

# BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT Loriana Ranch APN: 044-301-043 500 West Ormonde Road, San Luis Obispo, California

# Prepared for:

Rob and Lori Gillespie 500 West Ormonde Road San Luis Obispo, California

#### Prepared by:

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February 2015

"As a County-approved biologist, I hereby certify that this Biological Resources
Assessment was prepared according to the Guidelines established by the County of San
Luis Obispo Department of Planning and Building and that the statements furnished in
this report and associated maps are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and
belief; and I further certify that I was present or supervised the site visit(s) associated
with this report."

Signature

Signature

3 February 2015
Date

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# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	1
INTRODUCTION	2
METHODOLOGY	2
Sufficiency of Biological Data	
RESULTS	
Site disturbances since 2005	
Soils	
Vegetation Communities	5
Wildlife	7
Sensitive Resources	8
Sensitive Plant Species	8
Sensitive Wildlife Species	10
IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND MITIGATION	13
Summary of Impacts	13
Recommended Mitigation Measures	14
CONCLUSION	16
REFERENCES	17

i

# Appendices:

Appendix A - Maps

Figure 1: Project Location and Topographic Map

Figure 2: Survey Area Map

Figure 3: Vegetation Communities Map

Figure 4: 5-mile Botanical CNDDB Map

Figure 5: 5-mile Wildlife CNDDB Map

Figure 6: Impact Areas Map

Appendix B - Botanical and Wildlife Species Observed On Site

Appendix C - Regionally Occurring Special-Status Species

Appendix D - Representative Site Photographs

Appendix E - California Natural Diversity Database Form

Appendix F - Greenvale Oak Tree Pruning Letter and Map



#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This Biological Resources Assessment was prepared at the request of Rob and Lori Gillespie (Applicant) for a property located at 500 West Ormonde Road in San Luis Obispo, California, San Luis Obispo County (County) (APN 044-301-043). The Applicant has submitted a permit application to the County for a Minor Use Permit (DRC2012-00086) for Temporary Events on a portion of the property. Two code violations have been issued to the Applicant for grading and have been resolved. Most of the development and associated impacts related to the Minor Use Permit application have already occurred.

The majority of the project site is located on residential-rural land and currently contains a single-family residence, small accessory building, temporary tent structure, parking areas, access roads, and picnic areas located in the northern part of the site. The Minor Use Permit for temporary events will utilize these existing amenities.

Terra Verde Environmental Consulting, LLC (Terra Verde) staff conducted a field survey on September 15, 2014. The property was determined to have potential for occurrence of seven special-status plant and five wildlife species. A botanical survey was conducted and one special-status plant species was observed. No special-status wildlife species were observed. The suitable habitat for special-status plant and wildlife species is discussed in further detail in this report.

Since most impacts have already occurred, mitigation measures are offered to offset those potential impacts and to avoid any future impacts to special-status species.

#### INTRODUCTION

Rob and Lori Gillespie (Applicant) have submitted an application for a Minor Use Permit to allow Temporary Events at a 29.2-acre property purchased by the Applicant in 2005. Approximately 50 events are expected to occur each calendar year. The property contains an existing 1,336 square foot (sf) single-family residence, a 450-sf accessory structure, a temporary tent structure, two parking areas, outdoor picnic areas, rock fountains, and a man-made retention pond. Event activities will utilize all of the amenities on-site with the exception of the retention pond area. Access to the property is from two access roads off of West Ormonde Road. All of these features have been constructed since 2005, with the exception to the access roads.

The property is located between the cities of San Luis Obispo and Arroyo Grande, in San Luis Obispo County, California. The elevation of the property ranges from approximately 122 meters (m) to 183 m, or 400 to 600 feet (ft) (see Appendix A - Figure 1: Project Location and Topographic Map).

Prior to the Applicant taking ownership, the property was utilized for an oil mining operation until the early 2000's. As part of the oil operation, vegetation was cleared to create trails and access roads in several locations on the property. The Applicant has conducted construction, grading, and vegetation trimming/removal on the property since 2005 (see Results section below). Some of the work completed triggered County code violations for grading; these violations have been resolved with the County.

The purpose of this Biological Resources Assessment is to more accurately determine impacts to biological resources that may or have occurred on the property since 2005 in relation to the Temporary Events areas, identify potential future impacts resulting from the Temporary Events, and identify avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures to offset impacts that have occurred, as well as reduce any potential future impacts to a less than significant level.

#### **METHODOLOGY**

For the purposes of this assessment, the survey area includes the 29.2-acre proposed project site, with a focus on the Temporary Event Use Area and associated access roads (see Appendix A - Figure 2: Survey Area Map). Terra Verde Principal Biologist Brooke Langle and Terra Verde Botanist Sean Ryan conducted a field survey on September 15, 2014; details regarding the methodology used for the field survey are summarized below.

Prior to conducting the field survey, Terra Verde staff reviewed the following resources:

 Aerial photographs and draft development plans (1994, 2002-2007, 2009-2013) of the project site;

- Arroyo Grande NE United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle map;
- online Soil Survey data for San Luis Obispo County, California; Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS 2014);
- a California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) list of state and federally listed special-status species with potential to occur in the Arroyo Grande NE 7.5-minute quadrangle and the surrounding seven quadrangles (Lopez Mountain, Nipomo, Oceano, Pismo Beach, San Luis Obispo, Santa Margarita, and Tar Spring Ridge, (CDFW 2014);
- Consortium of California Herbaria (CCH) online database of plant collections documented in the vicinity of the subject property;
- as-built grading plan (Roberts Engineering) provided by Kirk Consulting on September 15, 2014;
- site plan (J.D. Brannon Architect) provided by Kirk Consulting on September 15, 2014;
- Information Hold Letter (County of San Luis Obispo Planning and Building Department) pertaining to the pending permit application, provided by Kirk Consulting on September 15, 2014; and
- Loriana Ranch Minor Use Permit Temporary Events Supplemental Statement (Kirk Consulting) provided by Kirk Consulting on September 15, 2014.

The field survey was pedestrian in nature and lasted approximately two hours. During the survey, all botanical and wildlife resources encountered were documented. All plants were identified to the species level by keying per *The Jepson Manual: Vascular Plants of California* (Baldwin et al. 2012). Additionally, vegetation communities and habitat on site were evaluated for the potential to support special-status wildlife and botanical species. It should be noted that the survey was not appropriately timed to coincide with the blooming period of many potentially occurring special-status plants. See Appendix B for a complete list of botanical and wildlife species observed on site.

A complete list of all the regionally occurring special-status species reported in the scientific database queries (i.e., CNDDB and CCH) was compiled for the survey area (refer to Appendix C - Regionally Occurring Special-status Species). An analysis was conducted to determine which of these special-status species have the potential to occur within the survey area. The habitat requirements for each regionally occurring special-status species were assessed and compared to the type and quality of habitats observed on-site during the field survey.

Many species were eliminated due to lack of suitable habitat within the survey area, elevation range, soils/substrate, and/or distribution. The analysis was also based on a review of resource agency materials, pertinent scientific literature, aerial photography and topographic maps of the site, and other local information. Special-status species

observed on-site and those determined to have the potential to occur within the survey area are discussed below. Special-status species that were determined to have no potential to occur within the survey area are not discussed further in this report.

The timing and extent of site disturbances (e.g., construction, grading, landscaping, etc.) since 2005 were estimated by comparing the present site conditions documented during the field survey to historical aerial photographs of the survey area and draft development plans. The site conditions prior to the Applicant purchasing the property were taken into account when conducting the impacts assessment.

# Sufficiency of Biological Data

The field survey that Terra Verde staff conducted is of sufficient detail and biological expertise to identify potentially occurring special-status species or their habitat. The area experienced below normal rainfall for the 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 seasons. However, based on the conditions of the site and nearby surveys conducted by Terra Verde during the same timeframe, including known reference populations of sensitive plant species, the below normal rainfall levels appear to not have affected the survey results. It is important to note that the singular survey occurred during the fall, thus, nesting avian species, many annual plants, and breeding amphibians would not have been detectable.

## **RESULTS**

This section summarizes the results of the field survey that was conducted and provides further analysis of the data collected. Discussions regarding the existing site conditions, soils, terrestrial and aquatic habitat types identified, as well as special-status species observed or with potential to occur are presented below.

#### Site disturbances since 2005

Based on aerial photographs, chaparral vegetation was cleared in the southwest portion of the property between 2006 and 2007. An approximately 8,200-sf retention pond was constructed on that same portion of the property between 2011 and 2012. This work was not directly related to the Temporary Event Use Area and has been permitted by the County separately. Further, grading activities related to the construction of outdoor picnic areas on the northern portion of the property occurred between 2007 and 2009. Vegetation clearing and construction of two parking areas occurred between 2011 and 2012. A portion of the parking areas and access roads were pre-existing from past oilfield activities by the prior owners. A single family residence, temporary tent structure, and rock fountains were constructed between 2012 and 2013. Additionally, numerous oak trees were trimmed at an unknown time(s).

#### Soils

According to the NRCS online soil survey of San Luis Obispo County, three soil units occur within the survey area including Arnold loamy sand, Briones loamy sand, and Corralitos sand, which are discussed in greater detail below.

#### 102 – Arnold loamy sand, 5 to 15 percent slopes

The parent material of this soil type is residuum weathered from sandstone. The drainage class of this unit is somewhat excessively drained, and it is composed mostly of loamy sand over weathered bedrock. This soil type tends to occur on the summit and backslope of mountains and hills.

#### 108 – Briones loamy sand, 15 to 50 percent slopes

The parent material of this soil type is residuum weathered from sandstone. The drainage class of this unit is somewhat excessively drained, and it is composed mostly of loamy sand over weathered bedrock. This soil type tends to occur on the summit and backslope of mountains and hills.

#### 125 – Corralitos sand, 2 to 15 percent slopes

The parent material of this soil type is alluvium derived from sedimentary rock. The drainage class of this unit is somewhat excessively drained, and it is composed mostly of sand. This soil type tends to occur on alluvial fans and flats.

# **Vegetation Communities**

Three distinct vegetation communities were observed within the survey area, as well as ruderal/ornamental areas, and the Temporary Event Use Area (see Appendix A - Figure 3: Vegetation Communities Map). Vegetation communities identified on site were classified using the second edition of *A Manual of California Vegetation* (MCV; Sawyer et al. 2008) and included the following: coast live oak woodland, Santa Margarita manzanita stands, and coyote brush scrub. A total of 26 vascular plant species were identified within the survey area during the field survey. Of those 26 plants, 11 are nonnative (42 percent) which reflects a high level of disturbance on the property. A comprehensive list of all the plant species observed within the survey area is included in Appendix B.

Six sensitive vegetation communities were identified in the CNDDB as potentially occurring within the survey area; however, none of them were observed within the survey area (see Appendix A - Figure 3).

