species to "Candidate" status (for listing as endangered) under the CESA in June 2019. The CBB has a historic range that covers the portions of southern and central California including the NorthLake project site. Subsequently, the candidacy of the CBB was challenged in court, and in November 2020 the Sacramento County Superior Court ruled that insects are not eligible for listing under CESA. The Superior Court's ruling was subject to a subsequent legal challenge regarding CESA's definition of a fish as "a wild fish, mollusk, crustacean, invertebrate, amphibian, or part, spawn, or ovum of any of those animals" and was eventually overruled by the California Court of Appeal on May 31, 2022, making the CBB subject to protection under CESA.<sup>1</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> *Almond Alliance of California v. Fish and Game Commission* (2022) 79 Cal.App.5th 337.

## MEMORANDUM

July 26, 2024

Page 2

### Invertebrates

The CBB is a State Candidate Endangered species<sup>2</sup> that inhabits open grassland and scrub habitats. This species occurs primarily in California, including the Mediterranean region, Pacific Coast, Western Desert, Great Valley, and adjacent foothills through most of southwestern California. This species was historically common in the Central Valley of California, but according to the listing package now appears to be absent from most of it, especially in the center of its historic range.

Bumblebees, including CBB, are generalist foragers and have been reported visiting a wide variety of flowering plants. CBB has a very short tongue, and thus is best suited to forage at open flowers with short corollas. The plant families commonly associated with CBB observations or collections from California include Fabaceae, Apocynaceae, Asteraceae, Lamiaceae, and Boraginaceae. Plants in the genera *Asclepias*, *Chaenactis*, *Lupinus*, *Medicago*, *Phacelia*, and *Salvia* are common food plants. These floral associations do not necessarily represent CBB's only preferred plants over other flowering plants, but rather may represent the prevalence of these flowers in the landscape where this species occurs.

Bumblebees are social insects that live in colonies composed of a queen, workers, and reproductive individuals (males and new queens). Colonies are annual and only the new, mated queens overwinter. These queens emerge from hibernation in the early spring and immediately start foraging for pollen and nectar and begin to search for a nest site. Nests are often located underground in abandoned rodent nests, or above ground in tufts of grass, old bird nests, rock piles, or cavities in dead trees. Initially, the queen does the foraging and care for the colony until the first workers emerge and assist with these duties. Bumblebees collect both nectar and pollen of the plants that they pollinate. In general, bumblebees forage from a diversity of plants, although individual species can vary greatly in their plant preferences, largely due to differences in tongue length. Bumblebees are well-known to engage in "buzz pollination," a very effective foraging technique in which they sonicate the flowers to vibrate the pollen loose from the anthers.

As addressed in more detail below, GLA biologists conducted surveys for CBB within areas of suitable habitat within the NorthLake Project site. The CBB was detected during the surveys at a variety of locations across the site, including within areas proposed for development and within areas proposed for avoidance that will be maintained as open space subject to permanent preservation. Exhibit 1 shows the Project site boundaries, Project development area and areas where CBB were detected.

---

<sup>2</sup> The California Fish and Game Commission voted to designate CBB as Candidate Endangered species on June 12, 2019. That designation was placed on hold during the litigation. Following the Court of Appeal ruling, the candidacy was reinstated on September 30, 2022. The final determination is pending.

## MEMORANDUM

July 26, 2024

Page 3

### Methodology

Surveys were conducted by GLA biologists experienced in conducting focused surveys for the CBB in areas of suitable habitat within the proposed development area as well as areas of onsite and offsite open space as depicted on Exhibit 1.

GLA biologists performed focused surveys for the CBB within suitable habitat areas within the NorthLake Project site. Surveys followed a protocol developed by GLA which largely encompasses the CBB flight season (March to September) when the queen, daughters, males and new queens are generally active. Surveys are preferably spaced out throughout the flight season to take advantage of different blooming periods and floral resources. The survey protocol recommends that individual biologists conduct three focused surveys during the flight season, beginning within the three acres of that contain the highest quality floral resources per every 50 acres of potential suitable habitat. Based on previous mapping by BonTerra<sup>3</sup>, the Project site supports up to 1001.8 acres of potential suitable habitat, and due to the overall size of the Project site and distance between suitable habitat areas, four different biologists conducted three focused surveys each, with two or three biologists during each survey visit. In addition to the focused surveys listed in Table 1 below, CBB were observed on April 3, 2024 during other biological surveys conducted by GLA.

During each focused survey, two sampling approaches were implemented. During the first phase, the surveyor conducted one hour of visual survey effort within the three-acre flowering area identified as supporting the highest quality habitat as determined by the surveyor. If CBB were not detected during the first hour of searching, a second hour of survey effort was conducted. During the second hour, the surveyor could either choose to resurvey the same flowering area (if any *Bombus* species were detected prior) or the surveyor could choose to conduct a second hour of searching within another high quality three-acre flowering area on site. If CBB were not detected during the second hour of the survey effort, the second survey phase was implemented, in which the surveyor surveyed the best additional flowering areas throughout the site, as deemed appropriate. The surveyor scanned suitable flowering areas for bumblebee activity and focused on those areas. Minimal time was spent in lesser quality habitat. Depending on the size of the habitat area, the opportunistic survey effort generally did not exceed one hour. In addition, GLA biologists documented bumblebee activity incidentally during all other biological surveys.

Focused surveys were conducted by GLA biologists Jason Fitzgibbon, Chris Waterston, Stephanie Cashin, and Ian Rhodes on May 15, May 16, May 23 and June 27, 2024. Pursuant to the survey guidelines, the surveys were conducted during daytime hours when floral resources

---

<sup>3</sup> BonTerra. December 2015. Biological Technical Assessment Report, NorthLake Specific Plan Development Project, Prepare for Woodridge Capital Partners, LLC 1999 Avenue of the Stars Suite 2850 Los Angeles, California 90067.

## MEMORANDUM

July 26, 2024

Page 4

were in bloom and when it was sufficiently warm for bumblebee activity. Weather conditions during the surveys were conducive to a high level of bee activity. Table 1 summarizes the CBB survey visits. The results of the CBB surveys are documented below. Resumes for each of the Biologists are attached as Appendix A with specific qualifications for CBB included with the resumes and a GLA qualifications memo included at the end of Appendix A.

**Table 1. Summary of Crotch's Bumblebee Surveys**

Survey Date	Biologist <sup>1</sup>	Start/End Time	Start/End Temperature (degree F)	Start/End Wind Speed (mph)	Cloud Cover (%)
05/15/24	SC/CW	1400/1700	64/68	2-5/5-10	Clear
05/16/24	SC/CW	0900/1200	65/70	2-4/2-5	Clear
05/23/24	SC/IR	1050/1415	64/73	1-2/2-12	Cloudy
06/27/24	JF/IR	0620/0915	69/84	0-2/2-5	Clear
<sup>1</sup> Jason Fitzgibbon (JF), Chris Waterston (CW), Stephanie Cashin (SC), Ian Rhodes (IR).					

### **Results**

Crotch bumblebees were detected within the proposed development areas and within proposed open space areas as depicted on Exhibit 1. Based on previous vegetation mapping for the NorthLake Project site conducted for the Biological Technical Assessment Report (BTAR) prepared by BonTerra (2015), the site contains areas of sage scrub communities, native grassland communities and wildflower fields that provide suitable nectar sources and therefore considered suitable habitat for the CBB. As recorded in the BTAR and depicted on Exhibit 2 the following vegetation associations were confirmed by GLA to exhibit suitable conditions based on a combination of Crotch bumblebee survey observations and the presence of suitable nectar plants.

### **Impacts**

Project grading will impact the following vegetation alliances that support or could potentially support CBB based on the presence of suitable floral resources.

#### ***Sage Scrub Communities***

A total of 634.70 acres of sage scrub would be impacted by Project implementation, which includes Purple sage scrub, California sagebrush–California buckwheat scrub, Black sage scrub, California sagebrush–California buckwheat scrub/Foothill needlegrass grassland, California sagebrush–California buckwheat scrub/California annual grassland, and the burned sage scrub areas: burned Purple sage scrub, burned California sagebrush–California buckwheat scrub, burned Black sage scrub, and burned California sagebrush–California buckwheat scrub/California annual grassland. Impacts on these vegetation types



## MEMORANDUM

July 26, 2024

Page 5

would be considered significant due to the loss of this vegetation type in southern California and the potential for this habitat to support special status species.

### ***Native Grassland Communities***

A total of 24.23 acres of Foothill needlegrass grassland and burned Foothill needle grass grassland would be impacted by Project implementation. Impacts on this vegetation type would be considered significant due to the limited distribution of this vegetation type in California.

### ***California Annual Grassland/Wildflower Fields***

A total of 342.85 acres of California annual grassland/Wildflower fields would be impacted by Project implementation. Impacts on California annual grassland/Wildflower fields would be considered adverse and potentially significant because of the density and diversity of native plants found in this vegetation type and because of the general lack of similar areas in the Project vicinity.

## **Mitigation**

Based on the detection of CBB within the NorthLake development area, it is expected that an Incidental Take Permit will be needed to authorize incidental take of CBB during grading. Mitigation for direct impacts to CBB and associated habitat will be fulfilled through compensatory mitigation at a minimum 2:1 suitable habitat that provides replacement of equal functions and values to those impacted by the NorthLake project, or as otherwise determined through the Incidental Take Permit process. Mitigation will be accomplished either through a combination of onsite conservation, offsite conservation on adjacent NorthLake owned lands, and/or through a CDFW-approved mitigation bank. If mitigation is not purchased through a mitigation bank, and lands are conserved separately, a cost estimate will be prepared to estimate the initial start-up costs and ongoing annual costs of management activities for the management of the conservation easement area(s) in perpetuity. The funding source will be in the form of an endowment to help the qualified natural lands management entity that is ultimately selected to hold the conservation easement(s). The endowment amount will be established following the completion of a project-specific Property Analysis Record to calculate the costs of in-perpetuity land management. The Property Analysis Record will consider all management activities required in the Incidental Take Permit to fulfill the requirements of the conservation easement(s), which are currently in review and development.

Based on areas of suitable habitat, the project would provide 337.55 acres of mitigation within the onsite conservation areas and 156.66 acres of conservation on adjacent NorthLake ownership for a total of 492.2 acres of preservation as depicted on Exhibit 3. Thus, based on impacts to up to 1,001.8 acres of suitable habitat which supports or potentially supports CBB, the mitigation ratio of 2:1 would be 2,003.6 acres. To achieve 2:1 mitigation, NorthLake will provide approximately 337.5 acres onsite, 156.7 acres on

## **MEMORANDUM**

**July 26, 2024**

**Page 6**

NorthLake-owned offsite property, and obtain 1,509.4 acres from a CDFW-approved mitigation bank for the CBB or through purchase and long-term conservation of suitable habitat, or a combination of the two options to account for the remainder. Appendix B is a Mitigation Feasibility Assessment that includes candidate properties with suitable habitat such as coastal sage scrub, chaparral, and native grasslands that contain suitable habitat for CBB.

As noted, the proposed mitigation will correspond to the requirements of the NorthLake Specific Plan Final Supplemental EIR (FSEIR) that were set forth in the previous approvals. With the implementation of the previously approved proposed mitigation, significant impacts on Crotch's bumblebee would be reduced to less-than-significant consistent with the FSEIR measures excerpted below.

### **Coastal Sage Scrub**

The loss of sage scrub habitat within the impact area is considered a significant impact. Sage scrub habitat shall be preserved, restored, or enhanced on site and/or off site at a ratio to be determined by the County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning (LACDRP). The ratio shall be no less than 2:1 for habitat restoration or preservation. Habitat enhancement is the improvement of existing, disturbed native habitat areas through the removal of exotic plant species, the addition of native plants and/or seeds, or other measures. The mitigation ratio for habitat enhancement shall depend on the initial quality of the habitat area to be enhanced and would be determined by the Project Applicant and the LACDRP. Sage scrub habitat restoration/enhancement implementation shall begin not more than one year following project impacts to this habitat type.

### **Needlegrass Grassland**

The loss of foothill needle grass grassland within the impact area is considered to be a significant impact. Foothill needle grass grassland shall be preserved, restored, or enhanced on site and/or off site at a ratio to be determined by the County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning (LACDRP). Habitat enhancement is the improvement of existing, disturbed native habitat areas through the removal of exotic plant species, the addition of native plants and/or seeds, or other measures. The ratio shall be no less than 2:1 for habitat restoration or preservation. The mitigation ratio for habitat enhancement shall depend on the initial quality of the habitat area to be enhanced, and would be determined by the project applicant and the LACDRP.

### **Wildflower Fields**

The loss of California annual grassland/wildflower fields within the impact area is considered to be a significant impact. California annual grassland/wildflower fields shall be preserved, restored, or enhanced on site and/or off site at a

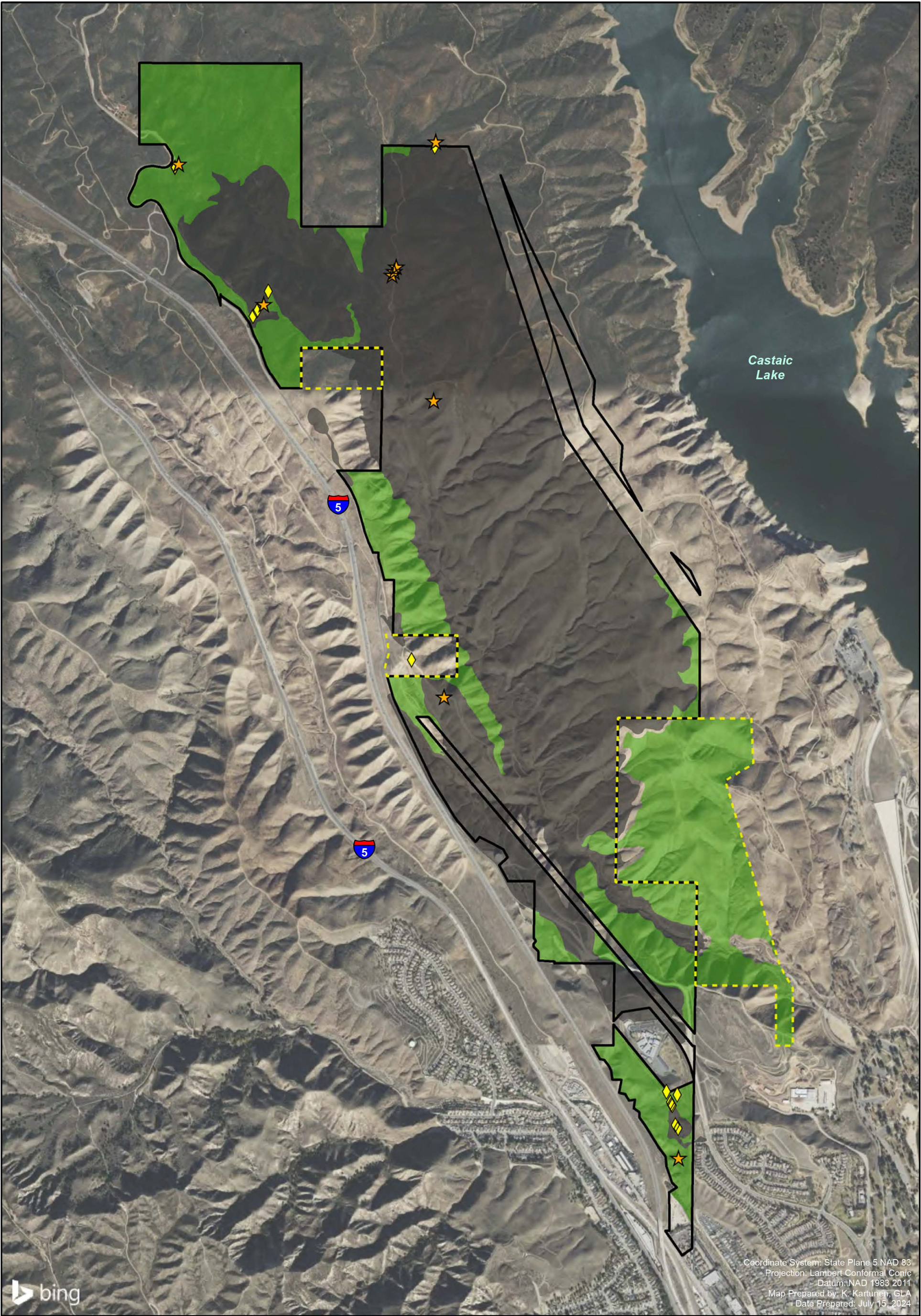
**MEMORANDUM**

**July 26, 2024**

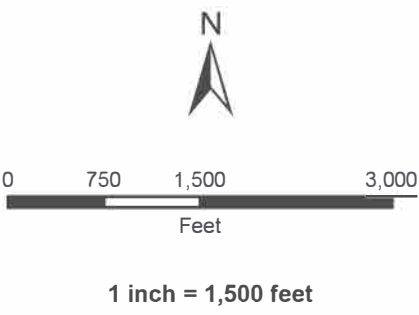
**Page 7**

ratio to be determined by the County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning (LACDRP). Habitat enhancement is the improvement of existing, disturbed native habitat areas through the removal of exotic plant species, the addition of native plants and/or seeds, or other measures.





- Project - Onsite
- Project - Offsite
- Development Footprint
- Proposed CBB Conservation Area
- Crotch's Bumblebee (9)
- Other Bee Species (13)



## NORTHLAKE SPECIFIC PLAN

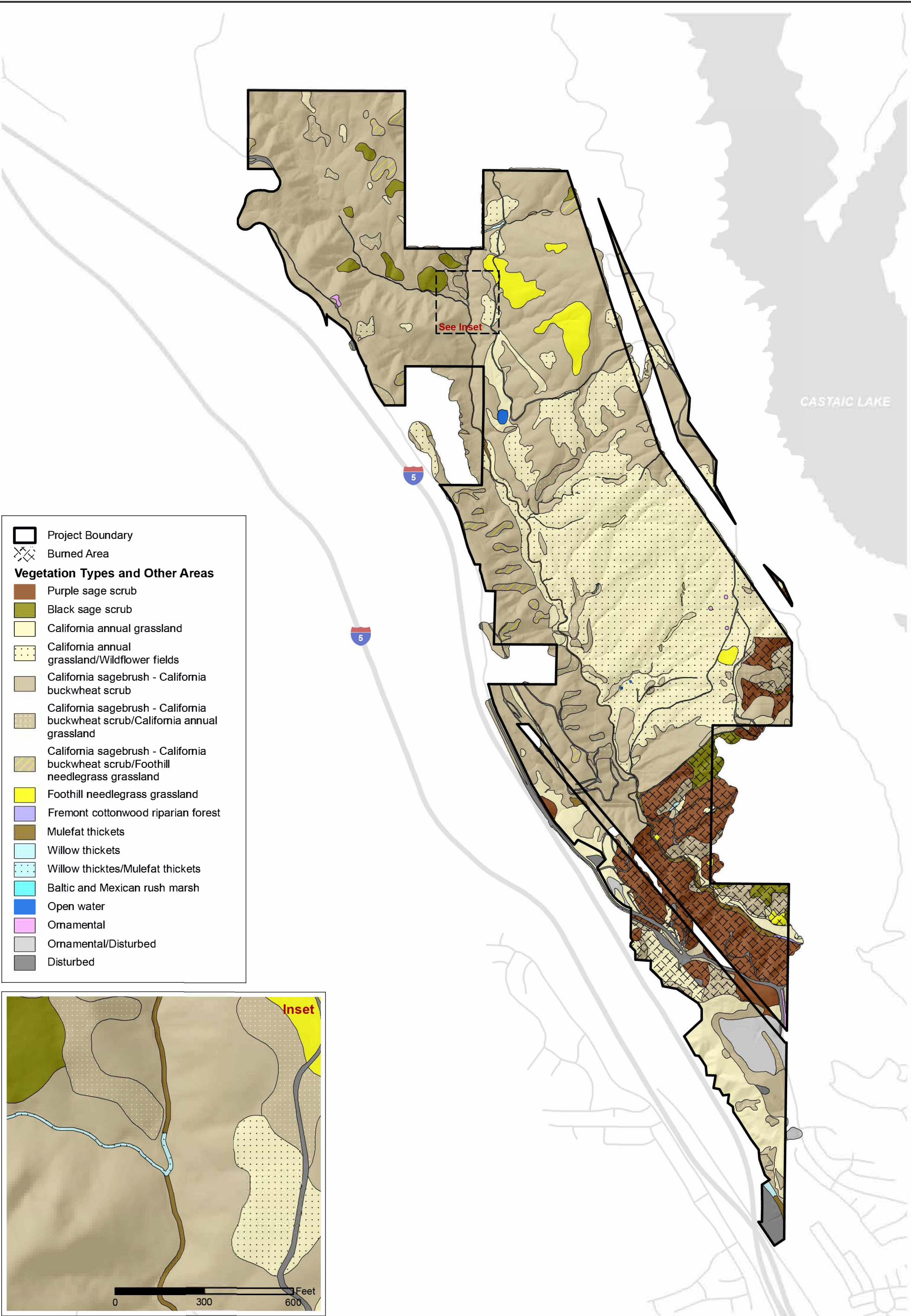
Crotch's Bumblebee Map

GLENN LUKOS ASSOCIATES

Exhibit 1



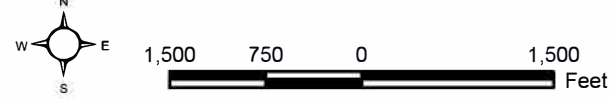




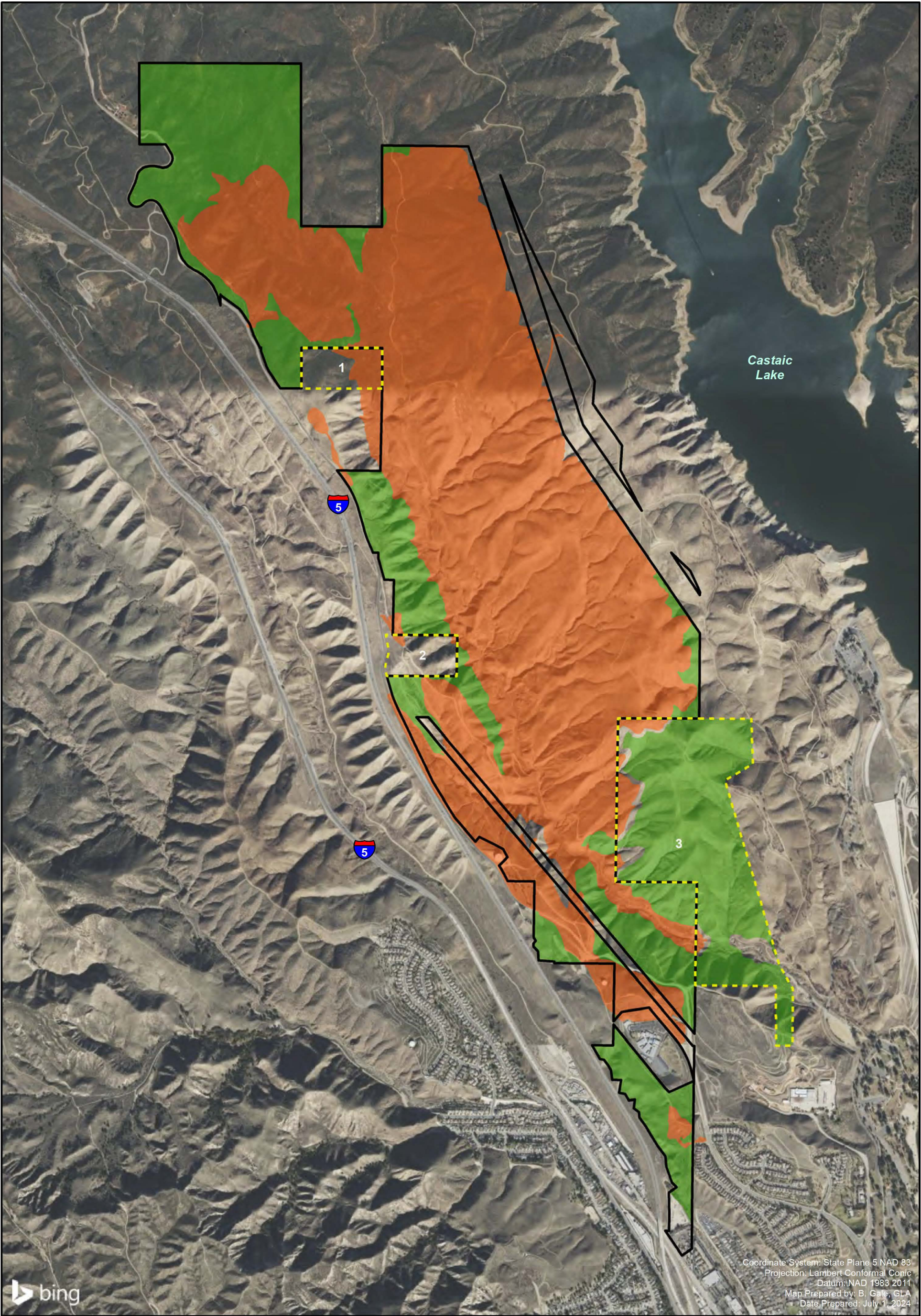
Vegetation Types and Other Areas





Exhibit 2

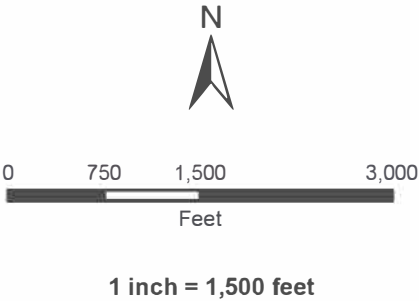
NorthLake Specific Plan







-  Project - Onsite
-  Project - Offsite
-  Development Footprint
-  Proposed CBB Conservation Area (492.21 ac.)



**NORTHLAKE SPECIFIC PLAN**

CBB Conservation Area

GLENN LUKOS ASSOCIATES

Exhibit 3





# APPENDIX A

## BIOLOGIST QUALIFICATIONS

**STEPHANIE  
CASHIN**  
*Associate Biologist*

**YEARS OF EXPERIENCE**

Professional start date: 2000

Years at GLA: 10

**EDUCATION**

MS, Environmental Studies,  
California State University, Fullerton, 2012

BS, Biology with Minor in Zoology, California  
Polytechnic State University, Pomona,  
1999

**PERMITS AND  
CERTIFICATIONS**

USFWS 10(a)(1)(A) Recovery Permit  
#TE20280D-0 for vernal pool branchiopods  
(including Conservancy fairy shrimp,  
longhorn fairy shrimp, Riverside fairy  
shrimp, vernal pool fairy shrimp, and vernal  
pool tadpole shrimp)

**TRAININGS ATTENDED**

California Rare Bumblebee  
The Wildlife Society-Western Section  
Via Zoom, 2021

Advanced Bat Acoustics Workshop  
The Wildlife Society-Western Section  
Via Zoom, 2021

Intro Desert Tortoise Field Techniques  
The Desert Tortoise Council  
Via Zoom, 2020

Bat Acoustics Workshop  
The Wildlife Society-Western Section  
James Reserve, Idyllwild, 2018

**CONTINUED (PAGE 4)**



**PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY**

Stephanie Cashin is an Associate Biologist with expertise in field biology, herpetology, biological monitoring, and habitat restoration. Stephanie has served as a Project Biologist throughout Southern California and specializes in conducting focused wildlife surveys, including conducting habitat assessments and focused bat surveys, focused protocol surveys for arroyo toad, western spadefoot toad, southern western pond turtle, desert tortoise, legless lizard, least Bell's vireo, burrowing owl, and general biological surveys for California amphibian and reptile species of special concern in Orange, Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Ventura, and Riverside Counties. She has assisted in several vernal pool inventory surveys for species including listed fairy shrimp and western spadefoot toad. She has led and assisted in numerous focused rare plant surveys including many-stemmed dudleya, Blochman's dudleya, Verity's dudleya, intermediate mariposa lily, Catalina mariposa lily, slender mariposa lily, southern tarplant, Palmer's grapplinghook, and short-joint beavertail cactus. She has performed construction monitoring with a competent understanding of ensuring compliance with resource agency permit conditions while maintaining the benefit of natural resources within or adjacent to existing development areas.

Stephanie's strengths in working with complex projects include her extensive scientific background and analytical capacity. She is extremely skilled in collecting and organizing data and finding resolution to issues requiring direct action. Stephanie's biological experience spans 16 years.

**SELECTED PROJECT EXPERIENCE**

**DEVELOPMENT**

**THE SAN JACINTO RIVER MASTER DRAINAGE PLAN, STAGE 3 —  
RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

Assisting Project Biologist to conduct focused wet season fairy shrimp surveys in support of project permitting.

**MEAD VALLEY MINE PROJECT —  
RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

Assisting Project Biologist to conduct dry season fairy shrimp soil sample collection; conduct focused burrowing owl, rare plant, and acoustic bat surveys in support of project permitting.

**ADOBE SPRINGS PROJECT — MURRIETA, CALIFORNIA**

Assisting Project Biologist. Conduct focused visual presence/absence survey for southern western pond turtle (*Emys marmorata pallida*) for two seasons in support of project permitting. Assist with implementation of pond turtle avoidance minimization plan including installation of turtle protection fencing, turtle exclusion, preconstruction surveys and monitoring.

**LOS VALLES PROJECT — LOS ANAGELES COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

Serving as Project Biologist. Prepare and implement the western spadefoot habitat mitigation creation plan including pool creation monitoring, project site surveys, western spadefoot translocation. Coordinate with CDFW in support of plan approval.

**OCTA PRESERVES — ORANGE COUNTY TRANSPOTATION AUTHORITY PROPERTIES, CALIFORNIA**

Assisting Project Biologist with stewardship monitoring, California gnatcatcher and cactus wren surveys, focused reptile surveys, southern cactus scrub mapping, invasive species mapping and habitat restoration monitoring.

**MONTEBELLO HILLS DEVELOPMENT PROJECT — MONTEBELLO, CALIFORNIA**

Assisting Project Biologist. Provide biological support and conducting focused acoustic bat surveys, construction monitoring, and preconstruction surveys for California legless lizard, Crotch bumblebee, and cactus wren.

**SPECIAL AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN, VARIOUS PLANNING AREAS, AND INFRASTRUCTURE —  
RANCHO MISSION VIEJO; SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO, CALIFORNIA**

Serving as Project Biologist. Provide biological support relevant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act in addition to regulatory and mitigation support. Conduct pre-construction and biological monitoring. Assist in designing and implementing protocols for a rare plant translocation program including for many-stemmed dudleya, intermediate mariposa lily, thread-leaved brodiaea, and southern tarplant. Implement management action plan rare plant monitoring for southern tarplant, thread-leaved brodiaea, Coulter's saltbush, and many-stemmed dudleya. Implement mitigation monitoring plan, identify new site receptor locations and manage translocation for many-stemmed dudleya. Collect rare plant seed and harvest rare plants for use in restoration. Coordinate with the landscape contractor. Conduct qualitative and quantitative monitoring surveys, prepare annual monitoring reports, and photo exhibits documenting findings.

