

FW: Parcel Map #21-01 (D. Wise)

1 message

Jessica Martinez <JMartinez@co.tehama.ca.us> Wed, Apr 7, 2021 at 4:54 PM To: george robson <george@robsonandassociates.com>, "derekwise@sbcglobal.net" <derekwise@sbcglobal.net> Cc: Kristen Maze <KMaze@co.tehama.ca.us>

Hi George,

Below is the email from The California Department of Fish and Wildlife in which they are requesting a biological survey for the above project. Their request/comments will need to be addressed prior the projects submittal to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). A qualified party will need to do a biological assessment and address the items below. Staff reviewed Tract Map 94-1000 in order to resolve Fish and Wildlife's concerns. However, the mitigation measures were not attached to the file.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you, Jessica Martinez

Planner II

JMartinez@co.tehama.ca.us

530-527-2200

From: Christina Nunez Sent: Tuesday, March 23, 2021 1:08 PM To: Jessica Martinez <JMartinez@co.tehama.ca.us> Subject: FW: Parcel Map #21-01 (D. Wise)

FYI...

From: Henderson, Amy@Wildlife [mailto:Amy.Henderson@wildlife.c a.gov] Sent: Tuesday, March 23, 2021 12:22 PM To: Christina Nunez <CNunez@co.tehama.ca.us> Cc: Christina Nunez <CNunez@co.tehama.ca.us> Subject: Parcel Map #21-01 (D. Wise)

Dear Jessica Martinez:

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) has reviewed the consultation request for the abovereferenced project (Project) dated March 15, 2021. As a trustee for the State's fish and wildlife resources, the Department has jurisdiction over the conservation, protection, and management of fish, wildlife, native plants and their habitat. As a responsible agency, the Department administers the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) and other provisions of the Fish and Game Code (FGC) that conserve the State's fish and wildlife public trust resources. The Department offers the following comments and recommendations on this Project in our role as a trustee and responsible agency pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), California Public Resources Code section 21000 et seq. The following are informal comments intended to assist the Lead Agency in making informed decisions early in the Project development and review process.

The Project as described is to divide an existing 6.45-acre parcel (Assessor's Parcel Number 022-520-063) into three separate parcels. Parcel A is 1.36 acres, Parcel B is 4.0 acres and Parcel C is 1.05 acres.

The Department has the following recommendations and comments as they pertain to biological resources.

Biological Surveys

Because the proposed Project will occur in wildlife habitat, the Department recommends biological surveys occur prior to any new construction or site modification to avoid impacts to natural resources that may occur on the site. A basic biological assessment would include botanical, wildlife, and habitat surveys (conducted at the appropriate time of the year) to determine whether focused or protocol-level surveys are warranted. The Department recommends all plant and wildlife species identified in the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) and other biological resource databases (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, California Native Plant Society, or other pertinent references) be analyzed for the potential to occur within the Project area.

The CNDDB is a positive sighting database. It does not predict where something may be found. The Department maps occurrences only where we have documentation that the species was found at the site. There are many areas of the state where no surveys have been conducted and therefore there is nothing on the map. That does not mean that there are no special status species present. The next step is to conduct surveys to document what is actually present today and submit the information on special status species to the Department and CNDDB. All surveys should be conducted prior to approval of the Project and survey results shall be e-mailed to the Department at the R1CEQARedding@wildlife.ca.gov.

The following should be included in the biological assessment:

- 1. Date/time/weather conditions during the survey(s).
- 2. A description of the natural environment.

3. A list of common and special status plant and wildlife species as well as habitats present onsite at the time of the survey(s).

4. Rare/local/unusual species and habitats present during the survey(s).

5. A thorough assessment of rare plants and sensitive natural communities should be conducted following the Department's March 2018 *Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Sensitive Natural Communities* (https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID= 18959&inline)

6. If habitat is present for special status plants or wildlife, focused species-specific surveys should be conducted at the appropriate time of year and/or time of day when the species are active or otherwise identifiable. Acceptable species-specific survey procedures should be developed in consultation with the Department and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Links to some survey procedures are provided on the Department's website (https://wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation). All surveys should be conducted prior to approval of the Project and survey results provided in the subsequent environmental document.

