

Ibaraki, Kathlyn S.

Sent: Friday, October 5, 2018 2:43 PM
To: kristeen@scwildlands.org
Subject: RE: Following Up on Our Meeting of Yesterday

Hi Kristeen,

I don't know the answer to your question. But I will send the shapefile over to you once Jose sends it to me so you can check the areas you're asking about. The instruction he had was to fill in the holes within the boundaries of the linkages in your shapefile, (including those within the SC River).

From: kristeen@scwildlands.org <kristeen@scwildlands.org>
Sent: Friday, October 05, 2018 2:13 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: Following Up on Our Meeting of Yesterday

Hey there Shelley,

Did the revisions include incorporating existing protected areas as part of the linkage design? When we added habitat to the Least Cost Union to support the needs of other focal species, the intent was to build off of existing protected areas. I'm thinking mainly along Mount Clef Ridge, the Santa Clara River and Happy Camp.

Best,
Kristeen

From: "Sussman, Shelley" <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Sent: Friday, October 5, 2018 1:49 PM
To: "kristeen@scwildlands.org" <kristeen@scwildlands.org>
Cc: "Whitney Wilkinson" <wwilkinson@reconenvironmental.com>, "Uhlich, Kim" <Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org>, "Moreno, Jose" <Jose.Moreno@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: Following Up on Our Meeting of Yesterday

Hi Kristeen,

Thank you very much for willingness to work with us on these remaining mapping issues. Your historical knowledge and expertise have been really valuable. Without going into too many administrative details, I needed to work with our GIS staff here today on "filling in the holes" to keep to our schedule for public notice. Therefore, you don't need to spend any more time on that task for our purposes. We used the shapefile that you sent us most recently as a starting point. As we discussed on our call this week, we filled in the interior holes, (including those along the Santa Clara River channel) and added the Ventura River, (using the County's Wildlife Corrido layer).

It would still be really helpful, as Kim Uhlich explained in her email yesterday, to have a letter from you explaining that the map amendments are consistent with the intent of the original model, why the Ventura River was not included in your original linkage design, and why formally including it is justified.

Thanks again!
Shelley

From: kristeen@scwildlands.org <kristeen@scwildlands.org>

Sent: Friday, October 05, 2018 10:01 AM

To: Uhlich, Kim <Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org>

Cc: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>; Whitney Wilkinson <wwilkinson@reconenvironmental.com>

Subject: re: Following Up on Our Meeting of Yesterday

Hey there Kim, Shelley, and Whitney

No problem, this is such an exciting project!

I started working on the GIS layer yesterday afternoon. It will take a bit more time than I originally thought but I estimate I can get it completed by close of business on Monday. Does that work? I'm also happy to provide a letter as requested but won't be able to get to that for another week or so.

Most of our work has been consulting rather than grant based over the last few years, so if there are any discretionary funds to support a few days of work that would be grand. If not, no worries.

Best,
Kristeen

From: "Uhlich, Kim" <Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org>

Sent: Thursday, October 4, 2018 2:02 PM

To: "kristeen@scwildlands.org" <kristeen@scwildlands.org>

Cc: "Sussman, Shelley" <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>, "Whitney Wilkinson" <wwilkinson@reconenvironmental.com>

Subject: Following Up on Our Meeting of Yesterday

Greetings Kristeen,

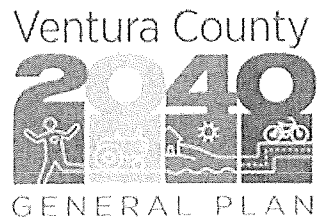
Thank you again for your time on the phone yesterday.

Since then, we have reviewed the mapping issues with management and have decided to follow your recommendation (i.e., use the SC Linkages maps with the internal 'holes' filled in and add the lower reach of the Ventura River). Is your offer to create a new map for us by modifying portions of the two Linkages maps which overly Ventura County to conform with the above description? If so, would you kindly provide an estimate of when you could complete this map?

Also, if you have time and feel comfortable doing so, our legal counsel has advised us to request a letter from you (as an author of the Missing Linkages reports) explaining the justification for making the map amendments requested herein. In particular, if you agree that the requested amendments are consistent with the intent of the original model, it would be most helpful if you could state as such. As for the Ventura River justification, we think it would be valuable to have a written explanation as to why the lower Ventura River corridor was not included in the scope of the Linkages studies and why you think it nevertheless merits inclusion based on your professional knowledge of the area and certain aquatic fauna.

Please call Shelley if you have questions.

Thank you so much,
Kim Uhlich, MPA | Senior Planner
Residential Permits Section
Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org



Ventura County Resource Management Agency | Planning Division

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Visit the Planning Division website at vcrma.org/planning

Ventura County General Plan Update. Join the conversation at VC2040.org

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Pursuant to the California Public Records Act, email messages retained by the County may constitute public records subject to disclosure.

Excerpts From Public Records Act Request 2

Denise Kamradt
GIS Specialist
Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area
National Park Service
401 W Hillcrest Dr
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360
E-mail: denise_kamradt@nps.gov
Phone: 805-370-2337
Fax: 805-370-1850

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Uhlich, Kim** <Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org>
Date: Thu, Sep 7, 2017 at 2:10 PM
Subject: Ventura County RMA Habitat Connectivity Project
To: "denise_kamradt@nps.gov" <denise_kamradt@nps.gov>
Cc: "Sussman, Shelley" <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>

Hello Denise,

I have begun working with Shelley Sussman, Whitney Wilkinson and Abigail Convery on the Ventura County RMA Habitat Connectivity project. I am looking forward to attending the LIA meeting scheduled for October 25th and meeting the participants. Currently, Shelley and I are evaluating potential non-coastal zoning ordinance standards to require wildlife permeable fencing on lots within wildlife movement corridors. In reviewing recent results of a survey of the LIA group members pertaining to direct physical barriers to wildlife movement (e.g., fencing), it appears that the members overwhelmingly identified nonpermeable fencing as a "critical" problem. We have also reviewed documents regarding wildlife friendly fencing from various western states such as Montana and understand the potential hazards that exist for ungulates and other large mammals on open rangelands. However, we are aware of no direct evidence indicating that this is a significant problem on Ventura County rangeland or farmland. Since others in the LIA group are vastly more knowledgeable than we are on this subject, it would be helpful to get a deeper, more thorough understand of their rationale for rating it as "critical." In a perfect world, we would wait until the October meeting to ask the group members. Unfortunately, our timeline is tight and we need the feedback as soon as possible. Would you be so kind as to forward this to the members on our behalf?

We would greatly appreciate receiving just a few sentences from each member to clarify the basis for their ranking.

Thanks very much,

Kim Uhlich, MPA | Planner IV
Residential Permits Section
Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org

From: Mark Ogonowski
To: Wilkinson, Whitney; Convery, Abigail
Subject: Interesting refs
Date: Tuesday, August 08, 2017 11:23:19 AM
Attachments: Delaney-2010-PLOS-RapidResponseHabitatFragmentationFourVertebrates.pdf
McClure-2013-ProcRoyalSocB-EffectTrafficNoiseOnBirds-PhantomRoad.pdf

Hey guys,

Didn't have time to do any serious digging but I thought you might find the attached articles of interest at some point, one relates to noise and the other to genetic effects of fragmentation from development. See you in a bit.

-Mark

Mark Ogonowski
Fish and Wildlife Biologist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
2493 Portola Road, Suite B
Ventura, California 93003
805.677.3350
mark_ogonowski@fws.gov

From: Prillhart, Kim
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2017 3:25 PM
To: Stephens, Chris <Chris.Stephens@ventura.org>; Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>; Convery, Abigail <Abigail.Convery@ventura.org>; Wilkinson, Whitney <Whitney.Wilkinson@ventura.org>; Maier, Tricia

<Tricia.Maier@ventura.org>; Downing, Clay <clay.downing@ventura.org>; Curtis, Susan <Susan.Curtis@ventura.org>

Subject: Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridor Meeting Announcement - August 8

Hello,

The County of Ventura will be hosting a meeting to continue the discussion we started in June about habitat connectivity and wildlife movement corridors. We will discuss native vegetation, habitat fragmentation and chokepoints, and provide an update on proposed approaches for fencing and lighting. **The meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 8, 2017 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Ventura County Government Center in the Pacific Conference Room.** This is the same conference room that was used for the June 8, 2017 meeting. (See attached map). Attendance at the meeting is by invitation only and seating in the conference room is limited. If you are unable to attend, please feel free to identify a designee to attend in your place.

Please RSVP by August 2 by contacting Meighan Batinica at meighan.batinica@ventura.org or 805.654.2478. If you have any questions about the meeting, please contact me at 805.654.2481 or Shelley Sussman at 805.654.2493 or shelley.sussman@ventura.org.

Additional project information is available on our webpage.

<http://vcrma.org/planning/plans/Habitat-Connectivity-Wildlife-Movement-Corridors.html>

We look forward to seeing you on August 8.

Kim

Kim L. Prillhart, AICP Planning Director

Kim.Prillhart@ventura.org

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From: Wilkinson, Whitney

To: Hidalgo, Gerardo L CIV USARMY CESPL (US)

Subject: FW: Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridor Meeting Announcement - August 8

Date: Tuesday, July 25, 2017 4:01:00 PM

Attachments: VC Government Center Map.pdf

image001.png

image003.png

Hi Jerry,

I wanted to reach out and invite you to a stakeholder meeting to get input on the Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridor Project the County is developing. The mapped wildlife habitat linkages in Ventura County encompass the Ventura and Santa Clara River corridors and we are also looking at additional protections for drainages beyond Corps jurisdiction. If you, or anyone in your office is interested in attending, or if you would like more info other than what is below, please let me know. Thanks!

From: Blankenship, Daniel@Wildlife

To: Wilkinson, Whitney; Meyer, Mary@Wildlife

Cc: Sussman, Shelley; Convery, Abigail

Subject: RE: Fencing and roads question

Date: Monday, July 10, 2017 4:17:49 PM

Attachments: image001.png

image002.png

Hi Whitney,

The post relates to more rural areas in my opinion. Craig was referencing (HWY 49 a little different though) long highways bisecting migratory deer herd areas. Working with NPS and our CDFW Wildlife Program staff we understand highway areas in Ventura County that need non-permeable fences to help direct wildlife to undercrossing as you all may be aware of the NPS/Caltrans type projects. For the Ventura wildlife corridor project, once the general boundaries are identified it would be good (I think a meeting is coming up) to have NPS and others in to discuss data sets that show crossing issues that may need fence type fixing. The wildlife permeable fencing are definitely needed too in areas where we want wildlife to cross and not livestock or OHVs.

Hope this helps.

Dan

Daniel S. Blankenship

Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist)

Habitat Conservation Planning - North

CA Department of Fish and Wildlife

South Coast Region

P.O. Box 802619

Santa Clarita, CA 91380-2619

O 661-259-3750

C 858-354-4114

Daniel.Blankenship@wildlife.ca.gov
Every Californian should conserve water. Find out how at:
SaveOurWater.com · Drought.CA.gov

From: Wilkinson, Whitney [mailto:Whitney.Wilkinson@ventura.org]
Sent: Monday, July 10, 2017 3:02 PM
To: Meyer, Mary@Wildlife <Mary.Meyer@wildlife.ca.gov>; Blankenship, Daniel@Wildlife <Daniel.Blankenship@wildlife.ca.gov>
Cc: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>; Convery, Abigail <Abigail.Convery@ventura.org>
Subject: Fencing and roads question

Hi Dan and Mary,

We are hoping to gather info on wildlife permeable fencing for the development of ordinance standards for our wildlife corridor project. I came across this post (below) and was hoping you could share your thoughts on whether this line of thinking (only needing fencing in critical wildlife crossing areas) is applicable to Ventura County as well. Here is the article: <https://californiaoutdoorsqas.com/2014/07/24/protecting-wildlife-with-highway-fences/>

Thanks!

Whitney Wilkinson, MESM | Planning Biologist
Residential Permits Section
Whitney.Wilkinson@Ventura.org

From: Henke, James@DOT [mailto:james.henke.jr@dot.ca.gov]
Sent: Friday, June 23, 2017 6:45 AM
To: Wilkinson, Whitney <Whitney.Wilkinson@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: Request- Wildlife Crossing Guidance Manual
Good morning Whitney. The Wildlife Crossing Guidance Manual is attached. Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.
-Jim

James P. Henke
Senior Endangered Species and Wildlife Biologist
Caltrans Headquarters Office of Biological Studies
1120 N Street, MS 27
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 653-6121
james.henke.jr@dot.ca.gov

From: Wilkinson, Whitney [mailto:Whitney.Wilkinson@ventura.org]
Sent: Thursday, June 22, 2017 12:26 PM
To: Henke, James@DOT <james.henke.jr@dot.ca.gov>
Subject: Request- Wildlife Crossing Guidance Manual

Hi Jim,

I was hoping to get a copy of the Wildlife Crossing Guidance Manual and any other info listed on this website:
http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/env/bio/wildlife_crossings.htm
Ventura County is beginning a wildlife habitat connectivity project and we are hoping to gather a bunch of resources.
Thanks

Whitney Wilkinson, MESM | Planning Biologist
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Whitney.Wilkinson@Ventura.org
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Ventura County General Plan Update. Join the conversation at VC2040.org
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From: "Wilkinson, Whitney" <Whitney.Wilkinson@ventura.org>
Sent: Monday, April 17, 2017 1:42 PM
To: "Riley, Seth" <seth_riley@nps.gov>, "kristeen@scwildlands.org" <kristeen@scwildlands.org>
Cc: "Convery, Abigail" <Abigail.Convery@ventura.org>, "Sussman, Shelley" <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>

Subject: Ventura County Wildlife Linkage- Chokepoint Identification

Hi Seth and Kristeen,

Abigail and I are getting started on some of the analysis for the wildlife movement and habitat connectivity program. As you may know, the VC Board of Supervisors directed staff in January to move forward with the development of the program. This includes, among other things, identifying the chokepoints within the linkages mapped by the South Coast Missing Linkages project. We've taken a cursory look at noting where the linkages are particularly narrow, but know identifying a chokepoint is much more complex than just that. For instance, we likely need to be looking at topography, vegetative cover, adjacent land uses, etc. We are hoping the two of you might be interested in meeting with us to discuss how to go about identifying the chokepoints and what criteria or conditions we should use to determine exactly what is a chokepoint. We would also appreciate any resources or literature we should be reviewing to help us determine what criteria or methods contribute to the determination that a given area is a chokepoint.

If you are interested, please send us some dates and times you might be available in the next few weeks to meet or have a call. We would also appreciate any resources you know of that might help us determine what factors contribute to a chokepoint. Also, if you think others should be a part of the discussion, let us know we should be contacting.

Thanks!

Whitney Wilkinson, MESM | Planning Biologist

Residential Permits Section

Whitney.Wilkinson@Ventura.org

From: Wilkinson, Whitney

To: zephyr98

Subject: Re: FW: ***Save the date *** Ventura County Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Movement Corridors Board of Supervisors Public Meeting - January 24, 2017 at 1:30

Date: Thursday, January 12, 2017 8:33:00 AM

Linkages are wildlife habitat features that connect larger blocks of habitat with one another on a

regional scale. In Ventura County, the main linkages connect the Santa Monica Mountains to the

Los Padres National Forest. These linkages allow wildlife to move to different areas of the County to access resources needed for survival. These linkages were mapped in a study called the South Coast Missing Linkages, check it out:

<http://www.scwildlands.org/reports/SCMLRegionalReport.pdf>

Here are some links for more information:

http://planning.lacounty.gov/sea/regional_habitat_linkages_and_wildlife_corridors/

http://planning.lacounty.gov/sea/local_and_site_specific_habitat_linkages_and_wildlife_corridors

<http://smmc.ca.gov/WCCA.asp>

<http://conservationcorridor.org/the-science-of-corridors/>

<http://conservationcorridor.org/corridor-toolbox/websites/>

Thanks for your interest

From: Convery, Abigail [<mailto:Abigail.Convery@ventura.org>]

Sent: Friday, January 13, 2017 11:34 AM

To: Mark Ogonowski; Wilkinson, Whitney; Finley, Kari

Cc: Collette Thogerson; Chris Dellith; Lara Drizd; Rowan, Rosemary

Subject: RE: ***Save the date *** Ventura County Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Movement Corridors Board of Supervisors Public Meeting - January 24, 2017 at 1:30

Hi Mark,

I personally think it would be great if it was read at the hearing, but that is Kari's call. I know Kim mentioned something about giving agencies a bit longer block of time than the 3 minutes the public gets.. Did Kari get back to you personally?

It will be good to see you all there!

Abi

From: Convery, Abigail

Sent: Tuesday, January 17, 2017 12:48 PM

To: 'Mark Ogonowski' <mark_ogonowski@fws.gov>; Wilkinson, Whitney <Whitney.Wilkinson@ventura.org>; Finley, Kari <Kari.Finley@ventura.org>

Cc: Collette Thogerson <collette_thogerson@fws.gov>; Chris Dellith <chris_dellith@fws.gov>; Lara Drizd <lara_drizd@fws.gov>; Rowan, Rosemary <Rosemary.Rowan@ventura.org>; 'Emma Pelton' <emma.pelton@xerces.org>

Subject: RE: ***Save the date *** Ventura County Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Movement Corridors Board of Supervisors Public Meeting - January 24, 2017 at 1:30

Hi Mark,

That would be helpful! Either Kari or Rosemary will get back to you about the speaker schedule (Kari is out for jury duty today).

No, this hearing is not going to address Monarch overwintering sites. You are correct in assuming we will be dealing with the details of monarch conservation within the ESHA update.

However, if Xerces or USFWS would like to include any discussion associated with the importance of corridors and pollination and or the overall health of overwintering sites.. that would be great! I am thinking a general overall reference just outlining how they are tied to corridors. The pollination connection would be good for the ag opposition we are expecting to have. ESHA will not be happening until later this year, but when the time comes we would love to have your support and I will be in contact with all of you.

Yes to addressing the letter to Clerk of the Board. Please also cc Kari on that... she wants to make sure she has a copy of all the comment letters.

Looking forward to seeing you all!

Abi

From: Wilkinson, Whitney

To: Seth Riley

Subject: Board Letter for Wildlife Corridor Meeting

Date: Saturday, January 21, 2017 3:18:39 PM

Attachments: HCOZ Final Board Letter.PDF

Hi Seth,

Attached is the Board Letter with more detail on what the County might do as part of the wildlife corridor Project. I would perhaps focus on the mountain lions, their need for large home ranges and dispersal and how they try to avoid human populated areas. A simple example of the importance of maintaining genetic diversity would also be great. I recall hearing a great example from you or Jeff about your work doing genetic testing that showed how freeways (SR 118 or SR23) had bifurcated a population of bobcats or coyotes. Hope this helps!

From: Anna Huber

To: ClerkoftheBoard, ClerkoftheBoard

Cc: Wilkinson, Whitney

Subject: Ventura County Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Movement Corridors Board of Supervisors Public Meeting - January 24, 2017

Date: Monday, January 23, 2017 4:37:52 PM

Attachments: Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Movement Program Support Letter - BoS 20170123.pdf

To All Concerned,

Attached, please find our letter of support.

Thank you,

Anna Huber

Assistant Planner

2100 Thousand Oaks Blvd.,

Thousand Oaks, CA 91362

(805) 449-2329

From: Marek, Jenny

To: Finley, Kari

Cc: Mark Ogonowski; Lara Drizd; Jeff Phillips; Abigail Convery; Wilkinson, Whitney

Subject: SCR Trustee Council Support for Ventura County Habitat Connectivity & Wildlife Movement Program

Date: Tuesday, January 24, 2017 12:52:26 PM

Attachments: Ventura County Conservation Parcel Split Ordinance Information.pdf

Hi Kari,

Below are comments that I intend to provide to the Board of Supervisors at today's 1:30 session. I've also attached a flyer from the conservation parcel split ordinance program, referenced in the letter.

Chairman Zaragoza, Members of the Board, thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.

My name is Jenny Marek and I am a biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. I am here today on behalf of the Santa Clara River Trustee Council to express our support to the Board of Supervisors for adoption of the proposed Regional Wildlife Corridors, and to support a broad array of planning tools to protect these corridors and facilitate wildlife movement throughout the landscape.

The Santa Clara River Trustee Council is comprised of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and is responsible for conducting habitat restoration in the Santa Clara River using Natural Resource Damage Assessment settlement funds from two oil spills that impacted the River in the 1990s.

One of our top restoration goals is to keep the Santa Clara River a natural free flowing river, connected with its floodplain that provides such rich habitat value to a wide array of wildlife. Ventura County has been a phenomenal partner in the conservation of the Santa Clara River, and has developed innovative tools to promote conservation, such as the Conservation Parcel Split Ordinance, that was supported and funded by the Trustee Council. This ordinance provides an exemption from minimum lot size requirements in situations where property owners would like to keep a portion of the property, and sell a portion of the property for conservation.

We also support agriculture as a compatible land use in various areas of the Santa Clara River floodplain, and an important component of the protection of this River. The agricultural floodplain easement program developed by The Nature Conservancy and supported by the SCR Trustee Council is another important tool to provide incentives for agricultural land owners to keep farming in the floodplain, with the understanding that the river may periodically scour some of their land. Growers have the right to reclaim that land for farming after flood waters have subsided.

We encourage the Board of Supervisors to adopt the broad array of planning tools, outlined in Option 1, to promote further innovative land use solutions that benefit both the protection of wildlife and the sustainable development of our community.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide these comments.

Thank you,

Jenny

Jenny Marek

Environmental Contaminants & NRDAR Coordinator
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ventura Field Office
2493 Portola Road, Suite B

Ventura, California 93003
(805) 644-1766 ext. 325
(805) 402-6612 (24 hr. spill response)
jenny_marek@fws.gov

From: Mark Ogonowski
To: Finley, Kari; Convery, Abigail; Wilkinson, Whitney; Rowan, Rosemary; Prillhart, Kim
Cc: Jenny Marek; Lara Drizd; Chris Dellith; Collette Thogerson; mark_ogonowski@fws.gov
Subject: Great job
Date: Wednesday, January 25, 2017 11:09:21 AM
VC Team,

I again wanted to commend you all on your preparation and delivery yesterday including your handling of questions!!! Great job, and it was good after all was said (much was said!) to see the Board recommend going forward with Option 1. We look forward to helping further. Please pardon me a couple of added thoughts (you know this topic is dear to my heart):

One comment about process. As was evident from Seth Riley and my (Jenny excluded - she was dialed in) efforts to compress technical information into 2' of comment time, that format works ok for letting people offer brief statements, but poorly for technical experts to present information and analysis. Is there any way for future such hearings to offer more space for agency folks? Perhaps via Planning staff inviting outside experts (I use the term loosely in my case!) to address specific topics before the Board?

Also was wondering if there is a mechanism for knowledgeable audience members to respond to BOS questions directed to staff, e.g. by staff request? As someone who has developed linkage models using the same methodology used by SC Missing Linkages, I was squirming to respond to Board questions about the validity of the corridor polygons, but didn't know how to help without seeming out of line.

One more thing I didn't get to state yesterday that I had wanted to: I don't believe the BOS realizes that Option 1, while the best of the three offered from a conservation perspective, is likely *still* not protective enough to provide the best chance of conserving VC's linkages, absent acquisition of land or conservation easements from willing sellers or creation of mitigation banks in key areas (in particular the Tierra Rejada Valley). If I had a couple more minutes, I was going to suggest that the County explicitly link Planning's Connectivity regulatory effort with Linda Parks' Open Space Initiative to explore this aspect -- especially since this could make open space protection more attractive to some landowners who currently may see what you're developing as negative. My 25 cents, as usual. Again our thanks for your efforts and for giving the Service the opportunity to participate.

-Mark

Mark Ogonowski
Fish and Wildlife Biologist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
2493 Portola Road, Suite B
Ventura, California 93003
805.644.1766 ext. 370
mark_ogonowski@fws.gov

From: Michelle Danna <mdanna@cityofcamarillo.org>
Sent: Thursday, February 2, 2017 3:46 PM
To: Rowan, Rosemary
Subject: Status of Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Movement Corridors Project
Hello Rosemary!

Hope all is well with you. I am now working for the City of Camarillo and wanted to follow up with

you on the Board item from last week: Preferred Regulatory Options for Addressing Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Movement Corridors. The City is interested in the County's work on this important project, especially as it relates to the 338 acres of land within the southeastern portion of Camarillo.

Can you please clarify these items for me?

1. I understand that the Board voted in favor of having staff proceed with work on this project.

Can you please confirm for me that the Board directed staff to move forward with Option 1?

2. Also, was any timing discussed with the Board and/or any expectation for staff to bring back information by a specific date?

3. We would like to be kept in the loop on this project. Is the City of Camarillo on the Interested Parties List (or other Notification List) for this project? If not, please add Joseph Vacca, Director of Community Development, 601 Carmen Drive, Camarillo, California 93010.

Also, Joseph Vacca, Director of Community Development, P.O. Box 248, Camarillo, CA 93011-0248

Thank you so much.

Michelle

Michelle Glueckert D'Anna

Senior Planner, City of Camarillo

Community Development Department

601 Carmen Drive, Camarillo, California 93010

(805)388-5370

www.cityofcamarillo.org

City of Camarillo, CA

www.cityofcamarillo.org

CAMARILLO is a thriving community of over 66,000 in the heart of Ventura County and offers an appealing mixture of rural and suburban lifestyles.

From: Wilkinson, Whitney

To: Michelle Danna

Subject: RE: Fencing in Wildlife Corridors

Date: Wednesday, February 15, 2017 1:50:00 PM

Attachments: Wildlife Permeable Fencing Specifications.docx
Mitigation Measure Wildlife Permeable Fencing.docx
horse accessible gates no OHV.pdf

Sure thing, they are attached. We also have literature and reports on the issue of wildlife movement that may have more info on fencing specifically but I haven't been through all of them.

Let me know if there is anything else you are specifically looking for.

Is the City of Camarillo looking into incorporating wildlife permeable fencing standards for the areas in the corridors?