**TAPIA CANYON DEVELOPMENT PROJECT — SANTA CLARITA, CALIFORNIA**

Serving as Project Biologist. Provide biological and regulatory support specifically for preparation of biological technical and a jurisdictional delineation reports to satisfy CEQA requirements. Conduct general biological surveys, vegetation mapping, focused plant surveys including for slender mariposa lily and Pierson's morning glory, focused surveys for western spadefoot toad, least Bell's vireo, and burrowing owl, and jurisdictional delineation. Prepare a biological technical report and jurisdictional delineation report.

**SKYLINE RANCH DEVELOPMENT PROJECT —**

**PARDEE HOMES; UNINCORPORATED LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

Serving as Project Biologist. Conduct focused burrowing owl surveys and coordinate with the project team regarding preparation of burrowing owl relocation and protection plans. Conduct coastal sage scrub vegetation mapping; overseeing coastal sage scrub maintenance activities; and conducting nesting bird surveys, coordinate, conduct annual monitoring and reporting for Plum Canyon Habitat Mitigation Plan.

**SPRING CANYON DEVELOPMENT PROJECT —**

**RAINTREE INVESTMENT CORPORATION; SANTA CLARITA, CALIFORNIA**

Serving as Project Biologist and Assistant Habitat Restoration Specialist. Support preparation the HMMP and conduct mariposa lily surveys to document population locations, assess phenology, and flag populations for translocation and harvest. Conduct mitigation monitoring and preparation of annual reports for slender mariposa lily. Conduct holly leaf cherry woodland habitat assessment mapping. Conduct focused arroyo toad surveys in support of project permitting. Conduct burrowing owl and reptile preconstruction surveys.

**NBC UNIVERSAL PROJECTS — NBC UNIVERSAL; UNIVERSAL CITY, CALIFORNIA**

Serving as Project Biologist. Provide biological support services for multiple NBC Universal projects. Attend pre-construction meetings and perform pre-construction surveys. Conduct nesting bird and bat surveys and nest monitoring. Prepare reports documenting findings. Perform habitat assessments for nesting birds, reptiles, and various special-status plant and wildlife species. Prepare biological assessments and various mitigation compliance letters. Coordinate with various project teams.

**LAX/EL SEGUNDO DUNES SENSITIVE HABITAT SUPPORT PROJECTS FOR LOS ANGELES WORLD AIRPORTS —  
CDM SMITH; LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

Serving as Project Biologist. Provide support services for multiple projects. Conduct sensitive habitat pre-construction meeting, biological construction monitoring, conduct pre-construction nesting bird surveys, rare plant mitigation monitoring and reporting. Review construction permits and perform construction monitoring. Prepare compliance and completion memoranda, photo exhibits, and a Regional Water Quality Control Board annual monitoring report. Outside of the abovementioned scope, GLA additionally provided task management, initial technical support, and regulatory support; conducted burrowing owl, south cost branching phacelia, and Lewis' evening primrose surveys; and developed and implemented contractor training, oversee south coast branching phacelia restoration monitoring, conduct contractor training and biological monitoring within the El Segundo Dunes Blue Butterfly Reserve.

**NEWPORT BANNING RANCH PROJECT — NEWPORT BANNING RANCH, LLC; NEWPORT BEACH, CALIFORNIA**

Serving as Project Biologist and Assistant Habitat Restoration Specialist. Conduct biological work required for CEQA authorization including vegetation mapping; general biological surveys; rare plant surveys; and focused least Bell's vireo, cactus wren, raptor, burrowing owl surveys. Conduct qualitative and quantitative monitoring to assess germination of hand-seeded species, establishment of native container plantings, natural recruitment, and presence of non-native species. Prepare memoranda, reports, and exhibits. Conduct data analyses and report documented findings to the client and regulatory agencies including the CCC. The mitigation areas are exceeding 5-year success criteria.

**THE CANYON AT PEACE PARK PROJECT — THE CANYON AT PEACE PARK; MALIBU, CALIFORNIA**

Serving as Project Biologist. Monitor demolition of on-site structures in preparation for native habitat restoration. Conduct biological monitoring including for nesting birds and biological surveys pertaining to potential environmentally sensitive habitat areas. Perform focused raptor surveys. Prepare a vegetation map, biological technical report, biological memoranda, and photo exhibits for review by project attorney and California Coastal Commission (CCC). Conduct qualitative and quantitative monitoring surveys of restoration areas.

**JOHN WAYNE GULCH AND SUNSET RIDGE PARK PROJECTS —  
CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH; NEWPORT BEACH, CALIFORNIA**

Serving as Assistant Habitat Restoration Specialist. Provide habitat restoration support for the 0.48-acre John Wayne Gulch and 1.5-acre Sunset Ridge Park mitigation sites. Conduct qualitative and quantitative monitoring to assess establishment of native plantings, natural recruitment, and presence of non-natives. Prepare memoranda, reports, and exhibits. Conduct data analyses and report documented findings to the client and regulatory agencies including the CCC. Both mitigation sites are exceeding 5-year success criteria.

**GOLDEN VALLEY RANCH PROJECT — TRIPOINTE GROUP; SANTA CLARITA, CALIFORNIA**

Serving as Project Biologist and Assistant Habitat Restoration Specialist. Provide regulatory, biological, and habitat restoration support. Attend site meeting to review riparian mitigation site progress as well as a worker education meeting. Coordinate with the landscape contractor regarding weed abatement progress. Prepare a riparian mitigation plant palette, seed mix for riparian and alluvial mitigation areas, and mitigation area exhibit. Maintain a record of site photos.

**TRANSPORTATION**

**PARKS, TRAILS, AND OPEN SPACE**

**ENERGY**

**WATER**

## EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Glenn Lukos Associates. Associate Biologist. Lake Forest, California. 2013 – Present.

Fullerton College. Laboratory Manager-Biological Sciences. Fullerton, California. 2000 – 2013.

San Bernardino County Museum, Countywide Biodiversity Census, Herpetology Team Wildlife Biologist, San Bernardino County, California. March to August-2000.

## VOLUNTEERING

Assist USGS biologists over many years and at multiple locations with western pond turtle trapping and seining, arroyo toad and western spadefoot surveys.

## ADDITIONAL WORKSHOPS

California Fairy and Tadpole Shrimp Identification Class and Test, Mary Schug Belk, San Diego, 2017

Flat-tailed horned lizard, Biological Monitor Training, BLM El Centro Field Office, 2017

Rare Pond Species Workshop, Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation, 2016

As part of her Master's project, Ms. Cashin studied wildlife movement in an urban environment using camera trapping and track stations. Prior to working at GLA, Ms. Cashin managed a community college biological laboratory and teaching museum. Additionally, Ms. Cashin was a staff herpetology field biologist for the San Bernardino County Museum.

## ADDITIONAL TRAININGS ATTENDED (NOT ON PAGE 1)

Vernal Pool Branchiopods: Field Workshop, The Wildlife Society-Western Section, Sacramento, 2018

Wetland Delineation Course, Wetland Training Institute, 2022

## CBB Qualifications

Stephanie Cashin is a Glenn Lukos Associates (GLA) Senior Wildlife Biologist with 11 years of experience conducting biological surveys for special-status floral and faunal species and habitat resources. Stephanie Cashin has a broad zoological and ecological background and continued to expand bumble bee experience through independent study and formal technical workshops. Stephanie Cashin has conducted visual focused surveys for Crotch's bumble bee (CBB), including the identification of other *Bombus* species, beginning 2020 to present. GLA developed and conducts a visual methodology approved by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife in 2020, which was derived from the USFWS rusty-patched bumble bee protocol (USFWS, 2019) and the Xerces Society Bumble Bee method. Beginning in 2024, the CDFW Survey Considerations for CESA Candidate Bumble Bee Species (CDFW, 2023) guidelines are incorporated into the GLA visual survey protocol. Stephanie Cashin has detected CBB in a variety of habitats throughout southern California, including coast dune, coastal sage scrub, chaparral, grassland, meadow, and oak woodland. A summary of focused survey and incidental detection locations are listed below:

### Focused Survey Locations:

Tujunga, Los Angeles County, 2024 - Crotch's bumble bee detected  
Jurupa Valley, Riverside County, 2024 - Crotch's bumble bee detected  
Lake Elsinore, Riverside County, 2024 - Crotch's bumble bee detected  
Brea, Orange County, 2024 - Crotch's bumble bee detected  
Castaic, Los Angeles County, 2024 - Crotch's bumble bee detected  
La Habra, Orange County, 2023  
Corona, Riverside County, June 2020 - Crotch's bumble bee detected  
Calimesa, Riverside County, May 2020 and May 2021 - Crotch's bumble bee detected  
Lake Hughes, Los Angeles County, July 2020 – Crotch's bumble bee detected  
Carbon Canyon, Orange County, July 2020 – Crotch's bumble bee detected  
Camarillo, Ventura County, 2020  
Montebello, Los Angeles County, 2020 and 2021

### Incidental Crotch's Bumble Bee Detection Locations:

Carbon Canyon, Orange County, June 2023  
San Juan Capistrano, Orange County, May 2023.  
Castaic, Los Angeles County, May 2023  
Newhall, Los Angeles, April 2022  
Trabuco Canyon, Orange County 2021  
Castaic, Los Angeles County, June 2020  
El Segundo, Los Angeles County, May 2020  
Irvine, Orange County, April 2020

### Technical Training:

California Bumble Bee Atlas 2024, Completed Volunteer Quiz and Named on Atlas SCP for Volunteer Field Surveys  
California Bumble Bee Atlas Training 2024, Virtual Attendance, Xerces Society, March 18, 2024  
Identifying Male Bumble Bees in Western North America, Virtual Attendance, Xerces Society, December 6, 2023  
Field Training Workshop for California Bumble Bee Atlas Volunteers– Los Angeles Arboretum, Xerces Society, May 20, 2023  
Bumble Bee Identification (Females) for Bumble Bee Atlas Volunteers, Virtual Attendance, Xerces Society, Fall 2021  
California Rare Bumblebee Workshop, The Wildlife Society-Western Section, Virtual Attendance, May 2021  
Los Angeles Natural History Museum, Bumble Bee Collection-Independent Study, February 2020  
Entomology (CalPolyPomona, 1998)



Invertebrate Zoology (CalPolyPomona, 1998)  
General Zoology (FullertonCollege, 1996)

CBB\_qual\_s\_cashin2024

**JASON FITZGIBBON**  
*Associate Biologist*



**YEARS OF EXPERIENCE**

Professional start date: 2011

Years at GLA: 7

**EDUCATION**

MS, Environmental Studies,  
California State University, Fullerton, 2013

BS, Biology,  
California State University, Long Beach,  
2008

**TRAININGS ATTENDED**

Wetland Delineation Course,  
Wetland Training Institute, 2022

California Rare Bumblebee  
The Wildlife Society-Western Section,  
2021

Rare Pond Species Workshop,  
Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation, 2016

Wetland Delineation Course,  
Wetland Training Institute, 2013

GIS Analysis and Map Design,  
California State University, Fullerton, 2013

Desert Tortoise Handling, Monitoring,  
and Surveying Training,  
Desert Tortoise Council, 2012

Yellow-billed Cuckoo Workshop,  
Kern County Preserve, 2012

**PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY**

Jason Fitzgibbon is a Biologist and Environmental Scientist with experience in field biology, biological monitoring, and regulatory permitting. He has participated in numerous biological studies throughout Southern California including projects requiring preparation of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documents and occurring under the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP), San Diego County Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP), and Orange County Natural Community Conservation Plan (NCCP). Jason holds a Bachelor's of Science degree in Biology and a Master of Science degree in Environmental Science with an emphasis in conservation biology. Jason's Master's thesis involved the study of the effects of adjacent construction-related disturbance on the spatial arrangement and demographic distribution of least Bell's vireo within San Diego Creek in Orange County, California.

**SELECTED PROJECT EXPERIENCE**

**DEVELOPMENT**

**ALISO CREEK RESTORATION PROJECT —**

**LAGUNA CANYON FOUNDATION; ALISO VIEJO, CALIFORNIA**

Served as Project Biologist. Conducted sensitive species surveys for least Bell's vireo, yellow-breasted chat, and rare/sensitive plants to establish a baseline measure for comparison of future monitoring results to pre-restoration condition of the 55-acre Aliso Creek restoration site. A component of restoration included sensitive species monitoring throughout implementation of the restoration program to document any increases in occurrences and/or nesting as a means of tracking restoration success.

**CROWN VALLEY COMMUNITY PARK IMPROVEMENT PROJECT —HUNSAKER & ASSOCIATES IRVINE, INC.; LAGUNA NIGUEL, CALIFORNIA**

Served as Project Biologist. Performed vegetation mapping, general wildlife and botanical surveys, and a jurisdictional delineation of the 16-acre study area. Conducted habitat assessments to determine presence/absence of sensitive species and communities. Prepared a biological technical report addressing potential impacts to biological resources and permitting requirements in accordance with CEQA. GLA processed Section 401, 404, and 1602 authorizations. The project involved preparation of a redesign concept for the community park including a new park entry-bridge over a soft-bottom flood channel to replace an existing Arizona crossing, two new parking lots, and connecting roadways. The redesign integrated opportunities for use of impervious pavements, managing flood debris and trash, providing water quality benefits, and minimizing impacts to native vegetation and the stream channel.

**PICERNE PROPERTY PROJECT — THE PICERNE GROUP; LAGUNA NIGUEL, CALIFORNIA**

Served as Project Biologist. Performed vegetation mapping, general wildlife and botanical surveys, and a jurisdictional determination of the 7-acre study area. Conducted habitat assessments to determine presence/absence of sensitive species and communities. Assisted in preparing the biological technical report addressing potential impacts to biological resources and permitting requirements in accordance with CEQA. The project is a new residential development consisting of 426 multi-family residential units, resident and guest parking, residential common use amenities and an approximately 0.66-acre open space park.

**SAN JUAN MEADOWS AND DISTRITO DE LA NOVA PROJECT —  
ADVANCED REAL ESTATE SERVICES; SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO, CALIFORNIA**

Served as Project Biologist. Delineated Corps and CDFW jurisdiction within the 160-acre property study area and prepared a report of findings. GLA prepared a letter of permission request for the Corps and notifications for the Regional Board and CDFW as well as coordinated processing of Section 404, 401, and 1602 authorizations. The project additionally involved preparation of a conceptual habitat mitigation and monitoring plan to address habitat restoration.

**RANCH AT LAGUNA BEACH PROJECT — LAGUNA BEACH GOLF & BUNGALOW VILLAGE; LAGUNA BEACH, CALIFORNIA**

Serving as Project Biologist. The project has involved coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and California Coastal Commission to resolve an appeal regarding property renovations. Conduct vegetation mapping, delineate coastal wetland boundaries and tree trimming/clearing locations, and survey turf removal areas for native vegetation. Conduct nesting bird surveys and prepare a nesting bird memorandum. Prepare a biological technical report addressing baseline conditions and impact analyses associated with the project and study area. Perform noise monitoring and prepare an analysis of sound monitoring data. Support review of archeological records and preparation of an archaeological and paleontological resources memorandum, habitat restoration plan, and noise/lighting management plan.

**LAGUNA BEACH FUEL MODIFICATION ZONE PROJECTS — CITY OF LAGUNA BEACH; LAGUNA BEACH, CALIFORNIA**

Serving as Project Manager/Biologist. Jason has served as Project Biologist for City of Laguna Beach Fire Department since 2011, providing coastal expertise for numerous fuel modification projects. The span of work has ranged from conducting general and focused surveys for sensitive wildlife and plant species including coastal California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*), least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*), Pacific pocket mouse, tidewater goby, Laguna Beach dudleya, and big-leaved crownbeard to performing habitat assessments and vegetation mapping. Additionally, Jason has prepared numerous biological technical reports for the City's ongoing fuel modification zone projects, addressing wildlife movement corridors, impacts to biological resources including special-status species, and mitigation measures. Tasks include rare plant surveys within all fuel modification zones throughout City, providing Biological Support in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for new fuel modification zones, and preparing/processing Coastal Development Permits for areas subject to Chapter 3 Policies of the Coastal Act.

**LAKE FOREST DRIVE/BAKE PARKWAY EXTENSION PROJECT — THE IRVINE COMPANY; IRVINE, CALIFORNIA**

Served as Project Biologist. GLA provided biological, regulatory, and mitigation support for Lake Forest Drive/Bake Parkway bridges, infrastructure, and undergrounding improvements. Reviewed rope alignment prior to construction. Performed focused surveys for least Bell's vireo. Conducted site monitoring and biological/botanical resource monitoring during construction in accordance with CEQA approvals; resource agency permits; and approved/permitted plans, reports, and technical specifications. Provided fieldwork memoranda and compliance reports. Additionally, GLA prepared a contractor education manual, processed a Section 404 permit for maintenance of undercrossings, obtained a permit amendment for noise barrier installation and buffer distance from least Bell's vireo nests, and conducted mitigation implementation and monitoring.

**NEWPORT BANNING RANCH — NEWPORT BANNING RANCH, LLC; NEWPORT BEACH, CALIFORNIA**

Serving as Project Biologist. Conduct biological work required for CEQA authorization including vegetation mapping; general biological surveys; rare plant surveys; and focused least Bell's vireo, cactus wren, raptor, and burrowing owl surveys. The project additionally has involved performing focused fairy shrimp, coastal California gnatcatcher, and southwestern willow flycatcher surveys; preparing a biological technical report for use in preparation of draft and final EIRs pursuant to CEQA as well as responses to comments on the final EIR; preparing a jurisdictional delineation report; and directing and participating in public outreach at public workshops. The City of Newport Beach has approved the project and certified the EIR.

**RANCHO SUMMIT ESTATES PROJECT — SHEA HOMES; ENCINITAS, CALIFORNIA**

Serving as Lead Biological Construction Monitor. Conduct coastal California gnatcatcher surveys in compliance with issued habitat loss permits. Monitor stream crossing work and conduct jurisdictional delineation fieldwork.

**QUALITATIVE BIOLOGICAL MONITORING — SAN JUAN BASIN AUTHORITY, SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO, CALIFORNIA**

Served as Project Biologist. Conducted qualitative biological monitoring of San Juan Creek for the San Juan Basin Authority's (SJBA) Phase I San Juan Basin Groundwater Management and Facility Plan. Tasks included performance of qualitative and quantitative monitoring; preparation of memoranda, reports, and exhibits; analysis of data; and submission of findings to the client and regulatory agencies.

**CORONA 720 PROJECT — GREEN RIVER CANYONS, LLC; CORONA, CALIFORNIA** Serving as Project Biologist. The project includes vegetation mapping within the 720-acre property as well as presence/absence surveys for coastal California gnatcatcher and focused plant surveys for various species including intermediate mariposa lily and many-stemmed dudleya.

**JURISDICTIONAL DELINEATION OF THE FIRE STATION LOCATED AT THE INTERSECTION OF STATE COLLEGE AND YORBA LINDA BOULEVARDS — CITY OF FULLERTON, ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

Served as Project Manager. Oversaw preparation of a jurisdictional delineation report and provided senior review/quality control.

**LOW WATER CROSSING AT ADIT ROAD PROJECT — LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND POWER (LADWP), CALIFORNIA**

Serving as Delineator/Regulatory Specialist. The Project consists of installing a low water crossing using Articulate Concrete Blocks (ACB) on Adit Road where it crosses San Francisquito Creek. The dimensions will be approximately the width of the road (12') and 200' long. GLA is conducting a jurisdictional delineation and preparing a jurisdictional delineation report.

**VICTORVILLE TRANSMISSION LINE EROSION CONTROL PROJECT — LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND POWER (LADWP), SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

Serving as Delineator/Regulatory Specialist. The Project consists of a delineation around three transmission towers for the purpose of installing erosion control. GLA is conducting a jurisdictional delineation and preparing a jurisdictional delineation report.

**OCTA M2 PRESERVES INTERIM BIOLOGICAL MONITORING SUPPORT SERVICES PROJECT—ORANGE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY; ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

Serving as Biologist. Work includes biological resources monitoring for seven Preserves totaling over 1,300 acres to determine threats and stressors that may impact Covered Species and natural communities, conducting overall assessments (e.g., invasive species, erosion, unauthorized trail cutting, and trail condition) to help determine areas of highest management priority, conducting focused species surveys, updating vegetation mapping, and documenting unauthorized activities and related effects to biological resources. GLA conducts ongoing site visits, photo monitoring, and reporting to address results of research and monitoring activities, recommend appropriate adaptive management actions, and discuss anticipated activities for the upcoming year. Specific to Laguna Beach, GLA provides biological monitoring at the Pacific Horizon Preserve, including monitoring the burn area associated with the May 2022 Coastal Fire and leading public hikes. Mr. Fitzgibbon has supported the project by conducting general biological monitoring, conducting focused surveys for special-status plants, and leading public hikes.

***TRANSPORTATION***

***PARKS, TRAILS, AND OPEN SPACE***

***ENERGY***

***WATER***

**EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

Glenn Lukos Associates. Associate Biologist. Lake Forest, California. 2011 – Present.

QuantumSphere, Inc. Biologist/Chemist. Santa Ana, California. 2008 – 2011.

## CBB Qualifications

Jason Fitzgibbon is a Glenn Lukos Associates (GLA) Senior Wildlife Biologist with 11 years of experience conducting biological surveys for special-status floral and faunal species and habitat resources throughout California and the southwest. In addition to the completion of Xerces Society Crotch's bumble bee (CBB) technical training workshops and associated independent study, Jason Fitzgibbon has over four years of experience conducting visual focused surveys for CBB, including the identification of other *Bombus* species. Jason Fitzgibbon has detected CBB in a variety of habitats throughout southern California, including desert scrub, alkali playa, coastal sage scrub, chaparral, grassland, meadow, oak woodland and coniferous forest. A summary of focused survey and incidental detection locations are listed below:

### Focused Survey Locations:

Tujunga, Los Angeles County, 2024 - Crotch's bumble bee detected  
Lake Elsinore, Riverside County, 2024 - Crotch's bumble bee detected  
Brea, Orange County, 2024 - Crotch's bumble bee detected  
Castaic, Los Angeles County, 2024 - Crotch's bumble bee detected  
La Habra, Los Angeles County, 2024 - Crotch's bumble bee detected  
Riverside, Riverside County, 2023 - Crotch's bumble bee detected  
Banning, San Bernadino County, 2023  
Jurupa, Riverside County, 2023  
Santa Clarita, Los Angeles County, 2021- Crotch's bumble bee detected  
Corona, Riverside County, June 2020 - Crotch's bumble bee detected  
Camarillo, Ventura County, 2020  
Laguna Beach, Orange County, 2020

### Incidental Crotch's Bumble Bee Detection Locations:

San Juan Capistrano, Orange County, April 2024  
Pasadena, Los Angeles County, April 2024  
Santa Rosa Mountains, Imperial County, March 2024  
Laguna Beach, Orange County, March 2024  
Carrizo Plain, San Luis Obispo County, June 2023  
Castaic, Los Angeles County, May 2023  
Kennedy Meadows, Kern County, May 2023  
Crystal Cove State Park, Orange County, April 2023  
San Mateo Wilderness, San Diego County, June 2022  
Aliso Viejo, Orange County, June 2022  
Nest observation - Laguna Beach, Orange County, July 2021  
Lake Isabella, Kern County, April 2021  
Adelanto, San Bernardino County, April 2020  
Corona, Riverside County, April 2020

### Technical Training:

California Bumble Bee Atlas Training 2024, Virtual Attendance, Xerces Society, April 22, 2024  
Identifying Male Bumble Bees in Western North America, Virtual Attendance, Xerces Society, March 21, 2024  
California Rare Bumblebee Workshop, The Wildlife Society-Western Section, Virtual Attendance, May 2021  
Entomology (California State University Long Beach, 2007)  
Invertebrate Zoology (California State University Long Beach, 2006)



**Christopher  
Waterston**  
*Regulatory Project  
Manager/Biologist*



## YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

Professional start date: 2012

Years at GLA: 3

## EDUCATION

BS, Biological Science,  
California State University, Fullerton, 2011

## PERMITS AND CERTIFICATIONS

California Rapid Assessment Methodology  
(CRAM) Practitioner – Riverine and  
Depressional Wetlands Modules, 2015

American Academy of Underwater Sciences  
(AAUS) Diver Certification, 2012

## TRAININGS ATTENDED

Wetland Delineation Course,  
Wetland Training Institute, 2022

Introduction to  
Wildlife Crossings Caltrans, 2017

Bats and Transportation, Caltrans, 2017

ESA Section 7,  
Federal Highway Administration, 2016

Ordinary High-Water Mark (OHWM),  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 2016

CONTINUED (PAGE 4)

## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Christopher Waterston has eleven years of extensive environmental planning, biological and regulatory experience in both the public and private sectors. He has played a key role in coordinating and performing biological surveys, preparing technical documents, and obtaining permits for projects requiring federal Endangered Species Act (FESA), California Endangered Species Act (CESA), and federal Clean Water Act (CWA) compliance. Christopher additionally has broad experience with regulatory agency coordination ranging from conducting Section 7 consultations to acquiring aquatic permits.

Christopher has performed the role of Lead Biologist on numerous California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) projects throughout Orange County, involving biological and regulatory aspects from initial project scoping through construction, and post-construction mitigation. He has extensive experience in preparing biological technical documents, including Natural Environment Study (NES) reports, Biological Assessments (BA), CEQA and NEPA Environmental Documents, California Rapid Assessment Method (CRAM) reports, Senate Bill (SB) 857 Fish Passage Legislative Reports, and Habitat Mitigation Monitoring Plan (HMMP) reports. He has extensive experience in writing avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures, general and focused survey reports. He routinely coordinates and conducts general biological and aquatic resource constraints surveys and focused protocol surveys for special-status species such as arroyo toad, arroyo chub, various bat species, burrowing owl, least Bell's vireo, coastal California gnatcatcher, Essential Fish Habitat (EFH), and rare endemic plants. Christopher regularly coordinates with state, federal, and local agencies, including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), SB-857 coordination with state, federal, and local agencies, various Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCBs)/State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), U.S. Forest Service (USFS), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), and the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) to obtain CWA permits, 401 water quality certifications, streambed alteration agreements, FESA and CESA incidental take permits, authorizations, approvals, and coordination. He is knowledgeable in the Orange County Central/Coastal Natural Community Conservation Plan (NCCP)/Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and Western Riverside Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP). He served as the Caltrans District liaison for quarterly meetings with CDFW, USFWS, and was the District Fish Passage Biologist. His eight years of professional experience has given him familiarity in a diverse array of biological elements throughout southern California.

## SELECTED PROJECT EXPERIENCE

### *DEVELOPMENT*

#### **RANCHO MISSION VIEJO — SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO, CALIFORNIA**

Serving as Project Manager. Managing multiple large residential development, infrastructure, and mitigation compliance projects throughout the Rancho Mission Viejo (RMV) property. Regularly coordinates with RMV environmental and construction managers, contractors, and field staff. Oversees a team of biologists and regulatory specialists performing various special-status flora and fauna surveys, construction monitoring, vegetation mapping, jurisdictional delineations, and mitigation monitoring. Prepares monthly memos and annual reports to various resource agencies. Manages various contracts, project task orders, permits, and certifications.

#### **SUMMERWIND RANCH RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT — CALIMESA, CALIFORNIA**

Serving as Project Manager. The project consists of a residential development. Managed a team of biologists and regulatory specialists. Conducted special-status flora and fauna surveys required by the Western Riverside MSHCP, federal, and state regulations. Conducted a jurisdictional delineation and California Rapid Assessment Method (CRAM) on the 280-acre site. Prepared and processed a jurisdictional delineation and CRAM report. Processed a Waste Discharge Requirement (WDR) with the Regional Water Quality Control Board, a preliminary jurisdictional determination with the U.S. Army Corps, and a Streambed Alteration Agreement (1600 permit) with the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife. Conducted oak tree surveys and prepared an oak tree mitigation plan to comply with city tree protection ordinances. Coordinated with project proponents, resource agencies, city staff, and various consultants to facilitate the receipt of permits, approvals, and certifications for the project.

### *TRANSPORTATION*

#### **INTERSTATE 5 WIDENING PROJECT — CALTRANS/OCTA MEASURE 2, ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

Served as Lead Biologist. The project involved widening the I-5 in both directions to increase capacity for the highly traveled I-5 corridor in Orange County. Facilitated in approving the biological technical document (NES), Biological Assessment, Environmental Impact Report and Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) and performed Section 7 Consultation with USFWS. Developed project standard-special specifications (SSPs), avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures. Reviewed consultant prepared permit applications (401, 404, 1602), and coordinated with regulatory managers at CDFW and USFWS to incorporate the approved OCTA M2 NCCP/HCP measures. Performed biological surveys within the project area for nesting birds and roosting bats, fish passage analysis, and arroyo chub protocol surveys with CDFW fisheries biologists. As the project's lead biologist, coordinated meetings with the Project Development Team, contractors, consultants, and resource agency personnel. Coordinated directly with Caltrans and OCTA project managers to convey biological and permitted resource requirements. Wrote monthly monitoring reports to the SWRCB and CDFW for project compliance/noncompliance issues.

#### **STATE ROUTE-73/MACARTHUR BOULEVARD OFF-RAMP WIDENING PROJECT — CALTRANS, ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

Served as Lead Biologist. The safety project involved widening the SR-73 southbound MacArthur Blvd. off-ramp over Bonita Creek in the City of Newport Beach. Facilitated in the approval of the NES, BA, and CEQA/NEPA documents. Performed Section 7 Consultation with the USFWS. Prepared water quality permit applications (401, 404, and 1602). Communicated with CDFW and USFWS regarding project impacts to the Orange County Central/Coastal NCCP/HCP. Developed project contract SSPs, avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures. Analyzed project impacts and determined ratios of mitigation needed for loss of coastal sage-scrub, wetland waters of the U.S., CDFW riparian, and NCCP/HCP habitats. Coordinated with Orange County Parks and TCA environmental program managers for mitigation credit releases. Performed protocol-level surveys for coastal California gnatcatcher, bat habitat assessments, visual and acoustic emergence surveys. Coordinated directly with Caltrans project managers and engineers to convey project environmental needs and resource agency requirements.

#### **INTERSTATE 405 WIDENING PROJECT — CALTRANS/OCTA MEASURE 2, ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

As the District Biologist, served an oversight role in the Environmental Planning processes. The "design-build" project involved the addition of one high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane and one general-purpose lane in both directions between I-605 and SR-55. Facilitated the approval of the NES and the project's EIR/EIS. Reviewed consultant prepared permit applications and coordinated with regulatory managers at CDFW, SWRCB, and USACE to incorporate the approved OCTA M2 Program's 404 Letter of Permission

(LOP), 401 Water Quality Certification, and 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement measures into the project's contract specifications and mitigation measures. Approved monthly biological monitoring reports and coordinated in weekly meetings with the Project's contractors, consultants, and managers for both Caltrans and OCTA.

#### STATE ROUTE-73 DETENTION BASIN/EROSION CONTROL PROJECT —

##### CALTRANS/TRANSPORTATION CORRIDOR AGENCY (TCA), ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Served as Lead Biologist. The SR-73 was completed in the late 90s. Caltrans and TCA designed multiple detention basins adjacent to the new freeway in order to capture and filter stormwater. Due to some deficiencies, a construction project was implemented in 2014 to address excess erosion, stormwater runoff, and detention basin maintenance. As the lead biologist, conducted nesting bird surveys prior to grading operations and protocol-level coastal California gnatcatcher surveys. Facilitated and approved the landscape and plant pallet plans from district landscape architects. Monitored habitat restoration activities, performed plant transect surveys, coordinated with landscape contractors, and prepared annual Habitat Mitigation Monitoring Plan (HMMP) reports.