#### Coast Live Oak Woodland (7.1 acres)

Stands of coast live oak woodland were documented throughout the survey area with intermittent to continuous canopy cover. Monterey pine (*Pinus radiata*) and blue gum (*Eucalyptus globulus*) occur occasionally within this community in the northeastern part

of the survey area. The shrub and herbaceous layers in this community are sparse or absent due to vegetation trimming and clearing. This community typically occurs in alluvial terraces, canyon bottoms, stream banks, slopes, and flats. Coast live oak woodlands provide habitat for nesting birds, small mammals, and other wildlife.

This species composition was used in determining the community classification, which most closely corresponds with the *Quercus agrifolia* Woodland Alliance, Coast live oak woodland, in the MCV classification system.

#### Coyote Brush Scrub (1.4 acres)

One large area on the eastern portion of the property and several patchy areas between the oak woodlands are dominated by coyote brush (*Baccharis pilularis*) and have abundant California sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*) and black sage (*Salvia mellifera*). Deerweed (*Acmispon glaber*) is common along the margins of this community and scattered individuals of buckbrush (*Ceanothus cuneatus*) exist. This community typically occurs on slopes that are steep and rarely flooded. This community provides habitat for nesting birds, small mammals, and other wildlife.

This species composition was used in determining the community classification, which most closely corresponds with the *Baccharis pilularis* Shrubland Alliance, Coyote brush scrub, in the MCV classification system.

#### Santa Margarita Manzanita Stands (5.9 acres)

Several nearly-monotypic stands of Santa Margarita manzanita (*Arctostaphylos pilosula*) exist along the northern and central portions of the survey area. Santa Margarita manzanita is listed by the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) on the California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR) 1B.2 list. Santa Margarita manzanita forms a continuous shrub canopy layer, with mock heather (*Ericameria ericoides*) occurring occasionally along the edges and an herbaceous layer that is sparse to absent. This community typically occurs on slopes that are steep and rarely flooded. This community provides habitat for nesting birds, small mammals, and other wildlife.

This species composition is not formally defined in the MVC classification system but most closely corresponds with the *Arctostaphylos glandulosa* Shrubland Alliance, Eastwood manzanita chaparral.

#### Ruderal/Ornamental (7.3 acres)

Openings in the coast live oak woodland, primarily along the access roads and surrounding the retention pond, are dominated by bromes (*Bromus* sp.) and iceplant (*Carpobrotus chilensis*), with other non-native shrubs, forbs, and grasses present at low cover. Individual coast live oak trees are scattered within this community. Several areas along the access roads are mulched and planted with maturing ornamentals or are bare soil.

#### **Temporary Event Use Area (5.7 acres)**

Areas surrounding the existing buildings, parking areas, access roads, and within the Temporary Event Use Area have been planted with various ornamental trees, shrubs, and turf grass. Recently mulched areas, decomposed granite, and bare soil are also common. This area also includes several rock fountain features, brick and concrete foot paths, and other landscaping features.

# Wildlife

During the field survey, all identifiable signs of wildlife and suitable habitat for sensitive wildlife species were documented. A comprehensive list of all the wildlife species observed on-site is included in Appendix B.

#### **Amphibians**

No special-status amphibians were observed during the field survey. The retention pond does not hold perennial water and provides marginally suitable seasonal habitat for California red-legged frog (CRLF; *Rana draytonii*). Suitable breeding habitat exists in two nearby, offsite freshwater ponds which appear to hold water perennially (see Appendix A – Figure 3). Therefore, the likelihood for this species to occur on-site is considered moderate.

#### **Reptiles**

No special-status reptiles were observed during the field survey. However, suitable habitat for silvery legless lizard exists in the understory of the coast live oak woodlands, and the open, sandy areas surrounding the stands of Santa Margarita manzanita provide suitable habitat for coast horned lizard (*Phrynosoma blainvillii*). Marginally suitable habitat for Western pond turtle (*Actinemys marmorata*) exists within and surrounding the retention pond. However, the potential for this species to occur is considered low due to the lack of perennial water and suitable basking and nesting sites.

#### **Avian Species**

No special-status avian species were observed during the field survey. However, the diverse habitats present on-site provide suitable nesting and foraging habitat for many avian species. The coast live oak woodland provides suitable nesting habitat for both raptors and passerines. The coyote brush scrub and margins of Santa Margarita manzanita stands provide suitable nesting and foraging habitat for numerous passerine species.

#### **Mammals**

Suitable habitat for American badger was identified within the survey area including friable soils and open chaparral. However, no badger dens or sign were observed during the field survey. No other special-status mammal species were observed.

#### Sensitive Resources

For the purposes of this document, a sensitive resource is defined as a resource that is of management concern to county, state, and/or federal resource agencies.

The results of the desktop review indicated that 106 sensitive species (62 plants and 44 wildlife species) and 6 sensitive vegetation communities have the potential to occur within the survey area. All occurrences of special-status species and sensitive habitat types previously documented in the CNDDB within a five-mile radius of the project site were plotted on two maps using geographic information systems (GIS) software (see Appendix A - Figure 4: Botanical 5-mile CNDDB Map and Figure 5: 5-mile Wildlife CNDDB Map). As previously discussed, an analysis was conducted to determine which of these regionally occurring special-status species has potential to occur within the survey area (see Appendix C). After the field survey, the potential sensitive species were narrowed to seven plant species and five wildlife species, based on site conditions.

#### Coast Live Oak Trees and Woodland

Individual coast live oak trees and coast live oak woodland are considered sensitive resources by the County. The County requires mitigation for impacts to or removal of native oak trees with a diameter at breast height (DBH) of five inches or greater, as measured at a height of four feet six inches above ground. Impacts include any ground disturbance within the critical root zone (i.e., 1.5 times the edge of canopy/drip line), trunk damage, or any pruning of branches that are three inches in diameter or greater. Mitigation ratios for removed and impacted trees are 4:1 and 2:1, respectively.

#### Sensitive Plant Species

A late season botanical survey was conducted within the survey area. Suitable habitat for Hoover's bent grass (*Agrostis hooveri*), straight-awned spine flower (*Chorizanthe rectispina*), Pismo clarkia (*Clarkia speciosa* ssp. *immaculata*), mesa horkelia (*Horkelia cuneata* var. *puberula*), San Luis Obispo County lupine (*Lupinus ludovicianus*), and blackflowered figwort (*Scrophularia atrata*) occur within the survey area. However, none of these species was observed and some would not have been identifiable at the time of the survey. One special-status plant species was identified within the survey area, Santa Margarita manzanita (*Arctostaphylos pilosula*). A CNDDB filed survey form for this occurrence will be submitted to CDFW, and is included as Appendix E.

# Black-flowered figwort (Scrophularia atrata), CRPR 1B.2

Black-flowered figwort is a perennial herb that is endemic to California. This species typically occurs in closed coned coniferous forests, coastal dunes, coastal scrub, and riparian scrub at elevations between 10 and 500 m. The typical blooming period is from March to July. According to CNDDB records, three documented occurrences are located within five miles of the survey area. A herbarium specimen was collected in 2001 approximately 0.75 miles southwest of the survey area (CCH 2014).

Marginally suitable habitat occurs on site; however, black-flowered figwort is perennial and was not observed during the late-season field survey.

#### Hoover's bent grass (Agrostis hooveri), CRPR 1B.2

Hoover's bent grass is a perennial herb that is endemic to California. This species typically occurs in closed-cone coniferous forests, chaparral, woodlands, and grasslands in sandy soil at elevations below 610 m. The typical blooming period is from April to July. One population of this species has been documented within five miles of the survey area (CNDDB 2014).

Marginally suitable habitat is present on site; however, Hoover's bent grass is perennial and was not identified during the late-season field survey.

#### Mesa horkelia (Horkelia cuneata var. puberula), CRPR 1B.1

Mesa horkelia is a perennial herb that is endemic to California. This variety typically occurs in dry, sandy, and gravelly coastal chaparral at elevations between 70 and 870 m. The typical blooming period is from March to July. Two documented occurrences are located within five miles of the survey area (CNDDB 2014) and a herbarium specimen of this variety was collected in 2010 approximately 0.3 mile northwest of the survey area (CCH 2014).

Suitable habitat occurs on-site; however, mesa horkelia is a perennial shrub and would be identifiable during a late-season field survey; it was not observed during the survey.

**Pismo clarkia (***Clarkia speciosa* subsp. *immaculata***),** California - Rare, Federal - Endangered, CRPR 1B.1

Pismo clarkia is an annual herb that is endemic to San Luis Obispo County. This subspecies typically occurs in sandy coastal hills at elevations less than 100 m. The typical blooming period is from May to July. This subspecies is threatened by development and possibly grazing. According to CNDDB records (2014), 14 documented occurrences of this species are located within five miles of the survey area. One of these occurrences extends 4.52 acres along the southern boundary of the survey area, adjacent to West Ormonde Road. A herbarium specimen of Pismo clarkia was collected in 1987 approximately 0.1 miles northwest of the survey area along West Ormonde Road (CCH 2014).

Pismo clarkia was not observed during the late-season field survey and would not have been identifiable at that time of year. However, a known population was documented on the property in the past as recorded in the CNDDB. It is unknown if this population persists in the remaining grasslands bordering West Ormonde Road.

#### San Luis Obispo County lupine (Lupinus Iudovicianus), CRPR 1B.2

San Luis Obispo County lupine is a perennial herb that is endemic to California. This species typically occurs in chaparral, woodlands, and grasslands in limestone, sandstone, or sandy soils at elevations between 50 and 525 m. The typical blooming period is from April to July. Two documented occurrences of this species are located within five miles of the survey area (CNDDB 2014).

Suitable habitat occurs on-site; however, San Luis Obispo County lupine is perennial and was not observed during the late-season field survey.

# Santa Margarita manzanita (Arctostaphylos pilosula), CRPR 1B.2

Santa Margarita manzanita is a shrub that is endemic to California. This species typically occurs on shale outcrops and slopes in chaparral at elevations between 30 and 1,250 m. The typical blooming period is from December to March. This species is threatened by development.

Several monotypic stands (5.9 acres) of this species were identified in the north and central portions of the survey area.

#### Straight-awned spineflower (Chorizanthe rectispina), CRPR 1B.3

Straight-awned spineflower is an annual herb that is endemic to California. This species typically occurs in chaparral, coastal scrub, and dry woodlands in sandy soil at elevations between 85 and 1,035 m. The typical blooming period is from April to July. Six populations of this species have been documented within five miles of the survey area (CNDDB 2014).

Suitable habitat is present on-site. Straight-awned spineflower was not observed during the late-season field survey and would not have been identifiable at the time of the survey.

#### Sensitive Wildlife Species

No sensitive wildlife species were identified within the survey area; however, suitable habitat for American badger (*Taxidea taxus*), CRLF, Western pond turtle, silvery legless lizard (*Anniella pulchra pulchra*), coast horned lizard, and migratory nesting birds were determined to be present on site and are discussed in detail below.

