

**Historic Biological Reports
Scan Control Sheet**

County Project Number(s):

CCC-0213/PM-5379

Report Type (check one):

- ☒ Initial Study
- ☐ Species Inventory/Survey
- ☐ Focused Study
- ☐ EIR
- ☐ Draft EIR
- ☐ EIS

Report Date (Month/Day/Year):

12/17/2002

Check if the following apply to the report:

- ☒ Wetland and/or aquatic habitat
- ☐ Within designated Coastal Zone
- ☒ Movement corridor for fish and/or wildlife

COUNTY OF VENTURA BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES INITIAL STUDY

Date: December 17, 2002

Requestor: Janie King

Project: CCC0213/PM 5379

Field Study: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Justification: sensitive flora known to be in the vicinity

A. CHECKLIST

Biological Resources Issues	Project Impact Degree of Effect				Cumulative Impact Degree of Effect			
	N	LS	PS-M	PS	N	LS	PS-M	PS
a. endangered, threatened, or rare species	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. wetland habitat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. coastal habitat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. migration corridors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. locally important species/communities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Degree of Effect Explanation

N= None

LS = Less than significant effect

PS-M = Significant effect; Mitigation incorporated for a ND

PS = Potentially Significant effect; EIR required

B. DISCUSSION

The project site consists of the legalization of a 213-acre parcel located on East Olson Road, approximately one mile east of State Highway 23 in the City of Thousand Oaks. The applicant requests a Conditional Certificate of Compliance to legalize a previously undisclosed lot subdivision.

A search of the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) via the RAREFIND2 software (September 2002) listed special-status biological resources within a 10-mile radius of the project vicinity. Attachment A includes a map showing the results of the CNDDB 10-mile radius search for sensitive biological resources and a table of the resource-listing status of these species.

The Simi Valley West and Thousand Oaks USGS topographic quadrangles (National Geographic, 2001) were reviewed. The onsite elevation ranges from approximately 680 to 1180 feet above mean sea level, with the highest elevation atop a knoll located in the northeastern quadrant of the property. The site also contains hills on the south edge and northwest corners, which slope to the middle of the property and to the west. A valley runs from southeast to west through the middle of the property and is the location of the main access road and buildings. The project site is developed with access roads and uses include a single family dwelling, a second dwelling unit, a caretaker dwelling, a horse track, and several accessory buildings including

horse barns, tack room, office, and storage buildings. A large portion of the property appears to be undeveloped grassland that may be used for animal pasture, as observed in aerial photos (USGS TerraServer, 1994). In addition, evidence from aerial photos and experience from projects in the area indicate that there is the possibility of other habitats occurring on the site, such as, woodland habitat types, coastal sage, and or chaparral.

No blue line streams occur on the property according to the USGS topographic maps. However, the map illustrates a blue line stream adjacent to the northern property line, draining south. Another drainage may be located in the valley onsite, based on site topography on the USGS topographic maps. It is unknown whether this, or any other portion of the site, would qualify as waters of the U.S. or waters of the state. It is noted that the topography and drainage flow to a low-lying point in the northwest corner of the property.

The CNDDDB record search located 14 wildlife species and 16 plants species. The search area incorporated a large diversity of habitats and conditions (10-mile radius from the property), some of which may not occur on the property, and may preclude certain species. Species that are precluded include some fish, amphibian, and reptile species that are dependant on perennial water sources.

Special-status wildlife species that have the potential to occur on the property include:

- Southern California rufous-crowned sparrow (*Aimophila ruficeps canescens*); found in coastal sage scrub and chaparral. State Species of concern.
- Golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*); foothills and mountain areas. State species of concern.
- Burrowing owl (*Atene cunicularia*); dry grassland areas with low-growing vegetation. State species of concern.
- San Diego desert woodrat (*Neotoma lepida intermedia*); Abundant in rock outcrops, cliff areas, and slopes. State species of concern.
- Coastal California gnatcatcher (*Poliophtila californica*); resident of sage scrub in arid washes and slopes. Federally threatened and State species of concern.
- Bank swallow (*Riparia riparia*); found in riparian habitats. State threatened species.
- Western spadefoot (*Scaphiopus hammondi*); occurs in grassland habitats, water necessary for breeding. State species of concern.
- Least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*); summer resident in low riparian areas. Federal and State endangered species.

