CIRCLE MOUNTAIN BIOLOGICAL CONSULTANTS, INC.
P.O. BOX 3197, WRIGHTWOOD, CA 92397
PHONE/FAX: (760) 249-4948
Email: ed.larue@verizon.net
sharon_dougherty@circlemountainbiological.com
Website: http://www.circlemountainbiological.com

Mr. Aaron Rivani
Global Investment and Development, LLC
3470 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1020
Los Angeles, California 90010

2 August 2022

Dear Mr. Rivani:

This brief report serves as an addendum and update to the "Focused Survey for Agassiz's Desert Tortoise, Habitat Assessments for Burrowing Owl and Mohave Ground Squirrel, and General Biological Resource Assessment for a 5-acre± Site (APN 3153-022-044) in the City of Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California," produced by Circle Mountain Biological Consultants, Inc. in November of 2014.

Please let me know if you need any additional information.

Sincerely,

Sharon Dougherty

Sharon Dougherty, President
Circle Mountain Biological Consultants, Inc.

Addendum to
Focused Survey for Agassiz's Desert Tortoise, Habitat Assessments for Burrowing Owl and Mohave Ground Squirrel, and General Biological Resource Assessment for a 5-acre± Site (APN 3153-022-044) in the City of Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California

(U.S. Geological Survey 7.5' Lancaster West Quadrangle, Township 7 North, Range 12 West, a portion of the NE ¼ of Section 19, S.B.B.&M.)

Job#s: 22-038, 14-031

Prepared by:
Circle Mountain Biological Consultants, Inc.
P.O. Box 3197
Wrightwood, California 92397
PH: (760) 249-4948
FAX: (760) 249-4948
Email: sharon_dougherty@circlemountainbiological.com
Contacts: Ed LaRue, Sharon Dougherty

Prepared for:
Global Investment and Development, LLC
3470 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1020
Los Angeles, California 90010
PH: (213) 365-0005
FAX: (213) 365-0405
Contact: Aaron Rivani
email: ARivani@GIDLLCO.COM

August 2022

I hereby certify that the statements furnished herein, including attached exhibits, present the data and information required for this biological evaluation, and that the facts, statements, and information presented are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. Field work conducted for this assessment was performed by me or under my direct supervision. I certify that I have not signed a nondisclosure or consultant confidentiality agreement with the project applicant or applicant's representative and that I have no financial interest in the project.

Sharon Dougherty, President
Circle Mountain Biological Consultants, Inc.

Addendum, August 2022

Edward LaRue of CMBC visited the 5-acre± site (APN 3153-022-044) in the City of Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California, on 29 July 2022, for a total of 1 survey hour from 1300-1400. Field conditions consisted of a ground temperature of 107ºF, winds of 1-3 miles per hour, and approximately 2% cloud cover.

Conditions on the site have not changed substantially since the previous survey in November of 2014. As described in the original report, the plant community found on the site is best described as severely degraded California juniper woodland. In addition, a number of species that thrive in seasonally moist alkaline soils, such as bush seepweed (Suaeda moquinii) and saltbush species (Atriplex sp.) are present. An updated list of plants detected during both surveys is included in Appendix A of this addendum. New plant species were detected in the 2022 survey, likely as the result of a summer survey in 2022 vs. a late fall survey in 2014, when many fewer annual plants were detectable. One Joshua tree is present on the site.

Large areas of the site are devoid of vegetation. The site is highly disturbed, and the eastern half of the site has been used as a dumping place for spoil piles, likely from adjacent developments. (See Figure 1 and Exhibits 1-4.)

The animal species detected during the current survey and the 2014 survey are listed in Appendix B of this addendum. More bird species were detected in 2014, likely due to the timing of the survey during fall migration.

As CMBC concluded in 2014, no sign of **Agassiz's desert tortoise** was found either on-site or in adjacent areas during this focused, protocol survey. Based on the absence of tortoise sign on the subject property, in adjacent areas, and reported from the region, CMBC concludes that the Agassiz's desert tortoise remains absent from the subject property. Also, there is no likelihood of wild tortoises entering the site from adjacent areas, either to pass through the site or establish residency.