From: Michelle Danna [mailto:mdanna@cityofcamarillo.org]

Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2017 12:19 PM

To: Wilkinson, Whitney <Whitney.Wilkinson@ventura.org>

Subject: RE: Fencing in Wildlife Corridors

Both the mitigation language and the figures you referenced would be extremely useful. Thank you so much! ☺

Michelle

From: Wilkinson, Whitney [mailto:Whitney.Wilkinson@ventura.org]

Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2017 12:00 PM

To: Michelle Danna <mdanna@cityofcamarillo.org>

Subject: RE: Fencing in Wildlife Corridors

Hey Michelle,

We don't have any fencing standards in the NCZO that pertain to wildlife permeability, but I'm able to require these measures as mitigation measures or conditions on discretionary development. The wildlife connectivity project would be looking at, among other things, exactly that component fencing standards in the NCZO. Are you interested in the mitigation language? I also have some figures as well that depict fence and trailhead design that meet permeability requirements I can provide too.

Happy to help anytime with any info needed- hope your day is going well too!

From: Michelle Danna [mailto:mdanna@cityofcamarillo.org]

Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2017 11:20 AM

To: Wilkinson, Whitney <Whitney.Wilkinson@ventura.org>

Subject: Fencing in Wildlife Corridors

Hi Whitney!

Can you please remind about the County's requirements for fencing in wildlife corridors? I worked with Christina Danko, way back when, to incorporate fencing standards into a project within a wildlife corridor. There were pretty detailed requirements for fencing and I cannot remember if they stemmed from the NCZO or a separate document, and if they were "requirements" or just "guidelines." Would you mind pointing me in the right direction?

Thanks so much! Hope your day is going well. ☺

Michelle

Michelle Glueckert D'Anna

Senior Planner, City of Camarillo

Community Development Department

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Question 3



2016-02-02 Email Final General Plan Pending Projects
Instructions for HCOZUpdate Work Plan.pdBoard Letter.Final.pdf

Downing, Clay

From: Downing, Clay

Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2016 9:53 AM

To: Ted Holzem (ted@mintierharnish.com)

Cc: Curtis, Susan; Shelley Sussman (Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org); Kim Prillhart (Kim.Prillhart@ventura.org); Stephens, Chris (Chris.Stephens@ventura.org); Jim Harnish (jim@mintierharnish.com); Rosemary Rowan (Rosemary.Rowan@ventura.org)

Subject: VCGPU: Habitat Connectivity Overlay Zone information uploaded to Dropbox

Hello Ted,

Per instructions from Rosemary, I have uploaded information related to Task 8.3 of the Scope of Work (Wildlife Corridor

Connectivity Protection Overlay Zone) to Dropbox under a folder titled 16_Habitat Connectivity Overlay Zone-HCOZ. The

folder contains 6 sub-folders. Additionally, instructions from Rosemary for both Mintier Harnish and its designated subconsultant

biologist are below. Please let me or Rosemary know if you have any questions related to Task 8.3 or the information uploaded thus far. Best,

Clay Downing, MPPA I Planning Technician

clay.downing@ventura.org

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From: Rowan, Rosemary

Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 4:50 PM

To: Downing, Clay <clay.downing@ventura.org>

Cc: Curtis, Susan <Susan.Curtis@ventura.org>; Sussman, Shelley Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org

Directions to Consultant: Please let Ted know that we would like the consultant biologist to review this

material. However, the time spent on that review should be limited to 40 hours. We would also like the

biologist to prepare a short summary (3 page maximum) that describes the following:

- ☐ Work completed to-date
- ☐ Gaps or potential problems with existing draft amendments
- ☐ Outstanding tasks.

We will use the biologist's summary as a starting point for the County/consultant discussions on the Habitat

Connectivity Protection Zone project. Finally, please let the consultant biologist know that the County's

former Staff Biologist (Christina Danko) previously summarized the outstanding work needed for this project

(see file called "HCOZ_1" in the sub-folder called "Background and Policy Options").

Let me know if you, Ted, or the consultant has any questions or needs further direction.

Rosemary Rowan | Planning Manager

Long-Range Planning Section

rosemary.rowan@ventura.org

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VENTURA COUNTY GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

FINAL WORK PROGRAM

This General Plan Update work program outlines a series of logical phases and tasks, with information and community feedback from each step creating the foundation for the next step. Since the County has indicated that staff will take a lead role in preparing the Update, this work program reflects greater County staff involvement compared to a typical general plan update to that relies more on consultants. Staff seminars at the beginning of most phases of the project give County staff the background and information about what to expect and to confirm roles and responsibilities of the Consultant Team. In this work program “Consultants” refers to members of the Consultant Team assembled for the General Plan Update assigned to each task. This work program mirrors much of what is included in the Consultants contract for the General Plan Update, but is not the contract scope of work.

PHASE 1 PROJECT INITIATION

Task 1.1: Project Kick-off Meeting and County Tour

The Consultants will meet with County staff to review the County’s objectives for each project component and to discuss key issues of integration and consistency with existing and future plans and programs. The Consultants will work with County staff as part of this task to accomplish the following:

- Review and discuss overall format and organization of the General Plan Update products;
- Determine a typical review schedule needed by County staff for draft and final work products and a method by which comments should be compiled;
- Establish the roles and responsibilities of the staff and Consultants in preparing the General Plan, PEIR, and involvement in public outreach efforts;
- Identify all available GIS mapping data including its accuracy, status, and most recent update;
- Determine/confirm the planning area and community boundaries;
- Develop a detailed project schedule;
- Establish monthly status reporting and project status meeting protocols;
- Determine consultation and coordination of the General Plan Update with appropriate governmental agencies;
- Identify all water, wastewater, flood protection, and drainage service area providers (e.g., Special Districts, regional organizations, State and Federal agencies) within unincorporated areas of the county. Confirm service area boundaries and likely relationship to area plan boundaries.

County staff will lead a tour of the county for the Consultants and highlight areas of interest or places that are experiencing change or are expected to experience change and other geographic-based issues.

Staff Seminars

At the beginning of Phases 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, we will conduct seminars with staff to prepare for and define roles and responsibilities for that Phase. We will base these seminars on our three-day Do-It-Yourself General Plan™ training program which we have conducted for several California communities. Each seminar will include an initial presentation by the Consultants, work product examples, case studies, templates, and style guides. Following the presentation and overview of the materials, we will facilitate an extensive discussion between staff and the Consultants. At the end of each seminar, we will clarify roles and responsibilities for that Phase. This approach is similar to our highly successful Hayward General Plan Update program in which staff and consultants functioned as a fully integrated team. MIG, Ascent, ADE and KAI are all part of the Hayward team.

Task 1.2: Seminar #1: Community Engagement Program and Strategy

The Consultants will facilitate a seminar with staff about conducting public outreach and establishing the Community Engagement Program and Strategy. The seminar will cover the following topics:

- Creating a comprehensive contact database
- Identifying community connectors
- Using social media
- Setting up and using an online townhall forum
- Developing and maintaining the GPU project website
- Preparing community workshop exercises and conducting workshops
- Summarizing and confirming community input
- Forming and using Focus Groups
- The Planning Commission role, responsibilities, and work sessions
- Conducting Board of Supervisors study sessions
- Preparing and evaluating the public opinion survey
- Preparing email blasts and press releases
- Providing translation services

At the end of the seminar, staff and the Consultants will formulate the final community engagement strategy. The Consultants assume that County staff will be the “face of the project” and as such, will be primarily responsible for facilitating public meetings; the Consultants would provide technical support, outreach materials, and participate as needed. As a part of this first seminar, we will define and agree on roles and responsibilities. This step will likely require refinement to the remaining work program described below. For example, we include both the Consultants and staff as facilitating the Planning Commission work sessions. However, staff may wish to facilitate those sessions themselves, with Consultants attending only when necessary. We will work with staff to address this and other details of the work program.

Task 1.3 Develop Community Workshop Materials

The Consultants will develop three community outreach modules and materials to support three phases of the planning process. The purpose of the modules and materials will be to provide the project team—primarily County staff—with an outreach approach and supporting tools that are custom designed for each planning phase, and to support the education and engagement needs of stakeholders and community members. Additionally, the modules and materials will be flexible enough for different communities and/or stakeholders, as needed, but still maintain a baseline consistency in educational material and engagement topics.

Initially, the Consultants will design a recommended approach, presentation outline, and engagement tools for each module for review and approval by staff. We will then develop the full module for review and approval by staff. Materials will be designed for easy delivery and reproduction by staff. Additionally, we will design the engagement and input materials for simple and organized collection of community member input. Materials will include an instructional guide for staff, PowerPoint slideshow, agenda handout, comment card handout, and interactive exercise handouts (as needed).

The Consultants will lead three two-hour training sessions (one for each phase) with staff on how to conduct outreach with the modules and materials. The purpose of the training will be to orient County staff to the modules and materials, provide facilitation instruction and support, and identify any final refinements to the modules and materials, as needed. For each round of community outreach, the Consultants will attend the first community outreach meeting to observe/assist County staff members' delivery of the module. Following the first outreach meeting, the Consultants will assist in any additional refinements to the module and materials, as needed, and will provide feedback to County staff on the delivery approach for subsequent outreach meetings.

The Consultants could also serve as the lead facilitator of community outreach meetings. In this role the Consultants would serve as the “emcee” of each meeting, being responsible for managing time, the agenda, and community discussion/input. County staff would still serve in a prominent, community-facing role at the meetings, including delivering the presentations, serving as subject matter experts, leading small group discussions, interacting one-on-one with participants, recording input, and similar roles.

Task 1.4: Develop Final Work Program

Following the kick-off meeting and Community Engagement seminar, the Consultants will work with staff to confirm the final overall work program, budget, and detailed schedule for the project. This will include refining the scope of work, preparing a detailed project schedule, finalizing staff and Consultants roles and responsibilities, and developing a management structure that will ensure project deadlines are met and the update is completed on time and within the budget.

Task 1.5: Planning Commission Work Session #1

The Consultants and staff will facilitate the first work session of the Planning Commission. The Commission will function as the General Plan advisory body throughout the Update process. At this first meeting we will discuss the Commission's role and responsibilities and the final work program and schedule. The work program discussion will include a detailed description of each project phase, and how the overall program is expected to proceed. We will also facilitate a discussion about the community engagement strategy. The Planning Commission work sessions are expected to be less formal than regular Commission meetings and encourage active public participation.

Task 1.6: Create the Technical Advisory Committee and Facilitate Meetings

The Consultants will work with staff to create a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) consisting of staff from County agencies. The TAC will provide technical input and review of administrative draft documents throughout the General Plan Update. The TAC should consist of senior level staff from County departments, such as the Agricultural Commissioner's Office, Resource Management Agency, Environmental Health Division, Office of Emergency Services, Public Works Agency, Department of Airports, Health Care Agency, Human Services Agency, Fire Department, Sheriff's Office, and other applicable departments and agencies. The Consultants and staff will facilitate TAC meetings at key phases in the GPU process, including the Background Report; Issues, Assets, Opportunities, and Vision; Alternatives; General Plan preparation; and Draft PEIR.

Task 1.7: Form and Facilitate Focus Groups Meetings

The Consultants will work with the staff to create five Focus Groups to provide technical and policy input throughout the General Plan Update. Each Focus Group should consist of 10 to 12 members formed around the key General Plan topics. While we will work with staff to determine the exact topics covered by the Focus Groups, we imagine they could cover the following issue areas: Water, Agriculture/Open Space, Economic Development; Healthy Communities; Climate Change, and Transportation and Infrastructure.

The Consultants suggest five Focus Groups, but that could be increased or reduced. We envision members of the Focus Groups including representatives from existing County boards and commissions, as well as local and regional stakeholders with expertise in a given topic area.

We anticipate the Focus Groups meeting during four phases of the Project: Project Initiation; Background Report; Alternatives; and General Plan preparation. The Consultants and staff will facilitate the Focus Group meetings. The first meeting should cover the following topics:

- role and responsibilities of the Focus Groups;
- the General Plan Update work program and schedule; and
- a detailed discussion of the key City assets, issues, and opportunities that need to be addressed during the General Plan Update.

PHASE 2 BACKGROUND REPORT

Task 2.1: Seminar #2: Reconnaissance and Existing Conditions

The Consultants will facilitate a seminar with staff, including the TAC, which focuses on preparing the Background Report. The purpose of the seminar is to inform staff about the approach to and content of the Background Report, confirm the data needs list, and discuss the responsibilities of the TAC members for fulfilling the data needs request. The seminar will cover the following topics:

- Refining the data needs list
- Working with the TAC to gather information
- Confirming consultant/staff communication protocols
- Getting outside agencies and organizations to cooperate
- Preparing a GIS database, maps, and charts
- Drafting the Background Report
- Confirming content and level of detail
- Identifying key issues and findings
- Using the Background Report for the PEIR Environmental Setting
- Maintaining and updating the Background Report
- Reviewing the Administrative Draft Background Report

Task 2.2: GIS Database and Base Maps

The Consultants will work with staff to gather and format information for a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) database covering the county. The Consultants assume the County's GIS data is accurate and up to date for the purposes of the General Plan Update. If the database is incomplete or inaccurate, the Consultants will work with County staff and other agencies and organizations to refine the data.

The Consultants will prepare the base map for reports and display presentation, including establishing a uniform legend and title block for use on all maps prepared as part of the planning documents. The Consultants will develop all GIS data and mapping prepared for the General Plan Update consistent with County protocols and data formats to ensure easy integration into the County's information system.

The Consultants will work with County staff to establish assumptions for the land use database for the County. The Consultants and County will use the database developed for land use planning, identification of development constraints, and preparation of development estimates.

Task 2.3: Administrative Draft Background Report

The Consultants will inventory and document data and information on existing conditions in the county and regulations affecting development and resource management. We will highlight future opportunities and constraints and lay the groundwork for subsequent policy development. The Background Report will include maps, graphics, and photographs to illustrate trends and make information easy to understand. Each topic area of the report will be organized as follows:

- **Introduction** to the topic area, its planning implications, and why it is important to Ventura County.
- **Findings** important to the consideration of alternatives and policy development.
- **Regulatory Setting** that governs the topic discussed.
- **Existing Setting** that describes on-the-ground conditions in and around Ventura County.
- **Key Terms** used in the document.
- **References** for source documents, data, and individuals.

While the current Ventura County General Plan organizes background information in an appendix and uses the same structure as the four General Plan Elements, the Consultants recommend organizing the topics addressed in the Background Report in parallel to the organization of the Updated General Plan. Regardless of the organization and structure, the Background Report will cover, at a minimum, the following topics:

- Demographics and Employment
 - Population and Household Trends
 - Employment and Industry Trends
 - Population and Employment Projections
 - Economic Development
 - Regional Market Trends
 - Existing Labor Force Patterns
 - Agribusiness and Agri-tourism
 - Market Demand Measures for Different Land Uses
 - Recent Industry Employment Trends
 - Business-to-Business Transaction Patterns
- Land Use and Community Character
 - Planning Boundaries
 - Annexation and Development Trends
 - Existing Land Use
 - General Plan Land Use Designations
 - Area Plan Land Use Designations
 - Existing Zoning
 - Development Capacity
 - City Land Use Plans
 - Other Agency Plans
 - Military Institutions and Installations

- Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities
- Housing (to be prepared later near the end of the GPU Program)
- Transportation and Mobility
 - Roadways
 - Bikeways and Trails
 - Pedestrian Facilities
 - Transit Service (Bus/Rail)
 - Goods Movement (Truck/Rail)
 - Harbor Facilities
 - Aviation Facilities
 - Transportation Demand/System Management
 - Costs and Revenues for Major Improvements
- Public Facilities, Services, and Infrastructure
 - Water Supply, Treatment, and Delivery
 - Wastewater Collection and Treatment
 - Storm Drainage and Flood Protection
 - Solid and Hazardous Waste Disposal and Recycling
 - Utilities and Major Utility Corridors (gas, electric)
 - Telecommunications
 - Law Enforcement
 - Fire Protection
 - Emergency Services
 - Medical Services
 - Schools and Childcare
 - County Services
- Natural Resources
 - Water Resources (groundwater, surface water, desalinization)
 - Air Quality
 - Biological
 - Habitat/Wildlife Corridors
 - Agriculture
 - Open Space
 - Scenic Resources
 - Beaches and Dunes
 - Recreation
 - Mineral Resources
 - Energy Resources
 - Oil and Gas Resources
 - Cultural Resources
- Hazards and Safety
 - Seismic and Geologic

- Flood Hazards
 - Fire Hazards
 - Aviation Hazards
 - Hazardous Materials
 - Climate Change
 - Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory
 - Greenhouse Gas Forecasts and Reductions
 - Climate Change Effects and Impacts
 - Regional and Local Climate Action Plans and Programs
- Noise
 - Ground Transportation
 - Aircraft
 - Non-transportation Sources
- Health
 - Public health (obesity, asthma, chronic disease, etc.)
 - Access to healthy foods, parks, and recreation opportunities
 - Active transportation
 - Barriers to active and healthy lifestyles
 - Special needs population
 - Safe routes to schools
 - “Place-health” connections

Task 2.4: Public Review Draft Background Report

The Consultants will facilitate staff and TAC review of the Administrative Draft Background Report. While TAC members will be free to review the entire Report, they will be principally responsible for reviewing sections of the Report for which they provided data to assure that the information is complete and accurate. Staff will be responsible for providing the Consultants a single, consolidated set of comments in track changes. Following receipt of the comments, the Consultants will prepare a Screencheck Draft Background Report for staff to confirm the accuracy and completeness of the revisions. Following that review, the Consultants will prepare the Public Review Draft Background Report.

Task 2.5: Planning Commission Work Session #2

The Consultants and staff will facilitate a Planning Commission work session to present the Public Review Draft Background Report. The Consultants will prepare and present a summary of the Background Report key findings and input from the Focus Groups. Following the presentation, the Consultants will facilitate a discussion with the Planning Commission to gather input on and confirm key county assets, issues, and opportunities, which will inform Task 3.2.

Task 2.6: Newsletter: General Plan Update Overview

The Consultants will prepare a newsletter that presents the General Plan Update program and publicizes the first round of community workshops. This newsletter will also highlight the Assets, Issues, and Opportunities Summary Report.

Task 2.7: Community Workshops: Assets, Issues, and Opportunities

County staff will facilitate community workshops in conjunction with existing MAC meetings. The Consultants will prepare all of the workshop materials and meet with staff to review the materials and discuss workshop facilitation. If requested, the Consultants will attend the first one or two workshops to assist staff. The workshops will include an overview of the project and a description of why the general plan update is important. Staff will then conduct a series of interactive exercises. The Consultants will work with staff to develop the details of the exercises during Task 1.2. However, the workshops should provide participants with an opportunity to give the input on what they feel are the county's most important assets and opportunities for the future and what critical issues and topics should be addressed in the General Plan.

Task 2.8: Assets, Issues, and Opportunities Summary Report

The Consultants and County staff will prepare an Assets, Issues, and Opportunities Summary Report that highlights the key county issues and opportunities. We will base the summary on the major findings from the Background Report, the Public Opinion Survey, and public input gathered during the development of the General Plan Update Work Program.

PHASE 3: VISION AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Task 3.1: Seminar #3: Vision and Guiding Principles

The Consultants will facilitate a seminar with staff that focuses on the next step in the process: working with the community to create a vision for the future. The session will cover the following topics:

- What are the Vision and Guiding Principles?
- Types of Vision Statements
- Using the Vision and Guiding Principles in the Update
- Steps in preparing the Vision and Guiding Principles
- Working with Community Members
- Visioning Workshop Exercise Examples

At the end of the seminar the Consultants and staff will determine specific responsibilities and schedule for preparing the Vision and Guiding Principles.

Task 3.2: Community Workshops: Visioning

With Consultant support and assistance as needed, staff will facilitate a series of community workshops in conjunction with existing MAC meetings. Staff will present a summary of the Issues, Assets, and Opportunities and introduce the visioning exercises. Residents will identify values and build consensus on a few "big ideas" for Ventura County's future. This step will likely include a facilitated dialogue about the guiding principles that should form the foundation of the General Plan. Participants will discuss their vision for quality of life; mix of uses; open space protection; physical character and design; economic vitality; environmental quality and sustainability; and other characteristics of the county.

Task 3.3: Planning Commission Work Session #3

The Consultants and staff will facilitate a work session with the Planning Commission to review and discuss the results of the community workshops, Assets, Issues, and Opportunities Summary Report, and solicit feedback on the Draft Vision and Guiding Principles. The Planning Commission will provide feedback on both documents, which we will refine for public review.

Task 3.4: Draft Vision and Guiding Principles

The Consultants and staff will prepare the Draft Vision that represents the ideal future for the county, and a set of Guiding Principles that support the Vision and represent the County's core values. We will base the draft Vision and Guiding Principles on public input gathered during the development of the General Plan Update Work Program, as well as recent Countywide visioning efforts such as the Compact for a Sustainable Ventura County.

Task 3.5: Planning Commission Work Session #4

The Consultants and staff will facilitate a work session with the Planning Commission to review community workshop results and solicit feedback on the draft Vision and Guiding Principles.

Task 3.6: Board of Supervisors Study Session

The Consultants and staff will facilitate a study session with the Board of Supervisors to present input from the community workshops, Focus Groups, and Planning Commission; discuss the Assets, Issues, and Opportunities Summary Report; and refine the Draft Vision and Guiding Principles. This will also be an opportunity for the Consultants and staff to update the Board on the General Plan Update progress and schedule.

PHASE 4: EVALUATING ALTERNATIVES

The alternatives phase of the general plan update program typically develops and explores different options for how the County could grow in the future and how the general plan could address major policy issues. It provides an opportunity to facilitate discussions with community members, stakeholders, and decision-makers about land use alternatives and policy options. This provides the community with an opportunity to discuss pros and cons of different options, decide the best way to achieve the vision, and build consensus for a preferred land use alternative. This phase could provide the framework for future growth and development and establish the basis for the updated goals, policies, and implementation programs contained in the general plan.

However, Ventura County is unique compared to other counties because for many years it has guided growth and new development based on the Guidelines for Orderly Development and the various Save Open Space and Agricultural Resources (SOAR) initiatives. While the Guidelines for Orderly Development were developed and adopted by the County, cities, and LAFCo, and could be modified by those entities at any time, SOAR was put in place by the voters. Any change to SOAR requires a vote of the people. SOAR is widely supported by residents in the county. The current term for the County SOAR ends in 2020 and it is expected that a renewal initiative will be placed on the ballot sometime in the next few years (e.g., as soon as November 2016). Based on input from the stakeholder interviews conducted as part of the Work Program project, any significant changes to SOAR seem unlikely.

SOAR and the Guidelines for Orderly Development are important topics to consider with regard to the Alternatives phase. The Board of Supervisors has expressed little interest in revisiting the guidelines for Orderly Development. If the voters confirm that SOAR should be continued for another 20 or 30 years, there will be little rationale for conducting an Alternatives analysis that evaluates growth in unincorporated areas of the county outside areas covered by Area Plans. However, that does not mean there aren't important policy and development issues to be considered at this stage in the update process or land use alternatives in areas not covered by SOAR.

Depending on the results of the first three Phases of the project, there may be a need for developing focused land use alternatives for one or more of the existing 10 unincorporated communities that have area plans. Or, the County may want to consider a broader range of allowed land uses in the unincorporated agricultural and open space areas. For example, the County should expand the types of allowed uses in agricultural areas to include industrial-type processing facilities for agricultural products. This work scope assumes the development of a limited number of focus area land use alternatives. However, should the County determine at the end of Phase 3 that a land use alternatives analysis is unnecessary we will work with staff to revise this work scope to only address policy alternatives.

Task 4.1: Seminar #4: Alternatives

The Consultants will facilitate a seminar with staff that focuses on identifying and analyzing development constraints; developing, describing, modeling, and evaluating focus area land use and policy alternatives; and selecting a preferred land use alternative. The session will cover the following topics:

- Analyzing constraints and considerations
- Identifying focus areas
- Developing meaningful alternatives
- Establishing evaluation criteria
- Modeling the alternatives
- Evaluating and comparing alternatives
- Reviewing the alternatives and selecting a preferred alternative

At the end of the seminar, the Consultants and staff will determine specific responsibilities and schedule for drafting the Alternatives.

Task 4.2: Develop Land Use Alternative Concepts and Policy Option Topics

The Consultants and staff will develop alternative concepts for selected Focus Areas. This task will include an existing trends (i.e., implementation of the existing Area Plan) scenario and one or two alternative growth concepts per Focus Area. In addition to land use concepts, the Consultants and staff will identify policy option topics to address key programmatic issues and opportunities (e.g., alternative policy approaches guiding community expansion or establishing sustainable growth criteria). The Consultants and staff will review existing land use designations and develop a set of updated land use designations on which to base the land use alternative concepts. The land use designations will include allowed uses and standards of population density and building intensity, as well as guidelines for urban form. The designations will be illustrated with graphics and images to show the intended development outcome. The Consultants will provide technical analysis to estimate a balanced land supply for the different components of market demand through the planning horizon year.

Task 4.3: Alternatives Concept Report

The Consultants and staff will compile the land use alternatives concepts, policy option topics, and key issues into an Administrative Draft Alternatives Concept Report for TAC review. Following TAC review, we will revise the Alternatives Concepts to reflect suggested changes and publish the Alternatives Concept Report.

Task 4.4: Planning Commission Work Session #5

The Consultants and staff will facilitate a Planning Commission Work Session to present the Alternatives Concept Report, summarize Focus Group input, and solicit Planning Commission direction. We will ask the Planning Commission to provide feedback on the selection of focus areas, proposed evaluation criteria, the range of alternatives, and the policy option topics. Based on Planning Commission direction, the Consultants and staff will refine the land use alternatives concepts, policy option topics, and evaluation criteria and initiate the alternatives evaluation.