7. If any special-status species are found during surveys, the Department requests that CNDDB forms be filled out online and submitted. Instructions for providing data to the CNDDB can be found at: https://wildlife.ca.gov/Data/CNDDB/Submitting-Data.

8. Impacts to and maintenance of wildlife corridor/movement areas and other key seasonal use areas should be fully evaluated and provided.

9. A discussion of impacts associated with increased lighting, noise, human activity, impacts of free-roaming domestic animals including dogs and cats, changes in drainage patterns, changes in water volume, velocity, quantity, and quality, soil erosion, and/or sedimentation in streams and watercourses on or near the Project site.

10. A discussion on fuels management, and how it would affect biological resources, should be discussed and analyzed.

11. Mitigation measures for adverse Project-related impacts to sensitive plants, wildlife, and habitats should be developed and thoroughly discussed. Mitigation measures should first emphasize avoidance and reduction of Project impacts. For unavoidable impacts, the feasibility of on-site habitat restoration or enhancement should be discussed. If on-site mitigation is not feasible, off-site mitigation through habitat creation, enhancement, acquisition and preservation in perpetuity should be addressed.

12. As the Project site has the potential to support aquatic, riparian, or wetland habitat, a delineation of lakes, streams, and associated riparian habitats potentially affected by the Project should be provided for agency and public review. This report should include a preliminary jurisdictional delineation including wetlands identification pursuant to the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service wetland definition as adopted by the Department. Please note that some wetland and riparian habitats subject to the Department's authority may extend beyond the jurisdictional limits of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The jurisdictional delineation should also include mapping of ephemeral, intermittent, and perennial stream courses potentially impacted by the Project. In addition to "federally protected wetlands" (see CEQA Appendix G (IV)(c)), the Department considers impacts to any wetlands (as defined by the Department) as potentially significant.

THIS IS DONE ENPLAN, DON BURK, APRIL 20 SEE ATTACHED 21 **Botanical Surveys**

Botanical surveys should be conducted across the entire Project site during the appropriate blooming time prior to the approval of this Project. Botanical surveys should follow the Department's March 20, 2018, *Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Sensitive Natural Communities*, available here: https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=18959.

If no special status plant species are found during the botanical survey no other measures will be required. However, if drought conditions exist, additional pre-construction surveys for special status plant species may be warranted. If special status plant species are found during the botanical surveys, the plants should be marked by a qualified biologist familiar with the species. If the area can be avoided, exclusionary fencing will be placed around the plants and no pedestrian or vehicular entry shall be allowed. Botanical survey results shall be emailed to the Department at R1CEQARedding@wildlife.ca.gov.

California Endangered Species Act

Please be advised that a CESA permit must be obtained if the project has the potential to result in "take" of plants or animals listed under CESA, either during construction or over the life of the project. Issuance of a CESA Permit is subject to CEQA documentation; the CEQA document must specify impacts, mitigation measures, and a mitigation monitoring and reporting program. If the Project will impact CESA listed species, early consultation is encouraged, as significant modification to the Project and mitigation measures may be required to obtain a CESA Permit. Information on how to attain a CESA permit is available here: https://wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/CESA/Permitting

Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement

NO L, S, A, A, WANTED - NocHANge

For any activity that will divert or obstruct the natural flow, or change the bed, channel, or bank (which includes associated riparian resources) of a river or stream, or use material from a streambed, the Department will require a Lake and Streambed Alteration (LSA) Notification, pursuant to section 1600 et seq. of the Fish and Game Code, from the applicant. Project activities, which would be subject to LSA Notification requirements, include construction of stormwater features that discharge on or over the streambank and modification of associated riparian resources growing on the bank. Issuance of an LSA Agreement is subject to CEQA. The Department, as a responsible agency under CEQA, will consider the CEQA document for the Project. The CEQA document should fully identify the potential impacts to the stream or riparian resources and provide adequate avoidance, mitigation, monitoring, and reporting commitments for FROM TOP OF BANK completion of the agreement. To obtain information about the LSA notification process, please access our website at https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/LSA.

