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RECTIFICATION AND ADDENDUM OF THE BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT REPORT DATED JANUARY 21, 2024, FOR THE LOT SITUATED AT THE CORNER OF WITHERS AVE AND PLEASANT HILL ROAD, LAFAYETTE, CALIFORNIA 94549 (APN: 166-160-015-3)

RECTIFICATION:

1)The page no of 29, line no 1 and 2, of the report has been rectified to “ Bat nesting season is April 15th to August 31 and October 15 to February 28” instead of “May 1st through October 1st”

2)The page no of 8, Streambed Alteration and Wetland Habitat report has been rectified to:

The CDFW has jurisdiction for Project activities affecting river, lakes or streams and associated riparian Habitat according to provisions of section 1601 through 1603 of CDFW. Notification is required for any activity that may be substantially divert or obstruct the natural flow, change or use of material from the bed, channel or bank (including associated riparian or wetland resources), or deposit or dispose of material where it may pass into a river, Lake or stream. Work within ephemeral streams, drainage, ditches, washes, watercourse with a subsurface flow, and floodplain is generally subjected to Notification requirements.

Possible impact:

Riparian Buffer Loss: Removing native vegetation destroys the "filter" that keeps sediments and toxins out of the water.

Thermal Pollution: Shade from trees keeps water temperatures low. Replacement of trees can result in water temperatures rise, which can be lethal for fish and aquatic life.

Debris accumulation: can result in fragmentation riparian Habitat and decreases in native species abundance and biodiversity.

Recommendations:

Minimize the construction activities and don't remove native vegetation in the creekside setback. Don't deposit or pile up debris in the creekside setback.

The proposed project may require an Lake and Streambed Alteration (LSA) notification and agreement.

ADDENDUM :

1) "Prior to tree removal. A qualified biologist shall conduct a habitat assessment for bats. A qualified biologist shall have: 1) At least two years of experience conducting bat surveys that resulted in detections for relevant species, such as pallid bat, with verified project names, dates, and references, and 2) Experience with relevant equipment used to conduct bat surveys. The habitat assessment shall be conducted a minimum of 30 to 90 days prior to the beginning of the project activities."

2) The Alameda whipsnake (*Masticophis lateralis euryxanthus*), also known as the Alameda striped racer, is a slender, fast-moving, non-venomous snake. It is a rare subspecies of the California whipsnake and is currently listed as federally threatened. It is sooty black or dark brown with a distinct yellow-orange stripe running down each side of its body. Adults generally reach lengths of 3 to 4 feet.

Behavior: As a diurnal (daytime) predator, it is known for its speed and its habit of holding its head high off the ground to peer over grass and rocks for prey.

The Alameda whipsnake is found exclusively in the East Bay region of the San Francisco Bay Area.

It inhabits portions of Contra Costa, Alameda, northern Santa Clara, and western San Joaquin counties.

Populations: Due to urban development, the species is now fragmented into five mostly isolated populations: Tilden-Briones, Oakland-Las Trampas, Mount Diablo-Black Hills, Hayward-Pleasanton Ridge, and Sunol-Cedar Mountain.

I didn't find any sign of Alameda whipsnake at the proposed site. As a result, no focused protocol surveys are suggested and it is not expected that the Project would result in negative impacts upon this species.

Regards,

Daniel Edelstein

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