Historic Biological Reports
Scan Control Sheet

County Project Number(s): CUP-4874

Report Type (check one):
- ☐ Initial Study
- ☒ Species Inventory/Survey
- ☐ Focused Study
- ☐ EIR
- ☐ Draft EIR
- ☐ EIS
- ☐ ND
- ☐ MND
- ☐ Other

Report Date (Month/Day/Year): 10/09/1996

Check if the following apply to the report:

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

Chambers Group, Inc.
Environmental Consultants
Scientists
Planners
Engineers

October 9, 1996
(6495B)

Ms. Jane King, Planner
County of Ventura Resource Management Agency
800 Victoria Avenue L#1740
Ventura, CA 93009

Subject: Results of California Gnatcatcher Survey at Grimes Rock, Inc., Proposed Project Site, County of Ventura

Dear Ms. King:

Chambers Group, Inc., was contracted by the Ventura County Resource Management Agency to conduct presence/absence surveys for the California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*) at the Grimes Rock Inc. proposed project site near the City of Moorpark in Ventura County (Figure 1). The purpose of this letter is to report the findings of these surveys.

The County requested these surveys to determine, to the extent feasible, the presence/absence of the California gnatcatcher at the proposed project site. During the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review process for this proposed project, the potential for the California gnatcatcher to occur on the project site was identified as a potential issue in the Initial Study (County of Ventura 1996). A recent sighting of the California gnatcatchers in Moorpark were documented recently (Jones and Ramirez 1995). This was the first verified California gnatcatcher sighting in Ventura County since 1924 (CNDDB 1996).

Grimes Rock has requested a conditional use permit (CUP 4874) to begin sand and gravel mining operations at a previously mined site within the proposed project area. The proposed permit area consists of approximately 160 acres, with a proposed mining area of 40 acres; active mining would be limited to 12 acres.

SURVEY AREA

Grimes Rock is located off Grimes Canyon Road (State Route 23), north of State Route 118 and south of State Route 126, approximately 5 miles north of Moorpark in unincorporated Ventura County (Figure 2). The approximately 160-acre survey area is located entirely within

