Travis Clark, Victorville Planning Department

14343 Civic Drive, Victorville, CA 92393

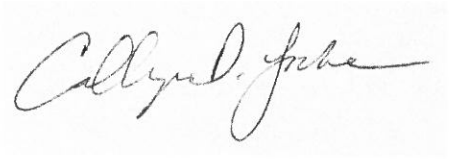
Dear Mr. Clark,

I revisited a 19-acre proposed housing development site (VTTM 18487) in Victorville, CA on September 22, 2018, to establish the relevancy of our Biological Resources Report, dated May, 2017. My September 22, 2018 survey included a walk-through of the site and ground-level photos (attached).

I found no significant changes to the flora and fauna found earlier on the site and reported in May, 2017. Therefore, the original Biological Resources Report, including recommended mitigation measures, remains valid in that regard.

I have edited and updated the original report section ***Impacts to Sensitive Species***, reflecting a request from the Victorville City Planning Department. Those changes are included with this letter as a separate file replacing the original report section (pp. 5-11).

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please feel free to contact me should you have further questions.



Callyn D. Yorke, Ph.D. Principal Project Biologist

Figure 1: VTTM 18487 Victorville, CA Viewing west across the site. 22 Sept. 2018

Figure 2: VTTM 18487 Victorville, CA Viewing south along US 395 on east border 22 Sept. 2018.

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BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES REPORT

ON
VTTM # 18487

19 Acres

Victorville, CA

PREPARED FOR

Karl Mallick
Kimley-Horn
1035 West Lancaster Blvd.
Lancaster, CA 93534

PREPARED BY

Callyn D. Yorke, Ph.D.

May, 2017

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INTRODUCTION

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT SITE

The project site, at an elevation of about 3,180 ft., consists of approximately 19 acres of Mojavean Creosote Bush Scrub bordering US 395 in Victorville, CA (Figures 1-3). The site is largely isolated from similar natural habitat in the region by suburban developments (Figure 3).

Creosote Bush dominates the vegetation profile of the site, along with smaller native shrubs (e.g. *Ambrosia dumosa.*, *Eriogonum* spp., *Ephedra nevadensis*) and herbs (e.g. *Phacelia distans, Camissoniopsis micrantha, Amsinckia tessellata*) characteristic of large expanses of western Mojave Desert. There is a relatively low density of Joshua Trees (*Yucca Brevifolia*) on the site, though most of those are in good reproductive condition.

Everywhere on the site there is much trash (home furnishings, construction debris) and soil disturbance from ATV's and other human activities originating from adjacent suburbs. Unleashed, untagged domestic dogs range freely over the site due to a broken fence on adjacent property that would otherwise prevent access. Consequently, there was little wildlife found during the surveys; indeed the surveyor himself was challenged by aggressive, free-ranging dogs on the property.

The eastern border of the property includes an important corridor of wildlife dispersal, as evidenced by numerous tracks of small mammals (Figure 5). This is essentially a south to north, dry stream bed connecting remaining parcels of open, undeveloped land near the site. Unfortunately, this feature parallels a busy roadway (US 395) which may occasionally claim the lives of animals moving through the area.

There is no surface water or riparian habitat on the subject property. However, watered landscapes in adjacent suburbs may attract both migrants and resident birds (see Faunal Compendium). Some of those species may regularly use resources found on the site.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Surveys of the site and adjacent land were completed on May 18 & 19, 2017 by Callyn D.Yorke, Principal Biologist. The entire site was covered visually while on foot, first along the perimeter, then through the center sections. A binocular (10 x 40), DSLR camera and field notebook were used. Surveys were made between 0655-1330 hrs. with clear skies. Air temperatures during the surveys ranged from 53F to 65F; winds were light out of the NW. Ground-level images of the site were obtained at this time (Figures 4-7).

Attention was given to detection of sensitive plant and animal species known to occur in this region. A focused study was made for signs of occupation by Long-eared Owl, LeConte's Thrasher and Loggerhead Shrike. A **CDFG-UCSC Phase I Burrowing Owl Survey** was completed by walking east-west transects spaced about 5 m apart across the entire site and adjacent property. Habitat potential, and/or sign of **Desert Tortoise**, **Mojave Ground Squirrel** and sensitive plants was noted. The California Department of Fish & Widlife (CDFW) Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDB Rare Find) was consulted for information describing locations of sensitive species in the Victorville area.

RESULTS

Flora

A total of thirty species of plant, representing sixteen families, was found on and/or immediately adjacent to the site (see Floral Compendium). Although some native desert annuals occur on the site seasonally, there is significant competitive coverage by invasive exotic grasses and herbs (e.g. *Bromus* spp., *Sisymbrium altissimum, Erodium cicutarium*). No State or Federally listed endangered, rare or sensitive plant species was found on the site (see *Impacts to Sensitive Plants*). About 35 Joshua Trees occur on the site; most were in good condition and showed evidence of flowering (see Floral Compendium: *Joshua Tree Report*).

Fauna

Due to relatively cool ambient temperatures at the time of the surveys, ectothermic animals were not greatly in evidence. Only one reptile (Western Whiptail) was found on the site. Birds found on or adjacent to the site included, Feral Rock Pigeon, Ladder-backed Woodpecker, Costa's Hummingbird, Western Wood Pewee (migrant), European Starling, Common Raven (nesting), Yellow Warbler (migrant) and House Finch. Abundant sign of small mammals, e.g. Desert Cottontail and Kangaroo Rat, was found on the site, particularly in the dry wash along the eastern boundary. No rare, threatened or sensitive species of animal was found on the site Nor did there appear to be significant potential for the occurrence of any state or federally listed species on the site (see *Impacts to Sensitive Species*).

Corridors of Dispersal

The project site, largely degraded by trash dumping, soil disturbance, domestic dogs and recreational vehicles, has a significant wildlife corridor of dispersal connecting to undeveloped parcels, primarily southward. A dry wash paralleling US 395 on the eastern boundary of the site, contained many tracks of small to medium-sized mammals (Figure 5). This suggests an important corridor of dispersal remains viable in this densely developed suburb. However, heavy automobile traffic on US 395 presents a very real hazard to wildlife movement in the area. Presumably, the large number of tracks found in the wash indicates wildlife has learned and/or has been shaped by natural selection to restrict local activities and long-distance movements to the wash, thus avoiding a fatal impact on the nearby roadway.

Clearly, the dry wash feature on the site is worthwhile preserving. Mitigation measures (see below) are recommended in that regard for the project.

