

Kit Fox Habitat Evaluation Form

(guidelines)

Cover Sheet

Project Name SidiFox Cultivation
DRC 2019-00086

Date 9/6/2019

Project Location* 7575 Carrisa Highway, Santa Margarita, CA

*Include project vicinity map and project boundary on copy of U.S.G.S. 7.5 minute map (size may be reduced)

U.S.G.S. Quad Map Name La Panza NE

Lat/Long or UTM coordinates (if available)

10 S 762765.41 3918648.96

Project Description:

Project Size 8.5 Acres Amount of Kit Fox Habitat Affected 8.0 Acres

Quantity of WHR Habitat Types Impacted (i.e. - 2 acres annual grassland, 3 acres blue oak woodland)

WHR type Annual Grassland 8.0 Acres

WHR type _____ Acres

WHR type _____ Acres

WHR type _____ Acres

Comments: Scattered shrubs found throughout
areas of Annual Grassland habitat on the property.

Form Completed By: *Dwayne Oberhoff*
Ecological Assets Management LLC
Rev 3/02
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habitat

San Joaquin Kit Fox Habitat Evaluation form

Is the project area within 10 miles of a recorded San Joaquin kit fox observation or within contiguous suitable habitat as defined in question 2 (A-E)

Yes - Continue with evaluation form

No - Evaluation form/surveys are not necessary

1. Importance of the project area relative to Recovery Plan for Upland Species of the San Joaquin Valley, California (Williams et al., 1998)
 - A. Project would block or degrade an existing corridor linking core populations or isolate a subpopulation (20)
 - ☒ B. Project is within core population (15)
 - C. Project area is identified within satellite populations (12)
 - D. Project area is within a corridor linking satellite populations (10)
 - E. Project area is not within any of the previously described areas but is within known kit fox range (5)
2. Habitat characteristics of project area.
 - ☒ A. Annual grassland or saltbush scrub present >50% of site (15)
 - B. Grassland or saltbush scrub present but comprises <50% of project area (10)
 - C. Oak savannah present on >50% of site (8)
 - D. Fallow ag fields or grain/alfalfa crops (7)
 - E. Orchards/vineyards (5)
 - F. Intensively maintained row crops or suitable vegetation absent (0)
3. Isolation of project area.
 - ☒ A. Project area surrounded by contiguous kit fox habitat as described in Question 2a-e (15)
 - B. Project area adjacent to at least 40 acres of contiguous habitat or part of an existing corridor (10)
 - C. Project area adjacent to <40 acres of habitat but linked by existing corridor (i.e., river, canal, aqueduct) (7)
 - D. Project area surrounded by ag but less than 200 yards from habitat (5)

E. Project area completely isolated by row crops or development and is greater than 200 yards from potential habitat (0)

4. Potential for increased mortality as a result of project implementation. Mortality may come from direct (e.g., - construction related) or indirect (e.g., - vehicle strikes due to increases in post development traffic) sources.

- A. Increased mortality likely (10)
☒ B. Unknown mortality effects (5)
C. No long term effect on mortality (0)

Revised 03-02

5. Amount of potential kit fox habitat affected.

- A. >320 acres (10)
B. 160 - 319 acres (7)
C. 80 - 159 acres (5)
D. 40 - 79 acres (3)
☒ E. < 40 acres (1)

6. Results of project implementation.

- ☒ A. Project site will be permanently converted and will no longer support foxes (10)
B. Project area will be temporarily impacted but will require periodic disturbance for ongoing maintenance (7)
C. Project area will be temporarily impacted and no maintenance necessary (5)
D. Project will result in changes to agricultural crops (2)
E. No habitat impacts (0)

7. Project Shape

- ☒ A. Large Block (10)
B. Linear with > 40 foot right-of-way (5)
C. Linear with < 40 foot right-of-way (3)

8. Have San Joaquin kit foxes been observed within 3 miles of the project area within the last 10 years?

- ☒ A. Yes (10)
B. No (0)

By Caltrans in 2011

Scoring

1. Recovery importance
2. Habitat condition

15
15

3.	Isolation	<u>15</u>
4.	Mortality	<u>5</u>
5.	Quantity of habitat impacted	<u>1</u>
6.	Project results	<u>10</u>
7.	Project shape	<u>10</u>
8.	Recent observations	<u>10</u>
TOTAL		<u>81</u>

Revised 03/02-lpd

Form completed by:

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Dwayne Oberhoff

APPENDIX E - DECLARATIONS OF BIOLOGIST QUALIFICATIONS

San Joaquin Kit Fox Report Declaration

PROJECT NAME: Sidi Fox Cultivation - DRC2019-00086

NAME OF BIOLOGIST: Dwayne Oberhoff FIRM: Ecological Assets Management

I am the primary/lead field biologist for the above referenced project. I have the following minimum qualifications to comply with the County of San Luis Obispo's biological reporting requirements for this type of biological report (San Joaquin Kit Fox):

- I have a bachelor's degree in (circle one or more): biology, zoology, wildlife biology, natural resources, ecology, conservation biology, environmental biology, or related field (specify) _____; from (specify school & year completed) Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, 1998
M.S. Biology, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, 2006
- I have previously conducted independent field work and reporting, and demonstrated the following:
 - Knowledge and experience in identification of San Luis Obispo County habitats and vegetation associations
 - Ability to recognize potential San Joaquin kit fox habitat
 - Knowledge of kit fox habitat requirements, prey species, and predator species
 - Knowledge of kit fox sightings and distribution
 - Attendance at a County and/or CA Fish and Wildlife Department sponsored training workshop in the kit fox habitat evaluation process used by the County
 - Knowledge and experience in all aspects of kit fox surveys, including pre-construction surveys; identification of kit fox dens, tracks and scat; nighttime spotlight surveys; and identification of kit fox during the day and at night
 - Ability and experience in identifying potential impacts to kit fox and their habitats
 - Ability and experience in recommending mitigation measures to minimize impacts to kit fox and their habitats
 - Knowledge of County kit fox mitigation measures
 - Ability and experience in conducting pre-construction briefings for kit fox protection
 - Ability and experience in producing handouts for kit fox pre-construction briefings
 - Ability and experience in monitoring for compliance with kit fox mitigation measures
 - Ability and experience in writing complete, well-written technical reports as per the County Guidelines for Preparation of Technical Reports

Check one:

☐

Attached is a representative copy (electronic) of a recent report I authored.

