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BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES REPORT

ON
APN 3150-024-001; 008,009,011 & 012
20 Acres, Lancaster Blvd. and 25th Street East
Lancaster, California

PREPARED FOR

Taft Corporation/Aldrin
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INTRODUCTION

A biological resources study was made on a ca. 20-acre parcel (hereafter referred to as the "project site" or "site") at the NE corner of 25th Street East and Lancaster Blvd., in Lancaster, California, following the request of Aldrin of Taft Corporation Malibu, CA. A new development is proposed for the site. This report summarizes results of our biotic survey and discusses project impacts to the biota.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT SITE

The project site consists of approximately 20 acres of ruderal fields located at the NE corner of 25th Street East and Lancaster Blvd. in the city of Lancaster, CA (Figure 1). The land is part of a gentle northwest sloping alluvial plain with loose sand-clay soils, at a maximum elevation of about 2,385 feet above sea level.

Like much of the abandoned farmland in this area, the site has experienced considerable disturbance due to clearing of vegetation, partial grading, refuse disposal and local traffic (Figures 2-5). The existing vegetation is in various stages of re-growth and includes mostly exotic weeds (e.g *Bromus* spp, *Sysimbrium*; *Salsola, Erodium*). Native vegetation is largely limited to the skeletal remains of unidentifiable herbaceous annuals. There are no Joshua trees and no California junipers on the site. Around the perimeter of the site are small exotic trees such as Chinese elm, locust and salt cedar. Residential developments approach the perimeter of the site from all directions (Figure 5). Drainage across the site appears to be largely by sheet flow to the north. A nuisance water ditch occurs along the southern and eastern boundaries of the site; surface water and mesic vegetation (e.g. *Typha*) are found here (Figure 2).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

A survey of the site was made on November 11, 2004, by Callyn D. Yorke, Principal Biologist. The entire site was covered on foot, first along the perimeter, then through the center section. Binoculars (10 x 40), a 35 mm camera, and field notebook were used. Ground-level and aerial photos were made of the site. The survey was made between 1030 to 1130 hrs. under fair skies, with WNW winds reaching 5 mph. Air temperature during the survey was approximately 62F.

Attention was given to detection of sensitive plant and animal species known to occur in this region. An inspection was made for signs of occupation by birds of prey, including loggerhead shrike, burrowing owl and Swainson's hawk. Habitat evaluations for Mojave ground squirrel and desert tortoise were made. The California Department of Fish & Game (CDFG) Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDB) was contacted for print-outs describing locations of sensitive species in the Antelope Valley.

RESULTS

Flora

Due to the disturbed soils, the flora on the site is dominated by exotic, invasive species (e.g. *Bromus* spp., *Sysimbrium altissimum*, *Salsola iberica and Erodium cicutarum*). Although some native desert annuals probably occur on the site seasonally (e.g. *Coreopsis*), and a few native perennials (e.g. *Chrysothamnus nauseosus.*) and herbs (*Gutierrezia microcephala*) occur, little of the native desert scrub community remains on the site. No Joshua trees and no California junipers occur on the site. Vegetation in the nuisance water ditch is mostly cat-tail (*Typha* sp.), and represents an incipient riparian strip where other mesic species (e.g. *Populus*, *Salix* and *Tamarisk*) may become established. No State or Federally listed endangered, rare or sensitive plant species was found on the site (see *Impacts to Sensitive Plants*).

Fauna

Four species of bird (house finch, horned lark, white-crowned sparrow and Northern mockingbird) were found on or near the site during the survey. Several California ground squirrels were seen on and adjacent to the site. Sign of other native mammals on the site was virtually nonexistent. Adjacent suburban gardens support several species of bird (e.g. house sparrow, mourning dove, rock dove, starling) that may occasionally use resources on the project site. No Endangered, Threatened, Rare or Sensitive species of animal was found on the site (see *Impacts to Sensitive Animals*).

Corridors of Dispersal

No unobstructed corridor dispersal occurs between the site and adjacent land (Figure 5). Housing tracts and roadways have effectively isolated this and adjacent vacant parcels from natural desert scrub communities in this region. The low diversity and density of small animal sign (e.g. birds and mammals) found on the site suggests that it has relatively little value to native wildlife, with wintering seed-eating birds and small raptors being possible exceptions. For raptors in particular, the project site offers little shelter and only marginally significant opportunities for foraging **(see *Impacts to Sensitive Species*).**

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

CDFG = California Department of Fish & Game
USFWS = United States Fish & Wildlife Service
CNPS = California Native Plant Society
SSC = CDFG Species of Special Concern

Project Impacts to Sensitive Species

FLORA

No rare, threatened or endangered species of plant was found in or adjacent to the project area during these surveys. Several listed species are known to occur in this area and are detectable in Spring through early Summer. Potential impacts to these species are considered below.

Kern County Evening Primrose (Camissonia kernensis) is listed as a rare species by the CNPS, but unlisted by State and Federal agencies. This plant is found in desert washes and canyons from 2500 to 6000 feet in elevation, and in Joshua Tree woodland. Flowering occurs in May. No individuals or remains of this species were found. Habitat on the site is largely inappropriate. Project impacts are unlikely.

Alkali Mariposa Lily (Calochortus striatus) is listed a Category 1B (locally endangered) species by the CNPS and as a Level 2 Candidate species by the USFWS. This attractive, relatively rare annual plant is found locally in this vicinity (Mira Loma Detention Center) in alkali depressions supporting chenopod scrub vegetation (CNDDB; Yorke pers. observ.). Flowering occurs from April to June, depending on adequate seasonal rainfall. No evidence of this plant was found on the site. The topography and compacted soils of the site are largely unsuitable for alkali mariposa lily; project impacts are unlikely.

Desert Cymopterus (Cymopterus deserticola) is listed as a rare and highly restricted species by the CNPS and Level 2 Candidate species by USFWS. This plant occurs on Edwards AFB in creosote scrub. Flowering occurs in April. No evidence of this species was found in the surveyed areas. Potential for this species occurring on the site is low; negative impacts are unlikely.

Crowned Muilla (Muilla coronata) is listed by the CNPS as a rare species that is endangered in part of its range, but as a taxonomically invalid species by USFWS. This plant is found in heavy soils in Joshua Tree woodland, between 3000 and 5000 feet in elevation. Flowering occurs from March through April. No sign of this plant was found on the site. Habitat on the site is largely inappropriate. Project impacts are unlikely.

Barstow woolly sunflower (Eriophyllum mohavense) is a Federal Special Concern Species (FSC) and California Native Plant Society (CNPS) category 1B (rare, threatened or endangered throughout their range) species. It occurs in rises between sinks in xerophytic saltbush scrub. Habitat on the site is largely inappropriate. Project impacts are unlikely.

Mason's neststraw (Stylocline masonii) is a FSC and CNPS 1B species that occurs in chenopod (e.g. saltbush) scrub. No sign of this plant was found on the site; habit for it appears largely inappropriate. Project impacts are unlikely.