Impacts to Sensitive Species - Overview

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

CDFW = California Department of Fish & Wildlife
USFWS = United States Fish & Wildlife Service
CNPS = California Native Plant Society
SSC = CDFW Species of Special Concern
FSC = USFWS Species of Special Concern

Special Status Species

Special status species include plants and animals that are either listed as endangered or threatened under the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) or California Endangered Species Act (CESA), listed as rare under the California Native Plant Protection Act (Lists 1 &2), or considered to be rare but not formally listed by resource agencies, professional organizations (e.g. California Native Plant Society [CNPS], and the scientific community. For the purposes of this Biological Resources Report, the term *sensitive species* refers to any of the following:

- Species listed as Endangered or Threatened under the Federal ESA (Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Parts 17.11 and 17.12);

- Species listed as Endangered, Threatened or Rare under the CESA (Sections 670.2 and 670.5, Title 14, California Code of Regulations [CCR]);

- Species without a formal listing status that meet definitions of *Endangered* or *Rare* under CEQA Guidelines, Section 15380, including CDFW *Species of Special Concern, Candidate, or Proposed* species for listing under the Federal Endangered Species Act;

- CDFW *Species of Special Concern* or *Fully Protected* by CDFW; or

- CNPS rare plant ranks:

  - List 1A: Species presumed extinct in California;
  - List 1B: Species considered rare or endangered in California and elsewhere;
  - List 2: Species considered rare or endangered in California but are more common elsewhere.

Literature Review

A literature review was conducted to determine the potential occurrence of special status plant and wildlife species in the Victorville area. The online California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) was consulted for the Victorville and surrounding USGS 7.5 – minute quadrangles: Additionally, the following sources were reviewed:

- United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) list of endangered, threatened and proposed species.
- California Native Plant Society's (CNPS) online Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants of California.
- Special Animals List (CDFW)
- Field Guides and other publications relevant to the distribution of plants and animals in the region.
- My field notes from hundred of biological resources reports and field surveys conducted in the western Mojave Desert (Yorke, C. 1984-2018: http://avconline.avc.edu/cyorke/fieldnotes/).

IMPACTS TO SENSITIVE SPECIES

No CNPS, State or Federal listed plant was found on the site. The following plants are listed species known to occur in habitat similar to that found on the subject property and have some potential (ranked high, medium and low) to occur on there. These species are most easily detectable in spring through early summer. Potential impacts to these species are considered below.

Kern County Evening Primrose (Camissonia kernensis) is listed as a rare species by CNPS, but unlisted by State and Federal agencies. This plant is found in desert washes and canyons from 2,500 to 6,000 ft. in elevation and in Joshua Tree woodland. Flowering occurs in May. No individuals or remains of this species were found. Habitat on the site is marginally appropriate, however adverse impacts are unlikely.

Alkali Mariposa Lily (Calochortus striatus) is a FSC and CNPS Category 1B plant occurring in alkali sinks throughout the western Mojave Desert (Yorke, pers. observation). No sign of this plant was found on the subject property. The likelihood of occurrence is low due to the predominance of well-drained soils on the site.

Desert Cymopterus (Cymopterus deserticola) is listed as a rare and highly restricted species by CNPS and Level 2 Candidate species by USFWS. This plant occurs in creosote scrub. Flowering occurs in April. No evidence of this species was found in the surveyed areas. Very little potential exists for this species occurring on the site; project impacts are unlikely,

Sagebrush loeflingia (Loeflingia squarrosa var. artemisiarum) is a CDFW SSC and CNPS Category 2.2 (rare) species found in Great Basin scrub in sand dunes with clay slicks. No individuals of this plant were found on the site. Habitat on the site appears inappropriate; project impacts are unlikely.

Short-joint beavertail cactus (Opuntia basilaris brachyclada) is a FSC and CNPS Category 1B plant occurring in openings in Chaparral, Joshua Tree Woodland, Pinyon-Juniper Woodland and Mojave Desert Scrub. Reported from Red Rock Canyon, east to Harper Dry lake. No individuals of this species were found on the subject property. The likelihood of occurrence is very low due to the prevalence of disturbed soils and vegetation.

Peirson's morning-glory (Calystegia peirsonii) is a CNPS Category 4 plant species found in chenopod scrub and foothill chaparral. This is a rhizomatous perennial with conspicuous white flowers, found in the foothills of the San Gabriel mountains. Habitat on the site appears largely inappropriate; project impacts are unlikely.

Peirson's lupine (Lupinus peirsonii) is a CNPS Category 4 plant that occurs in Joshua tree woodland and pinyon-juniper woodland. No individuals of this plant were found on the site. Habitat on the site is disturbed and inappropriate; the likelihood of occurrence is very low.

Pigmy poppy (Canbya candida) is a CNPS Category 4.2 plant found in Joshua tree woodland and desert scrub, in sandy places. Flowering occurs from March-April. No individuals of this plant were found on the site; potential for occurrence on the site is very low due to disturbed soils and vegetation.

Parry's spineflower (Chorizanthe parryi var. parryi) is a CNPS Category 4 species found in chenopod scrub and creosote desert scrub. Flowering occurs from April to July. No individuals of this plant were found on the site. Habitat and soils on the site are marginally appropriate, however project impacts to this species are unlikely.

Mojave spineflower (Chorizanthe spinosa) is a CNPS Category 4.2 species found in Mojave Desert Scrub and a variety of other local plant communities. Flowering occurs from April to July. No individuals of this plant were found on the site. Habitat on site is inappropriate due to disturbed soils and vegetation.

Clokey's cryptantha (Cryptantha clokeyi) is a CNPS Category 1B annual found in upland desert scrub on rocky soils. No individuals of this plant were found on the subject property; project impacts are unlikely due to inappropriate habitat.

Crowned Muilla (Muilla coronata) is listed by the CNPS as a rare species that is endangered in part of its range, but as a taxonomically invalid species by USFWS. This plant is found in heavy soils in Joshua Tree woodland, between 3,000 and 5,000 feet in elevation. Flowering occurs from March through April. No sign of this plant was found on the site. Habitat on the site is inappropriate due to disturbed soil and vegetation.

Barstow woolly sunflower (Eriophyllum mohavense) is a Federal Species of Special Concern (FSC) and CNPS Category 1B species (rare, threatened or endangered throughout their range). It occurs in rises between sinks in xerophytic saltbush scrub. No evidence of this plant was found on the site. Habitat is marginally appropriate, however project impacts are unlikely due to frequent disturbance of the soils.

Mason's nestraw (Stylocline masonii) is a FSC and CNPS 1B species that occurs in chenopod (i.e. saltbush) scrub. No sign of this plant was found on the site. Habitat on the site is largely inappropriate; project impacts are unlikely.

Palmer's grappling hook (Harpagonella palmeri) is a FSC and CNPS Category 2 species (rare, threatened, or endangered in California, but more common in other states). It occurs in sage scrub and clay soils below 2,500 feet. No sign of this plant was found in the study area. Habitat on the site is inappropriate; project impacts are unlikely.

Pale-yellow layia (Layia heterotricha) is a CNPS Category 1B annual herb found in valley grassland and riparian habitat, from 0-5,000 ft. in elevation. Habitat on the site is inappropriate; project impacts to this species are unlikely.

Lancaster milkvetch (Astragalus preussi var. laxiflorus) is a CNPS 1B species that occurs in chenopod scrub, alkaline clay flats or gravelly, sandy washes and along draws in gullied badlands. No sign of this conspicuous plant species was found in the surveyed area; habitat appears inappropriate; project impacts are unlikely.

