

ENVIRA
Aquaculture Fisheries Environmental
P.O. Box 2612, Ramona, California, USA 92065
Phone 619-885-0236 E-mail PHVERGNE@AOL.COM

June 2, 2022

TO: **Ms. Stacey Love**
Recovery Permit Coordinator
Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
2177 Salk Avenue, Ste. 250
Carlsbad, CA 92008
(760) 431-9440 x 263
stacey_love@fws.gov

Heather Dyer
Palm Springs Fish and Wildlife Office
777 East Tahquitz Canyon Way, Suite 208
Palm Springs, CA 92262
(760) 322-2070 x 210

FROM: Philippe Vergne
USFWS permit number **TE-831207-4**

SUBJECT: Highland Trapping Request of May 9, 2022

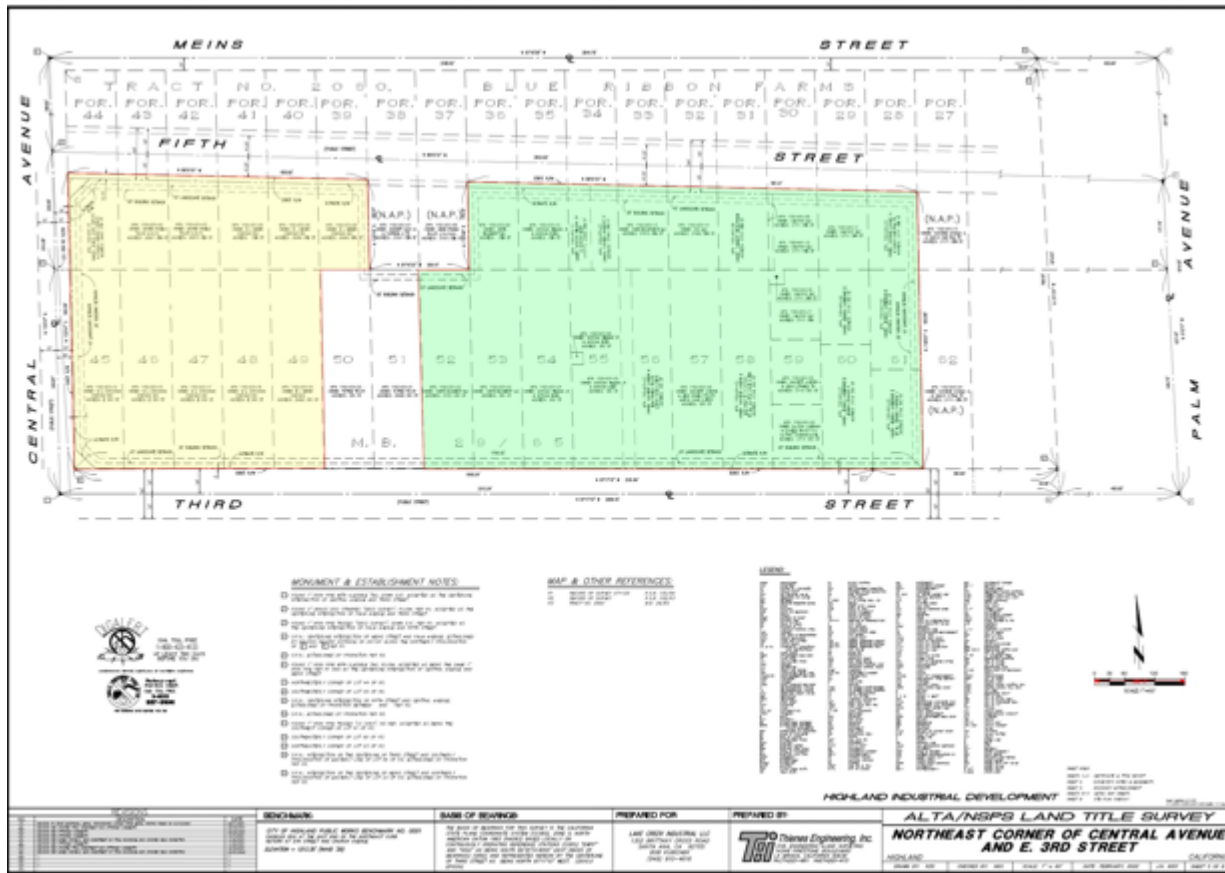
Just to let you know that I went on the proposed trapping site (trapping notification sent May 9) as shown in the attached figures. I did not see any evidence of small mammal (including kangaroo rats, Los Angeles pocket mouse and northwestern San Diego pocket mice) within or adjacent to the project area.