Palmer's grappling hook (Harpagonella palmeri) is a FSC and CNPS category 2 species (rare, threatened, or endangered in California, but more common in other states). It occurs in sage scrub and clay soils below 2,500 feet. No sign of this plant was found in the study area; habitat is largely inappropriate. Project impacts are unlikely.

Lancaster milkvetch (Astragalus preussi var. laxiflorus) is a CNPS 1B species that occurs in chenopod scrub, alkaline clay flats or gravelly or sandy washes and along draws in gullied badlands. No sign of this plant species was found in the surveyed area; habitat appears largely unsuitable. Impacts to Lancaster Milkvetch as a result of implementation of the proposed project are unlikely.

Parish's alkali grass (Puccinellia parishii) is a CNPS Category 1B and CDFG S1.1 plant found in alkali springs and seeps in deserts. Habitat on the site is largely unsuitable. No plants of this species were found on or adjacent to the subject property. Impacts to this species as a result of implementation of the proposed development are unlikely.

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FAUNA

No State listed sensitive species was found on the subject property. Several sensitive animal species are known to occur in this region; potential impacts to these are addressed below.

Mohave Desert tortoise (Gopherus agassizi) is a CDFG and USFWS endangered species and is known to occur in this region, though principally east of Highway 14. Absolutely no sign (e.g. burrows, scat, shell fragments) of this animal was found on the subject property. Nor was there any evidence found of historical occupation of the site by tortoises. We recommend a DECLARATION OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT on the desert tortoise.

Coast horned lizard (Phrynosoma coronatum) is a CDFG Species of Special Concern (SSC) known to occur on Avenue M-12, near 45th Street West in Quartz Hill (CNDDB; Yorke, pers. observation). Surveys for this species on the site were concentrated in open areas with ants. No individuals of this lizard were found. Impacts to this species as a result of the proposed development are unlikely due to the disturbed nature of the site.

California legless lizard (Aniella pulchra) is a CDFG SSC found in damp, sandy soils around seepages and intermittent streams. No individuals of this species were found. Impacts to this species are unlikely due to largely inappropriate habitat.

Burrowing owl (Athene cunicularia) is a CDFG "Species of Special Concern" (SSC) in California. Several family groups of burrowing owls are still found in the open fields of the western Antelope Valley (e.g. along 110th Street West near Avenue I) though the population of this species in the Antelope Valley today is only a small fraction of its size fifteen years ago (Yorke, unpublished field notes). These birds may be declining for a number of reasons, e.g., habitat loss, pesticides, and hunting. All of the California ground squirrel mounds on and adjacent to the site were inspected. No sign (e.g. feathers, insect remains, pellets) of burrowing owl was found. Direct impacts to nesting burrowing owls as a result of the project are unlikely.

Long-eared owl (Asio otus) is a CDFG SSC occasionally found in fall and winter months, in small groups.These owls prefer relatively isolated clusters of trees and shrubs in this vicinity (Yorke, pers. observ.).The number of sightings of this species has decreased over the past 20 years in the Antelope Valley. Reasons for the apparent decline of long-eared owls in this region may include habitat loss and encroachment. These owls are extremely shy and tend to avoid areas with human activity. No sign of long-eared owls was found on the site. Project impacts are unlikely due to inappropriate habitat.

Prairie falcon (Falco mexicanus) is another CDFG SSC that appears to be declining in portions of its range. No individuals of this species were seen on the project site during the surveys. This is a wide ranging species that usually nests in remote canyons and forages throughout the Antelope Valley. It may be declining in response to loss of open fields for foraging. Project impacts are unlikely on this relatively small parcel of open land.

Golden eagle (Aquila chrysaetos) is a CDFG SSC that may also nest in the mountains and foothills bordering the Antelope Valley, foraging widely elsewhere. In winter months (November-February) the local population of golden eagles is augmented by visitors from other regions. At such times, individuals, particularly immature birds, commonly perch on power poles along roadways and may be struck by cars when they attempt to feed on roadkill. Implementation of the proposed project may cause a minor adverse impact on wintering golden eagles west of this site, as a result of a small incremental loss of marginal foraging habitat combined with occasional road-kills. Direct project impacts on the site are unlikely.

Ferruginous hawk (Buteo regalis) is a CDFG SSC that winters in the Antelope Valley in relatively high numbers. Birds forage in open fields, often using power poles for lookouts. They rarely take roadkill and thus are seldom hit by automobiles. The cumulative loss of foraging habitat may be the greatest threat to this species in the Antelope Valley. Direct project impacts on the site are unlikely.

Swainson's Hawk (Buteo swainsoni) is a State Threatened species known to have nested in the eastern Antelope Valley. A CNDDB record indicates a pair of Swainson's hawks nested in a locust tree surrounded by agricultural fields near Avenue I and 50th Street East, in 1996 and 1999. This project site is in inappropriate nesting habitat for Swainson's Hawk. Project impacts are unlikely.

Cooper's Hawk (Accipiter cooperii) is a CDFG SSC that nests locally in the Antelope Valley and is a passage migrant and winter visitor. No individuals of this species were seen on the project site. However, I have found Cooper's hawk to be one of the more common raptors in the Lancaster-Palmdale area; it is frequently found in and around suburban parks and yards with mature trees (Yorke, pers. observ.). Trees and shrubs in gardens around the site may attract these hawks either for nesting or winter foraging opportunities. Project impacts to this species on the site are unlikely due to the open nature of the site.

LeConte's thrasher (Toxostoma lecontei) is a Federal Candidate for listing, and is known form several scattered localities in the Antelope Valley (e.g. east Palmdale and Edwards AFB). A small population also occurs in Jawbone Canyon north of Mojave. No thrashers were found during the surveys of the study site. Although habitat appears suitable at many locations, this species appears to be absent in this vicinity (Yorke, pers. observation). Implementation of the project is unlikely to have a significant impact on LeConte's thrasher in this area.

Loggerhead shrike (Lanius ludovicianus) is another Federal Candidate for listing and a CDFG SSC. Habitat loss and pesticide poisoning are blamed for the decline of this bird. Habitat on the site is largely inappropriate for shrikes; Project impacts to nesting shrikes are unlikely.

Horned lark (Eremophila alpestris actia) is a CDFG SSC. Two horned larks were found on site during the survey. Horned larks nest in the western Antelope Valley and appear to have a relatively large, viable population (Yorke, unpublished field notes). Presently it is not known if this species nests on or adjacent to the study site. Since this subspecies is probably not the form currently considered by CDFG as a SSC, implementation of the proposed project will have no significant impacts on the "California" horned lark (Eremophila alpestris actia).

Virtually all **Bats** in California are CDFG SSC. Consequently, any loss of foraging, roosting or breeding habitat caused by residential development could have negative impacts on these nocturnal insectivores. Since no surveys were made at night, it is presently unclear which species of bat is foraging over the study site; impacts to these animals are unknown.

Mojave ground squirrel (Spermophilus mohavensis) is a CDFG threatened species that occurs at scattered localities in the Mojave Desert, principally east of Highway 14, including nearby Edwards AFB. There are no verifiable records of MGS in this vicinity. No sign of this species was found on the subject property. Habitat on the site is largely degraded and unsuitable; adverse impacts to MGS as a result of implementation of the project appear very unlikely. We recommend a DECLARATION OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT for the Mojave ground squirrel.