Parish's alkali grass (Puccinellia parishii) is a CNPS Category 1B and CDFW S1.1 plant found in alkali springs and seeps in deserts. Habitat on the site is inappropriate. Impacts to this plant are unlikely.

Lemmon's syntrichopappus (Syntrichopappus lemmonii) is a CNPS RPR 4.3 species This plant occurs in Joshua tree woodland with sandy or gravelly soil. No sign of this plant was found on the site. Habitat on the site is inappropriate due to disturbed soil and vegetation.

Red-rock poppy (Eschscholzia minutiflora ssp. Twisselmannii) is a CDFW S2.2 and CNPS Category 1B.2 species found in Mojavean desert scrub, especially on volcanic tuff soils. No individuals of this plant were found on the site. Project impacts to this species are unlikely due to inappropriate habitat.

FAUNA

No *Sensitive Species* was found on or adjacent the site. Several sensitive animal species are known to occur in this area where the habitat is appropriate. Potential impacts to these are addressed below.

Mojave Desert Tortoise (Gopherus agassizii) is a CDFW and USFWS Endangered Species known to occur in this region, principally east of CA-14.
No sign (e.g. burrows, scat, shell fragments) of desert tortoise was found on the subject property or adjacent parcels during our surveys. Nor was there any evidence found of recent occupation of the site by tortoises. The disturbed soil and vegetation, combined with nearby suburban development, indicates the probability of occupation by Desert Tortoise is extremely low.

Southern California Legless Lizard (Aniella stebbinsi) is a CDFW SSC that occurs in sandy to loamy soil where there is ground moisture and leaf-litter. No legless lizards were found on the site. Project impacts to this species are unlikely due to inappropriate habitat.

Burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*) is a CDFW SSC in California Burrowing Owl occurs in Mojavean Desert Scrub, such as that found in the study area. Burrowing owls may be declining for a number of reasons, e.g., habitat loss, human encroachment, pesticides, and illegal hunting.

A Phase I (habitat assessment) survey protocol for Burrowing Owl was completed on the site. No sign of burrowing owl was found on or adjacent to the subject property; potential for occurrence is low due to disturbed soil and vegetation, combined with traffic noise and feral dogs originating from nearby suburban developments.

Long-eared Owl (Asio otus) is a CDFW SSC occasionally found in fall and winter months in small family groups. These owls prefer relatively isolated clusters of trees and shrubs. No sign of Long-eared owl was found on the site; project impacts to this species are unlikely.

Prairie falcon (Falco mexicanus) is another CDFW SSC that appears to be declining in portions of its range. No individuals of this species were seen on the project site during the surveys. This is a wide-ranging species that usually nests in remote canyons and forages throughout the region. It may be declining in response to cumulative impacts from loss of open fields for foraging. Direct project impacts to nesting prairie falcons are unlikely; relatively insignificant project impacts to wintering falcons may result from a small, incremental loss of foraging opportunities.

Golden eagle (Aquila chrysaetos) is a CDFW SSC that may also nest in the mountains and foothills bordering the western Mojave Desert, foraging widely elsewhere. In winter months (November-February) the local population of golden eagles is augmented by visitors from other regions. At such times, individuals, particularly immature birds, commonly perch on power poles along roadways and may be struck by cars when they attempt to feed on roadkill. No eagles were found on or near the subject property; impacts to nesting eagles are unlikely. Direct project impacts on wintering golden eagles are also unlikely.

Ferruginous hawk (Buteo regalis) is a CDFW SSC that winters in the Western Mojave Desert. Birds forage in open fields, often using power poles for lookouts. They rarely take roadkill and thus are seldom struck by automobiles. The cumulative loss of foraging habitat in the large open spaces of the western Mojave Desert may be the greatest threat to this species in the region. Direct project impacts on wintering ferruginous hawks in the vicinity of the subject property are unlikely.

Swainson's hawk (Buteo swainsoni) is a State Threatened species known historically to have nested in riparian patches at scattered locations in the western Mojave Desert. No individuals of this species were seen on or near the site. Habitat on the site is inappropriate; project impacts are unlikely.

Cooper's hawk (Accipiter cooperii) is a CDFW SSC that nests locally in riparian woodland, and is a passage migrant and winter visitor. No individuals of this species were seen on the project site. Habitat on the site is unlikely to support nesting Cooper's hawks due to inappropriate vegetation. However, adjacent homesteads with large ornamental trees could attract nesting Cooper's hawk, which then may use resources on the study site.

LeConte's thrasher (Toxostoma lecontei) is a Federal Candidate for listing, and has been found at several scattered localities in the western Mojave Desert. It favors desert washes. Habitat on the site is largely inappropriate; the likelihood of occupation by LeConte's thrasher is very low.

Loggerhead shrike (Lanius ludovicianus) is another Federal Candidate for listing and a CDFW SSC. Habitat loss and pesticide poisoning are blamed for the decline of this bird. No individuals of this species were found during the surveys. Potential for project impacts to nesting Loggerhead Shrikes on the site is very low due to the disturbed soils and lack of foraging and nesting resources.

Horned lark (Eremophila alpestris actia) is a CDFW SSC. No horned larks were found on the site during the survey. Horned larks nest in the western Mojave Desert and appear to have a relatively large, viable population (Yorke, unpublished field notes). Since this subspecies is probably not the form currently considered by CDFW as a SSC, implementation of the proposed project will have no significant impacts on the "California" horned lark (Eremophila alpestris actia).

Bell's Sparrow (Artemisiospiza belli belli) is a CDFW SSC resident in Big Sage and alkaline sink areas of the western Mojave Desert. No sign of this bird was found on or near the site; project impacts to the State-listed subspecies, *A. belli belli* are unlikely.

Scott's Oriole (Icterus parisorum) is a CDFW SSC occurring in Joshua Tree Woodland on the lower, northern slopes of the San Bernardino and San Gabriel Mountains (Yorke, pers. observ.) No individuals of this species were found on or adjacent to the subject property. Habitat on the site appears largely inappropriate; potential for occurrence is low.

Virtually all **Bat** species in California, e.g. **Western Mastiff Bat** (Eumops perotis californicus), and at least four *Myotis* spp. in this region are CDFW SSC. Consequently, any loss of foraging, roosting or breeding habitat caused by residential development could have impacts on these nocturnal insectivores. No bat roosting habitat was found on or adjacent to the subject property. If bats are using the site for feeding, implementation of the proposed project will result in a relatively small loss of foraging habitat.

Mojave ground squirrel (Xerospermophilus mohavensis) is a CDFW threatened species (listed and delisted through the years by resource agencies) which occurs at scattered localities in the Mojave Desert, principally east of CA-14. No sign of this species was found (or expected to be found) on the subject property. Habitat on the site is largely inappropriate due to disturbed, compacted soils and nearby traffic noise.

American badger (Taxidea taxus) is a CDFW SCC that is rare but widespread in the region. No sign of badger was found on or near the subject property; the likelihood of its occurrence is very low due to the proximity of roads, feral dogs and suburban developments.