Nesting Birds

If the Project has the potential to directly impact nesting bird habitat or indirectly disturb nesting birds through audio or visual disturbance, the Department recommends to following measures be implemented to protect nesting birds and raptors protected under FGC sections 3503 and 3503.5:

a) Conduct vegetation removal and other ground-disturbance activities associated with construction from September 1 through January 31, when birds are not nesting; or

b) Conduct pre-construction surveys for nesting birds if vegetation removal or ground disturbing activities are to take place during the nesting season (February 1 through August 31). These surveys shall be conducted by a qualified biologist no more than one week prior to vegetation removal or construction activities during the nesting season. If an active nest is located during the preconstruction surveys, a non-disturbance buffer shall be established around the nest by a qualified biologist in consultation with the Department. No vegetation removal or construction activities shall occur within this non-disturbance buffer until the young have fledged, as determined through additional monitoring by the qualified biologist. The results of the pre-construction surveys shall be sent electronically to the Department at R1CEQARedding@wildlife.ca.gov.

Bats

Trees that contain cavities, crevices and/or exfoliated bark have high potential to be used by various bat species. If the Project will impact trees with the above referenced characteristics, a thorough survey of the large trees should be conducted by a qualified biologist or arborist familiar with these features to determine if tree features and habitat elements are present within the oak trees. Trees with features potentially suitable for bat roosting should be clearly marked prior to removal.

If removal or disturbance of trees identified to have roost structure will occur during the bat maternity season, when young are nonvolant (March 1 - Aug 31), or during the bat hibernacula (November 1 - March 1), when bats have limited ability to safely relocate roosts, it could cause a significant impact to bats through direct mortality during the roost removal. Impacts to roosts are usually accompanied by high mortality of bats and it is a significant impact because a single colony could consist of the entire local population of a species. The availability of suitable roosting habitat is considered a limiting factor in almost all bat species. Roost site suitability is often based on a narrow range of suitable temperatures, relative humidity, physical dimensions, etc., and many species exhibit high roost site fidelity. Depending on the impact, if any, to the roosting habitat, additional mitigation may be necessary and could include providing replacement or alternate roost habitat. If necessary, humane evictions should be conducted during seasonal periods of bat activity, which may vary by year, location, or species and must be conducted by or under the supervision of a biologist with specific experience conducting exclusions. Humane exclusions could consist of a two-day tree removal process whereby the non-habitat trees and brush are removed along with certain tree limbs on the first day and the remainder of the tree on the second day. This two-step process changes the microhabitat of the area causing the bats to vacate the area under their own volition, therefore minimizing mortality and other impacts to bat species. This process cannot be used until after the bat maternity season or it has been determined that no maternity roosts are present.

Lighting

The Department recognizes the adverse effects that artificial lighting has on birds and other nocturnal species. The effects are numerous and include impacts to singing and foraging behavior, reproductive behavior, navigation, and altered migration patterns. To minimize adverse effects of artificial light on wildlife, the Department recommends that lighting fixtures associated with the Project be downward facing, fully shielded, and designed and installed to minimize photopollution and spillover of light onto adjacent wildlife habitat.

Trenching

If trenching will occur as a result of Project activities, it should be covered securely, or a ramp should be provided in the trench to prevent wildlife entrapment. If pipes are left out onsite, they should be inspected for animals prior to burying, capping, moving, or filling.

The Department recommends a mitigation measure be developed and included in the final environmental document or project approval.

Survey Results

If any special-status species are found during surveys, the Department requests that CNDDB forms be filled out and sent to Sacramento and a copy of the form be sent to the Regional office at the above address. Instructions for providing data to the CNDDB can be found at: https://wildlife.ca.gov/Data/CNDDB/Submitting-Data.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call or email me.