The site is mostly used as an equipment storage and repair facility. The limited areas that are not hard packed or gravelled are bladed regularly for weed control.

The only fossorial mammal sign observed were small clusters of pocket gopher burrows near the fence. No sign of other burrows, tail drags, scat, tracks other than pocket gopher were observed.

The property is isolated, surrounded by paved streets and small industrial developments, and has no direct access to either potential or occupied SBKR habitat.

It is our professional opinion that the site is not occupied and trapping is not warranted.



Project Layout



Project Aerial



Road to South and adjacent to property



Cluster of pocket gopher burrows on site.



View of repair yard.



informal consultation / project review request

Betty Kempton <bkempton@migcom.com>
To: stacey_love@fws.gov
Cc: Deirdre McCollister <dmccollister@migcom.com>

Fri, Jun 10, 2022 at 2:46 PM

Dear Ms. Stacey Love:

We are assisting a client that has a project located in Highland, California, just a few meters north of critical habitat for San Bernardino Kangaroo Rat. The site is extremely disturbed, and the habitat would be considered low-quality for most wildlife; however, due to the proximity to critical habitat we requested that a permitted small mammal biologist review the project. We would like to informally consult with you to make sure that our efforts are sufficient and that formal consultation, mitigation, and permitting will not be required for this or other small mammals known to occur nearby. Please find the attached memo from the permitted biologist for more information.

Thank you,

Betty Kempton-Paul

Senior Biologist and GIS Analyst at MIG

she/her/hers

cell: 909-556 6614

1650 Spruce Street, Suite 106
Riverside, California 92507 | USA

bkempton@migcom.com

 **Highland_nonocupancyletter_2022.pdf**
1149K



informal consultation / project review request

Love, Stacey <stacey_love@fws.gov>

To: "bkempton@migcom.com" <bkempton@migcom.com>

Cc: "dmccollister@migcom.com" <dmccollister@migcom.com>, "Christensen, Rebecca A" <rebecca_christensen@fws.gov>, "Cleary-Rose, Karin" <Karin_Cleary-Rose@fws.gov>

Fri, Jun 10, 2022 at 4:02 PM

Hello Betty,

Thank you. I am routing your inquiry to the appropriate contact, Karin Cleary-Rose (cc'd).

Regards,

Stacey Love (she/her)

Recovery Permit Coordinator

Carlsbad (incl. Palm Springs) field office

([click here for jurisdiction map](#))

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

2177 Salk Avenue, Ste. 250

Carlsbad, CA 92008

(760) 431-9440 x 263

stacey_love@fws.gov

[Pacific Southwest Region Recovery Permits web page](#)

[General Recovery Permits web page](#)

Permittees: Please include your permit number in all correspondence and reporting, thank you.

[Check out our annual report](#)



From: Betty Kempton <bkempton@migcom.com>

Sent: Friday, June 10, 2022 2:46 PM

To: Love, Stacey <stacey_love@fws.gov>

Cc: Deirdre McCollister <dmccollister@migcom.com>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] informal consultation / project review request

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Highland_nonocupancyletter_2022.pdf
1149K



informal consultation / project review request

Christensen, Rebecca A <rebecca_christensen@fws.gov>
To: "Love, Stacey" <stacey_love@fws.gov>, "bkempton@migcom.com" <bkempton@migcom.com>
Cc: "dmccollister@migcom.com" <dmccollister@migcom.com>, "Cleary-Rose, Karin" <Karin_Cleary-Rose@fws.gov>

Wed, Jun 15, 2022 at 9:59 AM

Hello Betty,

After reviewing the maps and photos, and being previously aware of Mr. Vergne's expertise, it is my opinion that you have done your due diligence in examining potential ESA-listed species concerns, and no further action is needed.

Thank you,

Rebecca Christensen
Fish and Wildlife Biologist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Palm Springs Fish and Wildlife Office
777 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way, Suite 208
Palm Springs, California 92262
cell: 442-303-7914 (**best**)
office: 760-322-2070 ext. 416
Pronouns: she/her

From: Love, Stacey <stacey_love@fws.gov>
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2022 4:02 PM
To: bkempton@migcom.com <bkempton@migcom.com>
Cc: dmccollister@migcom.com <dmccollister@migcom.com>; Christensen, Rebecca A <rebecca_christensen@fws.gov>; Cleary-Rose, Karin <Karin_Cleary-Rose@fws.gov>
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] informal consultation / project review request

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