American badger (Taxidea taxus) is a CDFG SCC that may use resources on the subject property. However, no sign of badger was found during the surveys. Badgers have occurred in this area, as one was reportedly seen crossing Highway 14 near Rosamond in 1993. Another road killed badger was found in western Leona Valley on Elizabeth Lake Road in '01 (Yorke, pers. observ.) A badger's territory is seldom less than 100 acres, indicating that the present site would be unlikely to provide adequate resources for a pair of badgers. Project impacts to badgers are unknown.

General Cumulative Impacts

Whenever wilderness is taken for development few native organisms benefit. This is because in the complex web of life everything is interconnected and dependent. Removing vegetation destroys habitat for countless microscopic organisms with larger species dependent on them for food. For example, the tiny moth *Tegeticula paradoxa* is the only known pollinator of the Joshua Tree; disappearance of either species results in extinction of both. And the overall result of loss of Joshua Trees, an ecological keystone species, is simplification of the food web to include a new assemblage of relatively few, hardy species. This is how exotic pests like Bermuda grass, fire ants, aphids, snails, rock doves and starlings become established. We can safely predict that with every parcel developed in this vicinity there will be an incremental loss of native species, some of which may already be threatened with extinction.

Birds of prey commonly use these abandoned fields for nesting and winter foraging. And as more of this open land is developed, populations of raptors (e.g golden eagle, ferruginous hawk, red-tailed hawk, American kestrel, prairie falcon, burrowing owl, long-eared owl and loggerhead shrike) continue to decline in the Antelope Valley (Yorke, pers. observation). However, due to the isolation and ecological degradation of the site, no mitigation measures are recommended for this project.

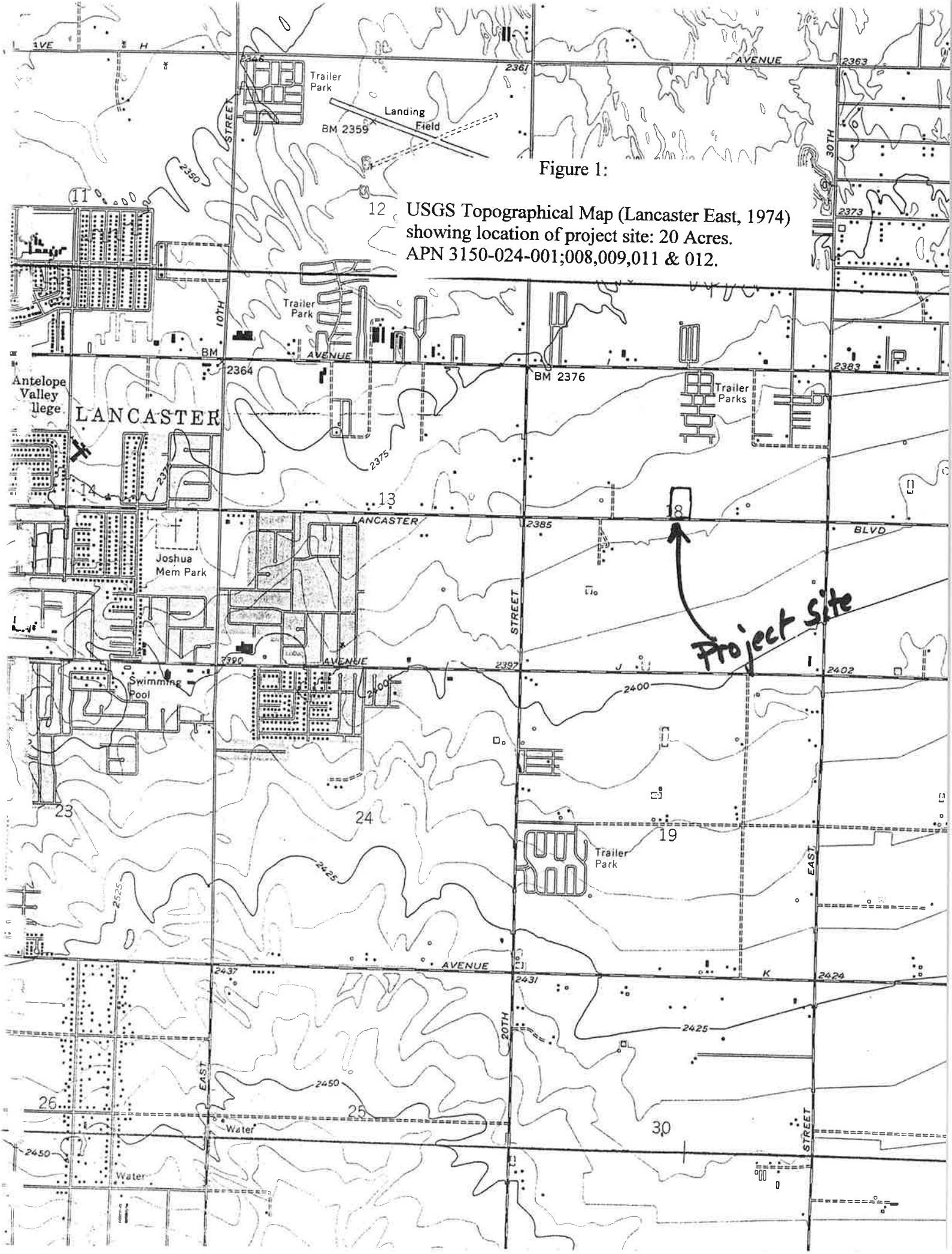

Figure 1:

USGS Topographical Map (Lancaster East, 1974) showing location of project site: 20 Acres. APN 3150-024-001;008,009,011 & 012.