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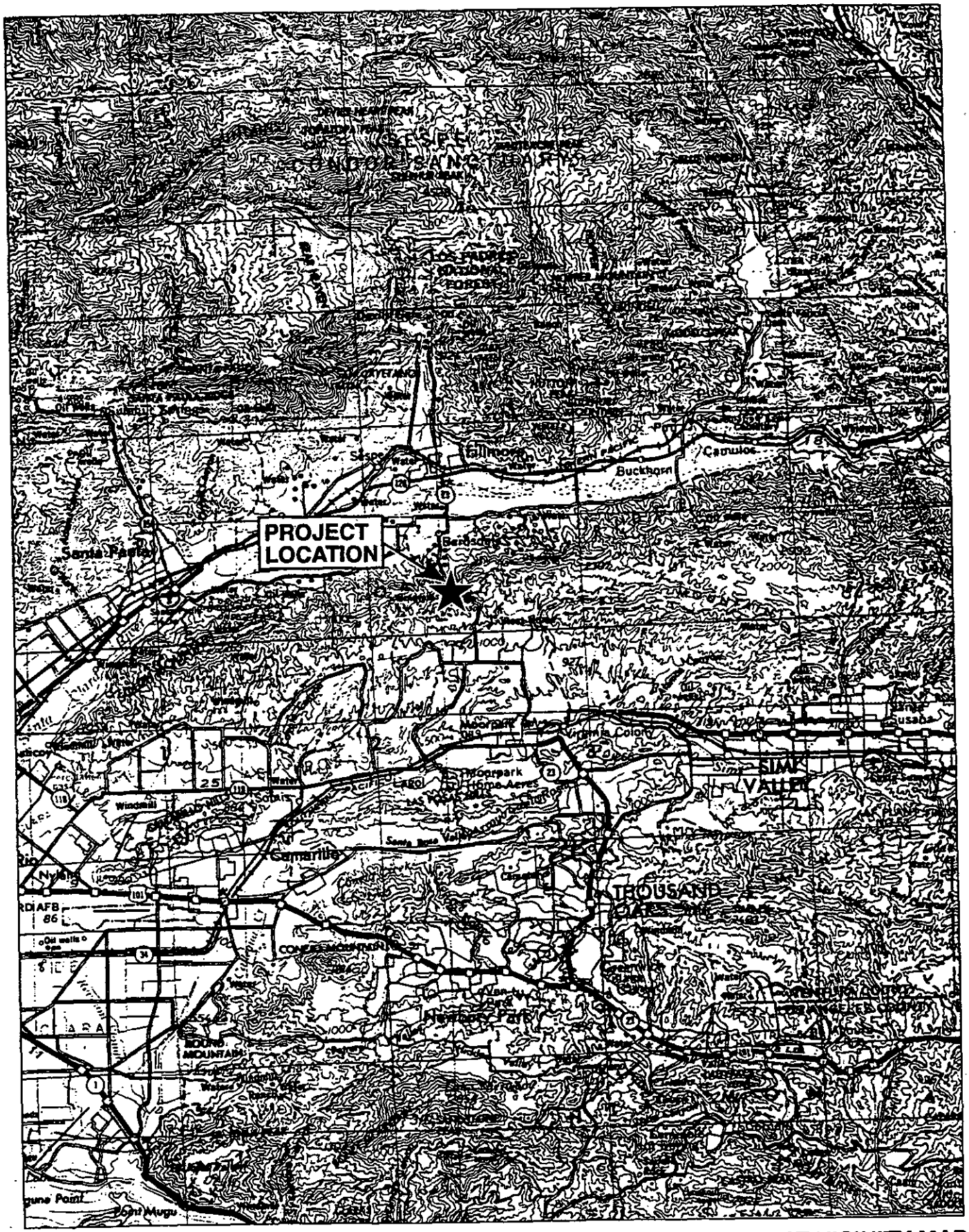
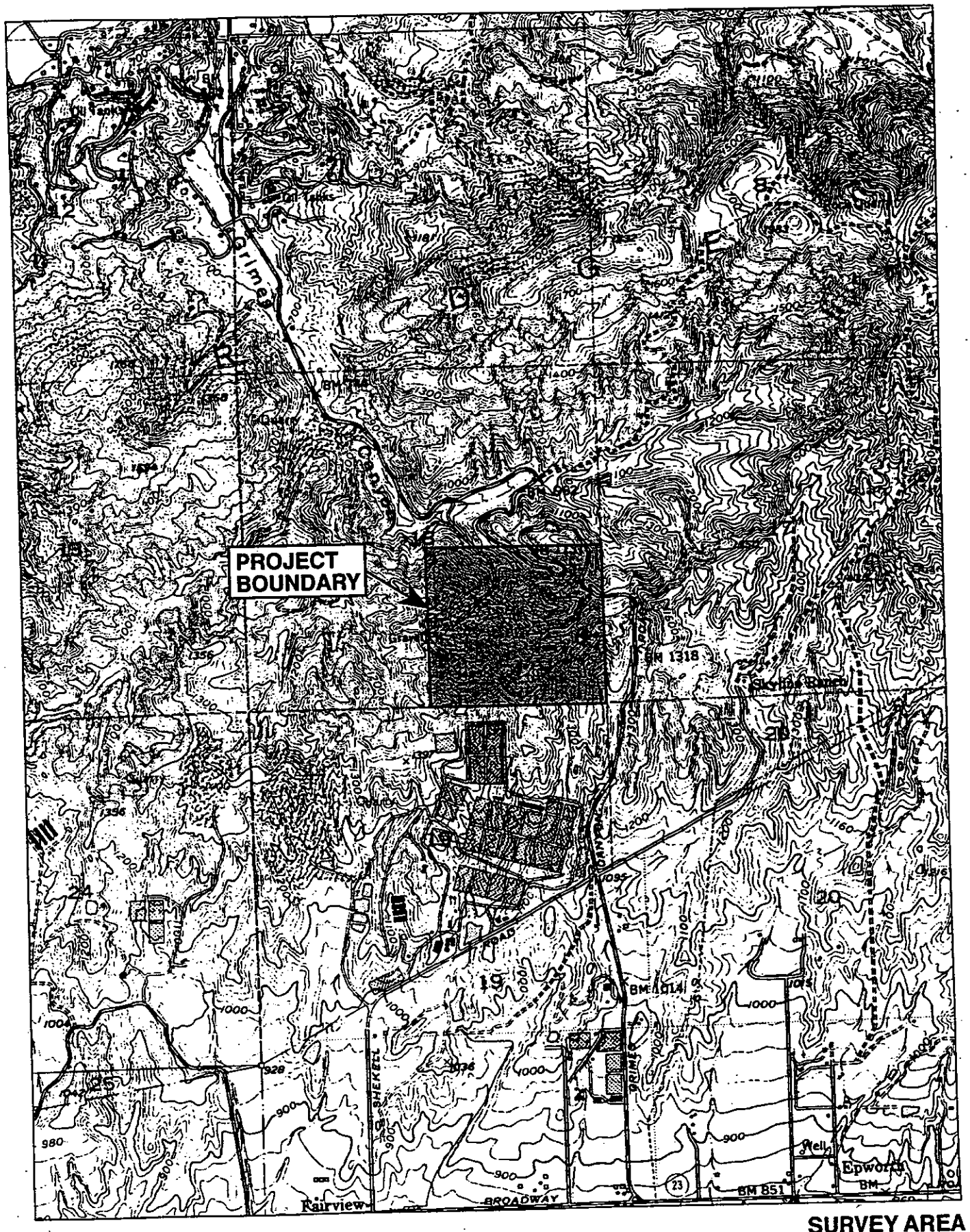


PROJECT VICINITY MAP
Figure 1

6495-10/96



SURVEY AREA
Figure 2

Section 18 of Township 3 North, Range 19 West of the Moorpark 1951 (photorevised 1969, photoinspected 1974) U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute quadrangle. Site elevation ranges from approximately 900 to 1,200 feet above sea level. The Grimes Rock site is located within the Oak Ridge Hills, where elevations range from 500 to 2,228 feet within the Moorpark quadrangle.

Vegetation communities include coast live oak woodland, Venturan coastal sage scrub, chaparral, and non-native grassland. Vegetation in the proposed mining footprint, where the previous mine was located, consists primarily of non-native weedy species dominated by tree tobacco (*Nicotiana glauca*).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Before conducting the focused field survey, Chambers Group searched the most recent version of the California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDB 1996; Fillmore, Moorpark, Santa Paula, and Simi quadrangles) to determine whether California gnatcatchers had been observed on the proposed project site or in the surrounding area. General information on recent California gnatcatcher sightings in Moorpark was obtained from Jones and Ramirez (1995) and Jones (pers. comm. 1996).

Following the Federal listing of the California gnatcatcher, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) established a standard survey methodology to survey for this species. Presently, the accepted methodologies are based on two sources of information. Mock et al. (1990) report that the best time of year to survey for California gnatcatchers is between January and March 20. However, they also conclude, "If the objective of the survey is to determine presence-absence of gnatcatchers or habitat suitability for gnatcatchers, any time of the year, except incubation, would be adequate." Mock et al. also recommend that a given site be surveyed three times with an interval of at least 7 days between visits for gnatcatcher presence-absence surveys. Brussard et al. (1992) recommend that surveys for the gnatcatcher be conducted between late December and May, with a minimum of three visits to a given site at 7-day intervals between visits during the incubation period. They also recommended that additional surveys should be conducted whenever possible.