General Cumulative Impacts

Whenever wilderness is taken for development few native organisms benefit. This is because in the complex web of life everything is interconnected and dependent. Removing vegetation destroys habitat for countless microscopic organisms with larger species dependent on them for food. For example, the tiny moth *Tegeticula paradoxa* is the only known pollinator of the Joshua Tree; disappearance of either species results in extinction of both. And the overall result of loss of Joshua Trees, an ecological keystone species, is simplification of the food web to include a new assemblage of relatively few, hardy species. Consequently, exotic pests like Russian thistle, tumble mustard, stork's bill, brome grasses, Argentine fire ants, aphids, snails, Feral rock pigeons and European starlings become established.

MITIGATION MEASURES

A north-south dry wash on the western border of the subject property (Fig.5), appeared to be the only corridor of animal dispersal available to mammals and other terrestrial organisms in the immediate vicinity. This narrow wash, which parallels US 395 (a busy highway), should be preserved if possible, allowing for the continuation of animal movements through the area. Open, chain-link fencing on both sides of the wash (i.e. east and west) should help reduce disturbances to wildlife in this area.

Due to the relatively small acreage and proximity of the project site to other suburban developments, trash dumping and other disturbances, there appears to be little ecological value to native flora and fauna. Aside from protection of the wash as a corridor of dispersal, no further mitigation measures are recommended for this project.

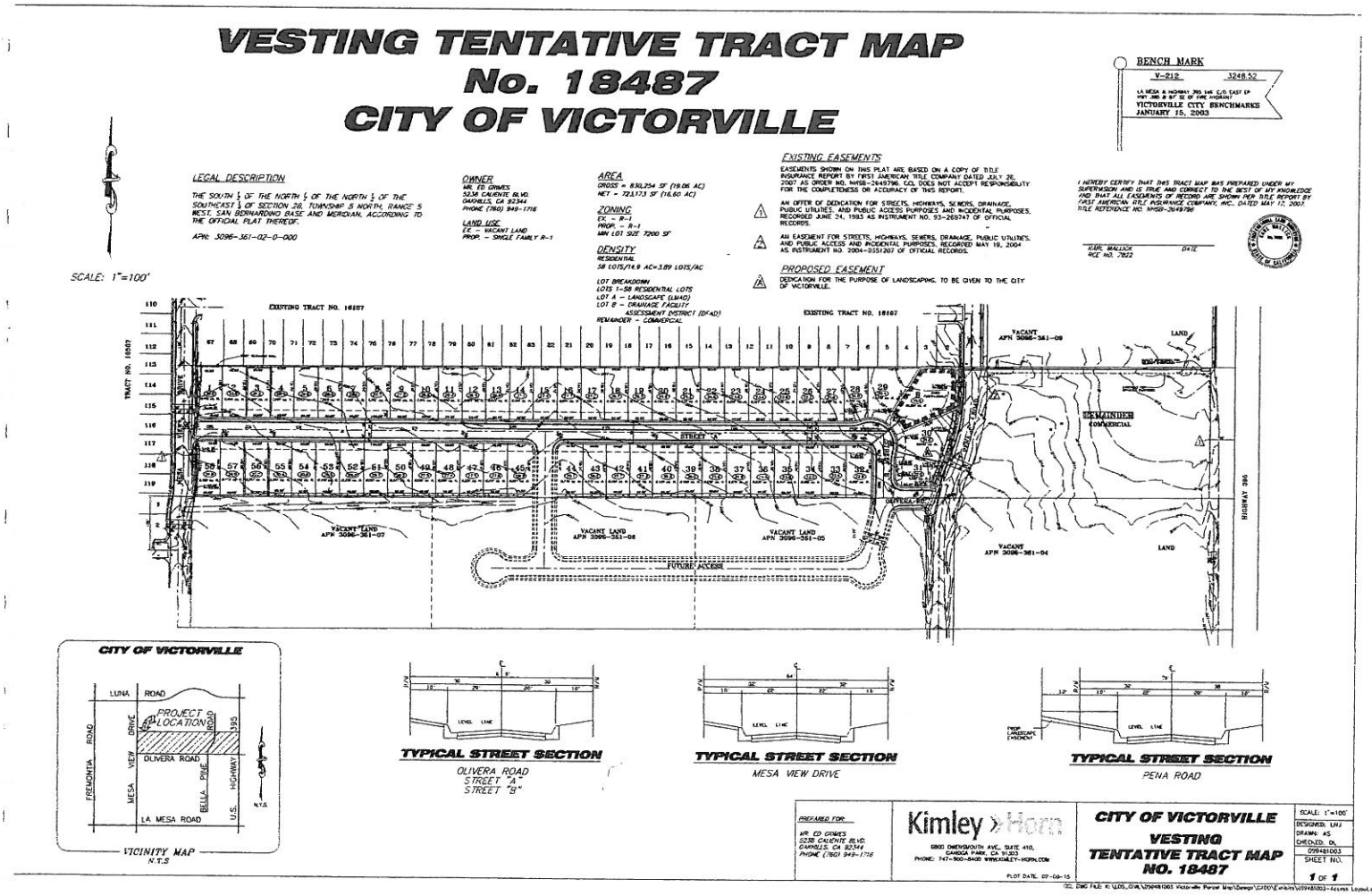
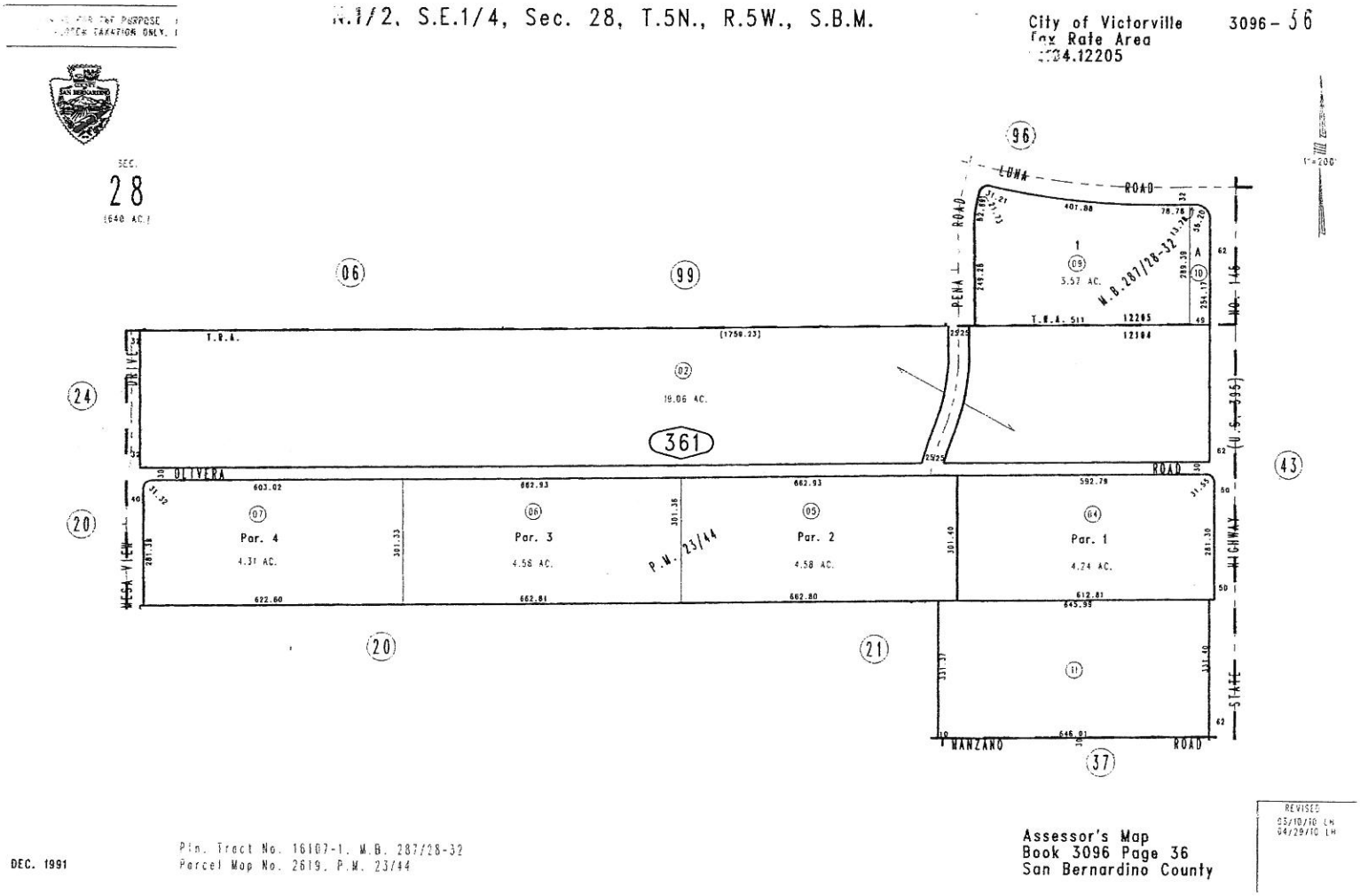