#### Sensitive Mammal Species

American badger (*Taxidea taxus*), State Status - Species of Special Concern

American badger is a non-migratory species that occurs throughout most of California. It occurs in open and arid habitats including grasslands, meadows, savannahs, open-canopy desert scrub, and open chaparral. This species requires friable soils in areas with low to moderate slopes. American badger is known to occur in nearly every region of California except for the North Coast region which includes Del Norte, Humboldt,

Mendocino, Sonoma, and Marin counties. This species occurs at elevations that range from approximately 0 to 3,600 m. American badger typically breeds from May through September, but individuals may not breed every year.

Suitable habitat for American badger is present within the survey area. Three occurrences of this species have been documented within five miles of the survey area. The nearest occurrence was documented in 1991 approximately 0.4 miles east of the survey area (CNDDB 2014). However, no burrows or sign of badger were observed.

#### Sensitive Amphibian Species

**California red-legged frog (***Rana draytonii***),** State Status - Species of Special Concern, Federal Status - Threatened

This species is generally found along marshes, streams, ponds, and other permanent sources of water where dense scrubby vegetation such as willows, cattails, and bulrushes dominate and water quality is suitable. Breeding sites occur in ponds or along watercourses with pools that persist long enough for breeding and larval development. Breeding time depends on winter rains but is usually between late November and late April (Jennings 1986).

Eight occurrences of CRLF have been documented within five miles of the survey area (see Appendix A - Figure 5). The nearest occurrence of CRLF was documented in 2014 approximately 1.7 miles north of the survey area. The retention pond in the survey area only holds water for a portion of the year and therefore provides marginally suitable, seasonal habitat for this species. Open water habitat to a sufficient depth is required for CRLF to successfully breed. Based on the field survey and analysis of aerial photos, suitable breeding habitat (i.e., ponds, permanent water) exists in two freshwater ponds in the surrounding areas (see Appendix A – Figure 2). Based on these factors and the presence of marginally suitable habitat, there is moderate potential for CRLF to occur within the survey area.

#### Sensitive Reptile Species

Coast horned lizard (*Phrynosoma blainvillii*), State Status – Species of Special Concern The coast horned lizard typically occurs in the valleys, foothills, and semiarid mountains of western and southern California from sea level to 2,438 m. This species inhabits grasslands, coniferous forests, woodlands, and chaparral, with open areas and patches of loose, sandy soil. It is frequently found along sandy washes with scattered shrubs and along dirt roads, and frequently found near native ant hills. The breeding season is from May to September.

The nearest CNDDB occurrence of this species was documented in 2007 approximately 4.9 miles east of the survey area, and is presumed extant (CNDDB 2014). The oak woodlands and open, sandy areas surrounding the stands of Santa Margarita manzanita provide suitable habitat for coast horned lizard. As such, there is moderate potential for this species to occur in the survey area.

# **Silvery legless lizard (***Anniella pulchra pulchra***),** State Status - Species of Special Concern

Silvery legless lizard requires sandy or loose loamy soils within coastal dune scrub, coastal sage scrub, chaparral, woodland, riparian, or forest habitats. It requires cover such as logs, leaf litter, or rocks and will cover itself with loose soil. Relatively little is known about the specific behavior and ecology of this species, but it is thought to be a diurnal species that breeds between the months of March and July. It gives live birth to young in the early fall. This species occurs from Antioch in Contra Costa County south through the Coast, Transverse, and Peninsular Ranges, along the western edge of the Sierra Nevada, and in parts of the San Joaquin Valley and Mojave Desert to El Consuelo in Baja. Silvery legless lizard is known to occur at elevations that range from approximately 0 1,800 m. Population declines have been attributed to agricultural development, sand mining, use of off-road recreational vehicles, and habitat loss through spread of invasive, non-native vegetation such as iceplant (*Carpobrotus* spp.).

This species has not been documented within five miles of the survey area (CNDDB 2014) but is known to occur in similar habitat in the region. No silvery legless lizards were observed during field surveys, although detection of this species is difficult as they dwell in thick duff and quickly retreat underground when disturbed. Suitable habitat for this species exists in the survey area (i.e., sandy soils, coastal sage scrub, chaparral, and oak duff).

Western pond turtle (Actinemys marmorata), State Status - Species of Special Concern Western pond turtles are commonly found in a variety of freshwater aquatic habitats including ponds, lakes, rivers, streams, and marshes. Preferentially, this species utilizes deeper pools with abundant vegetation and muddy bottoms where it can burrow in the mud to hibernate during winter months or aestivate during summer droughts. Pond turtles are omnivorous, utilizing food sources such as aquatic plants, invertebrates, frog eggs, crayfish, and occasionally fish. Historically, this turtle was distributed along the entire west coast from British Columbia to Baja California, but has since become extirpated in much of its southern range as well as highly fragmented north of California (Californiaherps.com).

The nearest occurrence of Western pond turtle was documented in 1992 approximately 0.5 miles northeast of the survey area (CNDDB 2014). This species was not observed during the field survey and habitat suitability is considered marginal due to lack of deep water and basking sites.

#### **Migratory Nesting Birds**

The federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Convention for the Protection of Migratory Birds and Animals, agreements between the United States and Canada and the United States and Mexico, respectively, afford protection for migratory birds by making it unlawful to collect, sell, pursue, hunt, or kill native migratory birds, their eggs, nests, or any parts thereof. Certain game birds have been omitted from this protection. The laws were adopted to eliminate the commercial market for migratory bird feathers and parts, especially those of larger raptors and other birds of prey.

Suitable nesting habitat is provided by the diverse communities on site. No migratory birds were observed during the field survey. However, the likelihood of the presence of nesting birds during the typical avian nesting season (February 1 through September 15) is considered very high.

#### IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND MITIGATION

# **Summary of Impacts**

The construction activities directly related to existing site development related to the Minor Use Permit (i.e., single-family residence, accessory structure, temporary tent, parking areas, outdoor picnic areas, rock fountains, and access roads) have directly impacted the coast live oak woodlands and individual coast live oak trees in the form of trimming and disturbance within the critical root zone.

It is unknown what impact construction activities within the Temporary Event Use Area may have had on other special-status species. As stated above, suitable habitat exists for several special-status plant species as well as American badger, CRLF, Western pond turtle, silvery legless lizard, coast horned lizard, and migratory nesting birds.

Direct impacts to plants and wildlife could have resulted from take (e.g., injury, death) via construction-related disturbances such as trampling or crushing from equipment or construction workers. Indirect impacts to wildlife species could have resulted from noise, harassment, or other disruption during construction activities or through modifications to the species' habitat.

Activities not directly related to the Temporary Event Use Area (i.e., construction of the retention basin, vegetation clearing, mowing, and tree trimming along the frontage of West Ormonde Road) may have impacted the special-status plant species described above, particularly Pismo clarkia and Santa Margarita manzanita. However, these disturbances were previously addressed as code violations and have since been resolved through after-the-fact permitting through the County. As such, mitigation measures for prior disturbances to these species are not addressed further in this document.

# **Recommended Mitigation Measures**

#### Impact 1: Coast Live Oak Trees and Coast Live Oak Woodland

The project may have resulted in impacts to coast live oak trees and coast live oak woodland. The County requires mitigation for impacts to or removal of native oak trees with a DBH of five inches or greater, as measured at a height of four feet six inches above ground. Impacts include any ground disturbance within the critical root zone of one and one-half times the canopy/drip line diameter, trunk damage, or any pruning of branches three inches in diameter or greater. Mitigation ratios to removed and impacted trees are 4:1 and 2:1, respectively.

Greenvale Tree Company (Greenvale) pruned a total of 73 oaks within the Temporary Event Use Area and the east access road over the past 10 years (see Appendix A - Figure 6). A detailed oak tree inventory has not been conducted to date; however, a letter and map provided by Greenvale indicates that each pruning event consisted of removal of no more than 10% of the total canopy surface area (see Appendix F - Greenvale Oak Tree Pruning Letter and Map). The critical root zone of some oaks within the Temporary Event Use Area and along the access roads may have been impacted by construction activities.

## **Recommended Mitigation Measures**

#### BIO-1 Oak Tree Avoidance

The Applicant shall not further impact oak trees beyond existing conditions for any work associated with the Minor Use Permit for Temporary Events. If further trimming, encroachment, or removals are required, the Applicant shall consult the County for any required oak tree mitigation.

## **Impact 2: Sensitive Wildlife**

Previous construction activities related to improvements to the single-family residence may have resulted in direct impacts to sensitive wildlife including American badger, silvery legless lizard, coast horned lizard, and migratory nesting birds. Likewise, elevated noise levels, increased traffic and human activity, and construction-related disturbance associated with implementation of the project could have resulted in indirect impacts to these species.

# **Recommended Mitigation Measures**

#### BIO-2 No Further Disturbance to Sensitive Wildlife

Most potential impacts to American badger, silvery legless lizard, and coast horned lizard have already occurred, if they were indeed present, and therefore cannot be accurately quantified. No ongoing mitigation measures for the Temporary Event areas are recommended. However, if any changes are made to the project plans resulting in further disturbances (e.g., clearing, grading, expansion, etc.), a wildlife survey shall be conducted by a qualified biologist prior to the start of construction. If any of the abovementioned special-status wildlife species or any previously undocumented special-

status species are discovered, the Applicant shall consult with the County and/or the appropriate resource agencies prior to any work occurring on the site.

#### **Impact 3: Sensitive Aquatic Species**

Western pond turtle and CRLF are unlikely to have occurred within the survey area prior to the construction of the retention pond between 2011 and 2012, and therefore were likely not impacted. The retention pond and rock fountains may draw these aquatic-related species into the survey area during rainy or ponded conditions, assumed to be during the winter months. If pond turtles or CRLF were to traverse the site during these conditions, they may be impacted by vehicle strikes or disturbance from lights and increased noise levels due to events.

#### **Recommended Mitigation Measures**

#### BIO-3 Avoid Impacts to Aquatic Species

Vegetation management, amplified music, and nighttime lighting within 250 feet of aquatic features shall not occur during the CRLF breeding season (November 1 to April 30).

#### **Impact 4: Migratory Nesting Birds**

Migratory nesting birds are likely to occur within the survey area during the prime nesting season (February 15 to August 31). Activities related to the temporary events (e.g., amplified music, nighttime lighting, vehicular traffic, etc.) have the potential to impact nesting birds.

# **Recommended Mitigation Measures**

#### **BIO-4 Avoid Impacts to Nesting Birds**

The Applicant is bound by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the California Department of Fish and Game Code (i.e., they must protect migratory nesting species). As such, the Applicant shall ensure they do not cause a nest to fail as a result of events. Events should avoid the prime nesting season (February 15 to August 31) to the extent feasible.