Thank you,

Amy Henderson

Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist)

Interior Conservation and Cannabis Planning

California Department of Fish and Wildlife Northern Region

601 Locust St.

Redding, CA 96001

530-598-7194 (cell)

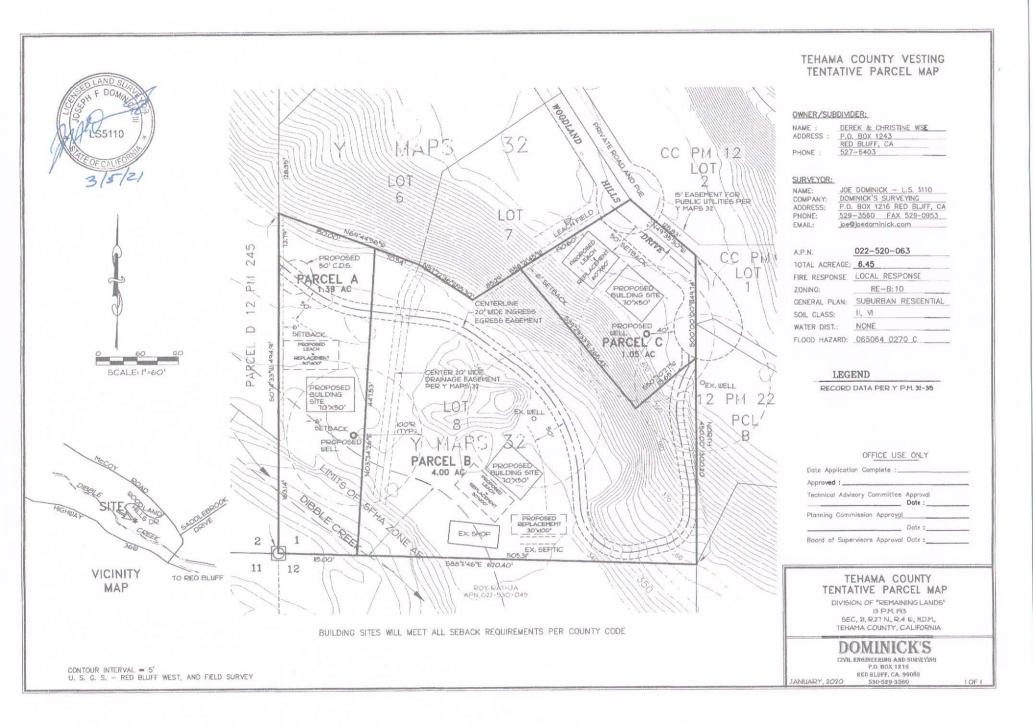
Amy.Henderson@wildlife.ca.gov

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656-01 April 20, 2021

George Robson Robson and Associates 22685 Sunwest Court Red Bluff, CA 96080

SUBJECT: Special-Status Plant Survey, Woodland Hills Drive Parcel, Red Bluff

This is to confirm that ENPLAN conducted a special-status plant survey for a ±6.45-acre parcel near the City of Red Bluff. The site is located north of Highway 36 on the south side of Woodland Hills Drive, and is identified as Tehama County Assessor's Parcel 022-520-063. The objective of the study was to evaluate the presence/absence of special-status plants at an appropriate time of year. We understand that other parties will be responsible for a natural community assessment and/or any other needed studies.

The site is situated approximately 330 to 410 feet above mean sea level, with an upper terrace adjacent to the Woodland Hills Drive cul-de-sac and a lower terrace just above Dibble Creek. The lower terrace is currently under development and includes one structure, a pond, and a graded flat. The pond appears to have been recently created and is devoid of vegetation. Plant communities present on the site are a blue oak woodland and a riparian scrub community. Other than Dibble Creek and the created pond, no streams, wetlands, or other waters were observed.

Records Review

Records reviewed for this evaluation consisted of California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDB) records and in-house biological records. The CNDDB records search covered a four-quadrangle area (Red Bluff East, Red Bluff West, Hooker, and Bend quadrangles), providing a minimum 5-mile radius around the study site.

CNDDB records showed that no special-status plant species have been previously reported on the site. Twelve special-status plant species are reported to occur within the fourquadrangle search radius: adobe lily, Ahart's dwarf rush, Ahart's paronychia, Baker's navarretia, Boggs Lake hedge-hyssop, dwarf downingia, Henderson's bent grass, Red Bluff dwarf rush, Sanford's arrowhead, silky cryptantha, slender Orcutt grass, and woolly meadowfoam.