Figure 1: Tentative Tract Map No. 18487, showing location of subject property, APN 3096-361-02.



DEC. 1991

Plm. Tract No. 16107-1, M.B. 287/28-32
Parcel Map No. 2619, P.M. 23/44

Assessor's Map
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San Bernardino County

Figure 2: Assessor's Parcel Map showing location of subject property, APN 3096-361-02.

Google Maps APN 3096-361-02

Figure 3: Aerial view of the subject property, APN 3096-361-02, showing vegetation coverage and corridor of dispersal in a dry wash on the eastern border.

Figure 6: Viewing northeast across the subject property, APN 3096-361-02 from the southwest corner. 18 May 2017.

Figure 7: Viewing north across the western section of the subject property, APN 3096-361-02 from the southwest corner. 18 May 2017.

Figure 4: Viewing west across the subject property, APN 3096-361-02, from the eastern section. 18 May 2017.

Figure 5: Viewing south along a dry wash on the eastern border of the subject property, APN 3096-361-02. 18 May 2017.

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Appendices II

FAUNAL COMPENDIUM

Explanation of Symbols

Relative Frequency and Abundance

c -- common: observed or expected throughout the site in high numbers.
f -- fairly common: observed or expected in moderate numbers.
u -- uncommon: observed or expected in low numbers.
o -- occasional: observed or expected with low frequency.
s -- scarce: rarely observed or expected on the site.

Local Status

* Presence noted visually, vocally, or other sign. (1,2, etc. = maximum number of individuals found during a survey).

Museum/University Record: One or more records of this species in institutional collections from this region.

Note: This faunal species list includes animals observed or expected to occur on or in the immediate vicinity of the study site.

Butterflies

DANIDAE

Monarch (Danaus plexippus) s
Striated Queen (D. gilippus strigosus) u

NYMPHALIDAE

Neumogen's Checkerspot (Chlosyne acastus) u
Leanira Checkerspot (Chlosyne leanira cerrita) s
Mylitta Crescent (Phycoides mylitta) s
Painted Lady (Vanessa cardui) 2

PIERIDAE

Becker's White (Pontia beckerii) s
California White (P. sisymbrii) u
Checkered White (P. protodice) c
Southern Dogface (Zerene cesonia) o
Nicippe Yellow (Eurema nicippe) s
Dainty Sulphur (Nathalis iole) s
Desert Orange-tip (Anthocharis cethura cethura) u
Grinnell's Marble (Anthocharis lanceolata australis) u
Desert Marble (Euchloe hyantis lotta) u

LIBYTHEIDAE

Snout Butterfly (Libythaena bachmanii larvata) s

RIODINIDAE

Mormon Metalmark (Apodemia mormo mormo) u
Cythera Metalmark (A. mormo cythera) u
Behr's Metalmark (A. virgulti) u

LYCAENIDAE

Grey hairstreak (Strymon melinus) s
Marine Blue (Leptotes marina) s
Pygmy Blue (Brephidium exilis) s
Acmon Blue (Plebejus acmon acmon) u
Bernardino Blue (Euphilotes battoides bernardino) u
Elvira's Blue (E. pallescens elvirae) u
Mojave Blue (E. mojave) u
Small Blue (Philotiella speciosa) s

MEGATHYMIDAE

Martin's Giant Skipper (Megathymus coloradensis martini) u

HESPERIIDAE

Saltgrass Skipper (Polites sabuleti) s
Juba Skipper (Hesperia juba) u
Sootywing (Pholisora catullus) o

Amphibians and Reptiles

BUFONIDAE

Western Toad (Anaxyrus boreas halophilus) s (adjacent homesteads?)

HYLIDAE

Pacific Tree Frog (Hyla regilla) s (adjacent homesteads?)

GEKKONIDAE

Western Banded Gecko (Coleonyx variegatus) s

PHRYNOSOMATIDAE

Zebra-tailed Lizard (Callisaurus draconoides) s
Long-nosed Leopard Lizard (Gambelia wislizenii) o
Desert Horned Lizard (Phrynosoma platyrhinos) s
Desert Spiny Lizard (Sceloporus magister) o
Western Fence Lizard (Sceloporus occidentalis) s
Common Side-blotched Lizard (Uta stansburiana) c

XANTUSIDAE

Desert Night Lizard (Xantusia vigilis) o

TEIIDAE

Western Whiptail (Aspidoscelis tigris) 1

LEPTOTYPHLOPIDAE

Western Blind Snake (Leptotyphlops humilis) s

COLUBRIDAE

Glossy Snake (Arizona elegans) u
Western Shovel-nosed Snake (Chionactis occipitalis) s
Night Snake (Hypsiglena torquata) u
Common Kingsnake (Lampropeltus getulus) u
Coachwhip (Masticophis flagellum) c
Gopher Snake (Pituophis melanoleucus) o
Long-nosed Snake (Rhinccheilus lecontei) u
California Black-headed Snake (Tantilla planiceps) s
Lyre Snake (Trimorphodon biscutatus) s

VIPERIDAE

Mojave Rattlesnake (Crotalus scutulatus) o

TESTUDINIDAE

Desert Tortoise (Gopherus agassizii) (see text)

Birds

Note

Numbers in parentheses following a species indicate the maximum number of individuals seen or heard during a survey. Taxonomy follows the 2013 AOU Checklist of Birds of North America, including the 54th Supplement.