☒

I previously submitted to the County a representative copy of a report I authored.

With my signature I confirm that I meet all of the above qualifications and that I was a primary author of this report and provided field oversight and/or conducted a substantial portion of the field survey work.

Dwayne Oberhoff
Signature of Biologist

10/16/2019
Date

FIGURE 1. Vicinity map.

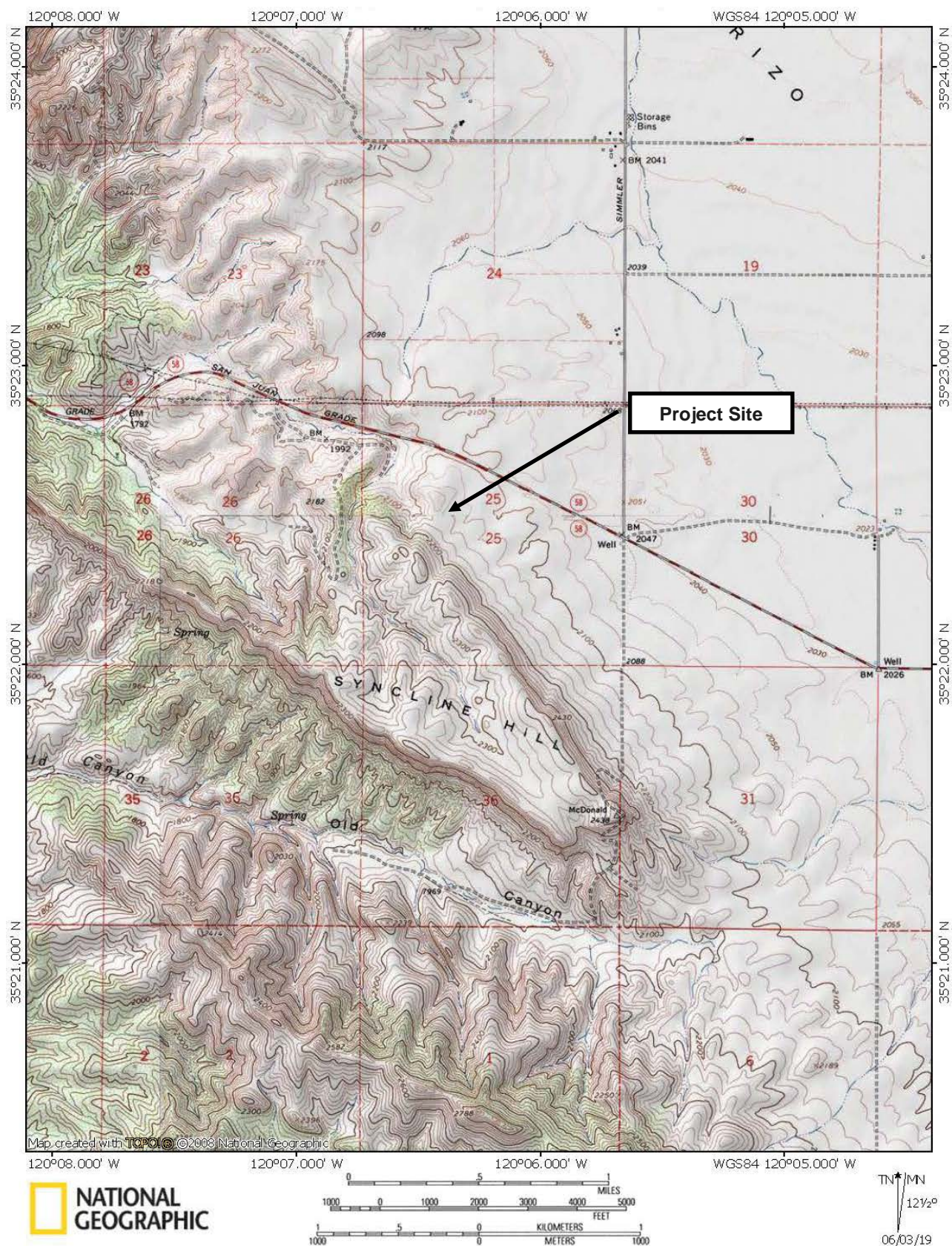


FIGURE 2. Location map.



Photo 1: Photo viewing south along access road with proposed project area in right of photo. March 14, 2019



Photo 2: Photo viewing north through project area located to east of access road. March 14, 2019



Photo 3. Photo viewing northeast from existing water tanks along alignment of proposed waterline.

April 10, 2019



Photo 4. Photo of existing water tank.

April 10, 2019



Photo 5. Photo viewing north from southern portion of survey area.

May 30, 2019



Photo 6. Photo viewing south from northern portion of survey area. Note access road in left of photo.

May 30, 2019



Photo 7. Photo viewing southwest through project area located east of access road.

May 30, 2019