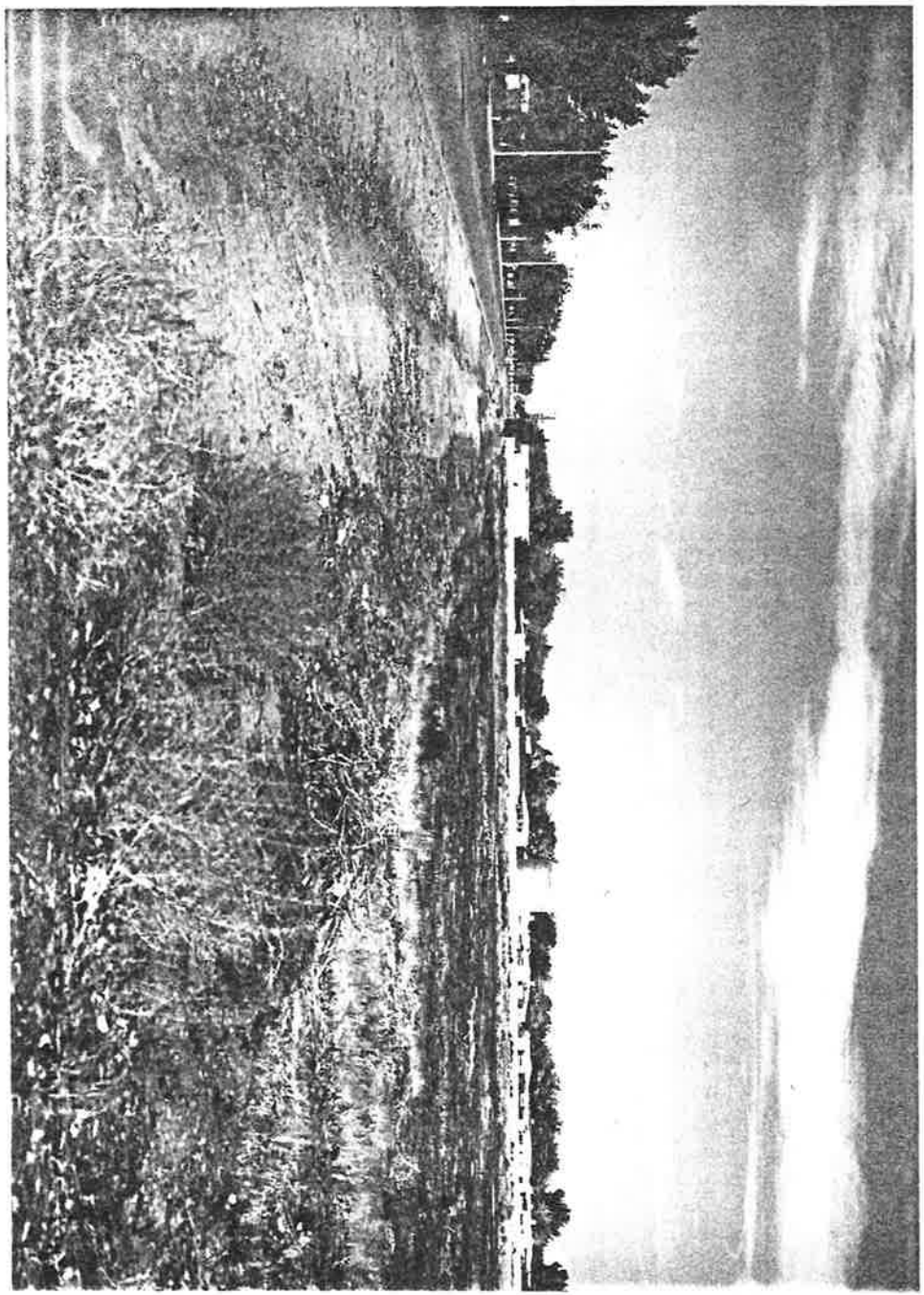

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Figure 3 : Viewing North along 25th St. E at Lancaster Blvd.

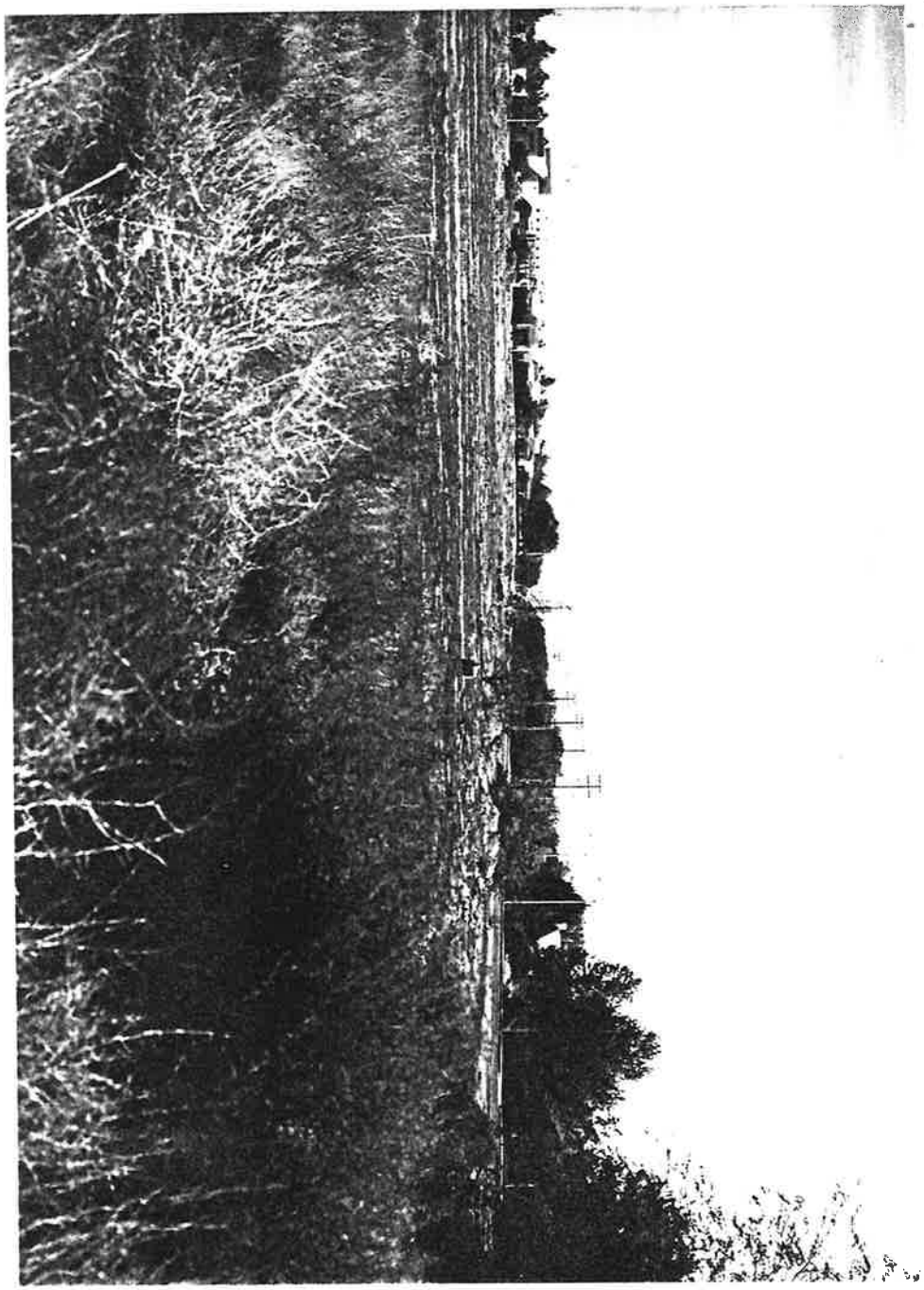

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Figure 2 : Viewing East along Lancaster Blvd at 25th Street East

