

Historic Biological Reports
Scan Control Sheet

County Project Number(s): PM-5287

Report Type (check one):

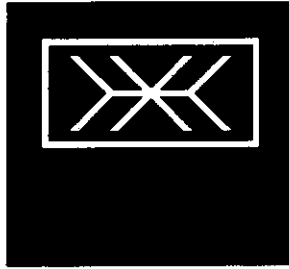
- ☐ Initial Study
- ☒ Species Inventory/Survey
- ☐ Focused Study
- ☐ EIR
- ☐ Draft EIR
- ☐ EIS
- ☐ ND
- ☐ MND
- ☐ Other

Report Date (Month/Day/Year): 05/9/2001

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

RACHEL.
TIERNEY



CONSULTING

May 9, 2001

Jim Ange
Liberty Investment, Inc.
P.O. Box 789
Moorpark, Ca. 93020

^{PM}
RE: Rare Plant Survey for ~~Tract~~-5287

Dear Jim,

This letter describes the results of a focused sensitive plant survey on a 13.5 acre parcel in the Santa Rosa Valley area of Ventura County.

METHODS

The survey was conducted on April 29, 2001. At this time, all potentially occurring sensitive plant species would be observable and in flower. The entire parcel was surveyed on foot. All plant species encountered were identified to determine the presence or absence of sensitive species.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

A portion of the site had been recently graded. The remaining vegetation consisted predominately of introduced grasses (*Brome*, *Avena*, *Hordeum*) and weedy annuals (*Brassica* sp., *Raphanus sativus*, *Sonchus*, sp). with a few natives such as California poppy (*Eschscholzia californica*), coyote brush (*Baccharis pilularis*), and succulent lupine (*Lupinus succulentus*).

An examination of the brush piles indicated that the original vegetation on the property was coastal sage scrub, however, there is no habitat likely to support natives remaining on site.

No drainages (having a defined bed and bank) were located on site. No habitat falling under the jurisdiction of the Army Corps of Engineers pursuant to the Clean Water Act, or requiring a Stream Alteration Agreement with the California department of Fish and Game were located on site (Reed Jr., P.B., 1988. United States Army Corps of Engineers, 1987).

2001 MAY 10 10:10 AM

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RESULTS

No listed, candidate or otherwise sensitive plant species were noted during the site survey.

The following sensitive plant species are known from the general area of the project site and were looked for during this survey. Most of the listed species are restricted to a particular type of substrate (rock outcrops, carbonate soils) that is not present at the site. Probability of the occurrence of these species is low due to the lack of suitable habitat and the highly disturbed nature of the parcel. Information for this section has been derived from the California Natural Diversity Database and the Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California (CNPS, 1994).

POTENTIALLY-OCCURRING LISTED AND CANDIDATE SPECIES

Astragalus brauntonii (Braunton's Milkvetch)

CNPS: 1B

State/Federal: /Endangered

Habitat/Distribution: This species is most commonly (and most abundantly) seen after chaparral burns, and appears to be endemic to calcareous soils. Small populations have also been noted following artificial, mechanical disturbance such as grading. It is known from only a handful of locations within the foothills bordering the Los Angeles plain, and from the Santa Monica, Santa Ana and San Gabriel Mountains. Occasionally, individuals in other parts of its range have been located after seed has fallen or been washed down-slope from a main population, presumably scarified by abrasion. Temporary populations, such as this one, may be an important dispersal strategy for this plant.

Potential for Occurring On-Site: Low. Braunton's Milkvetch is a short-lived, perennial herb that is seen only after fires or major mechanical disturbance. The preferred soil characteristics for this species (limestone) are not apparent on the site.

Calochortus plummerae (Plummer's Mariposa Lily)

CNPS: 1B

State/Federal: /Species of Concern (formerly Candidate Category 2)

Habitat/Distribution: This species is found in scattered populations in Ventura, Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside Counties. The perennial herb is seen in chaparral, sage scrub, woodlands and grasslands, often on granitic soils. Flowering period is from May-July.

Potential for Occurrence: Moderate. Suitable habitat is found on-site.

Dudleya abramsii spp. *parva* (Conejo Dudleya)

CNPS: List 1B

State/Federal: /Threatened

Habitat/Distribution: Found on north-facing volcanic slopes. Populations are scattered in several locations in Simi Valley and the Santa Monica Mountains.

Potential for Occurrence: Low. Typical habitat is not present.

Hemizonia minthornii (Santa Susana Tarplant)

CNPS: 1B

State/Federal: Rare/Species of Concern

Habitat/Distribution: Santa Susana rock outcrops in chaparral. A recent population was located outside of the Santa Susana rock formation.

Potential for Occurrence: Low. Typical habitat is not present.

Pentachaeta lyonii (Lyon's Pentachaeta)

CNPS: 1B

State/Fed: Endangered/ Endangered

Habitat/Distribution: This member of the Aster family is known from thin grasslands and coastal sage scrub communities, and is almost always associated with annual Polemones. Populations are scattered in several locations in Simi Valley and the Santa Monica Mountains, including Stunt Ranch and Malibu Hills.

Potential for Occurring On-site: Moderate. Suitable grasslands are not present, however this species also occurs in small openings within scrub habitat similar to what may have been present in very small areas with the site. This species was not located during an in-season survey.

OTHER SENSITIVE PLANT SPECIES

The following plant species are considered sensitive by the CNPS. These species are not listed or candidates for listing at this time, however, their status may change in the future.

Baccharis plummerae (Plummer's Baccharis)

CNPS: 4 (a watch list)

State/Federal: None

Habitat: Shaded canyons.

Potential for Occurrence: Moderate. Not seen during a spring survey.

Calochortus catalinae (Catalina Mariposa)

CNPS: 4 (a watch list)

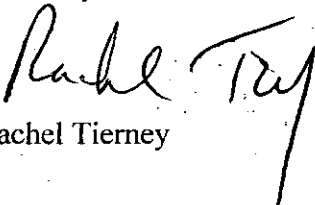
State/Federal: None

Habitat: Common in grasslands and openings in scrub.

Potential for Occurrence: Not seen during the spring survey.

Please call if you need any additional information.

Sincerely,


Rachel Tierney

REFERENCES

California Native Plant Society, 1994. Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California.

Hickman, J. 1993. The Jepson Manual; Higher Plants of California. University of California Press, Berkeley and Los Angeles.

Holland, R., 1986. Preliminary Description of the Terrestrial Natural Communities of California. Nongame Heritage Program, California Department of Fish and Game, Sacramento, California.

Reed Jr., P.B., 1988. National List of Plant Species That Occur in Wetlands: California Region. Prepared for the National Wetlands Inventory, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Biological Report: 88 (26.10).

United States Army Corps of Engineers, 1987. Wetland Delineation Manual, Final Report.