Special-status plant species that have the potential to occur on the property include:

- Braunton's milk-vetch (*Astragalus brauntonii*); occurs in chaparral, coastal scrub, and grassland. Federal endangered and CNPS List 1B species.
- Plummer's mariposa lily (*Calochortus plummerae*), coastal scrub, chaparral, grassland usually in rocky and sandy sites. A CNPS List 1B plant.
- Southern tarplant (*Centromadia parryi* ssp. *australis*); occurs in swamp margins, grassland, and vernal pools, often in disturbed sites. A CNPS List 1B species.

- San Fernando Valley spineflower (*Chorizanthe parryi* var *fernandina*); occurs in coastal scrub in sandy soils. A Federal candidate species, State endangered, and CNPS List 1B plant.
- Santa Susana tarplant (*Deinandra minthornii*); Chaparral, coastal scrub on sandstone outcrops and crevices. A State listed rare species and a CNPS List 1B plant.
- Dune larkspur (*Delphinium parryi* ssp *blochmaniae*); chaparral, on rocky areas and dunes. A CNPS List 1B plant.
- Blochman's dudleya (*Dudleya blochmaniae* ssp *blochmaniae*); coastal scrub and grassland areas in open rocky slopes. A CNPS List 1B plant.
- Santa Monica Mtns. Dudleya (*Dudleya cymosa* ssp *agourensis*); chaparral on rocky substrates. A Federal threatened species and CNPS List 1B plant.
- Marcescent dudleya (*Dudleya cymosa* ssp *marcescens*); found in chaparral on sheer rock surfaces and rocky cliffs. A Federal threatened species, State rare species, and CNPS List 1B species.
- Conejo dudleya (*Dudleya parva*); found in coastal scrub and grassland areas on rocky slopes and grassy hillsides. A Federal threatened and CNPS List 1B species.
- Verity's dudleya (*Dudleya verityi*); chaparral, cismontane woodland, and coastal scrub on rocky outcrops. A Federal threatened and CNPS List 1B species.
- Conejo buckwheat (*Eriogonum crocatum*); chaparral, coastal scrub, and grasslands on rocky sites. A State rare species and CNPS List 1B plant.
- Round-leaved filaree (*Erodium macrophyllum*); found in cismaontane woodland and grassland areas in clay soils. A CNPS List 2 plant.
- California orcutt grass (*Orcuttia californica*); found in vernal pools. A Federal and State endangered species and CNPS List 1B plant.
- Lyon's pentachaeta (*Pentachaeta lyonii*); found in chaparral and grassland areas. A Federal and State endangered species and CNPS List 1B species.
- Rayless ragwort (*Sececio aphanactis*) cismontane woodland and coastal scrub in alkaline flats. A CNPS List 2 plant.

Rincon performed onsite field surveys at a project site (PM5145) located north of this site. It was found to contain outcroppings of Conejo volcanics that provide suitable habitat for several federally threatened and endangered species, in particular, the endangered Lyon's pentachaeta (*Pentachaeta lyonii*) and threatened Conejo live-forever (*Dudleya abramsii* spp. *parva*). In addition CNDDDB records show an occurrence of Lyon's pentachaeta from 1992 on the south side of East Olson road south of the property. Therefore, it is assumed that the project site in question, PM5379, may contain suitable habitats for these species.

- a, b, d **Sensitive biological resources.** Sensitive biological resources, including sensitive plants, wildlife, communities, or wetlands may exist onsite. However, this Conditional Certification of Compliance for a lot line adjustment would have no impacts to any of these resources.
- c. **Migration Corridors.** The project site is approximately 213-acres in size and is surrounded on three sides by open space. Species passing through the project site may partially be blocked by existing development but will alternately be able

to utilize other areas of the site and adjacent open land for passage. Therefore any potential development would not present a significant barrier to migration.

- d. **Locally important Species/Communities.** If locally important species or communities, such as oaks exist on site, they will not be affected by this action.

C. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

	<u>Yes/Maybe</u>	<u>No</u>
1. Does the project have the potential to significantly degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. Does the project have the potential to achieve short-term, to the disadvantage of long-term, environmental goals?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3. Does the project have impacts, which are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

D. MITIGATION MEASURES

Recommended ☒

Required for Negative Declaration ☒

Although the Conditional Certificate of Compliance would not result in significant impacts to special-status biological resources, future grading or development has the potential to impact special-status biological resources, if present onsite. Therefore, the following mitigation measures are suggested prior to any development or future grading.

- a. **Sensitive Flora.** Surveys for sensitive plant species should be performed during the blooming period, when species potentially onsite may be more easily observed and may be identified to species. If sensitive species occur onsite, they should be avoided and fenced to prevent disturbance. If avoidance is not feasible, it should be determined whether replacement mitigation is acceptable for the species in question and a habitat restoration plan should be prepared.
- b. **Waters of the U.S.** Prior to any development or future grading, it should be determined whether waters of the U.S. or waters of the state exist within the valley or any other area of the site, especially the northwest corner. Grading or fill of waters of the U.S. or wetlands may result in significant impacts and may require consultation with the Corps and CDFG.
- c. **Oak Trees.** If oak trees are present on site, grading or project development has the potential to impact trees protected by Ventura County. Impacts to oak trees should be mitigated according to the Ventura County tree protection regulations.

Reviewer: Ed Miller

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Date: 12/20/02

December 17, 2002

F. REFERENCES

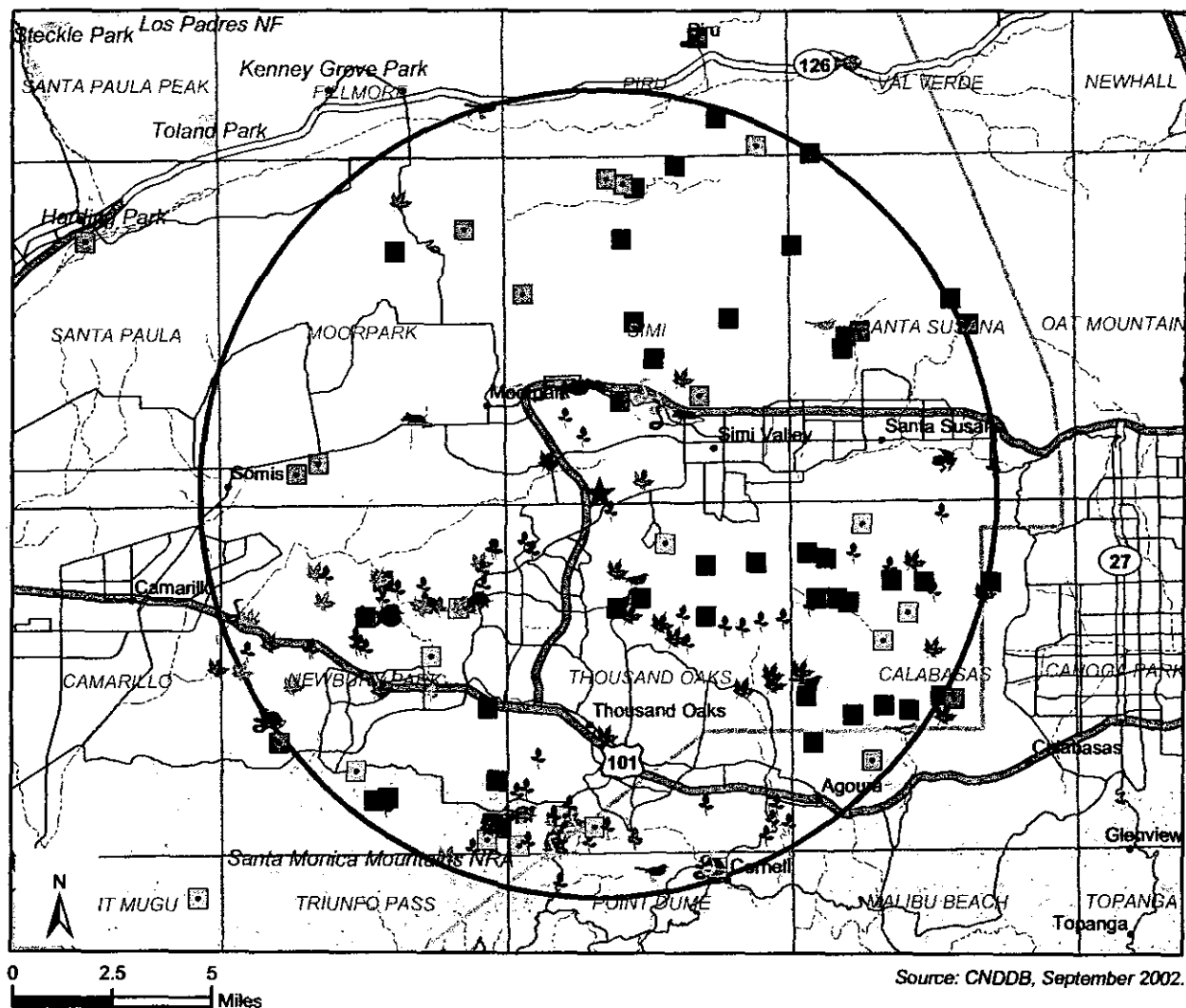
California Department of Fish and Game, California Natural Diversity Database. September 2002. RAREFIND2 software.

