

SECTION B
INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST

Job: PMW-970

Requester: Brian McCarthy

Applicant: OTR

Date: September 7, 1999

Survey Type: Field

Rationale: Wetlands

Site Description: A field visit of the site (Parcel no. 156-0-180-24) was conducted on September 3, 1999. The parcel is located in the extreme eastern portion of the Oxnard Plain, between the Camarillo Hills to the north and the Las Posas Hills to the east. The parcel supports agricultural crops (citrus, celery, green beans, strawberries), two residences and several farm-related structures.

	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 by the California Natural Diversity Data Base (RAREFIND 2 Output for the Moorpark and Newbury Park 7.5' Quadrangle maps) within 10 miles of the parcel include:
- Conejo buckwheat (*Eriogonum crocatum*, State Rare) – reported from Conejo Mountain, 4 miles to the south-southeast.
 - Lyon's pentachaeta (*Pentachaeta lyonii*, Federal and State Endangered) - reported from Hill Canyon, 5 miles to the east.
 - Conejo dudleya (*Dudleya abramsii* ssp. *parva*, Federal Threatened) - reported from reported from Conejo Mountain, 4 miles to the south-southeast.
 - Verity's dudleya (*Dudleya verityi*, Federal Threatened) – reported from Conejo Creek, 3 miles to the south.

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

- b. A flood control detention basin occurs in the extreme western portion of the parcel, and supports wetland vegetation, including Mexican sprangletop (*Leptochloa uninervia*), bent grass (*Agrostis viridis*) and barnyard grass (*Echinochloa crusgalli*). Bent grass is considered an obligate wetland plant, and Mexican sprangletop and barnyard grass are considered facultative-wetland plants. Therefore, this basin meets the Ventura County and State definition of wetlands. However, these wetlands would not be considered “significant wetland habitats” for the purposes of Policy 1.5.2.4 of the Ventura County General Plan, because they are isolated, ephemeral and provide minimal habitat. Therefore, the 100-foot buffer required by Policy 1.5.2.4 is not be required. Loss of these wetlands would be considered a potentially significant impact.
- c. The parcel is located approximately 12 miles north-northeast of the coastal zone and coastal resources do not occur in the vicinity of the parcel. Coastal resources are not expected to be adversely affected by subdivision and potential future development of the parcel.
- d. Arroyo Las Posas may be used as a local wildlife movement corridor. The parcel is located at least 1,000 feet away from Arroyo Las Posas, across from State Route 34. 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 southwestern pond turtle (*Clemmys marmorata pallida*) and two-striped garter snake (*Thamnophis hammondi*), in Conejo Creek. Subdivision and potential future development of the parcel 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.

SECTION D
MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Based on the information contained within Sections B and C:

YES/MAYBE

- 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


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.

Mitigation Measure

The detention basin shall be preserved, with a buffer of 30 feet between any future development and the basin. In addition, future developments shall include drainage plans to maintain the flow of run-off into the basin.



Signature of Preparer

9/7/99

Date