#### STATE ROUTE 74 SAFETY SHOULDER WIDENING PROJECT — CALTRANS, ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Served as Lead Biologist. The project involved widening the existing shoulders associated with SR-74 safety and maintenance improvements. Performed jurisdictional delineations, CRAM analysis, and biological surveys including protocol-level surveys for the federally endangered arroyo toad. Coordinated with USFWS biologists for implementation of Biological Opinion measures during construction and with U.S. Forest Service biologists for aquatic resource mitigation within Cleveland National Forest. Approved annual monitoring reports and reviewed consultant task order budgets and invoices. Coordinated with Casper's Regional Park rangers, landscape architects, and contractors for the off-site arroyo toad habitat restoration. Performed plant transect surveys, organized field procedures under USFWS mitigation measures for impacts to designated critical habitat for the arroyo toad. Performed protocol-level surveys and eradicated invasive predators within San Juan Creek for five years.

#### STATE ROUTE-91 EASTBOUND WIDENING PROJECT — CALTRANS, ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Served as the District Biologist. The project involved widening the eastbound SR-91 by adding one-general purpose lane from SR-57 to Tustin Avenue. Project impacts to the Santa Ana River required water quality permits, nesting bird surveys, and pre-construction bat roost surveys. Late in the project design phase, a maternity colony of Yuma myotis bats were discovered in the SR-91/Santa Ana River Bridge. As the district biologist, coordinated with CDFW's Caltrans liaison for facilitating project design changes; and to incorporate for the first time in the district, alternative bat habitat (panels) that were installed on the westbound side of the SR-91 Bridge. Monitored construction activities, communicated directly with project managers, engineers, construction personnel, and consultant biologists. Performed multiple day and nighttime bat surveys, collected data for CDFW, and prepared quarterly monitoring reports detailing the success of the bat mitigation.

### ENERGY

#### TRANSMISSION PROJECT — SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON, SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Served as Team Biologist. The transmission project occurred north of I-10 in the City of Cabazon from SR-111 to the Morongo Resort. Performed special-status species surveys for endemic plants, desert tortoise, desert kit fox, burrowing owl, and loggerhead shrike. Prepared daily field reports, coordinated with lead biologists, and adjacent property owners.

#### TRANSMISSION PROJECT — SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON, RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Served as Team Biologist. The project occurred along the Santa Ana River Valley in Riverside County. It involved tree trimming and removal activities adjacent to Southern California Edison right-of-way. Performed nesting bird surveys ahead of vegetation maintenance activities. Coordinated with contractors, team biologists, and managers. Prepared daily field reports, collected data using a handheld GPS, and submitted monthly monitoring reports to the client.

### LOCAL GOVERNMENT

#### WEST VALLEY DETENTION CENTER — SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Served as Lead Biologist. The project occurred within Day Creek, adjacent to the West Valley Detention Center in Fontana, CA. The project replaced a water and sewage line that went through Day Creek. Monitored construction activities, performed nesting bird

surveys, communicated 401, 404, and 1602 permit conditions to project contractors. Prepared daily field reports, collected data using a handheld GPS, and submitted monthly monitoring reports to the client.

**LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND POWER (LADWP) —**

**BEACON PHASE II ENERGY STORAGE PROJECT SITE, KERN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

Served as Regulatory Specialist. The Project consisted of an energy storage facility owned and operated by the LADWP within the Mojave Desert in unincorporated Kern County, CA. The project included conducting a jurisdictional delineation, preparation of a jurisdictional delineation report, and coordination with project proponents to facilitate the preparation of CEQA documents and regulatory agency permits.

**MARINA DEL REY HARBOR PIER INSTALLATION — LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

Served as a team Marine Biologist and an American Academy of Underwater Sciences (AAUS) certified diver. The project involved installation and removal of piers for residential docks within Marina del Rey Harbor. Operated under a California Coastal Commission Development permit. Operated small watercraft, surface/diver communication systems, and SCUBA diving equipment. Performed sensitive habitat SCUBA surveys for invasive algae (*Caulerpa*) and native seagrass (*Zostera*) habitat surveys. Recorded species of fish, marine invertebrates, and general marine conditions. Provided surface support by recording sensitive areas surveyed with GPS units and entered data into ArcGIS.

**NEWPORT BAY EELGRASS RESTORATION — ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

Served as a team Marine Biologist and AAUS certified diver. The City of Newport Beach's mitigation project involved installation of seagrass (*Zostera*) habitat within Newport Bay. Operated small watercraft, surface/diver communication systems, and SCUBA diving equipment. Gathered and separated eelgrass from "donor" beds and re-planted individual grasses below intertidal areas. Performed underwater transects and monitored the growth, density, and condition of planted seagrasses.

**WHITE ABALONE SURVEYS — NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE AND CALIFORNIA COASTKEEPER, POINT LOMA, SAN DIEGO CALIFORNIA**

Served as a team Marine Biologist and AAUS certified diver. Supported biological and genetic research dives with NMFS Marine Biologists for the federally listed white abalone (*Haliotis sorenseni*) off Point Loma, California. Performed underwater transects, surveyed the surrounding benthic environment and noted locations of special-status species. Collected data using diving slates, photography, and facilitated data entry for NMFS' White Abalone Recovery Plan.

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Academy of Underwater Sciences

Califlora

California Coastkeeper

Divers Alert Network

Society for Conservation Biology

## EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Glenn Lukos Associates. Regulatory Project Manager/Biologist. Santa Ana, California. 2020 – Present.

California Department of Transportation – District 12 Orange County. Associate Environmental Planner (Natural Sciences)/Biologist. Santa Ana, California. 2013 - 2020.

Kidd Biological, Inc. Biologist. Perris, California. 2012.

Coastal Resources Management. Marine Biologist. Corona del Mar, California. 2012.

## ADDITIONAL TRAININGS ATTENDED (NOT ON PAGE 1)

Plant Identification, California Native Plant Society, 2016

Bat Workshop, Bat Conservation Management, Modoc County, 2015

Advanced Wetland Delineation, Wetland Training Institute, 2014

Construction, Design, and Maintenance, Caltrans, 2014

CEQA/NEPA Basics, Caltrans, 2013

### **CBB Qualifications**

Chris Waterston is a Glenn Lukos Associates (GLA) Senior Biologist and Regulatory Specialist with 12 years of experience conducting biological surveys for special-status floral and faunal species and habitat resources. Chris Waterston is proficient in the visual identification of *Bombus* species within southern California. He has attended multiple *Bombus* identification and survey method trainings including, the Xerces Society's: Western Bumble Bee Identification Webinar, Male Bumble Bee Identification along the Pacific Coast of North America, and the California Bumble Bee Atlas Training Webinar. GLA developed and conducts a visual methodology approved by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife in 2020, which was derived from the USFWS rusty-patched bumble bee protocol (USFWS, 2019) and the Xerces Society Bumble Bee method. Beginning in 2024, the CDFW Survey Considerations for CESA Candidate Bumble Bee Species (CDFW, 2023) guidelines are incorporated into the GLA visual survey protocol. Chris Waterston has detected CBB in a variety of habitats throughout southern California, including coast dune, coastal sage scrub, chaparral, grassland, meadow, and oak woodland. A summary of focused survey and incidental detection locations are listed below:

### **Survey Location/Number of Detections:**

San Juan Capistrano, CA – June 2024 - Crotch's bumble bee detected  
Brea, CA – April 2024 - Crotch's bumble bee detected  
La Habra, CA – April 2024 - Crotch's bumble bee detected  
San Juan Capistrano, CA – March 2024 - Crotch's bumble bee detected  
Castaic, CA – May 2023 and May 2024 - Crotch's bumble bee detected  
Calimesa, CA – July 2022 - Crotch's bumble bee detected



**Ian Rhodes**  
*Wildlife Biologist*



## YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

Professional start date: 2024

Years at GLA: 0.5

## EDUCATION

BA, Environmental Studies and  
Economics, University of  
California, Santa Cruz, 2021

## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Ian Rhodes is a Wildlife Biologist with extensive technical and field experience working within Central and Southern California plant communities, with particular interest in coastal sage scrub and grassland ecosystems. At University of California, Santa Cruz, he assisted with ecological restoration at the Fort Ord Natural Reserve in Marina, California. Specifically, his work focused on boosting populations of sand gilia (*Gilia tenuiflora* ssp. *arenaria*) and seaside bird's beak (*Cordylanthus rigidus* ssp. *littoralis*). He has also assisted with ecological restoration of native grassland and coastal sage scrub communities at the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy as a native plant restoration nursery technician. During his time at GLA, he has assisted with the coordination and execution of a wide array of biological surveys across the Southern California area.

His field experience includes vegetation alliance mapping, California native flora identification, vegetation monitoring, focused rare plant surveys and mapping, wildlife surveys, nesting bird surveys, coastal California gnatcatcher nesting and census surveys, Crotch's bumble bee surveys, burrowing owl surveys, and seed and plant collection. Other specialized work includes public education on Southern California native flora, California native plant propagation, and landscape design.

## SELECTED PROJECT EXPERIENCE

### DEVELOPMENT

#### **MONTEBELLO HILLS—TOLL BROTHERS, INC.; MONTEBELLO, CALIFORNIA**

Served as a biological monitor for the annual coastal California gnatcatcher population census in 484 acres of open space in the city of Montebello, California. Work included assisting with the monitoring of breeding and nesting activities of coastal California gnatcatcher (*Poliophtila californica*); planning avoidance measures with construction crews; performing qualitative monitoring of viable habitat; and analyzing and interpreting survey results.

**TAPIA RANCH—DACA-CASTAIC LLC; CASTAIC, CALIFORNIA**

Served as an assistant wildlife biologist for general biological surveys, vegetation alliance mapping, focused rare plant surveys, and focused Crotch's bumble bee surveys on 1,167 acres in unincorporated Los Angeles County, California. Work included assisting with the pre-survey research of rare and endangered species using data from the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) and the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Inventory; conducting vegetation alliance mapping; conducting rare plant surveys; conducting Crotch's bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*) surveys; interpreting survey results; conducting surveys of viable habitat for Crotch's bumble bee; rare flora identification; and assisting in the preparation of a biological technical report.

**CHURCH & DWIGHT TRAILER LOT EXPANSION PROJECT—LINK LOGISTICS; VICTORVILLE, CALIFORNIA**

Served as project manager and lead biologist for a western Joshua tree survey and nesting bird survey on 10 acres in the city of Victorville, California. Work included preparing survey materials; conducting a western Joshua tree (*Yucca brevifolia*) survey; analyzing and interpreting Joshua tree survey results; conducting a pre-construction nesting bird survey; and analyzing and interpreting nesting bird survey results.

**AERA MASTER PLANNED COMMUNITY—AERA ENERGY LLC; BREA, CALIFORNIA**

Served as an assistant wildlife biologist for multiple biological surveys on 3,000 acres in the city of Brea, California. Work included researching rare and endangered flora and fauna using data from the CNDDDB and the CNPS Inventory; conducting focused rare plant surveys; mapping observations of coastal California gnatcatcher; conducting vegetation alliance mapping in accordance with the Manual of California Vegetation; conducting Crotch's bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*) surveys; and assisting in the preparation of a biological technical report.

**CORONA QUARRY EXPANSION PROJECT—HARRISON TEMBLADOR HUNGERFORD & GUERNSEY; CORONA, CALIFORNIA**

Served as an assistant wildlife biologist for multiple biological surveys on 243 acres in the city of Corona, California. Work included researching rare and endangered flora and fauna using data from the CNDDDB and the CNPS Inventory; researching survey protocols and target species in accordance with the Western Riverside County Multiple-Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP); conducting vegetation alliance mapping in accordance with the Manual of California Vegetation; conducting focused rare plant surveys; mapping observations of coastal California gnatcatcher and least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*); and assisting with the preparation of a biological technical report.

**PARKS, TRAILS, AND OPEN SPACE****OCTA PRESERVES INTERIM BIOLOGICAL MONITORING SUPPORT SERVICES CONTRACT—ORANGE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY, ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

Served on a team of biologists conducting preserve-wide vegetation mapping. GLA has provided support to OCTA with biological resources monitoring for all seven preserves, totaling over 1,300 acres, to determine threats and stressors that may impact covered species and natural communities; conducting overall assessments (e.g., invasive species, erosion, unauthorized trail cutting, and trail condition) to help determine areas of highest management priority; and documenting unauthorized activities and related effects to biological resources (e.g., encroachments and unauthorized trail cutting). GLA provides ongoing site visits, photographic monitoring, and reporting, which includes annual reports to address results of research and monitoring activities, recommendations of appropriate adaptive management actions, and discussion of anticipated activities for the upcoming year. Ian assisted with the vegetation mapping efforts being conducted at the preserves.

**PETERSEN RANCH/ELIZABETH LAKE MITIGATION BANK—EIP IV CREDIT CO., LLC; LAKE HUGHES, CALIFORNIA**

Served as an assistant biologist for focused Crotch's bumble bee surveys on 3,500 acres in the town of Elizabeth Lake, California. Work included pre-survey research and preparation of materials for surveys, conducting surveys of suitable

habitat and nectar sources for Crotch's bumble bee, conducting focused Crotch's bumble bee surveys, and analyzing and interpreting survey results.

**PALOS VERDES NATURE PRESERVE HABITAT RESTORATION—PALOS VERDES PENINSULA LAND CONSERVANCY (PVPLC), RANCHO PALOS VERDES, CALIFORNIA**

Served as the native plant restoration nursery technician. Work included seed and cutting propagation of native plant species; implementing Best Management Practices (BMP's) within the nursery to minimize the spread of blight (*Phytophthora* sp.) and other waterborne pathogens amongst nursery stock; coordinating wholesale and retail native plant sales; coordinating public native plant sales; attending public outreach events; educating members of the public about California native flora; assisting with minor construction projects at the native plant restoration nursery; and collecting seed and cuttings from PVPLC's 1,400 acres of preserves for propagation and conservation purposes.

***WATER***

**MDP LINE E PROJECT—ALBERT A. WEBB ASSOCIATES; SAN JACINTO, CALIFORNIA**

Served as an assistant wildlife biologist for focused rare plant surveys on a 14,000 linear foot drainage in the city of San Jacinto, California. Work included performing pre-survey research of rare and endangered flora using data from the CNDDDB and the CNPS Inventory; researching survey protocols and target species in accordance with the Western Riverside County MSHCP; conducting focused rare plant surveys for multiple target species including smooth tarplant (*Centromadia pungens* ssp. *laevis*) and Coulter's goldfields (*Lasthenia glabrata* ssp. *coulteri*); identifying and mapping observations of least Bell's vireo; interpreting survey results; and assisting in the preparation of a biological technical report.

**IVANPAH WATERLINE PROJECT—EQUINOX GOLD CORPORATION; SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

Served as an assistant wildlife biologist for focused rare plant surveys and burrowing owl surveys on a 30-mile linear study area in San Bernardino County, California and Clark County, Nevada. Work included performing pre-survey research of rare and endangered flora of California and Nevada using data from the CNDDDB, the CNPS Inventory, and the state of Nevada's BLM plant species watchlist; assembling rare floral and faunal species tables for use in focused surveys; conducting focused rare plant surveys; interpreting survey results; assisting with burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*) surveys; rare flora identification; and assisting in the production of a biological technical report.

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

California Native Plant Society, South Coast Chapter

**EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

Glenn Lukos Associates. Wildlife Biologist. Santa Ana, California. February 2024 – Present.

Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy. Native Plant Restoration Nursery Technician. Rancho Palos Verdes, California. 2023.

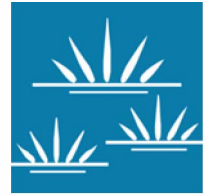
University of California, Santa Cruz Arboretum and Botanic Garden. Horticulturist. Santa Cruz, California. 2020-2021.

UC Fort Ord Natural Preserve. Restoration Intern. Marina, California. 2019-2020.

# MEMORANDUM

## GLENN LUKOS ASSOCIATES

Regulatory Services



**DATE:** June 13, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Staff Qualifications to Conduct Protocol Surveys for Crotch's Bumble Bee

---

Glenn Lukos Associates, Inc. (GLA) currently has four biologists on staff that are qualified to perform protocol surveys for Crotch's bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*) [CBB].

- Jeff Ahrens
- Stephanie Cashin
- Jason Fitzgibbon
- Chris Waterston

The qualifications are based on the following:

- Ability to identify CBB in the field and distinguish CBB from other *Bombus* species that also occur in similar habitats.
- Familiarity with survey protocols.
- Training specific to CBB and other bumble bee species.
- Surveys and CBB identification in a variety of vegetation communities at multiple sites across the range of the species.

### **Background of CBB Experience**

GLA staff have undergone training and conducted visual focused surveys for Crotch's bumble bee (CBB), beginning in 2020 and continuing to the present. Starting in 2020, GLA developed a visual survey methodology that was approved by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) for use on a specific project where CDFW required CBB surveys. GLA's initial survey protocol was derived from the USFWS rusty-patched bumble bee protocol (USFWS, 2019) and the Xerces Society Bumble Bee method. Beginning in 2024, GLA incorporated the CDFW Survey Considerations for California Endangered Species Act Candidate Bumble Bee Species (CDFW, 2023). The survey protocol includes photo documentation to support the field identification of CBB. GLA has surveyed and detected CBB in a variety of habitats throughout southern California, including coast dune, coastal sage scrub, chaparral, grassland, meadow, and woodland habitats.

# **MEMORANDUM**

**June 13, 2024**

**Page 2**

## **CBB Training**

There are multiple training opportunities that a number of GLA's staff have completed, including the four biologists referenced above. All the referenced staff have completed the following:

- California Rare Bumblebee Workshop, 2021, The Wildlife Society-Western Section, Virtual Attendance
- Identifying Male Bumble Bees in Western North America, 2024, Virtual Attendance, Xerces Society
- California Bumble Bee Atlas Training, 2024, Virtual Attendance, Xerces Society

In addition, two of GLA's biologist (Jeff Ahrens and Stephanie Cashin) performed independent study by reviewing the bumble bee collection at the Los Angeles Natural History Museum.

## **Survey Experience**

GLA's staff have completed CBB protocol surveys for a variety of habitats at numerous sites throughout southern California, including in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Ventura and Kern counties. Collectively, GLA has detected CBB at a minimum of 13 different sites while conducting protocol surveys and has incidentally detected CBB at a minimum of another 25 sites.

p:RESUMES\GLA\_CBB Qualifications

APPENDIX B  
MITIGATION FEASIBILITY  
ASSESSMENT

## MEMORANDUM

August 28, 2018

**To:**  
John Arvin  
NorthLake

**From:**  
Marc Blain

**Subject:** Feasibility Analysis of NorthLake Biological Mitigation Requirements

---

An analysis was conducted to confirm the feasibility of implementing NorthLake biological mitigation measures for the NorthLake Project. Specifically, requirements for preservation of existing vegetation or preservation with restoration of potentially suitable habitat for select wildlife species were reviewed and required amounts of mitigation by habitat type were calculated. Using a two-pronged approach, potential mitigation properties were identified and then evaluated using a GIS tool to rank potential mitigation parcels based on biological values relative to NorthLake mitigation needs. The results of this analysis, as discussed below, indicate that properties with the appropriate biological resources and of sufficient acreage are currently available or are in process towards becoming available within the region. Properties were considered to be “available” if they are currently listed for sale, if there are no recorded development plans for the sites, where information provided by sellers or brokers indicated that offers would be considered or potentially considered, where properties have other constraints to development such as USFWS designated Critical Habitat, and where the properties have not been used as mitigation for prior projects. As such, biological resources mitigation for the NorthLake Project is feasible.

The attached tables and maps include properties identified based on communication with sellers, brokers, mitigation bank managers, and/or other publicly available information, and the results of a preliminary analysis of on-site vegetation and soils. The purpose of the analysis was to identify available properties with native habitat that exhibit sufficient acreage to offset the potential loss of native habitats associated with Project development. Properties were identified by Psomas staff based on (1) staff’s previous knowledge of properties; (2) inquiries with approved mitigation banks; (3) inquiries with entities such as the Trust for Public Lands, Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, and California Department of Fish and Wildlife; and (4) review of properties listed for sale (and thus assumed to be available). Potential properties were given priority based on size, proximity to the Project site, proximity to other preserved open space areas, and overall level of disturbance and quality of habitat. Aerial photos were reviewed for each site to determine the general type of habitat (e.g. scrub, riparian, grassland, etc.) as were soil maps to determine each site’s suitability for establishment/translocation of special status plant species and seasonal pools for western spadefoot toad. In addition, estimated vegetation types and acreage was extracted from Cal Fire Regional Vegetation Maps.

Psomas’ Ecologists and GIS Specialists then developed a searchable database, using existing ecological/geographic data (federal/State/local), to assess the suitability of identified properties as well as other potentially suitable parcels of undeveloped land in the Project region. For this purpose, undeveloped land was defined as parcels that were totally or nearly totally undeveloped.



John Arvin  
August 28, 2018  
Page 2

Several parameters were used to create the database (see below) that are representative of the characteristics/resources on the Project site. Each parameter was assigned a score based on (1) its occurrence on, or in proximity to, the Project site; and (2) its relative importance/priority in achieving the goals of the mitigation program. For several of the parameters, a fraction of the maximum points is awarded—for example, a parcel is awarded 10 points if it falls within a Los Angeles County Significant Ecological Area (SEA), but it is awarded a fraction of that amount if it falls *within one mile* of an SEA. Only parcels that are 50 acres or greater in size were included in the database, except for parcels less than 50 acres in size that are contiguous with parcels that form a combined area of 50 acres or greater.

The parameters used in the database development in order of highest priority/score (see Table 3), included:

- (1) A record of the federally-map generated listed Threatened coastal California gnatcatcher (*Poliophtila californica californica*) (gnatcatcher) (up to 75 points);
- (2) The occurrence of designated Critical Habitat (per U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) for the gnatcatcher (up to 60 points);
- (3) the occurrence of coastal scrub vegetation as designated by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (up to 50 points);
- (4) The occurrence within Los Angeles County (40 points);
- (5) The watershed location (e.g., Santa Clara River watershed – highest score [30 points]);
- (6) The occurrence of a Significant Ecological Area as defined by the County of Los Angeles (up to 10 points);
- (7) The occurrence of a California Essential Habitat Connectivity Project area, as defined by the California Department of Transportation and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (up to 8 points); and
- (8) The occurrence within one (1) mile of a National Forest, National Park, State Park, or County Park (natural park) (up to 5 points).

The resulting maps generated from this database (see attached Exhibit 1: Regional Suitability for Mitigation; and Exhibit 2.1 through 2.4: Detail Sheet A, B, C, and D – Local Suitability for Mitigation) present a color-coded display with gradations of high suitability (green) to low suitability (red) that represent the combined score for each qualifying parcel. The maps also display the County Assessor parcel numbers, the watershed boundaries, and other parameters set forth above. The database enables the user to evaluate parcels in the Project region for their potential suitability to provide mitigation acreages for losses of biological/habitat resources that are currently present on the Project site. Exhibits 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, and 3.4 provide a sample of soils data reviewed within potential mitigation opportunity properties and other parcels.

Results of the analysis indicate that properties with the appropriate biological resources and of sufficient acreage are currently available or are in process towards becoming available (based on information obtained by Psomas staff) within the region. As summarized in Table 1, Summary of NorthLake Mitigation Requirements and Partial List of Mitigation Opportunities, and detailed in

John Arvin  
 August 28, 2018  
 Page 3

Table 2, Detail of NorthLake Mitigation Requirements and Partial List of Mitigation Opportunities, available acreage exceeds mitigation requirements for each impact category and additional properties with suitable habitats are expected to occur as well. A portion of the mitigation acreage is expected to occur on-site (see Exhibit 4) with the balance occurring within off-site lands owned by NorthLake (see Exhibit 5) and other off-site lands potentially available (see Table 2). In addition, the identified properties exhibit biological rankings equivalent to that of the affected habitats on the Project site (see Exhibits 1 and 2 and Table 3, Top 20 High Scoring Parcels from Regional Analysis). This equivalence is an indication of appropriate mitigation replacement values and can also be used to assess additional properties which may become available for mitigation. Biological resources mitigation for the NorthLake Project is, therefore, feasible.

In conclusion, this analysis (as well as the supporting tables and maps) shows that the biology mitigation measures for the NorthLake Project impacts identified in the SEIR are feasible and will mitigate the Project's potentially significant biology impacts.

#### Attachments:

1. Table 1, Summary of NorthLake Mitigation Requirements and Partial List of Mitigation Opportunities
2. Table 2, Detail of NorthLake Mitigation Requirements and Partial List of Mitigation Opportunities
3. Table 3, Top 20 High Scoring Parcels from Regional Analysis
4. Exhibit 1, Regional Suitability for Mitigation
5. Exhibit 2.1, Detail Sheet A - Local Suitability for Mitigation
6. Exhibit 2.2, Detail Sheet B - Local Suitability for Mitigation
7. Exhibit 2.3, Detail Sheet C - Local Suitability for Mitigation
8. Exhibit 2.4, Detail Sheet D - Local Suitability for Mitigation
9. Exhibit 3.1, Detail Sheet A - Soils
10. Exhibit 3.2, Detail Sheet B - Soils
11. Exhibit 3.3, Detail Sheet C - Soils
12. Exhibit 3.4, Detail Sheet D - Soils
13. Exhibit 4, On-site Mitigation Opportunities
14. Exhibit 5, Off-site Mitigation Opportunities Owned by NorthLake

**ATTACHMENT 1**

**TABLE 1, SUMMARY OF NORTHLAKE MITIGATION REQUIREMENTS  
AND PARTIAL LIST OF MITIGATION OPPORTUNITIES**

**TABLE 1**  
**SUMMARY OF NORTHLAKE MITIGATION REQUIREMENTS and PARTIAL LIST OF MITIGATION OPPORTUNITIES**

			APPROPRIATE HABITAT CURRENTLY OWNED BY NORTHLAKE			PARTIAL LIST OF OFF-SITE MITIGATION PROPERTIES WITH APPROPRIATE HABITAT NOT OWNED BY NORTHLAKE															
BIOLOGICAL RESOURCE	IMPACTS *	REQUIRED MITIGATION @ 2:1	ON-SITE (WITHIN NORTHLAKE BOUNDARY) **	OFF-SITE (OUTSIDE NORTHLAKE BOUNDARY) **	REQUIRED MITIGATION NOT CURRENTLY OWNED BY NORTHLAKE	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	TOTAL OFF-SITE OPPORTUNITIES (A-N) (ACRES)	TOTAL OFF-SITE OPPORTUNITIES (A-N) (% of REQ'D)
VEGETATION TYPE (ACRES)																					
Sage Scrub	635	1269	330	189	751		324	1800	65	10	200	120	300	130	20	35				3004	400%
Native Grassland	24	48	1	3	45	250														250	560%
Annual Grassland	399	798	51	18	729	250	72	700		40	400									1462	201%
Riparian/Open Water Communities	13	27	1	1	24			500			10									510	2146%
	IMPACTS	REQUIRED MITIGATION @ 1:1																		TOTAL OFF-SITE OPPORTUNITIES (A-N) (INDIVIDUALS)	TOTAL OFF-SITE OPPORTUNITIES (A-N) (% OF REQ'D)
PLANT SPECIES (INDIVIDUALS)																					
Round-leaved Filaree	39	39	100	170	0	1000	2000	300	200	1000	300	1000	300	100	100	100	100	100	100	No offsite property required	
Paniculate Tarplant	300	300	100	170	30	1000	2000	300	200	1000	300	1000	300	100	100	100	100	100	100	6600	22000%
Southwestern Spine Rush	300	300	100	170	30	1000	2000	300	200	1000	300	1000	300	100	100	100	100	100	100	6600	22000%
Slender & Club-haired Mariposa Lily	3000	3000	300	450	2250	3000	6000	1000	1000	3000	1000	3000	1000	300	300	300	300	300	300	20500	911%
	IMPACTS *	REQUIRED MITIGATION @ 1:1																		TOTAL OFF-SITE OPPORTUNITIES (A-N) (ACRES)	TOTAL OFF-SITE OPPORTUNITIES (A-N) (% OF REQ'D)
JURISDICTIONAL WATER (ACRES)																					
Waters of the United States	11	11	0	0	11	26														26	246%
	IMPACTS	REQUIRED MITIGATION																		TOTAL OFF-SITE OPPORTUNITIES (A-N) (INDIVIDUALS)	TOTAL OFF-SITE OPPORTUNITIES (A-N) (% OF REQ'D)
WILDLIFE (INDIVIDUALS)																					
Burrowing Owl ***	2	13	25	55	0															No offsite property required	
Coastal California Gnatcatcher	2	2	0	0	2															Will be part of Sage Scrub acreage listed above	
Western Spadefoot Toad	0.5	0.5	2	4	0															No offsite property required	

**PARTIAL LIST OF OFF-SITE MITIGATION PROPERTIES WITH APPROPRIATE HABITAT NOT OWNED BY NORTHLAKE**

- A - Peterson Ranch Mitigation Bank
- B - Gilmore Ranch Property Val Verde
- C - Temescal Ranch Property, Castaic
- D - Castaic APN 3247-010-011
- E - Val Verde APN 3247-032-031
- F - Santa Clarita San Martinez Grande Canyon Road
- G - Acton APN 3217-005-018
- H - Lannan Ranch Agua Dulce
- I - Tract 42537
- J - Castaic APN 3247-010-056
- K - Castaic APNs 3247-039-007/3247-039-008
- L - Templin Highway Undercrossing APN 3247-008-003
- M - Templin Highway Undercrossing APN 3247-005-035
- N - Templin Highway Undercrossing APN 3247-009-004

Note: The above properties are either: 1) currently part of an established mitigation bank, 2) currently for sale, or 3) have been known to be for sale on the open market.

Footnotes:  
 \* Acreage numbers includes Permanent and Temporary Impact Areas.  
 \*\* Acreage numbers includes Non-impacted and Temporary Impact Areas.  
 \*\*\* Burrowing Owl mitigation shown hereon is a conservative estimate. As stated in the SEIR, the actual mitigation amount will be determined by field surveys conducted prior to construction.