Further guidelines set forth by Brussard et al. state that no more than 40 hectares (100 acres) should be surveyed by each biologist per day. These guidelines also state that the biologists can play the recorded call of the gnatcatcher to elicit a response from resident birds if they are present. The surveys should be performed during the morning hours before 11:00 a.m. when

the temperature exceeds 55°F. In addition, the survey should not be conducted during windy (>15 miles per hour [mph]), rainy, or extremely hot (>95°F) conditions.

A focused survey of the proposed project site was conducted by Chambers Group biologists permitted (USFWS permit No. PRT-781217) to perform presence/absence surveys for the California gnatcatcher. This survey was conducted on September 19, 26, and October 3 1996 from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00a.m. Weather conditions during each survey were similar; temperatures ranged from approximately 60 to 75°F, increasing as the day progressed. Winds were very light (0 to 3 mph), and the cloud cover ranged from 0 to 100 percent. A light fog was present in the mornings but generally burned off by the end of each survey.

Chambers Group biologists surveyed all accessible areas of the entire site on foot to identify and assess areas that support coastal sage scrub, the primary habitat of the California gnatcatcher. Other habitats adjacent to coastal sage scrub were also surveyed. Access points and the proposed project limits were identified for the biologists by Mr. Gene Hosford, Gene L. Hosford Associates, and the proposed project description and an aerial photograph were supplied by Ms. Jane King, Planner, County of Ventura. The aerial photograph was used in the field to identify project limits and areas that might support potentially suitable coastal sage scrub vegetation. Areas that supported coastal sage scrub were surveyed intensively. A tape recording of the California gnatcatcher was used to elicit a response from any birds that may have been present. The tape was played for brief (3- to 5-second) intervals; the biologists then listened and watched for a response. All incidental wildlife observations were recorded on standardized data sheets, as were dominant plant species. A list of the wildlife and plants observed is included as Attachment 1. Copies of the original data sheets used in the field are included as Attachment 2. Photographic documentation of current site conditions is included as Attachment 3.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The California gnatcatcher is currently listed as a threatened species by the USFWS. The gnatcatcher, which is nonmigratory, nests and forages in moderately dense stands of coastal sage scrub occurring on arid hillsides, mesas, and washes. This species apparently prefers coastal sage scrub communities dominated by California sagebrush, California buckwheat, and white sage. Loss of suitable habitat for this species and fragmentation of habitat from expanding development and agriculture have been major factors in the declining numbers of this species in southern California. At the present time, it appears that California gnatcatchers may vary in abundance from fairly common to quite rare in those regions where they still persist. In addition, California gnatcatchers

may or may not occur in areas of apparently ideal habitat. Atwood and Bolsinger (1992) report that 84 percent of the known records of gnatcatcher sightings are below 250 meters (825 feet) and 97 percent of the records are from below 500 meters (1,650 feet). In a review of about 1,700 gnatcatcher sightings in the San Diego area, Ogden (1993) found that 90 percent of the documented sightings were below the 950-foot elevational contour. Nesting California gnatcatchers have been observed at the Starr Ranch Sanctuary in the Santa Ana Mountains of Orange County at an average elevation of 1,600 feet (Daniels 1996, pers. comm.).

Ventura County is at the northern edge of the historic range of the California gnatcatcher. The sighting of a single individual in 1995 was the first documented case in Ventura County since 1924. California gnatcatcher surveys were conducted at Grimes Rock at the request of the County of Ventura because of the recent sighting of California gnatcatchers in the Moorpark area. The 1995 sighting occurred approximately 4 miles southeast of the Grimes Rock project site at an elevation between 600 and 700 feet.

During the reconnaissance-level survey of the project site, Chambers Group biologists assessed the quality of the coastal sage scrub habitat for its suitability as California gnatcatcher habitat and elevation.

CONCLUSIONS

Based on a thorough review of existing data and literature and observations of the proposed project site, it was determined that the potential presence of California gnatcatchers is extremely low for the following reasons:

- The elevational range of the proposed site is from 900 to 1,200 feet above sea level, which approaches the limits for most sightings of this species throughout its range.

- The majority of the proposed project site consists of relatively steep slopes that support non-native grassland, chaparral, or limited patches of coastal sage scrub. These areas are not expected to support California gnatcatchers.

- Most of the patches of coastal sage scrub found on the project site were of marginal quality. The best coastal sage scrub habitat that occurs was near the southeastern edge of the project site along State Route 23. The patches of coastal sage scrub in the southeastern portion of the site were at the lowest elevation surveyed and contained the highest quality

coastal sage scrub surveyed. This portion of the project site will not be impacted by the proposed mining operations.

- No California gnatcatchers were detected on the project site.

Chambers Group appreciates this opportunity to conduct focused California gnatcatcher surveys for the County of Ventura. We enjoyed working with you and hope to do so again in the near future. If you have any questions regarding this letter report of findings please call either Cheryl Burd at (714) 261-5414, extension 6186 or Brian Leatherman at (714) 261-5414, extension 6175.

Sincerely,

CHAMBERS GROUP, INC

Brian Leatherman
Senior Wildlife Biologist

Cheryl Burd
Project Manager

cc: Mr. Gene L. Hosford, AICP
Gene L. Hosford Associates

lizii\1009bl

LITERATURE CITED

Atwood, J. and J. Bolsinger.
1992 Elevational distribution of the California gnatcatcher in the United States. *Journal of Field Ornithology* 63:159-168.