#### **Impact 5: Sensitive Plants**

Construction activities completed since 2005 potentially resulted in direct impacts to the special-status plant species described above. Based on aerial photographs, approximately 1.05 acres of Santa Margarita manzanita were cleared between 2006 and 2007 prior to the construction of the retention pond (see Appendix A - Figure 6). Additionally, up to 4.52 acres of Pismo clarkia have been potentially impacted along the frontage of West Ormonde Road since 2005. These activities were not directly related to the Temporary Event Use Area, thus, no mitigation is discussed in this report. However, it is anticipated that Cal Fire will require the Applicant to mow for fire management along the frontage of the property.

Impacts to Hoover's bent grass, straight-awned spineflower, mesa horkelia, San Luis Obispo County lupine, and black-flowered figwort may have occurred during construction activities. Suitable habitat for these species is present; however, none of these species were identified during the late-season field survey, and no mitigation measures are recommended for these species. Recommended mitigation for potential impacts to Pismo clarkia and Santa Margarita manzanita as a result of Temporary Events is provided.

#### **Recommended Mitigation Measures**

#### BIO-5 Pismo Clarkia Avoidance

A focused, appropriately timed botanical survey for Pismo clarkia shall be conducted during the spring of 2015 by a qualified botanist to determine its presence or absence on site. It is recommended that no vegetation clearing or mowing shall occur within the previously documented occurrence area of Pismo clarkia along the frontage of West Ormonde Road before the botanical survey (see Appendix A - Figure 6). If Pismo clarkia is found, soil disturbance and vegetation trimming shall be avoided and no mowing in the area shall occur between April 1 and July 31 each year.

#### BIO-6 Santa Margarita Manzanita Avoidance

No further Santa Margarita manzanitas shall be removed and impacts to any individuals of this species shall be avoided in the future. If it is determined at a later date that further construction activities will impact manzanitas, the Applicant shall acquire prior approval from the County. Any manzanitas removed in the future shall be mitigated at a 2:1 ratio on site within a location that will be protected in perpetuity. A restoration plan approved by the County will be developed in order to document the survival of the replacement manzanitas.

#### CONCLUSION

Nearly all of the anticipated impacts occurred prior to this biological resources assessment, therefore, the conclusions in this report are estimates based on surrounding habitat, review of aerial photographs, and historic records. The focus of this report was the Temporary Event Use Areas, but it also noted the presence of sensitive species in areas previously impacted. The actions associated with these impacts have been permitted or otherwise approved separately from the Temporary Event Use Areas.

During the field survey, one special-status plant species was observed within the survey area. In addition, one special-status mammal, one special-status amphibian, two special-status reptiles, and nesting migratory birds all have potential to occur on the property.

Implementation of the recommended mitigation measures will avoid and/or minimize impacts to known and potentially occurring sensitive resources and habitats related to the Temporary Event Use Areas.