**ATTACHMENT 2**

**TABLE 2, DETAIL OF NORTHLAKE MITIGATION REQUIREMENTS AND  
PARTIAL LIST OF MITIGATION OPPORTUNITIES**

Biological Resources	Non-Impacted	Habitat Impacts (Acres/Individuals)						Total:	Total:	Mitigation	Required
		On-Site			Off-Site						
		Permanent	Temporary	Subtotal	Permanent	Temporary	Subtotal				
Vegetation Type (acres)											
Sage Scrub Communities											
Sage Scrub Subtotal	261.48	504.77	68.09	572.86	39.82	22.02	61.84	896.18	634.7	2:1	1,269.39
Native Grassland Communities											
Native Grassland Subtotal	0.97	23.82	0.29	24.11	0.13	0	0.13	25.2	24.23	2:1	48.47
Annual Grassland Communities											
Annual Grassland Subtotal	37.45	373.02	13.11	386.14	7.03	5.71	12.75	436.33	398.88	2:1	797.77
Riparian/Open Water Communities <sup>a</sup>											
Riparian/Open Water Subtotal	1.28	12.42	0.06	12.48	0.66	0.11	0.77	14.54	13.26	2:1	26.51
Plant Species (individuals)											
<i>California macrophylla</i> (round-leaved filaree)	0	39	0	39	0	0	0	N/A	39	1:1	39
<i>Deinandra paniculata</i> (paniculate tarplant)	0	~300	0	~300	0	0	0	N/A	~300	1:1	~300
<i>Juncus acutus</i> ssp. <i>leopoldii</i> (southwestern spiny rush)	0	~300	0	~300	0	0	0	N/A	~300	1:1	~300
<i>Calochortus clavatus</i> var. <i>gracilis</i> (slender mariposa lily) and <i>Calochortus clavatus</i> var. <i>clavatus</i> (club-haired mariposa lily)	0	~3,000	0	~3,000	0	0	0	N/A	~3,000	1:1	~3,000
Wildlife (acres)											
<i>Athene cunicularia</i> (burrowing owl)	0	2*	0	2*	0	0	0	N/A	2*	6.5:1	13
<i>Polioptila californica californica</i> (coastal California gnatcatcher)	0	2*	0	2*	0	0	0	N/A	2*		
<i>Spea hammondii</i> (western spadefoot toad)	0	0.52	0	0.52	0	0	0	N/A	0.52	1:1	0.52
Jurisdictional Waters (acres)											
Waters of the United States									10.59	1:1	10.59

Biological Resources	Opportunity Properties with Existing Veg for Preservation and Potentially Suitable Habitat for Restoration											
	On-site (Undisturbed)		Off-site Northlake				Peterson Ranch Mitigation Bank <sup>b</sup>	Gilmore Ranch Property (2,193 acres) Val Verde	Temescal Ranch Property Castaic, west of I-5 (approx 4,800 acres)	Unnamed off-site, 70 acres (Castaic, north of Northlake; APN 3247-010-011)	Unnamed off-site Val Verde (52 acres; APN 3247-032-031)	Santa Clarita 28190 San Martinez Grande Canyon Road (616 acres)
	All Areas	TOTAL	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	TOTAL						
Vegetation Type (acres)												
Sage Scrub Communities												
Sage Scrub Subtotal	261.48	261.48	19.23	1.98	145.69	166.90		324.05	1800	65	10	200
Native Grassland Communities												
Native Grassland Subtotal	0.97	0.97	0.57		2.00	2.57	250					
Annual Grassland Communities												
Annual Grassland Subtotal	37.45	37.45	0.23		12.48	12.71	250	71.74	700		40	400
Riparian/Open Water Communities <sup>a</sup>												
Riparian/Open Water Subtotal	1.28	1.28			1.31	1.31			500			10
Plant Species (individuals)												
<i>California macrophylla</i> (round-leaved filaree)	100	100	50	20	100	170.00	0	1000	2000	300	200	1000
<i>Deinandra paniculata</i> (paniculate tarplant)	100	100	50	20	100	170.00	0	1000	2000	300	200	1000
<i>Juncus acutus</i> ssp. <i>leopoldii</i> (southwestern spiny rush)	100	100	50	20	100	170.00	0	1000	2000	300	200	1000
<i>Calochortus clavatus</i> var. <i>gracilis</i> (slender mariposa lily) and <i>Calochortus clavatus</i> var. <i>clavatus</i> (club-haired mariposa lily)	300	300	100	50	300	450.00	0	3000	6000	1000	1000	3000
Wildlife (acres)												
<i>Athene cunicularia</i> (burrowing owl)	25	25	15	15	25	55.00	0	250	1000	25	25	100
<i>Polioptila californica californica</i> (coastal California gnatcatcher)		0				0.00	0					
<i>Spea hammondi</i> (western spadefoot toad)	2	2	1	1	2	4.00	0	2	4	1	1	2
Jurisdictional Waters (acres)												
Waters of the United States		0					26					





**ATTACHMENT 3**

**TABLE 3, TOP 20 HIGH SCORING PARCELS FROM REGIONAL ANALYSIS**

TABLE 3  
TOP 20 SCORING PARCELS

Parcel Number	County	Percent Natural	Percent CSS	Size (Minimum 100 Acres)	Parameters/Scores (See Descriptions Below)								
					CNDDDB	Critical Habitat	County	Watershed	SEA	CEHCP	CSS	Nat'l Forest/ Park	Total
3210014026	Los Angeles	99	80	105	75	0	40	30	10	8	40	4	207
6150210100	Ventura	100	80	327	75	60	0	16	0	1	40	0	192
5000370285	Ventura	94	67	138	75	60	0	16	0	8	33	0	192
5800010125	Ventura	99	65	123	75	60	0	16	0	8	32	0	191
2848009020	Los Angeles	100	67	303	11	60	40	30	10	4	33	2	190
6150210045	Ventura	99	88	908	60	60	0	16	0	0	44	0	180
6150160455	Ventura	100	53	160	75	60	0	16	0	0	26	0	177
2826018066	Los Angeles	100	56	160	0	60	40	30	10	8	28	0	176
2826003026	Los Angeles	100	68	152	60	0	40	30	6	0	34	0	170
6190020035	Ventura	97	91	134	43	60	0	16	0	0	45	0	164
2827029271	Los Angeles	100	23	142	0	60	40	30	10	8	11	4	163
2826019036	Los Angeles	100	54	161	0	43	40	30	10	8	27	3	161
2826018034	Los Angeles	100	22	162	0	60	40	30	10	8	11	0	159
2827013015	Los Angeles	99	25	106	0	60	40	30	6	8	12	2	158
3244014053	Los Angeles	99	82	175	46	0	40	30	0	0	41	1	158
6200060155	Ventura	100	79	202	32	60	0	16	0	6	39	0	153
2601007800	Los Angeles	100	30	234	0	60	40	22	5	8	15	2	152
2821011016	Los Angeles	100	22	185	0	60	40	22	10	6	11	2	151
2826018053	Los Angeles	100	27	156	0	48	40	30	10	8	13	2	151
5000370575	Ventura	96	24	101	54	60	0	16	0	8	12	0	150

**Parameter Scoring Summary**

**CNDDDB (California Natural Diversity Data Base):** A parcel is awarded 75 points if its geographic center falls within a CNDDDB record (1980 or newer), or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) record, for the coastal California gnatcatcher (*Poliophtila californica californica*)(gnatcatcher). A parcel is awarded a fraction of 75 points if it occurs within one (1) mile of a gnatcatcher record location.

**Critical Habitat:** A parcel is awarded 60 points if its geographic center falls within critical habitat (per USFWS) for the coastal California gnatcatcher. A parcel is awarded a fraction of 60 points if it falls within one (1) mile of gnatcatcher critical habitat.

**County:** A parcel is awarded 40 points if it occurs within the County of Los Angeles.

**Watershed:** A parcel is awarded the following points based on the watershed in which it occurs – Santa Clara River (30 points); Los Angeles River (22 points); Calleguas Creek (16 points); Santa Monica Bay (8 points).

**SEA (Significant Ecological Area):** A parcel is awarded 10 points if it falls within a Significant Ecological Area as defined by the County of Los Angeles. A parcel is awarded a fraction of 10 points if it falls within one (1) mile of an SEA.

**CEHCP (California Essential Habitat Connectivity Project):** A parcel is awarded 8 points if it falls within a CEHCP area. as defined by the California Department of Transportation and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. A parcel is awarded a fraction of 8 points if it falls within one (1) mile of an area designated by the CEHCP.

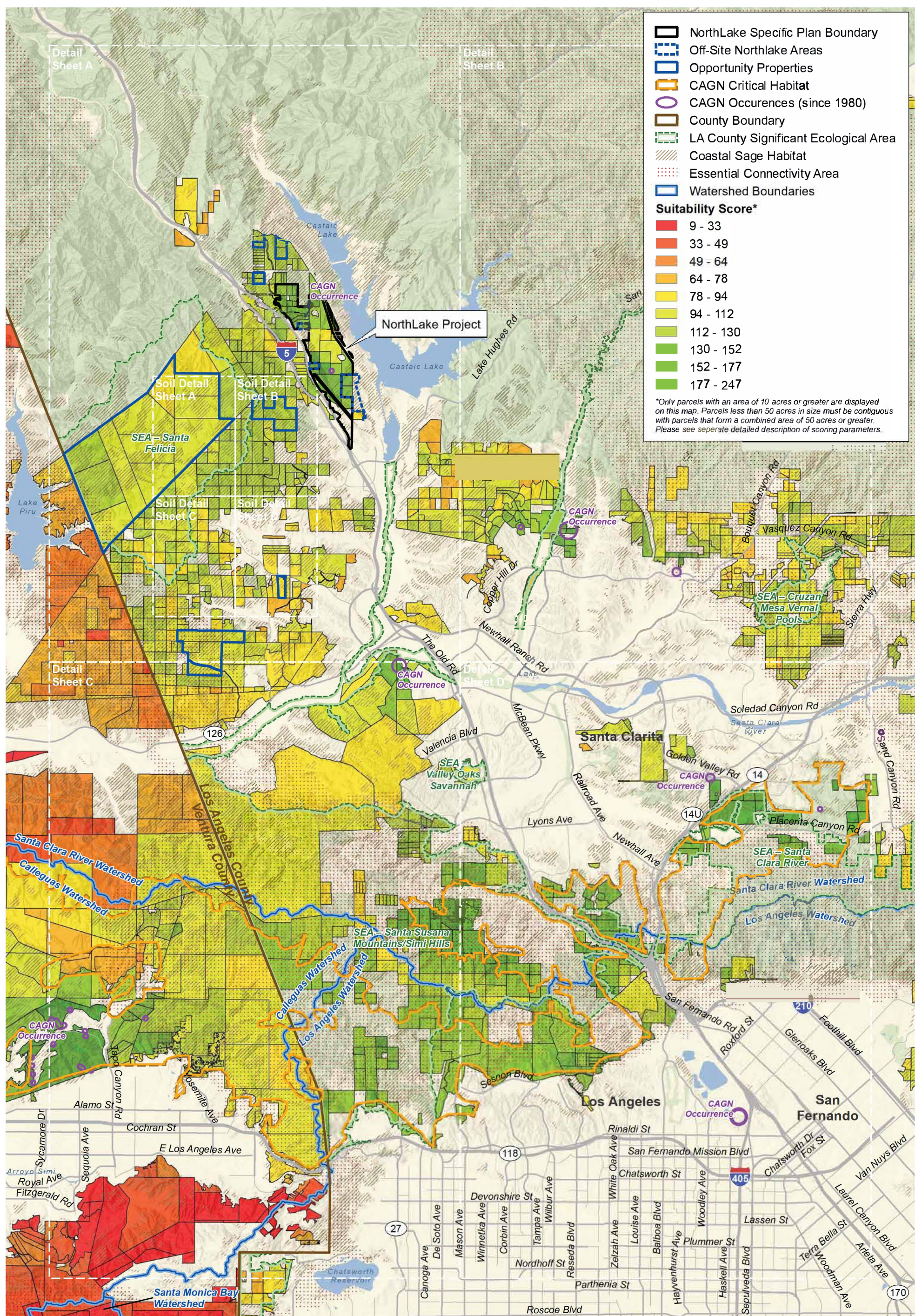
**CSS (Coastal Scrub):** A parcel is awarded a fraction of 50 points, equal to the percent of the land area that is covered by the coastal scrub vegetation type, as designated by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE).


**Nat'l Forest/Park:** A parcel is awarded a fraction of 5 points if it falls within one (1) mile of a National Forest, National Park, State Park, or County Park (natural park).


**ATTACHMENT 4**


**EXHIBIT 1, REGIONAL SUITABILITY FOR MITIGATION**








 Northlake Specific Plan Boundary


 Off-Site Northlake Areas


 Opportunity Properties


 CAGN Critical Habitat


 CAGN Occurences (since 1980)

 County Boundary


 LA County Significant Ecological Area


 Coastal Sage Habitat


 Essential Connectivity Area


 Watershed Boundaries

**Suitability Score\***


 9 - 33


 33 - 49


 49 - 64


 64 - 78


 78 - 94

 94 - 112

 112 - 130

 130 - 152

 152 - 177

 177 - 247

\*Only parcels with an area of 10 acres or greater are displayed on this map. Parcels less than 50 acres in size must be contiguous with parcels that form a combined area of 50 acres or greater. Please see separate detailed description of scoring parameters.



**ATTACHMENT 5**

**EXHIBIT 2.1, DETAIL SHEET A - LOCAL SUITABILITY FOR MITIGATION**







**ATTACHMENT 6**

**EXHIBIT 2.2, DETAIL SHEET B - LOCAL SUITABILITY FOR MITIGATION**



NorthLake Specific Plan Boundary

Off-Site NorthLake Areas

Opportunity Properties

CAGN Critical Habitat

CAGN Occurences (since 1980)