Brussard, P.F., M.S. Gilpin, J.F. O'Leary, D.D. Murphy, and R.F. Noss
1992 *Coastal Sage Scrub Survey Guidelines. Southern California Coastal Sage Scrub* Scientific Review Panel.

California Natural Diversity Data Base
1996 Electronic records search for sensitive species on the Fillmore, Moorpark, Santa Paula, and Simi USGS topographic quadrangles.

County of Ventura
1996 CEQA Initial Study. Conditional Use Permit 4874 (Grimes Rock Inc.). Ventura County, California. June 20.

Jones, C. and R. Ramirez
1995 A 1995 sighting of the California gnatcatcher in Ventura County. In Abstracts of the Symposium on the Biology of the California Gnatcatcher. University of California, Riverside.

Mock, P.J., B.L. Jones, and J. Konecny
1990 *California Gnatcatcher Survey Guidelines. Unpublished report prepared by* Environmental and Energy Services Company, San Diego, CA.

Ogden Environmental and Energy Services
1993 Population viability analysis for the California gnatcatcher within the MSCP Study Area. Prepared for the Clean Water Program, City of San Diego. February. 61 pp.

INTERVIEWS AND PERSONAL CONTACTS

Daniels, Brian
1996 P & D Consultants. Personal communication with Brian Leatherman regarding the elevational distribution of California gnatcatchers in Orange County. May 28.

Jones, Cindy
1996 Michael Brandman Associates. Personal conversation With Brian Leatherman regarding her recent sighting of a California gnatcatcher in Ventura County. May 29

ATTACHMENT 1

LIST OF PLANTS AND WILDLIFE OBSERVED ON THE GRIMES ROCK PROJECT SITE

ATTACHMENT 1

WILDLIFE SPECIES OBSERVED INCIDENTALLY DURING FOCUSED CALIFORNIA GNATCATCHER SURVEYS AT GRIMES CANYON, VENTURA COUNTY

Common Name	Scientific Name	Type of Observation
Amphibians and Reptiles		
side-blotched lizard	*Uta stansuburiana*	observed
western rattlesnake	*Crotalus viridis*	observed
Birds		
turkey vulture	*Cathartes aura*	observed
white-tailed kite	*Elanus leucurus*	observed
red-tailed hawk	*Buteo jamaicensis*	observed
american kestrel	*Falco sparverius*	observed
California quail	*Callipepla californica*	observed
mourning dove	*Zenaida macroura*	observed
common ground dove	*Columbigallina passerina*	observed
great-horned owl	*Bubo virginianus*	observed
Anna's hummingbird	*Calypte anna*	observed
Allen's hummingbird	*Selasphorus sasin*	observed
northern flicker	*Colaptes auratus*	observed
acorn woodpecker	*Melanerpes formicivorus*	observed
Nuttall's woodpecker	*Dendrocopos nuttallii*	observed
black phoebe	*Sayornis nigricans*	observed
Say's phoebe	*Sayornis saya*	observed
cliff swallow	*Hirundo pyrrhonota*	observed
scrub jay	*Aphelocoma coerulescens*	observed
common raven	*Corvus corax*	observed
American crow	*Corvus brachyrhynchos*	observed
bushtit	*Psaltriparus minimus*	observed
Bewick's wren	*Thryomanes bewickii*	observed
house wren	*Troglodytes aedon*	observed
canyon wren	*Catherpes mexicanus*	observed
rock wren	*Salpinctes obsoletus*	observed
wrentit	*Chamaea fasciata*	observed
northern mockingbird	*Mimus polyglottos*	observed
California thrasher	*Toxostoma redivivum*	observed
loggerhead shrike	*Lanius ludovicianus*	observed
European starling	*Sturnus vulgaris*	observed
western meadowlark	*Sternella neglecta*	observed

Common Name	Scientific Name	Type of Observation
rufous-sided towhee	*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*	observed
California towhee	*Pipilo crissalis*	observed
rufous-crowned sparrow	*Aimophila ruficeps*	observed
song sparrow	*Melospiza melodia*	observed
white-crowned sparrow	*Zonotrichia leucophrys*	observed
house finch	*Carpodacus mexicanus*	observed
lesser goldfinch	*Carduelis psaltria*	observed
Mammals		
coyote	*Canis latrans*	scat; tracks
mule deer	*Odocoileus hemionus*	tracks
pocket gopher	*Thomomys bottae*	burrows
desert woodrat	*Neotoma lepida*	nest
dusky-footed woodrat	*Neotoma fuscipes*	nest
California ground squirrel	*Spermophilus beecheyi*	observed
desert cottontail	*Sylvilagus audubonii*	observed

VEGETATION SPECIES OBSERVED INCIDENTALLY DURING FOCUSED CALIFORNIA GNATCATCHER SURVEYS AT GRIMES CANYON, VENTURA COUNTY

COMMON NAME	*SCIENTIFIC NAME*
ANGIOSPERMS:DICOTS	
Anacardiaceae	
laurel sumac	*Malmosa laurina*
California pepper tree	*Schinus molle*
poison oak	*Toxicodendron diversilobum*
Apiaceae	
sweet fennel	*Foeniculum vulgare*
Ascelepiadaceae	
narrow-leaf milkweed	*Asclepias fascicularis*
Asteraceae	
California brickellbush	*Brickellia californica*
California sagebrush	*Artemisia californica*
coyote brush	*Baccharis pilularis*
California bush sunflower	*Encelia californicum*
California everlasting	*Gnaphalium californicum*
goldenaster	*Heterotheca villosa*
milk thistle	*Silybum marianum*
mulefat	*Baccharis salicifolia*
pinebush	*Ericameria pinifolia*
wand chicory	*Stephanomeria virgata*
white everlasting	*Gnaphalium canescens ssp. microcephalum*
Brassicaceae	
black mustard	*Brassica nigra*
Cactaceae	
coast prickly pear	*Opuntia littoralis*
Caprifoliaceae	
Mexican elderberry	*Sambucus mexicana*
Chenopodiaceae	
nettleleaf goosefoot	*Chenopodium murale*
tumbleweed	*Salsola tragus*
Cuscutaceae	
castor bean	*Ricinus communis*
Euphorbiaceae	
California croton	*Croton californicus*
dove weed	*Eremocarpus setigerus*
Fabaceae	
bush lupine	*Lupinus albifrons*