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# **APPENDIX A - MAPS**

Figure 1 – Project Location Map

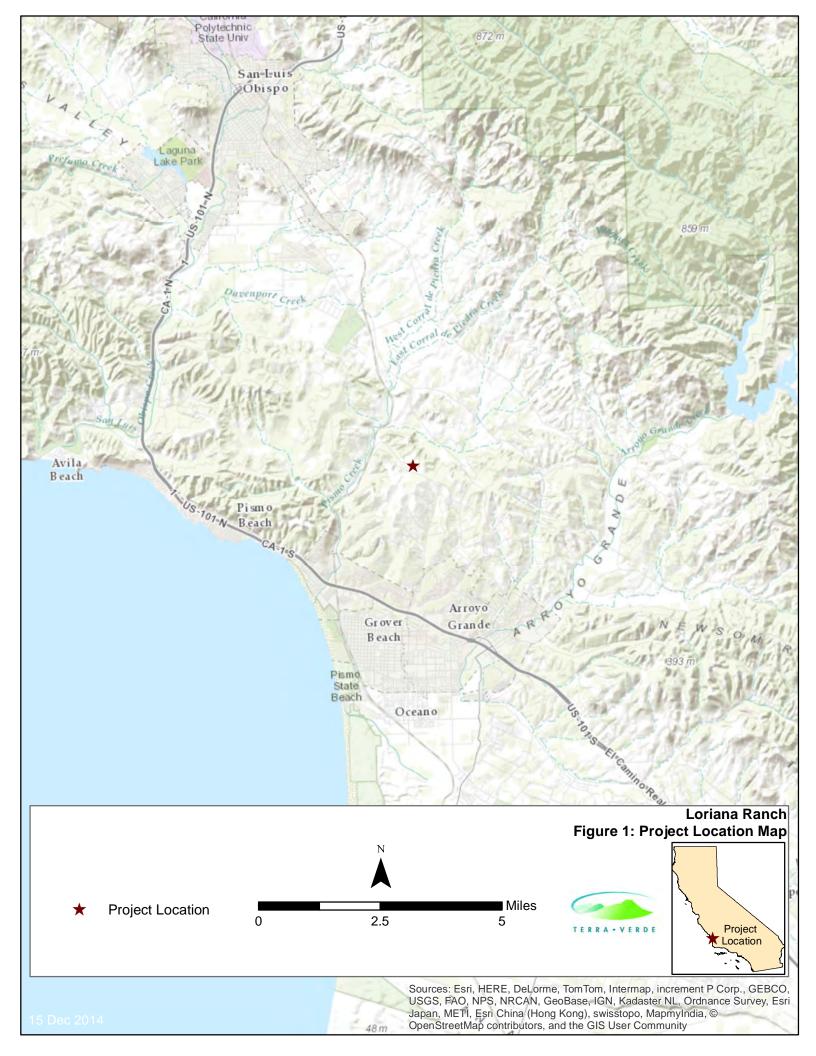
Figure 2 – Survey Area Map

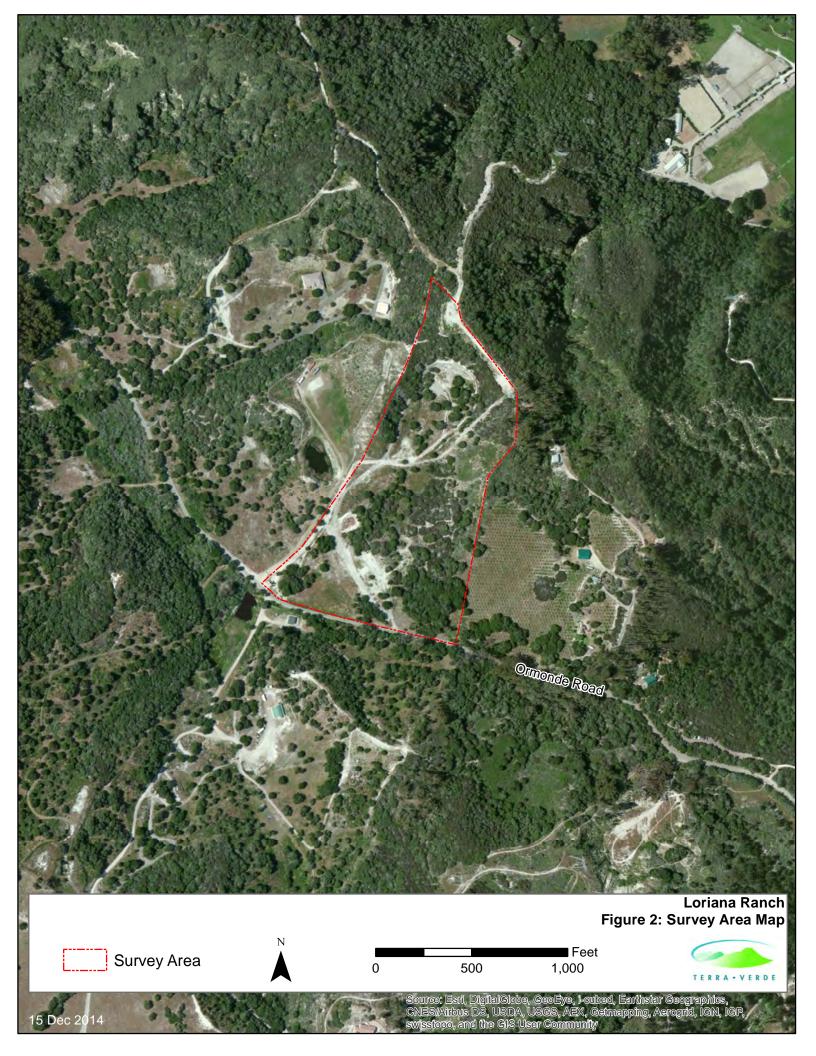
Figure 3 – Vegetation Communities Map

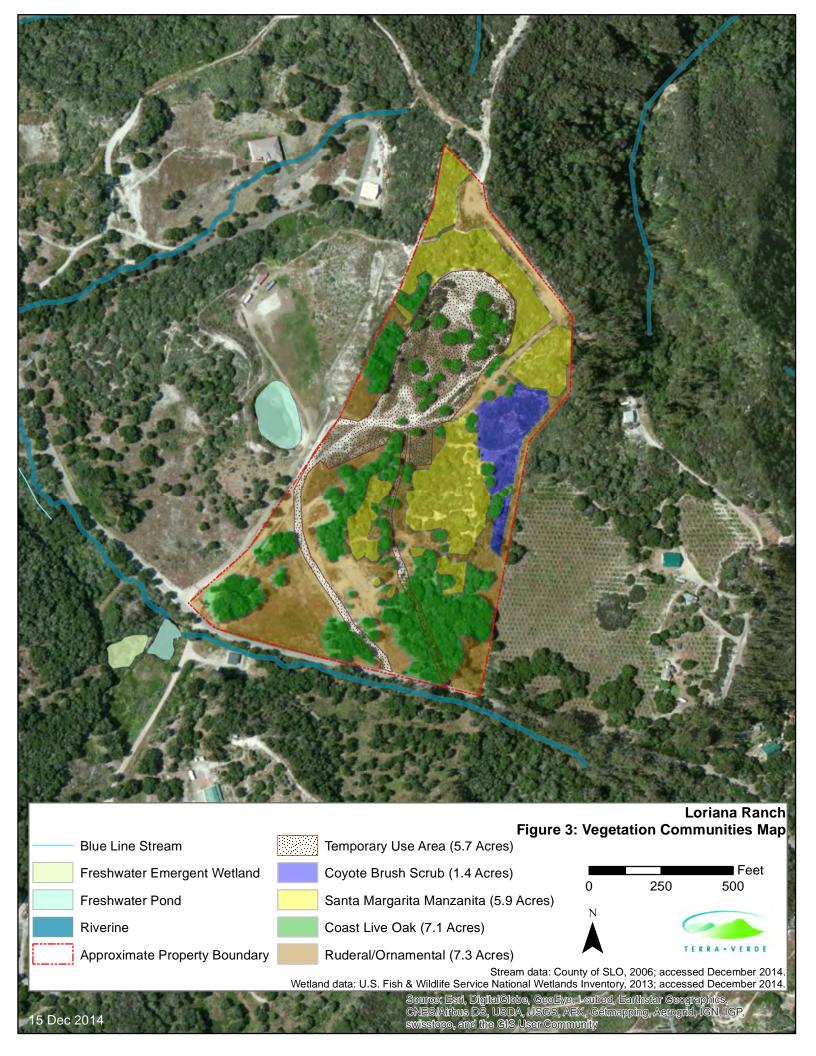
Figure 4 – 5-mile Botanical CNDDB Map

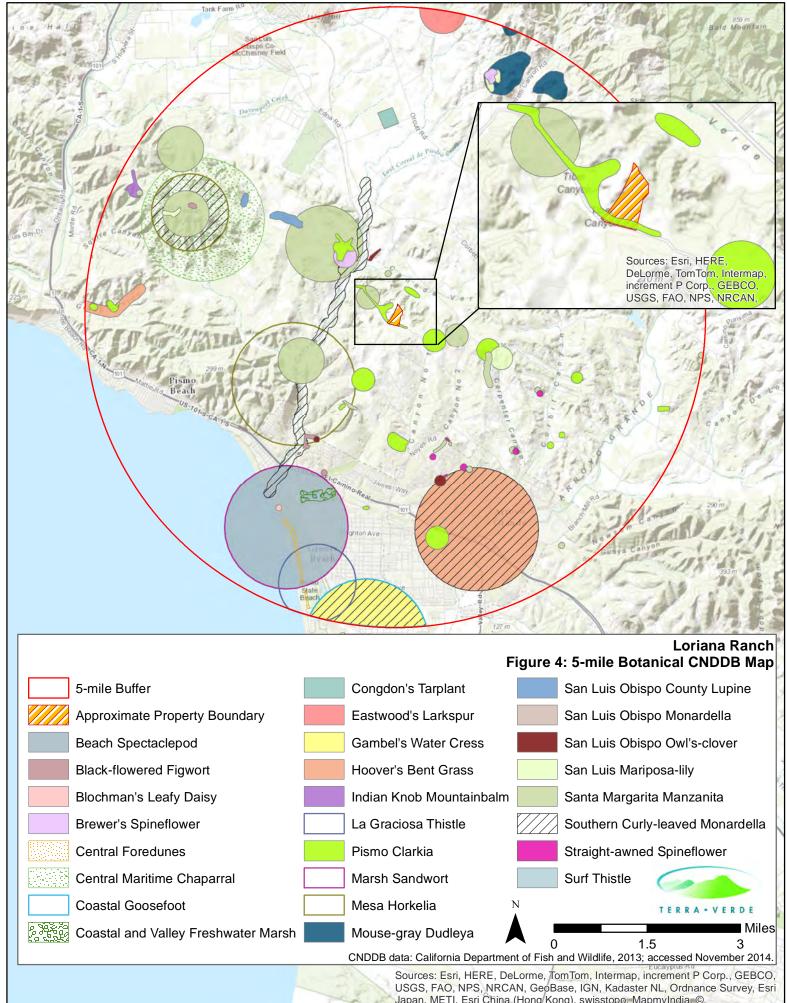
Figure 5 – 5-mile Wildlife CNDDB Map

Figure 6 – Impact Areas Map

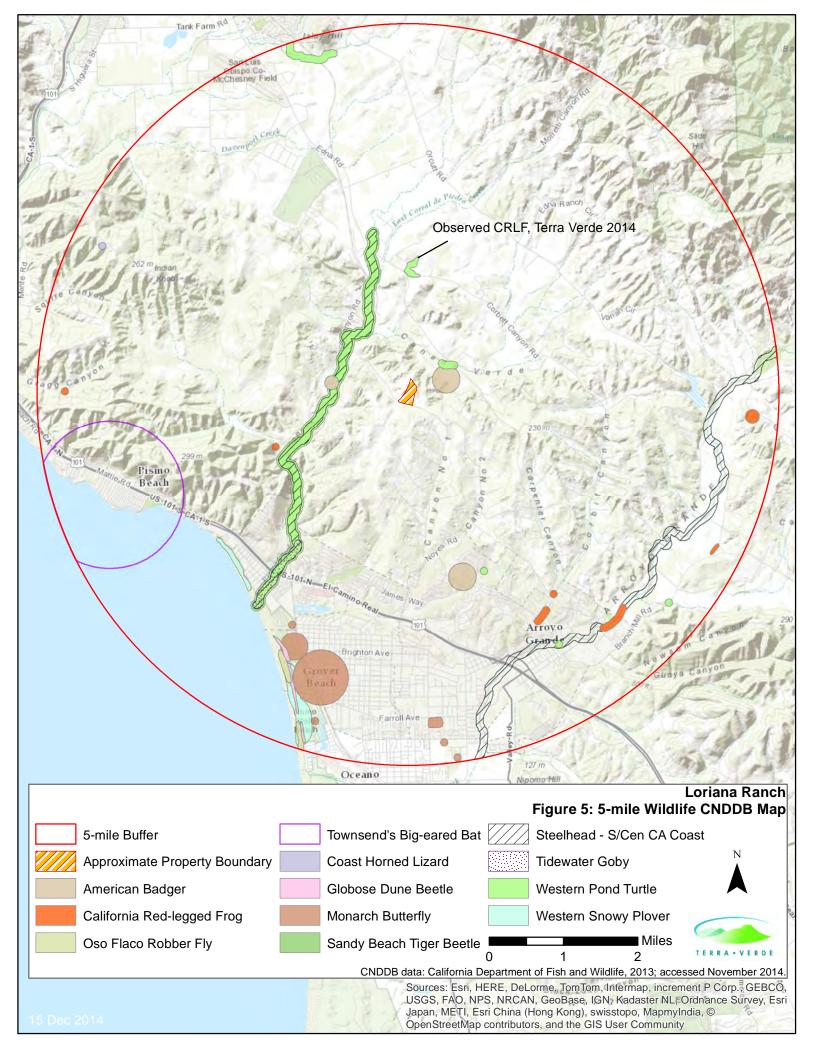








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# APPENDIX B - Botanical and Wildlife Species Observed



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# **Loriana Ranch Property Botanical Species Observed**

\*Indicates non-native species or planted as landscaping

+Indicates special-status species

Scientific Name	Common Name
Aizoaceae	Fig-marigold Family
Carpobrotus chilensis*	Sea fig
Anacardiaceae	Cashew Family
Toxicodendron diversilobum	Poison oak
Apocynaceae	Dogbane Family
Nerium oleander*	Common oleander
Asteraceae	Composite Family
Ambrosia psilostachya	Western ragweed
Artemisia californica	California sage
Baccharis pilularis	Coyote brush
Ericameria ericoides	Mock heather
Erigeron canadensis	Horseweed
Pseudognaphalium sp.	Everlasting
Caryophyllaceae	Pink Family
Silene gallica*	Windmill pink
Dennstaedtiaceae	Bracken Family
Pteridium aquilinum	Bracken fern
Ericaceae	Heath Family
Arctostaphylos pilosula+	Santa Margarita manzanita
Fabaceae	Legume Family
Acmispon glaber	Deerweed
Fagaceae	Oak Family
Quercus agrifolia	Coast live oak
ass. sas agrijona	
Lamiaceae	Mint Family
Lamiaceae	Mint Family
Lamiaceae Salvia mellifera	Mint Family Black sage
Lamiaceae Salvia mellifera Myrtaceae	Mint Family Black sage Myrtle Family
Lamiaceae Salvia mellifera Myrtaceae Eucalyptus globulus*	Mint Family Black sage Myrtle Family Blue gum
Lamiaceae Salvia mellifera Myrtaceae Eucalyptus globulus* Oleaceae	Mint Family Black sage Myrtle Family Blue gum Olive Family

Poaceae	Grass Family
Bromus diandrus*	Ripgut brome
Bromus madritensis subsp. rubens*	Red brome
Cortaderia jubata*	Pampas grass
Distichlis spicata	Salt grass
Ehrharta calycina*	Veldt grass
Polygonaceae	<b>Buckwheat Family</b>
Rumex crispus*	Curly dock
Rhamnaceae	Buckthorn Family
Ceanothus cuneatus	Buckbrush
Rosaceae	Rose Family
Heteromeles arbutifolia	Toyon

# Loriana Ranch Property Wildlife Species Observed

Scientific Name	Common Name
Avian Species	
Cathartes aura	Turkey vulture
Corvus brachyrhynchos	American crow



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# APPENDIX C - Regionally Occurring Special-status Species







Potential Sensitive Species for Arroyo Grande NE and surrounding 7.5-minute quadrangles - Lopez Mountain, Nipomo, Oceano, Pismo Beach, San Luis Obispo, Santa Margarita Lake, and Tar Springs Ridge (CNDDB and CNPS 2014).

	VEGETATION COMMUNITIES							
Community Name	Description	Observed on Site?	Comments					
Central Dune Scrub	Restricted to coastal areas with stabilized back dunes slopes, ridges, and flats. Vegetation consists of shrubs, subshrubs, and herbs less than a meter tall. Indicator species include <i>Lupinus chamissonis</i> .	No	No dunes occur on site, and no species indicative of central dune scrub habitat, including <i>Lupinus</i> chamissonis, were observed.					
Central Foredunes	Sand dunes along the immediate coastline characterized by dune mat species such as <i>Abronia latifolia</i> and <i>Ambrosia chamissonis</i> . Greater species richness on inner dunes than on leading edge of the beach. Perennial herbs, grasses, and low shrubs form a low canopy.	No	The site does not occur immediately adjacent to the coastline. No sand dunes occur on site, and no species indicative of central foredune habitat were observed.					
Central Maritime Chaparral	Associated with well drained/dry soils. Located on exposed upland location with moderate to high cover. Typically dominated by Arctostaphylos species that develop into dense patches of vegetation.	No	Large areas of the site support species that typically occur in chaparral and coastal scrub communities; Arctostaphylos pilosula dominates most of these areas creating monotypic stands.					

	VEGETATION COMMUNITIES								
Community Name	Description	Observed on Site?	Comments						
Coastal and Valley Freshwater Marsh	Dominated by perennial, emergent, and tall monocots that often form closed canopies. Tend to by <i>Typha</i> and/or <i>Schoenoplectus</i> dominated and permanently flooded by fresh water, which results in deep, peaty soils.	No	The sediment basin on the southern portion of the site does not hold water year round and vegetation within this community is not dominated by perennial, emergent, and tall monocots.						
Northern Interior Cypress Forest	An open, fire maintained scrubby forest. Dominated by <i>Cupressus</i> species with dry, rocky, ultramafic soils. Often associated with serpentine chaparral.	No	No scrubby forest or naturally-occurring Cupressus, now Hesperocyparis, species occur on site.						
Serpentine Bunchgrass	Native bunchgrasses, such as Elymus multisetus, with non-native grasses and herbs less than 1 meter. Common on rocky slopes and ridges with clayey soils. Emergent shrubs may be present and canopy is open to intermittent.	No	No native bunchgrasses were observed, and annual grasses are abundant in disturbed areas on site.						