Task 4.5: Evaluate Growth Alternatives and Identify Policy Options

Using the Alternatives Concepts, the Consultants and staff will develop population and employment projections based on buildout of each alternative. The Consultants will evaluate the land use alternatives in terms of impacts on an identified set of topics, such as existing/programmed public facilities or networks, the natural environment, the economy, GHG emission reduction, and County finances. We will address the fiscal implications of each alternative in five-year increments within the 20-year planning horizon. The Consultants and staff will develop policy options to address identified key assets, issues, and opportunities.

Task 4.6: Traffic Model Forecasts

The Consultants will conduct a technical review of the VCTC traffic demand model and make reasonable adjustments to address model accuracy and specify the modeling steps required to remedy model inconsistencies/inaccuracies (if VCTC has completed the Traffic Model update at this point, adjustments are not likely to be necessary). The Consultants will use the modified VCTC model to perform circulation forecasts for the focus area land use alternatives. We will also perform future year buildout traffic operations analyses for each alternative, review future year LOS forecast results for reasonableness relative to existing conditions, and identify future deficiencies in the county.

Task 4.7: Alternatives Report

The Consultants will compile the alternatives evaluation and policy options into an Administrative Draft Alternatives Report for staff review. Following internal staff review, we will revise the Alternatives Report to reflect changes directed by staff and produce and publish the Alternatives Report.

Task 4.8: Planning Commission Work Session #6

The Consultants and staff will present the Alternatives Report to the Planning Commission for review and discussion. We will revise the Report based on Planning Commission direction.

Task 4.9: Newsletter: Alternatives

The Consultants will prepare a newsletter summarizing the Land Use Alternatives and policy options. The newsletter will include a summary of population projections based on land use buildout and specific impact on existing/programmed public facilities or networks, impact on the natural environment, and fiscal implications for each Alternative. It will also summarize key assets, issues, and opportunities, and describe policy options to address the identified topics.

Task 4.10: Community Workshops: Alternatives

With Consultant support and assistance as needed, staff will facilitate a series of community workshops in conjunction with existing MAC meetings. These workshops will give County residents the opportunity to review alternative futures for Ventura County, provide input on a Preferred Land Use Alternative for the community, and discuss policy preferences for the General

Plan. At the conclusion of the workshops, the Consultants and staff will summarize the workshop results and post them on the General Plan Update website.

Task 4.11: Planning Commission Work Session #7

The Consultants and staff will facilitate a Planning Commission work session to review the Community Workshop results and discuss the alternatives analysis, and select a preferred land use alternative for each focus area and preferred policy options. The Planning Commission will make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors on the preferred focus area land use alternatives and preferred policy options.

Task 4.12: Board of Supervisors Study Session

The Consultants and staff will facilitate a Study Session with the Board of Supervisors and summarize the Alternatives Report and input from the community workshops and the Planning Commission recommendations. We will also present a summary of input received on the Vision, Guiding Principles, and General Plan. The Board of Supervisors will provide direction on preferred focus area land use alternatives and preferred policy options.

Task 4.13: Preferred Alternative

Based on direction from the Board of Supervisors, the Consultants and staff will prepare a Preferred Alternative land use diagram and description, as well as a set of preferred policy options to address identified assets, issues, and opportunities.

PHASE 5: PREPARING THE GENERAL PLAN

Task 5.1: Seminar #5: Preparing the General Plan

The Consultants will facilitate a seminar with staff that focuses on preparing the General Plan goals, policies, and implementation programs. The seminar will cover the following topics:

- Evaluating the existing General Plan
- Choosing a format
- Preparing the introduction
- Revising existing goals, policies, and programs
- Drafting new goals and policies
- Developing the implementation programs
- Integrating GHG emission reduction policies and programs
- Classifying policies according to implementation method
- Revising the land use and circulation diagrams
- Refining and integrating the Area Plans

At the end of the seminar, the Consultants and staff will determine specific responsibilities and schedule for drafting the General Plan and refining the Area Plans. We will also agree on the General Plan structure, format, and contents.

Task 5.2: Evaluate Existing General Plan

The Consultants and staff will conduct a detailed evaluation of the existing General Plan strengths and weaknesses and the efficiency and effectiveness of its policies and implementation programs. Building on evaluation efforts started during the

General Plan Update Work Program, County staff will detail the experience working with the existing General Plan and prioritize a list of major policy issues. The Consultants will facilitate a meeting with the TAC to discuss the review of the goals, policies, and programs using the General Plan Evaluation Checklist, a proprietary tool developed by the Consultants. The evaluation will address the following topics:

- **Execution.** Indicate whether the policy or implementation program was achieved or carried out.
- **Clarity.** Assess the clarity of the language and its ability to be interpreted to meet its intended purpose. A frequent impediment to implementing a policy or implementation program is wording that does not provide clear direction.
- **Progress.** Assess whether implementation of the policy or implementation program is capable of being monitored. The policy may not be written to provide enough direction or may not be monitored effectively.
- **Outcome.** Indicate whether the policy or implementation program resulted in the desired outcome and achieved the objectives of the General Plan.
- **Continuation.** Indicate whether the goal, policy, or implementation program should be carried forward into the updated General Plan.
- **Current.** Indicate whether the goal, policy, or implementation program already adequately addresses the issues and opportunities the county is currently facing.
- **Modification.** Provide additional recommendations on how the goal, policy, or implementation program should be modified to provide better direction or address current issues and trends.

Task 5.3: Prepare the Administrative Review Draft General Plan

The Consultants and staff will prepare an Administrative Review Draft General. The plan will address the six required topical elements, including land use, circulation, conservation, open space, safety, and noise, as well as several optional elements (e.g., water, agriculture, economic development). We will also focus on refinements and updates to address key policy topics (e.g., sustainability/climate change, healthy communities), new plans and trends, and new State mandates and guidelines. It is expected that the cross-cutting topics of climate change/sustainability and healthy communities would be themes addressed throughout the Plan, rather than separate, stand-alone elements. Finally, the General Plan will include specific guidance for the structure and content of Areas plans and for future Area Plan updates. The Housing Element will be updated separately, likely following General Plan adoption, and is discussed below in Task 8.1, Additional General Plan-related Topics.

The Plan will serve as the County's climate action plan by including policies and programs that reduce GHG emissions to achieve County targets. Technical analysis conducted as part of the development of the General Plan will include a GHG gap analysis, which would also be included in the GHG analysis in the PEIR necessary to have the General Plan and accompanying GHG reduction measures and analysis qualify as a CEQA Guidelines Section 15183.5 plan to reduce GHG emissions. The Consultants will also prepare necessary transportation analysis to address the potential for new standards (e.g., VMT), consistent with CEQA Guidelines.

The Consultants and staff will translate the preferred focus area land use alternatives into specific refinements to goals and policies and reflect the preferred policy options. We will also incorporate County staff input from the existing General Plan evaluation. The Consultants and staff will prepare comprehensive implementation strategy that includes discrete, tangible

actions the County will undertake to implement the goals and policies. The implementation strategy will focus on creating a proactive action plan that engages all County agencies in implementing the General Plan.

The General Plan will include a comprehensive implementation strategy that includes discrete, tangible actions the County will undertake to implement the goals and policies. The implementation strategy will focus on creating a proactive action plan that engages all County agencies in implementing the General Plan.

Task 5.4: Prepare Land Use and Circulation Diagrams

The Consultants and staff will collaborate to prepare the land use and circulation diagrams as part of the Administrative Draft General Plan. The diagrams will implement the preferred focus area land use alternatives selected by the Board of Supervisors.

Land Use Diagram. The Consultants and staff will develop land use designations and prepare a Draft Land Use Diagram. We will review existing countywide land use designations and area plan designations, and determine a concise set of land use designations that fit the needs of all areas of the county. The designations and Diagram will indicate the distribution, location, and standards for the use of land for housing, commerce, industry, public facilities, waste disposal, recreation, agriculture, natural resources, and open space. The land use designations will broadly define the purpose of each land use category as well as allowed uses. Land use designations will also include standards of population density and building intensity.

Circulation Diagram. Based on the distribution of land uses on the Land Use Diagram, the Consultants will develop and prepare a Draft Circulation Diagram. We will review existing levels of service (LOS) and roadway classifications and work with staff to develop a concise set of roadway classifications that fit the needs of the County and that address new State regulations related to multi-modal transportation. The classifications and diagram will indicate the distribution, location, and standards for county roadways. If desired by the County, the classifications could also expand upon the functional classifications to consider street context and non-auto travel modes. This definition ensures that street standards are not uniformly applied, but consider a street's relation to surrounding land uses, appropriate travel speeds, and need to accommodate multiple travel modes. Roadway standards could also be developed to use Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) instead of or in addition to LOS standards.

Task 5.5: Preliminary Public Review Draft General Plan

The Consultants and staff will facilitate a meeting with the TAC to organize the internal County staff review of the Administrative Draft General Plan. Following that review, the Consultants and staff will revise the Plan to respond to TAC comments and prepare a Preliminary Public Review Draft General Plan for review by the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors. The Plan will include the refined Area Plans. The step of preparing a Preliminary Public Review Draft General Plan for review and confirmation by the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors is important to ensure the draft plan meets the expectations of the Commission and Board before conducting any CEQA analysis.

Task 5.6: Integrating the Area Plans

The Consultants and staff will review each Area Plan (excluding Ahmanson Ranch and the Coastal Area Plans) comparing the Area Plan goals, policies, and programs for consistency with the Preliminary Public Review Draft General Plan. The Consultants and staff will amend the Area Plan text where necessary to eliminate redundancy or inconsistencies. We will eliminate all goals, policies, and programs not specific to the areas. We will review area-specific goals, policies, and programs

for relevance and reduce them to essential, area-specific topics. The Consultants and staff will compare the Area Plan land use and circulation diagrams and revise as necessary as part of the focus area alternatives analysis (Phase 4).

The Consultants and staff will then reformat the Area Plans consistent with the updated General Plan. We will organize the Plans to provide continuity and consistency among the plans. The revised Area Plans will be presented to the Planning Commission, residents, and Board of Supervisors as part of the meetings outlined below. The Area Plans will be combined together as a new section or part of the updated General Plan. This Task will occur in parallel with Task 5.3.

Task 5.7: Planning Commission Work Sessions #8, #9, #10, #11, and #12

The Consultants and staff will facilitate five work sessions with the Planning Commission to review and refine the draft goals, policies, implementation programs, and Area Plans. We will make revisions to the Draft General Plan based on Planning Commission direction.

Task 5.8: Newsletter: Preliminary Public Review Draft General Plan

The Consultants will prepare a newsletter summarizing the Preliminary Public Review Draft General Plan. The newsletter will indicate how the public can provide feedback on the draft plan, and will publicize the upcoming series of community workshops.

Task 5.9: Community Workshops: Draft General Plan

The staff, with Consultants support, will facilitate community workshops in conjunction with existing MAC meetings. These workshops will give County residents the opportunity to review the Preliminary Draft Policy Document and Area Plans (see Phase 5a) and provide feedback on the goals, policies, and implementation programs. At the conclusion of the workshops, the Consultants will summarize the workshop results and post the summary on the General Plan Update website.

Task 5.10: Planning Commission Work Session #13

The Consultants and staff will facilitate Planning Commission review of input from the Focus Groups and Community Workshops and consider revisions to the Preliminary Public Review Draft General Plan. The Planning Commission will recommend any final revisions or adjustments to the Board of Supervisors.

Task 5.11: Board of Supervisors Study Session

The Consultants and staff will facilitate a study session with the Board of Supervisors to review and confirm the changes to the Preliminary Public Review Draft General Plan. The Board of Supervisors will provide direction on revisions or adjustments to the General Plan prior to preparation of the PEIR.

Task 5.12: Public Review Draft General Plan

Based on direction from the Board of Supervisors, the Consultants will prepare the Public Review Draft General Plan for publication and environmental review.

Task 5.13: General Plan Consultation and Referrals

The Consultants will work with staff to consult with appropriate Federal, State, regional, and local agencies, including Native American Tribes and Military Branches. The consultation provisions are located throughout the State Government Code and

have varying requirements for when draft and final documents must be submitted for review and how long agencies have to review and provide comments. The Consultants maintain a checklist of agency consultation requirements and will ensure the County provides the General Plan Amendments to the appropriate agencies.

PHASE 6: ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The Consultants will prepare a Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for the Ventura County General Plan and Non-coastal Zoning Ordinance updates pursuant to Section 15063(b) of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines. The purpose of the PEIR is to provide a comprehensive evaluation of the spatial and temporal impacts to the environment that would result from implementation of the goals, policies, and programs of the General Plan and how the goals, policies, and programs will be implemented through the Zoning Ordinance and other regulatory documents.

Task 6.1: Notice of Preparation

The Consultants recommend that an Initial Study not be prepared, as we anticipate that the PEIR will address all topics in Appendix G of the State CEQA Guidelines. This approach will allow for a comprehensive examination of all issues and potential impacts and provide a solid foundation for using the PEIR for tiering of future projects subject to CEQA.

A Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (NOP) will be prepared and circulated to the State Clearinghouse; Responsible Agencies; Trustee Agencies; other interested and affected State, County and local government agencies; local Native American tribal representatives; and other groups and individuals that may have interest in the Program PEIR. The Consultants will work with County staff to develop a distribution list for the NOP and subsequent notices and documents concerning milestones in the PEIR process. The NOP will consist of a one-page form letter with a brief description of the scope of the project, the name and address of a County staff contact to submit comments to, and a map of the County planning area. The Consultants will produce, mail, and track all notices.

The Consultants will organize one public scoping meeting to solicit public comments concerning environmental impact topics of concern and suggested approaches to avoid or reduce impacts of the updated General Plan. Our budget assumes that County staff will be responsible for arranging the date, time, and place of the scoping meeting, and will have staff in attendance. The Consultants will lead the scoping meeting by giving an overview of the PEIR purpose and process and giving directions on the kinds of comments that are appropriate for the meeting. The Consultants will graphically record the meeting minutes, noting the environmental concerns raised during the meeting. The scoping meeting will be announced in the NOP.

We propose to release the NOP as early as possible in the work program to establish a date for the existing environmental conditions relatively coincident with completion of the Background Report.

Task 6.2: Scoping Meeting

The Consultants will facilitate a public/agency scoping meeting associated with the release of the NOP. The Scoping Meeting will be held during the 30-day NOP period to provide an overview of the EIR process and obtain input on the EIR scope of work. It will include a brief presentation, followed by receipt of input from meeting attendees. The Consultants will prepare a summary of all input gathered.

Task 6.3: Administrative Draft Program EIR

The Consultants will prepare a comprehensive Program EIR containing all information required by Sections 15124 through 15129 of the CEQA Guidelines. A table of contents is presented below.

- Introduction
- Executive Summary
- Project Description
- Environmental Setting, Impacts, and Mitigation Measures
- Significant Irreversible Environmental Changes
- Growth Inducing Impacts
- Cumulative Impacts
- Alternatives
- Organizations and Persons Consulted
- Appendix: Technical Reports (separate document)

For each of the impact topics, our approach will be to characterize the existing physical conditions and pertinent regulatory framework, then quantify or qualitatively describe the future conditions resulting from implementation of the proposed General Plan elements. Impact significance will be assessed with respect to the thresholds defined in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines using methodologies that are appropriate for a long-range planning program. Impact significance will be determined after consideration of the beneficial effects of proposed policies designed to avoid or reduce environmental impacts.

Programmatic analysis requires a reasonable assessment of future, potential changes to the physical environment due to the policies of the General Plan. The analysis may not be based on build out of the planning area if build out is not anticipated to occur within the planning horizon. Our analysis will hinge on the fact that the General Plan, in and of itself, does not result in the growth of population, household, employment, or traffic. Growth occurs from a dynamic system of birth, death, immigration, emigration, and other factors that include the state of the economy and land use options. The analysis will be based on the ability of the General Plan update to accommodate anticipated growth while avoiding impacts to the environment. Our approach will minimize incorporation of mitigation measures by ensuring policies adopted in the element updates serve as programmatic measures to minimize or eliminate environmental impacts.

To streamline the PEIR preparation process and thus reduce costs, we plan to use the background information and mapping compiled for each of the updated General Plan elements. As noted above, this information is expected to be sufficient to fulfill the contents required for the General Plan, as prescribed in California Government Code Sections 65302, and to fully characterize the environmental setting for each impact topic. This will allow an assessment of impacts to be made relative to the baseline conditions assumptions in the General Plan.

The Consultants assume two rounds of staff comments will be necessary to establish the Screencheck PEIR, and that County staff will provide one set of consolidated comments using Word's track changes function. The following highlights key components of our approach to the PEIR.

Project Description. This will consist of a summary of the main features of the proposed General Plan, focusing on anticipated land use policy changes, changes to the Circulation Element, policies related to resource conservation, and other major goals and

objectives defined for the updated Plan. Exhibits will include a regional and vicinity map, the proposed Land Use Plan, the proposed Circulation Plan, and photographic survey of key points in the planning area.

Air Quality and Climate Change. The Consultants will model and analyze air quality and climate change impacts for the project. We will characterize the existing air quality environment, applicable regulatory framework, and assess long-term air quality impacts in accordance with the regulations and standards of the Ventura County Air Pollution Control District (VCAPCD). The Consultants will analyze greenhouse gas emissions and climate change in accordance with guidance provided by the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA) and SCAQMD interim guidance. Climate change protocols are constantly evolving in light of AB32 and the Consultants will analyze climate change impacts in accordance with the latest guidance.

The Consultants will model criteria pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions using the California Emissions Estimator Model (CalEEMod) based on the proposed land use plan and the project traffic analysis. We will model emissions from existing developed uses and future potential uses and compare the difference to the thresholds promulgated by the VCAPCD. We will discuss construction emissions qualitatively because it is speculative to analyze construction impacts at the program level. We will also discuss carbon monoxide hotspots qualitatively. We will identify any existing toxic air contaminant emitters in and within one-quarter mile of the planning area and discuss land uses that could support future emitters. We will discuss land uses that produce odor impacts and analyze both existing and potential future impacts on the planning area and vicinity. We will also analyze consistency with the Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP). It is likely that significant and unavoidable air quality impacts will occur as a result of emissions of one or more criteria pollutants.

The PEIR analysis will be designed pursuant to Section 15183.5 (Tiering and Streamlining the Analysis of Greenhouse Gas Emissions) of the CEQA Guidelines. In essence, a climate action plan will be developed within the PEIR and General Plan to eliminate the need for future GHG emissions analysis for projects consistent with the General Plan. The threshold for determining greenhouse gas emissions impacts will be coordinated with SCAQMD and will likely require that emissions from the planning area be reduced by approximately 30 percent. We will also analyze consistency with the State Scoping Plan and the 2012 Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS).

Noise. The Consultants will model and analyze the existing and future noise levels in the community. Completed work products will provide essential information for incorporation analyzing the potential impacts of changes in land use and circulation in PEIR. We will conduct noise measurements to calibrate the traffic noise model and to establish representative examples of fixed and transportation-related sources. Using traffic data for the traffic analysis, we will analyze the existing and future traffic noise levels adjacent to the arterials and highways within the planning area. We will develop noise contours for each arterial and highway segment included in the traffic study relative to the roadway centerline. We will develop the contours using either the community noise equivalent level (CNEL) or the day-night sound level (Ldn) metric, as preferred by the County. The PEIR will also identify areas where significant noise impacts could occur and suggest programmatic measures to avoid such impacts through implementation of standard planning and environmental review procedures.

Cumulative Impacts. The Consultants will examine this issue in terms of how the updated elements are consistent with or may conflict with applicable regional growth management plans and policies adopted by the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG). We will design the PEIR to account for planning areawide impacts for project-level cumulative impact tiering.

Alternatives. In summary narrative and matrix format, the Consultants will describe and compare the alternatives and impacts of each to those of the proposed General Plan. These will include a “No-Project” Alternative. We will identify alternatives in collaboration with staff and we will screen the viability of each to identify (1) if the alternative meets most or all of the objectives of the project and (2) if it could avoid any significant impacts of the project. We will exclude alternatives not meeting both of these criteria from further analysis.

Other CEQA Sections. The Consultants will provide, in addition to the sections described above, all other required CEQA sections (e.g., areas of controversy, significant unavoidable impacts).

Task 6.4: Screencheck draft Program EIR

Following receipt of one consolidated set of staff comments concerning the adequacy of the Administrative Draft PEIR, the Consultants will discuss and clarify specific comments as needed, and prepare appropriate revisions to the document to address those concerns. We will submit a Screencheck PEIR for final review to identify any remaining minor revisions necessary to complete the PEIR sufficiently to commence the public review process. The Consultants will make final minor revisions, as necessary.

Task 6.5: Draft Program EIR

The Consultants will produce and circulate the Draft PEIR for the mandatory 45-day public review period with the Notice of Availability (NOA). The NOA will identify the project and explain the public review process. Particularly, the NOA will identify what types of comments are helpful and require responses pursuant to CEQA and the appropriate format. Staff will be responsible for publication in the local newspaper. The Consultants will produce, mail, and track all notices. We will provide public agencies with a notice and an electronic copy of the DPEIR. Other parties will receive a notice and a link to a downloadable version of the DPEIR. We will send 15 executive summaries and electronic copies of the DPEIR to the State Clearinghouse, including the mandatory Notice of Completion (NOC).

Task 6.6: Response to Comments

Following the end of the 45-day public review and comment period on the Draft PEIR, the Consultants will prepare written responses to all written comments submitted to the County concerning the adequacy of the information and analysis presented in the Draft PEIR. We will include all correspondence and highlight and number all comments that are specific to the adequacy of the Draft PEIR to correspond to the appropriate response to each comment, for each author. If a substantial number of comments express the same concern(s), we will prepare a “master response” to that (those) comment(s). We will identify comments that do not require responses and include a summary from the CEQA Guidelines explaining why no response is provided. The Consultants will respond to one round of staff comments on the draft responses. Our budget identifies the hours allocated to address responses to comments.

Task 6.7: Statement of Facts and Findings

To expedite the final phase of the project approval process, the Consultants will prepare Findings required under Section 15091 and, if necessary, a Statement of Overriding Considerations (SOC) pursuant to Section 15093 of the State CEQA Guidelines. We will submit the draft Findings and SOC for one round of review by staff and the County Counsel, and make one set of revisions to each. We assume minor revisions to the project and/or mitigation measures will occur and that the Facts and Findings will need to be revised.

Task 6.8: Final PEIR

The Consultants may make minor revisions to PEIR text and exhibits, if warranted, to correct errors and/or provide clarifications or additional information. Minor changes would not include any significant new information such as the identification of an additional significant impact or a new mitigation measure that requires a substantial alteration to the proposed project. We will present these minor revisions in an “Errata” section to be incorporated into the Final PEIR. We will include responses to comments in the Final PEIR. Hard copies of the Final PEIR for decision-making bodies will be limited to the DPEIR (Volume I) and the FPEIR; appendices will be included as an electronic copy unless specifically requested. File copies will include hard copies of all PEIR sections.

Prior to consideration of the Final PEIR, the Consultants will prepare a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) in accordance with Section 21081.6 of the CEQA Statutes. We can provide this as a stand-alone document, to attach to findings and resolutions, or we can incorporate it into the Final PEIR, as the County prefers. The MMRP will list all measures included in the Final PEIR to avoid, reduce or compensate for the potentially significant impacts of the project, note the timing for implementation of each measure and identify the entities responsible for ensuring that the mitigation measures are properly implemented at the right time, and verified as completed as intended. The Consultants will respond to one round of comments by staff on the Final PEIR.

PHASE 7 PUBLIC REVIEW, FINAL DOCUMENTS, AND ADOPTION**Task 7.1: Newsletter: Draft General Plan**

The Consultants will prepare a newsletter summarizing the Public Review Draft General Plan and Draft PEIR. The newsletter will include an overview of the key goals and policies of the Draft Plan as well as the vision for the future of the county, and inform the public about commenting on the Draft General Plan and Draft PEIR.

Task 7.2: Planning Commission Hearings

The Consultants and staff will facilitate two public hearings with the Planning Commission to review the Draft General Plan and DPEIR. The Planning Commission will consider all public comments and at the conclusion of the hearings, make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors regarding the Draft General Plan and Draft PEIR.

Task 7.3: Board of Supervisors Hearings

The Consultants and staff will facilitate two public hearings with the Board of Supervisors to review the Draft General Plan and Draft PEIR. At these meetings the Board of Supervisors will consider the Planning Commission’s recommendations and all public comments. At the conclusion of the hearings, the Board of Supervisors will direct County staff to incorporate its recommendations and prepare the Final General Plan and Final PEIR.

Task 7.4: Final General Plan Documents

Based on direction from the Board of Supervisors, the Consultants and staff will make revisions to the General Plan and Final PEIR and prepare the final General Plan documents.

Task 7.5: Adoption Hearings

The Consultants and staff will facilitate final public hearings, first with the Planning Commission and then with the Board of Supervisors, for certification of the Final PEIR and adoption of the General Plan.

Task 7.6: Prepare Final Web-Based General Plan (eGP)

The Consultants' web design and development approach is to provide both a highly customized CMS solution together with a valuable set of integrated and personalized web services. We envision creating a mobile-friendly web application (app) that enhances the usability, accessibility, and effectiveness of the Ventura County Plan. Some of the core web app services we envision include:

Personalized Views of the County General Plan: This service enables subscribers to create highly customized views of the General Plan by allowing them to save the search queries they create. We envision users will interact with a “faceted navigation” sidebar that allows them to easily employ multiple filters and get immediate feedback after each click. This enables users to create and quickly retrieve as many custom views of the General Plan as they need.

Personalized Goals, Policies, and Related Actions Tracker: Users will be able to select a set of goals or policies they are most interested in tracking and save the selections. The next time that subscriber returns to the site, he or she can choose to quickly view “important” goals and policies and thereby quickly see the actions and performance data he or she feels is most important.

Email Engagement and Outreach: Rather than use a separate web service for delivering eGP email updates to subscribers, our approach is to build this service directly into the eGP website. The mobile-friendly email digests will contain snippets of the original content entered on the site (e.g., General Plan amendments, Implementation Program status updates) with direct links to the original item on the eGP website.