County Boundary

LA County Significant Ecological Area

Coastal Sage Habitat

Essential Connectivity Area

Suitability Score

9 - 33

33 - 49

491 - 64

64 - 78

78 - 94

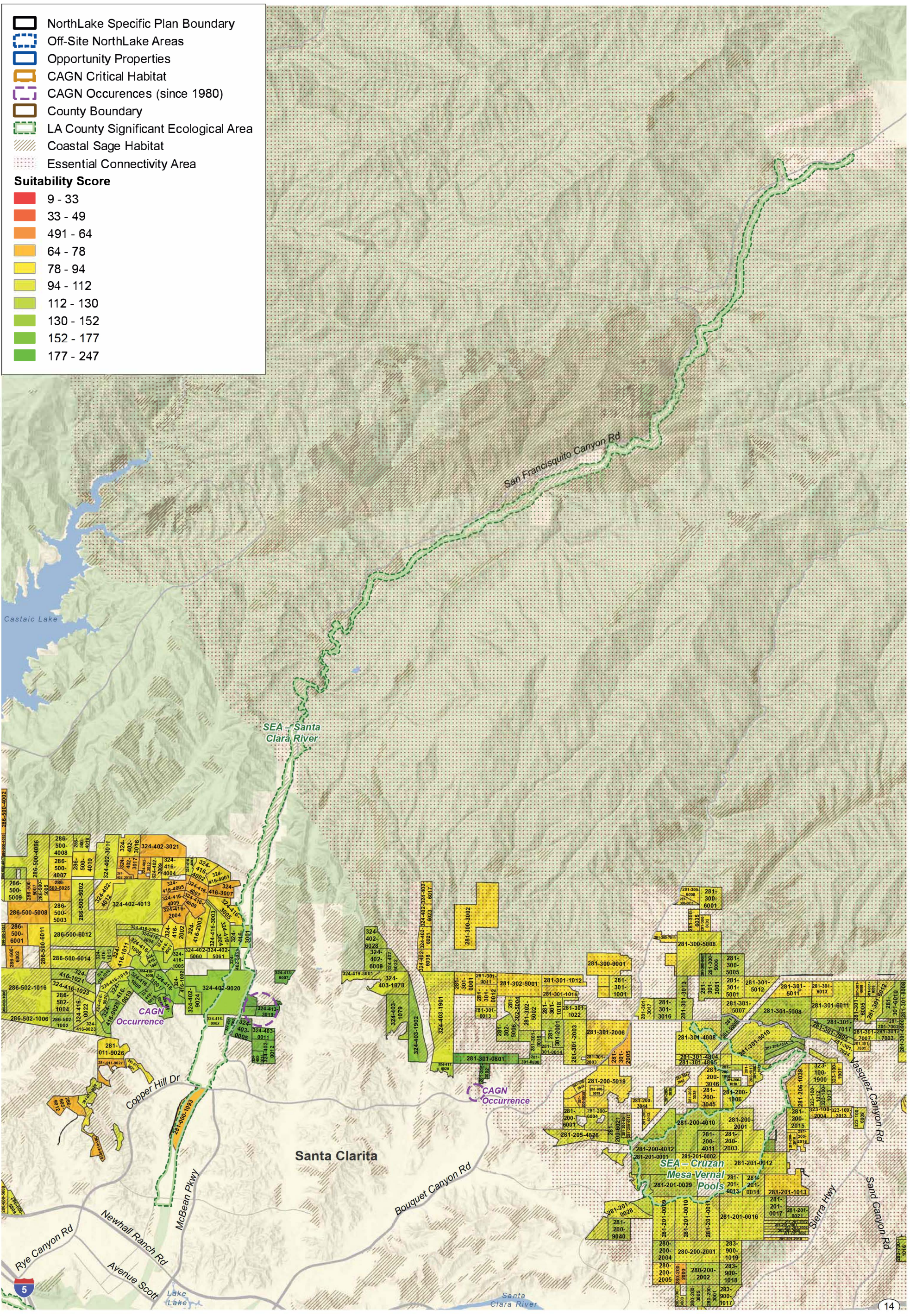
94 - 112

112 - 130

130 - 152

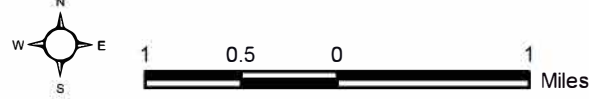
152 - 177

177 - 247



Detail Sheet B – Local Suitability for Mitigation  
NorthLake Specific Plan

Exhibit 2.2





**ATTACHMENT 7**

**EXHIBIT 2.3, DETAIL SHEET C - LOCAL SUITABILITY FOR MITIGATION**



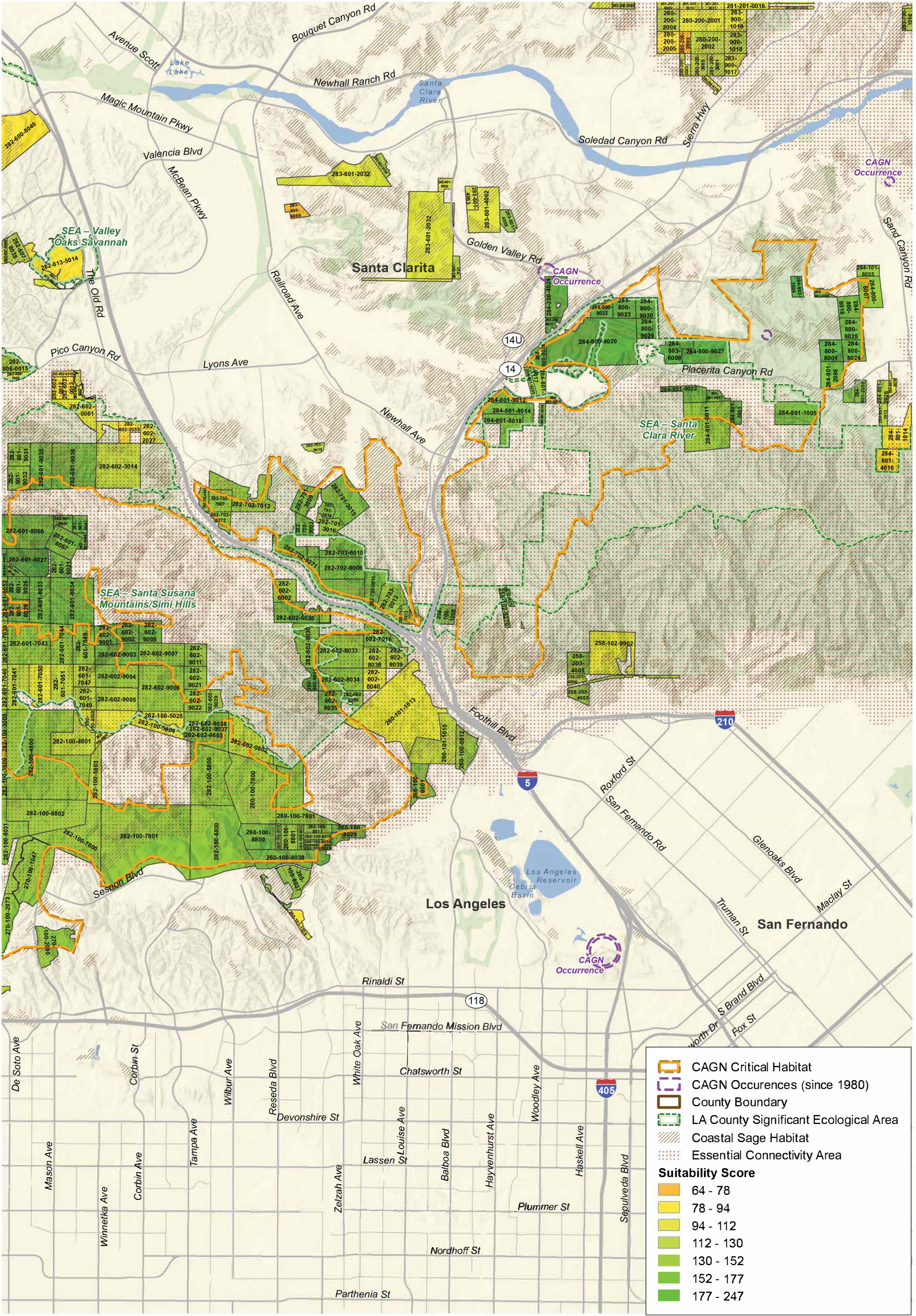




**ATTACHMENT 8**

**EXHIBIT 2.4, DETAIL SHEET D - LOCAL SUITABILITY FOR MITIGATION**

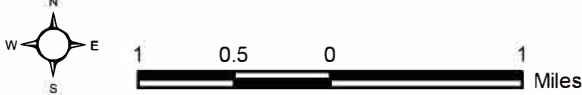




Detail Sheet D – Local Suitability for Mitigation

NorthLake Specific Plan

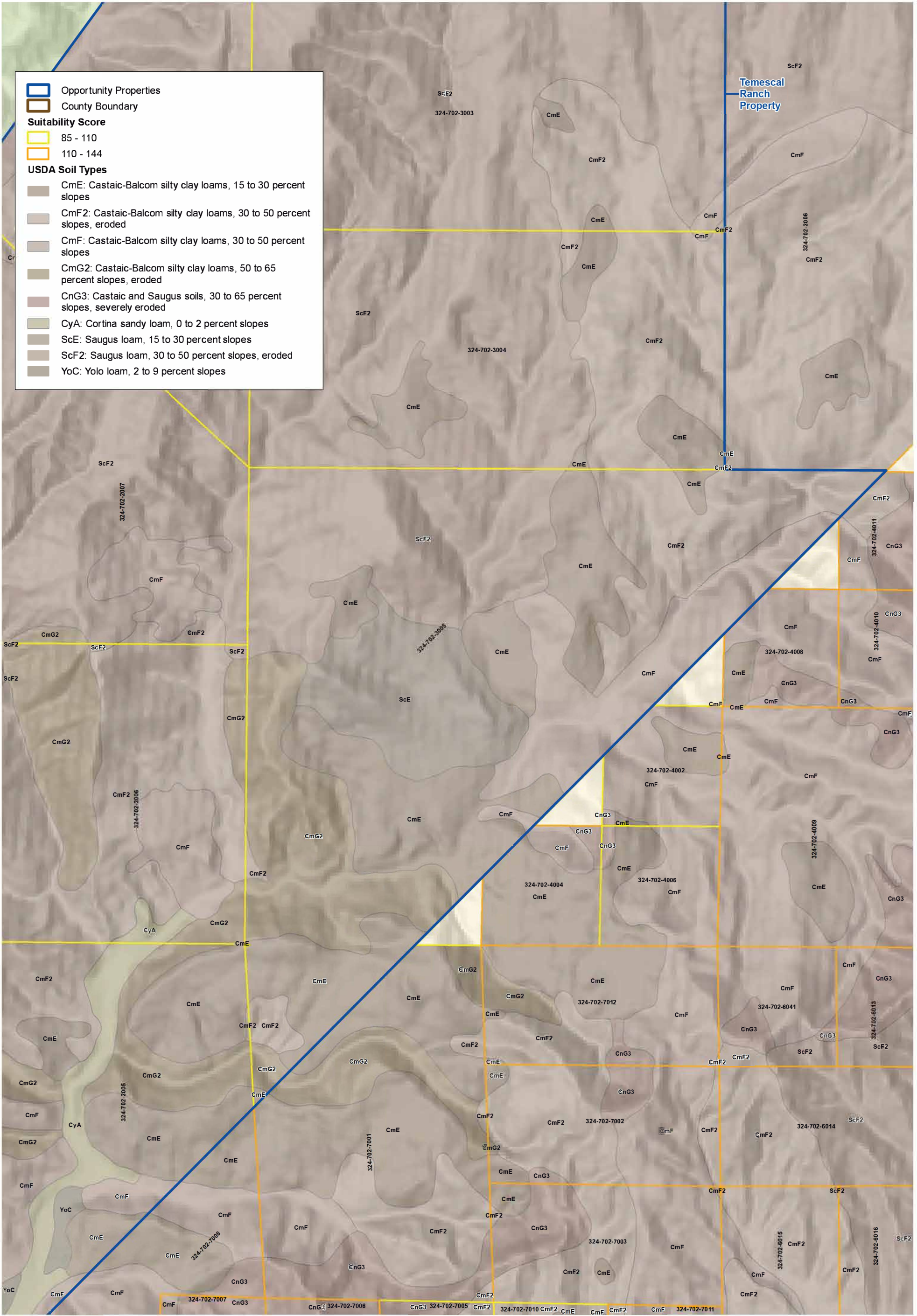
Exhibit 2.4





**ATTACHMENT 9**

**EXHIBIT 3.1, DETAIL SHEET A - SOILS**



Detail Sheet A – Soils

NorthLake Specific Plan



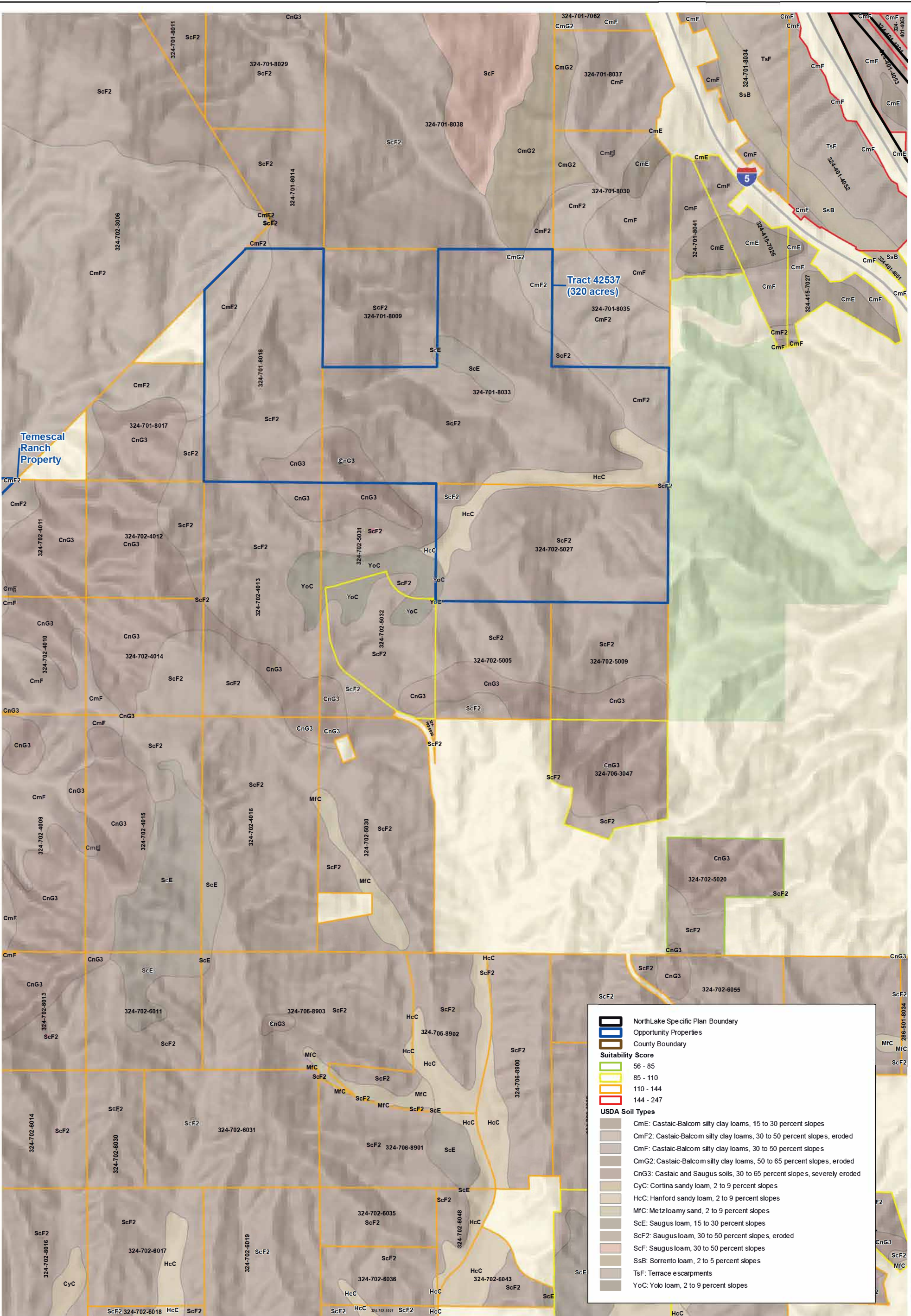
Exhibit 3.1



**ATTACHMENT 10**

**EXHIBIT 3.2, DETAIL SHEET B - SOILS**





Detail Sheet B – Soils

NorthLake Specific Plan

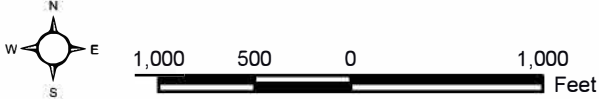


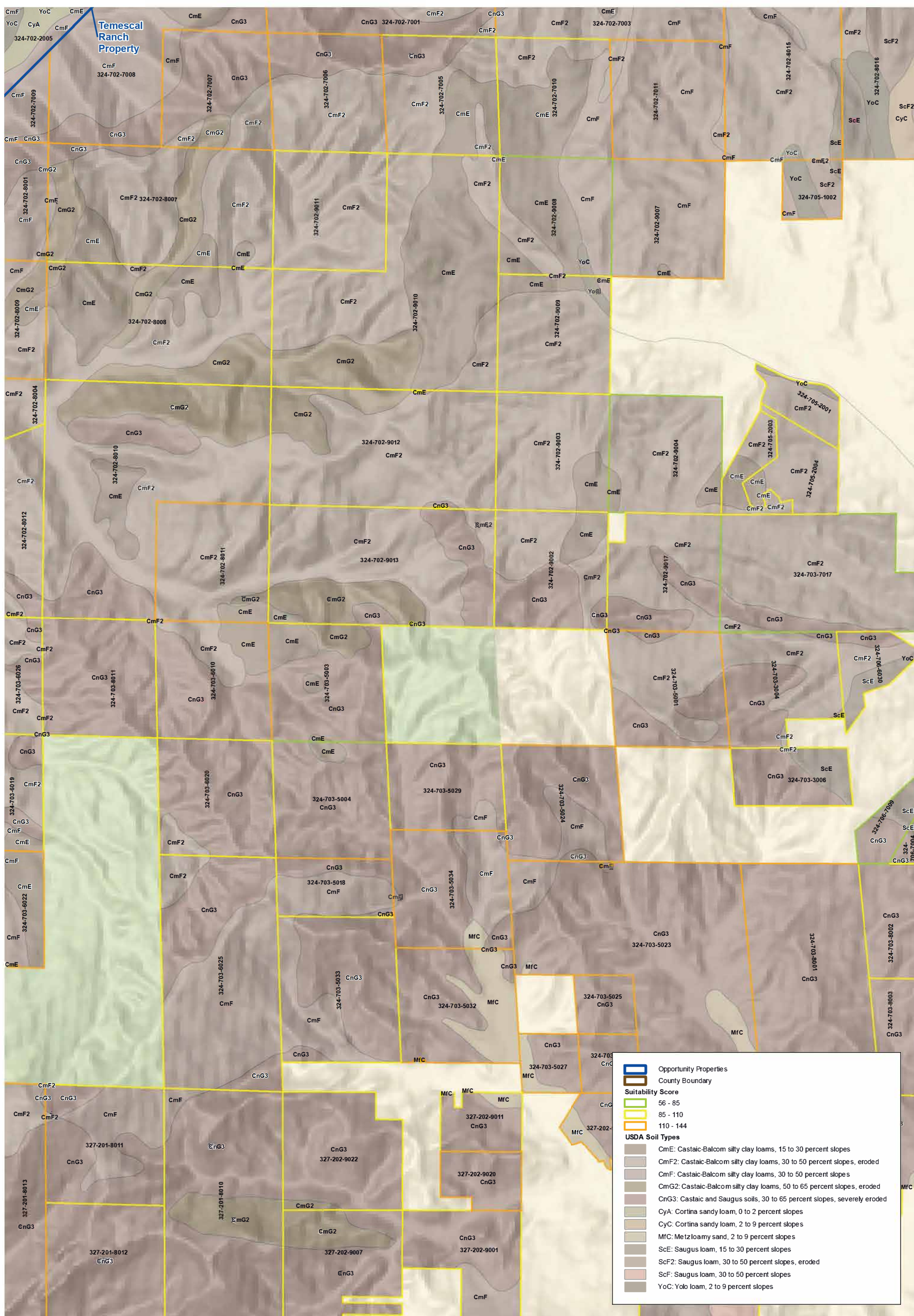
Exhibit 3.2





**ATTACHMENT 11**

**EXHIBIT 3.3, DETAIL SHEET C - SOILS**



**ATTACHMENT 12**

**EXHIBIT 3.4, DETAIL SHEET D - SOILS**

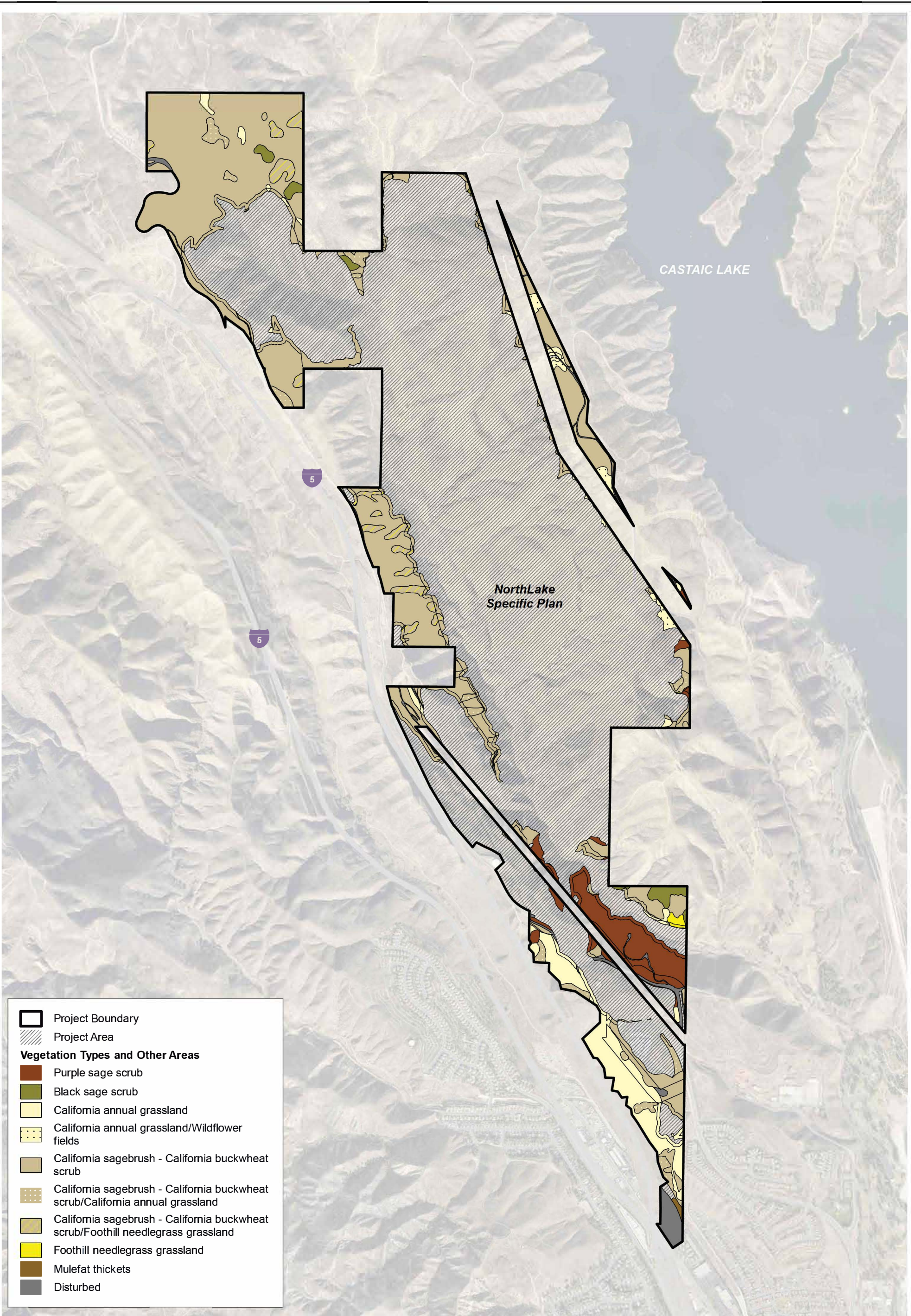




**ATTACHMENT 13**

**EXHIBIT 4, ON-SITE MITIGATION OPPORTUNITIES**

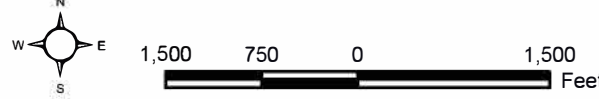




D:\Projects\Woodridge\0001\MXD\Mitigation\_plan\Ex\_onsite\_owned\_20180817.mxd

## On-site Mitigation Opportunities

NorthLake Specific Plan



## Exhibit 4

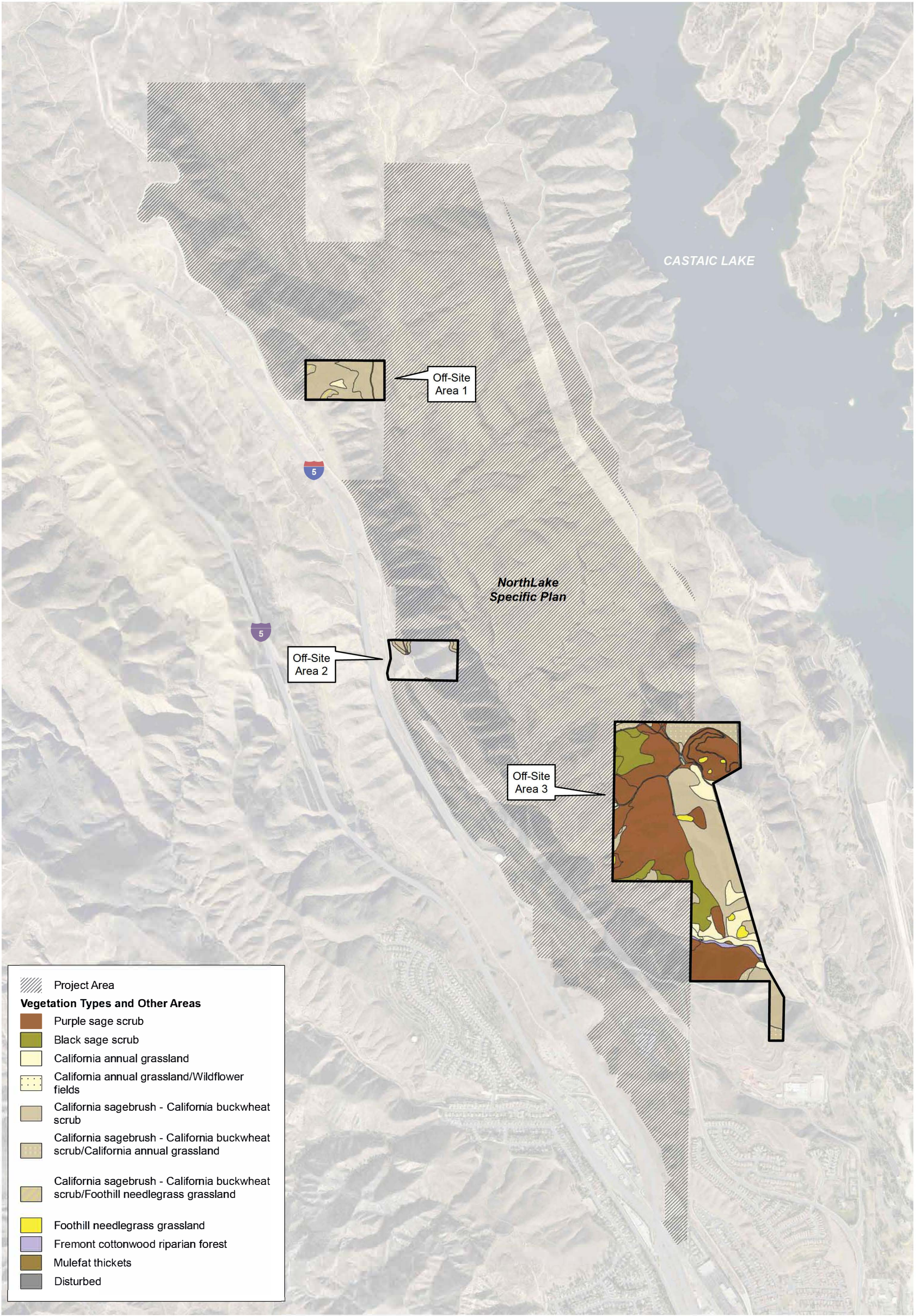




**ATTACHMENT 14**

**EXHIBIT 5, OFF-SITE MITIGATION OPPORTUNITIES OWNED BY NORTHLAKE**

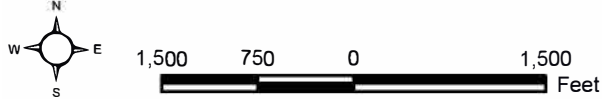




Off-site Mitigation Opportunities – Owned by NorthLake

Exhibit 5

NorthLake Specific Plan





**ATTACHMENT C**

**RESUMES OF SENIOR BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES CONTRIBUTORS**

## **Resumes of Senior Biological Resources Contributors**

# Ann Johnston

Resource Management Team Leader/Principal

## EDUCATION

1989/BA/Biology/California State University, Long Beach

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Women's Transportation Seminar, Orange County Chapter

IRWA Chapter 67

## EXPERIENCE

With Psomas: 22 years/With Other Firms for: 7 years

Ann Johnston is the Team Leader of Resource Management projects and a Principal of Psomas. She has 29 years of experience in biological resources inventories/evaluations; sensitive species surveys; mitigation monitoring; resource agency permitting and processing; conservation and strategic planning; and technical peer reviews. Ann's professional experience has focused on finding solutions to development challenges where potential impacts to biological resources may occur, and on the assessment and integration of biological data (particularly on sensitive species) into environmental documentation that complies with the requirements of CEQA, NEPA, FESA, and CESA. Over the past 28 years, she has managed and/or authored the biological resources sections of numerous EIRs; EISs; Biological Technical Reports; Biological Assessments (pursuant to Section 7 consultations with the USFWS); Natural Environment Studies (NESs) (pursuant to Caltrans guidelines); focused surveys for sensitive species; tree reports; resource management plans; mitigation monitoring reports; and general biological assessments and constraints analyses.

## Experience

**Madrona Project, Biological Technical Report, Brea, CA:** Principal-in-Charge/Project Manager for this development project (previously known as Canyon Crest) on 367.5 acres. Ann provided peer reviews of Biological Technical Reports prepared for the proposed project by the Project Applicant; served as an extension of City staff; and provided guidance in regards to the adequacy of the information to be summarized into the Biological Resource Section of the EIR. As part of the project, Ann developed the City's Findings of Significance for project impacts to biological resources based on the CEQA Guidelines and City standards/precedents. With changes to the project, including a new property owner, the City continued to rely on Ann to prepare a revised Biological Technical Report, Biological Resource Section of the revised EIR, a California Rapid Assessment Method (CRAM) analysis and an updated Jurisdictional Delineation Report.

**Section 7 Consultation for the Operation and Maintenance of Big Tujunga Dam, Angeles National Forest, Los Angeles County, CA:** Principal-in-Charge for the Section 7 Consultation for the Operation and Maintenance of Big Tujunga Dam. The study area includes 13 stream miles between Big Tujunga Dam and Hansen Dam. Focused surveys were conducted for listed plant species, least Bell's vireo, southwestern willow flycatcher, arroyo toad, and Sierra Madre yellow-legged frog. Special status species present in the study area include Santa Ana sucker, arroyo chub, Santa Ana speckled dace, western pond turtle, and two-striped garter snake; the arroyo toad occurs upstream of Big Tujunga Reservoir. Ann provided strategic guidance during the preparation of the BA to assess the effect of the operation and maintenance of Big Tujunga Dam on listed species and/or their critical habitat and is assisting LACDPW in their consultation with the resource agencies.



**State Route 241 Extension Project Biological Documentation and Permitting, Orange County, CA:** Principal-in-Charge/Project Manager for the proposed extension of State Route 241. This extension is a portion of the project that has also been referred to as the South Orange County Transportation Infrastructure Improvement Project or the Foothill Transportation Corridor-South project. Ann currently serves as an extension of the Transportation Corridor Agencies' (TCA) staff on the proposed extension of State Route 241. Ann has provided the TCA with technical and strategic assistance regarding the biological documentation and permitting processes with the following agencies: the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Caltrans, the USACE, the USFWS, the California Coastal Commission (CCC), the CDFW, the RWQCB, and the Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton. Ann has worked on this project in varying capacities since 1990. She has served as the Lead Biologist on the project, conducting many plant and special status wildlife surveys; overseeing daily scientific activities of other biologists; ensuring approved methodologies are followed and results are accurately documented; and preparing/reviewing multiple versions of the project's Natural Environment Study (NES) in accordance with Caltrans guidelines. She was also responsible for preparing multiple Biological Assessments pursuant to consultation with the USFWS required for various alternatives of the project. Ann has also provided strategic planning for the TCA on biological resources issues related to design alternatives; the entitlement process; consensus building with government agencies; mitigation strategies; and negotiations with resource agencies.

**Devers-Colorado Corridor Road Repair Project Biological Clearance Survey, Palm Springs to Blythe, CA:** Principal-in-Charge/Project Manager for this Southern California Edison (SCE) project, which consists of re-grading approximately 110 miles of an existing access road along an existing transmission line that stretches between the Cities of Desert Hot Springs and Blythe. Psomas completed surveys that were focused on determining the presence of sensitive plant or wildlife species in the study area to aid in implementing biological resource avoidance measures. Ann managed the staff who conducted pre-construction surveys.

**Southern California Edison Substation Projects Biological Services, Southern California, CA:** Principal-in-Charge for numerous Southern California Edison (SCE) substation projects. Some of the projects include the Circle City Substation Project in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties; the Falcon Ridge Substation Project in San Bernardino County; the Lakeview Substation Project in Riverside County; the Triton Substation Project in Riverside County; the Mascot Substation Project in Kings County; and the Presidential Substation Project in Ventura County. Ann oversaw jurisdictional delineations; vegetation mapping; general plant and wildlife surveys; focused surveys for numerous special status plant and wildlife species; and biological documentation of the survey results.

**Sunset Ridge Park Project Biological Resources Services, Newport Beach, CA:** Principal-in-Charge for this project, which proposed to develop the approximate 18.9-acre site with active and passive

recreational uses. In support of the project's EIR, Psomas completed a general biological survey, including vegetation mapping; focused surveys for special status plants, coastal California gnatcatcher, least Bell's vireo, southwestern willow flycatcher, and burrowing owl; a jurisdictional delineation and report; and a biological technical report. Biologists also prepared the biological resources portions of the IS and EIR, which included preparing mitigation measures to mitigate for impacts as a result of the park. Psomas also assisted the City in obtaining regulatory permits, including Section 7 permitting, a Section 404 permit, a Section 1602 permit, a Section 401 certification, a CDFW consistency determination, and a Coastal Development Permit. Once the Project was approved and construction began, Psomas reviewed the Lighting Plan and provided biological monitoring services. Ann oversaw all surveys on site and prepared the Biological Technical Report and Biological Resources Section for the project EIR. She also provided strategic planning for the City on biological resources issues related to project design, the entitlement process, mitigation strategies, and negotiations with resources agencies and the California Coastal Commission.

**Southern California Gas Company North-South Pipeline Project, Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, CA:** Principal-in-Charge/Project Manager for this project, which proposes to construct a new pipeline from Adelanto to Moreno Valley to ensure a reliable supply of gas to Southern California. The project includes the construction and installation of an approximate 65-mile-long, 36-inch-diameter natural gas transmission pipeline, including compressor and pressure limiting stations. Psomas conducted focused surveys and prepared reports for many special status plant and wildlife species, including bat species, burrowing owl, coastal California gnatcatcher, desert tortoise, fairy shrimp, Mohave ground squirrel, raptors, and riparian birds. Psomas also performed small mammal trapping, weed surveys, tree surveys, and a jurisdictional delineation. In addition, Psomas prepared a Biological Technical Report, a Jurisdictional Water Resources Existing Conditions Report, a Biological Assessment/Biological Evaluation (pursuant to U.S. Forest Service Standards), a Hydrology and Water Quality Assessment, and a Land Use Assessment. Psomas also prepared the Application for Federal Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification, Pre-Construction Notification under the Federal Clean Water Act Section 404 Nationwide Permit, and Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement in accordance with Section 1602 of the California Fish and Game Code. Ann provided technical and project management support in the areas of biology, regulatory, GIS, hydrology, and land-use.

**Ortega Highway Safety Improvements Arroyo Toad Surveys/Studies and Invasive Species Control, Cleveland National Forest, CA:** Principal-in-Charge for the Ortega Highway Improvements project. The project involved the widening of the existing two-lane State Route (SR) 74 and improvements to San Juan Creek tributary drainage culverts on the Orange County side of the Cleveland National Forest. The project involved a three-year program to evaluate populations of the Endangered arroyo toad in adjacent San Juan Creek. The project required coordination with Caltrans, the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), the USFWS, the County of Orange, and the construction contractor to ensure that monitors were present during construction activities and that mitigation



measures were enforced. As part of the mitigation program required by the USFWS Biological Opinion, annual focused surveys and population studies for the arroyo toad were conducted. An invasive aquatic species control program to remove exotic wildlife species posing an immediate threat to the continued existence of the arroyo toad in San Juan Creek was also instituted. Target species included the red-swamp crayfish, American bullfrog, and African clawed frog. The invasive species control program utilized an adaptive methodology that experimented with several different equipment types and techniques to determine the most efficient means of removal, as well as data collection and analysis of the predatory behavior of the bullfrog in San Juan Creek. Aerials were examined to identify perennial water sources that could facilitate exotic species recruitment within a three-mile radius of the project site. Surveys were conducted at suitable sites to determine target species' presence or absence, and the control program was implemented at occupied sites. Given the success of the program, the USFWS requested continued funding as mitigation for other Caltrans 2010 emergency projects on SR-74. Accordingly, focused surveys and invasive species control in San Juan Creek were funded through 2011.

**Falcon Ridge Substation Project Biological Resources Support, San Bernardino County, CA:** Biologist for this Southern California Edison (SCE) project, which involved a biological assessment of multiple potential sites for construction of an energy substation and several potential sites for transmission lines to and from the sites in the Cities of Rialto, Rancho Cucamonga, and Fontana and unincorporated San Bernardino County. Ann conducted a special status plant species survey for this project.

**Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project Biological Resources Support, Southern California, CA:** Principal-in-Charge for this Southern California Edison project. The Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project (TRTP) consists of the construction of several substations and a total of 175 miles of transmission lines running from the Antelope Valley through the Angeles National Forest (ANF) and into the City of Ontario. The project's objective is to bring wind and solar sourced energy from the Tehachapi Mountains and western Antelope Valley to the Los Angeles basin. As part of a large, multi-company team, Psomas has provided a full range of biological services including vegetation mapping; focused surveys for plants, trees, birds, herpetofauna, and bats; nesting bird surveys; raptor surveys; pre-construction surveys and construction monitoring; and seed collection. Ann is providing project management and senior support for the portion of the alignment that traverses the ANF. Her responsibilities include technical staff management for focused surveys and construction monitoring; reviews of avoidance and mitigation plans; and guidance on a multitude of other tasks.

**Three Oaks (Walnut Hills) Development Mitigation Project, Walnut, CA:** Senior Project Manager for this project, which included biological resources and restoration ecology components. Biological surveys were completed to support the Biological Technical Report and EIR for the City of Walnut. The purpose of the surveys and documentation was to identify potential impacts to biological resources and to provide mitigation measures for the project site. Issues analyzed include potential

impacts to several special status resources including walnut trees, oak trees, and the coastal California gnatcatcher. A Biological Assessment was also prepared, and vegetation was cleared from the site in accordance with resource agency permits. Finally, the Walnut Hills Habitat Mitigation Monitoring Plan (HMMP) was created for approximately 120 acres of coast live oak woodland, walnut woodland, coastal sage scrub, and riparian scrub habitat. In accordance with USFWS and USACE consultation processes, Psomas oversaw the development of the mitigation program in project open space areas and on the manufactured slopes within the site. Monitoring activities associated with the HMMP consist of regular evaluations of site conditions and performance; ongoing coordination with the Landscape Contractor regarding site status and performance of remedial measures; and client and resource agency coordination regarding site progress. Ann managed the biological surveys for and the preparation of the Biological Technical Report, which supported an EIR. She also prepared a Biological Assessment for the formal consultation between the USFWS and the USACE. Additionally, Ann coordinated the vegetation clearing on site to avoid direct take of gnatcatchers in accordance with resource agency permits and consulted on site with resource agency personnel.

**Newport Banning Ranch Biological Resources Services, Newport Beach, CA:** Biological Resources Manager for this development project. In support of the project's EIR, Psomas completed a general biological survey, including vegetation mapping; focused surveys for special status plants, fairy shrimp, coastal California gnatcatcher, least Bell's vireo, southwestern willow flycatcher, and burrowing owl; a jurisdictional delineation and report; a biological technical report. Biologists also prepared the biological resources portions of the IS and EIR, which included preparing mitigation measures to mitigate for impacts as a result of the development. Ann conducted peer reviews of technical studies prepared by the Project Applicant; prepared the Biological Technical Report; served as an extension of City staff; and prepared the Biological Resources Section of the EIR. She also provided strategic planning for the City on biological resources issues related to project design, the entitlement process, and mitigation strategies.

**Orange County Transportation Authority Baseline Biological Surveys for Acquired Properties, Orange County, CA.** Ms. Johnston serves as the Principal-in-Charge for this project, which provides biological support services for the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA), including biological surveys and associated documentation. This work effort has allowed OCTA to establish a biological baseline of five acquired properties, with special attention on species covered under the draft OCTA National Community Conservation Plan (NCCP)/Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP). Surveys were conducted in a manner that allowed the greatest opportunity to also document non-Covered Species and habitats that add value to a potential conservation area. The specific survey and documentation tasks undertaken to establish the biological baseline include literature review; general biological surveys and vegetation mapping; acquisition, restoration, and management criteria evaluation; special status plant surveys; special status wildlife surveys for coastal California gnatcatcher, coastal cactus wren, least Bell's vireo, southern willow flycatcher, and special status bat species; a jurisdictional delineation and California



Rapid Assessment Method (CRAM) evaluation; and Biological Technical Reports documenting the findings of all these surveys.

**Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project Biological Resources Support, Southern California.** From 2009 through 2016, Ms. Johnston provided strategic technical support for Southern California Edison's (SCE's) Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project, which aims to bring wind and solar-sourced energy from the Tehachapi Mountains and western Antelope Valley to the Los Angeles basin. The project consists of the construction of several substations and a total of 175 miles of transmission lines spanning the Cities of Lancaster and Palmdale; the Antelope Valley in the western Mojave Desert; the Sierra Pelona and San Gabriel Mountains in the Angeles National Forest (ANF); and extending through the San Gabriel Valley to the City of Ontario. Over the course of this project, Ms. Johnston has provided project management and technical staff with senior support for the portion of the alignment that traverses the San Gabriel Mountains and the ANF. Her responsibilities included technical staff management for focused surveys and construction monitoring; reviews of avoidance and mitigation plans; and provision of guidance on a multitude of other tasks.

**Santiago Creek Bike Trail North Capital Improvement Project No. 6103, City of Orange, CA.** Ms. Johnston was the Project Manager for the biological support services for the Santiago Creek Bicycle Trail North project located in the City of Orange. This project would improve roadway and bicycle safety by constructing a Class 1 off-road bike trail consistent with the alignment adopted by the Bikeways Master Plan for the City of Orange. The bikeway would be constructed from Collins Avenue at Santiago Creek to the Cannon Street Bridge within a three-year time frame established by the County Proposition 1B Agreement. Her team conducted a literature review, general plant and wildlife surveys, vegetation mapping, and a jurisdictional delineation of the project site. A Biological Technical Report and Jurisdictional Delineation Report were prepared to evaluate project impacts on biological resources and resources under the jurisdiction of USACE, CDFW, and RWQCB. Focused surveys were conducted for special status plant species and the coastal California gnatcatcher.

**Talega Development Project Environmental Impact Report and Biological Technical Report, San Clemente, CA.** Ms. Johnston was the Senior Project Manager for the 3,510-acre Talega Development project in San Clemente. She managed the preparation of the Biological Technical Report and the biological resources section of the Talega Development Project EIR. She also prepared five separate Interim Habitat Loss Permit documents pursuant to Section 4(d) of the Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA). Ms. Johnston documented the development of direct, indirect, and cumulative project impacts and corresponding mitigation measures, which includes the restoration of over 133 acres of coastal sage scrub vegetation. Sensitive resources issues included coastal sage scrub, coastal California gnatcatcher, and thread-leaved brodiaea.

**Fagan Canyon Project Biological Surveys and Biological Technical Report, Santa Paula, CA.** Ms. Johnston was the Senior Project Manager for this project. The project site is approximately 1,400 acres and is located north and westerly of the City of Santa Paula in the foothills that

border the Santa Clara River Valley. The Fagan Canyon project involved the development of six new neighborhoods, including two schools, limited commercial spaces, six community parks, and other associated infrastructure. Ms. Johnston managed the biological surveys and the preparation of the Biological Technical Report, which supported an EIR for the project. The purpose of the surveys and documentation was to identify potential impacts to biological resources and to provide mitigation measures for the project site. Issues analyzed include potential impacts to several special status wildlife species including the southwestern pond turtle, two-striped garter snake, southwestern willow flycatcher, and least Bell's vireo.

**North Yorba Linda Estates Biological Resources Documentation, Yorba Linda, CA.** Ms. Johnston was the Project Manager on the Shapell Industries North Yorba Linda Estates project sites (Tentative Tracts 16208, 16209, and 16264) in Yorba Linda. She prepared the biological resources documentation and coordinated focused survey efforts for the 3 project sites, which total approximately 1,600 acres. Issues analyzed include potential impacts to coastal California gnatcatcher and special status habitats such as coastal sage scrub and riparian vegetation types. Ms. Johnston also prepared the Biological Assessment and mitigation programs for the project sites to prepare them for regulatory processing in coordination with the USFWS and USACE.

**Northeast Bakersfield Open Space Area Vegetation Mapping, Wildlife Surveys, and Habitat Quality Ranking, Bakersfield, CA.** Ms. Johnston was the Project Manager for the Northeast Bakersfield Open Space Area project. Ms. Johnston oversaw vegetation mapping, wildlife surveys, and habitat quality ranking of the approximate 4,700-acre project site. The purpose of the surveys was to characterize the habitat on the project site and identify high-priority areas for acquisition to become a preserve under the Metropolitan Bakersfield Habitat Conservation Plan. Geographic Information System (GIS) technology was used as a tool in order to analyze data collected on vegetation quality; historical and current observations of special status species; wildlife diversity; potential for restoration; and proximity to regional open space. Issues analyzed include potential impacts on special status plant species such as the Bakersfield cactus and special status wildlife such as the San Joaquin kit fox and blunt-nosed leopard lizard.

**City of Ontario General Plan Update Biological Resources Component, Ontario, CA.** Ms. Johnston served as Senior Project Manager for the development of the biological resources component of the General Plan update for the 8,900-acre sphere of influence area in Ontario. Working closely with planners, Ms. Johnston inventoried and evaluated the potential preservation/enhancement opportunities of the biological resources present in the sphere of influence for (1) incorporation into the Parks and Open Space elements or (2) development as contemplated in the Land Use element of the General Plan. Additionally, Ms. Johnston prepared habitat maps; identified presence or potential presence of Threatened or Endangered biological species; and provided recommendations to ensure that quality biological resources are protected for present and future residents.



# Brian Daniels

Senior Biologist/Ornithologist

## EDUCATION

1980/BS/Zoology/California State University, Long Beach

## CERTIFICATIONS

10(a)(1)(A) Permit for yellow-billed cuckoo, California gnatcatcher, least Bell's vireo, and southwestern willow flycatcher/No. TE821401-5/U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Principal Investigator for Psomas' CDFW Entity Scientific Collecting Permit/SC-004535/California Department of Fish and Wildlife

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Western Field Ornithologists

## EXPERIENCE

With Psomas: 21 years/With Other Firms for: 18 years

Brian Daniels has been an active Biologist and Field Ornithologist in California for 39 years, with experience throughout the southwestern United States. He has conducted a variety of bird surveys for federal and State agencies, including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). He is permitted to conduct surveys for the federally listed Threatened coastal California gnatcatcher and federally listed Endangered southwestern willow flycatcher, and least Bell's vireo, and to monitor the nests of the coastal California gnatcatcher and the federally listed Endangered least Bell's vireo. Brian specializes in directed surveys for special status bird species, including the species listed above.

## Experience

**Centennial Project Biological Resources Services, Los Angeles County, CA:** Ornithologist for the development of a planned new community located at the northwestern tip of Los Angeles County along the Kern County border. In support of the project's Environmental Impact Report (EIR), Psomas mapped vegetation; completed focused surveys for plants, fairy shrimp, special status herpetological species, least Bell's vireo, southwestern willow flycatcher, mountain plover, Swainson's hawk, and spotted owl; managed Tehachapi pocket mouse trapping and grassland studies; completed a jurisdictional delineation and report and an oak tree survey; and completed tricolored blackbird and condor studies. Psomas also prepared a biological constraints analysis and Biota Report and managed the Significant Ecological Area Technical Advisory Committee review process of these documents. Psomas organized and managed the project's Mitigation Preserve Review and created a Conceptual Oak Woodland Mitigation Plan. Finally, the Biological Resources Team prepared the documents Biological Resources EIR Section, which summarized the complete work effort. Brian has conducted bird surveys including focused surveys for the for the Swainson's hawk, southwestern willow flycatcher, least Bell's vireo, and tricolored blackbird. These surveys included the identification and determination of breeding status for five Swainson's hawks that summered on the project site. He assisted in the preparation of a Biological Resources Assessment Technical Report for the Los Angeles County Significant Ecological Area Technical Advisory Committee and the Biological Resources Section of the EIR.