ODONTOPHORIDAE

California Quail (Callipepla californica) u

CATHARTIDAE

Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) f

ACCIPITRIDAE

Northern Harrier (Circus cyaneus) u
Ferruginous Hawk (Buteo regalis) u (see text)
Red-tailed Hawk (Buteo jamaicensis) c
Swainson's Hawk (Buteo swainsoni) u (see text)
Golden Eagle (Aquila chrysaetos) u (see text)
Cooper's Hawk (Accipiter cooperi) u (see text)

CHARADRIIDAE

Killdeer (Charadrius vociferus) s

COLUMBIDAE

Rock Dove (Columba livia) 10 (adjacent developments)
Mourning Dove (Zenaida macroura) c

CUCULIDAE

Greater Roadrunner (Geococcyx californianus) o

TYTONIDAE

Common Barn Owl (Tyto alba) u

STRIGIDAE

Great horned Owl (Bubo virginianus) o
Burrowing Owl (Athene cunicularia) s (see text)
Long-eared Owl (Asio otus) s

CAPRIMULGIDAE

Lesser Nighthawk (Chordeiles acutipennis) u
Common Poorwill (Phalaenoptilus nuttallii) s

APODIDAE

Vaux's Swift (Chaetura vauxi) s

TROCHILIDAE

Anna's Hummingbird (Calypte anna) c (adjacent suburbs)
Costa's Hummingbird (C. costae) 1
Black-chinned Hummingbird (Archilochus alexandri) u
Rufous Hummingbird (Selasphorus rufus) s

PICIDAE

Ladder-backed Woodpecker (Picoides scalaris) 1
Northern Flicker (Colaptes auratus) u

FALCONIDAE

American Kestrel (Falco sparverius) u
Prairie Falcon (Falco mexicanus) u (see text)

TYRANNIDAE

Black phoebe (Sayornis nigricans) u
Say's phoebe (Sayornis saya) c
Ash-throated flycatcher (Myiarchis cinerascens) o
Western Kingbird (Tyrannus verticalis) o
Western Wood Pewee (Contopus sordidulus) 1

LANIIDAE

Loggerhead Shrike (Lanius ludovicianus) s (see text)

CORVIDAE

Western Scrub-jay (Aphelecoma californica) s
Common Raven (Corvus corax) 4

ALAUDIDAE

Horned Lark (Eremophila alpestris) s (see text)

HIRUNDINIDAE

Cliff swallow (Petrochelidon pyrrhonota) u
Violet green swallow (Tachycineta thalassina) s
Tree swallow (Tachycineta bicolor) s
Barn swallow (Hirundo rustica) u
Rough-winged swallow (Stelgidopteryx ruficollis) s

REMIZIDAE

Verdin (Auriparus flaviceps) f

AEGITHALIDAE

Bushtit (Psaltriparus minimus) s

TROGLODYTIDAE

Cactus Wren (Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus) u
Rock Wren (Salpinctes obsoletus) s
Bewick's Wren (Thryomanes bewickii o
House Wren (Troglodytes aedon) s

REGULIDAE

Ruby-crowned Kinglet (Regulus calendula) u

TURDIDAE

Hermit Thrush (Catharus guttatus) s
Swainson's Thrush (C. swainsoni) s
American Robin (Turdus migratorius) u

MIMIDAE

Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 2 (adjacent suburbs)
Le Conte's Thrasher (Toxostoma lecontei) s (see text)
California Thrasher (Toxostoma redivivum) s

STURNIDAE

European Starling (Sturnus vulgaris) 20 (adjacent developments)

PARULIDAE

Orange-crowned Warbler (Oreothlypis celata) f
Nashville Warbler (Oreothlypis ruficapilla) s
Common Yellowthroat (Geothlypis trichas) u
MacGillivray's Warbler (Geothlypis tolmiei) s
Wilson's Warbler (Cardellina pusilla) s
Yellow Warbler (Setophaga petechia) 1
Yellow-rumped Warbler (Setophaga coronata) c

ICTERIDAE

Western Meadowlark (Sturnella neglecta) s
Scott's Oriole (Icterus parisorum) s
Bullock's Oriole (Icterus bullockii) u (adjacent homesteads)
Black-throated Sparrow (Amphispiza bilineata) c
White-crowned Sparrow (Zonotrichia leucophrys) c
Bell's Sparrow (Artemisiospiza belli) u
Lark Sparrow (Chondestes grammacus) u
Savannah Sparrow (Passerculus sandwichensis) u
Vesper Sparrow (Pooecetes graminues) u
Golden-crowned Sparrow (Zonotrichia atricapilla) s
Song Sparrow (Melospiza melodia) s

FRINGILLIDAE

House finch (Carpodacus mexicanus) 6
American Goldfinch (Spinus tristis) s
Lesser Goldfinch (Spinus psaltria) u

PASSERIDAE

House sparrow (Passer domesticus) c (adjacent homesteads)

Mammals

Note

This is a largely hypothetical list of species based on very broad range boundaries which may include the present site. No attempt is made here to assess relative abundance.

GEOMYIDAE

Botta's Pocket Gopher (Thomomys bottae)

SORICIDAE

Crawford's Shrew (Notiosorex crawfordi)

PHYLLOSTOMIDAE

California Leaf-nosed Bat (Macrotus californicus)

VESPERTILIONIDAE

Little Brown Myotis (Myotis lucifugus)
Yuma Myotis (M. yumanensis)
Long-eared Myotis (M. evotis)
Fringed Myotis (M. thysanodes)
Long-legged Myotis (M. volans)
California Myotis (M. californicus)
Western Small-footed Myotis (M. ciliolabrum)
Western Pipistrelle (Parastrellus hesperus)
Big Brown Bat (Eptesicus fuscus)
Western Red Bat (Lasiurus blossevillii)
Hoary Bat (Lasiurus cinereus)
Townsend's Big-eared Bat (Corynorhinus townsendii)
Pallid bat (Antrozous pallidus)

MOLOSSIDAE

Brazilian Free-tailed Bat (Tadarida brasiliensis)
Pocketted Free-tailed Bat (Nyctinomops femorosacca)
Western Mastiff Bat (Eumops perotis)

LEPORIDAE

Desert Cottontail (Sylvilagus audubonii) 4
Black-tailed Jack Rabbit (Lepus californicus) 2

SCIURIDAE

White-tailed Antelope Squirrel (Ammospermophilus leucurus)
California Ground Squirrel (Otospermophilus beecheyi) 2

HETEROMYIDAE

Merriam's Kangaroo Rat (Dipodomys merriami) sign
Panamint Kangaroo Rat (D. panamintinus mohavensis) ?