COMMON NAME	*SCIENTIFIC NAME*
deervetch	*Lotus scoparius*
Hydrophyllaceae	
caterpillar phacelia	*Phacelia cicutaria*
Juglandaceae	
California black walnut	*Juglans californica*
Lamiaceae	
horehound	*Marrubium vulgare*
purple sage	*Salvia leucophylla*
white sage	*Salvia apiana*
black sage	*Salvia mellifera*
Onagraceae	
California fuchsia, zauschneria	*Epilobium canum*
Polemoniaceae	
Eriastrum	*Eriastrum densifolium*
Polygonaceae	
California buckwheat	*Eriogonum fasciculatum*
long-stemmed buckwheat	*Eriogonum elongatum var. elongatum*
slender skeletonweed	*Eriogonum gracile*
Rosaceae	
mountain-mahogany	*Cercocarpus betuloides*
toyon	*Heteromeles arbutifolia*
Solanaceae	
datura	*jimsonweed*
Indian tree tobacco	*Nicotiana glauca*
MONOCOTS	
Liliaceae	
yucca	*Yucca whipplei*
Poaceae	
slender wild oats	*Avena barbata*
wild oats	*Avena fatua*
rip gut brome	*Bromus diandrus*
soft chess	*Bromus hordaceus*
foxtail barley	*Bordeum murinum leporinum*
cultivated barley	*Hordeum vulgare*
giant wild rye	*Leymus condensatus*
foxtail fescue	*Vulpia myuros var. hirsuta*
needlegrass	*Nassella species*

ATTACHMENT 2

COPIES OF FIELD DATA SHEETS

Project Name Grimes Cyn Project # 96-101 Survey Type CAGN
Location Grimes Cyn, Moorpark, Ventura Co. Calif
Surveyor B. Leatherman Date 9/19/96 Time (Start) 0700 (End) 1030
General Habitat Description of Area Coastal sage scrub, oak woodlands along canyon bottoms
Weather (Cloud cover; Estimated wind speed) A little hazy - no clouds; 1-3 winds
Temp (Start) 18°C (End) 24°C

Time	Wildlife Species	Sign*	Microhabitat	Behavior/Comments
0700	Coyote	S		Coyote scat abundant
	GH owl	Fe,C		Carcass - mostly feathers
	Woodrat	N		One exposed CSS slope - no shade - likes S.D.O. woodrat
1000	W. Kestrel	O		1 observed one
	Monarch	O		
	CAGR-SQ	V		
	SideBl. Liz	O		
	Deer	T		Along access road past gate

General Comments: Coyote trails prominent along crests of hills throughout site. One coyote observed. Decent CSS present on one portion of the site.

* O=Observed, T=Tracks, S=Scat, V=Vocalization, B=Burrow, C=Carcass, N=Nest, Fe=Feathers, Fu=Fur

COASTAL SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BIRD CHECKLIST

Date: 9/19/96 Project: Grimes Cyn

Name: BML JCG JTG Survey Area: _____

Loons and Grebes
- RTLO
- ARLO
- COLO
- PBGR
- EAGR
- WEGR
- CLGR

Pelicans and Cormorants
- AWPE
- BRPE
- DCCO

Large Waders
- AMBI
- LEBI
- GBHE
- GREG
- SNEG
- CAEG
- GRHE
- BCNH
- WFIB

Geese and Ducks
- BRAN
- CAGO
- GWTE
- MALL
- NOPI
- BWTE
- CITE
- NCSH
- GADW
- AMWI
- CANV
- REDH
- RNDU
- GRSC
- LESC
- SUSC
- WWSC
- COGO
- BUFF
- HOME
- COME
- RBME
- RUDU

Vultures, Hawks, and Falcons
- TUVU
- OSPR
- BSKI ✓
- BAEA
- NOHA
- SSHA
- COHA
- RSHA
- SWHA
- RTHA ✓
- FEHA
- RLHA
- GOEA
- AMKE ✓
- MERL
- PEFA
- PRFA

Quails and Rails
- CHUK
- RNPH
- WITU
- GAQU
- CAQU ✓
- MOQU
- BLRA
- CLRA
- VIRA
- SORA
- COMO
- AMCO

Small Waders
- BBPL
- PGPL
- SNPL
- SPPL
- KILL
- MOPL
- BLOY
- BNST
- AMAV
- GRYE
- LEYE
- WILL
- WATA
- SPSA
- WHIM
- LBCU
- MAGO
- RUTU
- BLTU
- SURF
- REKN
- SAND
- WESA
- LESA
- DUNL
- SBDO
- LBDO
- COSN
- WIPH

Gulls and Terns
- BOGU
- BMGU
- HEGU
- RBGU
- CAGU
- HEGU
- THGU
- WEGU
- GWGU
- BLKI
- GULL
- CATE
- ROTE
- ELTE
- FOTE
- CLTE
- BLSK
- COMU

Pigeons and Doves
- BTPI
- WWDO
- MODO ✓
- CGDO ✓

Cuckoos, Owls, and Nightjars
- YBCU
- GRRO
- BAOW
- WSOW
- GHOW
- BUOR
- SPOW
- LEOW
- SEOW
- NSWO
- LENI
- COPO