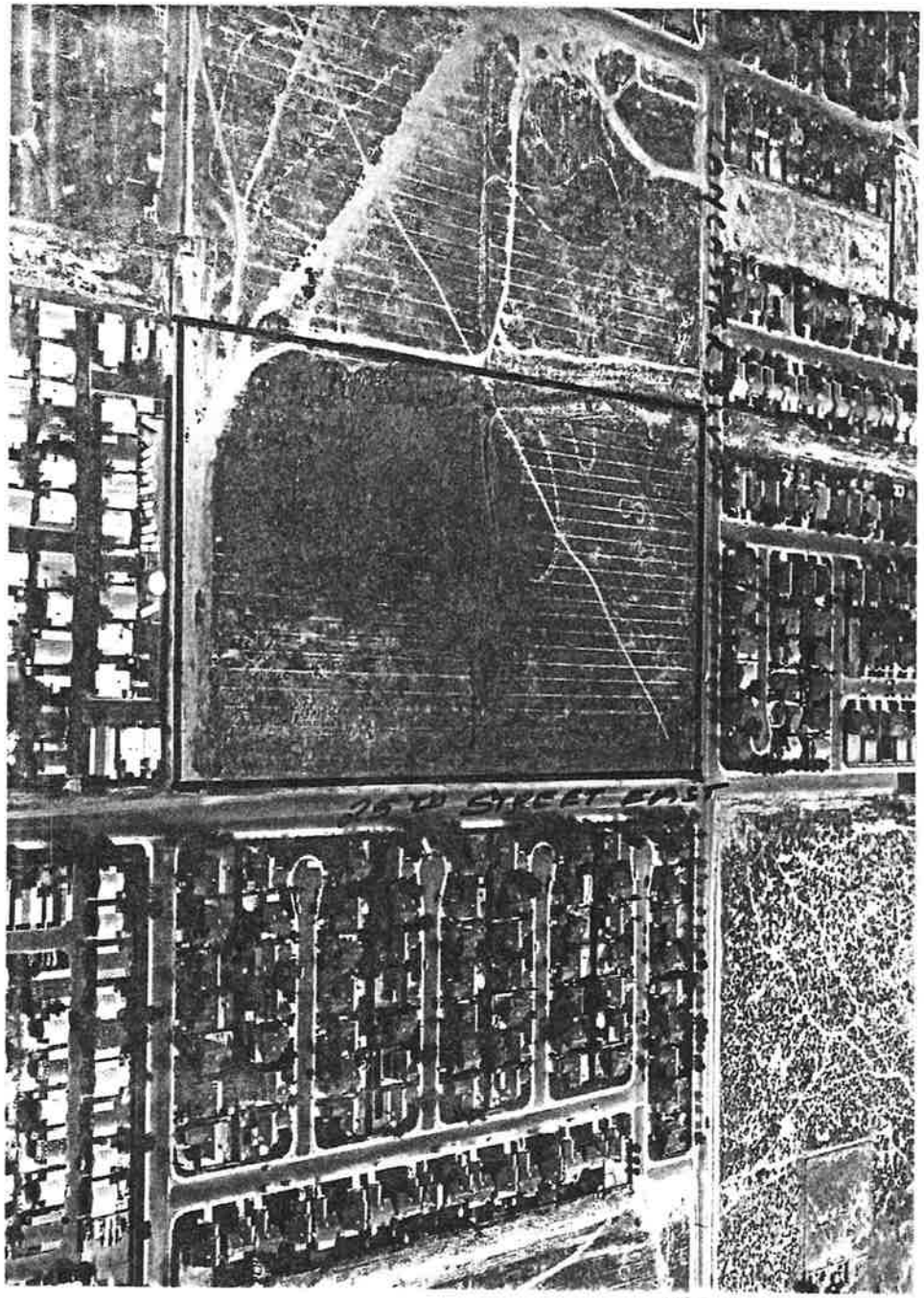

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Figure 5: Aerial view of subject property

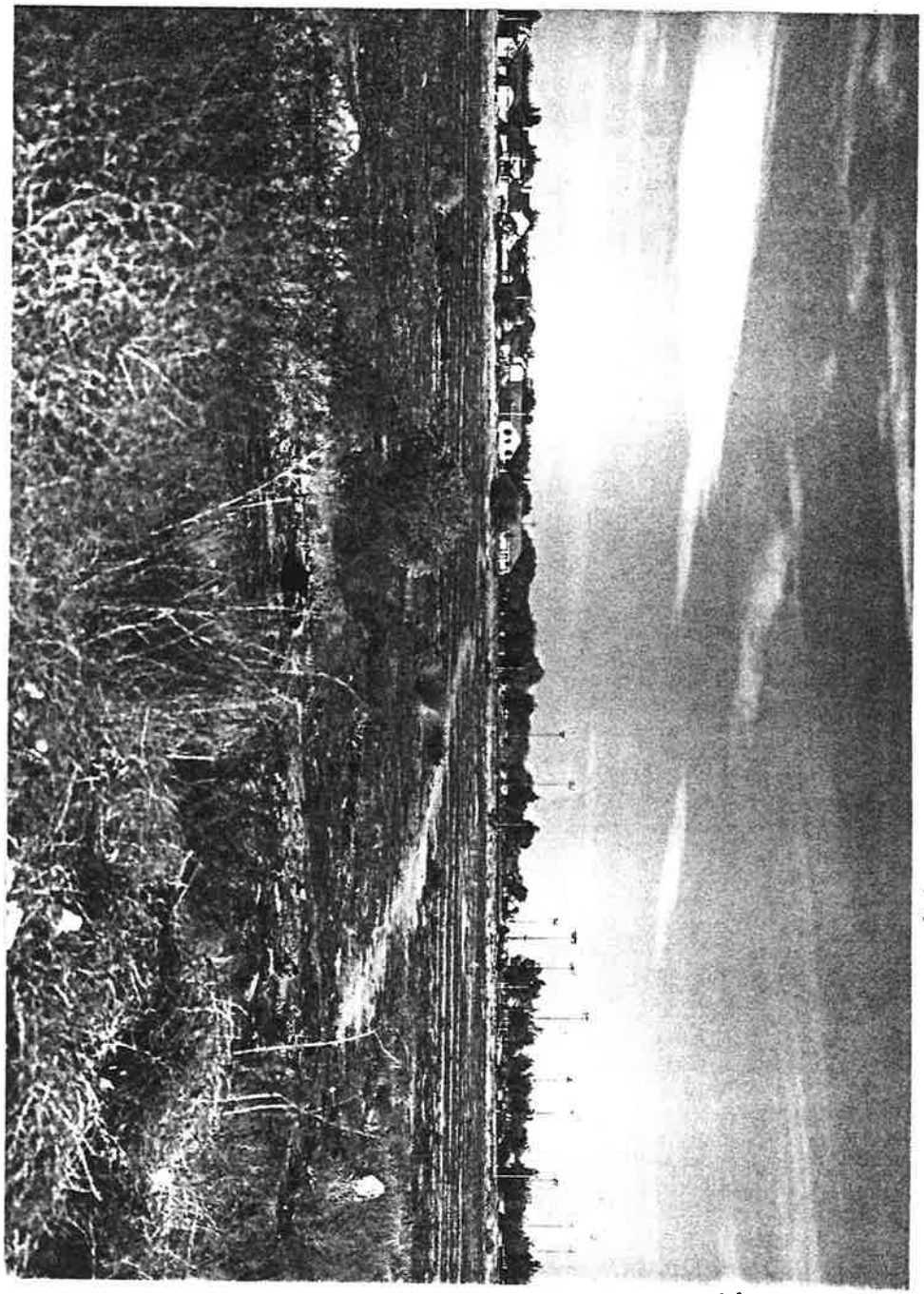

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Figure 4: Viewing northeast across site

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FAUNAL COMPENDIUM

Explanation of Symbols

Relative Frequency and Abundance

c -- common: observed or expected throughout the site in high numbers.
f -- fairly common: observed or expected in moderate numbers.
u -- uncommon: observed or expected in low numbers.
o -- occasional: observed or expected with low frequency.
s -- scarce: rarely observed or expected on the site.