Thematic and Geographically Scalable Storytelling Using Web-based GIS: This highly visual map service will be designed to help partners, stakeholders, and the public better understand complex issues using interactive maps with layered spatial data organized across several dimensions, reflecting the overall General Plan organization. The dynamic web-based GIS map will not only display key layers developed and/or used during the development of the Plan, but it can also include goals, policies, or actions that have place-based relevance.

Amendment Process Facilitator and Tracker: To help the County facilitate the General Plan amendment process, we envision a “tickler” system that includes the Board of Supervisors, Resource Management, and other County staff, and if desired, the Planning Commission. The tickler system will provide process updates, deadlines, and public hearing information.

Our approach envisions leveraging a highly customizable and “off-the-shelf” open source CMS framework that already includes many of the essential features and tools required or can be easily customized to accomplish key tasks, such as, flexible management of staff permissions and privileges and object and page specific content publishing approval workflow. In addition, we envision using a CMS that includes several field-tested integrated tools for managing email subscription, multiple page templates, and dynamic map-embedded templates, etc.

SubTask 7.6.1: Discovery

The Consultants will facilitate a staff meeting to finalize the design and development direction for the eGP website. We will create the following core deliverables that together serve to document the agreed-upon direction and guide the website design and development work.

- **Final scope**, deliverables, budget and schedule
- The **Creative Brief** identifies the target audiences, branding requirements, overall design direction, and primary objectives of the website. Short and to the point, the Creative Brief ensures design decisions throughout the project are strategic and consistent.
- The **Functional/Technical Specifications** outline the tools and features that will be part of the website, the web platform, and browser requirements, any custom database-driven features and tools, the integration of third party applications (e.g., Google Maps, Vimeo, social media integration), and other notable data and interface needs.

The **Site Architecture** documents the site structure, organization, and information hierarchy. Essentially, this deliverable serves as the web version of the General Plan Table of Contents, with notes regarding content types and general navigation.

Subtask 7.6.2: Planning

We find it highly cost-effective to make web design and development revisions to a prototype rather than a functioning website. During the planning phase, the Consultants will create a set of “wireframes” that serve as the blueprint for Subtask 7.6.3, Visual Design and Task Subtask 7.6.4, Development. We will provide Wireframes to illustrate the core user experience through a series of schematic mockups of the website. The mockups show the layouts of the major page template types, the navigation strategies, the integration of third-party tools, and the filter, tagging, glossary, and search techniques.

Subtask 7.6.3: Visual Design

The Consultants will create a High Fidelity Prototype (HFP). The HFP will be interactive, providing a click-through experience of how major facets of the website will look and function. We will create Style Tiles that depict the visual brand for the site (color, logo tweaks, typography, and interface elements such as buttons) before web design and development begins. The Consultants will create two alternative Style Tiles for staff review and feedback. We will also develop High Fidelity Design Prototypes that provide a click-through experience of how the website will look and function. The prototype will include select page layouts from the full set of Wireframe mockups.

Subtask 7.6.4: Website Development

The Consultants will integrate the approved prototype design with the web platform, resulting in a database-driven dynamic website that can be maintained by non-technical County staff. The key deliverables for this Subtask will be:

- **Design and QA “instances” of the emerging website** enable the consultants to work independently and maintain version control. These instances are used for development and testing purposes only. As needed, the QA instance may be made available to the wider project team for review and comment.
- The **Alpha Release** is the first draft of the functional website with significant bugs. This release is for the Consultants’ development and test purposes only.
- The **Beta Release** is the second draft of the fully functional website with minor bugs and partial content loaded. This release is for both the Consultants’ test purposes and staff review.

- The **Release Candidate** is the final draft of the fully functional website with all of the content loaded. If minor bugs are identified additional Release Candidates will be readied for final approval.

Subtask 7.6.5: eGP Launch, Training, Hosting, and Support

Once staff have approved the final Release Candidate, the Consultants will train key County staff and launch the website. The key deliverables are:

- **eGP Administrator Training Guide** serves as “How to” guide for updating of the eGP. The guide will be organized according to the major edit and update tasks the administrator will perform. The guide will include screen shots of all major back-office administration input screens.
- **County Staff eGP Update Training** will be conducted onsite. The goal of the training program will be to “train the trainer” and ensure County staff have the internal knowledge needed to update content and manage the interactive features.

Annual Website Hosting and Technical and Administrative Support includes ongoing maintenance of the website platform for one full year, including security updates and data backups. (A longer-term contract can be provided as additional services.) In addition, the Consultants provide next business-day site administrator help desk support. The Consultants provide a managed hosting service via the Amazon Web.

PHASE 8 ADDITIONAL GENERAL PLAN-RELATED TASKS

The RFP identified three other planning tasks that could be undertaken simultaneously with the General Plan Update, including a Zoning Code Update, Housing Element Update, and Wildlife Corridor Connectivity Protection Overlay Zone study. The Consultants will work with staff to complete these projects in parallel with the General Plan Update to ensure that upon adoption, the County’s plans and land use regulations are up to date and consistent.

Task 8.1: Non-coastal Zoning Ordinance Update

The County has two zoning ordinances: one which applies to the Coastal Zone and one for all Non-Coastal areas. The Consultants assume that independent of the General Plan update process, County staff will be updating the Coastal Zoning Ordinance concurrently with the update of the LCP. The work described in this task addresses updating the Non-Coastal Zoning Ordinance (Division 8, Chapter 1 of the Ventura County Ordinance Code).

County Planning Division staff has been diligent about keeping the Non-Coastal Zoning Ordinance up to date. Following a comprehensive overhaul in 1993, staff made major revisions again in 1995 to clarify provisions and establish more streamlined administrative review processes. We particularly note the use on explanatory text in italics (non-regulatory) to help the public understand not just the regulations but the intent of Ordinance provisions. Since 1995 additional amendments have been made to address new legislation (for example, Reasonable Accommodation and Wireless Communications Facilities) and changing County policies and practices. We find the County’s detailed documentation of Ordinance amendments very helpful.

The Consultants assume that County staff and Ordinance users are accustomed to the current Ordinance structure. Our suggested approach outlined below does not involve a comprehensive restructuring and rewriting of the Non-Coastal Zoning

Ordinance (although we can accomplish such at additional cost if the County prefers). The proposed work effort will focus on:

- Addressing any “fix it” provisions that County staff has compiled in recent years
- Ensuring consistency with the updated General Plan, particularly with regard to any new land use designations
- Incorporating new graphics
- Providing minor formatting tweaks to improve user-friendly aspects of the Ordinance
- Addressing changes in State law since the last amendment, as well as emerging land use trends (for example, AirBnB)
- Reflecting objectives for good design and quality development by including design standards and illustrations, as appropriate

Also, given staff's desire to be actively engaged in the Ordinance update (as has been the practice), this task assumes that the Consultants will provide strategic direction and guidance to staff, with staff writing portions of the Ordinance revisions and the Consultants assisting. The precise level of effort of staff versus consultant will be refined through the initial project scoping process. We have provided a budget that assumes a robust effort on our part.

Our Preliminary Ideas

Based on the Consultants' review of the current Non-Coastal Zoning Ordinance, our knowledge of Ventura County, and our experience preparing many zoning code updates, we note that the following sampling of issues, among others, may be worthy of discussion and focused attention.

- To address wildlife corridor policies, the County might consider establishing a Wildlife Corridor Overlay zone based on the work to be undertaken as part of this work program.
- If the General Plan provides for mixed-use development in any areas not included in an area plan, appropriate standards will be needed. We note that the recently adopted Saticoy Area Plan has its own zoning regulations, codified in Section 8119-1.
- The purpose statements for each zone could be strengthened and will be revisited to ensure they comport with General Plan policy statements.
- The wireless communications facilities provisions, although very recent, may need updating to reflect current FCC rules regarding timelines for approval.
- With regard to FAR/building coverage standards, the Ordinance currently cross-references standards in the General Plan. The County might instead consider putting them in the Ordinance for ease of use (and to reflect any changes arising from the General Plan update).
- The list of uses in the use table might be simplified to better accommodate how land uses change over time.
- While CalGreen establishes building code regulations for sustainable development practices, the County may wish to include sustainability provisions in the zoning regulations.

- Section 8110-8.3 provides for amortization of nonconforming signs. According to state law, such amortization requires the County to have an inventory of all such signs. For these provisions to remain enforceable, we would want to discuss an appropriate program with you.
- Section 8109-1.3.7 includes this provision for the RHD zone: “All residential units constructed in the RHD zone shall be affordable to lower-income households as defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) unless otherwise exempted by State law.” How is this provision enforced over time, and is it being applied to all projects in the RHD zone?
- We recommend providing short titles for all subsections to make it easier to find topics of interest. We would also revisit existing section and subsection titles, where provided, to make sure they reflect the associated provisions.

As an optional task, the Consultants can prepare a fully searchable *On-line Non-Coastal Zoning Ordinance*.

Use of a County Planning Division Staff Zoning Ordinance Working Group

As noted above, our approach involves working in partnership with County staff to prepare the draft Zoning Ordinance amendments. To help the program proceed most efficiently and effectively, we recommend that staff establish an in-house Zoning Ordinance Working Group. We will conduct progress meetings with the Working Group to review significant new portions of the Ordinance. We will be highly responsive to any evolving City objectives that may emerge as the document is redrafted and reviewed. Working Group meetings are included in the schedule and budget as staff meetings.

Subtask 8.1.1: Initial Strategy Meeting

The Consultants will meet with staff to confirm objectives for the Ordinance update and to define how new land use policies will be reflected in the updated regulations. We will also discuss problems and issues associated with present land use and development regulations (including regulatory topics that need attention but are not fully addressed in the current Ordinance).

Several Planning staff members may keep a list of inconsistencies and confusing provisions (a “fix-it” list) in the current Ordinance that they wish to address. We will ask that staff prepare a consolidated, comprehensive list prior to the meeting to help our team understand staff’s objectives and desires for amending the regulations.

Subtask 8.1.2: Diagnosis of the Non-Coastal Zoning Ordinance

The Consultants will prepare a diagnosis of the Ordinance and describe how we propose to address issues in the updated Zoning Ordinance. We will prepare the diagnosis in a matrix format. The matrix can be used to track revisions to the existing Ordinance during the drafting process and is intended to assist in the preparation of staff report(s) when the updated Ordinance goes through the public review and adoption process. It is expected that the matrix will be an evolving document as we progress through the update.

Subtask 8.1.3: Strategy/Issues White Papers

Early in the effort, the Consultants will prepare a series of issues-focused white papers that County staff can use as needed to get policy direction from the Planning Commission prior to the drafting of specific Ordinance amendments.

Subtask 8.1.4: Prepare Administrative Draft Zoning Ordinance Amendments

The Consultants will work with staff to draft focused amendments to the Ordinance, as determined by prior tasks. During the initial project scope refinement task, the Consultants will work with staff to define the division of work (staff versus Consultants). If staff takes the lead, the Consultants will serve a review role. If the Consultants take the lead, staff will review draft materials and provide changes using Word's track changes and comment functions. We assume that the Consultants will be responsible for preparing any required/desired graphics to supplement the text.

Subtask 8.1.5: Prepare Preliminary Draft Zoning Ordinance Amendments

The Consultants will revise the Administrative Draft Zoning Code Ordinance Amendments based on Work Group comments and the addition of graphics and illustrations where needed.

Subtask 8.1.6: Planning Commission Work Session

The Consultants and Staff will facilitate a Planning Commission to review the Preliminary Draft Zoning Ordinance Amendments. Based on Commission comments, we will prepare the Public Review Draft Zoning Ordinance Amendments.

Subtask 8.1.7: Prepare Public Review Draft Zoning Ordinance Amendments

The Consultants will prepare the Public Review Draft Zoning Ordinance Amendments to incorporate final staff and Planning Commission comments on the Preliminary Draft. This is the version that will be available for workshops and hearings.

Subtask 8.1.8: Public Review and Adoption

The work program assumes that all Zoning Ordinance Amendments will be completed in tandem with the General Plan update and that public hearings will cover both. We have budgeted for attendance by Zoning Ordinance project manager to attend public hearings.

Subtask 8.1.9: Screencheck Final Zoning Ordinance Amendments

After final Board of Supervisors action on the Zoning Ordinance Amendments and before the effective date, County staff will prepare a final version to incorporate all changes. The Consultants will serve in a review role for this task.

Searchable Online Zoning Ordinance (OPTIONAL)

If desired by the County, the Consultants can prepare and deliver a complete hypertext version of the updated Zoning Ordinance for the County's website home page. This version would contain all text, charts, graphics, and illustrations included in the printed document. The functional details of the On-Line Zoning Ordinance and the appearance of its user interface would be worked out through discussions with County staff. The following describes our recommended approach.

Because the Non-Coastal Zoning Ordinance is available online and published by the Planning Division, a user accessing the website would find a scrollable hypertext table of contents showing titles of all chapters. Any selection would jump to the applicable page. Each page would be scrollable (pages larger than the computer screen frame can be shifted up or down to allow viewing of all parts of the page). "Forward" and "Back" buttons on the web browser software toolbar at the top of the screen would allow moving from page to page. Additional functions would allow printing individual or groups of pages, saving one or more pages to a text file, marking a page or section for future reference, and accessing a key word search of the entire Ordinance.

The Consultants would produce the website Zoning Ordinance in two steps. A “proof of concept” version consisting of the user interface, search, and other facilities with a demonstration portion of the data would be produced for staff review. A final, complete version of the website would be produced after adoption of the final document.

The Consultants would assist with the installation of a test version of the software in the Department (or on the Consultant’s website) and instruct staff on its use. Based on staff feedback from use of the test version, we would prepare final versions of the software and conduct workshops for staff on the installation and use of the system. We would remain available to answer staff questions and correct any problems with the software for a period of one year at no additional cost.

Task 8.2: Concurrent Housing Element Update

The recently adopted 2014-2021 Housing Element will likely require updating shortly after the completion of a comprehensive General Plan Update. It is likely that the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) numbers will become available prior to adoption of the updated General Plan. In order to more efficiently process the Housing Element, and ensure that adequate sites are available for affordable housing, the Consultants will prepare a Draft Housing Element that includes goals, policies and programs; a public outreach process; and the identification of potential affordable housing sites within the Land Use Diagram. We will coordinate with the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) in the review and certification of the Housing Element, and final adoption by the Board will occur sometime following adoption of the General Plan Update.

Task 8.3: Wildlife Corridor Connectivity Protection Overlay Zone

The Consultants will review existing wildlife corridor maps and other background information, including preliminary recommendations and alternatives for a proposed Habitat Connectivity Protection Overlay Zone completed by County staff between late 2008 and early 2010, the County’s Guidelines for Safe Wildlife Passage completed in 2005, and other related information. The Consultants will assess background information and County work performed to date and note any outstanding questions or information gaps that may require further study for discussion with County staff. If needed, the Consultants will update mapping based on existing GIS files and other documents provided by the County. The Consultants will summarize existing conditions and background information in the General Plan Background Report.

The Consultants will meet with County staff to discuss optional approaches for updates to the County’s General Plan Conservation Element and Open Space Element goals and policies that would address habitat connectivity and wildlife movement corridor protection, including potential implementation program approaches. Implementation programs could include a Wildlife Corridor Connectivity and Protection Overlay Zone, and/or other appropriate tools or related programs. Based upon the agreed upon approach, the Consultants will assist County staff with drafting general plan goals, policies, and programs. At this time we assume a Wildlife Corridor Connectivity and Protection Overlay Zone program would be further developed and refined based on previous staff recommendations, along with associated zoning ordinance amendments. If desired, the County could process and adopt the zoning amendments concurrently with the General Plan Update.

Public Opinion Survey

To ensure the General Plan Update reflects the values, priorities, and concerns of all residents in the County of Ventura—not just residents who actively participate in the workshops or advisory committees—the Consultants will conduct a scientific survey of adult residents as part of the public outreach efforts. The survey will provide objective, statistically reliable measures

of residents' opinions and behaviors on any number of key issues addressed in the Plan, such as land use, agriculture, mobility, water, and sustainability, and is especially useful for identifying how residents prioritize or make tradeoffs among a list of options.

The Consultants will design and conduct a 15-minute telephone survey of 800 adult residents selected at random from those who live in the County of Ventura. A sample of this size will not only produce highly reliable survey results countywide (+/- 3.5 percent at the 95 percent level of confidence), it will also provide a reliable understanding of how opinions may vary across key subgroups, such as by geographic sub-regions, length of residence in the County, age, gender, etc.

The Consultants will handle all aspects of the research process in consultation with staff where appropriate. The Consultants will design and refine the questionnaire, translate the survey into Spanish, develop an appropriate random sampling methodology, program the survey instrument to assist the interviewers in navigating the survey and recording data, program and host an online survey site for those who prefer to participate online, recruit participation, conduct interviews according to a strict protocol in English and Spanish, perform quality control checks throughout the data collection period, process and analyze the data, prepare a thorough (200+ pages) full-color report of the findings, and present the results to staff, Planning commission, and Board of Supervisors (as needed) aided by a PowerPoint presentation. We will design the final report and presentation so they are accessible to those with little or no understanding of statistics and survey research methodology.

Although the Request for Proposals specified a telephone survey, our recommendation is to use a mixed-method approach which employs multiple recruiting methods (telephone, mail, and email) and multiple data collection methods (telephone and online) in order to improve the response rate, reduce response bias, and ultimately improve the overall reliability of the survey results. The simple truth is that relying exclusively on telephones for recruiting and data collection is not as reliable as it was in past years, due in large part to the rise in caller-ID, call screening behaviors, and the migration away from land lines to cell phones. In order to satisfy the methodological requirements for a statistically reliable survey, it is most effective to add to telephone recruiting and data collection additional recruiting methods (mail and email) and an online survey option for residents who prefer to participate online. It improves our ability to reach a resident for the purposes of soliciting participation in the study, and it provides respondents with flexibility as to how they complete the survey.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Coordination

The Consultants will participate in regular project management meetings, and will use email communications and have telephone conversations with County staff, as needed, during the course of the project. The Consultant will conduct biweekly conference calls with the County Project Manager to discuss the project status, schedule, and other project-related topics. The Consultants will prepare management meeting/conference call agendas and summarize action items. The Consultants will proactively identify issues, immediately bring those issues to the attention of County staff, identify potential solutions, and coordinate with County staff as to the best course of action.

Status Reports

The Consultants will prepare monthly status reports as part of the project invoice documenting the progress made each month in completing the project. Status reports will summarize by project phase work performed by task, deliverables provided, and meetings conducted.

Project Schedule

We understand that the County expects the comprehensive General Plan Update, to be completed and adopted within 4.5 years of initiating the project (e.g., by July 2020). The Consultants will work with County staff to develop and maintain a project schedule that adheres to the County's project deadline.

PROJECT DELIVERABLES

The Consultants will provide to the County electronic copies (native files and web-compatible versions) of all draft and final documents, as well as the technical tables, maps, and information used to produce the documents, consistent with the County's software systems (e.g., Microsoft Office, ESRI ArcMap).

DOCUMENT REVIEW

The Consultants assume the following review process for project deliverables that are the primary responsibility of the Consultant:

- The Consultants will provide an Administrative Draft document to County staff for review and comment.
- County staff will collect, review, and resolve County comments and provide a single, consolidated set of comments to the Consultants. Comments on Microsoft software will be provided in track changes and in comment bubbles. Comments on non-Microsoft files (e.g., PDF) will be provided as a list in a Microsoft Word Document and include the page number, paragraph, and line referenced.
- The Consultants will revise the Administrative Draft and provide to County staff a Screencheck Review Draft.
- County staff will review and confirm that comments have been addressed and provide to the Consultants any final revisions using the comment protocol described in the second bullet above.
- The Consultants will revise the Screencheck Draft and prepare a Final document for publication.

county of ventura

November 10, 2015

Board of Supervisors
County of Ventura
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

SUBJECT: Receive, File and Provide Direction on the Pending Projects List for the Resource Management Agency, Planning Division, Long-Range Planning Section's Work Program

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **RECEIVE & FILE** staff's presentation regarding recommendations for the phased completion of pending projects by the RMA/Planning Division.
2. **PROVIDE DIRECTION** to staff regarding the first phase of work on the Pending Projects List, subject to future Board authorizations and budget transactions.

FISCAL MANDATES/IMPACTS:

There is no immediate fiscal impact associated with the recommended actions, but decisions regarding the timing and funding for pending projects could affect the RMA/Planning Division budget in the current or future fiscal years. No new County staff positions would be required to complete the Pending Projects List¹, and the actual amount of future Board-allocated funding would be confirmed by updated cost estimates. In addition, the actual amount of necessary Board-allocated funding will be dependent on future decisions regarding two projects² that require cost-benefit or project-feasibility analyses prior to project initiation. Ultimately, Board-allocated funding would be authorized either on a project-specific basis or as part of the annual budgeting process for the RMA/Planning Division.

DISCUSSION:

Background

The Long-Range Planning Section of the RMA/Planning Division is charged with processing updates and amendments to the County's General Plan, Area Plans, Non-Coastal Zoning Ordinance, Coastal Zoning Ordinance, and Subdivision Ordinance. As

¹ The Pending Projects list does not include the General Plan Update.

² Mitigation Bank Program, Decks in the Coastal Zone



part of the 2015 Annual Report, which was presented to your Board on May 19, 2015, staff provided your Board with a complete list of “projects” or work programs related to its primary mission. Those work programs were generally divided into the following groups:

- Recently Completed Projects
- Active Projects List, including ongoing work programs
- Pending Projects List
- Inactive Projects List.

Exhibit 1 contains a summary of active projects, ongoing work programs, and inactive projects. Since your Board received the 2015 Annual Report, the Active Projects List was reduced by the adoption of the Saticoy Area Plan update on September 22, 2015. Outstanding active projects include two, large grant-funded projects, the Coastal Biology and the Local Coastal Program (LCP) Amendments. A large group of LCP Amendments is scheduled for your Board’s review next year and, due to a federally-mandated deadline, these projects remain high-priority work programs. The Active Projects List was recently expanded when your Board approved a scope-of-work and a preliminary, proposed budget and timeline for the Ventura County General Plan Update (GPU). A separate team is currently being developed to work with consultants on a comprehensive update to the General Plan, which is slated for completion by mid-2020.

The Long-Range Planning Section is also responsible for a wide variety of ongoing programs – such as the State-mandated Annual Report, the annual update to the Locally Important Species List, and Board pre-screenings for privately-initiated amendments. For example, a privately-initiated Board pre-screening application was recently submitted for the redevelopment of the 98-acre, former USA Petrochem Refinery Site, which is located within the boundary of the North Ventura Avenue Area Plan. Should your Board approve this pre-screening for further processing, it is likely that the project would need to be processed concurrently with a broader update of the North Ventura Avenue Area Plan.

Pending Projects List

The Pending Projects List includes work programs that are either required by State law or were previously identified by your Board. Generally, pending projects are those projects awaiting available staff resources and budget allocations. With the recent completion of the Saticoy Area Plan update, and the anticipated completion of the Coastal Biology and LCP Amendments projects next year, existing staff will be available to initiate work on a number of these pending projects. Also, during your Board’s review process for the GPU scope-of-work, several Board members emphasized the importance of continued work on pending projects, and indicated that it would be helpful to review and prioritize the list of projects prior to adoption of a final budget and scope-of-work for the GPU.

In order to assist your Board's discussion of the Pending Projects List, a detailed description of each project is provided in Exhibit 2. Also included is a preliminary assessment of cost estimates, project duration, and potential funding sources. There are sixteen individual work programs that comprise the current Pending Projects List, and they are divided below into three groups: State-mandated programs, 2014-2021 Housing Element programs, and Board-initiated programs. Board-initiated programs are listed in the chronological order in which they were identified, and they include two projects that are currently expected to be programmed and funded through the GPU (while the Concurrent Zoning Ordinance Update is essentially linked to the GPU, the Habitat Connectivity project could proceed independent of the GPU).

State-Mandated Programs:

- Inconsistent Zoning (existing)
- Supportive and Employee Housing
- Landscape Guidelines (update for water-efficient regulations)
- 2022-29 Housing Element

2014-21 Housing Element Programs:

- Farmworker Housing Standards
- Senior Citizen Housing Needs
- Second Dwelling Unit Program
- Housing Impact Fee Mitigation Ordinance
- Inclusionary Housing Ordinance

Board-Initiated Programs:

- Habitat Connectivity Protection Overlay Zone (GPU)
- Mitigation Bank Program
- Senior Citizen Mobile Home Park Overlay Program
- Ojai Valley Dark Skies Ordinance
- Decks in the Coastal Zone
- Saticoy Implementation Programs (years 0 - 5)
- Concurrent Zoning Ordinance Update (GPU)

Recommended Order of Project Processing

In order to facilitate your Board's review of pending projects, this section provides a recommended order for project processing. A brief explanation is provided for the recommendations, which generally reflect the following priorities:

- *Legal mandates/issues:* Projects required by legal mandates are prioritized, and programs identified by the existing Housing Element are timed for completion prior to the initiation of the next Housing Element.

- *Resolution of pressing problems:* Projects that will help resolve outstanding planning problems or permitting issues are prioritized.
- *Small projects:* These generally fell into the "just do it" category, and are timed to occur between larger projects.
- *Concurrent processing:* Similar types of projects are grouped together to comprehensively address related planning issues and reduce processing costs.
- *Staff Skills / Availability:* Projects that require specific skills or a specialized knowledge base may be delayed until a particular staff member is available.
- *Outstanding legal issues:* Projects were delayed when subject to ongoing legal challenges.

In two cases (Mitigation Bank Program, Decks in Coastal Zone), cost-benefit or project feasibility reviews would be conducted prior to the initiation of specific projects. That information would be reported back to the Board prior to beginning work on the entire project.