Swifts and Hummingbirds
- BLSW
- VASW
- WTSW
- BCHU
- ANHU ✓
- COHU
- RUHU
- ALHU

Kingfisher and Woodpeckers
- BEKI
- LEWO
- ACWO ✓
- RWSA
- LBWO
- HUWO ✓
- DOWO
- HAWO
- RSFL

Flycatchers
- OSFL
- WWPE
- SWFL
- HADUFL
- GRFL
- PSFL
- BLPH ✓
- SAPH
- VEFL
- ATFL
- BCFL
- CAKI
- WEKI
- STFL
- RTBE

Lark and Swallows
- HOLA
- PUMA
- TRSW
- VGSW
- NRWS
- CLSW ✓
- BASW

Corvids
- STJA
- SCJA ✓
- AMCR ✓
- CORA

Chickadees to Wrens
- MOCH
- PLTI
- BUSH ✓
- WBNU
- CACH
- ROWR ✓
- CANW
- BEWR ✓
- HOWR
- MAWR

Kinglets to Thrushes
- GCKI
- RCKI
- CAGN
- BGGN
- WEBL
- MOBL
- SWTH
- HETH
- AMRO
- WREN ✓
- NOMO
- SGTH
- CATH ✓

Pipit to Shrike
- AMPI
- CEWA
- PHAI
- LOSH ✓

Vireos and Warblers
- LBVI
- GRVI
- SOVI
- HUVI
- WAVI
- OCWA
- NAWA
- YEWA
- YRWA
- BTGW
- TOWA
- HEWA
- BWWA
- MAWA
- COYE
- WIWA
- YBCH

Tanager to Sparrows
- SUTA
- WETA
- NOCA
- BHGR
- BLGR
- LABU
- DICK
- GTTO
- RSTO
- CATO ✓
- RCSP ✓
- CHSP
- BCSP
- VESP
- LASP
- BTSP
- SGSP
- LKBU
- SVSP
- GRSP
- FOSP
- SOSP
- GCSP
- WCSP ✓
- DEJU

Blackbirds and Orioles
- RWBL
- WEME
- YHBL
- BRBL
- GTGR
- COGR
- BHCO M
- BHCO F
- BOOR
- NOOR

Finches
- PUFI
- HOFI ✓
- PISI
- LEGO ✓
- LAGO
- AMGO
- EVGR

Non-native Birds
- RODO
- EUST
- HOSP

Other Birds

TOTAL 24sp

Record: actual no. # abundant (50<) a
common (<50) c on map/photo _____ m

Project Name Grimes Canyon - CAGN Project # 96-101 Survey Type CAGN
Location Ventura Co.
Surveyor CBurd Date 9-19-96 Time (Start) 0735 (End) 1030
General Habitat Description of Area
Weather (Cloud cover, Estimated wind speed) No cloud cover, 0-2mph
Temp (Start) 65 °F (End) 74°

Time	Wildlife Species	Sign*	Microhabitat	Behavior/Comments
0745	RCS	O		
	CA Towhee	O		
	Acorn WP	O		
	Raven	O/V		
	CA quail	O		
	Anna's Hum	O		perched on tree tobacco
	Kestrel			
	Scrub jay			Stephanomeria
	Wht crowned sparrow			bush lupine
	bushtits	V		CA everlasting
				Salv. apiana
				CA croton
				Phacelia sp.
				CA buckwheat (Er. Fasc.)
0845	grey fox	S		Art. cal
				Yucca whipplei
				~~Scrub oak~~
				Leymus condensatus
				prpl. sage
0850	Woodrat	N		non-native grasses:
	Coyote	S		Bromus
	rabbit	S		black mustard
	grey fox	"		
	coyote	"		mntn. mahogany
	"	"		
	Redtail	N	cavity on cliff face	tumbleweed
	loggerhead			poison oak
0910	shrikes	O, V	perched on yucca 2 of	willow tree
				Nassella
				coyote brush
	Kite			
	goldfinch		Stephanomeria	CA sagebrush
				castor bean

General Comments:
0940 pacific rattlesnake

Mex. elderberry
walnut tree
Toyon

* O=Observed, T=Tracks, S=Scat, V=Vocalization, B=Burrow, C=Carcass, N=Nest, Fe=Feathers, Fu=Fur

Project Name Grimes Cyn Project # 96-101 Survey Type CAGN
Location Grimes Canyon, Moorepark, Ventura Co. Calif.
Surveyor Brian Leatherman Date 9/26/96 Time (Start) 0645 (End) 1100
General Habitat Description of Area Coastal sage scrub, annual grassland oak woodland
Weather (Cloud cover; Estimated wind speed) 100% overcast (stratus clouds) 1-4 mph breeze
Temp (Start) 16°C (End) 17°C

Time	Wildlife Species	Sign*	Microhabitat	Behavior/Comments
	Rut. Cr.	O	CSS, hillsides	IIII
	Say's Ph.	O	"	
	Black Ph.	O	"	
	Wrentit	✓		
	Acorn Woodp	✓	oak woodland	
	Calif. Tow	O		
	Anna's	O, ✓		
	Bewick's	O	CSS	
	Nuttall's	O	Toyon thicket	
	Less. Gold	O	CSS	
	Cal. Thrash	✓	CSS	
	Housefinch	O		
	Scrub Jay	VO		
	N. Flic	O	Toyon thicket	
	Bushtit	O	CSS	
	Amer Kest.	O		♂
	Canyon Wren	O	Yucca scrub	
	Rut. sided	O		
	Red tailed	O	cliff	
	Gr. Horn. Owl	O		
	Brush rabbit	O		
	Allen's			