Local Status

* Presence noted visually, vocally, or other sign. (1,2, etc. = maximum number of individuals found during a survey).

Museum/University Record: One or more records of this species in institutional collections from this region.

Note: This faunal species list includes animals observed or expected to occur on or in the immediate vicinity of the study site.

Butterflies

DANIDAE

Monarch (Danaus plexippus) s
Striated Queen (D. gilippus strigosus) u

NYMPHALIDAE

Neumogen's checkerspot (Charidryas neumoengeni) u
Mylitta crescent (Phycoides mylitta) s
Cerrita checkerspot (Thessalia leanira cerrita) s
painted lady (Vanessa cardui) o

PIERIDAE

Becker's white (Pontia beckeri) s
California white (P. sisymbrii) u
Common white (P. protodice) u
Southern dogface (Zerene cesonia) o
Nicippe yellow (Eurema nicippe) s
Dwarf yellow (Nathalis iole) s
Felder's orange tip (Anthocharis cethura cethura) u
Grinell's marble (Falcapica lanceolata australis) u
Southern marble (Eucloe hyantis lotta) u

LIBYTHEIDAE

Snout butterfly (Libythaena bachmanii larvata) s

RIODINIDAE

Mormon metalmark (Apodemia mormo mormo) u
Behr's metalmark (A. mormo virgulti) u
Cythera metalmark (A. mormo cythera) u

LYCAENIDAE

common hairstreak (Strymon melinus) s
Marine blue (Leptotes marina) s
Pygmy blue (Brephidium exilis) s
Acmon Blue (Icarica acmon acmon) u
Bernardino blue (Euphilotes battoides bernardino) u
Elvira's blue (E. pallescens elvirae) u
Mojave blue (E. mojave) u
Small blue (Philotiella speciosa) s

MEGATHYMIDAE

Martin's giant skipper (Megathymus coloradensis martini) u

HESPERIIDAE

Chusca skipper (Polites sabuleti) s
Juba skipper (Hesperia juba) u
Sootywing (Pholisora catullus) o

Amphibians and Reptiles

BUFONIDAE

Western toad (Bufo boreas halophilus) c

HYLIDAE

Pacific chorus frog (Hyla regilla) c

GEKKONIDAE

Banded gecko (Coleonyx variegatus) s

PHRYNOSOMATIDAE

Zebra tailed lizard (Callisaurus draconoides) s
Long-nosed leopard lizard (Gambelia wislizenii) o
Desert horned lizard (Phrynosoma platyrhinos) s
Desert Spiny lizard (Sceloporus magister) c
Side-blotched lizard (Uta stansburiana) c

XANTUSIDAE

Desert night lizard (Xantusia vigilis) c

TEIIDAE

California whiptail (Cnemidophorus tigris) c

LEPTOTYPHLOPIDAE

Western blind snake (Leptotyphlops humilis) s

COLUBRIDAE

Glossy snake (Arizona elegans) u
Western shovel-nosed snake (Chionactis occipitalis) s
Night snake (Hypsiglena torquata) u
Common kingsnake (Lampropeltus getulus) u
Coachwhip (Masticophis flagellum) o
Gopher snake (Pituophis melanoleucus) o
Long-nosed snake (Rhinccheilus lecontei) u
California black-headed snake (Tantilla planiceps) s
Lyre snake (Trimorphodon biscutatus) s

VIPERIDAE

Mojave rattlesnake (Crotalus scutulatus) o

TESTUDINIDAE

Desert tortoise (Gopherus agassizii) (see text)

Birds

Note

Numbers in parentheses following a species indicate the maximum number of individuals seen or heard during a survey.

CATHARTIDAE

Turkey vulture (Cathartes aura) f

ACCIPITRIDAE

Northern harrier (Circus cyaneus) u
Ferruginous hawk (Buteo regalis) u (see text)
Red-tailed hawk (Buteo jamaicensis) f
Swainson's hawk (Buteo swainsoni) u (see text)
Golden eagle (Aquila chrysaetos) u (see text)
Cooper's hawk (Accipiter cooperi) u (see text)

FALCONIDAE

American kestrel (Falco sparverius) u
Prairie falcon (Falco mexicanus) u (see text)

PHASIANIDAE

California quail (Callipepla californica) c

CHARADRIIDAE

Killdeer (Charadrius vociferus) o

COLUMBIDAE

Rock dove (Columba livia) c
Mourning dove (Zenaida macroura) c

CUCULIDAE

Greater roadrunner (Geococcyx californianus) o

STRIGIDAE

Great horned owl (Bubo virginianus) u
Burrowing owl (Athene cunicularia) s (see text)
Long-eared owl (Asio otus) (see text)

TYTONIDAE

Common barn owl (Tyto alba) f

CAPRIMULGIDAE

Lesser nighthawk (Chordeiles acutipennis) f
Common poorwill (Phalaenoptilus nuttallii) s

APODIDAE

Vaux's swift (Chaetura vauxi) s

TROCHILIDAE

Anna's hummingbird (Calypte anna) c
Costa's hummingbird (C. costae) u
Black-chinned hummingbird (Archilochus alexandri) f
Rufous hummingbird (Selasphorus rufus) s

PICIDAE

Ladder-backed woodpecker (Picoides scalaris) u
Northern flicker (Colaptes auratus) u

TYRRANIDAE

Say's phoebe (Sayornis saya) c
Ash-throated flycatcher (Myarchis cinerascens) f
Western Kingbird (Tyrannus verticalis) f

CORVIDAE

Common raven (Corvus corax) c

REMIZIDAE

Verdin (Auriparus flaviceps)

AEGITHALIDAE

Bushtit (Psaltriparus minimus) s

TROGLODYTIDAE

Cactus wren (Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus) c
Rock wren (Salpinctes obsoletus) o
Bewick's wren (Thryomanes bewickii c

MUSCICAPIDAE

Ruby-crowned kinglet (Regulus calendula) u
Hermit thrush (Catharus guttatus) s
Swainson's thrush (C. swainsoni) s
American robin (Turdus migratorius) u

MIMIDAE

Northern mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 1
Le Conte's thrasher (Toxostoma lecontei) s (see text)

LANIIDAE

Loggerhead shrike (Lanius ludovicianus) (see text)

STURNIDAE

European Starling (Sturnus vulgaris)

ALAUDIDAE

Horned lark (Eremophila alpestris) 2 (see text)