Field Reconnaissance

The field reconnaissance was conducted April 17, 2021, and included over three hours of field survey time. Most special-status species potentially occurring on the site would have been evident at the time the fieldwork was conducted; presence/absence of other special-status plant species was determined based on habitat characteristics.

X

Survey Results

Adobe lily is an early blooming species that generally occurs on heavy clay soils in grasslands or oak woodlands. Marginally suitable habitat for the species is present on the

George Robson April 20, 2021 Page 2

project site. Although the species would have been past bloom at the time of the field survey, the leaves and capsules would have been identifiable, at least to genus. With the exception of silky cryptantha, all of the remaining special-status plant species known to occur in the general area are typically associated with vernal pools, vernal swales and drainages, and/or thin-soiled vernally wet flats. No suitable habitat for these species is present on the project site. On the Sacramento Valley floor, silky cryptantha is restricted to the broad, gravelly floodplains of intermittent to perennial streams. Silky cryptantha has previously been reported in Dibble Creek both upstream and downstream of the subject site. Moderately suitable habitat for the species is present in the on-site portion of the Dibble Creek floodplain.

Silky cryptantha was not observed on the project site. However, given drought conditions, a field check of a reference population was warranted to determine the local phenology of the plants and to provide a better basis for determining if an additional field survey is needed to assess presence/absence of the species. A reference population was observed along Blue Tent Creek on the same day as the field survey. Plants at the reference population were shorter than usual, and most flowers were dry or had already fallen. Nonetheless, the plants could be readily identified.

Although not a primary objective of the current study, the potential presence of elderberries was also evaluated because elderberries are the host plant of the federally listed valley elderberry longhorn beetle. No elderberries were observed on the subject site. However, two elderberry clusters were observed offsite. One is located in riparian habitat on the north bank of Dibble Creek about ten feet upstream of the study area boundary. The other is located in a grassland on the south side of Dibble Creek along a fence line roughly 100 feet west of the southwestern property corner. Because the elderberries are off-site, no attempt was made to identify the number of stems present or stem diameters.

Conclusions

A list of plant species observed on the subject site is attached; no special-status plant species were observed. Based on habitat characteristics, the only special-status plant species potentially present is silky cryptantha. Given the negative findings of the field survey coupled with the positive findings at a nearby reference population, it is our opinion that no additional surveys for silky cryptantha or other special-status plant species are warranted at this time.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding our findings or recommendations.

Sincerely,

Donald Burk Environmental Services Manager

encl. Checklist of Vascular Plant Species Observed

CHECKLIST OF VASCULAR PLANT SPECIES OBSERVED

Wise Parcel, April 17, 2021

Agavaceae

Chlorogalum pomeridianum var. pomeridianum

Anacardiaceae

Toxicodendron diversilobum

Apiaceae

Anthriscus caucalis Lomatium caruifolium var. denticulatum Sanicula bipinnata Sanicula bipinnatifida Sanicula crassicaulis Torilis arvensis

Aristolochiaceae

Aristolochia californica

Asteraceae

Artemisia douglasiana Baccharis salicifolia Hypochaeris glabra Madia sp. (? not flowering) Senecio vulgaris Wyethia helenioides Xanthium strumarium

Boraginaceae

Amsinckia lycopsoides Amsinckia intermedia Phacelia imbricata Plagiobothrys canescens

Brassicaceae

Cardamine oligosperma Draba verna Hirschfeldia incana Raphanus raphanistrum Sisymbrium officinale

Caryophyllaceae

Cerastium glomeratum Herniaria hirsuta Petrorhagia dubia Polycarpon tetraphyllum Scleranthus annuus subsp. annuus Stellaria media

Cleomaceae Polanisia dodecandra subsp. trachysperma

Crassulaceae Crassula connata

Century-plant Family Wavy-leaved soap plant

Sumac Family Poison-oak

Carrot Family

Bur-chervil Foothill lomatium Poison sanicle Purple sanicle Pacific sanicle Field hedge-parsley