	PLANTS						
Scientific/Common Name	Listing Status	Blooming Period	Habitat Type	Observed on Site?	Comments		
Agrostis hooveri Hoover's bent grass	CRPR 1B.2	April - July	Closed - cone coniferous forest, chaparral, cismontane woodland, valley and foothill grassland/usually sandy. Elevation; < 610 m.	No	Marginally suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey.		
Arctostaphylos cruzensis Arroyo de la Cruz manzanita	CRPR 1B.2	December - March	Chaparral, coastal scrub, coastal bluff scrub, valley/foothill grassland, closed cone coniferous forests, and sandy bluffs. Elevation; < 310 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey. No occurrences within 5 mile radius.		
Arctostaphylos luciana Santa Lucia manzanita	CRPR 1B.2	December - March	Chaparral and cismontane woodlands with shale outcrops. Elevation; 350 - 850 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey.		
Arctostaphylos morroensis Morro manzanita	Fed: Threatened CRPR 1B.1	December - March	Chaparral (maritime), cismontane woodland, coastal dunes, coastal scrub/sandy loam soils. Elevation; < 205 m.	No	Marginally suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey. No occurrences within 5 mile radius.		

		PL	ANTS		
Scientific/Common Name	Listing Status	Blooming Period	Habitat Type	Observed on Site?	Comments
Arctostaphylos pechoensis Pecho manzanita	CRPR 1B.2	November - March	Shale outcrops, slopes, chaparral, and coniferous forest. Elevation; < 850 m.	No	Suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey. No occurrences within 5 mile radius.
Arctostaphylos pilosula Santa Margarita manzanita	CRPR 1B.2	December - March	Shale outcrops, chaparral, and coniferous forest. Endemic to SLO County. Elevation; 170 - 1,100 m.	Yes	Suitable habitat on site; numerous individuals observed during late season survey.
Arctostaphylos rudis Sand mesa manzanita	CRPR 1B.2	November - February	Chaparral (maritime), coastal scrub/sandy soils. Elevation; < 322 m.	No	Suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey. No occurrences within 5 mile radius.
Arenaria paludicola Marsh sandwort	Fed: Endangered State: Endangered CRPR 1B.1	May - August	Marshes and swamps (freshwater or brackish), and meadows. Elevation; < 300 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed.
Astragalus didymocarpus var. milesianus Miles's milk vetch	CRPR 1B.2	March - June	Marshes and swamps (freshwater or brackish), grassy areas near coast, and meadows. Elevation; < 90 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey.

	PLANTS						
Scientific/Common Name	Listing Status	Blooming Period	Habitat Type	Observed on Site?	Comments		
Calochortus obispoensis San Luis mariposa lily	CRPR 1B.2	May - July	Dry serpentine soils in chaparral communities. Elevation; 75 - 730 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey.		
Calochortus simulans La Panza mariposa lily	CRPR 1B.3	May - July	Grassland, oak woodland, pine forest, on sand, granite, or serpentine. Elevation; < 1,100 m.	No	Marginally suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey. No occurrences within 5 mile radius.		
Calystegia subacaulis subsp. episcopalis Cambria morning glory	CRPR 4.2	March - July	Dry, open scrub, chaparral, woodland, coastal prairie, and grasslands. Elevation; < 500 m.	No	Suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey. No occurrences within 5 mile radius.		
Camissoniopsis hardhamiae Hardham's evening primrose	CRPR 1B.2	March - May	Sandy soil, limestone, disturbed oak woodland, and foothill woodlands; Elevation; 140 - 945 m.	No	Marginally suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey. No occurrences within 5 mile radius.		

	PLANTS						
Scientific/Common Name	Listing Status	Blooming Period	Habitat Type	Observed on Site?	Comments		
Carex obispoensis San Luis Obispo sedge	CRPR 1B.2	April - June	Closed-cone coniferous forest, chaparral, coastal prairie, coastal scrub, valley and foothill grassland, springs, and stream sides; often serpentine seeps, sometimes gabbro, and often clay soils. Elevation; < 820 m.	No	Marginally suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey. No occurrences within 5 mile radius.		
Castilleja densiflora subsp. obispoensis Obispo Indian paintbrush	CRPR 1B.2	March - May	Meadows and seeps, valley, foothill, and coastal grassland/sometimes serpentinite. Elevation; < 400 m.	No	Marginally suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey. No occurrences within 5 mile radius.		
Centromadia parryi subsp. congdonii Congdon's tarplant	CRPR 1B.2	May - November	Valley and foothill grassland (alkaline). Elevation; < 230 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during appropriately-timed survey.		
Chenopodium littoreum Coastal goosefoot	CRPR 1B.2	April - August	Coastal dunes, sandy soil. Elevation; < 200 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed.		

		PL	ANTS		
Scientific/Common Name	Listing Status	Blooming Period	Habitat Type	Observed on Site?	Comments
Chlorogalum pomeridianum var. minus Dwarf soaproot	CRPR 1B.2	May - August	Strictly endemic to serpentine soil; chaparral. Elevation; 305 - 1,000 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey.
Chorizanthe breweri Brewer's spineflower	CRPR 1B.3	April - August	Chaparral, closed-cone coniferous forest, foothill woodland, and coastal scrub on serpentine, rocky/gravelly. Elevation; < 800 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey.
Chorizanthe rectispina Straight-awned spineflower	CRPR 1B.3	April - July	Chaparral, coastal scrub, and dry woodland in sandy soil. Elevation; 85 - 1,035 m.	No	Suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey.
Cirsium fontinale var. obispoense Chorro Creek bog thistle	Fed: Endangered State: Endangered CRPR 1B.2	February - September	Serpentine seeps, streams, and drainages; chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, and valley and foothill grassland. Elevation; < 380 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey.

	PLANTS						
Scientific/Common Name	Listing Status	Blooming Period	Habitat Type	Observed on Site?	Comments		
Cirsium occidentale var. lucianum Cuesta Ridge thistle	List 1B.2	April - June	Occurs along steep, rocky slopes and disturbed roadsides in chaparral openings. Typically grows in serpentine soils. Endemic to SLO County. Elevation; 500 - 750 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey.		
Cirsium rhothophilum Surf thistle	State: Threatened CRPR 1B.2	April - June	Coastal bluff scrub, coastal dunes. Elevation; < 60 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey.		
Cirsium scariosum var. Ioncholepis La Graciosa thistle	Fed: Endangered State: Threatened CRPR 1B.1	May - August	Marshes, dune wetlands. Elevation; < 50 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey.		
Cladium californicum California sawgrass	CRPR 2.2	June - September	Freshwater marsh, swamps, alkaline sink, wetland riparian. Elevation; 60 - 600 m.	No	Marginally suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey. No occurrences within 5 mile radius.		

		PL	ANTS		
Scientific/Common Name	Listing Status	Blooming Period	Habitat Type	Observed on Site?	Comments
Clarkia speciosa subsp. immaculata Pismo clarkia	Fed: Endangered State: Rare CRPR 1B.1	May - July	Chaparral (margins, openings), cismontane woodland, valley and foothill grasslands with sandy soils. Elevation; < 185 m.	No	Suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey.
Delphinium parryi subsp. blochmaniae Dune larkspur	CRPR 1B.2	April - May	Coastal chaparral and coastal sand dunes. Elevation; < 200 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey.
Delphinium parryi subsp. eastwoodiae Eastwood's larkspur	CRPR 1B.2	March - May	Coastal chaparral, grassland, on serpentine. Elevation; 100 - 500 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey.
Delphinium umbraculorum Umbrella larkspur	CRPR 1B.3	April - June	Cismontane woodland and moist oak forest. Elevation; 400 - 1,600 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey.
Dithyrea maritima Beach spectaclepod	State: Threatened CRPR 1B.1	March - May	Coastal dunes, coastal scrub (sandy). Elevation; < 50 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey.

	,	PL	ANTS		
Scientific/Common Name	Listing Status	Blooming Period	Habitat Type	Observed on Site?	Comments
Dudleya abramsii subsp. bettinae Betty's dudleya	CRPR 1B.2	May - July	Chaparral, coastal scrub, and valley and foothill grasslands; rocky serpentine outcrops. Elevation; < 180 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey.
Dudleya abramsii subsp. murina Mouse-gray dudleya	CRPR 1B.3	May - June	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, valley and foothill grassland/serpentinite. Elevation; 90 - 440 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey.
Dudleya blochmaniae subsp. blochmaniae Blochman's dudleya	CRPR 1B.1	April - June	Chaparral, coastal scrub, coastal bluff scrub, and valley and foothill grassland; open, rocky slopes, often serpentine or clay soils. Elevation; < 450 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey.
Eriastrum luteum Yellow-flowered eriastrum	CRPR 1B.2	May - June	Broadleaf upland forest, chaparral, cismontane woodland; sandy or gravelly and drying slopes. Elevation; < 1,000 m.	No	Marginally suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey. No occurrences within 5 mile radius.

		PL	ANTS		
Scientific/Common Name	Listing Status	Blooming Period	Habitat Type	Observed on Site?	Comments
Erigeron blochmaniae Blochman's leafy daisy	CRPR 1B.2	June - August	Coastal scrub and sand dunes and hills. Elevation; < 45 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey.
Eriodictyon altissimum Indian Knob mountainbalm	Fed: Endangered State: Endangered CRPR 1B.1	March - June	Chaparral (maritime), foothill woodland, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub/sandstone. Endemic to Irish Hills and Indian Knob. Elevation; 80 - 270 m.	No	Marginally suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey. Not within extremely limited species distribution.
Eryngium aristulatum var. hooveri Hoover's button celery	CRPR 1B.1	July	Freshwater wetland, wetland- riparian, Vernal pools, lagoons. Elevation; < 45 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey.
Fritillaria ojaiensis Ojai Fritillary	CRPR 1B.2	February - May	Broadleaf upland forest (mesic), chaparral, lower montane coniferous forest, rocky slopes, and river basins. Elevation; 300 - 500 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey.

	PLANTS						
Scientific/Common Name	Listing Status	Blooming Period	Habitat Type	Observed on Site?	Comments		
Fritillaria viridea San Benito fritillary	CRPR 1B.2	March - May	Chaparral with serpentine soils. Elevation; 200 - 1,500 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey.		
Horkelia cuneata var. puberula Mesa horkelia	CRPR 1B.1	March - July	Dry, sandy, and gravelly, coastal chaparral. Elevation; 70 - 870 m.	No	Suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey.		
Horkelia cuneata var. sericea Kellogg's horkelia	CRPR 1B.1	April - August	Closed-cone coniferous forest, chaparral (maritime), cismontane woodland, coastal dunes and sand hills, and coastal scrub/sandy or gravelly, openings. Elevation; < 200 m.	No	Marginally suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey. No occurrences within 5 mile radius.		
<i>Layia jonesii</i> Jones's layia	CRPR 1B.2	March - May	Valley and foothill grassland, open serpentine or clay slopes. Elevation; < 400 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey.		