**NorthLake Specific Plan Environmental Impact Report, Los Angeles County, CA:** Senior Biologist for the development of an approximate 1,330-acre project site near Castaic Lake in unincorporated Los Angeles County. This project involves the development of a mix of single-family units; multi-family units; commercial, industrial, and recreational uses; open space; and school and park facilities. Brian served as Senior Ornithologist for focused surveys for the burrowing owl, southwestern willow flycatcher, coastal California gnatcatcher, and least Bell's vireo.

Additionally, Brian has assisted in other surveys on the project site including focused surveys for the arroyo toad.

**Soft-Bottom Flood-Control Channels Feasibility Studies, Los Angeles County, CA:** Senior Biologist for Biological Technical Assessment Reports and Recommendations in support of five feasibility studies conducted to satisfy RWQCB Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs), which mandate that a feasibility study be conducted of all watersheds where the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD) maintains soft-bottom flood control channels. The purpose of the feasibility studies is to provide a hydraulic analysis of each soft-bottom channel reach to determine whether or not the reach has the capacity for additional vegetation. Based on the results of the hydraulic analysis and biological studies, appropriate recommendations are developed for channel reaches with capacity for and with insufficient capacity for additional vegetation.

**San Gabriel River Master Plan and Program Environmental Impact Report, Los Angeles County, CA:** Senior Biologist for this LACFCD project that studied over 30 miles of the San Gabriel River from Cogswell Reservoir in the Angeles National Forest to the River's end in the Pacific Ocean near Seal Beach. Brian provided the biological resources existing conditions, impact analyses, and mitigation components of the San Gabriel River Master Plan and Program EIR. He also participated in the master planning team workshops that compiled biological resource opportunities in the study area.

**Arroyo Seco Canyon Project Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration, Pasadena, CA:** Senior Biologist for the IS/MND for this project, which proposes improvements in three areas along the Upper Arroyo Seco in the City of Pasadena, north of Devil's Gate Dam. Improvements proposed in Area 1 include habitat restoration along the stream channel, a new nature trail, and a rest area/picnic area, along with demolition of the existing Headworks structure. New diversion and weir structures, a control equipment enclosure, and improvements to the damaged portion of the Gabrielino Trail/access road are proposed in Area 2. A small parking lot, additional and expanded spreading basins, a restroom, and a guard station are proposed in Area 3, which is located within the Hahamongna Watershed Park Master Plan boundaries. The purpose of the project is to increase the water infiltration into the Raymond Basin to supplement Pasadena Water and Power's drinking water supplies. Brian served as Senior Biologist for preparation of a Biological Technical Report. He also served as Senior Ornithologist along the Arroyo Seco for focused surveys for the southwestern willow flycatcher and least Bell's vireo.

**Former Whittaker-Bermite Facility Project Focused Plant Surveys and Biological Monitoring, Santa Clarita, CA:** Biologist for the approximate 996-acre former Whittaker-Bermite Facility project located in the City of Santa Clarita in Los Angeles County. The project site is a former munitions and explosives manufacturing facility under the jurisdiction of the California Department of Toxic Substances Control, which oversees contamination remediation efforts. Manufacturing activities resulted in perchlorate soil contamination (a Chemical of



Potential Concern) in portions of the site; the proposed project consisted of the excavation of contaminated soils, soil transportation off site for disposal, or on-site soil treatment within the 230 Operable Unit 1 (OU1) remedial site. Brian monitored native and non-native vegetation removal prior to the nesting bird season on the project site.

**Mullally Debris Basin Enlargement Project, La Canada Flintridge, CA:** Senior Biologist for the Los Angeles County Flood Control Division's Mullally Debris Basin Enlargement Project in the City of La Canada Flintridge. Brian prepared a Biological Assessment/Biological Evaluation for the project since part of the debris basin property was on ANF lands. Additionally, Brian conducted an analysis of the project's impacts on 12 Management Indicator Species identified by the USFS in the ANF Land Management Plan.

**Long Point Resort Environmental Impact Report Biological Technical Support, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA:** Senior Biologist for preparation of a Biological Technical Report for the Long Point Resort project site on the Rancho Palos Verdes Peninsula. Brian provided baseline biological surveys including focused surveys for the coastal California gnatcatcher.

**Santa Clara River South Fork Drop Structure and Rock Groins Project, Los Angeles County, CA:** Biologist for this project for the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (LACDPW). Brian conducted baseline surveys (including habitat assessments to determine the potential for special status species to occur at the project site) used for the preparation of a Biological Technical Report. He also served as an Ornithologist and conducted focused surveys for the southwestern willow flycatcher and least Bell's vireo.

**North Park Specific Plan Environmental Impact Report, Moorpark, CA:** Senior Biologist for the preparation of an EIR for the North Park Specific Plan. This proposed Specific Plan project would allow for the development of 1,650 residential dwelling units on 769.7 acres of the 3,586.3-acre site. Other proposed related and supporting uses would include a 5-acre neighborhood commercial center; a 12-acre school site; a 29.1-acre public youth sports park; 2 additional public parks; 10 private parks; a publicly accessible 52-acre lake; a fire station site; and a day care/church site. Ancillary land uses would include, but are not limited to, water reservoirs, detention basins, and a fire service helispot. Brian conducted baseline surveys and studies for the preparation of a Biological Technical Report for the project. He managed a wildlife movement study and also served as an Ornithologist for focused surveys for the coastal California gnatcatcher.

**Zone 1 Ditch Project, Los Angeles County, CA:** Senior Biologist for the Zone 1 Ditch Project Baseline and Focused Surveys. Brian conducted baseline surveys and studies (including habitat assessments to determine potential biological constraints) for the preparation of a Biological Technical Report. He also served as an Ornithologist for focused surveys for the southwestern willow flycatcher and least Bell's vireo.

**Dayton Canyon Project, Los Angeles County, CA:** Biologist for the Dayton Canyon project in western Los Angeles County. Brian provided baseline documentation of the biological resources associated with the project and provided text and analysis for the preparation of a Biological Technical Report.

**Los Angeles Mission College Golf Course Project, Sylmar, CA:** Biologist for the proposed Mission College Golf Course located in the Pacoima Wash. Brian conducted focused surveys for the coastal California gnatcatcher, southwestern willow flycatcher, and least Bell's vireo.

**Santa Anita Reservoir Middle Sediment Placement Site Project, Arcadia, CA:** Biologist for this project to remove sediment from the reservoir, which filled nearly to capacity following the large fires that occurred in 2009. Brian monitored vegetation removal on the Middle Sediment Placement Site.

**Centennial Corridor Biological Resources Services, Bakersfield and unincorporated Kern County, CA:** Ornithologist for this project, which proposes to extend the State Route (SR) 58 in a westerly direction from its current terminus at SR-99 to provide an ultimate connection to Interstate (I) 5. Psomas completed vegetation mapping; general plant and wildlife surveys; and focused surveys for special status plants (over multiple years), western burrowing owl, and Swainson's hawk. Psomas prepared the Natural Environment Study (NES) that evaluated project impacts of three alternatives on biological resources and provided mitigation measures consistent with the Metropolitan Bakersfield Habitat Conservation Plan (MBHCP), the Kern Water Bank Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), and the Kern Valley Floor HCP. Psomas also completed a Biological Assessment (BA) to address project impacts on the San Joaquin kit fox. Brian conducted nesting Swainson's hawk surveys for this project.

**Bouquet Canyon Development Project Biological Technical Report and Focused Surveys, Santa Clarita, CA:** Senior Biologist for the Bouquet Canyon Development project, a proposed residential development near Santa Clarita in Los Angeles County. The project involved the construction of 334 large-lot, single-family residential dwelling units; parks; 1 elementary school; and approximately 237 acres of open space, including horse trails. Off-site improvements, including water tanks and improvements to Bouquet Canyon Road, would be required to provide sufficient utilities and vehicular access. Brian provided baseline documentation of the biological resources associated with the project, and served as an Ornithologist for focused surveys for the southwestern willow flycatcher, least Bell's vireo, and coastal California gnatcatcher. Additionally, he also helped prepare the Biological Technical Report for the project.

**Yerba Buena School Biological Constraints Report, Oak Tree Survey and Focused Surveys, Los Angeles and Ventura Counties, CA:** Senior Biologist for a proposed school on the Los Angeles/Ventura County line near the City of Agoura. Brian conducted general wildlife surveys; conducted focused surveys for the least Bell's vireo and southwestern willow flycatcher; and prepared a Biological Constraints Report for the project. During construction, Brian served as biological monitor.



**Presidential Substation Project, Ventura County, CA:** Senior Biologist for Southern California Edison's project, which involved (1) a biological constraints analysis of two potential sites for construction of an energy substation and of several potential transmission line alignments to and from the potential sites; (2) focused surveys for coastal California gnatcatcher and special status plants in order to determine presence or absence of listed species; and (3) analysis of potential impacts to the Riverside fairy shrimp and its critical habitat along with potential impacts to jurisdictional drainages. Psomas prepared a Biological Resources Technical Report and the Biological Resources section of the Proponent's Environmental Assessment (PEA). Brian performed assessments used to determine which special status species require focused surveys and conducted focused surveys for the coastal California gnatcatcher. Brian also provided support in preparation of a Biological Resources Technical Report for the project.

**Mascot Substation Project Biological Services, Hanford, CA:** Ornithologist for Southern California Edison's (SCE's) project, which included multiple alternative sites and transmission line alignments in the City of Hanford. This project involved a biological assessment of two potential sites for construction of an energy substation and several potential sites for transmission lines to and from the sites. Brian performed habitat assessments for the project and was Ornithologist for 2012 focused Swainson's hawks surveys.

**Mountain Cove Residential Development Project Regulatory Agency Coordination and Mitigation Monitoring, Azusa, CA:** Biologist for the regulatory agency coordination and monitoring that mitigates for impacts as a result of this restoration project. The project enhanced and restored over 15 acres of alluvial sage scrub and willow riparian scrub and included a giant reed eradication program in the San Gabriel River. Specific monitoring activities included developing a Landscape Maintenance Manual; training and overseeing the Landscape Contractor regarding the implementation of the Landscape Maintenance Manual; monitoring long-term vegetation growth and health; and developing regular progress reports and annual site-status reports that document site conditions. Brian performed baseline surveys and studies used in preparation of a Biological Technical Report.

**Soft-Bottom Channel Project Focused Surveys and Survey Report, Los Angeles County, CA:** Senior Biologist for the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works' Soft-Bottom Channel project. Lead Biologist for monitoring of annual clearing activities in over 100 soft-bottom flood control channel reaches maintained by the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD). On-going tasks include pre- and post-clearing documentation of biological resources within these channel reaches and monitoring during annual clearing activities to facilitate compliance with permits issued by the USACE, the CDFW, and the RWQCB. On-call tasks have included nesting bird surveys, constraints analysis, and biological assessments of other flood control facilities ranging from structures as large as dams (e.g., Pacoima and Santa Anita Dams) to small outlets in sensitive habitats (e.g., Santa Monica Canyon ocean outlet). Since 2002, Brian has managed and conducted focused surveys for the southwestern willow flycatcher and least Bell's vireo at those soft-bottom flood control channels with

suitable habitat. He is also the Lead Ornithologist for monitoring of the LACFCD clearing activities in those channel reaches that support occupied least Bell's vireo habitat in accordance with USFWS conditions included in the USACE permit through formal and informal consultations. Brian has also served as the Lead Biologist for managing the performance of focused surveys in these channel reaches for other listed species such as the Santa Ana sucker, unarmored threespine stickleback, and arroyo and red-legged frogs.

**Santa Anita Stormwater Management and Seismic Strengthening Project, Biological Technical Report, Focused Biological Surveys, Mitigated Negative Declaration, Biological Assessment/Biological Evaluation, Management Indicator Species Report, Arcadia, Los Angeles County, CA:**

Ornithologist for this project located in Arcadia. The proposed project would modify Santa Anita Dam, the Headworks facility, and the Debris Dam to strengthen them and to automate operations. The project also includes constructing a helipad and new facility structures at the Dam; repairing a slope and upgrading a water line from a water tank to the Dam facilities; replacing the entrance gate to the Dam facilities and making it automated (including installation of power along the access road to the gate); and replacing a bridge to the Arcadia Wilderness Park. As Senior Ornithologist since 2009 for this project, Brian has conducted focused southwestern willow flycatcher and least Bell's vireo surveys. He has provided biological monitoring during site preparation for a sediment placement site that required the removal of approximately 180 coast live oak and western sycamore trees.

**Santa Anita Debris Basin Project Biological Services, Los Angeles County, CA:** Senior Biologist for the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works' Santa Anita Debris Basin project. Brian conducted a biological reconnaissance surveys of the debris basin in 2005. Since that time, he has provided a variety of biological services including being a biological monitor for emergency repairs at the debris basin that included construction of a finger levee for diverting flows from a failed slope. He was also the biological monitor for the clearing of a low-flow channel to reach the debris basin tower in accordance with the LACFCD's Long-Term Streambed Alteration Agreement with the CDFW for debris basins. As required by the agreement for this particular debris basin, Brian prepared a vegetation management plan. He has also served as Senior Ornithologists for focused surveys for the southwestern willow flycatcher and least Bell's vireo.

**As-Needed Biological Services for Debris Basins, Los Angeles County, CA:** Senior Biologist for various tasks at debris basins maintained by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works Flood Maintenance Division. Tasks under this contract have included baseline biological surveys and habitat assessments of over 150 debris basins located primarily in the watersheds of the Los Angeles, San Gabriel, and Santa Clara Rivers. Brian was the lead for these surveys and habitat assessments. He also performed focused surveys at those debris basins with potentially suitable habitat for southwestern willow flycatcher and least Bell's vireo. Brian prepared environmental documentation that was used to obtain a Long-Term Streambed Alteration Agreement permit from the CDFW for the LACFCD annual



maintenance activities at 162 debris basins from August 18, 2011, to December 31, 2029.

**Southern California Gas Company North-South Pipeline Project, Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, CA:** Ornithologist for this project, which proposes to construct a new pipeline from Adelanto to Moreno Valley to ensure a reliable supply of gas to Southern California. The project includes the construction and installation of an approximate 65-mile-long, 36-inch-diameter natural gas transmission pipeline, including compressor and pressure limiting stations. Psomas conducted focused surveys and prepared reports for many special status plant and wildlife species, including bat species, burrowing owl, coastal California gnatcatcher, desert tortoise, fairy shrimp, Mohave ground squirrel, raptors, and riparian birds. Psomas also performed small mammal trapping, weed surveys, tree surveys, and a jurisdictional delineation. In addition, Psomas prepared a Biological Technical Report, a Jurisdictional Water Resources Existing Conditions Report, a Biological Assessment/Biological Evaluation (pursuant to U.S. Forest Service Standards), a Hydrology and Water Quality Assessment, and a Land Use Assessment. Psomas also prepared the Application for Federal Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification, Pre-Construction Notification under the Federal Clean Water Act Section 404 Nationwide Permit, and Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement in accordance with Section 1602 of the California Fish and Game Code. Brian conducted surveys for sensitive avian species including all project surveys for the Endangered southwestern willow flycatcher. He prepared sections of the Project's Biological Technical Report for the Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

**Pacoima Dam Sediment Removal Project, Los Angeles County, CA:** Ornithologist for various biological surveys associated with this project. The Department of Public Works has proposed to remove excess sediment from Pacoima Reservoir to restore its original water storage capacity by sluicing material to a downstream debris basin. In order to evaluate the impacts associated with sediment removal and dam operations, a variety of biological surveys and analysis have been performed. Brian served as Senior Ornithologist for focused surveys for the southwestern willow flycatcher and least Bell's vireo.

**Cogswell, San Gabriel, and Morris Dams Maintenance Project, Los Angeles County, CA:** Senior Biologist for a biological constraints analysis of maintenance activities conducted by the LACFCD at Cogswell, San Gabriel, and Morris Dams on the San Gabriel River in the Angeles National Forest. This project required surveys, analysis, and identification of potential biological constraints, if any, at 84 separate maintenance sites for the three dams. The biological constraints analysis provided recommendations for managing the identified biological constraints.

**Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project Biological Resources Support, Southern California, CA:** Biologist for this Southern California Edison project. The Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project (TRTP) consists of the construction of several substations and a total of 175 miles of transmission lines running from the Antelope Valley through the Angeles National Forest (ANF) and into the City of Ontario. The project's objective is to bring wind and solar sourced energy from

the Tehachapi Mountains and western Antelope Valley to the Los Angeles basin. As part of a large, multi-company team, Psomas has provided a full range of biological services including vegetation mapping; focused surveys for plants, trees, birds, herpetofauna, and bats; nesting bird surveys; raptor surveys; pre-construction surveys and construction monitoring; and seed collection. Brian provided biological monitoring services to facilitate geotechnical testing of electrical transmission tower installation sites in the Angeles National Forest (ANF). In 2010 and 2011, Brian conducted habitat assessments for spotted owl and southwestern willow flycatcher along two transmission line corridors through the ANF including areas burned during the 2009 Station Fire. Brian also provided biological monitoring services at material yards that included pre-construction surveys (sweeps) and construction monitoring in vicinity of active bird nests. Additionally, Brian conducted focused surveys for spotted owl, southwestern willow flycatcher, and least Bell's vireo.

**Big Tujunga Dam Operation and Maintenance Update Project, Los Angeles County, CA:** Ornithologist for the Big Tujunga Dam Operation and Maintenance project. The project involved approval of a revised Operation and Maintenance Plan for water releases from the Big Tujunga Reservoir resulting from seismic retrofit and spillway modifications of the Big Tujunga Dam and the associated increase in reservoir capacity. The impact analysis addressed a 13-mile segment of the Big Tujunga Wash from Big Tujunga Dam to Hansen Dam within the Angeles National Forest and unincorporated Los Angeles County. Brian has served as Senior Ornithologists for focused surveys for the southwestern willow flycatcher and least Bell's vireo.



# Marc Blain

## Biological Resources Manager/Associate

### EDUCATION

1997/MS/Applied Ecology and Conservation Biology/Frostburg State University, Frostburg, MD

1994/BS/Environmental Biology/California State University, Northridge

### CERTIFICATIONS

Independent Researcher for Psomas' CDFW Entity Scientific Collecting Permit/SC-004535/California Department of Fish and Wildlife

### PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Association of Environmental Professionals

Union of Concerned Scientists

### TRAINING

California Grasses Identification Class Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden

Plant Families Class Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden

### EXPERIENCE

With Psomas: 13 years/With Other Firms for: 13 years

Marc Blain, Biological Resources Manager, has over 26 years of experience in wildlife biology, conservation biology, natural resource planning, and training in various other areas in the environmental field. He has a wide range of knowledge on the plants, wildlife, and vegetation communities of Southern California, especially those listed as Threatened or Endangered. As the Biological Resources Manager, he has managed a wide variety of project types including flood control, utility, private development, transportation, and dam/reservoir project. He is an expert on development of sustainable management practices relative to natural resources. More specific areas of expertise include avian ecology, wildlife movement, and conservation biology. He is also experienced with the natural resources regulations and compliance requirements of the Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA), the California Endangered Species Act (CESA), CEQA, NEPA, NCCP Act, CWA, MBTA, California Fish and Game Code, and other biological statutes of regional Counties and Cities.

### Experience

**City of Arcadia General Plan Update Program Environmental Impact Report, Arcadia, CA:** Biological Resources Manager for the Program EIR for the City's General Plan Update, which emphasized the maintenance of existing land uses and redevelopment in a few select areas, as the City is largely built out. The General Plan was developed to accommodate the Gold Line station proposed in the City and anticipated the revitalization of aging commercial areas through the incorporation of mixed-use zones along major transit corridors. Additionally, the redevelopment of approximately 80 acres of existing quarry along Lower Azusa Road was anticipated in the General Plan. Marc managed the biological resources field studies; assessments for special status species potential; biological resource impact analysis; and the associated documentation presented in the EIR.

**Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, Flood Maintenance Division As-Needed Biological Services Contract, Los Angeles County, CA:** Project Manager for an As-Needed services contract with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (LACDPW), Flood Maintenance Division. Marc is responsible for managing a variety of projects and on-going consultation services. Projects range from focused surveys for special status plants and animals within County-operated flood-control channels to emergency Section 7 Consultations with the USFWS; he has also conducted CEQA documentation for long-term maintenance permits from the CDFW. Responsibilities involve daily communication with LACDPW staff to assist in environmental compliance issues as they arise. Projects frequently require Marc to communicate directly with regulatory agencies such as the USACE, CDFW, RWQCB, and USFWS to resolve potential impacts issues.

**Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, West Fork Road Emergency Bank Stabilization Project Biological Mitigation and Monitoring, Los Angeles County, CA:** Project Manager for this project for the LACDPW. The project involved potential impacts resulting from repair work to federally Endangered species in a section of the West Fork of the San Gabriel River. Marc coordinated biological monitoring and mitigation requirements among several State and federal agencies and the LACDPW. Biological surveys, fish surveys, and construction monitoring for several special status species were conducted. The project was successfully completed following the submittal of a detailed Biological Assessment, prepared under Marc's direction, to the regulatory agencies.

**Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, Bouquet Channel Emergency Clearing and Biological Monitoring, County of Los Angeles, CA:** Project Manager for the Bouquet Channel Emergency Clearing project. This project involved potential impacts from repair activities to a State- and federally-listed Endangered fish species and required oversight of the listed species' capture and relocation and the preparation of the associated documents. Marc directed biological monitoring to ensure biological resources protection during channel vegetation clearing activities. He also coordinated among several State and federal agencies and LACDPW maintenance and management personnel, and he negotiated with resource agencies to determine the most appropriate measures to ensure minimal impacts to sensitive resources.

**Pitchess Detention Center Women's Village Project Environmental Impact Report, Los Angeles County, CA:** Biologist for the Pitchess Detention Center (PDC) Women's Village Project EIR. The proposed Project, which is located in Los Angeles County, would involve the partial demolition and redevelopment of approximately 23 acres of the PDC and the construction of a 1,156-bed medium-security, rehabilitation-based, female inmate detention facility with a 26-bed medical clinic and appurtenant facilities. Several existing structures would remain and be incorporated into the Project, including the Ranch Field Office, the central kitchen, the chapel, and four dormitories, while several other buildings would be demolished. A total of 16 cottages would be constructed and configured as a village-style setting, which maximizes rehabilitative, educational, and vocational opportunities to reduce recidivism and associated long-term detention costs. Areas of special consideration include public outreach and coordination with interested stakeholders; regulatory permitting from the USACE, Los Angeles RWQCB, and CDFW; and utility infrastructure improvements, including the potential expansion of the County's co-generation facility to accommodate increased energy demands. Marc performed biological resources assessment, including general surveys, vegetation mapping, wildlife constraints analysis, and jurisdictional determination

**Triton Power Substation Project Focused Surveys and Technical Documents, Temecula, CA:** Project Manager for Southern California Edison's (SCE's) project, which involved a biological assessment of 15 potential substation sites and several transmission lines in Temecula. He determined which special status species required focused surveys, implemented and managed focused surveys, and prepared biological



technical documents pursuant to CEQA and suitable for the California Energy Commission. Due to the Client's status as a special participating member of the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP), Marc conducted a unique analysis that compares the regulatory requirements should the project be pursued under the Western Riverside County MSHCP with the requirements should the project proceed without relying on the Western Riverside County MSHCP. This analysis provided the Client with the means to make an informed decision on how to proceed with environmental compliance.

**Brea Area Development, California Environmental Quality Act Biological Assessment, Los Angeles County, CA:** Biologist for a CEQA-level assessment of a 3,000-acre property that involved a constraints analysis; vegetation mapping; focused surveys for the federally listed coastal California gnatcatcher, Quino checkerspot butterfly, least Bell's vireo, southwestern willow flycatcher, and sensitive plants; a CEQA Biological Resources Assessment; and a Biota Report for the Los Angeles County Significant Ecological Area Technical Advisory Committee (SEATAC).

**Pechanga Reservation Biological Surveys, Riverside County, CA:** Biologist for annual avian inventory and special status bird surveys for the coastal California gnatcatcher, southwestern willow flycatcher, and least Bell's vireo throughout the Pechanga Reservation. Project responsibilities include review of annual environmental documentation and a constraints analysis for specific proposed projects. Due to the highly sensitive nature of the property, all surveys are conducted with Cultural Resources Monitors and often involve communication with tribal council leaders and other tribal members. Marc annually provides maps of all raptor nests detected during survey work and actively tracks the status of golden eagles on site.

**Arroyo Seco Drainage Improvement Projects, Biological Survey Coordination and Documentation, Pasadena, CA:** Project Manager for a series of projects associated with the Arroyo Seco drainage improvements in Pasadena. In the Upper Arroyo Seco, projects included focused surveys for the California red-legged frog, a habitat assessment for the California gnatcatcher, nesting bird surveys, and a review of a CDFW Streambed Alteration Agreement issued for a bridge replacement project. Lower Arroyo Seco projects have consisted of nesting bird surveys, nesting raptor surveys, streambed maintenance monitoring, and individual plant identification for preservation within a restoration area. Marc was responsible for coordinating all biological surveys and documentation associated with the various projects and providing consultation services to City staff.

**Portrero 2007 DSP Circuit Project Biological Surveys and Impact Assessment, Ventura County, CA:** Biological Resources Manager for biological surveys and evaluated the impact assessment for SCE utility line repairs in Ventura County. He coordinated special status plant surveys to identify special status plant species within the survey area, which includes a 30-foot buffer around each utility pole and the access route from the roadway to the pole along the entire 3-mile alignment.

**Rio Vistancia Development Project, Biological Surveys and Construction Monitoring, Needles, CA:** Project Manager for the Rio Vistancia Development project. He coordinated focused surveys for special status species and conducted a biological impact assessment. He also conducted protocol surveys for the southwestern willow flycatcher in 2004, which resulted in the detection of Arizona Bell's vireo. Additionally, Marc conducted a desert tortoise habitat assessment, performed construction monitoring, and reviewed the project's CDFW Streambed Alteration Agreement conditions pertaining to wildlife.

**Interstate 15/California Oaks Road Interchange Improvement Project, Biological Surveys and Natural Environment Study, Murrieta, CA:** Biologist for this project to modify the existing Interstate 15/California Oaks Road interchange by relocating and widening the existing northbound and southbound off-ramps; providing transitions for eastbound and westbound turn pockets to California Oaks Road; and providing northbound and southbound Interstate 15 loop on-ramps. Marc completed a literature review, mapped vegetation, and completed general plant surveys. He also assisted in the completion of a Natural Environment Study for Caltrans.

**Castaic Lake Water Agency Recycled Water Master Plan Program Environmental Impact Report, Los Angeles County, CA:** Biologist for this Program EIR. The project included the construction of a distribution system throughout the City of Santa Clarita and some unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County; eight aboveground reservoir tanks; recycled water pump station(s); booster pump stations; and aquifer storage and recovery-related facilities. Sources of recycled water would include the Valencia Water Reclamation Plant, the Berry Petroleum Oil Field, and the Newhall Ranch Water Reclamation Plant. The first phase of implementation involved the Northwest Spur Pipeline, which was analyzed at a project level in the EIR. Marc conducted a general plant and wildlife survey and mapped vegetation for the Northwest Spur Pipeline component of the Castaic Lake Water Agency's Recycled Water Master Plan. He also prepared the CEQA-level Biological Resource Assessment, which is included as an appendix to the Program EIR.

**Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District Reduced Discharge Technical Biological Study of the Upper Santa Clara River, Los Angeles County, CA:** Project Manager for a biological study, which involved detailed analysis of the existing river conditions throughout the study area, including hydrology, vegetation, substrate, and stream bed morphology. Field studies included monitoring for flow change over 24-hour periods at various locations in the River. Modeling was prepared to assess potential project changes on stream flows within the section of the River. Using the field study results, hydrological modeling, and historical analysis, the potential effects of the projected changes in stream flow were assessed. The findings were documented in detail in a technical report which provided the client with necessary data to proceed with project design and regulatory compliance. As the Project Manager, he was responsible for managing the technical study and directed surveys to determine presence or absence and relative abundance of special status fish species with special attention to the federally Threatened unarmored three-spine stickleback.



**Silver Lake Reservoir Improvement Project Biological Study and Public Outreach, Silver Lake, CA:** Project Manager for a biological study and outreach program for the Silver Lake Reservoir Improvement project. He managed a study to determine the potential effects on wildlife resources that might result from allowing public access to the “meadow area” of the Silver Lake Reservoir. A substantial element of this project was public outreach, and Marc assisted the City of Los Angeles by speaking to members of the community to reassure them of the project’s sensitivity to biological resources. Marc was able to successfully communicate with project skeptics and speak with many members of the public with various opinions at once.

**Monk Hill Treatment Project Habitat Assessment, Pasadena, CA:** Biologist for a biological assessment of this project. A habitat assessment was conducted to determine potential biological constraints to the proposed pipeline repair project located on the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) facility in Pasadena. Based on the thorough documentation Marc prepared for the assessment, the City was able to convince the USFWS that protocol surveys for the California gnatcatcher were not warranted. Nesting bird surveys were recommended and successfully conducted within the impact area, and the project was completed with minimal constraints.

**Cagney Ranch Focused Survey Reports, Los Angeles County, CA:** Senior Biologist for this project, located in the Santa Susana Mountains just north of State Route 118. He prepared the focused survey reports and analyzed potential impacts to coastal sage scrub within the nexus of USACE’s jurisdictional waters. Marc also managed the team that monitored riparian and upland habitat and he completed annual surveys and documentation.

**Centennial Project Biological Resources Services, Los Angeles County, CA:** Biologist for the development of a planned new community located at the northwestern tip of Los Angeles County along the Kern County border. In support of the project’s EIR, Psomas mapped vegetation; completed focused surveys for plants, fairy shrimp, special status herpetological species, least Bell’s vireo, southwestern willow flycatcher, mountain plover, Swainson’s hawk, and spotted owl; managed Tehachapi pocket mouse trapping and grassland studies; completed a jurisdictional delineation and report and an oak tree survey; and completed tricolored blackbird and condor studies. Psomas also prepared a biological constraints analysis and Biota Report and managed the Significant Ecological Area Technical Advisory Committee review process of these documents. Psomas organized and managed the project’s Mitigation Preserve Review and created a Conceptual Oak Woodland Mitigation Plan. Finally, the Biological Resources Team prepared the documents Biological Resources EIR Section, which summarized the complete work effort. Marc’s primary responsibility involved the preparation of a Biological Resources Assessment Technical Report for the Los Angeles County SEATAC and the biological resources section of the EIR. He is also responsible for directing a team of biologists conducting a diverse array of studies for the biological resources documentation and the assessment of the resources’ regional distribution. Marc assists the Client with the development of strategies for biological resources mitigation and with

permit acquisitions from resource agencies; he also represents the Client in consultations with the Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning.