Pending Projects List: Recommended Order of Processing

No.	Name of Project	Explanation
1	Existing Inconsistent Zoning Exhibit 2: Project #1	This project should be prioritized because State law mandates that zoning be consistent with the General Plan, and the County currently has several hundred parcels with inconsistent zoning. In addition, zoning affects the use of land and how it is developed (i.e. allowable uses, building heights, setbacks, minimum lot sizes, etc.). Given the number, location, and type of parcels with inconsistent zoning, this project would be completed in phases, with higher-priority rezones processed first. At the outset, staff would conduct an assessment of the problem and develop a more detailed plan for resolving inconsistent zoning.
	Special Needs Housing	<i>The four, related housing programs listed below (items numbered 2, 3, 4, and 5) would be processed concurrently:</i>
2	Supportive and Employee Housing Exhibit 2: Project #2	This project is a recently adopted State mandate that does not require major revisions to County regulations. Costs to process the required NCZO amendments should be reduced by completing this project concurrently with other housing programs.
3	Farmworker Housing Standards Exhibit 2: Project #5	This project is required by the 2014-2021 Housing Element. It should be prioritized because farmworker housing is an important type of special-needs housing that affects the County's agricultural economy as well as farmworkers and their families.
4	Senior Citizen Housing Needs	This project is a 2014-2021 Housing Element program, and it would address the growing need for specialized types of housing for senior citizens, which may warrant specific development

No.	Name of Project	Explanation
	Exhibit 2: Project #6	standards (such as reduced parking) to help facilitate such projects or ensure they are appropriately located and designed. This issue is timely given the forecast increase in the senior citizen population in Ventura County.
5	Senior Mobile Home Park Overlay Zone Exhibit 2: Project #12	This project is related to the Senior Citizen Housing Needs program, shown above, and it makes sense to process them concurrently so that senior citizen housing needs are addressed in a comprehensive manner.
6	Habitat Connectivity Protection Overlay Zone (GPU) Exhibit 2: Project #10	This project should be prioritized because a significant amount of work has already been completed. In addition, staff has been seeking grant opportunities to supplement funding for this project. Since grant opportunities have been unavailable, allocation of funding from the Board will be needed. However, the timing for project re-initiation is dependent upon completion of two active projects (Coastal Biology, LCP Amendments), which are assigned to specialized staff (staff biologist). Biology-related work on those projects is currently on hold due to a staff vacancy.
7	Ojai Dark Skies Ordinance Exhibit 2: Project #13	This is a mid-sized project that could be initiated in FY2016-17, following completion of the LCP amendments. At that time, staff will become available for new projects.
8	Saticoy Area Plan Implementation Programs Exhibit 2: Project #15	This project covers seven different tasks, which are scheduled for completion during years 0 to 5 following Area Plan adoption. Although this project would be started in 2016, it would be conducted in phases during a five-year period.
9	Landscape Guidelines Update Exhibit 2: Project #3	This is a relatively small project that requires an update to the existing Guidelines to address new, State-mandated water-efficient landscaping requirements. This update will be based on regulations currently being developed for the coastal zone, and the project will be initiated after adoption of the LCP amendments.
10	Mitigation Bank Program Exhibit 2: Project #11	This is a potentially large project that would consume substantial staff resources, but the initial scope-of-work is limited to the preparation of a problem/solutions options assessment and a report back to the Board (see Exhibit 2 for details).
11	Second Dwelling Units Exhibit 2: Project #7	This is a small, "just do it" project that would be initiated following adoption of the LCP amendments. Work is focused on a grant application, and timing of the larger project would depend on the receipt of a grant award. This project may also be combined with a similar on-going project in Building & Safety related to farmworker housing units.
12	Housing Impact Fee Ordinance Exhibit 2: Project #8	This project is a 2014-2021 Housing Element program, and it would be processed concurrently with a related project, the Inclusionary Housing Ordinance (concurrent processing also

No.	Name of Project	Explanation
		reduces consultant fees). This project is not considered a high priority because of its limited applicability (no affected project applicants since 2010). Also, our housing specialists won't become available until the special needs housing projects (items 2 through 5) are completed.
13	Inclusionary Housing Ordinance Exhibit 2: Project #9	This project is a 2014-2021 Housing Element program, and it would be processed concurrently with a related project, the Housing Impact Fee Ordinance (concurrent processing also reduces consultant fees). This project was placed on hold due to ongoing legal challenges to inclusionary housing, and the case is currently on appeal at the U.S. Supreme Court level. Prior to project initiation, a cost-benefit assessment is recommended (see Exhibit 2 for details).
14	Decks in Coastal Zone Exhibit 2: Project #14	This project would allow decks in setbacks within the coastal zone. This project is expected to be complicated by potential problems related to building codes, storm-water management regulations, and the California Coastal Commission's newly adopted Sea Level Rise Guidance Document. As such, a project feasibility assessment would be conducted prior to project initiation.
15	Concurrent Zoning Ordinance Updates (GPU) Exhibit 2: Project #16	Concurrent zoning ordinance updates is a recommended work program within the General Plan Update (GPU) project. The timing for necessary map and text amendments would be determined by the GPU project manager, but typically a zoning ordinance consistency process would be initiated during the latter part of an update process. This project also includes necessary zoning ordinance updates previously identified by Planning Division staff.
16	2022-29 Housing Element Exhibit 2: Project #4	Timing for the 2022-29 Housing Element is dependent on State-mandated schedules, and it is probable that the Regional Housing Need Assessment, or RHNA, won't be available until late 2020. Also, the 2022-29 Housing Element is not scheduled for submittal to the State until late 2021. Given those timelines, this project will probably be the last to be initiated in the Pending Projects list.

Pending Projects Schedule

It is estimated that the first fifteen items on the recommended priority list above can be completed by Planning Division staff within the next five years. It is also anticipated that the remaining project (2022-29 Housing Element) will require an additional year due to State-mandated timelines. As noted, several of the projects will be completed concurrently, and some projects will be completed as part of the General Plan Update.

The following table provides a generalized summary of the project delivery schedule based on the recommended priority list. This should be viewed as a rough guide to the implementation schedule. The schedule is based on the Planning Division's initial assessment of the time and resources needed to complete pending projects, and it is intended only to provide a high level overview for delivery dates. Actual schedules may be affected by updated information, new Board initiatives, or new State mandates.

Pending Projects: Preliminary Schedule for Project Completion

Project Name	CALENDAR YEAR						Total FTE
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	
1 Inconsistent Zoning (Existing) SM							2.00
2 Supportive & Employee Housing ^{1, SM}							0.25
3 Farmworker Housing Standards ^{1, HE}							1.75
4 Senior Citizen Housing Needs ^{1, HE}							1.50
5 Senior Mobile-home Park Overlay Zone ^{1, BI}							0.25
6 Habitat Connectivity Prot. Overlay Zone ^{3, GPU}							1.00
7 Ojai Dark Sky Ordinance ^{BI}							1.00
8 Saticoy Implementation Programs (0 - 5) ^{BI}							1.75
9 Landscape Guidelines (Update) SM							0.25
10 Mitigation Bank Program ^{2, BI}							0.25
11 Second Dwelling Unit Program ^{HE}							0.50
12 Housing Impact Fee Ordinance ^{HE}							1.50
13 Inclusionary Housing Ordinance ^{HE}							2.00
14 Decks in Coastal Zone ^{BI}							1.25
15 Concurrent Zoning Ordinance Update ^{GPU}							1.75
16 2022-29 Housing Element SM							3.50
							20.50

- ¹ Special Needs Housing to be processed concurrently
² Feasibility/Assessment Report Only
³ If initiated separately from the GPU, may be completed in 2018.
SM State-Mandated
^{HE} Housing Element
^{BI} Board-Initiated
^{GPU} General Plan Update

Project Funding Assessment

The primary funding source for the pending projects is the annual Planning Division Budget and the permit fees and general funds that support General Plan and Ordinance revision activities. This funding is augmented by grant funds as well as any new, project-specific Board-allocated funds. After setting aside the resources necessary to handle ongoing work programs, it was determined that more than eighty percent of the costs associated with completion of the Pending Projects List are anticipated to be provided through the annual Planning Division Budget revenues and the GPU. As noted above, this is dependent on the outcome of privately-initiated screening activities as well as the outcome of recommended cost-benefit/feasibility studies for two of the pending projects.

The Long-Range Planning Section regularly monitors grant opportunities, and staff apply for grants that align with the objectives of its work program. Historically, the RMA/Planning Division relied on grants to support a portion of its work programs. For example, a substantial share of the costs for the recently completed Saticoy Area Plan Update was paid through grant awards. However, previously obtained grant awards are nearly depleted, and there are few available grants that align with the objectives of Pending Projects List. In general, the number of grants available for planning work is limited. Moreover, staff was recently informed that the federal government plans to target the next round of Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP) grants towards projects located along the eastern U.S. seaboard. While Planning Division staff will continue to monitor and apply for grant awards, reliance on grant funds is not recommended for high-priority projects or projects that do not closely align with available grant opportunities.

Next Steps

Planning Division staff recently began preliminary work on the Existing Inconsistent Zoning project and the Housing Element implementation programs. Once a Board decision is rendered regarding the preferred order for completing work on the Pending Projects List, staff will begin work in earnest on those and other projects. Should the Board elect to move forward with the recommended time frame and order for completing the list of pending projects, then no additional Board-allocated funds will be necessary during the current fiscal year.

The need for additional, Board-allocated funds will be reassessed on an annual basis, and the Planning Division will report back to the Board on an annual basis regarding updated cost estimates, cost-benefit or project feasibility analyses, and the expected need for Board-allocated funds during an upcoming fiscal year. Reports back to your Board will most likely occur as part of the Annual Report or during the annual RMA/Planning Division budget process. As previously noted, it is currently anticipated that completion of the Pending Projects List can be accomplished with existing staff positions assigned to the Long-Range Planning Section of the RMA/Planning Division.

This letter was reviewed by the offices of the County Executive Office, Auditor-Controller's Office, and County Counsel. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact

me at (805) 654-2481 or Rosemary Rowan, Planning Manager, Long Range Planning Section at (805) 654-2461.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kim Prillhart", is written over a horizontal line.

Kim Prillhart, Director
Ventura County Planning Division

Attachments:

Exhibit 1: Active Projects, Inactive Projects, and Potential Projects

Exhibit 2: Pending Projects List

Rodgers, Patricia B.

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Tuesday, September 4, 2018 3:13 PM
To: Michelle Danna
Subject: RE: Upcoming Planning Commission Hearing on Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridors has been postponed

Hi again,
Actually, you were already on the list, as are David Moe and Jaclyn Lee. Should I keep both of them on the list, as well as you and Joe Vacca? If so, I assume their email addresses are dmoe@cityofcam... and JLee@cityofcam...

Thanks!
Shelley

From: Michelle Danna <mdanna@cityofcamarillo.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 04, 2018 2:32 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Cc: Batinica, Meighan <Meighan.Batinica@ventura.org>; Joe Vacca <jvacca@cityofcamarillo.org>
Subject: RE: Upcoming Planning Commission Hearing on Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridors has been postponed

Hello Shelley,

I appreciate you adding me to the Interested Parties List for this project. Joe Vacca should remain on the list.

Thank you,
Michelle

Michelle Glueckert D'Anna
Senior Planner, City of Camarillo
Community Development Department
601 Carmen Drive, Camarillo, California 93010
(805)388-5370
www.cityofcamarillo.org

From: Sussman, Shelley [<mailto:Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, September 04, 2018 2:27 PM
To: Michelle Danna <mdanna@cityofcamarillo.org>
Cc: Batinica, Meighan <Meighan.Batinica@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: Upcoming Planning Commission Hearing on Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridors has been postponed

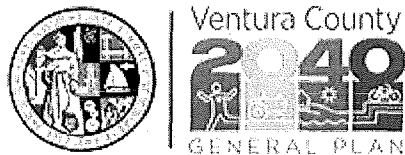
Hello Michelle,

Per your request, you've been added to the Interested Parties list for this project. Can you please let me know if you're replacing Joe Vacca, or should he remain on the list?

Thanks,

Shelley

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



Ventura County Resource Management Agency | Planning Division
P. (805) 654 – 2493 | F. (805) 654-2509
800 S. Victoria Ave., L #1740 | Ventura, CA 93009-1740
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From: Michelle Danna <mdanna@cityofcamarillo.org>

Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2018 8:56 AM

To: Batinica, Meighan <Meighan.Batinica@ventura.org>; Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>

Subject: FW: Upcoming Planning Commission Hearing on Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridors has been postponed

Good morning Shelley and/or Meighan.

Could you please add me to the e-mail distribution list for this project?

mdanna@cityofcamarillo.org

Thank you very much!

Michelle

Michelle Glueckert D'Anna

Senior Planner, City of Camarillo
Community Development Department
601 Carmen Drive, Camarillo, California 93010
(805)388-5370
www.cityofcamarillo.org

From: Joe Vacca

Sent: Tuesday, August 21, 2018 6:03 PM

To: Michelle Danna <mdanna@cityofcamarillo.org>

Cc: David Moe <dmoe@cityofcamarillo.org>; Laura Fox <lfox@ci.camarillo.ca.us>; Jamie Avila <javila@cityofcamarillo.org>; Janessa Gutierrez <jgutierrez@cityofcamarillo.org>

Subject: Fwd: Upcoming Planning Commission Hearing on Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridors has been postponed

Hi Michelle,

FYI -

Are you signed up to receive these updates also? Please let me know.

Joe Vacca

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Sussman, Shelley" <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>

Date: August 21, 2018 at 3:00:13 PM PDT

To: "Sussman, Shelley" <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>

Cc: "Prillhart, Kim" <Kim.Prillhart@ventura.org>, "Stephens, Chris" <Chris.Stephens@ventura.org>, "Uhlich, Kim" <Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org>, Whitney Wilkinson <wwilkinson@reconenvironmental.com>, "Buehner, Charmaine" <Charmaine.Buehner@ventura.org>, "Hall, Anna" <anna.hall@ventura.org>, "Batinica, Meighan" <Meighan.Batinica@ventura.org>

Subject: Upcoming Planning Commission Hearing on Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridors has been postponed

Hello,

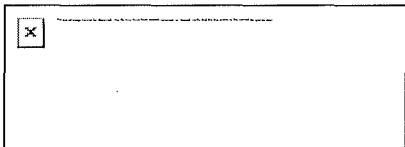
The Planning Commission hearing on the Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridors project that was tentatively scheduled for September 6, 2018 has been postponed. It is now tentatively scheduled for September 20, 2018. Planning Division staff continues to revise and refine the draft ordinance that was reviewed at the stakeholder meeting held on August 14, 2018. A revised version of the proposed ordinance will be available prior to the Planning Commission hearing.

As noted at the stakeholder meeting, the PowerPoint presented by staff and meeting notes are available on the project website under the heading "Stakeholder Meetings":

<https://www.vcrma.org/habitat-connectivity-and-wildlife-movement-corridors>

Thank you.

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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Rodgers, Patricia B.

Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2018 2:52 PM
To: Robert Kwong
Subject: RE: Upcoming Planning Commission Hearing on Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridors has been postponed

Hi Robert,

To respond to your question about inclusion of lands within the CWPA, generally speaking, certain protected lands were excluded (the State and Federally owned parks to the south and Rocky Peak Park to the north). However, others were included (some of the SSFL is under conservation easement and Sage Ranch Park) to ensure the CWPA is a contiguous block of land.

The staff report, (currently a work in progress) will have more information about the CWPAs. Since the CWPAs are a convention that we developed as part of this project, the South Coast Missing Linkages study would not include references to CWPA boundaries.

Thanks,
Shelley

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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From: Robert Kwong <rk Wong@atozlaw.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2018 9:52 AM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: Upcoming Planning Commission Hearing on Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridors has been postponed

Thank you Shelley. Much appreciated.

Did you see the article in the VC Star about DTSC delaying their release of the “decision document” about the cleanup of SSFL? Everyone expected it to come out later this year or in the first half of 2019. More waiting. In the meantime, can you answer a question for me?


What criteria was used to determine that some areas in the Simi Valley Hills area were in the Regional Habitat Linkage/Regional Wildlife Corridor area (Santa Monica – Sierra Madre Connection) but not in the Critical Wildlife Passage Area: Simi Hills? There is a lot of overlap between the two but sometimes they are not the same. Just looking for a good explanation now or if it can be found in the South Coast Missing Linkages study from 2008.

Thanks again for keeping me informed.

Robert

Robert N. Kwong, Attorney at Law

AtoZ | ARNOLD LAROCHELLE MATHEWS
LAW | VANCONAS & ZIRBEL LLP

 Website | Profile | vCard | Directions
300 Esplanade Drive, Suite 2100 | Oxnard, CA 93036
T 805.988.9886 ext 114 F 805.988.1937

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From: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>

Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2018 9:32 AM

To: Robert Kwong <rkwong@atozlaw.com>

Subject: Upcoming Planning Commission Hearing on Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridors has been postponed

Hi Robert,

I know you've been tracking the timing of hearings for this project, so I wanted to inform you that **the Planning Commission hearing on the Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridors project that was tentatively scheduled for September 6, 2018 has been postponed. It is now tentatively scheduled for September 20, 2018.** Planning Division staff continues to revise and refine the draft ordinance. A revised version of the proposed ordinance will be available prior to the Planning Commission hearing.

Thanks,

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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Rodgers, Patricia B.

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Tuesday, August 7, 2018 9:56 AM
To: Oliveri, Celina M@DOT
Cc: Whitney Wilkinson
Subject: RE: Upcoming Meeting on Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridors Draft Ordinance on August 14 at 1:30

Hi Celina,
I believe the Aug 9 meeting you're referring to is the one Whitney is hosting for a small group to review our approach to developing protocols for categorizing road crossings. The August 14 meeting will be large stakeholder meeting to discuss the entire draft habitat connectivity ordinance.

Let me know if you have further questions.

Shelley

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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From: Oliveri, Celina M@DOT <celina.oliveri@dot.ca.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 07, 2018 9:51 AM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Cc: Whitney Wilkinson <wwilkinson@reconenvironmental.com>
Subject: RE: Upcoming Meeting on Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridors Draft Ordinance on August 14 at 1:30

Hello Shelley,

Is this a different meeting from the meeting that was supposed to take place on August 9th? Thank you.

-Celina

From: Sussman, Shelley [<mailto:Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>]
Sent: Friday, August 3, 2018 2:51 PM

To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>

Cc: Prillhart, Kim <Kim.Prillhart@ventura.org>; Stephens, Chris <Chris.Stephens@ventura.org>; Uhlich, Kim <Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org>; Whitney Wilkinson <wwilkinson@reconenvironmental.com>; Buehner, Charmaine <Charmaine.Buehner@ventura.org>; Hall, Anna <anna.hall@ventura.org>; Batinica, Meighan <Meighan.Batinica@ventura.org>

Subject: Upcoming Meeting on Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridors Draft Ordinance on August 14 at 1:30

Hello,

The Ventura County Planning Division invites you to attend a stakeholder meeting to review a draft ordinance related to habitat connectivity and wildlife corridors. **The meeting will take place on Tuesday, August 14, 2018 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Pacific Conference Room.** (See attached map.) The purpose of this meeting is to solicit input from stakeholders on the most current working draft of this ordinance, and therefore, the ordinance is subject to change.

As anticipated, the draft ordinance includes provisions related to fencing, lighting, limiting vegetation removal, treatment of land located within and adjacent to surface water features and wildlife crossing structures, and maintaining connectivity in key locations within the mapped corridors. You will likely note that the current working draft of the ordinance incorporates valuable stakeholder input and guidance received to date as a result of several stakeholder meetings held during the past year.

Seating at the August 14 meeting will be limited. If you are unable to attend, please feel free to identify a designee to attend in your place. Please RSVP by **Friday, August 10** by contacting Meighan Batinica at 805.654.2478 or at Meighan.Batinica@ventura.org.

The draft ordinance will be available on the Planning Division website by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 6, 2018 at the following link.

<https://vcrma.org/habitat-connectivity-and-wildlife-movement-corridors>

If you have any questions about the meeting, please contact me at 805.654.2493 or Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org

Thank you.

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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Rodgers, Patricia B.

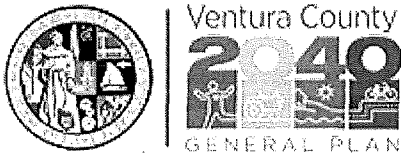
From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Thursday, November 1, 2018 9:56 AM
To: Robert Kwong
Subject: RE: Telephone Call

Hi Robert,

I'm sorry I couldn't make a call work yesterday. I understand you're traveling today. With all the caveats about "the document still being in draft form," it does currently include exemptions for preemptive state/federal laws. For example, the lighting section includes language stating that, "Any facility, equipment, or activity that is subject to preemptive state or federal regulations regarding lighting or illumination" is exempt. There is also a similar exemption related to fencing.

Hope that helps.
Shelley

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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From: Robert Kwong <rk Wong@atozlaw.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 30, 2018 5:56 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: Telephone Call

Shelley:

Thanks for getting back to me. I do want to talk to you about the Habitat Connectivity / Wildlife Passage amendment to the zoning ordinance and exceptions / allowances for temporary measures needed to complete SSFL site remediation such as lighting to allow remediation work in late afternoons when it gets dark at 4pm, DTSC-required remediation equipment and fencing. In other words, we think that there has to be an accommodation in the ordinance for site remediation or other work required by state/federal regulatory agencies. And let's not


forget that certain fencing or other barriers are necessary for the protection and security of historical and Native American sites.

You may be able to accomplish this by a simple provision that the amended zoning ordinance for habitat connectivity does not prohibit actions required by state or federal law.

We can talk more about this hopefully tomorrow Wednesday. I am traveling all day on Thursday. I may be able to speak with you on Friday if I can get a specific time from you. I will be out of the office that day visiting my grandson in Virginia.

Robert N. Kwong, Attorney at Law

AtoZ | ARNOLD LAROCHELLE MATHEWS
LAW | VANCONAS & ZIRBEL LLP

 Website | Profile | vCard | Directions
300 Esplanade Drive, Suite 2100 | Oxnard, CA 93036
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-----Original Message-----

From: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Sent: Tuesday, October 30, 2018 5:01 PM
To: Robert Kwong <rk Wong@atozlaw.com>
Subject: RE: Telephone Call

Hi Robert,

I'm sorry for the delay in getting back to you. I have jury duty tomorrow, but if I'm not seated on a jury, I will try to give you a call. Thursday afternoon looks open, and I work this Friday.

Shelley

-----Original Message-----

From: Robert Kwong <rk Wong@atozlaw.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2018 9:45 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: Telephone Call

Hello Shelley:

When is a good time to call you in the next couple of days to discuss the proposed Habitat Connectivity ordinance amendment? Let me know. Thanks.

Robert

Sent from my iPad

Brower, Neill

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2018 1:06 PM
To: Matthew Wk Shapero
Cc: Whitney Wilkinson
Subject: RE: Schedule meeting this week

The Planning Division is in the **Hall of Administration** at 800 S. Victoria. Take the escalator up one floor from the building lobby and call me. (805.654.2493) I'll come out and get you. If you turn to the right as you step off the escalator, you'll see two chairs and a small seating area. I'll be coming out of the door just to the right of those chairs.

Looking forward to learning from you!

Shelley

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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From: Matthew Wk Shapero <mwkshapero@ucanr.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2018 11:56 AM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: Re: Schedule meeting this week

Sounds good! I'll be happy to come to you. Any special directions, or just come to the office listed in your signature?

Matthew

Matthew Shapero
Livestock & Range Advisor
University of California Cooperative Extension
Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties

669 County Square Drive, Suite #100
Ventura, California 93003
(805) 645-1475
mwkshapero@ucanr.edu

On Jun 26, 2018, at 11:31 AM, Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org> wrote:

Hi Matthew,

Thanks for getting back to me. Does 1:30 – 3:00 tomorrow work for you? We might be able to wrap up in an hour, but I thought I'd schedule 1.5 hours just in case. We can come there, or you can come here...whatever works for you. If you've never been here, I can introduce you to some of the folks here.

Shelley

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org

<image001.png>

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From: Matthew Wk Shapero <mwkshapero@ucanr.edu>

Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2018 10:45 AM

To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>

Subject: Re: Schedule meeting this week

Hi Shelley,

I left you a voicemail, but I have good availability all day tomorrow. Let me know the best time that works for the both of you.

Looking forward to discussing this.

Best, Matthew

Matthew Shapero
Livestock & Range Advisor
University of California Cooperative Extension
Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties

669 County Square Drive Suite #100

On Jun 26, 2018, at 9:55 AM, Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org> wrote:

Hi Matthew,

I'm following up on our brief chat after the LIA meeting last week – Whitney and I would like to meet with you to get your take on some of the proposed provisions of the Draft Habitat Connectivity Ordinance that may affect ranchers. Do you have any time tomorrow or Thursday? Whitney needs to drive down from Santa Barbara, so a super early meeting time might not work so well. I'm available all day tomorrow and Thursday afternoon.

I hope we can work something out! Thanks very much.
Shelley

p.s. Your voice mail box is full.

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org

<image001.png>

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Brower, Neill

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2018 4:06 PM
To: Travis Longcore
Subject: RE: Ventura County's proposed Ordinance for Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Movement

Hi Travis,
Thanks again for your assistance. I'm sure I'll be able to mine these resources for helpful information. I'll keep you posted on the progress of our ordinance.

Shelley

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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From: Travis Longcore <longcore@usc.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2018 2:57 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: Re: Ventura County's proposed Ordinance for Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Movement

These two documents can be used for general overview.

