

MULTIPLE SPECIES HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN (MSHCP) CONSISTENCY REPORT

**Kasbergen Hafliger Property
APN 434-180-005 and 433-070-039
San Jacinto, CA**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Michael Brandman Associates (MBA) conducted a habitat assessment and MSHCP consistency analysis for the 44.8-acre Kasbergen Hafliger property (APN 434-180-005 and 433-070-039) in the City of San Jacinto, Riverside County. The site visit of the project site was conducted on January 4, 2006. Weather conditions were excellent, with clear skies and temperatures in the 60s (degrees Fahrenheit). The pedestrian survey included the entire 44.8-acre site.

The project site is located east of and abutting Alessandro Avenue, south of and abutting the Ramona Expressway, and north of Burt Avenue in the City of San Jacinto, Riverside County, California. It consists of Assessor's Parcel Numbers 434-180-005 and 433-070-039 and is within unsectioned land of Township 4 South and Range 1 West of the San Jacinto U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle. The site occurs on flat topography at approximately 1,550 feet above mean sea level. The soils on the project site are dominated by the Dello Series.

The MSHCP lists the burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*) (BUOW) as the only MSHCP habitat assessment requirement. The project site is not within a Criteria Cell of the MSHCP and no HANS Review is required. The closest Criteria Cell (2893) of the MSHCP occurs approximately 0.25 mile to the east and will not be affected by project activities.

In its current condition, the project site contains two main habitat types: disked bare ground (33.8 acres) and ruderal (11 acres). The disked areas do not contain suitable BUOW habitat since no burrows are present. No burrows were observed in the ruderal areas but debris piles could provide suitable cover for BUOW. During the survey, no BUOW or BUOW sign was observed onsite and it is believed that BUOW do not currently occupy the site. In addition, no ground squirrel colonies were observed on the project site. No further BUOW surveys are needed at this time. However, since BUOW are known to occur in the vicinity and the condition of the site could change, a 30-day BUOW clearance survey is recommended prior to grading. This survey takes one day to perform and a brief letter report documenting the continued absence of BUOW on the project site is generated.

The project site does not contain suitable habitat for any sensitive plant species. The ornamental hedgerow that is present on the project site along Alessandro Avenue could provide suitable breeding habitat for loggerhead shrike, a MSHCP planning species. In addition, the sycamore and pine trees present near the existing residence on the project site could provide suitable nesting habitat for Cooper's hawk, also a MSHCP planning species. It is recommended that to avoid impacts to nesting birds, vegetation removal should be conducted outside of the avian breeding season (February 15 through July 15) to avoid impacts to nests. If vegetation clearance is required during this period, a pre-construction nesting bird survey will be required.

The project is inside the Stephens' kangaroo rat (SKR) HCP fee area boundary and payment of a fee to the Riverside County Habitat Conservation Agency will be required.

With payment of the MSHCP mitigation fees, SKR HCP mitigation fees, a pre-construction BUOW survey (if grading is not completed by February 4, 2006), and nesting bird survey (if construction activities occur after February 15, 2006), the Kasbergen Hafliger property should be fully consistent with the Western Riverside County MSHCP.