**Westlake Village Business Park Specific Plan Program**

**Environmental Impact Report, Westlake Village, CA:** Biological Resources Manager for the preparation of the Program EIR. The proposed Specific Plan would promote the revitalization of underutilized or obsolete properties and the intensification and adaptive reuse of existing developments within a 200-acre planning area north of the Ventura Freeway (Interstate 101). The proposed Specific Plan would allow higher development intensities and mixed use developments to replace the existing land uses, along with infrastructure improvements throughout the planning area. The Program EIR analyzes the indirect impacts of adoption of the Specific Plan on all environmental issues, as associated with future redevelopment and planned infrastructure improvements. Marc manages all aspects of Biological Resources for this project, including managing surveys for the project and the preparation of all biological resources-related documentation.

**Tesoro del Valle Supplemental Biological Resources Assessment and Environmental Impact Report, Los Angeles County, CA:** Biological Resources Manager for Tesoro del Valle project, which involves the buildout of Phases B and C. The project involves the construction of 710 single-family residential dwelling units; a fire station site; parks and recreational amenities (i.e., clubhouse, pool, trails); and supporting roadway and utility infrastructure within Phases B and C of the Tesoro del Valle project. The project involves a density transfer of 474 un-built residential units from Phase A into Phases B and C. The proposed project would not increase the total 1,791 residential units previously approved for the Tesoro development. A revision to the existing Conditional Use Permit for Hillside Management and Density Controlled Development would be required, as would renewed permits for oak tree and jurisdictional impacts. Areas of special consideration include impacts to biological and jurisdictional resources, land use, and water supply. Marc was responsible for overseeing plant and wildlife focused surveys for Threatened and Endangered species; assessing biological resources impacts of the proposed project; and providing documentation in technical reports and the EIR.

**Presidential Substation Project, Ventura County, CA:** Biological Resources Manager for Southern California Edison's project, which involved (1) a biological constraints analysis of two potential sites for construction of an energy substation and of several potential transmission line alignments to and from the potential sites; (2) focused surveys for coastal California gnatcatcher and special status plants in order to determine presence or absence of listed species; and (3) analysis of potential impacts to the Riverside fairy shrimp and its critical habitat along with potential impacts to jurisdictional drainages. Psomas prepared a Biological Resources Technical Report and the Biological Resources section of the Proponent's Environmental Assessment (PEA). He is responsible for overseeing the preparation of a Biological Resources Technical Report (recently completed) and the Biological Resources section of a Proponent's Environmental Assessment (PEA).

**Lancaster Solar Energy Project Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration, Lancaster, CA:** Biological Resources Manager for the IS/MND for the development of a Solar Energy Project capable of generating up to two megawatts (MW) of electricity under peak solar conditions, with future expansion to four MW. The project site includes approximately 63 acres of undeveloped portions of 2 County-owned parcels in Lancaster. The initial two-MW facility has been constructed and provides offsets for energy use from the adjacent Mira Loma Detention Center and the Challenger Memorial Youth Center. The site contains a potentially historic on-site wastewater treatment facility, which was avoided during construction. Marc managed the general and focused biological resources field studies; assessments for special status species potential; biological resource impact analysis; and the associated documentation presented in the MND.

**Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project Biological Resources Support, Southern California, CA:** Project Manager for this SCE project. The Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project (TRTP) consists of the construction of several substations and a total of 175 miles of transmission lines running from the Antelope Valley through the Angeles National Forest (ANF) and into the City of Ontario. The project's objective is to bring wind and solar sourced energy from the Tehachapi Mountains and western Antelope Valley to the Los Angeles basin. As part of a large, multi-company team, Psomas has provided a full range of biological services including vegetation mapping; focused surveys for plants, trees, birds, herpetofauna, and bats; nesting bird surveys; raptor surveys; pre-construction surveys and construction monitoring; and seed collection. Marc serves as a consulting project manager and he supports SCE's biology team in all aspects of biological resources.

Responsibilities include managing a suite of focused surveys in remote country of the ANF and other project areas; preparing notice to proceed reports to be submitted to the California Public Utility Commission; preparing permit applications for a Special Use Permit from the U.S. Forest Service (USFS); managing construction monitoring; preparing avoidance and mitigation plans; coordinating with construction contractors to ensure compliance with permit conditions; and completing a multitude of other tasks. Due to the presence of several State and federally listed species in the project area, compliance with the State 2081 Incidental Take Permit and the USFWS Biological Opinion requires his constant attention. Marc is an integral part of the management team for TRTP and works daily to keep the project's aggressive schedule on track.

**High Desert Health System Multi-Service Ambulatory Care Center Project Environmental Impact Report, Lancaster, CA:** Biological Resources Manager for the combined Program and Project EIR for a new High Desert Health System Multi-Ambulatory Care Center facility in the City of Lancaster. The project site included 23 acres of vacant land surrounded by low-density residential and commercial development. The project involved construction of a new 2-story, 142,000-square-foot (sf) medical building with surface parking on 1 parcel and 67,250 sf of supporting public service/commercial uses on a second parcel, potentially including uses such as doctors' offices, senior care services, and mental health services, among others. Other project-related improvements include roadway improvements; landscaping; utility



connections; and a new turn-out for the existing Antelope Valley Transit Authority bus stop on East Avenue I. The project has a Silver-Rated Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification for its incorporation of solar panels and wind turbines on the parking lot's light fixtures. Marc was responsible for oversight of plant and wildlife focused surveys, the assessment of biological resources impacts of the proposed project, and documentation within technical reports and the EIR.

**NorthLake Specific Plan Environmental Impact Report, Los Angeles County, CA:** Biological Resources Manager for the development of an approximate 1,330-acre project site near Castaic Lake in unincorporated Los Angeles County. This project involves the development of a mix of single-family units; multi-family units; commercial, industrial, and recreational uses; open space; and school and park facilities.

# LEATHERMAN BIOCONSULTING, INC.



*Biological Surveys, Management & Monitoring*

## BRIAN LEATHERMAN WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST

### EDUCATION

**California State University, Fullerton**, California

Master of Arts, Biological Science, 1993.

Bachelor of Arts, Biological Science, 1991.

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Leatherman BioConsulting, Inc. 2006 – present; White & Leatherman BioServices 2000-2006; Psomas and Associates, 1997-2000; Chambers Group 1996-1997; Dames and Moore 1993-1996; Independent Consulting Biologist 1991-1993.** Primarily responsible for biological surveys, report preparation, project management, and agency coordination. Specialties include habitat assessments, general wildlife documentation, focused surveys for endangered species, construction and mitigation compliance monitoring, and wildlife corridor assessment and monitoring. Prepares biological technical reports to document field work and propose mitigation strategies to meet requirements of CEQA and NEPA, and to initiate formal consultation under the federal Endangered Species Act.

**Guest Lecturer: California State University, Fullerton, Victor Valley College, 2009-present.**

Prepare and teach two part lecture on federal and state environmental and endangered species laws in California, and how those laws translate into the assessment, focused survey, and monitoring work conducted by professional consulting biologists.

**Part Time Instructor: California State University, Fullerton, 1991-1993.** General Biological Science Laboratory Instructor.

### MEMBERSHIPS

- Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles
- The Desert Tortoise Council
- The Wildlife Society
- Western Field Ornithologists
- Declining Amphibian Populations Task Force
- Southern California Botanists
- California Native Plant Society
- California Botanical Society

### CERTIFICATIONS/PERMITS

- Section 10(a)(1)(A) Permit for Southwestern Willow Flycatcher, California Gnatcatcher, Least Bell's Vireo (Permit No. TE827493-6).

# LEATHERMAN BIOCONSULTING, INC.



*Biological Surveys, Management & Monitoring*

- California Department of Fish and Game Scientific Collecting/Trapping Permit #801221-02; MOU for Southwestern Willow Flycatcher, Western Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Least Bell's Vireo; nest monitoring for California gnatcatcher; trapping for southern rubber boa and southwestern pond turtle.
- California Department of Fish and Game Letter of Agreement for Conducting Brown-headed Cowbird Capture and Removal Programs

## **PUBLICATIONS**

- Leatherman, Brian M., and Mark. R. Jennings. 2007. *Actinemys marmorata* (Pacific Pond Turtle) and *Trachemys scripta* (Red-eared Slider): Reproductive Behavior. *Herpetological Review* 38:327.
- Leatherman, Brian M. 2004. *Spea hammondi* (Western Spadefoot): Geographic Distribution. *Herpetological Review* 35(4): 407.
- Leatherman, Brian M. 1996. San Diego Horned Lizard (*Phrynosoma coronatum blainvillei*): Conservation. *Herpetological Review* 27(2): 80.
- Strong, Dennis. J., Brian M. Leatherman, and Bayard H. Brattstrom. 1993. Two new simple methods for catching small fast lizards. *Herpetological Review* 24(1): 23.
- Leatherman, Brian M. 1993. Impacts of habitat changes on prey species taken by barn owls (*Tyto alba*) in Owens Valley, California. Thesis: California State University Fullerton.

## **SEMINARS AND SPECIALIZED TRAINING**

- 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Desert Tortoise Surveying, Monitoring, and Handling Techniques Workshop. The Desert Tortoise Council. Ridgecrest, California. November 2011.
- Mohave Ground Squirrel Workshop, Sponsored by The Wildlife Society Western Section, Ridgecrest, April 2005
- California Anastraca and Notostraca Identification Class (Fairy Shrimp Workshop). Belk Consulting: Santa Rosa Plateau, January 2005
- The Wildlife Society Western Section Annual Conference: Irvine, March 2003
- The Wildlife Society Western Section Annual Conference: Riverside, March 2000
- Planning for Biodiversity: Bringing Management and Research Together. Cal Poly Pomona, Sponsored by US Forest Service and US Geological Survey. Feb 2000
- 79<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Symposium of the Western Society of Naturalists, December 1998
- Annual CEQA Workshop. Association of Environmental Professionals, February 1998
- Sensitive herpetofauna of Southern California: San Diego Natural History Museum, March 1997
- Southwestern Willow Flycatcher Field Workshop, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and U. S. Forest Service 1996, 1997
- Quino Checkerspot Butterfly Workshop, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Friends of Entomology Research Museum 1997
- Desert Tortoise Survey/Handling Techniques Workshop, Desert Tortoise Council 1993, 1996
- Symposium on the Biology of the California Gnatcatcher, UC Riverside, 1995



# LEATHERMAN BIOCONSULTING, INC.



*Biological Surveys, Management & Monitoring*

## **GENERAL EXPERIENCE**

Mr. Leatherman has twenty years of experience as a professional biologist conducting general and focused avian, herpetological, mammalian, and special status species surveys, and preparing biological reports and biological resources sections for environmental documents. His expertise lies in documenting wildlife diversity and habitat utilization, evaluating habitats for their potential to support rare, threatened, and endangered wildlife species, and analyzing impacts of proposed projects on biological resources. He has designed and implemented studies to monitor wildlife usage of restoration sites and movement corridors, and has developed and implemented relocation efforts for several special status species. He has monitored a variety small- and large-scale construction projects to ensure and document compliance with project permits or mitigation monitoring plans. A list of some of the special status species he has worked with includes the quino checkerspot butterfly, arroyo toad, California red-legged frog, southwestern pond turtle, desert tortoise, southwestern willow flycatcher, least Bell's vireo, California gnatcatcher, San Joaquin kit fox, and many others.

## **REPRESENTATIVE PROJECT EXPERIENCE**

**Focused Survey for Least Bell's Vireo and Southwestern Willow Flycatcher, Big Tujunga Canyon, Los Angeles County. BonTerra Consulting.** Assisted with focused surveys for the least Bell's vireo and southwestern willow flycatcher under the supervision of a permitted biologist upstream of the Big Tujunga Dam in the San Gabriel Mountains. Documented other special status species observed incidentally including western pond turtle, two-striped garter snake, yellow warbler, and southern California rufous-crowned sparrow.

**L.A. Department of Public Works San Gabriel River Brown-headed Cowbird Trapping Program, Whittier.** Mr. Leatherman developed the cowbird trapping program plan in 2005 and has conducted the program on an annual basis since that time. LBC anticipates being retained for the remaining years of the ten-year program (through 2014).

**Focused Southwestern Willow Flycatcher Surveys, Los Angeles Dept. of Water and Power's Big Tujunga Wash Mitigation Bank, Los Angeles County, Chambers Group, Inc.** Conducted focused survey for southwestern willow flycatcher within cottonwood willow riparian forest within the Big Tujunga Wash floodplain upstream of Hansen Dam, where LADWP has purchased and is restoring habitat as mitigation for a variety of projects. Retained contract to conduct surveys for three consecutive years.

**Prima Deshecha Landfill Brown-headed Cowbird Trapping Program, BonTerra Consulting and County of Orange Waste Management Department.** Under contract to BonTerra Consulting, developed a detailed Brown-Headed Cowbird Management Program for the Waste Management Department to provide a reference for implementing all aspects of a successful trapping program. Conducted the first three year of trapping program since 2002,

# LEATHERMAN BIOCONSULTING, INC.



*Biological Surveys, Management & Monitoring*

which includes daily trap monitoring for six consecutive months; retained to conduct the 2005 program.

**Desert Tortoise Studies/Monitoring, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power.** Performed preconstruction surveys and monitored for desert tortoise for LADWP during construction of a 200-mile power line in the Mojave Desert through portions of Nevada and California. Provided education training to contractor personnel as needed to comply with conditions of the Biological Opinion. Filed compliance and tortoise report forms on a weekly basis. Tagged and processed desert tortoises, removed tortoises from construction zones, and excavated and constructed desert tortoise burrows.

**Southern Water Snake Control Program for Los Angeles Dept. of Public Works, Wilmington Drain, BonTerra Consulting.** Contracted to trap and remove the southern water snake (*Nerodia fasciata*) in an effort to control the population in the Wilmington Drain tributary to Lake Machado in San Pedro, Los Angeles County. Effort was coordinated with similar effort by Dr. Robert Reed of the USGS to control/eradicate the population from Lake Machado. Project included use of 30 traps placed along the shore of Wilmington Drain in the spring and summer of 2010 and 2011.

**Western Spadefoot Toad Relocation Program, SunCal Companies and BonTerra Consulting.** Developed a detailed western spadefoot toad relocation plan to capture and relocate a breeding population of western spadefoot toads from the Northlake development site to a series of created mitigation ponds in northern Los Angeles County. The plan has been reviewed and approved by the California Department of Fish and Game. Currently under contract to implement the plan.

**Wildlife Corridor Use Study at Alamos Canyon, Unocal Properties.** Designed and implemented a study to document wildlife use of the State Route 118 bridge over Alamos Canyon Road in Simi Valley. Used scent stations and wildlife tracking under the bridge to record wildlife diversity and frequency of travel over a seven night period of July 1999. The undercrossing was identified (conceptually) as a critical wildlife corridor between the Santa Suzanna Mountains and the Simi Hills. A draft report titled Update of Biological Resources, Wildlife Movement Corridors, and Jurisdictional Waters of the US, Streambeds, and Wetlands for Unocal Tentative Tract 4565 was prepared for Unocal.

**California Gnatcatcher Survey, Nature Reserve of Orange County, 2011.** Leatherman BioConsulting, Inc. was contracted to plan and implement a study to collect baseline data to estimate the current status of the California gnatcatcher on the Central and Coastal Reserves, an area encompassing approximately 37,000 acres. Three rounds of focused surveys were conducted at 150 randomly selected plots located throughout the reserve system, and vegetation data at each of the plots was recorded to develop and evaluate habitat suitability models for the gnatcatcher. Leatherman BioConsulting, Inc. provided oversight of the entire project, including

# LEATHERMAN BIOCONSULTING, INC.



*Biological Surveys, Management & Monitoring*

coordination of access among the many landowners signatory to the NCCP, management of the seven permitted biologists conducting the surveys, data review and compilation, and report preparation.

## **Cactus Wren Habitat Assessment and Survey, Nature Reserve of Orange County, 2008.**

Leatherman BioConsulting, Inc. mapped and assessed the quality of the cactus scrub habitat throughout the recently burned and unburned portions of the 19,900-acre Central Reserve. Two rounds of focused surveys for the Cactus Wren were subsequently conducted in all habitat judged to be suitable for nesting wrens. A detailed report of the results of the surveys, including data on the aerial extent of cactus and occupied habitat patches within burned and unburned areas, was prepared for the NROC, and a presentation was given to the Board of Directors.



**MICHAEL C. COUFFER**  
**CONSULTING BIOLOGIST**

---

Michael Couffer is a Senior Biologist with 17 years of experience in biological surveys and natural resource photography. He has held the federal and state permits necessary to conduct focused surveys for and monitor the nests of the federally Threatened California gnatcatcher since 1995, and has surveyed over 61,000 acres for the gnatcatcher. Mr Couffer has surveyed over 25,000 acres for the federally Endangered Quino checkerspot butterfly since the species was listed in 1998. Mr. Couffer also conducts surveys for special status species such as the burrowing owl, Hermes copper butterfly, flat-tailed horned lizard, and others. Mr. Couffer has also acted as primary biological field consultant and onsite monitor for numerous coastal sage scrub vegetation removal projects.

**Updated July 13, 2010.** Multi-year projects are presented in the last year worked. Use Microsoft Word's "Find" function to search the document.

**Permits and Listings**

- Federal Fish and Wildlife Permit granted 1995 allowing for focused surveys & nest monitoring of federally-threatened coastal California gnatcatcher, and focused surveys for the federally-endangered Quino checkerspot butterfly since that species was listed in 1998
- California Department of Fish & Game (CDFG) Scientific Collecting Permit allowing for capture & release of non-protected small mammals, reptiles, amphibians, freshwater fishes, & invertebrates, as well as "take" of the two listed species above
- On approved Biological Consultant's List for Counties of Riverside and San Bernardino
- Completed Range Safety Officer training for civilian consultants working within & adjacent to US Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton gunnery ranges
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service-approved desert tortoise surveying, handling, & monitoring workshop
- CDFG Letter of Authorization to capture, possess, & transport flat-tailed horned lizard during surveys and biological monitoring

**Publications**

California Gnatcatcher Feeds Bewick's Wren Nestlings in an Abandoned Rodent Burrow. 2005. Western Birds, Volume 36.

**Education** Bachelor of Arts, Biology and Journalism, San Diego State University, 1990

**Employment History**

Independent Biological Consultant - Grey Owl Biological Consulting - 1993 to Present  
Grey Owl Pictures, Inc., Partner, Photographer, Stock Photo Manager – 1980 to Present  
Scientific Resource Surveys, Paleontological and Archaeological Monitor – 1980

**Contact Information**

716 Marguerite Avenue  
Corona del Mar, California 92625  
Email: [mikecouffer@roadrunner.com](mailto:mikecouffer@roadrunner.com)  
Phone: (949) 644-7127

## 2010 Projects

During the spring of 2010, Mr. Couffer was contracted to conduct focused surveys for federally threatened and rare butterfly species from April 1 through June 30 on three different projects in eastern San Diego County. The only days off were when poor weather precluded surveys.

***Campo Wind Energy Project, Eastern San Diego County, California.*** Conducted daily focused surveys for the federally Endangered Quino checkerspot butterfly on a 4,417-acre existing and planned expansion of a wind energy project site on the Campo Band of Mission Indians Reservation. As one of 24 federally-permitted biologists, Mr Couffer located half of all Quino found during the surveys, and over three times as many Quino as any other permitted biologist. Mr. Couffer incidentally located special status bird, reptile, amphibian, and plant species, and found a GPS unit dropped by one of the other project biologists over a month after the unit was lost, retrieving the recorded data within. Received wind turbine safety training for ground crews, and participated with report preparation, editing, and internal planning meetings.

Client: Edaw/AECOM, and Invenergy Wind California, LLC, April to late May, 2010

***Manzanita Wind Energy Project, Eastern San Diego County, California.*** Conducted focused surveys for the federally Endangered Quino checkerspot butterfly on a 1,297-acre project site within the Manzanita Band of Mission Indians Reservation. As one of 22 federally-permitted biologists, Mr Couffer located over one quarter of all Quino found during the surveys of this project site. Mr. Couffer also incidentally located special status bird, reptile, and plant species.

Client: Edaw/AECOM, and Sempra Energy/San Diego Gas & Electric Co., April to late May, 2010

***Cleveland National Forest Surveys, Eastern San Diego County, California.*** Responsible for surveying 13 miles of existing overhead utility alignment for the exceedingly rare Hermes copper butterfly. Mr Couffer made 47 Hermes copper observations on the project site as well as other special status bird, reptile, and plant species. Other Hermes coppers at a personally-located high-elevation reference population on public land was also periodically visited to keep track of Hermes copper flight status near a portion of a given survey alignment.

Client: Chambers Group, Inc., and Sempra Energy/San Diego Gas & Electric Co., late May to July, 2010

***Falcon Ridge Sub-station, City of Fontana, San Bernardino County, California.*** Conducted focused surveys for the western burrowing owl along 9 miles of existing overhead utility alignment and several planned sub-stations.

Client: BonTerra Consulting, and Sempra Energy/San Diego Gas & Electric Company, July, 2010

***Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project, Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino Counties.*** Conducted Clearance Surveys and Biological Monitoring during geotechnical investigations at 103 planned transmission tower locations along five segments of this alignment. Located special status species such as California gnatcatcher and burrowing owl and monitored special status wildlife behavior during adjacent drilling operations. Work was undertaken for Southern California Edison Company between August 2009 and April 2010.

## 2009 Projects

***Southern California Edison Company, Western Riverside County.*** Conducted protocol-level western burrowing owl surveys along 18 miles of utility alignment during the burrowing owl breeding season of 2009. Located the burrowing owl during the surveys.

Client: Sempra Energy/San Diego Gas and Electric Company, 2009

***Imperial Irrigation District, Imperial Valley, Imperial County.*** Team member participating in Baseline Surveys for Imperial Irrigation District's Draft Habitat Conservation Plan. Focused presence/absence surveys for special status wildlife species were conducted within fixed "Sentinel Sites" (visited annually) and "Rotating Panels" (1/3 of sites visited each year) within a 135,000-acre study area. Work included surveys for flat-tailed horned lizard, special status bird species within agricultural drains and surrounding desert, trapping for Andrew's dune scarab beetle and Yuma hispid cotton rat. Work was contracted through EcoSystems Restoration Associates/AECOM during 2009.

Client: EcoSystems Restoration Associates /AECOM/Imperial Irrigation District, 2009

## 2008 Projects

***Sunrise Powerlink Utility Line, San Diego County.*** Conducted habitat assessments and presence/absence surveys for the federally-Endangered Quino checkerspot butterfly, and the exceedingly rare Hermes copper butterfly along 15 miles of two proposed utility alignments near Alpine and the Anza Borrego Desert State Preserve. Located 54 butterfly species onsite.

Client: Sempra Energy/San Diego Gas and Electric Company, March to July, 2008

***Sunrise Powerlink Utility Line, San Diego County.*** Conducted a habitat assessment and presence/absence surveys for the exceedingly rare Hermes copper butterfly along 5 1/2 miles of two proposed utility alignments near Alpine. Located 33 butterfly species, including Hermes copper, on the project site. Also conducted habitat assessments and focused presence/absence surveys for the federally-Endangered Quino checkerspot butterfly along 15 miles of this utility alignment and another in the vicinity of Alpine and the Anza Borrego Desert State Preserve.

Client: Sempra Energy/San Diego Gas and Electric Company, March to July, 2008

***Sunrise Powerlink Utility Line, Eastern San Diego County.*** Conducted habitat assessments and presence/absence butterfly surveys for the federally-endangered Quino checkerspot butterfly and the exceedingly rare Hermes copper butterfly along 15 miles of two proposed utility alignments for Sempra Energy/San Diego Gas and Electric Company from March to July of 2008. Identified 64 butterfly species, including Hermes copper.

***1800-Acre Tesoro del Valle, Santa Clarita, Los Angeles County.*** Conducted focused surveys for the California gnatcatcher during 1997, 2005, and 2008. Conducted gnatcatcher surveys, general surveys for sensitive wildlife, and surveys for nesting raptors. Assisted with special



status plant surveys during 2005. Conducted site-wide burrowing owl assessment and burrow survey during 2007 within this project site located near the City of Santa Clarita.

Client: Evans-Collins Community Builders, 1997, 2000, 2005, 2007, 2008

**520-Acre Bouquet Canyon Site, Santa Clarita, Los Angeles County.** Conducted unassisted focused burrowing owl surveys during 2008. Conducted unassisted focused surveys for the California gnatcatcher during 1999 and 2005. Assisted with rare plant surveys during 2005.

Client: Bouquet Canyon Land Fund, LLC., 1999, 2005, 2008

**417-Acre Adelanto Gateway Site, Adelanto, San Bernardino County.** Conducted unassisted preconstruction clearance surveys for the desert tortoise, western burrowing owl, and nesting birds prior to vegetation removal. Monitored vegetation removal in order to preserve Joshua trees and nesting birds during the bird nesting season.

Client: RBF Consulting, 2008

## 2007 Projects

**1,330-Acre Northlake Specific Plan Project Site, Castaic, Unincorporated Los Angeles County.** Principal Biological Field Consultant and Biological Monitor during vegetation removal operations covering several hundred acres within Grasshopper Canyon and adjacent slopes. Located a previously undocumented population of burrowing owls during the monitoring process. Conducted additional burrow surveys and monitoring of active and previously-occupied burrows to determine whether or not this wintering population remained onsite to breed. These breeding season surveys are currently ongoing. Conducted nesting loggerhead shrike and nesting raptor surveys. Consulted on equipment deployment so as to avoid special status or protected resources such as burrowing owls. Assisted contractors in avoiding breaches of resource agency permit stipulations while assisting construction to proceed.

Client: SunCal Companies, 2007

**600-Acre Montebello Hills Oil Field, City of Montebello, Los Angeles County.** Biological field consultant and monitor assisting in the conversion of a 600-acre oil field to modern production. Advised field crews on avoiding direct take of coastal California gnatcatchers and coastal sage scrub during the gnatcatcher breeding season. Conducted California gnatcatcher surveys and located and monitored nests to ensure that crews avoided nesting areas. Created educational slide shows designed to assist management and field crews in understanding environmental concerns and in avoiding and minimizing impacts to sensitive resources. Monitored crews clearing weeds and trimming trees for fire protection near sensitive habitat, marked several hundred electrical poles either to be weeded or avoided during the gnatcatcher breeding season, consulted with field crews on avoiding nests, surveyed proposed oil pumping unit sites for nesting gnatcatchers, and consulted on pipe routing to avoid and minimize damage to coastal sage scrub. Mapped road margins to be edged during the breeding season and warned of road margins to avoid due to proximity to gnatcatcher nests. Met with electricians and city fire officials to discuss fire prevention and avoid loss of gnatcatchers due to fire. Surveyed for nesting gnatcatchers near oil pads proposed to be returned to production. Monitored the removal of 1200 non-native trees using an excavator within and adjacent to

coastal sage scrub habitat occupied by the California gnatcatcher as a part of native habitat restoration activities.

Clients: Stocker Resources, Incorporated, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2001  
Plains Exploration and Production Company 2007

**996-Acre Former Whittaker-Bermite Facility, Los Angeles County.** Conducted focused presence/absence surveys for the California gnatcatcher, burrowing owl, special-status plant species, and nesting birds within portions of this former munitions and explosives manufacturing facility. Also conducted focused surveys for burrowing owls across the entire project site. Monitored heavy equipment and teams of hand laborers during vegetation removal. Assisted in planning soil excavation to avoid disturbing special status resources and jurisdictional drainages. Conducted biological monitoring during vegetation grubbing prior to excavation of contaminated soil. Captured and relocated western spadefoot toads during vegetation grubbing. Assisted with vegetation mapping, flagged special status plants and habitat patches for avoidance, and evaluated the site for potential biological constraints to development. Currently on call for biological surveys and construction monitoring.

Client: Camp Dresser and McKee, 2005 to 2007

**240-Acre Skyline Drive Project Site, Los Angeles County.** Conducted focused presence/absence surveys for the California gnatcatcher across 240 acres of this project site in Santa Clarita.

Client: Pardee Homes, 2007

**550-Acre Walnut Village, City of Walnut, Los Angeles County.** Mapped vegetation, and conducted focused presence/absence surveys for California gnatcatchers. Located a previously-unknown gnatcatcher population after previous surveys had not located gnatcatchers. Planned and implemented a vegetation clearing strategy on a 550-acre site designed to avoid direct take of California gnatcatchers in accordance with resource agency permits. Orchestrated the movement of heavy equipment and laborers across the site to minimize wildlife losses by herding wildlife into appropriate onsite preserve areas and offsite habitat. Directed heavy equipment, located and monitored California gnatcatchers, and protected the boundaries of designated preserves during heavy equipment operation. Consulted onsite with resource agency personnel.

Client: Standard Pacific Homes, 1998, 2002, 2003, 2007

**548-Acre Five Bridges Specific Plan Project Site, City of Beaumont, Western Riverside County.** Conducted unassisted focused presence/absence surveys for the burrowing owl across the entire project site. Surveys were conducted in accordance with the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) guidelines. Located evidence of previous occupation by the burrowing owl.

Client: Lennar Communities, 2007

**996-Acre Former Whittaker-Bermite Facility, Los Angeles County.** Conducted focused presence/absence surveys for the burrowing owl within 132-acres of this former munitions and explosives manufacturing facility. Located evidence of past occupation by the burrowing owl. Currently on call for biological surveys and construction monitoring.

Client: Camp Dresser and McKee, and SunCal Companies, 2007

**226-Acre City of Santa Clarita Site, and 20 Acre Via Princessa Roadway Extension, Los Angeles County.** Conducted an assessment for the burrowing owl on a 226-acre site as well as a 20-acre roadway extension in the City of Santa Clarita.

Client: SunCal Companies, 2007

**1,167-Acre Tapia Canyon Project Site, Los Angeles County.** Conducted a habitat assessment and burrow survey for the burrowing owl within potentially-occupied habitat across a project site near the city of Santa Clarita.

Client: Toll Brothers, 2007

## 2006 Projects

**1,530 Acre Prima Deshecha Landfill, South Orange County.** Conducted unassisted site-wide focused presence/absence surveys for the California gnatcatcher on this 1,530-acre site. Site-wide surveys were conducted annually from 2003 to 2006.

Client: County of Orange, Integrated Waste Management Department, 2003 to 2006

**Talega Development, San Clemente, Orange County.** Conducted focused surveys for the California gnatcatcher on the 3,510-acre Talega Development. Conducted pre-construction surveys for gnatcatchers. Conducted surveys for and monitored gnatcatchers during weed removal prior to, during, and upon completion of the installation of 130 acres of restored native coastal sage scrub habitat. Conducted biological constraints analyses for various onsite projects prior to construction. Staked coastal sage scrub habitat for surveyors to determine specific habitat acreage. Consulted on and monitored the removal of weedy vegetation with sensitive coastal sage scrub habitat. Monitored gnatcatchers adjacent to construction. Located nesting gnatcatchers within restored habitat.

Client: Standard Pacific & Talega Associates LLC, 1999 to 2006

**Foothill Transportation Corridor South, Orange County.** Conducted focused presence/absence surveys for coastal California gnatcatchers along various proposed alignments. Consulted on geotechnical boring site locations adjacent to sensitive habitats, and monitored geotechnical operations along proposed alignments.

Client: Transportation Corridor Agencies, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2006



**300 Acres East of Perris, Western Riverside County.** Conducted a Habitat Assessment, focused Burrow Surveys, and focused Crepuscular Surveys for the burrowing owl in accordance with the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) guidelines. Located several previously-occupied owl burrows onsite.