--

Travis Longcore, Ph.D., GISP
Assistant Professor of Architecture, Spatial Sciences, and Biological Sciences

USC School of Architecture *Discipline of Landscape Architecture*
USC Dana & David Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences *Spatial Sciences Institute*
University of Southern California
Watt Hall Room 204
Los Angeles, CA 90089-0291
Tel: 213.821.1310
Mobile: 310.247.9719
Website: <https://www.travislongcore.net>

On Oct 23, 2018, at 10:08 AM, Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org> wrote:

Hello Dr. Longcore,

Thank you very much for your willingness to provide some technical information that I can incorporate into my staff report for the Ventura County Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors regarding the ecological impacts of artificial night lighting. As I mentioned on the phone this morning, we are in the final stages of drafting an ordinance intended to enhance habitat connectivity and wildlife movement in Ventura County. The draft includes several provisions dealing with night lighting, many of which were modeled after the attached Dark Sky Ordinance for parts of the Ojai Valley, which the Board of Supervisors approved last month. (See pg. 12 for standards related to "Agriculture Structures".)

As we discussed, I would like to include a compelling discussion for the lay person about the impacts of night lighting on animals and plants. And, given that agriculture is one of Ventura County's most important industries, I would like to provide information related to the impacts of lighting on pollinating insects, birds and flowering plants.

Please let me know if you have any questions. It would be most helpful to have your information by next Friday, Nov. 2.

Thank you again for your assistance!

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org

<image001.png>

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<ORD. 4528 - DKS Text amendments.pdf>

Rodgers, Patricia B.

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Monday, October 22, 2018 9:47 AM
To: Tony Biasotti
Subject: RE: questions about wildlife corridor project

Hi Tony,
The October 25 hearing was moved to December 6th. I am available Thursday afternoon, if you'd like to talk then.

Thank you.

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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From: Tony Biasotti <tonybiasotti@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 21, 2018 10:12 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: Re: questions about wildlife corridor project

Shelley,

I'm sorry I didn't get in touch a few weeks ago after we exchanged emails. My deadline is coming up now and we should definitely talk in the next week or so. Is there still a hearing scheduled on Oct. 25 on the wildlife corridor project? I didn't see an agenda for it.

Thanks,
Tony Biasotti
805-794-7534

On Mon, Sep 24, 2018 at 3:25 PM Tony Biasotti <tonybiasotti@gmail.com> wrote:

Thank you. My deadline isn't until the end of October so I was thinking I'd attend the Oct. 25 hearing. Let's talk sometime before then. I'll get back to you soon with some times either next week or the week after. My schedule is still a little bit in flux.

On Mon, Sep 24, 2018 at 12:56 PM, Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org> wrote:

Hello Mr. Biasotti.

I'm happy to speak with you about the draft ordinance, which is still being revised and reviewed internally. When is your article deadline? Currently, the proposed provisions related to vegetation removal focus on maintaining a vegetated buffer around surface water features and road crossing structures (like bridges and culverts), since these are important areas for wildlife movement. The draft ordinance does not include a vegetation removal prohibition within the entirety of the mapped wildlife corridor areas. In addition, there are exemptions proposed for vegetation removed from agricultural land and exemptions for vegetation removed pursuant to VC Fire Protection District requirements.

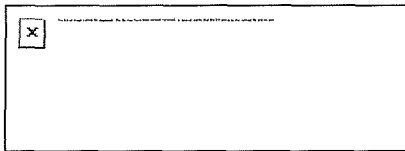
Can we set up a time to talk next week? My schedule is completely open starting Wednesday, Oct. 3.

Thank you,

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner

General Plan Update Team

shelley.sussman@ventura.org



Ventura County Resource Management Agency | Planning Division

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From: Tony Biasotti <tonybiasotti@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 21, 2018 11:08 AM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: questions about wildlife corridor project

Ms. Sussman,

I write for Central Coast Farm & Ranch, the quarterly magazine published by the Ventura County Farm Bureau, and I have some questions for you for an article I'm working on about the in-process wildlife corridor overlay project. Specifically, I'm curious about the impacts on wildfire prevention if farmers and ranchers are prevented from removing chaparral in wildlife corridor areas. Is there a time we could talk about that, sometime before the hearing on Oct. 25?

Thank you,

Tony Biasotti

805-794-7534

Rodgers, Patricia B.

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2018 1:06 PM
To: Matthew Wk Shapero
Cc: Whitney Wilkinson
Subject: RE: Schedule meeting this week

The Planning Division is in the **Hall of Administration** at 800 S. Victoria. Take the escalator up one floor from the building lobby and call me. (805.654.2493) I'll come out and get you. If you turn to the right as you step off the escalator, you'll see two chairs and a small seating area. I'll be coming out of the door just to the right of those chairs.

Looking forward to learning from you!

Shelley

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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From: Matthew Wk Shapero <mwkshapero@ucanr.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2018 11:56 AM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: Re: Schedule meeting this week

Sounds good! I'll be happy to come to you. Any special directions, or just come to the office listed in your signature?

Matthew

Matthew Shapero
Livestock & Range Advisor
University of California Cooperative Extension
Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties

669 County Square Drive, Suite #100
Ventura, California 93003
(805) 645-1475
mwkshapero@ucanr.edu

On Jun 26, 2018, at 11:31 AM, Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org> wrote:

Hi Matthew,

Thanks for getting back to me. Does 1:30 – 3:00 tomorrow work for you? We might be able to wrap up in an hour, but I thought I'd schedule 1.5 hours just in case. We can come there, or you can come here...whatever works for you. If you've never been here, I can introduce you to some of the folks here.

Shelley

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org

<image001.png>

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From: Matthew Wk Shapero <mwkshapero@ucanr.edu>

Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2018 10:45 AM

To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>

Subject: Re: Schedule meeting this week

Hi Shelley,

I left you a voicemail, but I have good availability all day tomorrow. Let me know the best time that works for the both of you.

Looking forward to discussing this.

Best, Matthew

Matthew Shapero
Livestock & Range Advisor
University of California Cooperative Extension
Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties

669 County Square Drive Suite #100

Ventura, California 93003
(805) 645-1475
mwkshapero@ucanr.edu

On Jun 26, 2018, at 9:55 AM, Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org> wrote:

Hi Matthew,

I'm following up on our brief chat after the LIA meeting last week – Whitney and I would like to meet with you to get your take on some of the proposed provisions of the Draft Habitat Connectivity Ordinance that may affect ranchers. Do you have any time tomorrow or Thursday? Whitney needs to drive down from Santa Barbara, so a super early meeting time might not work so well. I'm available all day tomorrow and Thursday afternoon.

I hope we can work something out! Thanks very much.
Shelley

p.s. Your voice mail box is full.

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org

<image001.png>

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Rodgers, Patricia B.

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2018 4:06 PM
To: Travis Longcore
Subject: RE: Ventura County's proposed Ordinance for Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Movement

Hi Travis,
Thanks again for your assistance. I'm sure I'll be able to mine these resources for helpful information. I'll keep you posted on the progress of our ordinance.

Shelley

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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From: Travis Longcore <longcore@usc.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2018 2:57 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: Re: Ventura County's proposed Ordinance for Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Movement

These two documents can be used for general overview.

--

Travis Longcore, Ph.D., GISP
Assistant Professor of Architecture, Spatial Sciences, and Biological Sciences

USC School of Architecture *Discipline of Landscape Architecture*
USC Dana & David Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences *Spatial Sciences Institute*
University of Southern California
Watt Hall Room 204
Los Angeles, CA 90089-0291
Tel: 213.821.1310
Mobile: 310.247.9719
Website: <https://www.travislongcore.net>

On Oct 23, 2018, at 10:08 AM, Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org> wrote:

Hello Dr. Longcore,

Thank you very much for your willingness to provide some technical information that I can incorporate into my staff report for the Ventura County Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors regarding the ecological impacts of artificial night lighting. As I mentioned on the phone this morning, we are in the final stages of drafting an ordinance intended to enhance habitat connectivity and wildlife movement in Ventura County. The draft includes several provisions dealing with night lighting, many of which were modeled after the attached Dark Sky Ordinance for parts of the Ojai Valley, which the Board of Supervisors approved last month. (See pg. 12 for standards related to "Agriculture Structures".)

As we discussed, I would like to include a compelling discussion for the lay person about the impacts of night lighting on animals and plants. And, given that agriculture is one of Ventura County's most important industries, I would like to provide information related to the impacts of lighting on pollinating insects, birds and flowering plants.

Please let me know if you have any questions. It would be most helpful to have your information by next Friday, Nov. 2.

Thank you again for your assistance!

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org

<image001.png>

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<ORD. 4528 - DKS Text amendments.pdf>

Rodgers, Patricia B.

From: Prillhart, Kim
Sent: Wednesday, October 25, 2017 3:48 PM
To: Jensen, Lynn
Cc: 'John Hecht (jhecht@sespeconsulting.com)'; Stephens, Chris; Sussman, Shelley
Subject: RE: Public Records Act Request - Zoning Clearances in Wildlife Corridors

Hello Lynn,

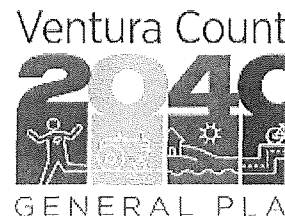
I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this with you as we do not keep the zoning clearances in the manner you are requesting nor was the map used to justify any regulations. As you know, the Board gave RMA this assignment long before the map of zoning clearances was prepared. The issue before us is how development impacts wildlife corridors looking forward - that question remains with or without a map of past history.

Please call me when you have a moment.

Kim

Kim L. Prillhart, AICPI Planning Director
Kim.Prillhart@ventura.org

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Pursuant to the California Public Records Act, email messages retained by the County may constitute public records subject to disclosure.

From: Lynn Gray Jensen [mailto:execdirector@colabvc.org]
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2017 3:47 PM
To: Prillhart, Kim <Kim.Prillhart@ventura.org>
Cc: 'John Hecht (jhecht@sespeconsulting.com)' <jhecht@sespeconsulting.com>; Stephens, Chris <Chris.Stephens@ventura.org>; Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: Public Records Act Request - Zoning Clearances in Wildlife Corridors

Kim,

We understand that you do not keep a list of zoning clearances by type of use. That is why we are requesting to review each of the zoning clearances (paper records or digital) that were used to produce your map. First, zoning clearances are granted for construction and use inauguration in the discretionary entitlement process where the projects have gone through an environmental review. Second, your map uses the following terminology: Examples of common zoning clearances – fences/walls over 6' in height; greenhouses (up to 20,000 s.f.); Accessory structures up to 2,000 s.f). We do not believe that these are common in the last 10 years, particularly in the wildlife corridor areas.

Again, we would like access to the public data to review each of the zone clearances that represents a dot on your map, determine the use and whether they were associated with a discretionary review. The map is very misleading and is being used to justify regulations based on a broad brush representation of past activities.

Thank you,
Lynn

“Collaboration for Sensible Regulatory Solutions”

Lynn Gray Jensen, P.G.
Executive Director
Ventura County Coalition of Labor Agriculture and Business
Phone (805) 633-2291
Email: execdirector@colabvc.org
Website: www.colabvc.org



From: Prillhart, Kim [<mailto:Kim.Prillhart@ventura.org>]
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2017 2:22 PM
To: Lynn Gray Jensen <execdirector@colabvc.org>; Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>; Stephens, Chris <Chris.Stephens@ventura.org>
Cc: 'John Hecht (jhecht@sespeconsulting.com)' <jhecht@sespeconsulting.com>
Subject: RE: Wildlife Corridors

Hi Lynn,

Shelly is on vacation and I am not expecting her back until later this week. As I recall, the map was prepared by simply plotting all ministerial permits over a period of time on the map via GIS. In our normal course of business, we do not keep a list of zoning clearance by the specific type of use (i.e., fence, house, garage, room addition, etc.) – is that what you are requesting under a PRA?

Kim

Kim L. Prillhart, AICPI Planning Director
Kim.Prillhart@ventura.org

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Ventura County
2040
GENERAL PLAN

Pursuant to the California Public Records Act, email messages retained by the County may constitute public records subject to disclosure.

From: Lynn Gray Jensen [<mailto:execdirector@colabvc.org>]
Sent: Thursday, October 19, 2017 12:19 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>; Prillhart, Kim <Kim.Prillhart@ventura.org>; Stephens, Chris

<Chris.Stephens@ventura.org>

Cc: 'John Hecht (jhecht@sespeconsulting.com)' <jhecht@sespeconsulting.com>

Subject: RE: Wildlife Corridors

Shelley,

We appreciate your response and we recognize that the Planning staff is diligently researching development standards in this project. We would like to further discuss your goal to focus on the most sensitive areas within the mapped wildlife corridors with respect to defining these areas.

While we recognize that there are over 1,000 records of zoning clearances, the ministerial permit map based on these records is misleading and we believe this will perpetuate misunderstandings by the public.

We are asking that the records for these maps be made available to VC CoLAB to review per the California Public Records Act, Government Code Section 6250 et seq. If they are paper records, we would like to be able to view them at the County offices and have copies made of pertinent records. If they are digital we would like to have access to the files or have the files downloaded to a CD. Please let us know your timeframe for this request as we need to address this matter quickly.

Thank you,

Lynn

“Collaboration for Sensible Regulatory Solutions”

Lynn Gray Jensen, P.G.

Executive Director

Ventura County Coalition of Labor Agriculture and Business

Phone (805) 633-2291

Email: execdirector@colabvc.org

Website: www.colabvc.org



From: Sussman, Shelley [<mailto:Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>]

Sent: Thursday, October 19, 2017 11:45 AM

To: Lynn Gray Jensen <execdirector@colabvc.org>

Cc: Prillhart, Kim <Kim.Prillhart@ventura.org>

Subject: Wildlife Corridors

Lynn,

I wanted to get back to you after our brief call on Tuesday. Based on our conversation, I'm assuming what you wanted to discuss was the ministerial permit map that was part of our outreach presentation and the data that was used to create it. As I mentioned, zoning clearance data is not maintained in a way that allows us to sort by discreet development types - individual project descriptions are too variable to allow for such sorting. Over 1,000 different records were used to create that map and it reflects the full range of ministerial development types, not just the three examples that were included in the slide (i.e., fences/walls over 6 ft.; greenhouses; and accessory structures).

Staff is still researching development standards that make the most sense and as we discussed during our outreach meetings, one of our goals is to focus on the most sensitive areas within the mapped wildlife corridors.

I will be out of town for the next several days and won't be back in time to attend the meeting on Oct. 25. However, someone from the Planning Division is hoping to attend to listen to the discussion.

Thank you.

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team

shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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Rodgers, Patricia B.

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Friday, November 9, 2018 11:48 AM
To: randy0302@verizon.net
Subject: RE: property development

Hello Randy,

A couple of clarifications: Based on the proposed regulations, a landowner would still be able to develop on both halves of the property with a discretionary permit. The proposed compact development regulations would actually not apply to land zoned RE in the Simi Hills.

Re: your question about OS-10 zoning: Assuming the lot is legal, you would still be able to develop any of the allowed OS uses on the property. (See the zoning ordinance.) However, it's important to note that the County's General Plan allows a five percent building lot coverage limit on land zoned Open Space and this lot coverage limit applies to OS parcels of any size. (The building lot coverage limit on this parcel would 5% of 3 acres.)

I would suggest calling April Hernandez in the County Surveyor's office regarding legal lot status. Her number is 805.654.2068.

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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From: randy0302@verizon.net <randy0302@verizon.net>
Sent: Friday, November 09, 2018 9:52 AM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: property development

Thank you. Much clearer now. The biggest impact is the proposed wildlife corridor that requires a 50% allocation to remain undeveloped. Looks like these rules applies (SFH) to whether it is OS, RA or RE. I do have one more question.

If the zoning is OS-10acres, does that mean the lot has to be 10 acres in size to do any development?

	OS	AE	RA	RE	RO	R1	R2
Non-Stealth Facilities, 50 feet or less in height (45)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Non-Stealth Facilities, over 50 feet in height, or Stealth Facilities over 80 feet (See § 8107-45.4(f)) (45)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
CULTURAL/HISTORIC USES (29)							
Cultural Heritage Sites with Ordinance Deviations (29)		Pursuant to Article 7 and principal or					
Historic Repository (29) (40)			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Interpretive Centers (29)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
DWELLINGS (43)							
Dwellings, Single-Family * (Mobilehomes - See Sec. 8107-1.3)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

From: Sussman, Shelley [mailto:Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org]

Sent: Thursday, November 08, 2018 5:54 PM

To: randy0302@verizon.net

Subject: RE: property development

Hello Randy,

There are many uses allowed on land zoned OS – Article 5 of the Non-Coastal Zoning Ordinance lists them. https://docs.vcrma.org/images/pdf/planning/ordinances/VCNCZO_Current.pdf

Changing the Land Use designation of the parcel, (which is identified as Open Space), would require voter approval. However, uses that are allowed in the Open Space zone pursuant to the zoning ordinance do not require voter approval. The proposed wildlife corridor (if it is approved) would add certain development provisions to the zoning ordinance. I listed some of them in the first email response I sent to you.

In addition, because the parcel of interest is in one of the proposed “critical wildlife passage areas”, there are proposed standards that would require more compact development to help maintain undeveloped areas that can serve as linkages for wildlife movement. The standard allows for a ministerial (over-the-counter) permit for most new structures, additions, uses, and installation of wildlife impermeable fences, provided that they are sited exclusively in one of two contiguous areas created by a line bisecting the lot into two sections of equal area, (chosen by the property owner), or if they are located entirely within 100 feet of a public road or street or an existing structure, use, driveway, or publicly accessible trail on the same lot.

Development proposals involving new uses, or wildlife impermeable fencing on both sections of the lot, would require a discretionary permit.

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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From: randy0302@verizon.net <randy0302@verizon.net>
Sent: Thursday, November 08, 2018 5:20 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: property development

I pulled the following on the property and found out it is zoned OS-10ac. If I read OS regs correctly, open space is undevelopable land unless the voters approve otherwise. Is all of this correct?

From: Sussman, Shelley [<mailto:Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>]
Sent: Thursday, November 08, 2018 2:02 PM
To: randy0302@verizon.net
Subject: RE: property development

Hello Randy,
I apologize for the delay in getting back to you. The parcel that you've identified below is within the boundary of the proposed Simi Hills Critical Wildlife Passage Area.

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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From: randy0302@verizon.net <randy0302@verizon.net>
Sent: Thursday, November 01, 2018 5:14 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: property development

648-0-270-030

Thank you for your time.

From: Sussman, Shelley [<mailto:Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>]
Sent: Thursday, November 01, 2018 4:06 PM
To: randy0302@verizon.net
Subject: RE: property development

Hello Randy,

In general, the draft ordinance has provisions dealing with outdoor night-lighting, set-backs around surface water features and some road-crossings (culverts and bridges) where development would likely require permits, limits on the amount of new wildlife impermeable fencing that can be installed, and a prohibition against intentionally planting invasive plants, (unless they are being planted as a commercial crop). In addition, there are 3 areas within the overall wildlife corridor where staff is proposing a "compact development siting standard." These 3 areas, (referred to as Critical Wildlife Passage Areas) include parts of Oak View, the Tierra Rejada Valley, and the Simi Hills. Development would still be allowed in these areas, but the proposed regulations require that development be clustered. Before going into more detail about these CWPA areas, it would be helpful to know where the parcel of interest is located. If you have an APN, I can verify whether the parcel is within one of these CWPA areas.

Please note that the ordinance is still a draft and provisions may change before it's finalized.

Thank you.

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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From: randy0302@verizon.net <randy0302@verizon.net>
Sent: Tuesday, October 30, 2018 4:07 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: property development

Shelley:

I am looking at purchasing raw undeveloped land that is within the proposed wildlife corridor. I would like to know what limitations may be imposed upon such development or if development may be prevented in its entirety.

Thank you,
Randy

Rodgers, Patricia B.

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Thursday, August 9, 2018 8:43 AM
To: Tim Cohen
Subject: RE: One quick question.....

Hi Tim,
Do you want to send me an email with your questions?

Shelley

From: Tim Cohen <tcohen@ranchotemescal.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 09, 2018 8:32 AM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: Re: One quick question.....

Hi Shelley...I have a few more questions....what is the best way to get answers...I do not want to take away from the groups time, but some of this is rather confusing....

Thanks,

Tim

From: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Sent: Wednesday, August 8, 2018 5:35:19 PM
To: Tim Cohen
Subject: RE: One quick question.....

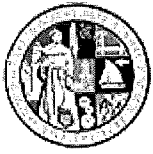
Hi Tim,
As defined in the Non-Coastal Zoning Ordinance, lots and parcels have the same meaning.

Parcel - For the purposes of this Chapter, the word "parcel" shall have the same meaning as the word "lot" and the two words shall be synonymous.

Hope that helps.

Shelley

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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From: Tim Cohen <tcohen@ranchotemescal.com>

Sent: Wednesday, August 08, 2018 4:46 PM

To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>

Subject: One quick question.....

Hi Shelley,

What is a "lot" as described on page 17....am familiar with parcels, but not lots....can you help me with that?

Thanks,

Tim

From: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>

Sent: Friday, August 3, 2018 2:51 PM

To: Sussman, Shelley

Cc: Prillhart, Kim; Stephens, Chris; Uhlich, Kim; Whitney Wilkinson; Buehner, Charmaine; Hall, Anna; Batinica, Meighan

Subject: Upcoming Meeting on Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridors Draft Ordinance on August 14 at 1:30

Hello,

The Ventura County Planning Division invites you to attend a stakeholder meeting to review a draft ordinance related to habitat connectivity and wildlife corridors. **The meeting will take place on Tuesday, August 14, 2018 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Pacific Conference Room.** (See attached map.) The purpose of this meeting is to solicit input from stakeholders on the most current working draft of this ordinance, and therefore, the ordinance is subject to change.

As anticipated, the draft ordinance includes provisions related to fencing, lighting, limiting vegetation removal, treatment of land located within and adjacent to surface water features and wildlife crossing structures, and maintaining connectivity in key locations within the mapped corridors. You will likely note that the current working draft of the ordinance incorporates valuable stakeholder input and guidance received to date as a result of several stakeholder meetings held during the past year.

Seating at the August 14 meeting will be limited. If you are unable to attend, please feel free to identify a designee to attend in your place. Please RSVP by **Friday, August 10** by contacting Meighan Batinica at 805.654.2478 or at Meighan.Batinica@ventura.org.

The draft ordinance will be available on the Planning Division website by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 6, 2018 at the following link.

<https://vcrma.org/habitat-connectivity-and-wildlife-movement-corridors>

If you have any questions about the meeting, please contact me at 805.654.2493 or Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org

Thank you.

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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Rodgers, Patricia B.

From: Prillhart, Kim
Sent: Wednesday, January 9, 2019 9:59 AM
To: Jensen, Lynn; Sussman, Shelley
Cc: John Hecht; Hall, Anna
Subject: RE: Meeting on the CWPA regulations

Hello Lynn,

We are working to get all of the information up on our website on Monday. That will include the draft ordinance (that addressees comments that we heard from the working group and the public), the staff report, maps and and responses to a set of questions that we have heard from the community.

I believe a meeting will be more productive after you have had an opportunity to review those documents. How about the following Monday? If that works, I'll ask Anna to set it up.

Hope you had a great New Years Lynn~

Kim

-----Original Message-----

From: Lynn Gray Jensen <execdirector@colabvc.org>
Sent: Tuesday, January 08, 2019 4:48 PM
To: Prillhart, Kim <Kim.Prillhart@ventura.org>; Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Cc: John Hecht <jhecht@sespeconsulting.com>
Subject: Meeting on the CWPA regulations

Kim and Shelley,

Would it be possible to meet and have a discussion about the proposed regulations for the CWPAs next week so CoLab has a better understanding of how they will work? Any possibility of Monday afternoon on 1-14, or morning on 1-15? Please let me know.

Thank you,
Lynn

Lynn Gray Jensen
Sent from my iPhone

Rodgers, Patricia B.

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Tuesday, September 25, 2018 12:48 PM
To: Chad Christensen
Subject: RE: HCOZ project

Hello Chad,
Thank you for your interest in the project. Per your request, you have been added to the interested parties list.

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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From: Chad Christensen <chad.christensen@mrca.ca.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 25, 2018 11:28 AM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: HCOZ project

Hello Shelley,

Can you please add me to the list of interested parties for the HCOZ and Wildlife Corridor project?

Thank you,
Chad

Chad Christensen
Project Analyst
Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority
5810 Ramirez Canyon Road
Malibu, California 90265
310-589-3230, ext.121

Rodgers, Patricia B.

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Wednesday, October 17, 2018 9:26 AM
To: E.J. Remson
Subject: RE: HCOZ Dates

Hi E.J. You are correct. We will not have a Board hearing until after the first of the year. We have not yet identified a tentative date.

Thanks,
Shelley

P.S. I recently found out that CoLAB has set up a "Wildlife Corridor Legal Fund" to raise money to sue the County over this ordinance.

From: E.J. Remson <eremson@TNC.ORG>
Sent: Tuesday, October 16, 2018 5:52 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: HCOZ Dates

Hi Shelly,

I think you noted that the BoS meeting on the HCOZ would not be until after the first of the year since the PC meeting is now in December. Is that correct?

Thanks,

E.J.

E.J. Remson
Senior Program Manager
eremson@tnc.org
(626) 799-2445

The Nature Conservancy
532 E Main St., Suite 200
Ventura, CA 93001
nature.org

The Nature
Conservancy 
Protecting nature. Preserving life.

Rodgers, Patricia B.

Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2018 5:13 PM
To: E.J. Remson
Cc: Whitney Wilkinson
Subject: RE: HCOZ Approvals

Hi E.J.,

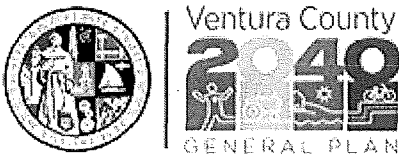
Thanks for the update. I can speak in general terms about the CWPA configurations and tell you that there were a number of factors the team considered when it evaluated these areas. For example, we looked at existing habitat value, the extent of existing development, ownership (public vs. private), proximity to major water courses, proximity to urban development, and others. The Oak View area in particular contains some valuable habitat and both Lake Casitas and the Ventura River serve as important regional habitat areas. It also

It's not likely that we will publish another draft ordinance ahead of the normal public release date for the Planning Commission staff report package, (which is one week prior to the Oct. 25 hearing date).