HIRUNDINIDAE

Cliff swallow (Petrochelidon pyrrhonota) s
Violet green swallow (Tachycineta thalassina) s
Barn swallow (Hirundo rustica) s
Rough-winged swallow (Stelgidopteryx ruficollis) s
Tree swallow (Iridoprocne bicolor) s

EMBERIZIDAE

Yellow-rumped warbler (Dendroica coronata) f
Orange-crowned warbler (Vermivora celata) s
Common yellowthroat (Geothlypis trichas) s
Nashville warbler (Vermivora ruficapilla) s
MacGillivray's warbler (Oporonis tolmiei) s
Wilson's warbler (Wilsonia pusilla) s
Western meadowlark (Sturnella neglecta) 3
Brewer's blackbird (Euphagus cyanocephalus) f
Scott's oriole (Icterus parisorum) s

Black-throated sparrow (Amphispiza bilineata) s
White-crowned sparrow (Zonotrichia leucophrys) 3
Sage sparrow (Amphisiza belli) o
Lark sparrow (Chondestes grammacus) u
Savannah sparrow (Passerculus sandwichensis) c
Vesper sparrow (Pooecetes graminues) u
Golden-crowned sparrow (Zonotrichia atricapilla) u

FRINGILLIDAE

House finch (Carpodacus mexicanus) 2
American goldfinch (Carduelis tristis) u
Lesser goldfinch (C. psaltria) u

PLOCEIDAE

House sparrow (Passer domesticus) c

Mammals

Note

This is a largely hypothetical list of species based on very broad range boundaries which may include the present site. No attempt is made here to assess relative abundance.

SORICIDAE

Desert shrew (Notiosorex crawfordi)

PHYLLOSTOMIDAE

California leaf-nosed bat (Macrotus californicus)

VESPERTILIONIDAE

Little brown myotis (Myotis lucifugus)
Yuma myotis (M. yumanensis)
Long-eared myotis (M. evotis)
Fringed myotis (M. thysanodes)
Long-legged myotis (M. volans)
California myotis (M. californicus)
Small-footed myotis (M. leibii)
Western pipistrelle (Pipistrellus hesperus)
Big brown bat (Eptesicus fuscus)
Red bat (Lasiurus borealis)
Hoary bat (Lasiurus cinereus)
Townsend's big-eared bat (Plecotus townsendii)
Pallid bat (Antrozous pallidus)

MOLOSSIDAE

Brazilian free-tailed bat (Tadarida brasiliensis)
Pocketted free-tailed bat (Tadarida femorosacca)
Western mastiff bat (Eumops perotis)

LEPORIDAE

Desert cottontail (Sylvilagus auduboni)
Black-tailed jack rabbit (Lepus californicus mohavensis)

SCIURIDAE

White-tailed antelope squirrel (Ammospermophilus leucurus)
California ground squirrel (Spermophilus beecheyi) 5

HETEROMYIDAE

Merriam's kangaroo rat (Dipodomys merriami)
Panamint kangaroo rat (D. panamintinus mohavensis)

CRICETIDAE

Deer mouse (Peromyscus maniculatus)
Desert woodrat (Neotoma lepida)

CANIDAE

Coyote (Canis latrans)
Feral domestic dog (Canis familiaris) sign
Desert kit fox (Vulpes macrotis)

PROCYONIDAE

Ringtail (Bassariscus astutus)

MUSTELIDAE

Badger (Taxidea taxus) (see text)
Western spotted skunk (Spilogale gracilis)
Striped skunk (Mephitus mephitus)

FELIDAE

Mountain lion (Felis concolor)
Bobcat (Felis rufus)
Domestic cat (Felis catus)

CERVIDAE

Black-tailed deer (Odocoileus hemionus)

EQUIDAE

Domestic horse (Equus caballus)

HOMINIDAE

Human (Homo sapiens)

Callyn D. Yorke

Project Manager/Principal Biologist

Dr. Callyn Yorke is a zoologist with extensive field research and teaching experience in Ornithology, Herpetology and Mammalogy. In addition to having completed several research projects overseas, he has been active in the study of the distribution of birds in Southern California for twenty years. Dr. Yorke has authored over twenty-five scientific papers and reports in Environmental Biology. He continues to hold a full-time, tenured position as Professor of Zoology at Antelope Valley College, Lancaster, California.

EDUCATION

B.Sc. 1975. Biological Science. California State University, Hayward.

M.A. 1976. Biological Science. California State University, Hayward.

Ph.D. 1983. Zoology. University of Arkansas, Fayetteville.

PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

- Ornithology Instructor 1976. University of California, Berkeley
- Visiting Assistant Professor 1977-80. National University of Malaysia.
- Post-Doctoral Research 1983-84. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C..
- Visiting Assistant Professor 1984. Monterey Peninsula College, CA.
- Professor of Zoology 1984 - Antelope Valley College, Biology Dept, CA.
- Post-Doctoral Research 1990. Point Reyes Bird Observatory, CA.
- Research Associate 1987- Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History, CA.
- Owner and Project Manager 1987-Callyn D.Yorke, Biological Resources Reports.

Callyn D. Yorke, Ph.D. Biological Resources Reports

Professional Work Experience

Biological Resources Reports completed in Southern California 1989 - 2004

1) APN 3029-12-08: 80 Acres,L.A. County.

2) APN 3209-14-21: 10 Acres,L.A. County.

3) APN 3010 -002-003 .... 8: 23 Acres, Palmdale.

4) APN 3022-25-10: 5 Acres, Palmdale.

5) APN 3056-12-31: 20 Acres, Palmdale.

6) APN 3053-009-004: 35 Acres, Palmdale.

7) APN 3053-009-007: 20 Acres, Palmdale.

8) APN 302-26-9;57: California City, Kern County.

9) APN 3114-13-001: 80 Acres, Lancaster.

10) APN 3126-19-024: 4 Acres, Lancaster.

11) APN 3176-002-021: 10 Acres, Lancaster.

12) APN 3128-003-036: 9.6 Acres, Lancaster.

13) APN 3001-001-035: 10 Acres, Palmdale.

14) APN 3109-002-099: 2.5 Acres, Lancaster.

15) APN 3109-001-36,37,38,39: 10 Acres, Lancaster

16) APN 3053-06-05;20: 20 Acres, Palmdale.

17) APN 3114-13-29: 3 Acres, Lancaster.

18) APN 3004-15-42,43: 12 Acres, Palmdale.

19) Sections 2,3,25,26,27, 35: 1500 Acres, Palmdale.

20) APN 359-03-002: 20 Acres: Kern County (Rasmussen: default)

21) APN 3064-16-10,22: 240 Acres, Llano, Los Angeles County.

22) APN 0419-091-10;12: 319 Acres, San Bernardino County.

23) APN 345-100-02-00-9: 100 Acres, Willow Springs, Kern County.

24) Proposed Fairmont and Antelope Buttes Reservoir, 1600 acres, Los Angeles County.

25) APN 3003-003-025,28,29: 15 acres, Palmdale, CA.

26) SE corner of L-8 and 45th Street West, 6 acres, Quartz Hill, Los Angeles County.

