

TRANSMITTAL

June 10, 1998
Project No. 9706-1741

Ventura County Resource Management Agency
Planning Division
800 S. Victoria Avenue
Ventura, California 93009

Attention: Ms. Lisa Woodburn

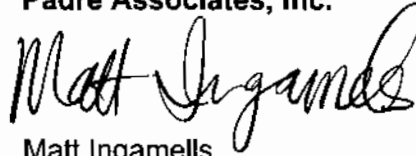
**Subject: St. Joseph's Health & Retirement Center (CUP-368-6, Z-2924, 3GP9701)
Biological Resources Initial Study**

Dear Lisa:

Please find one (1) copy of the biological resources portion of the initial study for the subject project. Should you have any questions, please contact me at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Padre Associates, Inc.



Matt Ingamells
Senior Biologist

SECTION B **INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST**

Job: CUP-368-6, Z-2924, 3GP9701 **Requester:** Lisa Woodburn
Applicant: St. Joseph's Health & Retirement Center **Date:** June 10, 1998
Survey Type: Field **Rationale:** Adjacent Stream

Site Description: A field visit of the site (portion of parcel no. 028-0-120-12) was conducted on June 9, 1998. The parcel is located in eastern Ojai Valley, adjacent to State Route 150. The proposed annex site supports orange orchards. McNell Creek, a tributary to San Antonio Creek forms the northern parcel boundary. McNell Creek does not currently support riparian vegetation.

	Project Impact Degree of Effect*				Cumulative Impact Degree of Effect*			
	N	LS	S	U	N	LS	S	U
6. <u>Biological Resources</u>								
a. endangered, threatened, or rare species	X				X			
b. wetland habitat	X				X			
c. coastal habitat	X				X			
d. migration corridors	X				X			
e. locally important species/communities	X				X			

*N No impact
LS Less than significant impact
S Significant impact
U Impact unknown

SECTION C
DISCUSSION OF RESPONSES

a. Plant or animal species listed under either the Federal or California Endangered Species Acts reported within 10 miles of the parcel include:

- California red-legged frog (*Rana aurora draytonii*, Federal Threatened)-historically reported from Santa Paula Canyon, 9 miles to the east.
- Least Bell's vireo (*Vireo belli pusillus*, Federal and State Endangered)-historically reported from Santa Paula Canyon, 9 miles to the east.
- Southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax trailii extimus*, Federal and State Endangered)-historically reported from Senior Canyon, 3 miles to the north-northeast.
- Southern steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*, Federal Endangered)-reported from San Antonio Creek, 3 miles to the southwest.

The parcel does not provide suitable habitat for these or other rare, threatened, or endangered species known from the region and the proposed annex would not adversely affect rare, threatened or endangered species.

- b. McNell Creek may support seasonal wetlands; however, the proposed annex site is located at least 150 feet away from these potential wetlands. Drainage plans include catch basins to reduce peak run-off volume and erosion potential. Therefore, no project impacts to McNell Creek wetlands are expected.
- c. The parcel is located approximately 11 miles northeast of the coastal zone and coastal resources do not occur in the vicinity of the site. Coastal resources are not expected to be adversely affected by further development of the site.
- d. McNell Creek may be used as a local wildlife movement corridor. The proposed annex site is located at least 150 feet away from McNell Creek; therefore, the project is not expected to reduce the value of this potential local wildlife movement corridor.
- e. Special-status species reported from within 3 miles of the parcel include late flowering mariposa lily (*Calochortus weedii vestus*), Ojai fritillary (*Fritillaria ojaiensis*), southwestern pond turtle (*Clemmys marmorata pallida*), and Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperi*). The proposed annex would not result in any loss of habitat for these species or other indirect effects (noise, dust, lighting, pets, invasive landscaping). Therefore, no impacts are expected.

References:

- California Natural Diversity Data Base. 1998. RAREFIND 2 Output for the Ojai 7.5' Quadrangle map.
- ENSR. 1997. *Biological Impact Analysis of the Sulfur Mountain Road/SR 150 Interconnect Pipelines*. Prepared for Petru Corporation.

SECTION D

MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Based on the information contained within Sections B and C:

YES/MAYBE

NO

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, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?
2. Does the project have the potential to achieve short-term, to the disadvantage of long-term, environmental goals? (A short-term impact on the environment is one which occurs in a relatively brief, definitive period of time while long-term impacts will endure well into the future).
3. Does the project have impacts which are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (Several projects may have relatively small individual impacts on two or more resources, but the total of those impacts on the environment is significant).
4. Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

 X

 X

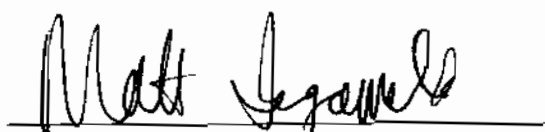
 X

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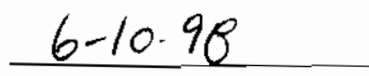
SECTION E
DETERMINATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- ☒ I find the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION should be prepared.
- ☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because the mitigation measure(s) described below will be applied to the project. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION should be prepared.
- ☐ I find the proposed project, individually and/or cumulatively MAY have a significant effect on the environment and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.



Signature of Preparer

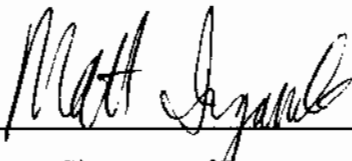


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Signature of Preparer

1-8-98

Date