It would be helpful to receive whatever suggestions you have (either separately or jointly).

Thanks,
Shelley

Shelley Sussman, | Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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From: E.J. Remson <eremson@TNC.ORG>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2018 5:30 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>; Whitney Wilkinson <wwilkinson@reconenvironmental.com>
Subject: RE: HCOZ Approvals

Hi Shelly,

We had a pretty good meeting with Colab today. "We" was Seth, Paul, Kristeen and me. We went over the CWPAs and may have a few suggestions for some exclusions. Our group needs to meet and discuss them further before we offer them up. One question we all had was regarding the Oak View area. Most of us are

unfamiliar with that area and were not sure how those particular parcels were selected. Can you please share your thoughts on that?

We did not have time to get into the site regulations but, as you know, Colab is riled up about them. I noted that there have been many changes to the last draft of the ordinance so we should wait until we have the next iteration before going over it. Do you have an ETA for the next draft?

We all know that we are negotiating without the planning department's input. So any agreement we might reach may not result in changes to the ordinance. Because of the timing of the hearings our next meeting will probably be the last on this topic.

Once we are finished it seems that the two sides should report the results of our discussions separately to you and you can take it from there. Would that be helpful?

Thank you,

E.J.

From: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2018 3:04 PM
To: E.J. Remson <eremson@TNC.ORG>; Whitney Wilkinson <wwilkinson@reconenvironmental.com>
Subject: RE: HCOZ Approvals

Let's try for after your GMA meeting. Give me a call when you're done. 805.654.2493
Thanks,
Shelley

From: E.J. Remson <eremson@TNC.ORG>
Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2018 2:26 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>; Whitney Wilkinson <wwilkinson@reconenvironmental.com>
Cc: Convery, Abigail <Abigail.Convery@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: HCOZ Approvals

Hi Shelley,

I am in meetings most of the day tomorrow and mostly with the Fox Canyon GMA. My last meeting should be done at ~4:30PM in the Govt. Center. Are you available then? I could walk over to planning. If not Monday I am open at 9:00, 11:00 or after 3:00 for a call.

Let me know which if any you prefer.

Thanks,

E.J.

From: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2018 1:48 PM
To: E.J. Remson <eremson@TNC.ORG>; Whitney Wilkinson <wwilkinson@reconenvironmental.com>
Cc: Convery, Abigail <Abigail.Convery@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: HCOZ Approvals

Hi E.J. Thanks for reaching out to discuss the status of the wildlife corridor project. Do you have time tomorrow (maybe around 11:00) to talk by phone?

Shelley

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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From: E.J. Remson <eremson@TNC.ORG>
Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2018 1:16 PM
To: Convery, Abigail <Abigail.Convery@ventura.org>
Cc: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: HCOZ Approvals

Thanks Abi. Shelly can we plan a time to talk by phone?
E.J.

From: Convery, Abigail <Abigail.Convery@ventura.org>
Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2018 12:38 PM
To: E.J. Remson <eremson@TNC.ORG>
Cc: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: HCOZ Approvals

Hi E.J.,

Shelley is the most knowledgeable. She can be reached at 805-654-2493 . I am no longer really working on this project, but I am sure you both can catch each other up to speed on this.
The opposition to this is far more vocal to the regulations ..which is a big problem. The conservation community will need to become much more vocal and organized if this is going to move forward.

Hope you are well!

Thanks,
Abi

From: E.J. Remson <eremson@TNC.ORG>
Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2018 12:14 PM

To: Convery, Abigail <Abigail.Convery@ventura.org>

Subject: HCOZ Approvals

Hi Abi,

I understand that Colab held another public meeting to rally opposition to the county wide HCOZ (not just the coastal zone). It would be very helpful to know what the main issues are so we can address them. Do you have a good understanding of them? If so can you please provide a short summary? If not is there someone else that is more knowledgeable?

Also, is there a current draft available for review?

Thanks,

E.J.

E.J. Remson
Senior Program Manager
eremson@tnc.org
(626) 799-2445

The Nature Conservancy
532 E Main St., Suite 200
Ventura, CA 93001
nature.org



Rodgers, Patricia B.

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Wednesday, August 29, 2018 9:50 AM
To: Kaycee M. Royer
Cc: Meriem Hubbard
Subject: RE: Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Movement Corridors

Hello Ms. Royer,

Per your request, I have added you to the interested parties list. People on this list will be notified when public notice has been published regarding both the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors' hearings. For other project updates, I suggest you monitor the project website, which can be accessed at the link below:

<https://vcrma.org/habitat-connectivity-and-wildlife-movement-corridors>

As noted on our website, Planning Division staff continues to revise and refine the draft ordinance. The proposed draft ordinance that will be considered by the Planning Commission will be available to the public one week prior to the Planning Commission hearing. Any interested party may submit comments to the Planning Commission at any time.

Thank you.

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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From: Kaycee M. Royer <KRoyer@pacificlegal.org>
Sent: Tuesday, August 28, 2018 11:22 AM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Cc: Meriem Hubbard <MHubbard@pacificlegal.org>
Subject: Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Movement Corridors

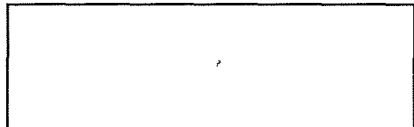
Good morning,

I am interested in being added to the interested parties list for the Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Movement Corridors project so that I can receive updates on the project.

I was also wondering when any comments on the proposed draft ordinance should be submitted. I saw that you were accepting comments for the September 6th meeting until August 24th, but I understand the meeting was delayed until the 20th. I assume this means you will be accepting comments until a later date as well?

Thanks,

Kaycee M. Royer | Attorney
Pacific Legal Foundation
930 G Street | Sacramento, CA 95814
916.419.7111

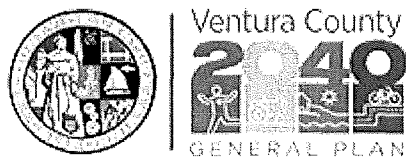


Rodgers, Patricia B.

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2018 11:43 AM
To: Diane Rossiter
Subject: RE: Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Movement Corridor

Hello Ms. Rossiter,
Per your request, I will add you to the interested parties list.

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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From: Diane Rossiter <gm@bellcanyon.com>
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2018 9:04 AM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Movement Corridor

I would like to be added to any related communications as an interested party. Thank you.

Best,

Diane Rossiter

Bell Canyon Association
General Manager
30 Hackamore Ln. Suite 8
Bell Canyon, CA 91307-1001
818-346-9879
bellcanyon.com

Rodgers, Patricia B.

Sent: Monday, September 17, 2018 4:04 PM
To: Carla Bollinger
Subject: RE: Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Movement - Meeting and Comments

Hello Carla,

The Planning Commission hearing on the Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridor project is tentatively scheduled for Oct. 25, 2018. Any comments you submit prior to Oct. 12 will be included as part of the staff report. However, you may submit comments directly to the Planning Commission up through the day of the hearing.

From: Carla Bollinger <Carla.Bollinger@halo.com>
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2018 3:58 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Movement - Meeting and Comments

Hi Shelley,

I'm double-checking that comments for the Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Movement are due by Sept. 20 and the VC RMA meeting is tentatively scheduled for Oct. 25?

I just want to be sure I have these dates correct.

Thank you,

Carla Bollinger

Public Land Alliance Network/PLAN and Sierra Club member

Carla.bollinger@halo.com (respond)

planopenspace@gmail.com | 818.307.6418

Rodgers, Patricia B.

Sent: Thursday, September 20, 2018 12:59 PM
To: Kaycee M. Royer
Cc: Meriem Hubbard
Subject: RE: Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridor Project

Hello Ms. Royer,
Planning Division staff continues to revise the ordinance. If you want staff to review any suggested revisions and consider your thoughts, I suggest submitting them as soon as possible.

You can send correspondence to

From: Kaycee M. Royer <KRoyer@pacificlegal.org>
Sent: Thursday, September 20, 2018 10:39 AM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Cc: Meriem Hubbard <MHubbard@pacificlegal.org>
Subject: Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridor Project

Good morning,

I was wondering if you could provide me with an address or advice on the best way to send a comment letter to the planning commission regarding the habitat connectivity and wildlife corridor project? We realize that the commission is in the process of re-writing the ordinance and wanted to send along some thoughts for the commission to consider before the next draft is finalized.

Thanks,

Kaycee M. Royer | Attorney
Pacific Legal Foundation
930 G Street | Sacramento, CA 95814
916.419.7111



Rodgers, Patricia B.

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Wednesday, January 10, 2018 5:41 PM
To: Robert Kwong
Subject: RE: Habitat Connectivity / Wildlife Movement Corridors

Robert,
You're already on the list to receive project notifications.

Thanks,
Shelley

From: Robert Kwong [mailto:rk Wong@atozlaw.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 10, 2018 4:39 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: Habitat Connectivity / Wildlife Movement Corridors

Shelley:
Thank you for the information. Please add me to your interested parties list for this planning project.
Robert

Robert N. Kwong, Attorney at Law
Arnold LaRochelle Mathews VanConas & Zirbel LLP
300 Esplanade Drive, Suite 2100 | Oxnard, CA 93036
T 805.988.9886 ext 114 F 805.988.1937

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From: Sussman, Shelley [mailto:Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org]
Sent: Wednesday, January 10, 2018 2:27 PM
To: Robert Kwong
Subject: RE: Habitat Connectivity / Wildlife Movement Corridors

Hi Robert,
We have not set a date for the Planning Commission hearing on this matter. We are aiming for spring hearings for both the PC and the Board. Any draft ordinance and policy language will be made available to interested parties prior to the hearings, but as of now, we're not sure what form that outreach will take.

Thanks,
Shelley

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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From: Robert Kwong [<mailto:rkwong@atozlaw.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 10, 2018 1:17 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: Habitat Connectivity / Wildlife Movement Corridors


Hello Shelley!

I am doing a little research for one of my land use clients and would like to know when this general plan/zoning ordinance project is set to go to the Planning Commission. I see that there was a presentation in August 2017 but nothing since then. Will there be another information session before the Planning Commission? And finally, when is your best estimate on this going to the Board for approval? Thanks.

Robert

Robert N. Kwong, Attorney at Law

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Rodgers, Patricia B.

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Thursday, June 14, 2018 10:25 AM
To: Robert Kwong
Subject: RE: Habitat Connectivity & Wildlife Movement Corridors

Hi Robert,

Pursuant to our prior email correspondence, I wanted to update you on the latest tentative dates for the Habitat Connectivity project. We're currently on the Planning Commission hearing schedule for Sept. 6 and the Board's hearing schedule for Oct. 30. The draft ordinance is still in internal review, so timing could still shift. But, I don't envision holding hearings any earlier in the year than the dates I've identified above.

Shelley

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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From: Robert Kwong <rk Wong@atozlaw.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2018 3:57 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: Habitat Connectivity & Wildlife Movement Corridors

I really appreciate it Shelley. Thanks.

Robert N. Kwong, Attorney at Law

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From: Sussman, Shelley [<mailto:Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2018 3:38 PM
To: Robert Kwong <rkwong@atozlaw.com>
Subject: RE: Habitat Connectivity & Wildlife Movement Corridors

Hi Robert,

I will make a point of notifying you when firm dates emerge, especially since you are trying to plan around the (more important!) matter of a grandchild. Congratulations to you and your family!

Shelley

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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From: Robert Kwong <rkwong@atozlaw.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2018 1:42 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: Habitat Connectivity & Wildlife Movement Corridors

Hello Shelley:

This information is helpful. Thanks.

Currently, I am most interested in how the ordinance will impact properties along the habitat corridor that links the Santa Monica Mountains to Simi Valley and the San Gabriel Mountain range.

I will keep checking and looking for firm dates when this is scheduled for the Planning Commission and then the Board of Supervisors.


I am planning to visit my son and daughter-in-law in the first two weeks of July 2018 as they are expecting their first child then.

Robert

Robert N. Kwong, Attorney at Law



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VANCONAS & ZIRBEL LLP

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From: Sussman, Shelley [<mailto:Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2018 12:21 PM
To: Robert Kwong <rk Wong@atozlaw.com>
Subject: RE: Habitat Connectivity & Wildlife Movement Corridors

Hi Robert,

The project is on the Draft BOS agenda for Aug. 7. We reserved a slot on that day some time ago, knowing the Board is dark after Aug. 7 for several weeks. We still haven't identified a firm date for the PC, but as you know, to make an Aug. 7 Board date, we'd have to go to the PC sometime during June/mid-July. To be honest, the timing is very tight.

I can tell you that we are closing in on a final draft of the Ordinance, but there are still several project tasks to complete before the draft is ready for public review. I'm sorry I can't offer more definitive information regarding hearing dates.

Best,
Shelley

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



Ventura County
2040
GENERAL PLAN

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From: Robert Kwong <rkwong@atozlaw.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2018 11:01 AM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: Habitat Connectivity & Wildlife Movement Corridors

I just read the most recent DRAFT Board of Supervisors agenda which contains a list of upcoming items and proposed dates when they will appear on the Board's meeting agenda and the above is listed with an August 2018 date. Please confirm this timing for this item and let me know if this will be scheduled before the Planning Commission in June or July 2017. Thanks again.

Robert N. Kwong, Attorney at Law

AtoZ | ARNOLD LAROCHELLE MATHEWS
LAW | VANCONAS & ZIRBEL LLP

 Website | Profile | vCard | Directions
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Rodgers, Patricia B.

Sent: Friday, October 5, 2018 2:43 PM
To: kristeen@scwildlands.org
Subject: RE: Following Up on Our Meeting of Yesterday

Hi Kristeen,

I don't know the answer to your question. But I will send the shapefile over to you once Jose sends it to me so you can check the areas you're asking about. The instruction he had was to fill in the holes within the boundaries of the linkages in your shapefile, (including those within the SC River).

From: kristeen@scwildlands.org <kristeen@scwildlands.org>
Sent: Friday, October 05, 2018 2:13 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: Following Up on Our Meeting of Yesterday

Hey there Shelley,

Did the revisions include incorporating existing protected areas as part of the linkage design? When we added habitat to the Least Cost Union to support the needs of other focal species, the intent was to build off of existing protected areas. I'm thinking mainly along Mount Clef Ridge, the Santa Clara River and Happy Camp.

Best,
Kristeen

From: "Sussman, Shelley" <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Sent: Friday, October 5, 2018 1:49 PM
To: "kristeen@scwildlands.org" <kristeen@scwildlands.org>
Cc: "Whitney Wilkinson" <wwilkinson@reconenvironmental.com>, "Uhlich, Kim" <Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org>, "Moreno, Jose" <Jose.Moreno@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: Following Up on Our Meeting of Yesterday

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It would still be really helpful, as Kim Uhlich explained in her email yesterday, to have a letter from you explaining that the map amendments are consistent with the intent of the original model, why the Ventura River was not included in your original linkage design, and why formally including it is justified.

Thanks again!
Shelley

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Sent: Friday, October 05, 2018 10:01 AM
To: Uhlich, Kim <Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org>
Cc: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>; Whitney Wilkinson <wwilkinson@reconenvironmental.com>
Subject: re: Following Up on Our Meeting of Yesterday

Hey there Kim, Shelley, and Whitney

No problem, this is such an exciting project!

I started working on the GIS layer yesterday afternoon. It will take a bit more time than I originally thought but I estimate I can get it completed by close of business on Monday. Does that work? I'm also happy to provide a letter as requested but won't be able to get to that for another week or so.

Most of our work has been consulting rather than grant based over the last few years, so if there are any discretionary funds to support a few days of work that would be grand. If not, no worries.

Best,
Kristeen

From: "Uhlich, Kim" <Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org>
Sent: Thursday, October 4, 2018 2:02 PM
To: "kristeen@scwildlands.org" <kristeen@scwildlands.org>
Cc: "Sussman, Shelley" <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>, "Whitney Wilkinson" <wwilkinson@reconenvironmental.com>
Subject: Following Up on Our Meeting of Yesterday

Greetings Kristeen,

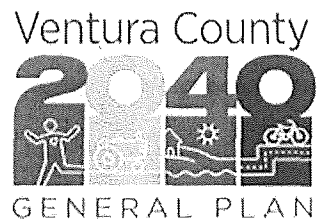
Thank you again for your time on the phone yesterday.

Since then, we have reviewed the mapping issues with management and have decided to follow your recommendation (i.e., use the SC Linkages maps with the internal 'holes' filled in and add the lower reach of the Ventura River). Is your offer to create a new map for us by modifying portions of the two Linkages maps which overly Ventura County to conform with the above description? If so, would you kindly provide an estimate of when you could complete this map?

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Please call Shelley if you have questions.

Thank you so much,
Kim Uhlich, MPA | Senior Planner
Residential Permits Section
Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org



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Rodgers, Patricia B.

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Friday, October 5, 2018 2:45 PM
To: kristeen@scwildlands.org
Subject: RE: Following Up on Our Meeting of Yesterday
Attachments: VC_Linkage_Designs.zip

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi Kristeen,
I don't know the answer to your question. But I've attached the shapefile so you can check the areas you're asking about. The instruction Jose (our GIS mgr) had was to fill in the holes within the boundaries of the linkages in your shapefile, (including those within the SC River). Not sure about the other 2 areas you mentioned.

Shelley

From: kristeen@scwildlands.org <kristeen@scwildlands.org>
Sent: Friday, October 05, 2018 2:13 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: Following Up on Our Meeting of Yesterday

Hey there Shelley,

Did the revisions include incorporating existing protected areas as part of the linkage design? When we added habitat to the Least Cost Union to support the needs of other focal species, the intent was to build off of existing protected areas. I'm thinking mainly along Mount Clef Ridge, the Santa Clara River and Happy Camp.

Best,
Kristeen

From: "Sussman, Shelley" <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Sent: Friday, October 5, 2018 1:49 PM
To: "kristeen@scwildlands.org" <kristeen@scwildlands.org>
Cc: "Whitney Wilkinson" <wwilkinson@reconenvironmental.com>, "Uhlich, Kim" <Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org>, "Moreno, Jose" <Jose.Moreno@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: Following Up on Our Meeting of Yesterday

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Thanks again!
Shelley

From: kristeen@scwildlands.org <kristeen@scwildlands.org>
Sent: Friday, October 05, 2018 10:01 AM
To: Uhlich, Kim <Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org>
Cc: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>; Whitney Wilkinson <wwilkinson@reconenvironmental.com>
Subject: re: Following Up on Our Meeting of Yesterday

Hey there Kim, Shelley, and Whitney

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I started working on the GIS layer yesterday afternoon. It will take a bit more time than I originally thought but I estimate I can get it completed by close of business on Monday. Does that work? I'm also happy to provide a letter as requested but won't be able to get to that for another week or so.

Most of our work has been consulting rather than grant based over the last few years, so if there are any discretionary funds to support a few days of work that would be grand. If not, no worries.

Best,
Kristeen

From: "Uhlich, Kim" <Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org>
Sent: Thursday, October 4, 2018 2:02 PM
To: "kristeen@scwildlands.org" <kristeen@scwildlands.org>
Cc: "Sussman, Shelley" <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>, "Whitney Wilkinson" <wwilkinson@reconenvironmental.com>
Subject: Following Up on Our Meeting of Yesterday

Greetings Kristeen,

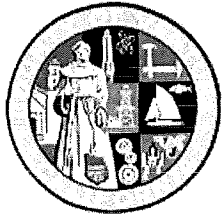
Thank you again for your time on the phone yesterday.

Since then, we have reviewed the mapping issues with management and have decided to follow your recommendation (i.e., use the SC Linkages maps with the internal 'holes' filled in and add the lower reach of the Ventura River). Is your offer to create a new map for us by modifying portions of the two Linkages maps which overly Ventura County to conform with the above description? If so, would you kindly provide an estimate of when you could complete this map?

Also, if you have time and feel comfortable doing so, our legal counsel has advised us to request a letter from you (as an author of the Missing Linkages reports) explaining the justification for making the map amendments requested herein. In particular, if you agree that the requested amendments are consistent with the intent of the original model, it would be most helpful if you could state as such. As for the Ventura River justification, we think it would be valuable to have a written explanation as to why the lower Ventura River corridor was not included in the scope of the Linkages studies and why you think it nevertheless merits inclusion based on your professional knowledge of the area and certain aquatic fauna.

Please call Shelley if you have questions.

Thank you so much,
Kim Uhlich, MPA | Senior Planner
Residential Permits Section
Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org



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Rodgers, Patricia B.

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Friday, October 19, 2018 11:06 AM
To: kristeen@scwildlands.org
Subject: RE: Following Up on Our Meeting of Yesterday

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

That's great news! I hope it didn't mean having to postpone any necessary medical procedures!

Shelley

From: kristeen@scwildlands.org <kristeen@scwildlands.org>
Sent: Friday, October 19, 2018 11:03 AM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: Following Up on Our Meeting of Yesterday

Hey there Shelley,

Just wanted to let you know that I'll be able to participate in the Dec. 6th hearing.

Kristeen

From: "Sussman, Shelley" <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Sent: Friday, October 19, 2018 9:25 AM
To: "kristeen@scwildlands.org" <kristeen@scwildlands.org>
Cc: "Uhlich, Kim" <Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: Following Up on Our Meeting of Yesterday

Hello Kristeen,
Thank you for your letter. We appreciate your time and effort. We'll take a look and let you know if we have any questions.

Shelley

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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From: kristeen@scwildlands.org <kristeen@scwildlands.org>
Sent: Thursday, October 18, 2018 9:51 AM
To: Uhlich, Kim <Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org>
Cc: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: Following Up on Our Meeting of Yesterday

Shelley and Kim,

I've attached the requested letter for your review and input. Please let me know if it needs any changes or improvements.

Best,
Kristeen

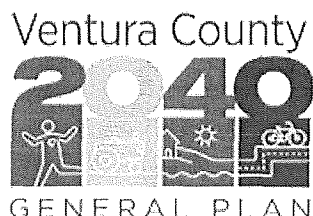
From: "Uhlich, Kim" <Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org>
Sent: Tuesday, October 16, 2018 11:06 AM
To: "kristeen@scwildlands.org" <kristeen@scwildlands.org>
Cc: "Sussman, Shelley" <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: Following Up on Our Meeting of Yesterday

Greetings Kristeen,

We are continuing to make progress and are in the final stages of drafting the proposed wildlife corridor ordinance (including the revised map). We really appreciate your time and willingness to write a letter supporting the inclusion of the protected lands and the Ventura River. Would it be possible for you to send the letter by the end of this week?

Thank you,

Kim Uhlich, MPA | Senior Planner
Residential Permits Section
Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org



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From: kristeen@scwildlands.org <kristeen@scwildlands.org>
Sent: Friday, October 05, 2018 1:55 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Cc: Whitney Wilkinson <wwilkinson@reconenvironmental.com>; Uhlich, Kim <Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org>; Moreno, Jose <Jose.Moreno@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: Following Up on Our Meeting of Yesterday

I actually made some good progress on the layer today if your GIS person hasn't already completed the updates I'd be happy to send it their way. I will shift over to working on the letter.

Best,
Kristeen

From: "Sussman, Shelley" <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Sent: Friday, October 5, 2018 1:49 PM
To: "kristeen@scwildlands.org" <kristeen@scwildlands.org>
Cc: "Whitney Wilkinson" <wwilkinson@reconenvironmental.com>, "Uhlich, Kim" <Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org>, "Moreno, Jose" <Jose.Moreno@ventura.org>
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Thanks again!
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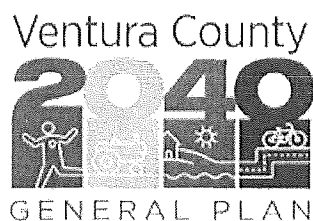
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Pursuant to the California Public Records Act, email messages retained by the County may constitute public records subject to disclosure.

Rodgers, Patricia B.

From: Zack Schuler <zack@ninjio.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2018 3:43 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley
Cc: Prillhart, Kim; Pettit, Mike
Subject: RE: Draft Wildlife Corridor Ordinance

Hi Shelley,

I understand your position, and I understand that it is still in draft phase.

For the record, I will summarize to the best of my memory, what we talked about.

Currently, there is a motocross track on the property. My worry was that I was going to have to knock it down, and let the area grow back to it's normal state. You indicated that I was completely wrong, that is not the case, and that there is nothing in the draft to that effect. Since the motocross track existed before the proposed ordinance, it can stay.

We have a cooperative agreement with the Library whereby we don't ride on days that the Library is having events. I've talked to the guy living at my place now, and showed him the website where he can see the events going on at the Library. He said "absolutely no problem" The Library has actually been a great neighbor to us.

During our discussion of the track, I used the word "grading" of the track when I really should have used "grooming" We have a small tractor that we use to maintain the track. The more the track is ridden, the more it gets "ruts". When we groom the track, we make it smooth, and take out the ruts. You seemed to be OK with that. Then the question that you asked was whether or not the track was within 200ft of a waterway. I told you that it was, but I don't recall you saying anything further, but you seemed to hint that the waterway could pose an issue. I now know that one section is very close to a waterway, probably within 25 ft. If there were a 100ft ordinance from the waterway, we can easily take out a couple of sections of the track, and have the waterway cleared by 130ft. I know the last draft had 200ft from the waterway.

I talked about how in the beginning of building the track, I got a notice from Jim O'Tousa of "Unauthorized Grading." He met me at my house, we went over the problem areas. I had them fixed shortly thereafter, he came by and did another inspection and signed off my file (File was UN-0901 I believe) and I paid roughly \$388 to the County.

We talked about building a tennis court, and your comments were that there had to be "downlights" and that you can't have those lights on after 10PM. Other than that, there'd be no issue in building a tennis court.

You asked about the tractor and it's resting spot- I told you that it was next to the barn, and probably 100ft from the waterway, (it's actually 139ft) but that I could move it practically anywhere else and get it 200ft from the waterway. Having said that, it currently sits right next to my barn, which is about 150 feet from the waterway, and we are mandated by Ventura County Fire to keep brush cleared 100ft from any structure, so that would leave 50ft from the waterway maintained, unless the fire department is going to change that rule.