General Comments: 21 bird species

* O=Observed, T=Tracks, S=Scat, V=Vocalization, B=Burrow, C=Carcass, N=Nest, Fe=Feathers, Fu=Fur

Project Name CoVentura Project # ~~96-701~~ 6495 Survey Type CAGN

68° F · 100% Cloudcover; 0700 9-26-96

Time	Wildlife Species	Sign*	Microhabitat	Behavior/Comments
0710				photo # 19 white sage to E of staging area - N facing slope
0715	lesser Goldfinch	O		gleaning seeds from Salvia apiana
				#20 - old mining area - S. end
				#21 oak grove - N. end
0720	coyote	S		
0725	"	"		
0725	l. goldfinch	V O		d. chap/css
"	coyote	S		
"	"	S		
0730	"	"		
"	"	"		
"	"	"		
0735	Anna's Hum	V		
0740	Nuttall's Wood	O, V		top of cyn. toyon
"	coyote	S		
"	"	"		
"	"	"		
0745	"	"		
"	"	"		
"	l. goldfinch	O, V		
"	Bewick's Wren	O		Salvia apiana
"	Scrubjay	V		
0755	coyote	S		
"	"	"		
0750	CA Towhee	O		Walnut tree
0800	CA Thrasher	O		" "
0800	Anna's Hum	V		
"	coyote	S		
"	"	"		
"	"	"		
"	"	"		
				#23 mod. qual CSS Art. cal
				Eriog. fasc., Salv. apiana
				Lepidospartum [illegible], BH sage
				Yucca whipplei purple sage

General Comments: S. - facing drainage

* O=Observed, T=Tracks, S=Scat, V=Vocalization, B=Burrow, C=Carcass, N=Nest, Fe=Feathers, Fu=Fur

Project Name Co Ventura Project # 6495B Survey Type CAGN
9-26-96

Time	Wildlife Species	Sign*	Microhabitat	Behavior/Comments
0805	Canyon wren	V		
0815	coyote	S		
				#24 low mod qual on
				S.E boundary
0825	bewicks wren	O		css - Art. cal, salv. apiana
				eriog. fasc., stephanomeria
				#1 prpl. sage, eriog. fasc.,
				art. cal.
0830	Quail	S		
				#3 v. good qual css: prpl. sage,
				art. cal, eriog. fasc.,
				lotus. scop., salv apiana
0915	RTH	OV		

General Comments:

* O=Observed, T=Tracks, S=Scat, V=Vocalization, B=Burrow, C=Carcass, N=Nest, Fe=Feathers, Fu=Fur

Project Name Grimes Canyon Project # 96-101 Survey Type CAGN
Location Grimes Canyon Moorpark Ventura County Calif
Surveyor Brian Leatherman Date 10/3/96 Time (Start) 0700 (End) 1100
General Habitat Description of Area Coastal sage scrub, annual grassland, oak woodland.
Weather (Cloud cover; Estimated wind speed) Slightly foggy - cool - dew on grass
Temp (Start) 17°C (End) 22°C

Time	Wildlife Species	Sign*	Microhabitat	Behavior/Comments
0800	Coyote	S	Along trails	Fresh coyote scat noted in several locations.
	Gray fox?	S	"	Possible fox scat
	Aud. cott	O	CSS	Rabbits fairly scarce in area
"				- One sycamore tree in all of area near wet spot w/ mulefat

General Comments:

* O=Observed, T=Tracks, S=Scat, V=Vocalization, B=Burrow, C=Carcass, N=Nest, Fe=Feathers, Fu=Fur

COASTAL SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BIRD CHECKLIST

Date: 10/3/86 Project: Crimes Canyon

Name: RML JCG JTG Survey Area: _____

ns and Grebes
- CTLO
- ARLO
- RNLO
- PBGR
- LAGR
- RDGR
- ILGR

licans and Cormorants
- AWPE
- BRPE
- DCCO

rge Waders
- AMBI
- LEBI
- GBHE
- GREG
- SNEG
- CAEG
- GRHE
- BCNH
- WFIB

ese and Ducks
- BRAN
- CAGO
- GWTE
- MALL
- NOPI
- BWTE
- CITE
- NOSH
- GADW
- AMWI
- CANV
- REDH
- RNDU
- GRSC
- LESC
- SUSC
- WWSC
- COGO
- BUFF
- HOME
- COME
- RBME
- RUDU

ultures, Hawks, and Falcons
- TUVU
- OSPR
- BSKI
- BAEA
- NOHA
- SSHA
- COHA
- RSHA
- SWHA
- RTHA ✓
- FEHA
- RLHA
- GOEA
- AMKE ✓
- MERL
- PEFA
- PRFA

Quails and Rails
- CHUK
- RNPH
- WITU
- GAQU
- CAQU ✓
- MOQU
- BLRA
- CLRA
- VIRA
- SORA
- COMO
- AMCO

Small Waders
- BBPL
- PGPL
- SNPL
- SPPL
- KILL
- MOPL
- BLOY
- BNST
- AMAV
- GRYE
- LEYE
- WILL
- WATA
- SPSA
- WHIM
- LBCU
- MAGO
- RUTU
- BLTU
- SURF
- REKN
- SAND
- WESA
- LESA
- DUNL
- SBDO
- LBDO
- COSN
- WIPH

Gulls and Terns
- BOGU
- BHGU
- MEGU
- RBGU
- CAGU
- HEGU
- THGU
- WEGU
- GWGU
- BLKI
- GULL
- CATE
- ROTE
- ELTE
- FOTE
- CLTE
- BLSK
- CONU

