



An Employee-Owned Company

August 26, 2020

Mr. Chris Brennen
City of San Diego
Mitigation Monitoring and Coordination Office, MS 1102B
9601 Ridgehaven Court, Suite 220
San Diego, CA 92123

Reference: Post Monitoring and Western Burrowing Owl Survey Results California Terraces Planning Area
61 Project Survey Area (RECON Number 4135-1)

Dear Mr. Brennen:

This letter serves as notification for completion of western burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia hypugaea*) pre-construction surveys and construction monitoring for the California Terraces Planning Area 61 Project (project) (Project Number 648290). The project area is located in the city of San Diego, south of Otay Mesa Road, north of State Route 905 (SR-905), and east of the Caliente Avenue. The project area is found in Section 35, Township 18 South, Range 1 West, of the U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute topographic map, Otay Mesa quadrangle, and City of San Diego (City), Engineering and Development, City 800' scale map, Number 146-1761. The project area lies on assessor's parcel number 645-080-16-00.

RECON Environmental Inc. (RECON) provided biological construction monitoring for the project, including pre-construction surveys and twice-weekly construction monitoring during the grading activities. In addition to biological construction monitoring, RECON biologist Alex Fromer attended the pre-construction kick-off meeting on February 12, 2020. Before the start of construction, RECON prepared and submitted a letter of retention to the City Mitigation Monitoring Coordinator on January 14, 2020. The letter described the proposed monitoring schedule and included permit details and the biological construction monitoring exhibit.

Pre-construction Surveys

Prior to the start of construction, RECON biologist Alex Fromer conducted two surveys for burrowing owl within the survey area. The first was conducted on February 12, 2020, 14 days prior to the start of grading. The second was conducted on February 25, 2020, 24 hours prior to the start of grading.

Surveys consisted of walking meandering transects throughout the entire project area. In addition, any potentially suitable burrows were identified and inspected for sign. Suitable habitat within 450 feet of the project area was carefully surveyed using binoculars.

No burrowing owl was detected within the project area or within 450 feet of the project area. While several potentially suitable burrows were identified within the project area, no burrowing owl sign was observed.

Construction Monitoring

RECON biologists Alex Fromer and Katy Chappaz conducted twice-weekly construction monitoring during grading beginning on February 27, 2020. Construction monitoring continued throughout the grading period, concluding on April 30, 2020.

Surveys consisted of walking meandering transects throughout the entire project area when possible. As grading activities were often in progress while surveys were conducted, not all portions of the project area

Mr. Chris Brennen
Page 2
August 26, 2020

were directly accessible. In these cases, the inaccessible areas were carefully surveyed using binoculars in order to maintain a safe distance from heavy equipment while conducting visual surveys. Any potentially suitable burrows were identified and inspected for sign. Suitable habitat within 450 feet of the project area was also carefully surveyed using binoculars.

No burrowing owl was detected within the project area or within 450 feet of the project area during grading activities. No potentially suitable burrows were identified and no burrowing owl sign was observed within the project area during construction.

If you have any questions, please contact me at afromer@reconenvironmental.com, (619) 308-9333 extension 193.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alex Fromer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "A" and a stylized "F".

Alex Fromer
Biologist