Burrowing owl is still considered absent from the subject property, since no sign of the species was found during either survey of the site. Burrows of California ground squirrel of an appropriate size are abundant on the site, but all are actively occupied by the squirrels and are not available for use by burrowing owls.

Mohave ground squirrel is still considered unlikely to occur on the site given the small size of the parcel and the high level of disturbance, as well as its location in a heavily developed area. Although it is CMBC's professional opinion that Mohave ground squirrel is likely absent from the site, it is prudent to have the California Department of Fish and Wildlife review this and the 2014 report to agree or disagree with CMBC's conclusion.

One **Joshua tree** was observed on the site. This species is currently under consideration for listing as a threatened species by the California Fish and Game Commission. As such, it is protected and can not be removed or damaged by development of the site.

No other special status species have been detected on the site or are expected to occur.

As discussed in the 2014 report, the California Fish and Game Code prohibits take of all birds and their active nests, including raptors and other migratory nongame birds (as listed under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act). Typically, CDFW requires that vegetation not be removed from a project site between March 15 and September 15 to avoid impacts to nesting birds. If it is necessary to commence project construction between March 15 and September 15, a qualified biologist should survey all shrubs and structures within the project site for nesting birds, prior to project activities (including construction and/or site preparation).

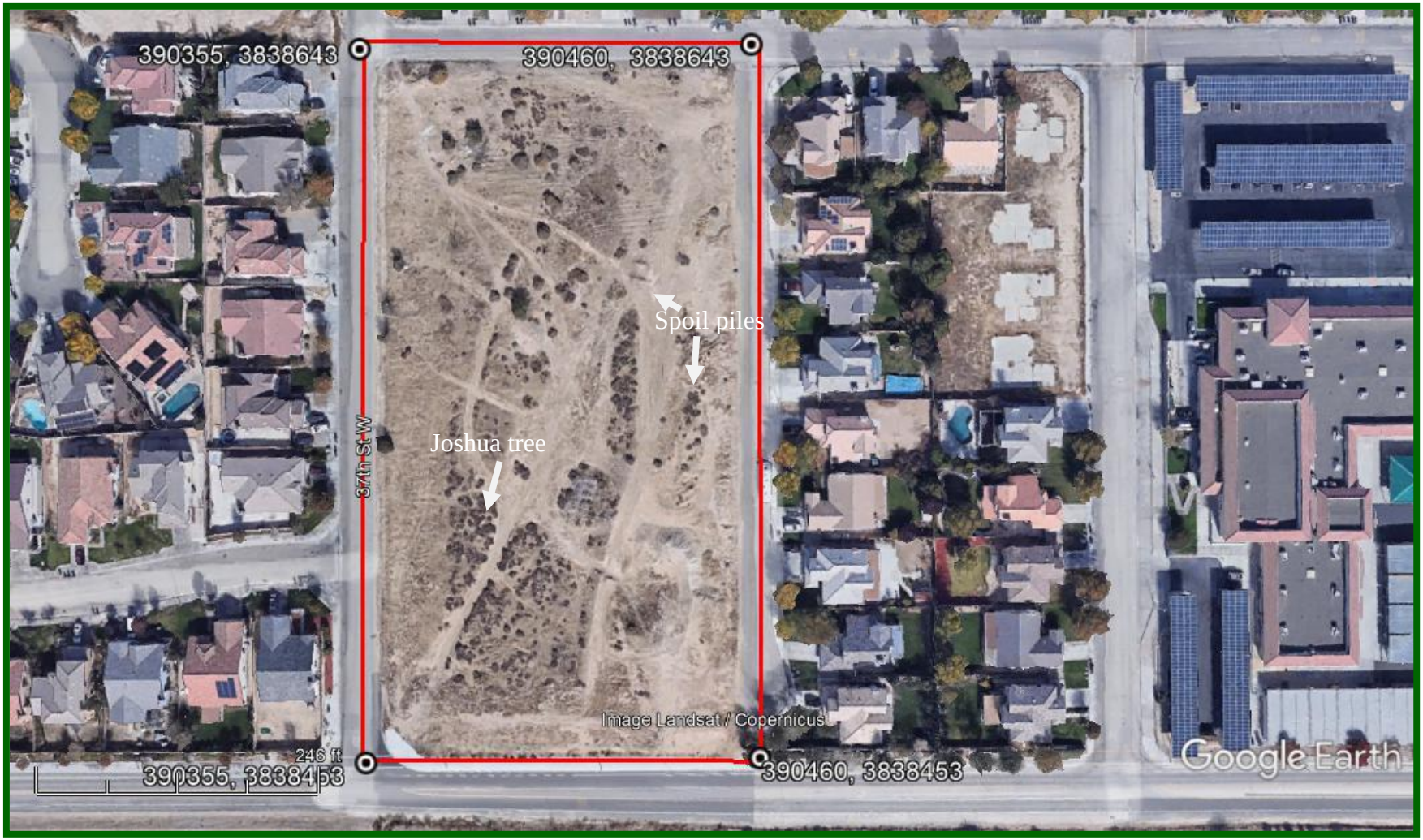

Figure 1. Aerial photo of site (©Google Earth 2022)

Appendix A. Plant Species Detected

The following plant species were identified on-site during the focused floral inventory described in this report. Protected plant species are highlighted in red and signified by "(PPS)" following the common names. The three species found only in adjacent areas are signified by "+."

CONIFERAE	CONE-BEARING PLANTS
Cupressaceae	**Cypress family**
Juniperus californica	California juniper (2014, 2022)
GNETAE	GNETAE
Ephedraceae	**Joint-fir family**
Ephedra californica	Desert tea (2014)
Ephedra nevadensis	Nevada joint-fir (2022)
ANGIOSPERMAE: DICOTYLEDONES	DICOT FLOWERING PLANTS
Amaranthaceae	**Amaranth family**
**Amaranthus albus*	White tumbleweed (2022)
**Amaranthus blitoides*	Prostrate pigweed (2022)
Halogeton glomeratus	Halogeton (2014)
Asteraceae	**Sunflower family**
Ambrosia acanthicarpa	Annual bur-sage (2014, 2022)
Ericameria (*Chrysothamnus*) *nauseosus*	Rubber rabbitbrush (2014, 2022)
Gutierrezia sarothrae	Matchweed (2014, 2022)
Heterotheca grandiflora	Telegraph weed (2014)
Lessingia lemmonii	Lemmon's lessingia (2014)
Boraginaceae	**Borage family**
Amsinckia tessellata	Fiddleneck (2022)
Brassicaceae	**Mustard family**
**Brassica tournefortii*	Saharan mustard (2014)
**Descurainia sophia*	Flixweed (2022)
Lepidium perfoliatum	Shield-cress (2022)
**Sisymbrium altissimum*	Tumble mustard (2022)
**Sisymbrium irio*	London rocket (2022)
Chenopodiaceae	**Goosefoot family**
+Atriplex c.f. *argentea*	Mohave silver-scale (2014)
Atriplex canescens	Four-winged saltbush (2014, 2022)
Atriplex confertifolia	Spiny saltbush (2022)
Atriplex lentiformis	Big saltbush (2022)