		PL	ANTS		
Scientific/Common Name	Listing Status	Blooming Period	Habitat Type	Observed on Site?	Comments
Lupinus ludovicianus San Luis Obispo County lupine	CRPR 1B.2	April - July	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, grassy areas, limestone/sandstone or sandy. Elevation; 50 - 525 m.	No	Suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey.
Lupinus nipomensis Nipomo Mesa lupine	Fed: Endangered State: Endangered CRPR 1B.1	December - May	Coastal dunes. Elevation; 10 -50 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey.
Malacothamnus gracilis Slender bush-mallow	CRPR 1B.1	May - July	Rocky chaparral. Elevation; 250 – 830 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey.
Monardella palmeri Palmer's monardella	CRPR 1B.2	June - August	Serpentine soils in chaparral, forest, and cismontane woodland. Elevation; 200-800 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey.
Monardella sinuata subsp. sinuata Southern curly-leaved monardella	CRPR 1B.2	April - September	Sandy soils, coastal strand, dune and sagebrush scrub, coastal chaparral and oak woodland. Elevation; < 300 m.	No	Marginally suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey. No occurrences within 5 mile radius.

		PL	ANTS	1	,
Scientific/Common Name	Listing Status	Blooming Period	Habitat Type	Observed on Site?	Comments
Monardella undulata subsp. crispa Crisp monardella	CRPR 1B.2	April - November	Active dunes. Elevation; < 100 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during appropriately-timed survey.
Monardella undulata subsp. undulata San Luis Obispo monardella	CRPR 1B.2	May - September	Coastal dunes and coastal scrub (sandy). Elevation; < 200 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey.
Nasturtium gambelii Gambel's water cress	Fed: Endangered State: Threatened CRPR 1B.1	April - October	Freshwater or brackish marshes. Elevation; 5- 330 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during appropriately-timed survey.
Nemacaulis denudata var. denudata Coast woolly-heads	CRPR 1B.2	March - August	Beaches. Elevation; < 100 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey.
Nemacladus secundiflorus var. robbinsii Robbins' nemacladus	CRPR 1B.2	April - June	Chaparral, valley/foothill grasslands openings, and dry gravelly slopes. Elevation; 200 - 2,000 m.	No	Marginally suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey. No occurrences within 5 mile radius.

		PL	ANTS		
Scientific/Common Name	Listing Status	Blooming Period	Habitat Type	Observed on Site?	Comments
Orobanche parishii subsp. brachyloba Short-lobed broomrape	CRPR 4.2	April - October	Coastal associations including scrub and dunes. Elevation; < 305 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during appropriately-timed survey.
Plagiobothrys uncinatus Hooked popcorn flower	CRPR 1B.2	April - May	Chaparral, valley and foothill grasslands openings, cismontane woodland, and canyons. Elevation; 300 - 760 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey.
Sanicula maritima Adobe sanicle	State: Rare CRPR 1B.1	February - May	Chaparral, coastal prairie, meadows and seeps, ravines, valley and foothill grassland, and ravines, clay or serpentine soils. Elevation; 30 - 240 m.	No	Marginally suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey. No occurrences within 5 mile radius.
Scrophularia atrata Black-flowered figwort	CRPR 1B.2	March - July	Closed cone coniferous forest, coastal dunes, coastal scrub, and riparian scrub. Elevation; 10 -500 m.	No	Marginally suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey.
Senecio aphanactis Chaparral ragwort	CRPR 2.2	January - April	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, drying alkaline flats. Elevation; 20 - 800 m.	No	Suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey. No occurrences within 5 mile radius.

	PLANTS							
Scientific/Common Name	Listing Status	Blooming Period	Habitat Type	Observed on Site?	Comments			
Sidalcea hickmanii subsp. anomala Cuesta Pass checkerbloom	State: Rare CRPR 1B.2	May - June	Closed-cone coniferous forest and chaparral with rocky serpentine soil. Elevation; 600 -800 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey.			
Streptanthus albidus subsp. peramoenus Most beautiful jewelflower	CRPR 1B.2	March - October	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, and valley and foothill grassland, grassy/ barren slopes, often serpentinite. Elevation; 94 - 1,000 m.	No	Marginally suitable habitat on site; not observed during appropriately-timed survey. No occurrences within 5 mile radius.			
Symphyotrichum defoliatum San Bernardino aster	CRPR 1B.2	July - November	Cismontane woodlands, meadows, seeps, coastal scrub, foothill/valley grasslands near streams, ditches or springs. Elevation; 0 - 2,040 m.	No	Suitable habitat on site; not observed during appropriately-timed survey. No occurrences within 5 mile radius.			
Trifolium hydrophilum Saline clover	CRPR 1B.2	April - June	Salt marshes, swamps, vernal pools, grasslands, alkaline soils. Elevation; < 300 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey.			

	PLANTS								
Scientific/Common Name	Listing Status	Blooming Period	Habitat Type	Observed on Site?	Comments				
Tropidocarpum capparideum Caper-fruited tropidocarpum	CRPR 1B.1	March - April	Valley and foothill grasslands, alkaline. Elevation; 0 - 450 m.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during late season survey.				

<sup>\*</sup>Listing status shown in order of Federal, State, and California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR [CNPS]) list status.

		WIL	DLIFE		
Scientific/Common Name	Listing Status	Nesting/ Breeding Period	Habitat Type	Observed on Site?	Comments
Ablautus schlingeri Oso Flaco robber fly	Special Animal	Unknown	Occurs on sand dunes in the vicinity of Oso Flaco Lake.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during surveys.
Accipiter striatus Sharp-shinned hawk	Watch List	March - June	Aspen, pine, and fir forests along with urban, rural and agricultural areas. Elevation from sea level to mountains.	No	Marginally suitable habitat on site; not observed during surveys. No occurrences within 5 mile radius.
Actinemys marmorata Western pond turtle	State: CSC	April - August	Permanent or semi- permanent streams, ponds, and lakes, logs, rocks, and mats for basking. May enter brackish water.	No	Marginally suitable habitat on site; not observed during surveys.
Agelaius tricolor Tricolored blackbird	State: CSC	Varies, but likely early spring - early summer, locally	Needs nest sites near open, fresh water, protected habitat (flooded, thorny), and suitable feeding areas (pastures, rice fields, grassland, etc.).	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during surveys.

	WILDLIFE							
Scientific/Common Name	Listing Status	Nesting/ Breeding Period	Habitat Type	Observed on Site?	Comments			
Anniella pulchra pulchra Silvery legless lizard	State: CSC	March - July; live birth September - November	Moist loose soil with plant cover and under leaf litter. Found in beach dunes, chaparral, foothill woodlands, desert scrub, sandy washes, and stream terraces.	No	Suitable habitat on site; not observed during surveys. No occurrences within 5 mile radius.			
Antrozous pallidus Pallid bat	State: CSC	Spring - Summer	Arid areas, rock crevices, caves, tree hollows, mines, old buildings, and bridges.	No	Marginal suitable habitat on site; not observed during surveys. No occurrences within 5 mile radius.			
Areniscythris brachypteris Oso Flaco flightless moth	State: CSC	Unknown	Dunes along the Central Coast of San Luis Obispo. Larvae eat and are reared on a variety of dune vegetation.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during surveys.			
Athene cunicularia Burrowing owl	State: CSC	March - July	Open, dry grasslands, often short grasses without trees. Relies on ground burrowing animals for terrestrial habitat.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during surveys.			
Branchinecta lynchi Vernal pool fairy shrimp	Fed: Threatened	Rainy season	Vernal pools and depressions in grasslands.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during surveys.			

		WIL	.DLIFE		
Scientific/Common Name	Listing Status	Nesting/ Breeding Period	Habitat Type	Observed on Site?	Comments
Buteo regalis Ferruginous hawk	Watch List	February - July	Variety of nesting locations including rock outcrops, trees, and ground.	No	Marginally suitable nesting habitat on site; not observed during surveys. No occurrences within 5 mile radius.
Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus Western snowy plover	Fed: Threatened State: CSC	March - August	Sandy beaches, salt pond levees, shorelines of large alkali lakes. Needs friable soil for nesting.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during surveys.
Chlosyne leanira elegans Oso Flaco patch butterfly	Special Animal	Unknown	Dunes within the Oso Flaco Lake system.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during surveys.
Cicindela hirticollis gravida Sandy beach tiger beetle	Special Animal	Unknown	Found in moist sand near the ocean, for example in swales behind dunes or upper beaches beyond normal high tides. Adjacent to non-brackish water near the coast from San Francisco to northern Mexico. Clean, dry light colored sand in the upper zone.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during surveys.

		WIL	DLIFE		
Scientific/Common Name	Listing Status	Nesting/ Breeding Period	Habitat Type	Observed on Site?	Comments
Coccyzus americanus occidentalis Western yellow-billed cuckoo	State: Endangered	May - July	Woodlands near streams, lakes, rivers. Prefer dense scrub understory. Current CA range limited to Sacramento and Kern Rivers.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during surveys.
Coelus globosus Globose dune beetle	Special Animal	Unknown	Foredunes and sand hummocks immediately bordering the coast.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during surveys.
Corynorhinus townsendii Townsend's big-eared bat	State: CSC	November - May	Caves, mines, tunnels, buildings, human made structures. May use different day and night roosts. Prefers mesic habitats.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during surveys.
Danaus plexippus Monarch butterfly	Special Animal	Spring	Rely on milkweed and need protected stands of trees for roosting. Found in fields, meadows, weedy areas, marshes, and along roadsides.	Yes	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during surveys.
Elanus leucurus White-tailed kite	Fully Protected	March - August	Savanna, desert grasslands, and open woodland. Nests in dense trees, near open foraging areas.	No	Marginally suitable nesting and foraging habitat on site; not observed during surveys. No occurrences within 5 mile radius.

