

APPENDIX H -
SUMMARY OF FOCUSED SURVEYS
FOR SENSITIVE SPECIES

MEMORANDUM

GLENN LUKOS ASSOCIATES

Regulatory Services



PROJECT NUMBER: 218-12CASPC

TO: Jonathan Frankel, New Urban West, Inc.

FROM: Jeff Ahrens, Senior Biologist

DATE: June 5, 2020

SUBJECT: Biological Survey Update at Camarillo Springs, a 182-Acre Property Located in Camarillo, Ventura County

The purpose of the memorandum is to provide interim survey results for ongoing focused surveys occurring at the Camarillo Springs Project site located in Camarillo, Ventura County. This memo should only be used to guide development of the draft California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) document. A Biological Resources Summary Report will be prepared after all surveys are completed and will fully document the 2020 surveys conducted at Camarillo Springs.

Interim Biological Survey Results

Bank Swallow

Bank swallow (*Riparia riparia*) surveys are being conducted in conjunction with other surveys including least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*), coastal California gnatcatcher (California gnatcatcher) (Haul Road side), and pond turtle (*Emys marmorata*). No bank swallows have been detected as of May 27. Five other non-special status swallow species have been detected. We will continue to survey for bank swallows.

Bat Surveys

Bat surveys entail several data collection methods including passive and active surveys (with biologists). Passive surveys began on April 10 and between one and two passive detectors have been deployed at seven different locations thus far and will continue to be deployed. Some detectors have been collecting data for up to 10 consecutive nights. Data is continuously being collected, processed and analyzed. Preliminary results appear to show red bat (*Lasiurus blossevillii*) and western mastiff (*Eumops perotis*) likely to at least forage on site within the southern portion of the Project site.

The second of seven active surveys was conducted on May 26 mainly within the northwestern portion of the Project site. As of the second survey, no bats were observed exiting roosts on site. Several non-sensitive bat species detected near dusk likely exited roost locations within

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rocky areas just offsite to the north and south of the Project boundary. The third and fourth active bat survey will likely be conducted beginning the week of June 8.

California Gnatcatcher

As of May 11, five of six focused surveys have been completed for the California gnatcatcher. The gnatcatcher has not been detected within the property boundary.

Crotch Bumble Bee

As of April 22, two of three focused surveys have been completed for Crotch's bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*). In addition, all bumble bees observed during all biological surveys, have been recorded. The crotch bumble bee has not been detected thus far. Three other non-special status bumble bee species have been detected on site. The final bee survey is tentatively scheduled for June 17.

Least Bell's Vireo (LBV)

As of May 27, five of eight focused surveys have been completed. Multiple LBV have been detected within and adjacent to the Project site; currently, it is safe to assume that there are between five and six LBV territories on site. The next LBV survey will be conducted the week of June 8.

Rare Plant Surveys

Three rare plant surveys have been completed, which concludes these surveys. The following special-status plants were detected at the Project site: Blochman's dudleya (*Dudleya blochmaniae* ssp. *blochmaniae*), Catalina mariposa lily (*Calochortus catalinae*), club-haired mariposa-lily (*Calochortus clavatus* var. *clavatus*), Conejo buckwheat (*Eriogonum crocatum*), and Verity's dudleya (*Dudleya verityi*). Verity's dudleya is federally-listed as threatened; however, it does not occur within the impact footprint. Similarly, none of the other special-status plants detected on the property are located within the impact footprint of the proposed Project.

Southwestern Willow Flycatcher

As of May 15, one of five southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) surveys have been conducted. The flycatcher was not detected during the first survey. The second and third focused surveys will be completed before June 24.

Tri-colored Blackbird

Tri-colored blackbird (*Agelaius tricolor*) surveys are being conducted in conjunction with other biological surveys including bee, LBV and pond turtle. No tri-colored blackbirds have been detected as of May 27. Offsite agricultural fields located along the project boundary have also been scanned for tri-colored blackbirds with negative results. Red-winged blackbirds (*Agelaius*

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phoeniceus) and Brewer's blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) occur on site. We will continue to survey for tri-colored blackbirds.

Western Pond Turtle

As of May 27, three of four focused surveys have been completed in addition to numerous turtle observations during all other biological surveys. The maximum number of turtles detected on one day (including within the Project site and offsite portions of Conejo Creek) is 29 non-native red-eared sliders (*Trachemys scripta elegans*, RES) and three native western pond turtles (WPT). One WPT has consistently been detected in the same northernmost pond (next to Ridgeview Street) within the development footprint (in 2020 and also during the initial site reconnaissance in 2019). A second WPT was detected with other RES in Conejo Creek and a third WPT has consistently been observed in a large pond adjacent to Conejo Creek. We will conduct one more survey visit for the pond turtle.