

SECTION B

INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST

Job: PD-1810

Requester: Brian McCarthy

Applicant: Gerald and Shirley Benecke

Date: February 16, 2000

Survey Type: Field

Rationale: Drainage

Site Description: A field visit of the site (Parcel no. 701-0-040-360) was conducted on February 15, 2000. The parcel is located on the southern slope of Boney Mountain, in the Santa Monica Mountains. The parcel supports chamise chaparral, dominated by chamise (*Adenostoma fasciculatum*), red shanks (*Adenostoma sparsifolium*), mountain mahogany (*Cercocarpus betuloides* var. *betuloides*) and black sage (*Salvia mellifera*). However, much of the area proposed to be graded appears to have been cleared of vegetation in last few years. A small swale occurs in the western portion of the parcel.

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

*N No Impact

LS Less Than Significant Impact

PS-M Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigation Incorporated

PS Potentially Significant Impact

SECTION C
DISCUSSION OF RESPONSES

- a. Plant or animal species listed under either the Federal or California Endangered Species Acts reported by the California Natural Diversity Data Base (RAREFIND 2 Output for the Triunfo Pass 7.5' Quadrangle map) within 5 miles of the parcel is limited to marcescent dudleya (*Dudleya cymosa* ssp. *marcescens*, Federal Threatened, State Rare), reported from Little Sycamore Canyon, one mile to the southeast.

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

- b. The small swale on the parcel does not support wetland vegetation and drains an area of only a few acres. The swale is not likely to be inundated at a sufficient frequency to meet the wetland hydrology criterion of the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual. Therefore, the swale is not considered a wetland under the County, State or Corps definition.
- c. Potential impacts to the coastal zone include degradation of nearshore habitat associated with sedimentation from grading. However, the parcel is sufficiently distant from the coast (3.2 miles) and the amount of grading is very small, such that impacts are not expected.
- d. Mipolomol Road is part of an informal network of unpaved roads that traverse Boney Mountain, providing wildlife access over the crest of this very steep mountain, to Big Sycamore Canyon and Carlisle Creek (Lake Sherwood area). However, the proposed development is removed from Mipolomol Road and is limited to a single residence. Therefore, the proposed development would not significantly reduce the value of this potential wildlife migration corridor.
- e. Special-status species reported from within 4 miles of the parcel is limited to Monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*). Development of the parcel would not result in any loss of habitat for this species or other indirect effects (noise, dust, lighting, pets, invasive landscaping). Therefore, no impacts are expected.

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?	_____	<u> X </u>
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).	_____	<u> X </u>
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).	_____	<u> X </u>
4. Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	_____	<u> X </u>

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 in Section C of the initial study 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.
- ☐ I find the proposed project MAY have a “potentially significant impact” or “potentially significant unless mitigated” impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- ☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Signature of Preparer

Date