		WIL	DLIFE		
Scientific/Common Name	Listing Status	Nesting/ Breeding Period	Habitat Type	Observed on Site?	Comments
Eremophila alpestris actia California horned lark	Watch List	March - August	Open fields, short grass areas, fields, rangelands, and bare ground.	No	Marginally suitable nesting and foraging habitat on site; not observed during surveys. No occurrences within 5 mile radius.
Eucyclogobius newberryi Tidewater goby	Fed: Endangered State: CSC	Year - round (April - November)	Found in shallow water lagoons and lower stream reaches, they need fairly still but not stagnant water and high oxygen levels.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during surveys.
Eumops perotis californicus Western mastiff bat	State: CSC	March - July	Broad open areas, chaparral, montane meadows, rocky cliffs, canyon areas, roosts in crevices, tunnels, also in buildings.	No	Marginally suitable habitat on site; not observed during surveys. No occurrences within 5 mile radius.
Falco columbarius Merlin	Watch List	N/A - breeds outside of California	Coastlines, open savannahs, grasslands, and woodlands.	No	Suitable foraging habitat on site; not observed during surveys. No occurrences within 5 mile radius.

		WIL	DLIFE		
Scientific/Common Name	Listing Status	Nesting/ Breeding Period	Habitat Type	Observed on Site?	Comments
Falco mexicanus Prairie falcon	Watch List	February - April	Primarily inhabits dry grasslands, woodlands, savannahs, cultivated fields, lake shores, and rangelands. Nests on cliffs, canyons, and rock outcrops.	No	Marginally suitable foraging habitat on site; not observed during surveys. No occurrences within 5 mile radius.
Gila orcuttii Arroyo chub	State: CSC	Unknown	Inhabits sandy and muddy bottoms of flowing pools and headwaters of small to medium freshwater streams; often found in intermittent streams.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during surveys.
Gymnogyps californianus California condor	Fed: Endangered State: Endangered	Early Spring - Summer	Rocky scrubland, montane coniferous forest, valley and foothill grasslands, oak savannah, chaparral, woodland/ forest habitats. Nests on cliffs and trees.	No	Marginally suitable habitat on site; not observed during surveys. No occurrences within 5 mile radius.
Lanius ludovicianus Loggerhead shrike	State: CSC	April - July	Open fields and woodland areas bordered with trees or fields with thick shrubs for hiding.	No	Marginally suitable nesting and foraging habitat on site; not observed during surveys. No occurrences within 5 mile radius.

		WIL	DLIFE		
Scientific/Common Name	Listing Status	Nesting/ Breeding Period	Habitat Type	Observed on Site?	Comments
Lasiurus blossevillii Western red bat	State: CSC	February - June	Roosts in broadleaf trees in the foothills and lower mountains; also found in fruit and nut orchards.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during surveys.
Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus California black rail	State: Threatened Fully Protected	February - June	Saltwater, brackish, and freshwater marshes.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during surveys.
Lichnanthe albipilosa White sand bear scarab beetle	Special Animal	Unknown	Inhabits coastal dunes of San Luis Obispo County, in the vicinity of dune lakes.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during surveys.
Linderiella occidentalis California linderiella	Special Animal	Rainy season	Seasonal pools in unplowed grasslands with alluvial soils.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during surveys.
Myotis yumanensis Yuma myotis	Special Animal	February - June	Juniper, riparian forests; deserts near open water. Closely associated with water, requires permanent waterbody for foraging. Nests/roosts in caves, crevices, snags, buildings.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during surveys.
Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus Steelhead – south/central California coast DPS	Fed: Threatened State: CSC	February - April	Federal listing refers to runs in coastal basins from Pajaro River south to, but not including, the Santa Maria River.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during surveys.

WILDLIFE						
Scientific/Common Name	Listing Status	Nesting/ Listing Status Breeding Period		Observed on Site?	Comments	
Phrynosoma blainvillii Coast horned lizard	State: CSC	May - September	Frequents a wide variety of habitats, most common in lowlands along sandy washes with scattered low bushes.	No	Suitable habitat on site; not observed during surveys.	
Plebejus icarioides moroensis Morro Bay blue butterfly	Special Animal	March - July	Found on the immediate coast of San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara Counties. Silver dune lupine (host plant).	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during surveys.	
Polyphylla nubila Atascadero June beetle	Special Animal	Early Summer - June	Known only from sand dunes in Atascadero and San Luis Obispo.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during surveys.	
Progne subis Purple martin	State: CSC	March - August	Woodlands, coniferous forests, near human settlement, near water and large open areas; nests in cavities within snags, in boxes and birdhouses, and saguaro cactus.	No	Marginally suitable habitat on site; not observed during surveys. No occurrences within 5 mile radius.	
Pyrgulopsis taylori San Luis Obispo pyrg	Special Animal	N/A	Freshwater habitats in San Luis Obispo County.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during surveys.	

WILDLIFE						
Scientific/Common Name	Listing Status	Nesting/ Breeding Period	ding Habitat Type		Comments	
Rana boylii Foothill yellow-legged frog	State: CSC	April - July	Rocky streams and rivers with rocky substrate. Found in woodlands, chaparral and forests with open sunny banks.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during surveys.	
Rana draytonii California red-legged frog	Fed: Threatened State: CSC	January - March	Lowlands and foothills in or near sources of deep water with dense, shrubby or emergent riparian vegetation. Breed in permanent or ephemeral water sources.	No	Marginally suitable habitat on site; not observed during surveys.	
Spea hammondii Western spadefoot toad	State: CSC	January - August	Seasonal/vernal pools in grassland and woodland habitat.	No	Marginally suitable habitat on site; not observed during surveys. No occurrences within 5 mile radius.	
Sternula antillarum browni California least tern	Fed: Endangered State: Endangered Fully Protected	April - June	Coastal areas, nests on beach in loose sandy soils.	No	No suitable habitat on site; not observed during surveys.	

WILDLIFE						
Scientific/Common Name	Listing Status	Nesting/ Breeding Period	Habitat Type Obse		Comments	
Taricha torosa	State: CSC	December -	Slow moving streams, ponds,	No	Marginally suitable	
Coast range newt	May		and lakes with surrounding		habitat on site; not	
			evergreen and oak forests,		observed during	
			chaparral, and grasslands		surveys. No occurrences	
			along coast.		within 5 mile radius.	
Taxidea taxus	State: CSC	February -	Needs friable soils in open	No	Suitable habitat on site;	
American badger		May	ground with an abundant		not observed during	
			food source such as		surveys.	
			California ground squirrels.			
Tryonia imitator	Special Animal	N/A	Brackish water habitats in	No	No suitable habitat on	
Mimic tryonia			California		site; not observed	
					during surveys.	



# APPENDIX D - Representative Site Photographs







**Photo 1.** View south showing oak trees trimmed within the Temporary Use Area (September 15, 2014).



**Photo 2.** View southwest showing retention pond where Santa Margarita manzanita was removed and potential impacts to Pismo clarkia occurred (September 15, 2014).



**Photo 3.** View northwest showing fountain features on the northwest portion of the property where grading occurred between 2007 and 2009 (September 15, 2014).



**Photo 4.** View northeast showing Pismo clarkia habitat along the frontage of West Ormonde Road. (September 15, 2014).

#### APPENDIX E -California Natural Diversity Database Form



# Mail to: California Natural Diversity Database Department of Fish and Game 1807 13<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 202 Sacramento, CA 95811 Fax: (916) 324-0475 email: CNDDB@dfg.ca.gov

Date of Field Work	(mm/dd/yyyy):

	For Office Use Only
Source Code	Quad Code
Elm Code	Occ. No
EO Index No.	Map Index No

California Nati	ve Specie	s Field	Surve	y For	m	
Scientific Name:						
Common Name:						
Yes No If not, why?  Total No. Individuals Subsequent Visit? 9 yes	00 00 00	Address:				
Is this an existing NDDB occurrence?  Yes, Occ. #						
Yes, Occ. # Collection? If yes:						
Number Museum / Herbariu	ım	Phone: _				
Plant Information An	nimal Information	on				
Phenology:%% —			_			
vegetative flowering fruiting	# adults	# juveniles		arvae	# egg masses	# unknown
	_	9 eding r	<ul><li>9</li><li>nesting</li></ul>	⑨ rookery	<ul><li>9</li><li>burrow site</li></ul>	9 other
Quad Name:	:H M S	GPS Mak	ke & Mode al Accuracy	tes (GPS, t	evation:topo. map & type	):
Habitat Description (plants & animals) plant commun Animal Behavior (Describe observed behavior, such as territ						ally for avifauna):
Site Information Overall site/occurrence quality/viabili	ity (site + nonula	tion). @	Excellent		ood ⑨ Fair	Poor
Immediate AND surrounding land use:	, (one i popula		- LAGGIIGHT	⊕ 0	JUJ GIAII	© 1 00i
Visible disturbances:						
Threats:						
Comments:						
Determination: (check one or more, and fill in blanks)  Keyed (cite reference):  Compared with specimen housed at:  Compared with photo / drawing in:  By another person (name):			Plant Habit	/ animal	•	de Print Digital
Other:			May we ob	tain duplica	tes at our expense	? yes no
						DFG/BDB/1747 Rev. 6/16/09



# APPENDIX F Greenvale Oak Tree Pruning Letter and Map





PO Box 13234 San Luis Obispo, CA 93406 Office: (805) 544-1124 772-8500 Cell: 235-5175 Steve Franzmann, Certified Arborist WE 0941A www.greenvaletree.com

To: Rob Gillespie Re: Tree Pruning at

500 West Ormonde Road

Arroyo Grande, CA

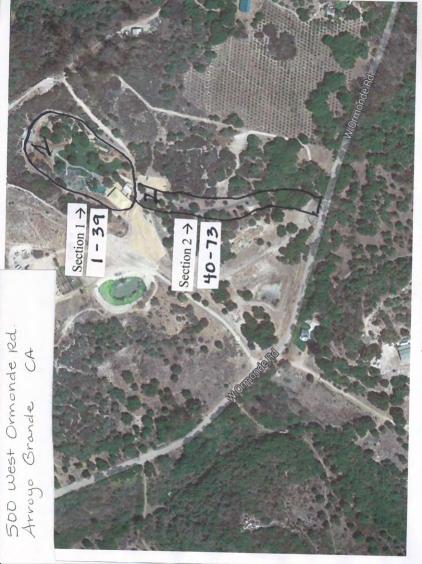
January 5, 2015

Greenvale Tree company completed Oak Tree Pruning on the property at 500 W Ormonde Rd. over the past ten years time. The map outlines two sections where the trees were pruned.

Section 1 consists of 39 Oak Trees (trees1-39) and Section 2 consists of 34 Oak Trees (trees 40-73) that have had two pruning sessions over this ten year period. Each pruning consisted of removal of no more than 10 % of canopy surface area. International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) standards state that no more than 20% should be taken out at any given pruning. In order to be on the conservative side of these standards we were very judicious with our thinning as to not harm the trees in any way. All pruning cuts were made according to all ISA specifications also. For example, branch bark ridges and branch collars were left intact and ISA specifications for proper cut angles were adhered to. Cracked limbs and weakly attached branches were removed for future structural integrity and deadwood greater than 1/4" diameter was removed.

Respectfully,

.Steve .Franzmann



Imagery ©2014 DigitalGlobe, USDA Farm Service Agency, Map data ©2014 Google 200 ft