Client: Laing-Sequoia Partners, LLC, 2006

**220-Acre McCanna Village 1, Western Riverside County.** Conducted a Habitat Assessment, focused Burrow Surveys, and focused Crepuscular Surveys for the burrowing owl in accordance with the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) guidelines. Located previously-occupied owl burrows onsite.

Client: Laing-Sequoia Partners, LLC, 2006

**228-Acre Park Place, City of Ontario, Western Riverside County.** Conducted a Habitat Assessment, focused Burrow Surveys, and focused Crepuscular Surveys for the burrowing owl on this project site in accordance with the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) guidelines. Located several burrowing owls onsite.

Client: RBF Consulting, 2006

**120-Acre McCanna Village 5, Western Riverside County.** Conducted a Habitat Assessment, focused Burrow Surveys, and focused Crepuscular Surveys for the burrowing owl in accordance with the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) guidelines. Located a previously-occupied owl burrow onsite.

Client: Laing-Sequoia Partners, LLC, 2006

**66-Acre Lake Nuevo Village, Western Riverside County.** Conducted a Habitat Assessment, focused Burrow Surveys, and focused Crepuscular Surveys for the burrowing owl in accordance with the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) guidelines. Located a previously-occupied owl burrow onsite.

Client: Laing-Sequoia Partners, LLC, 2005, 2006

**Interstate 10 and Jefferson Interchange Project, City of Indio, Riverside County.** Conducted surveys for Coachella Valley round-tailed ground squirrel burrows, and burrowing owls on this interchange project. Located nesting burrowing owls on the project site.

Client: RBF Consulting, 2006

**Interstate 10 and Jefferson Interchange Project, City of Indio, Riverside County.** Conducted surveys for Coachella Valley round-tailed ground squirrels, and burrowing owls. Located nesting burrowing owls on the project site.

Client: RBF Consulting, 2006

**32-Acre Deer Canyon Project, Orange County.** Conducted onsite biological monitoring and focused surveys related to the California gnatcatcher during geotechnical investigations prior to development.

Client: Stonegate Development Company, LLC, 2004, 2005, 2006

## 2005 Projects

***Rich Haven and West Haven Specific Plans, Ontario, San Bernardino County.*** Conducted unassisted focused presence/absence surveys for burrowing owls on 720 acres in the City of Ontario. Located a burrowing owl colony, and several other separate pairs.

Client: RBF Consulting, 2005

***16 Debris Basins, Los Angeles County.*** Conducted focused surveys for the California gnatcatcher at 16 debris basins within Los Angeles County.

Client: County of Los Angeles, Department of Public Works, 2005

***Crown Valley Parkway Bridge Widening Project, Orange County.*** Team member participating in various biological monitoring tasks. Conducted focused surveys for and monitored the breeding status of California gnatcatchers prior to and during construction. Conducted focused surveys for nesting owls within the interior of the 800-foot-long concrete bridge, as well as surveys for other nesting birds within a buffer zone surrounding the bridge in order to assist the county in complying with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Coordinated with noise monitoring consultants. Field consultant on issues relating to resource agency permits.

Client: County of Orange, 1999, 2004, 2005

Client: County of Orange, 1999, 2004, 2005

***Weir Canyon Road and La Palma Avenue Intersection, City of Anaheim, Orange County.*** Located the federally Threatened California gnatcatcher during focused surveys for the species adjacent to a road intersection to be upgraded.

Client: City of Anaheim, 2005

***186-Acre Burnam Site, Santa Clarita, Los Angeles County.*** Conducted focused presence/absence surveys for the gnatcatcher on a 186-acre site in San Francisquito Canyon, north of the City of Santa Clarita.

Client: SunCal Companies, 2004, 2005

***790-Acre Tonner Hills Site, Brea, Orange County.*** Assisted ECORP Consulting biologists with focused California gnatcatcher surveys on this oil field.

Client: Plains Exploration and Production, 2005

***Cao Property, Western Riverside County.*** Conducted a Habitat Assessment, focused Burrow Surveys, and focused Crepuscular Surveys for the burrowing owl in accordance with the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) guidelines on a 38-acre site in Meade Valley in accordance with Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) guidelines. Located the species onsite.

Client: Cadre Environmental Services, 2005

**70-Acre Winchester Site, Western Riverside County.** Conducted a Habitat Assessment, focused Burrow Surveys, and focused Crepuscular Surveys for the burrowing owl in accordance with the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) guidelines. Subsequently conducted a pre-construction survey prior to the initiation of construction.

Client: Griffin Communities and Stonegate Development Company, 2005

**Sun City, Western Riverside County.** Conducted a Habitat Assessment, focused Burrow Surveys, and focused Crepuscular Surveys for the burrowing owl in accordance with the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) guidelines on this 10-acre site. Located the species onsite.

Client: Signature Realty Capital Corporation, 2005

**26-Acre Mira Loma Site, Western Riverside County.** Conducted a Habitat Assessment, focused Burrow Surveys, and focused Crepuscular Surveys for the burrowing owl in accordance with the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) guidelines.

Client: Lyon Homes, 2005

**52-Acre Edgemont Community Services District Property, Western Riverside County.** Conducted a biological constraints analysis and subsequent burrowing owl Habitat Assessment, focused Burrow Surveys, and focused Crepuscular Surveys in accordance with the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) guidelines.

Client: Trammel Crow Company, 2004, 2005

**Native Habitat Restoration Monitoring, Orange and Los Angeles Counties.** Located the federally Threatened California gnatcatcher within restored coastal sage scrub on seven native habitat restoration sites managed by BonTerra Consulting within Orange and Los Angeles counties.

Client: Various clients, 2005

**Upper Chiquita Reservoir Project, Orange County.** Conducted onsite biological monitoring and focused surveys related to the California gnatcatcher during geotechnical investigations for the design of an open water storage reservoir. Coordinated onsite with geologists to route equipment so as to avoid and minimize disturbance to special status resources in compliance with agency permits. Assessed impacts to special status vegetation occupied by the gnatcatcher, in accordance with agency permits. This project is ongoing.

Client: Santa Margarita Water District (SMWD), 2005

## Other Projects

**900-Acre Preissman Property, Perris, Western Riverside County.** Conducted unassisted focused surveys for the California gnatcatcher on this 900-acre site prior to implementation of



the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan. Also mapped vegetation and conducted focused surveys for the burrowing owl.

Client: Liang-Sequoia, LLC, 2004

**800-Acre Shell Oil/Aera Energy, LLP oil field conversion, Orange County.** Biological field consultant and monitor tasked to ensure that field crews converting an 800-acre oil field to a golf course and residential development over the span of several years proceeded according to a Habitat Conservation Plan and U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service permit written for this specific project site; the project proponents were to avoid directly harming the federally-Threatened coastal California gnatcatcher. Created slide show training sessions designed to assist management, field crews, and geologists in understanding environmental concerns on the project site and in avoiding and minimizing impacts to the California gnatcatcher and its habitat. Collected information on the changing nesting status of 20 gnatcatcher pairs to help crews avoid nests. Planned and implemented a vegetation clearing strategy designed to avoid direct take of California gnatcatchers in accordance with the project's Habitat Conservation Plan and U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service permit. Orchestrated the movement of heavy equipment and laborers across the site to minimize wildlife losses by herding wildlife into appropriate off-site habitat. Supervised and assisted up to five biological monitors directing equipment, monitoring wildlife, and protecting staked open space and property boundaries during three separate phases of the development spanning several years.

Client: Shell Oil/Aera Energy, LLP, and Toll Brothers, LLP, 1996 through 2001

**Capistrano Valley Water District South Connector Pipeline, San Juan Capistrano, Orange County.** Principal biological monitor for the Capistrano Valley Water District South Connector Pipeline Project. Duties included management of field issues relating to 14 pairs of California gnatcatchers within 500 feet of the pipeline, encompassing 500 linear acres. Conducted focused gnatcatcher surveys, gnatcatcher nest searches and nest monitoring. Assisted contractors in avoiding breaches of resource agency permit stipulations, monitored geotechnical operations, coordinated construction noise monitoring consultants, assisted contractors in avoiding nesting gnatcatchers, special status plant species, nesting raptors, and special status habitat. Monitored construction on a daily basis, and consulted with contractors on avoiding special status resources while assisting construction to proceed.

Client: Capistrano Valley Water District, 2002, 2003

**790-Acre Roripaugh Ranch, Western Riverside County.** Conducted unassisted focused presence/absence surveys for coastal California gnatcatchers and Quino checkerspot butterflies on the 790-acre Roripaugh Ranch project site. Located both species on the project site. The resulting report was included in a multiple species subarea habitat conservation plan covering the project site.

Client: Hewitt & McGuire, LLP, 1999, 2000

**1200-Acre Johnson Ranch, Western Riverside County.** Conducted focused surveys for California gnatcatchers and Quino checkerspot butterflies. Documented a previously-unknown metapopulation of Quino. The information was included in the western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan; the site was purchased and set aside as a reserve.

Client: Hewitt & McGuire, LLP, 1996, 1998

**900-Acre Forster Ranch, Orange County.** Co-investigator conducting focused presence/absence surveys for California gnatcatchers and the state-Endangered threadleaf brodiaea plant on the 900-acre Forster Ranch site in San Clemente, Orange County. Located and mapped gnatcatchers and brodiaea patches. Hand-collected over a thousand brodiaea bulbs for storage and transplanting. Planned and implemented a vegetation clearing strategy designed to avoid direct take of California gnatcatchers in accordance with the project's Habitat Conservation Plan and U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service permit. Orchestrated the movement of heavy equipment and laborers across the site to minimize wildlife losses by herding wildlife into appropriate off-site habitat. Supervised and assisted up to five biological monitors directing equipment, monitoring wildlife, and protecting staked open space and property boundaries.

Client: Laing Forster Ranch, 1997, 1998, 2000

**157-Acre Obed Project Site, City of Murrieta, Western Riverside County.** Conducted focused presence/absence survey for the Quino checkerspot butterfly on the controversial 157-acre "Obed" project site. Located the species onsite. My discovery of Quino on this site was the impetus for the USFWS to open the 1999 Quino flight season for presence/absence surveys in western Riverside County.

Client: Hewitt & McGuire, LLP, 1999

**2700-Acre Laborde Canyon Proposed Development Site, Western Riverside County.** Assisted with vegetation community mapping and California gnatcatcher habitat assessment and sensitive species surveys.

Client: Douglas Wood and Associates, 1995

**150-Acre Whittlesey Doyle Site, Western Riverside County.** Conducted a habitat assessment for the Quino checkerspot butterfly on a site in the City of Temecula. Located a previously unknown metapopulation of Quino during the assessment.

Client: Natural Resource Consultants, 1998

**900-Acre Preissman Property, Perris, Western Riverside County.** Conducted unassisted focused surveys for the burrowing owl on this 900-acre site prior to implementation of the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan. Also conducted focused surveys for the California gnatcatcher, and mapped vegetation. Located a previously-occupied burrow onsite.

Client: Liang-Sequoia, LLC, 2004

**8,200-Acre Ontario Sphere of Influence, City of Ontario, San Bernardino County.** Surveyed the 8,200 acre Ontario Sphere of Influence to provide information about the potential of trees and wind rows to afford opportunities for raptor nesting during 1998. Located burrowing owls within the project area.

Client: City of Ontario, 1998

**Los Angeles County, Department of Public Works Earthen-bottom Improved Channels project.** Field consultant for the Los Angeles County, Department of Public Works' Routine Maintenance Activities in Earthen-bottom Improved Channels project. Assisted County field crews in complying with documentation relating to preservation of native riparian vegetation within Los Angeles County-maintained flood control channels. Crews were to remove non-native vegetation without damaging native riparian vegetation.

Client: Los Angeles County, Department of Public Works, 2000, 2004

**Santa Ana River Sewer Line, Orange County.** Biological Monitor assisting contractors constructing roads through riparian habitat supporting Threatened and Endangered bird and fish species during maintenance on 19 manholes accessing a sewer line Beneath the Santa Ana River bed. Routes were chosen to minimize damage to special status resources.

Client: County of Orange, Department of Sanitation, 2001

**300 Acres in Yorba Linda, Orange County.** Conducted focused surveys for the California gnatcatcher prior to and during resource permitting for two adjacent sites totaling 300 acres. Planned and implemented a vegetation clearing strategy designed to avoid direct take of gnatcatchers in accordance with resource agency permits. Orchestrated the movement of heavy equipment and hand laborers across the site to minimize wildlife losses by herding wildlife into appropriate onsite preserve areas and offsite habitat. Directed heavy equipment, located and monitored gnatcatchers, trained and managed biological monitors, and protected designated preserved habitat and property boundaries during heavy equipment operations.

Client: Shapell Industries, 1996, 2000, 2002 through 2004

**U.S. Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, San Diego County.** Specialist Biological Monitor assisting field maintenance crews in avoiding impacts to the federally Endangered Pacific pocket mouse during maintenance activities along transmission lines located within the most densely-occupied habitat currently known for the species.

Client: Sempra Energy/San Diego Gas & Electric Co., 2001, 2002

**Dana Point Headlands, Orange County.** Specialist hired to assist the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service trap for the federally-endangered Pacific pocket mouse. Photo-documented occupied habitat, trapping procedures, and tagging of pocket mice.

Clients: Conservation Biology Institute and U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2001

**Tijuana Estuary Pacific Pocket Mouse Trapping Survey, San Diego County.** Co-investigator hired by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service to trap for the Pacific pocket mouse in the Tijuana Estuary National Wildlife Reserve, in San Diego County during 1995.



Client: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1995

***Eagle Mountain Landfill and Adjacent Desert, edge of Joshua Tree National Park, Riverside County - Desert Tortoise Survey.*** Conducted unassisted focused surveys for nesting ravens within the closed Eagle Mountain mine, the town of Eagle Mountain, along the Eagle Mountain Railroad, and in the surrounding desert as part of a study of desert tortoises. The survey was carried out unassisted in remote areas, and covered approximately 20,000 acres. Assisted biologists permitted to handle the desert tortoise in locating occupied tortoise burrows prior to attaching radio telemetry to investigate tortoise home ranges during 1993. Assisted with focused desert tortoise surveys.

Client: RECON Environmental, 1993

***U.S. Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, San Diego County.*** Volunteer periodically assisting the USFWS on an annual basis during mark and recapture trapping studies of the Pacific pocket mouse on USMCB Camp Pendleton from the year the species was discovered onsite in 1994 to 2004.

---

---

---

# LEATHERMAN BIOCONSULTING, INC.



*Biological Surveys, Management & Monitoring*

## SANDRA LEATHERMAN PRINCIPAL BIOLOGIST

### **EDUCATION**

**California State University, Fullerton, California**

Bachelor of Arts, Biological Science, 1991.

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Leatherman BioConsulting, Inc. 2011– present; BonTerra Consulting 1998-2011; P&D Consultants 1993-1998; MBA 1992-1993; USFS Stanislaus 1991.** Primarily responsible for biological surveys, report preparation, project management, and agency coordination. Specialties include habitat assessments, general vegetation documentation, vegetation mapping, focused surveys for endangered species, restoration plan development, restoration monitoring, and construction and mitigation compliance monitoring. Prepares biological technical reports to document field work and propose mitigation strategies to meet requirements of CEQA and NEPA, and to initiate formal consultation under the federal Endangered Species Act. Also prepares Habitat Mitigation Plans.

### **MEMBERSHIPS**

- Southern California Botanists (Past President)
- California Native Plant Society
- California Botanical Society
- Society of Ecological Restoration
- California Native Grasslands Association
- California Invasive Plant Council
- The Desert Tortoise Council

### **PERMITS AND CERTIFICATIONS**

- CDFG Rare, Threatened and Endangered Plant Voucher Collecting Permit (No. 06022)

### **SEMINARS AND SPECIALIZED TRAINING**

- Southern California Botanists Symposiums Annually 1991-2012
- California Native Plant Society Conservation Conference January 2012
- 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Desert Tortoise Surveying, Monitoring, and Handling Techniques Workshop. The Desert Tortoise Council. Ridgecrest, California. November 2011.
- California Native Plant Society Conservation Conference November 2009
- SERCAL's 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference "Restoration from Sea to Shining Sea" October 2007
- SERCAL's 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference "Shovel to Science: A Full Range of Restoration Practice in California" October 2006

Sandra Leatherman

# LEATHERMAN BIOCONSULTING, INC.



*Biological Surveys, Management & Monitoring*

- California Exotic Pest Plant Council Symposium October 1998
- California Exotic Pest Plant Council Symposium October 1995

## **GENERAL EXPERIENCE**

Sandra Leatherman has twenty years of experience as a professional biologist conducting general biological surveys, focused special status plant surveys, vegetation mapping, and preparing biological reports and biological resources sections for environmental documents. Ms. Leatherman's professional experience has focused on plant ecology and taxonomy. She has conducted and/or managed both general and directed surveys for biological resources, including plants listed as special status or endangered under State and federal laws and regulations. She has been responsible for developing habitat restoration programs and evaluating restoration site conditions on a quantitative and qualitative basis for public-sector and private-sector clients throughout southern California. Ms. Leatherman has developed and monitored numerous restoration projects, six of which were approved by the resource agencies and released from further maintenance and monitoring. Ms. Leatherman has also authored the biological resources sections of numerous environmental impact reports (EIRs) and separate biological reports, including biological assessments (pursuant to Section 7 consultations with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service [USFWS]), Natural Environmental Studies (pursuant to California Department of Transportation [Caltrans] guidelines), and reports in accordance with NCCP guidelines (e.g. Western Riverside MSHSP). She has also authored focused survey reports for special status species, tree reports, and general biological assessments.

## **REPRESENTATIVE PROJECT EXPERIENCE**

### **Project Management/General Biological/Botanical**

#### **Santa Anita Dam, Los Angeles County, BonTerra Consulting for County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works**

Served as lead botanist for the Santa Anita Dam Proposition 1E Stormwater Management and Seismic Strengthening Project in Arcadia in Los Angeles. Performed vegetation mapping and focused surveys for special status plant species. These studies included preparation of detailed field notes, California Natural Diversity Data Base data forms, mapping population locations, collecting voucher specimens, and related analyses. Responsibilities also included: preparation of detailed special status species report, which included a complete plant list, and preparation of the vegetation descriptions for the Biological Technical report.

#### **On-Call Biological Services, Biological Technical Reports/Biological Constraints Reports/Focused Surveys/Endangered Species Permitting, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, BonTerra Consulting**

Served as the Botanist for an on-call biological services contract with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (LADPW). Mapped vegetation of approximately 30 detention basins and conducted focused surveys for numerous others. Conducted focused surveys for

Sandra Leatherman



# LEATHERMAN BIOCONSULTING, INC.



*Biological Surveys, Management & Monitoring*

Brauton's milk-vetch, slender-horned spineflower, and Nevin's barberry. Prepared detailed field notes and California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) data forms; mapped population locations; collected voucher specimens; and performed other related analyses. Also prepared a detailed Special status species report and vegetation descriptions, and attended several meetings with the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG). In addition transects were conducted for post and pre-clearing transects for the Los Angeles River and San Gabriel River. This included supervising field crews, data collection and compilation.

## **Big Tujunga Reservoir Sediment, Los Angeles County, California, BonTerra Consulting**

Served as a botanist on the Big Tujunga Reservoir Sediment project site in Los Angeles County. Performed focused surveys for numerous special status plant species. Prepared detailed field notes and California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) data forms; mapped population locations; collected voucher specimens; and performed other related analyses for these studies.

## **Saugus Split Edison Transmission Line, Los Angeles County, California, BonTerra Consulting**

Served as the lead botanist for the Saugus Split Line project in Los Angeles County. Performed vegetation mapping and focused surveys for special status plant species. These studies included preparation of detailed field notes, California Natural Diversity Data Base data forms, mapping population locations, collecting voucher specimens, and related analyses. Responsibilities also included: preparation of detailed special status species report, which included a complete plant list.

## **Tehachapi Renewal Transmission Project, California, BonTerra Consulting**

Served as a botanist on the Tehachapi Renewal Transmission Project. Performed focused surveys for numerous special status plant species. Prepared detailed field notes and California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) data forms; mapped population locations; collected voucher specimens; and performed other related analyses for these studies.

## **Whittier Narrows Master Plan, Los Angeles County, California, BonTerra Consulting**

Served as lead biologist for the development of the Whittier Narrows Master Plan. Conducted vegetation mapping and assessed the habitats for the revegetation potential. Worked with GIS to develop high and low priority areas for revegetation. Suggested plant palettes and recommendations for restored habitats. Also developed a detailed plant list for the area.

## **South Fork Lytle Creek Bridge Construction, San Bernardino County, County of San Bernardino**

Served as the lead monitor for the biological monitors for the South Fork of Lytle Creek Bridge Construction in San Bernardino County for the protection of the Santa Ana Sucker. Organized monitors for the job, inspected the job site to ensure compliance with California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Regional Water Quality Board. Also conducted meetings with CDFG, County of San Bernardino and on site construction crews.

# LEATHERMAN BIOCONSULTING, INC.



*Biological Surveys, Management & Monitoring*

## **Seven Oaks Dam Fish Salvage, San Bernardino County, California, Aspen Environmental Group**

Served as biologist assisting in salvage of the Santa Ana Sucker with permitted fisheries biologists under the existing agreement with resource agencies.

## **San Diego County Water Authority and Desalinization Plant and Pipelines, San Diego County, BonTerra Consulting**

Served as project manager and lead botanist for the San Diego County Water Authority and Desalinization Plant and Pipelines. Organized field biologists and vegetation mapped several miles of pipeline. Responsibilities also included: compiling and editing the final Biological Technical Report for inclusion in the EIR.

## **Dayton Canyon EIR, Los Angeles County, BonTerra Consulting**

Served as the lead botanist for a approximately 250 acre parcel in Dayton Canyon. Performed focused surveys for Plummer's mariposa lily, slender mariposa lily, and Braunton's milk-vetch. These studies included preparation of detailed field notes, California Natural Diversity Data Base data forms, mapping population locations, collecting voucher specimens, and related analyses. Responsibilities also included: preparation of detailed special status species report, which included mitigation recommendations and a complete plant list, and coordination with USFWS following the finding of the endangered Braunton's milk-vetch.

## **Bouquet Canyon, Los Angeles County, BonTerra Consulting**

Served as the lead botanist for the approximately 400 acre Bouquet Canyon development. Mapped the vegetation on the project site and performed focused surveys for Plummer's mariposa lily, slender mariposa lily, and San Fernando Valley spineflower. These studies included preparation of detailed field notes, California Natural Diversity Data Base data forms, mapping population locations, collecting voucher specimens, and related analyses. Responsibilities also included: preparation of detailed special status species report, which included mitigation recommendations, a complete plant list, and a Biological Technical Report for the EIR.

## **Pathfinder Road Gap Closure, Los Angeles County, BonTerra Consulting**

Served as the lead botanist for the Pathfinder Road Gap project in Los Angeles County and performed focused surveys for special status plant species. Prepared detailed field notes and California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) data forms; mapped population locations; collected voucher specimens; and performed other related analyses. Responsibilities also included: preparation of a detailed special status species report, which includes a complete plant list.

## **Tesoro del Valle Environmental Impact Report, Los Angeles County, BonTerra Consulting**

Served as a Botanist for the Tesoro del Valle pre-construction surveys. Performed focused surveys for slender mariposa lily and Nevin's barberry. Prepared detailed field notes and California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) data forms; mapped population locations; assisted in the preparation of the Habitat Mitigation Monitoring Program (HMMP); collected

Sandra Leatherman

# LEATHERMAN BIOCONSULTING, INC.



*Biological Surveys, Management & Monitoring*

voucher specimens; and performed other related analyses. Prepared a detailed Special Status Species Report, which included mitigation recommendations and a complete plant list.

## **Interstate 5/State Route 126 Interchange, State Route 126/Commercial Center Drive Interchange and Interstate 5/Hasley Canyon Road Interchange, Los Angeles County, BonTerra Consulting**

Served as the lead botanist for the Interstate 5/State Route 126, State Route 126/Commerce Center Drive, and Interstate 5/Hasley Canyon Road infrastructure improvement projects in Santa Clarita. Mapped vegetation and completed detailed plant lists for this project, and Natural Environment Studies (NESs) were prepared for two of these three projects.

## **Northlake Specific Plan for Northlake Development, Los Angeles County, BonTerra Consulting**

Served as the lead botanist for the Northlake Specific Plan project site. Conducted general plant and vegetation mapping of the approximate 2,115 acres of open space in Grasshopper Canyon adjacent to Castaic Lake. Coordinated focused survey efforts on the project site and focused plant surveys for three years. A Biological Technical Report was prepared for the project.

## **Restoration Mitigation and Monitoring**

### **Peninsula Point Tract #45667 for Vintage Communities, Los Angeles County, BonTerra Consulting**

Served as the project manager and biologist for the Peninsula Point coastal sage scrub reference site in Los Angeles County. Responsibilities included: a quantitative evaluation of plant growth performance, data compilation, the development of remedial maintenance measures, and a revised conceptual planting plan. Quantitative monitoring included line intercept transects and seeding count. Conducted field meetings with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).

**Crown Valley Parkway Widening Project for Rancho Mission Viejo, Orange County, BonTerra Consulting** Served as the project manager and lead biologist for the Crown Valley Parkway riparian habitat mitigation site. Conducted qualitative assessments of overall site conditions and quantitative measurements of plant growth performance (including line intercept transects and tree survivability assessments). Conducted meetings with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) for the project.

### **Pipeline C-1666 and C-1669 Biological Services, Orange County, BonTerra Consulting**

Served as the project manager and lead biologist for the Santa Margarita Water District's C-1669 and C-1669 pipeline project in Las Flores, Orange County. Prepared documentation for a 4(d) Permit and a Habitat Mitigation Monitoring Plan for the construction of the pipelines. Conducted field meetings with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) and the County of Orange, and prepared a construction monitoring program for compliance with a Streambed Alteration Agreement.



Brief resume of key persons, specialists, and individual consultants anticipated for this project

# MICHAEL R. SAN MIGUEL

Ornithologist · Wildlife Biologist

Field biologist for Biological Resources Assessment and Monitoring for 95 Stream Channels throughout Los Angeles County, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works. BonTerra Consulting conducted an evaluation of the biological resources in the natural bottom stream channels to determine the presence of riparian or other sensitive resources in preparation for clearing of vegetation to increase channel capacity for anticipated El Nino storms in winter 1997-1998. Requirements of permits issued to the County of Los Angeles by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) dictated that non-sensitive and invasive species (e.g., Arundo) be considered the key priority for vegetation removal. Sensitive habitat areas that had to be removed to insure adequate channel capacity were mapped in the field to document acres of habitat lost and to set the stage for development of post-clearing mitigation programs (allowed by the USACE and CDFG permits). Impending winter storms required accelerated responses from BonTerra Consulting biologists and overtime/weekend work shifts starting in late October 1997 and continuing through early December. All work requirements were met, and vegetation clearing was completed prior to the onset of the winter storm period. Subsequent to vegetation clearing, BonTerra field-verified habitat maps that were prepared on CADD to document the remaining vegetation in the channels.

Conducted avian surveys in the Puente and Chino Hills, Los Angeles County, to determine the breeding status for the University of California at Riverside.

## EDUCATION/EXPERIENCE

1968 B.S. ENGINEERING

3 YEARS EXPERIENCE  
BONTERRA CONSULTING

25 YEARS EXPERIENCE  
OTHER FIRMS

## ACTIVE REGISTRATION

1989

REGISTERED ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSOR I, (CA REGISTRATION NO. 00988)

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Certification (Permit # TE-931910-1) allowing focused surveys of California Gnatcatcher, Southwestern Willow Flycatcher, and Least Bell's Vireo

1966

US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE, MASTER BIRD BANDING PERMIT, (NO. 09466)

## OTHER EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS RELEVANT TO THE PROPOSED PROJECT:

Mr. San Miguel recently left the Southern California Edison Company after 25 years as an Environmental Engineer/Project Manager. During his successful engineering career, Mr. San Miguel also became one of the leading field ornithologists in California with over 36 years of experience in avian surveys and bird banding. He obtained his Master bird banding permit in 1966 and has banded over 25, 000 birds. Presently, he is an instructor for The Institute for Bird Populations, where he trains students in various bird banding techniques. He is past president of the Western Bird Banding Association and is currently a member of the California Bird Records Committee, Vice President of the Western Field Ornithologists, and is on the Steering Committee for the Los Angeles County Breeding Bird Atlas.

He has managed a large variety of environmental projects, including preparation or management of environmental reports and documentation required for permitting and licensing of electric utility restructuring and several projects involving the clean up of sites contaminated with hydrocarbons and other contaminants.

These projects and others required an in-depth knowledge and expertise of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

**ATTACHMENT D**

**RECENT EBIRD RECORD FOR CALIFORNIA CONDOR**

## Checklist S45830914

Older

All Checklists

Newer

## Location

Old Ridge Route, Castaic, California, US (34.572, -118.663), Los Angeles  
County, California, US ([Map](#))

Date and  
Effort

Sat May 19, 2018 11:25 AM

Protocol: Stationary

Party Size: 1

Duration: 20 minute(s)

Observers: Naresh Satyan

Comments: Condors!! Sunny with a decent breeze, 70F.

Submitted from eBird Android, version 1.8.2

## Species

6 species total

[Hide Media](#)


## 8 California Condor

Condors are unmistakable and descriptions of the birds are mostly unnecessary, so I will just describe the circumstances of the sighting. I have dozens of photos and videos, some of which I will upload in a day or two. I first saw a single condor low overhead while driving north on the I-5, about a mile south of the Templin Hwy exit. Obvious adult condor, from red head and underside of the wing pattern. I hoped to get a better look and took the Templin Hwy exit and back south on the old Ridge route road. The condor was overhead and I drove up to a point where it looked like it was about to land. As I snapped a couple of pictures from the car a shadow passed overhead and a juvenile condor was 50 feet above me. Soon after, 5 condors took off from the side of the road not far from where I was parked, rising on the thermals. In another 5 minutes, 5 birds became 7, and then there was another perched on the ground on some trash, making it 8 in all. 6 adults and 2 juveniles, undoubtedly from the Sespe sanctuary across the freeway. The count is accurate, though I don't know if I got photos of all the tags. The condors took no notice of me, flapping and soaring within 30 horizontal feet and 50 vertical feet of me. They flew Northeast, deeper into LA county. The sound a condor's wings make when the bird is that close is something else. When they rose on the thermals, it sounded like a car was approaching on the road. I feel privileged to have shared the mountains with them for 20 minutes, just me and the condors. I've seen condors multiple times before, in CA/UT/AZ, but this was easily the most thrilling encounter.

## Age &amp; Sex

	Juvenile	Immature	Adult	Age Unknown
Male		1	2	
Female			2	
Sex Unknown		1	2	



  
**ML101450531** Macaulay Library

© Naresh Satyan  
98, male, born San Diego 1998

**Age:** Adult

**Sex:** Male

**1 Turkey Vulture**

Passed overhead as I was sat in the car typing notes.

**1 Red-tailed Hawk**

Juvenile

**3 Common Raven**

**1 Dark-eyed Junco**

Heard only

**2 Western Meadowlark**

Heard only

---

Are you submitting a **complete checklist** of the birds you were able to identify?

**Yes**