CRICETIDAE

Deer Mouse (Peromyscus maniculatus) sign
Desert Woodrat (Neotoma lepida)

CANIDAE

Coyote (Canis latrans) sign
Feral Domestic Dog (Canis familiaris) sign
Desert Kit Fox (Vulpes macrotis)

PROCYONIDAE

Ringtail (Bassariscus astutus)
Raccoon (Procyon lotor)

MUSTELIDAE

Badger (Taxidea taxus) - see text
Western Spotted Skunk (Spilogale gracilis)
Striped Skunk (Mephitis mephitis)

FELIDAE

Mountain Lion (Puma concolor)
Bobcat (Lynx rufus)
Domestic Cat (Felis catus) sign

CERVIDAE

Black-tailed Deer (Odocoileus hemionus)

EQUIDAE

Domestic Horse (Equus caballus)
BOVIIDAE

Domestic Cattle (Bos primigenius)

HOMINIDAE

Human (Homo sapiens) sign

Appendices III

Floral Compendium

The following is a list of vascular plants found in the study area during the surveys. Relative abundances were estimated visually. Nomenclature generally follows Baldwin et. al. (2012) and Calflora (2013).

LEGEND

Frequency

A = more than 50 individuals
B = 25-50 individuals
C = 10-20 individuals
D = 1-10 individuals

Latin binomial names are italicized, followed by common names and frequencies.

AGAVACEAE

Yucca brevifolia Joshua Tree B

ASTERACEAE

Ambrosia dumosa Burro-bush A
Ambrosia acanthicarpa Sand-bur C
Ericameria cooperi Cooper's Goldenbush B
Ericameria nauseosa Rabbitbush B
Microseris lindleyi Silver Puffs D
Malacothrix glabrata Desert Dandelion B

BORAGINACEAE

Amsinckia tessellata Fiddleneck A
Cryptantha sp. Cryptantha D

BRASSICACEAE

Sisymbrium altissimum Tumble Mustard A (exotic)
Descurainia pinnata Western Tansy Mustard D

CACTACEA

Cylindropuntia echinocarpa Silver Cholla D

CHENOPODIACEAE

Atriplex sp. cf *spinifera* Spiny Saltbush A
Krascheninnikovia lanata Winterfat D

EPHEDRACEAE

Ephedra nevadensis Nevada Joint Fir B

GERANIACEAE

Erodium cicutarium Red-stemmed Filaree (exotic) A

HYDROPHYLLACEAE

Phacelia distans Common Phacelia A

ONAGRACEAE

Camissoniopsis micrantha Spencer Primrose A

POACEAE

Bromus madritensis ssp. *rubens* Red Brome A (exotic)
Bromus tectorum Cheat Brome A (exotic)
Schismus barbatus Mediterranean Schismus A (exotic)
Stipa speciosa Desert Needlegrass C

POLEMONIACEAE

Eriastrum sapphirinum Sapphire Woolly Star D
Gilia sp. Gilia D

POLYGONACEAE

Eriogononum fasciculatum ssp. *foliosum* Mojave Desert California Buckwheat A
Eriogonum sp. cf *angulosum ?* D
Eriogonum plummatella Flat-top Buckwheat D

ROSACEAE

Purshia tridentata var. *glandulosa* Antelope Bush D

SOLANACEAE

Datura wrightii Jimson Weed D

ZYGOPHYLLACEAE

Larrea tridentata Creosote Bush A

Joshua Tree Report
TTM 18487
APN 3096-02-0-000
Victorville, CA

Summary: Total = 35 plants; 14 reproductive; 32 in good health.

KEY

Height in feet (1- 12')
Repro = fruit or evidence of past flowering and fruit
Cl = cluster of two or more individuals < 3 ft.
Health = Good; Poor (significant dieback); Dead.

1) 12' Good, Repro
2) 12' Good, Repro
3) 12' Poor, Repro
4) 9' Good, Repro
5) 13' Good, Repro
6) 10' Good, Repro
7) 14' Good, (old Raven nest)
8) 12' Good, Repro
9) 6' Good
10) 5' Good
11) 13' Good, Repro
12) 4' Good
13) 9' Good, Repro
14) 5' Good, Cl
15) 11' Good
16) 12' Poor
17) 13' Good, Repro
18) 10' Good
19) 12' Good, Repro
20) 12' Good
21) 7' Good
22) 5' Good
23) 7' Good
24) 8' Good
25) 8' Good
26) 9' Good
27) 10' Good, Repro
28) 12' Good
29) 11' Good; active Raven nest
30) 10' Good
31) 11' Good, Repro
32) 9' Good
33) 9' Good, Repro
34) 10' Good
35) 8' Dead

Callyn D. Yorke, Ph.D. Biological Resources Reports

Professional Work Experience

A Partial List of

Biological Resources Reports completed in the Antelope Valley Region

1989 - 2018

1) APN 3029-12-08: 80 Acres, L.A. County.

2) APN 3209-14-21: 10 Acres, L.A. County.

3) APN 3010 -002-003-8: 23 Acres, Palmdale.

4) APN 3022-25-10: 5 Acres, Palmdale.

5) APN 3056-12-31: 20 Acres, Palmdale.

6) APN 3053-009-004: 35 Acres, Palmdale.

7) APN 3053-009-007: 20 Acres, Palmdale.

8) APN 302-26-9;57: California City, Kern County.

9) APN 3114-13-001: 80 Acres, Lancaster.

10) APN 3126-19-024: 4 Acres, Lancaster.

11) APN 3176-002-021: 10 Acres, Lancaster.

12) APN 3128-003-036: 9.6 Acres, Lancaster.

13) APN 3001-001-035: 10 Acres, Palmdale.

14) APN 3109-002-099: 2.5 Acres, Lancaster.

15) APN 3109-001-36,37,38,39: 10 Acres, Lancaster

16) APN 3053-06-05;20: 20 Acres, Palmdale.

17) APN 3114-13-29: 3 Acres, Lancaster.

18) APN 3004-15-42,43: 12 Acres, Palmdale.

19) Sections 2,3,25,26,27, 35: 1500 Acres, Palmdale.

20) APN 359-03-002: 20 Acres: Kern County (Rasmussen: default)

21) APN 3064-16-10,22: 240 Acres, Llano, Los Angeles County.

22) APN 0419-091-10;12: 319 Acres, San Bernardino County.

23) APN 345-100-02-00-9: 100 Acres, Willow Springs, Kern County.

24) Proposed Fairmont and Antelope Buttes Reservoir, 1600 acres, Los Angeles County.

25) APN 3003-003-025,28,29: 15 acres, Palmdale, CA.

26) SE corner of L-8 and 45th Street West, 6 acres, Quartz Hill, Los Angeles County.

27) APN 3114-013-087,88,89: 35 acres, Lancaster, Los Angeles County.