Birthwort Family Pipevine

Sunflower Family

Mugwort Mule's-fat Smooth cat's ear Madia Old-man-in-the-Spring Gray mule ears Cocklebur

Borage Family

Tarweed fiddleneck Common fiddleneck Imbricate phacelia Valley popcorn-flower

Mustard Family

Few-seeded bittercress Whitlow grass Shortpod mustard Jointed charlock Oriental hedge mustard

Pink Family

Mouse-eared chickweed Herniaria Grass pink Four-leaved allseed German knotgrass Common chickweed

Spiderwort Family Clammyweed

Stonecrop Family Pygmy weed

CHECKLIST OF VASCULAR PLANT SPECIES OBSERVED

Cucurbitaceae

Marah fabacea

Cyperaceae Cyperus eragrostis

Ericaceae

Arctostaphylos manzanita

Euphorbiaceae

Croton setigerus

Fabaceae

Acmispon parviflorus Lupinus bicolor Medicago polymorpha Trifolium sp. Trifolium glomeratum Vicia villosa

Fagaceae

Quercus douglasii Quercus lobata Quercus wislizeni

Geraniaceae

Erodium botrys Erodium brachycarpum Erodium cicutarium Erodium moschatum Geranium molle

Hypericaceae Hypericum perforatum

Iridaceae Iris sp. Sisyrinchium bellum

Juglandaceae Juglans hindsii

Lamiaceae Lamium amplexicaule Marrubium vulgare Trichostema lanceolatum

Lythraceae Lythrum hyssopifolia

Montiaceae Claytonia perfoliata Gourd Family California man-root

Sedge Family Nutsedge

Heath Family Common manzanita

Spurge Family Dove weed

Legume Family Miniature lotus

> Bicolored lupine California bur-clover Clover Sessile-headed clover Winter vetch

Oak Family Blue oak Valley oak Interior live oak

Geranium Family Long-beaked filaree Short-fruited storksbill Red-stemmed filaree

White-stemmed filaree Dove's-foot geranium St. John's-wort Family

Klamath weed

Iris Family Iris (horticultural) Blue-eyed grass

Walnut Family Northern California black walnut

Mint Family Giraffe heads Horehound Vinegar weed

Loosestrife Family Hyssop loosestrife

Miner's Lettuce Family Common miner's lettuce

CHECKLIST OF VASCULAR PLANT SPECIES OBSERVED

Papaveraceae

Eschscholzia californica

Plantaginaceae

Kickxia elatine Plantago lanceolata Veronica persica

Poaceae

Aira caryophyllea Avena barbata Avena fatua Bromus diandrus Bromus hordeaceus Bromus sterilis Cynosurus echinatus Festuca myuros Hordeum murinum Melica californica Nassella pulchra Poa bulbosa Sorghum halepense

Polygonaceae

Rumex crispus

Rosaceae Rubus armeniacus

Rubiaceae

Galium aparine Galium parisiense

Salicaceae

Populus fremontii subsp. fremontii Salix exigua Salix laevigata Salix lasiolepis

Sapindaceae Aesculus californica

Scrophulariaceae Verbascum blattaria

Themidaceae

Dichelostemma multiflorum Dipterostemon capitatum subsp. capitatum Triteleia laxa

Vitaceae Vitis californica Poppy Family California poppy

Plantain Family

Sharp-leaved fluellin English plantain Persian speedwell

Grass Family

Silver hairgrass Slender wild oats Wild oats Ripgut grass Soft chess Poverty brome Hedgehog dogtail Foxtail fescue Foxtail barley California melic Purple needlegrass Bulbous bluegrass Johnson grass

Buckwheat Family Curly dock

Rose Family Himalayan blackberry

Madder Family Cleavers Wall bedstraw

Willow Family Fremont cottonwood Sandbar willow Red willow Arroyo willow

Soapberry Family California buckeye

Snapdragon Family Moth mullein

Brodiaea Family Round-toothed ookow Blue dicks Ithuriel's spear

Grape Family Wild grape