California Department of Fish and Game. July 2002. *Special Plants List*. Natural Heritage Division, Natural Diversity Data Base.

California Department of Fish and Game. July 2002. *Special Animals*.

National Geographic. 2001. USGS Topographic Maps on CD-ROM. San Francisco, California.





★ Ventura Co. PM 5379

- AAABF01030, WESTERN SPADEFOOT
- ABNKC22010, GOLDEN EAGLE
- ABNSB10010, BURROWING OWL
- ABPAU09010, BANK SWALLOW
- ABPB09080, COASTAL CALIFORNIA GNATCATCHER
- ABPBW01114, LEAST BELL'S VIREO
- ABPBX91091, SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RUFIOUS-CROWNED SPARROW
- AFCJB13120, ARROYO CHUB
- AFCJC02190, SANTA ANA SUCKER
- AMAFF08041, SAN DIEGO DESERT WOODRAT
- ARAAD02032, SOUTHWESTERN POND TURTLE
- ARACJ02140, COASTAL WESTERN WHIPTAIL

- ARADB36160, TWO-STRIPED GARTER SNAKE
- CTT42110CA, VALLEY NEEDLEGRASS GRASSLAND
- CTT52310CA, CISMONTANE ALKALI MARSH
- CTT61300CA, SOUTHERN RIPARIAN FOREST
- CTT61310CA, SOUTHERN COAST LIVE OAK RIPARIAN FOREST
- CTT62400CA, SOUTHERN SYCAMORE ALDER RIPARIAN WOODLAND
- CTT63300CA, SOUTHERN RIPARIAN SCRUB
- CTT63320CA, SOUTHERN WILLOW SCRUB
- CTT71130CA, VALLEY OAK WOODLAND
- CTT71210CA, CALIFORNIA WALNUT WOODLAND
- ICMAL76010, RIVERSIDE FAIRY SHRIMP
- PDAST4R0J0, SANTA SUSANA TARPLANT
- PDAST4R0P4, SOUTHERN TARPLANT

- PDAST6X060, LYON'S PENTACHAETA
- PDAST8H060, RAYLESS RAGWORT
- POCRA04016, CONEJO DUDLEYA
- POCRA04051, BLOCHMAN'S DUDLEYA
- POCRA040A3, MARCESCENT DUDLEYA
- POCRA040A7, SANTA MONICA MTNS. DUDLEYA
- POCRA040U0, VERITY'S DUDLEYA
- PDFAB0F1G0, BRAUNTON'S MILK-VETCH
- PDGER01070, ROUND-LEAVED FILAREE
- PDGPN040J1, SAN FERNANDO VALLEY SPINEFLOWER
- PDGPN081G0, CONEJO BUCKWHEAT
- PDGRAN081B1, DUNE LARKSPUR
- PMLL0D160, PLUMMER'S MARIPOSA LILY
- PMPOM4G010, CALIFORNIA ORCUTT GRASS

Sensitive Elements Reported by the
California Natural Diversity Database

Attachment A

Ventura County