



NORTHWEST BIOSURVEY

Environmental & Planning Services
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October 12, 2020

Mr. Nate Bisbee
Bisbee Architecture & Design
629 Fourth Street, #A
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

RE: Biological Site Review for APN 024-358-01 in Middletown, California

Dear Mr. Bisbee:

As per your request, Northwest Biosurvey has visited the property and reviewed the proposed development for any apparent biological issues. The site visit was made on October 11, 2020.

Most of the parcel is currently developed with a structure and a parking lot along Calistoga Street (Highway 29). The undeveloped area behind the building consists of a maintained and mowed grassy area and a large oak tree, which is proposed to be retained based on the preliminary site plan dated March 10, 2020. This oak tree has the potential for providing nesting for protected raptors and other birds.

Based on our review, we have the following recommendations:

The valley oak tree should be preserved as planned. Prior to disturbance (clearing, construction, etc.) within 100 feet of the oak tree, a nesting raptor and passerine survey should be conducted by a qualified biologist if this disturbance is proposed between February 1 and August 31 of any year. In the event that nesting birds protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act or California Fish and Wildlife Code are identified within this time period, a suitable construction buffer should be established around the nest site until either the end of the nesting season, or upon determination by a qualified biologist that fledging has been completed or that the nest has been abandoned.

Additionally, care should be taken to avoid parking vehicles or equipment, or placement of materials or permanent non-permeable surfaces within the dripline of the oak tree to avoid damage to the roots.

No other sensitive biological resources were identified on the site, and no further biological studies are recommended.

Northwest Biosurvey staff is available to discuss this review with you at your convenience should you have questions.

Sincerely,

Steve Zalusky
Principal Biologist