Mark Hagan
44715 17th Street East
Lancaster, CA 93535
(661) 723-0086
(661) 433-9956 (m)

July 29, 2022

Rodeo Credit Enterprises
Attn: Ms. Kris Pinero
15821 Ventura Boulevard, Suite 460
Encino, CA 91436

Dear Ms. Pinero:

Re: Update to 2005 Biological Resource Report on APN 3150-024-001, 008, 009, 011 & 012, 20 Acres, Lancaster Blvd. and 25th Street East, Lancaster, California

Development has been proposed for TTM 62321, APNs 3150-024-001, 008, 009, 019 through 021, Lancaster, California. APNs 3150-024-001, 011 and 012 have been redesignated as 3150-024-019 through 021. The approximately 20 acre (8 ha) study site was located east of 25th Street East and north of Lancaster Boulevard (Figure 1). Residential housing was present north, south, and west of the study site. An old agriculture field existed east of the study site.

The original report noted the site consisted of ruderal fields and had experienced considerable disturbance from vegetation clearing, partial grading, refuse disposal and traffic (Yorke 2005). The site was revegetating and was dominated by exotic weeds and a few native perennials (rabbit brush and matchweed). Four common bird species were observed, and the only mammal was California ground squirrel. The site was not considered suitable nesting habitat for Swainson's hawk. Direct impacts to nesting burrowing owls was considered unlikely. No sensitive plant or wildlife was observed or expected. No Joshua trees or California junipers were present on site. Small exotic trees were present around the perimeter. Residential development was present around and near the study site. Drainage across the site appeared to be sheet flow to the north and that a nuisance water ditch occurred along the southern and eastern boundaries of the site which supported mesic vegetation. No mitigation measures were recommended due to the isolation and degradation of the site (Yorke 2005).

For this update, the 2005 report was reviewed. A scoping visit of the site was conducted on 27 July 2022. Random transects were conducted within the study site on 28 July 2022. This study site would be characteristic of a graded field. The study site was all but devoid of vegetation. Small areas of Russian knapweed, red stem filaree, and cheat grass were observed along with a few small rabbit bushes (Figure 2). The exotic trees along the perimeter have been cut down. The drainage along the eastern boundary was still present with vegetation. The southern drainage was no longer present. California ground squirrels were observed within the study site and numerous burrows were present.

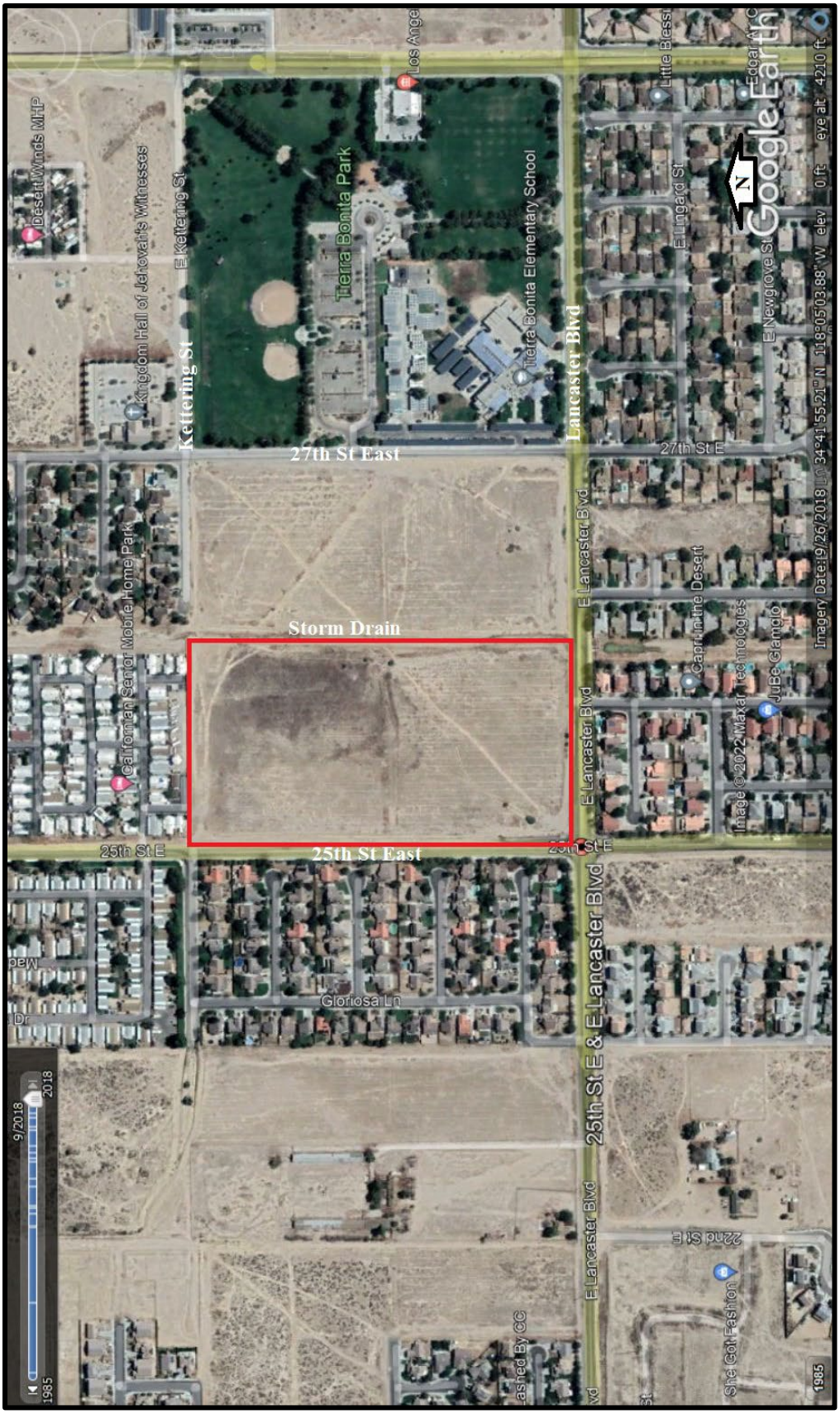


Figure 1. Approximate location of study area, Google Earth, September 2018, showing surrounding land use.

Figure 1. Representative photographs of the study site looking from south to north.

The site appears as though it is continually maintained in a graded state. No sensitive wildlife or plant species were observed during the update survey. The study site does not appear to provide good foraging habitat for Swainson's hawk. Swainson's hawk nests have been documented within 5 miles of the study site within the last 5 years (eBird 2022). Burrowing owls have not been documented within 5 miles of the study site in the last 10 years (eBird 2022)

Given the continual impacts and high activity on the site, no burrowing owl presence would be expected. The site does not appear to provide good forage for Swainson's hawks. No suitable habitat is present for sensitive plant or wildlife species. The 2005 report is still considered sufficient. No mitigation measures are recommended.

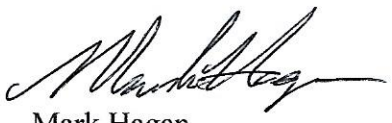
Literature Cited

eBird. 2022. eBird: An online database of bird distribution and abundance [web application]. eBird, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Ithaca, New York. Available: http://www.ebird.org. (Accessed: 29 July 2022).

Yorke, C. 2005. Biological resources report on apn 3150-024-001, 008, 009, 011 & 012, 20 acres, lancaster blvd. and 25th street east, lancaster, california. Callyn Yorke, 15438 Ensenada Road, Green Valley, California, 91390. 11pp.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need further assistance with this project.

Sincerely



Mark Hagan
Wildlife Biologist