Pigeons and Doves
- BTPI
- WWDO
- MODO ✓
- CGDO

Cuckoos, Owls, and Nightjars
- YBCU
- GRRO
- BAOW
- WSOW
- GHOW
- BUOR
- SPOW
- LEOW
- SEOW
- NSWO
- LEHI
- COPO

Swifts and Hummingbirds
- BLSW
- VASW
- WTSW
- BCHU
- ANHU ✓
- COHU
- RUHU
- ALHU

Kingfisher and Woodpeckers
- BEKI
- LEWO
- ACWO
- RNSA
- LBWO
- NUWO ✓
- DOWO
- HAWO
- RSFL

Flycatchers
- OSFL
- WWPE
- SWFL
- HADUFL
- GRFL
- PSFL
- BLPH ✓
- SAPH ✓
- VEFL
- ATFL
- BCFL
- CAKI
- WEKI
- STFL
- RTRE

Lark and Swallows
- HOLA
- PUMA
- TRSW
- VGSW
- NRWS
- CLSW
- BARN

Corvids
- STJA
- SCJA ✓
- AMCR ✓
- CORA

Chickadee to Wrens
- MOCH
- PLTI
- BUSH ✓
- WBNU
- CACN
- ROWR
- CANW ✓
- BEWR ✓
- HOWR ✓
- MAWR

Kinglets to Thrushes
- GCKI
- RCKI
- CAGN
- BGGN
- WEBL
- MOBL
- SWTH
- HETH
- AMRO
- WREN ✓
- MOMO ✓
- SGTH
- CATH

Pipit to Shrike
- AMPI
- CEDA
- PHAI
- LOSH

Vireos and Warblers
- LBVI
- GRVI
- SOVI
- HUVI
- WAVI
- OCWA
- NAWA
- YEWA
- YRWA
- BTGW
- TOWA
- HEWA
- BWWA
- MAWA
- COYE
- WIWA
- YBCH

Tanager to Sparrows
- SUTA
- WETA
- ROCA
- BHGR
- BLGR
- LABU
- DICK
- GTTO
- RSTO ✓
- CATO ✓
- RCSP ✓
- CHSP
- BCSP
- VESP
- LASP
- BTSP
- SGSP
- LKBU
- SVSP ✓
- GRSP
- FOSP
- SOSP ✓
- GCSP
- WCSP ✓
- DEJU

Blackbirds and Orioles
- RWBL
- WEME ✓
- YHBL
- BRBL
- GTGR
- COGR
- BHCO M
- BHCO F
- BOOR
- NOOR

Finches
- PUFI
- HOFI
- PISI ✓
- LEGO ✓
- LAGO
- AMGO
- EVGR

Non-native Birds
- RODO
- EUST
- HOSP

Other Birds

TOTAL 25 sp

Record: actual no. # abundant (50<) a
common (<50) c on map/photo _____ m

ATTACHMENT 3

PHOTOGRAPHIC DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT SITE CONDITIONS

RVEY: CAGN | SURVEYOR: CBurd | DATE: 10-3-96 | AREA: Co. Venture | PAGE 1 OF 1

START/STOP: 0725 - 1030 10-3-96 Brites Canyon

ME: 0725/1030 | TEMP: 64°/79° | CLOUD COVER: Clear/Clear | WINDSPEED: 0-2/10-2

E-Rage

TIME	SPECIES	BIRD ID	LOCATION	BANDS	BREEDING STATUS	BEHAVIOR/COMMENTS
725	N. Flicker	—	Ascending Hill	—	—	in toyon
"	Bewick's Wren	"	"	—	—	bush lupine calling
"	Quail	—	"	—	—	calling
"	raven	—	"	—	—	flying overhead
"	Bewick's Wren	"	"	—	—	calling, perched in toyon
0810	Bush Tit	—	Top of ridge	—		
"	goldfinch	"	"	—		
"	Scrub jay					perched in toyon
"	CA towhee					" " vegetation
"	Bewick's Wren					" " "
"	red tail hawk					flying overhead
"	Anna's hummingbird					flying near treetops
"	quail					Scat + vocalization in CC
"	CO Mountain rabbit					flushed from vegetation near dump site
"	raven					
"	"					Soaring overhead
"	covey quail					~20, N. of Egg Farm on ridge
"	Kestrel					perched on yucca
CA	towhee					vocal. (Obs.)
	Scrub jay					vocal.
	meadowlark					bush lupine - singing
	Say's phoebe					
1005	Rufous-sided Towhee					
	White-crowns					
	Say's phoebe					

GENERAL COMMENTS: Scrub jay

PHOTO 1. LOW-MODERATE QUALITY VENTURAN SAGE SCRUB LOCATED IN SOUTHERN PORTION OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT SITE IN A PREVIOUSLY DISTURBED AREA. SCRUB LAYER IS DOMINATED BY WHITE SAGE AND THE HERBACEOUS LAYER BY NON-NATIVE GRASSES. PHOTO ORIENTATION IS NORTHWEST.

PHOTO 2. LOW TO MODERATE QUALITY VENTURAN SAGE SCRUB LOCATED IN SOUTHERN PORTION OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT SITE. SHRUB LAYER IS DOMINATED BY WHITE SAGE AND CALIFORNIA BUCKWHEAT. HERBACEOUS LAYER IS DOMINATED BY NON-NATIVE GRASSES. PHOTO ORIENTATION IS SOUTHEAST.

PHOTO 3. OAK WOODLAND LOCATED IN NORTHWEST PORTION OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT SITE. STATE ROUTE 23 IS VISIBLE IN THE BACKGROUND. PHOTO ORIENTATION IS NORTHWEST.

PHOTO 4. PREVIOUSLY MINED AREA ON THE WESTERN EDGE OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT SITE. PHOTO ORIENTATION.IS SOUTHWEST.