

**KJELDSSEN BIOLOGICAL CONSULTING**  
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**Date:** 4/7/2023

**Attn:** Napa County Planning, Building, and Environmental Services Department  
 1195 Third Street, Suite 210  
 Napa, CA 94559

**Re:** 3:1 Tree Mitigation Map – NVVE 7-18-2022 RI  
 Moshkelani Family Vineyards, LLC  
 805 Greenfield Road  
 Napa County

The property is located east of the city of St. Helena at 805 Greenfield Road, and is within the USGS St. Helena Quadrangle. Napa Valley Vineyard Engineering has asked us to review the proposed tree preservation area proposed on the property. Compliance with Napa County General Plan Policy CON-24 Paragraph (c) states that a project should “provide replacement of lost oak woodlands or preservation of like habitat at a 3:1 ratio.”

***ORDINANCE NO. 2018-01 Protection of Oak Woodlands:** This Initiative will protect oak woodlands within the Agricultural Watershed zoning district by requiring the replacement of lost oaks or preservation of comparable habitat at a 3:1 ratio and by establishing an Oak Removal Limit.*

*Areas that are not subject to development or conversion to agricultural use due to existing legal restrictions, such as zoning regulations protecting slopes or stream corridors or existing easements, shall not constitute comparable oak trees or oak woodlands.*

Napa Valley Vineyard Engineering proposed tree preservation/mitigation calculations.

<b>3:1 Tree Mitigation</b>	<b>APN # 025-390-009</b>	<b>APN # 025-380-0016</b>
Proposed Tree Removal	1.62-Ac	0.76-Ac
Post 93 Removal	0.49-Ac	0.28-Ac
Total Potential Tree Preservation Area	5.88-Ac	3.13-Ac
Trees to be Planted	0.45-Ac	
Total Tree Mitigation	6.33-Ac	3.12-Ac

## **FINDINGS**

It is proposed to mitigate onsite for the removal of oak trees and oak woodland habitat. Following the Napa County General Plan replacement would be at a 3:1 ratio. The area proposed for oak preservation is an area that allows for a continuous oak woodland canopy, has comparable oak species and is adjacent to drainages. Oak trees are an important component of the ecosystem serving a valuable role in retention of nutrients which in turn contributes to long-term ecosystem sustainability. A continuous oak canopy provides a diversity of vegetation types and wildlife habitat.

Portions of the proposed preservation area are over 30% slopes, but are within a continuous canopy. Oak woodlands protected with a continuous canopy provide greater wildlife habitat value and function. For example many small animals have a very limited range, therefore making it difficult to travel to isolated patches of oaks. Songbirds make thousands of short trips to feed their nestlings, longer trips require more energy and are less efficient. Larger contiguous areas of oak woodlands are more significant to songbirds and many small animals. Additionally contiguous oak woodlands have an edge effect protecting the core area from oversprays rather than small clusters of preserved areas.

We find that the areas proposed for preservation meet the goals of Napa County General Plan Policy CON-24.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at: Email [kjeldsen@sonic.net](mailto:kjeldsen@sonic.net), or phone (707) 544-3091.