28) 45th Street W and L-8: 6 acres, Quartz Hill, CA

29) MB 31-13, TR 2916, L 16: 20 Acres, Palmdale, CA

30) Fort Tejon Road and Union Pacific Railway: 59 Acres, Palmdale, CA

31) APN 3114-103-087,88,89: Avenue H-8 and 20th street West, 35 Acres, Lancaster, CA

32) APN 3150-014-006: 47 Acres, Avenue K and 30th Street East, Lancaster, CA

33) APN 3109-013-079,031 & 032, 8.2 Acres, 25th Street West & Ave M, Lancaster, CA

34) TTM 53869, 30 Acres, 55th Street West and California Aqueduct, Palmdale, CA

35) 80th Street West, between Ave. L and M, 800 Acres, Lancaster, CA

36) APN 3147-002-046, 10 Acres, NWC Lancaster Blvd. and 20th St. E. Lancaster, CA

37) APN 251-120-06, 32 Acres, SEC Orange St. and 25th St. W, Rosamond, CA

38) APN 3001-090-001 & 002, 9 Acres, SWC Entrar Drive and Ave. N-8, Palmdale, CA

39) TTM 61490, 80 Acres, NEC Ave J-8 and 50th Street West, Lancaster, CA

40) 12 Acres, Ave I and 20th Street West, Lancaster, CA

41) APN 3150-022-009, 5 Acres, Lancaster Blvd. and 30th Street East, Lancaster, CA

42) APN 386-100-034-9, 72 Acres, Grandview Drive, Lake Elsinore, Riverside Co. CA

43) APN 3203-018-086 & 087, 10 Acres, Avenue K and 65th Street West, Lancaster, CA

44) APN 3154-001-021 & 022, 10 Acres, NEC Ave. I and 37th Street East, Lancaster, CA

45) APN 3170-007-007, 29 Acres, Avenue K and 27th Street East, Lancaster, CA

46) APN 3109-001-061, 063 & 064, 15 Acres, 40th Street West and L-4, Lancaster, CA

47) APN 3204-16-56; 57;49, 15 Acres, SEC 70th Street W and Ave. L-12, Lancaster, CA

48) APN 3203-001-003 & 004; 3219-024-020, 120 Ac. Ave. I and 90th St. W, Lancaster

49) APN 3203-015-143 & 069, 13 Acres, Ave. J and 52nd St. West, Lancaster, CA

50) Avenue L and M, between 100th St W and 110th St. W, 768 Ac. Lancaster, CA

51) APN 3111-001-063, 10 Ac. NWC Ave. m-8 and 35th Street West, Lancaster, CA

52) APN 3150-029-003 & 004, 20 Acres, Ave. J and 37th Street East, Lancaster, CA

53) APN 394-031-011, 5 Acres, Amethyst Road and Tawny Ridge Lane, Victorville, CA

54) APN 3176-021-004, 005 & 062, 20 Acres, Ave I and 10th St. E, Lancaster, CA

55) APN 3150-003-001 & 002, 20 Acres, Ave I and 35th St. East, Lancaster, CA

56) Avenue J and 35th Street East, 30 Acres, Lancaster, CA

57) Avenue I and 12th Street East, 19 Acres, Lancaster, CA

58) APN 375-240-49, 2.3 Acres, 60th Street West and Willow Ave., Rosamond, CA

59) APN 3147-002-046, 10 Acres, Lancaster Blvd. and 20th Street East, Lancaster, CA

60) APN 3205-4-8; 3 & 0, 5 Acres, SWC 80th St, W and Elizabeth Lake Rd. L.A. Co.

61) APN 375-113-19, 2.5 Ac., Gaskell Road, 60th Street W, Rosamond, CA

62) Avenue J and 32nd St. West, 2 Acres, Lancaster, CA

63) APN 3024-8-14, 10 Acres, 60th Street East and Ave. R, Palmdale, CA

64) APN 3124- 013-010, 4.7 Acres, Ave J-8 and 20th St. West, Lancaster, CA

86) APN 3109-020-023, 5 Acres, Ave. L-8 and 20th Street West, Lancaster, CA

87) APN 3204-008-031, 20 Acres, 60th Street West and Ave. L, Lancaster, CA

88) APN 3105-017-001 & 017, 20 Acres, Ave. H and 42nd St. West, Lancaster, CA

89) APN 3150-030-006;016 & 013, 8 Acres, Ave J-2 and 26th St East, Lancaster, CA

90) Challenger Way and Avenue K-6, 24 Acres, Lancaster, CA

91) APN 3204-023-182, 10 Acres, Ave. M-8 and 70th Street West, Lancaster, CA

92) APN 3109-012-024, 5 Acres, 28th St. West and Ave. L-10, Lancaster, CA

93) APN 3110-007-007, 10 Acres, 40th St. West and Ave. K-12, Lancaster, CA

94) TTM 060198, 40 Acres, 45th St. East and Avenue M-8, Lancaster, CA

95) APN 3123-005-042, 2 Acres, Ave. J and 20th St. West, Lancaster, CA

96) APN 3109-025-020, 2.5 Acres, Ave. L-8 and 10th St. West, Lancaster, CA

97) Avenue L and 10th St. West, 5 Acres, Lancaster, CA

98) APN 3111-002-001;2,24-26;16;17;62, 80 Acres, 40th St. W and Ave. N, Lancaster

99) APN 3150-012-033, 10 Acres, Ave. J-8 and 25th Street East, Lancaster, CA

100) APN 3109-001-065;066, 20 Acres, 35th St. West and Ave. L-4, Lancaster, CA

101) Avenue O and 10th Street West, 5 Acres, Palmdale, CA

102) APN 3111-002-050;052-054, 13 Acres, 45th Street West and Ave. M-14, Lancaster

103) APN 3023-040-018 & 062, 4 Acres, SEC 45th Street East and Ave. R., Palmdale

104) APN 3203-015-077, 5 Acres, SEC 55th Street West and Avenue J, Lancaster, CA

105) APN 3150-010-036, 2.4 Acres, Ave. J-6 and 22nd Street East, Lancaster, CA

PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

Ornithology Instructor 1976. University of California, Berkeley

Visiting Assistant Professor of Zoology 1977-80. National University of Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.

Post-Doctoral Research in Avian Paleontology 1983-84. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C..

Visiting Assistant Professor of Behavioral Biology 1984. Monterey Pen. College.
Professor of Zoology 1984 - present Antelope Valley College, Biology Dept, CA.

Post-Doctoral Research 1990. Point Reyes Bird Observatory, CA.

Research Associate, Veertebrate Paleontology 1987- present Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History, CA.

CEO/Project Manager 1987- present Callyn D.Yorke, Biological Resources Reports

Ornithology Instructor, 2014-2018 UCLA Extension, Los Angeles

THESES AND PUBLICATIONS

Yorke, C.D. 1976. Reproductive strategies in the Hylidae (New World treefrogs). Biology Dept., California State University, Hayward. 45 pp.

Yorke, C.D. 1978. Reptiles of Pulau Tenggol (Malaysia): A new record of the Green Mangrove Snake (*Boiga cyanea*) and two new geckoes (*Gymnodactylus* spp.). *Nature Malaysiana* 3: 45-50.

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