27) APN 3114-013-087,88,89: 35 acres, Lancaster, Los Angeles County.

28) 45th Street W and L-8: 6 acres, Quartz Hill, CA

29) MB 31-13, TR 2916, L 16: 20 Acres, Palmdale, CA

30) Fort Tejon Road and Union Pacific Railway: 59 Acres, Palmdale, CA

31) APN 3114-103-087,88,89: Avenue H-8 and 20th street West, 35 Acres, Lancaster, CA

32) TTM 60058, Rancho Vista Blvd., west of O-8: 30.6 Acres, Palmdale, CA

33) TTM 53869, 55th Street West and the California Aqueduct: 30 Acres, Palmdale, CA

34) TTM 60053, 40th Street East and Avenue R: 20 Acres, Palmdale, CA

35) APN 3057-012-003,014 and 033; 289 Acres, Acton, CA

36) TTM 60162, 60th Street East and Avenue R-8: 5 Acres, Palmdale, CA

37) TTM 060431, 70th Street West and Avenue M-8. 77 Acres, Palmdale, CA

38) NE corner of 47th Street East and Avenue R, 8 Acres, Palmdale, CA

39) APN 3003-004-012, 20th Street West and Avenue P-10, 8.8 acres, Palmdale, CA

40) TTM 27081, Davenport Road, 8.5 Acres, Agua Dulce, CA

41) APN 3003 080 007, 1.17 Acres, Auto Center Drive, Palmdale, CA

42) TTM Quail Valley Road, 40 Acres, Castaic, CA

43) APN 3111-012-056, 10 Acres, east of 45th Street West, Lancaster, CA

44) APN 3109-001-065;066, 20 Acres, west of 35th Street West and L-4-L-6, Lancaster, CA.

45) Five acres, Avenue O and 10th Street West, Palmdale, CA

46) APN 3170-002-028,029;900,901;043;017-019, 24 acres, Lancaster, CA

47) Sixteen acres, Lancaster Blvd, and 35th Street East, Lancaster, CA

48) APN 3203-015-069;143;059-060, 13 Acres 52nd Street West and Avenue J, Lancaster, CA.

49) Twelve acres, Avenue I and 20th Street West, Lancaster CA

50) APN 3204-006-049-051, 8 Acres, Avenue K-12 and 57th Street West, Lancaster, CA.

51) Five acres, Avenue L and 10th Street West, Lancaster, CA

52) Two acres, Avenue J and 32nd Street West, Lancaster, CA.

53) Nineteen acres, Avenue I and 12th Street East, Lancaster, CA

54) APN 3204-023-182, 10 acres, Avenue M-8 and 70th Street West, Lancaster, CA.

55) APN 0394-031-023&028, 17 Acres, Mojave Drive, Victorville, CA

56) APN 3150-014-006, 47 acres, Avenue K and 30th Street East, Lancaster, CA.

57) 4.5 acres, Avenue J-6 and 22nd Street East, Lancaster, CA.

58) 10.5 acres, Avenue J-4 and 22nd Street East, Lancaster, CA.

59) APN 3150-022-009, 5 acres, Lancaster Blvd. and 30th Street East, Lancaster, CA.

60) APN 3150-030-006;013, 8 acres, Avenue J-2 to J-4 and 26th Street East, Lancaster, CA.

61) Thirty acres, Avenue J and 35th Street East, Lancaster, CA.

THESES AND PUBLICATIONS

Yorke, C.D. 1976. Reproductive strategies in the Hylidae (New World treefrogs). Biology Dept., California State University, Hayward. 45 pp.

Yorke, C.D. 1978. Reptiles of Pulau Tenggol (Malaysia): A new record of the Green Mangrove Snake (*Boiga cyanea*) and two new geckoes (*Gymnodactylus* spp.). *Nature Malaysiana* 3: 45-50.

Yorke, C.D. 1979. The Biology of the Frog *Polypedates leucomystax* (Anura: Rhacophoridae) in Peninsular Malaysia. *Nature Malaysiana* 4: 22-25.

Smits, A.W. and C.D. Yorke 1980. Winter activity and mortality in juvenile chuckwallas (*Sauromalus obesus*) *Journal of Herpetology* 14: 100-101.

Yorke, C.D. 1983a. Survival of embryos and larvae of the frog *Polypedates leucomystax* (Anura: Rhacophoridae) in Malaysia. *Journal of Herpetology* 17: 235-41.

Yorke, C.D. 1983b. Avian ecology in a Malaysian rubber tree plantation. Ph.D. Dissertation. Dept. of Zoology, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. 213 pp.

Yorke, 1984. Avian Community Structure in Two Modified Malaysian Habitats. *Biological Conservation* 29: 345-362.

State of California – The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
http://www.dfg.ca.gov

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor

(916) 324-3812

September 24, 2004

Mr. Callyn Yorke
15438 Encinada Road
Green Valley, California 91390

Dear Mr. Yorke:

In response to your request on September 24, 2004, 2004, a search for occurrences of rare, threatened, endangered, and sensitive animals, plants, and natural communities has been completed by the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) for the following quadrangle(s): **Palmdale, Lancaster West & Lancaster East - Text reports.**

Please refer to the enclosed documents for an explanation of the terms and information contained in this computerized report. You will be billed shortly for your order. All of our current CNDDB lists are now available online at http://www.dfg.ca.gov/whdab.

NOTICE TO ALL USERS OF NATURAL DIVERSITY DATABASE INFORMATION

This report does not constitute official Department of Fish and Game environmental impact review of a project under the California Environmental Quality Act, National Environmental Policy Act, or other statutory or regulatory authority. Environmental impact review is carried out by other units in the Department. Even if the CNDDB does not report an occurrence of special animals, plants, or natural communities in your project area, the Department may recommend that you conduct studies to determine or confirm their presence or absence, or to determine the impact of your proposed activity on these and other organisms and their habitats.

Although the CNDDB inventory does not include other more common animals and plants, such as those that may be important for game, commercial, or aesthetic reasons, such species are of concern, and the law requires that they also be considered in an environmental assessment of any nonexempt project.

The CNDDB also inventories both terrestrial and aquatic natural communities that are of extremely high quality, very limited distribution or threatened. These natural communities contain a rich heritage of native animals and plants that contribute significantly to the State's natural biotic diversity.

The absence of a special animal, plant, or natural community from the report does not necessarily mean that they are absent from the area in question, only that no occurrence data are

State of California – The Resources Agency
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http://www.dfg.ca.gov

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor

(916) 324-3812

May 14, 2004

Callyn Yorke
15438 Ensenada Road
Green Valley, California 91350

Dear Mr. Yorke:

In response to your request on May 14, 2004, a search for occurrences of rare, threatened, endangered, and sensitive animals, plants, and natural communities has been completed by the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) for the following quadrangle(s): **Rosamond Lake, Rosamond, Bissell & Soledad (text only).**

Please refer to the enclosed documents for an explanation of the terms and information contained in this computerized report. You will be billed shortly for your order. All of our current CNDDB lists are now available online at http://www.dfg.ca.gov/whdab.

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