

Appendix C

Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County
Paleontological Records Search

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Vertebrate Paleontology Section
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5 February 2020

Dudek
605 Third Street
Encinitas, CA 92024

Attn: Michael Williams, Ph.D., Senior Paleontologist

re: Vertebrate Paleontology Records Check for paleontological resources for the proposed Olympic Well Field Restoration and Arcadia Water Treatment Plant Expansion Project, Dudek Project # 12038, in the Cities of Santa Monica and Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, project area

Dear Michael:

I have conducted a thorough search of our paleontology collection records for the locality and specimen data for the proposed Olympic Well Field Restoration and Arcadia Water Treatment Plant Expansion Project, Dudek Project # 12038, in the Cities of Santa Monica and Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, project area as outlined on the portion of the Beverly Hills USGS topographic quadrangle map that you sent to me via e-mail on 22 January 2020. We do not have any fossil vertebrate localities that lie directly within the proposed project area boundaries, but we do have localities somewhat nearby from the same sedimentary deposits that occur in the proposed project area, either at the surface or at depth.

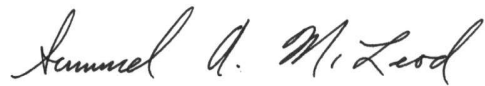
Surface deposits in almost all of the proposed project area consist of younger Quaternary Alluvium, derived broadly as alluvial fan deposits from the Santa Monica Mountains to the north. These younger Quaternary deposits typically do not contain significant vertebrate fossils in the very upper-most layers, but at relatively shallow depth may well contain significant fossil vertebrate remains from older Quaternary deposits. In the very northern and northwestern portions of the proposed project area there are surficial deposits of older Quaternary Alluvium, also derived as alluvial fan deposits from the Santa Monica Mountains to the north. Our closest

vertebrate fossil locality in these older Quaternary deposits is LACM 5462, immediately south of the southwestern-most portion of the proposed project area along Pennsylvania Avenue. Locality LACM 5462 is particularly noteworthy because a specimen of extinct lion, *Felis atrox*, was recovered from this locality at a depth of only six feet below the surface. Our next closest vertebrate fossil locality from these deposits, LACM 7879, south of the eastern-most portion of the proposed project area near the intersection of Rose Avenue and Penmar Avenue, produced fossil specimens of horse, *Equus*, and ground sloth, *Paramylodon*, at greater than eleven feet in depth.

Surface grading or very shallow excavations in the proposed project area probably will not uncover significant vertebrate fossil remains. Excavations that extend down below about five feet, however, may well encounter significant fossil vertebrate specimens. Any substantial excavations below the uppermost layers in the proposed project area, therefore, should be monitored closely to quickly and professionally recover any fossil remains discovered while not impeding development. Sediment samples from the proposed project area should also be collected and processed to determine the small fossil potential of the site. Any fossils recovered during mitigation should be deposited in an accredited and permanent scientific institution for the benefit of current and future generations.

This records search covers only the vertebrate paleontology records of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. It is not intended to be a thorough paleontological survey of the proposed project area covering other institutional records, a literature survey, or any potential on-site survey.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Samuel A. McLeod". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Samuel A. McLeod, Ph.D.
Vertebrate Paleontology

enclosure: invoice