Atriplex phyllostegia	Arrowscale (2022)
Atriplex polycarpa	Allscale (2022)
Krascheninnikovia lanata	Winterfat (2014)
**Salsola tragus*	Russian thistle (2014)
Suaeda moquinii (*nigra*)	Bush seepweed (2022)
Euphorbiaceae	**Spurge family**
Euphorbia albomarginata	Rattlesnake weed (2022)
Euphorbia polycarpa	Sandmat (2022)
Geraneaceae	**Geranium family**
**Erodium cicutarium*	Red-stemmed filaree (2014)
Resedaceae	**Mignonette family**
Oligomeris linifolia	Narrowleaf oligomeris (2022)
Solanaceae	**Nightshade family**
Lycium andersonii	Anderson's box-thorn (2022)
+Lycium cooperi	Peach thorn (2014)
Zygophyllaceae	**Caltrop family**
**Tribulus terrestris*	Puncture vine (2022)
ANGIOSPERMAE: MONOCOTYLEDONES	MONOCOT FLOWERING PLANTS
Liliaceae	**Lily family**
Yucca brevifolia	Joshua tree (CDFW Candidate, Threatened) (2014, 2022)
Poaceae	**Grass family**
**Bromus diandrus*	Common ripgut-grass(2014, 2022)
**Bromus madritensis* ssp. *rubens*	Red brome (2014, 2022)
**Bromus tectorum*	Cheat grass (2014, 2022)
Distichlis spicata	Salt grass (2022)
**Hordeum murinum*	Hare barley (2014, 2022)
+**Polypogon monspeliensis*	Rabbitfoot grass (2014)
**Schismus* sp.	Split-grass (2014, 2022)

* - indicates a non-native (introduced) species.
c.f. - compares favorably to a given species when the actual species is unknown.

Some species may not have been detected because of the seasonal nature of their occurrence. Common names are taken from Beauchamp (1986), Hickman (1993), Jaeger (1969), and Munz (1974).

Appendix B. Animal Species Detected

The following animal species were detected during the general biological inventory described in this report.

AVES	BIRDS
Laridae	**Gulls and terns**
Larus californicus	California gull (2014)
Columbidae	**Pigeons and doves**
Columba livia	Rock dove (2014, 2022)
Zenaida macroura	Mourning dove (2014, 2022)
Picidae	**Woodpeckers**
Colaptes auratus	Northern flicker (2014)
Tyrannidae	**Tyrant flycatchers**
Sayornis saya	Say's phoebe (2014)
Corvidae	**Crows and jays**
Corvus corax	Common raven (2014, 2022)
Mimidae	**Mockingbirds and thrashers**
Mimus polyglottos	Northern mockingbird (2014)
Sturnidae	**Starlings**
Sturnus vulgaris	European starling (2022)
Emberizidae	**Sparrows, warblers, tanagers**
Zonotrichia leucophrys	White-crowned sparrow (2014)
Sturnella neglecta	Western meadowlark (2014)
Fringillidae	**Finches**
Carduelis pinus	Pine siskin(2014, 2022)
Passeridae	**Weavers**
Passer domesticus	House sparrow (2014)
MAMMALIA	MAMMALS
Leporidae	**Hares and rabbits**
Sylvilagus audubonii	Audubon cottontail (2014, 2022)

Sciuridae	**Squirrels**
Otospermophilus beecheyi	California ground squirrel (2014, 2022)
Ammospermophilus leucurus	Antelope ground squirrel (2014)
Geomyidae	**Pocket gophers**
Thomomys bottae	Botta pocket gopher (2014)
Heteromyidae	**Pocket mice**
Dipodomys sp.	Kangaroo rat (2014)
Felidae	**Cats**
Lynx rufus	Bobcat (2022)

Nomenclature follows Stebbins, *A Field Guide to Western Reptiles and Amphibians* (2003), third edition; Sibley, National Audubon Society, the Sibley Guide to Birds (2000), first edition; and Ingles, Mammals of the Pacific States (1965), second edition.

Appendix C. Exhibits (July 29 2022)

Exhibit 1. APN 3153-022-044, from NW corner facing SE

Exhibit 2. APN 3153-022-044, from SE corner facing NW

Exhibit 3. APN 3153-022-044, from NE corner facing SW

Exhibit 4. APN 3153-022-044, from SW corner facing NE