We talked about fencing. Today I measured the perimeter of my property of which came out to 4,253 ft. I then measured my fencing, which only goes around the part of my home where the road is, and that is 540 ft. You asked what type of fence it was and I said that the base is stone and above the base is wrought iron. I didn't have any dimensions at that time, so I don't recall you talking about our fencing situation any further.

I have one completely enclosed fence surrounding our solar field, I didn't know the dimensions at the time. It is 200ft enclosed, with wrought iron.

You ended with the conversation saying "The people who are really going to be impacted by this the most are the 2 acre parcels of land whereby there has been no development."

You expressed to me that I didn't read or interpret things correctly, and that these restrictions, by and large, you stressed are going to be for NEW proposed uses of the property.

I asked you to summarize what we talked about, and you said you couldn't because it is still a draft. I then encouraged you that you could preface every sentence with "According to this Draft...." And that this draft is not and won't be the final draft. You then agreed to do so.

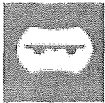
I understand that you can't, but as you know, my home is in a lease to buy with the purchase price set at 3.7M, and the guy buying it rides dirt bikes. He's older, and doesn't have kids who ride. If he were unable to maintain the track, he would back out of the deal. My realtor then said we should relist the house at 2.9M and be willing to take 2.5M, so this draft is a 1.2 million dollar issue for me.

At the end of the call, I felt a lot of relief, so thank you for having that call with me. If any of the above is inaccurate, if you can, you are free to make it accurate, based on the draft as it stands today. If you can't do that through email, then I'm happy to have a call.

Thanks Shelley-

Warm Regards,

Zack Schuler



Zack Schuler
Founder/CEO
NINJIO
zack@ninjio.com
O: (805) 864-1992
M: (805) 501-2505

From: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>

Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2018 11:33 AM

To: Zack Schuler <zack@ninjio.com>

Cc: Prillhart, Kim <Kim.Prillhart@ventura.org>

Subject: Draft Wildlife Corridor Ordinance

Hello Mr. Schuler,

This email is a follow-up to our phone call on September 11, 2018 regarding the County of Ventura's draft ordinance related to habitat connectivity and wildlife movement. Following our conversation, I consulted with County management regarding your additional request for a written summary describing how the draft ordinance may relate to conditions on your property. Because the ordinance is still in draft form, it is subject to revision by County staff, the Ventura County Planning Commission and the County Board of Supervisors. This matter is tentatively scheduled for consideration by the Ventura County Planning Commission on October 25, 2018. In accordance with state law and Planning Division policies, the final draft of the ordinance will be

released for public review and comment by 5:00 p.m. on October 18, 2018. Until that time, staff will continue to work to further revise and refine the draft ordinance. For this reason, it is not appropriate for staff to provide written information related to, nor for any interested party to rely upon, the draft ordinance, or the particulars of how any draft development standards contained therein may or may not apply to specific properties.

As a property owner within the habitat connectivity and wildlife movement corridors, you will receive a postcard notifying you of the hearing date and the website location for the staff report, which will include the draft ordinance. Given that you are no longer residing at this property, please provide me with your current mailing address so I can ensure that you receive notification.

You mentioned that you had reviewed the draft ordinance that was available on the project website. It has since been removed because it continues to be revised. However, the version that was previously published is attached for your convenience.

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



Ventura County Resource Management Agency | Planning Division
P. (805) 654 – 2493 | F. (805) 654-2509
800 S. Victoria Ave., L #1740 | Ventura, CA 93009-1740
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Rodgers, Patricia B.

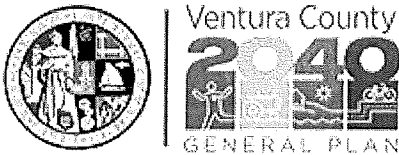
From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Monday, April 9, 2018 2:18 PM
To: Robert Kwong
Subject: RE: County Habitat Connectivity Project

Hi Robert,

The schedule for this project has been pushed back and we are currently hoping for summer hearings for both the PC and the Board. As I noted in my email to you back in January, any draft ordinance and policy language will be made available to interested parties prior to the hearings.

Thanks,
Shelley

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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From: Robert Kwong <rk Wong@atozlaw.com>
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2018 1:29 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: County Habitat Connectivity Project

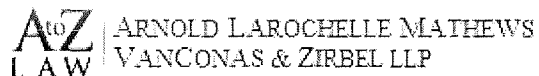
Hello Shelley:

When you get a moment could you please give me a quick update on when the above project will be ready for public review and public hearing before the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors? Thanks.

Hope all else is well with you.

Robert

Robert N. Kwong, Attorney at Law



 Website | Profile | vCard | Directions

300 Esplanade Drive, Suite 2100 | Oxnard, CA 93036

T 805.988.9886 ext 114 F 805.988.1937

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Rodgers, Patricia B.

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Monday, August 20, 2018 5:49 PM
To: Bob.Rhine@ucsf.edu
Subject: Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridor Project

Hello Mr. Rhine,

The Ventura County Planning Division Counter staff forwarded me your email request for a contact person for the County's ongoing Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridor Project. I am the correct contact person. If you are interested in reviewing some background on the project, please see our website at:

<https://vcrma.org/habitat-connectivity-and-wildlife-movement-corridors>

Please note that the draft ordinance available on the website is still undergoing revisions. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you.

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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Rodgers, Patricia B.

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Thursday, September 6, 2018 4:23 PM
To: Beenham, Ewan@DOC
Subject: FW: New Tentative Date for Planning Commission Hearing for Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridor Project

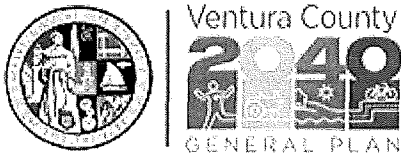
Hello Ewan,

I just sent this announcement out and the notice sent to you came back as undeliverable due to a typographical error in the email address I had for you.

Please see announcement below.

Thank you.

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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Pursuant to the California Public Records Act, email messages retained by the County may constitute public records subject to disclosure.

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Thursday, September 06, 2018 4:04 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Cc: Prillhart, Kim <Kim.Prillhart@ventura.org>; Stephens, Chris <Chris.Stephens@ventura.org>; Uhlich, Kim <Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org>; Whitney Wilkinson <wwilkinson@reconenvironmental.com>; Buehner, Charmaine <Charmaine.Buehner@ventura.org>
Subject: New Tentative Date for Planning Commission Hearing for Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridor Project

Dear Stakeholder,

The tentative date for the Planning Commission hearing for the Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridor project has been changed from September 20, 2018 to **October 25, 2018**.

All property owners within the mapped corridor will receive notice of the hearing by postcard through the U.S. Postal Service. The staff report, which will include the draft ordinance, will be available for public review after 5:00 p.m. one week prior to the Planning Commission hearing on the following website:

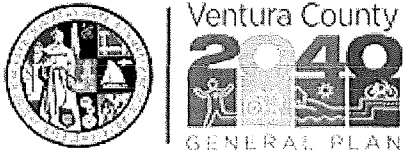
<https://vcrma.org/planning-commission-hearings-live-broadcasts-and-video-archive>

Other project-related information is available on the project website below:

<https://vcrma.org/habitat-connectivity-and-wildlife-movement-corridors>

Thank you.

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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Rodgers, Patricia B.

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Tuesday, May 30, 2017 11:35 AM
To: Convery, Abigail; Wilkinson, Whitney
Subject: FW: Memo from TNC and VC CoLAB on the HCOZ
Attachments: image001.gif; ATT00001.htm; image002.gif; ATT00002.htm; Habitat Connectivity Overlay Zone Memo - TNC and VC CoLAB 5-26-17.docx; ATT00003.htm

Hi ladies,
Here is the long-awaited memo from EJ and Lynn Jensen.

Shelley

From: Prillhart, Kim
Sent: Friday, May 26, 2017 2:54 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>; Maier, Tricia <Tricia.Maier@ventura.org>
Subject: Fwd: Memo from TNC and VC CoLAB on the HCOZ

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Lynn Gray Jensen <execdirector@colabvc.org>
Date: May 26, 2017 at 2:51:15 PM PDT
To: "Kim Prillhart (Kim.Prillhart@ventura.org)" <Kim.Prillhart@ventura.org>
Cc: "EJ Remson (eremson@tnc.org)" <eremson@tnc.org>
Subject: Memo from TNC and VC CoLAB on the HCOZ

Hello Kim,

The Nature Conservancy and the Ventura County Coalition of Labor, Agriculture and Business brought a small group of interested stakeholders together for a meeting on the proposed Habitat Connectivity Overlay Zone which resulted in the attached memo. The group was able to come to a consensus per the memo pertaining to issues of fencing, lighting and clustering in choke points. We did not discuss vegetation removal as we had not heard from you or your staff that it would be included at this point. We would like the opportunity to discuss this issue with you but do not feel we can organize the group again prior to the June 8 stakeholder meeting.

Thank you for the opportunity for us to comment on the HCOZ.

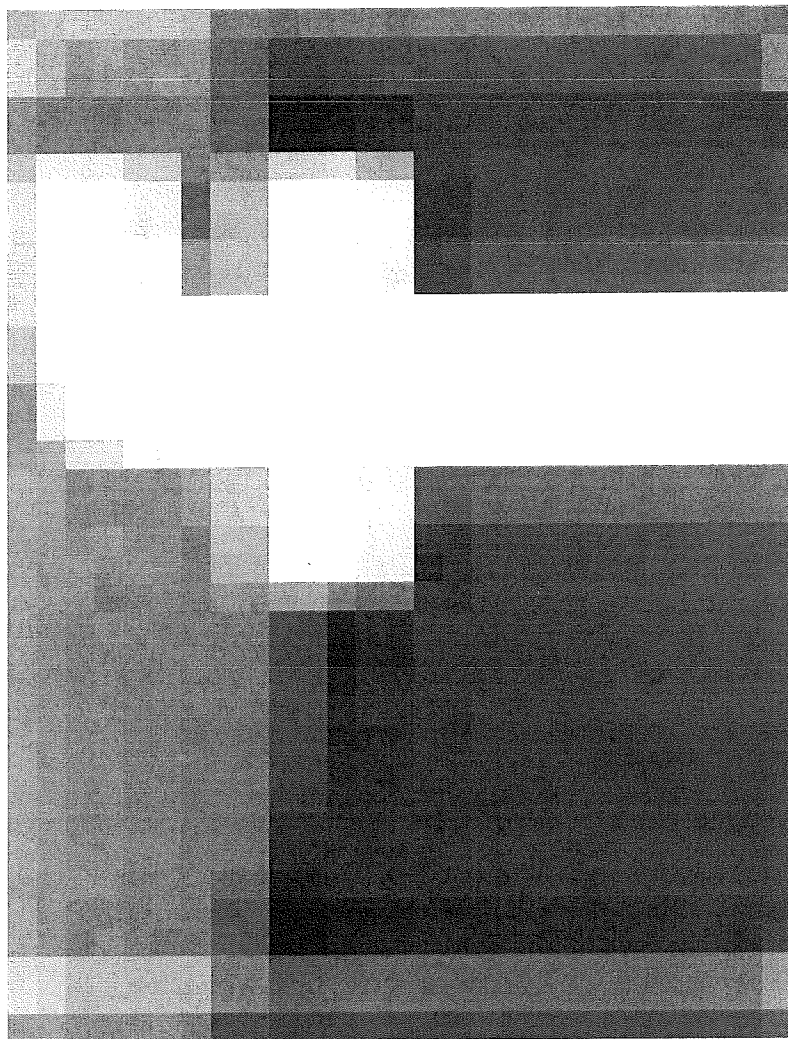
Sincerely,

Lynn

"Collaboration for Sensible Regulatory Solutions"

Lynn Gray Jensen, P.G.
Executive Director
Ventura County Coalition of Labor Agriculture and Business
Phone (805) 633-2291
Email: execdirector@colabvc.org

Website: www.colabvc.org



The Nature Conservancy and Ventura County Coalition of Labor, Agriculture and Business

Memo to the Ventura County Planning Division 5-26-17

Habitat Connectivity Overlay Zone

Group Discussion Summary and Recommendations

General Overview:

Land use within the proposed Habitat Connectivity Overlay Zone (HCOZ) is varied. As mapped in the south half of the County, the zone includes 172,000 acres of unincorporated lands and 16,000 acres within the cities. The majority of this land is open space and agricultural (ranching and farming) which is relatively permeable by wildlife and may have low density residential and commercial uses. There is also a large portion that is set aside for public recreation (Rancho Simi Parks and Recreation and COSCA). Most of the chokepoints are in the cities as a result of residential subdivisions.

Current land use regulations restrict urban uses and discourage development on the majority of County unincorporated lands and thereby promote wildlife movement. These restrictions include land use designations with minimum lot size requirements and maximum 5% lot coverage, Guidelines for Orderly Development, Greenbelt agreements, Initial Study Assessment Guidelines, and the SOAR Ordinance.

New discretionary developments are already required to mitigate significant impacts to habitat connectivity throughout the unincorporated lands per the 2011 Biological Resources section of the Initial Study Assessment Guidelines (ISAG). The ISAG references the South Coast Missing Linkages (SCML) report as existing GIS data to be reviewed by a qualified biologist when reviewing projects with the potential for environmental impacts to habitat connectivity.

The proposed HCOZ utilizes the SCML linkage designs for Ventura County. The County is proposing to adopt new standards for ministerial development on unincorporated lands to provide a regulatory framework to protect the functionality of the existing wildlife movement corridors.

Discussions centered on mutually beneficial ways to establish permanent connectivity without unnecessarily burdening landowners. Higher priority areas (chokepoints) may need more detailed standards with direct input from stakeholders. Most of the key chokepoint areas are within the cities and would not be subject to County standards. Areas that are within County general plan designated existing communities could require no additional standards.

The following are the recommendations of the group of stakeholders:

Fencing:

Ranchers utilize 5 foot high 4 and 5 strand barbed wire fencing for perimeter and cross pasture fencing (see diagram below) as specified by the USDA National Resources Conservation District. This allows more flexible herd management and keeps cattle from entering adjacent properties. This type of fencing does not significantly hinder wildlife movement and thus does not need special standards when occurring within the HCOZ. Although not critical, having

barbless wire at the bottom strand should be encouraged. This helps small animals move under the fence.

Chain link and other types of fencing along public roads and recreational trails is often desired by farmers and landowners to prevent trespassing, vandalism and theft. A notable example of agricultural lands along a major highway is Highway 126. Public trespassing onto cultivated agricultural lands can conflict with federal food safety laws. In addition, public trails that allow access to private property may need fencing for protection. This fencing could avert wildlife from crossing roads at grade and divert them to safer passage under road crossings, such as bridges and culverts.

Conservation ecologists recognize that roads are a significant source of mortality for wildlife. Therefore, fencing along public roads that deters trespassing and prevents animals from accessing the road is desirable. However, it is important that the fencing not inhibit wildlife from accessing under road crossings such as agricultural equipment tunnels, creeks, drainage culverts, bridges etc. If needed, simple pipe gates could prevent vehicle access to these areas as they allow animals to easily pass. Installation of one-way animal escape doors in fencing should be encouraged but not required.

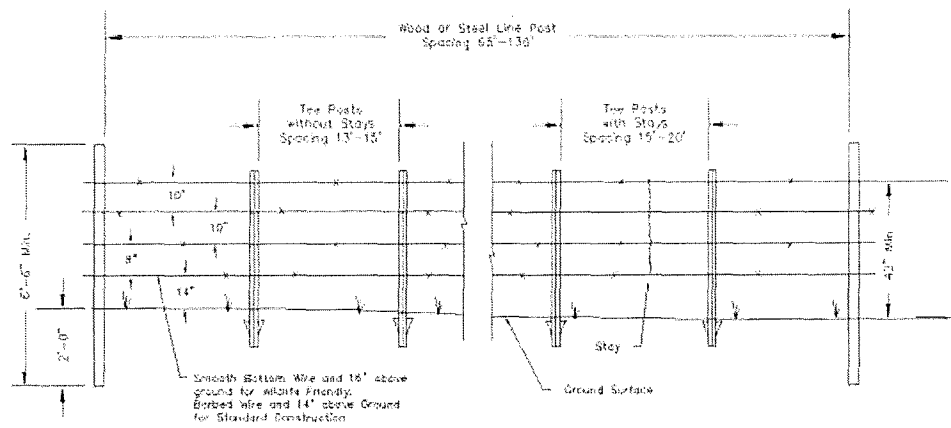
Lighting:

Basic practices such as directing lighting toward homes and work areas to avoid unnecessary light spillover is recommended. In general, lighting for large facilities such as parks, ball fields, golf ranges, equipment yards, etc. is acceptable if is not used between 10PM and dawn.

Choke Points:

Choke points in the HCOZ such as Tierra Rejada between Simi Valley and Thousand Oaks, may be best addressed by more detailed standards that would encourage protection of wildlife movement in these narrow areas. This might be implemented by designing standards for "clustering" of ministerial structures into compact areas rather than having them spread out.

When several parcels are under single ownership, the County should allow deed restrictions and the transfer of development rights to encourage owners to cluster structures on a single lot while still meeting the overall 5% lot coverage allowed for the combined lots. This would incentivize conservation easements that would preserve larger tracts of land for wildlife movement in perpetuity.



Stays only needed if line posts are greater than 15'
Wildlife option is smooth wire on the bottom



Rodgers, Patricia B.

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2018 11:32 AM
To: 'zack@ninjio.com'
Cc: Prillhart, Kim
Subject: Draft Wildlife Corridor Ordinance
Attachments: Draft Regional Habitat Linkages Ordinance - Public Review Draft .pdf

Hello Mr. Schuler,

This email is a follow-up to our phone call on September 11, 2018 regarding the County of Ventura's draft ordinance related to habitat connectivity and wildlife movement. Following our conversation, I consulted with County management regarding your additional request for a written summary describing how the draft ordinance may relate to conditions on your property. Because the ordinance is still in draft form, it is subject to revision by County staff, the Ventura County Planning Commission and the County Board of Supervisors. This matter is tentatively scheduled for consideration by the Ventura County Planning Commission on October 25, 2018. In accordance with state law and Planning Division policies, the final draft of the ordinance will be released for public review and comment by 5:00 p.m. on October 18, 2018. Until that time, staff will continue to work to further revise and refine the draft ordinance. For this reason, it is not appropriate for staff to provide written information related to, nor for any interested party to rely upon, the draft ordinance, or the particulars of how any draft development standards contained therein may or may not apply to specific properties.

As a property owner within the habitat connectivity and wildlife movement corridors, you will receive a postcard notifying you of the hearing date and the website location for the staff report, which will include the draft ordinance. Given that you are no longer residing at this property, please provide me with your current mailing address so I can ensure that you receive notification.

You mentioned that you had reviewed the draft ordinance that was available on the project website. It has since been removed because it continues to be revised. However, the version that was previously published is attached for your convenience.

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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ORDINANCE NO. _____

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF VENTURA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA,
AMENDING DIVISION 8, CHAPTER 1, ARTICLES 2, 3, 4, 5, AND 9
OF THE VENTURA COUNTY ORDINANCE CODE, NON-COASTAL ZONING ORDINANCE
TO REGULATE DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE REGIONAL HABITAT LINKAGES AND THE
CRITICAL WILDLIFE PASSAGE OVERLAY ZONES**

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Ventura ("County") ordains as follows:

Section 1.

**ARTICLE 2:
DEFINITIONS**

Article 2, Section 8102-0 – Application of Definitions, of the Ventura County Ordinance Code is hereby amended to add the following definitions in appropriate alphabetical order:

Agricultural Water Impoundment – A human-made surface water source used for livestock watering or other agricultural purposes (e.g., agricultural reservoir), also referred to as farm pond or livestock pond, in which water supply is primarily fed by sources other than natural processes such as groundwater seep or precipitation.

Compact Development – A design technique that involves grouping development in one area of a lot, while preserving the remaining portion for other uses such as protection of environmentally sensitive areas, such as wildlife movement corridors.

Conservation Organization – A natural resource agency or a private, non-profit organization, whose primary purpose is the preservation and protection of land in its natural, scenic, historical, recreational, or open space condition.

Correlated Color Temperature - A measure in degrees *Kelvin* (°K) of the warmth or coolness of light. Lamps with a *correlated color temperature* of less than 3,000°K are pink or yellow in tone and considered warm. Lamps with a *correlated color temperature* greater than 4,000°K are blue–white in tone and considered cool.

Critical Wildlife Passage Areas – Areas of land identified within a *regional habitat linkages* area that are especially valuable due to the existence of one or more of the following elements: 1) intact, native habitat or higher habitat values; 2) proximity to water bodies or ridgelines; 3) proximity of critical roadway crossings; 4) likelihood of encroachment by future development, and within which wildlife movement and plant dispersal could be easily disturbed by development; or 5) presence of undeveloped lands within a geographic location that connects core habitats at a regional scale. These include areas within the Tierra Rejada Valley, areas

within Oak View; and areas within the Simi Hills. These areas are mapped in an overlay on the County Resource Management Agency's Geographic Information System and referred to as "critical wildlife passage areas."

Functional Connectivity - Describes the degree to which a physical setting (landscape) facilitates or impedes the movement of organisms. *Functional connectivity* is a product of both the features of the physical setting (e.g., vegetation, physical development) and the behavioral response of plants and animals to these physical features.

Glare - The sensation produced by a bright source within the visual field that is sufficiently brighter than the level to which the eyes are adapted, causing annoyance, discomfort, or loss in visual performance and visibility.

Invasive Plant – Any species of plant included on the California Invasive Plant Council *Invasive Plant Checklist for California Landscaping*, as amended (<http://www.cal-ipc.org/plants/inventory/>).

Kelvin - A unit of measure used to describe the hue (or *correlated color temperature*) of a light source.

Least Damaging Alternative Analysis - The evaluation of project alternatives that aims to minimize adverse impacts on *regional habitat linkages* and the resources that facilitate *functional connectivity*, such as *vegetation*, *surface water features*, and *wildlife crossing structures*.

Light Fixture – See *luminaire*

Light Pollution - Adverse effects of artificial light including, but not limited to, *glare* and *light trespass*, and impacts on the nocturnal environment, including light sources that are left on when they no longer serve a useful function.

Light Trespass or Light Spillover - Light emitted from a *luminaire* or installation that shines beyond the boundaries of the property on which it is sited.

Lighting, Directional - Adjustments made to a *luminaire* to focus light where it is needed.

Lighting, Seasonal or Festive – *Temporary* lighting installed and operated in connection with holidays, traditions or festivities.

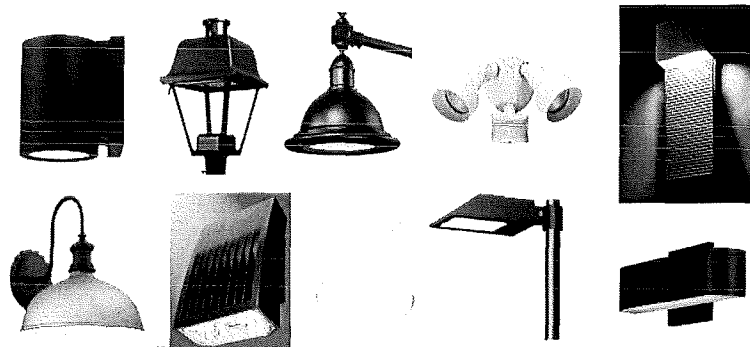
Lighting, Security – A *luminaire* that is primarily intended to deter or detect intrusions or other unwanted activity. It can also be used to allow safe passage.

Lumen - Unit of measure used to quantify the amount of light produced by a lamp or emitted from a *luminaire* (as distinct from a "watt," which is a measure of power consumption).

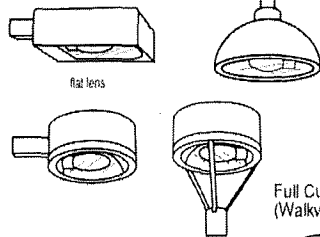
Luminaire - A complete lighting unit consisting of the lamp and all components directly associated with the distribution, positioning and protection of the lighting unit, commonly referred to as a light fixture.

Luminaire, Fully-Shielded - A *luminaire* constructed and installed in such a manner that all light emitted by the fixture is projected below the horizontal plane through the fixture's lowest light-emitting part.

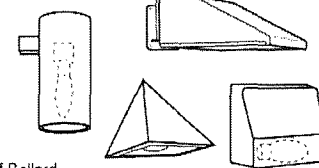
Examples of Fully-Shielded Luminaires



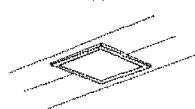
Full Cutoff Fixtures



Wall-mounted, Full Cutoff Fixtures (wallpacks)



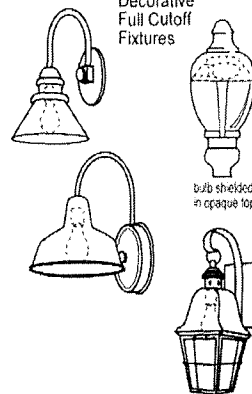
Recessed (flush mounted) Under Canopy Fixture



Full Cutoff Bollard (Walkway Light)



Decorative Full Cutoff Fixtures



Full Cutoff, Properly-aimed PAR Floodlights



Properly-aimed LED Security Lights



Luminaire, Partially-Shielded - A *luminaire* constructed and installed such that most light emitted by the fixture is projected below the horizontal plane through the fixture's lowest light-emitting part. Light emitted above the horizontal plane arises only from decorative elements or diffusing materials such as frosted/colored glass or plastic.

Examples of Partially-Shielded Luminaires



Outdoor Lighting - Any *luminaire* that is installed outside the interior of a structure. The *luminaire* could be mounted to the exterior of a structure, mounted to poles, fences or other freestanding structures, or placed to provide direct illumination on any exterior area, object or activity. Outdoor lighting includes but is not limited to *luminaires* used for porches, landscapes, *security lighting*, *fences*, driveways and walkways, parking areas, and *outdoor recreation areas*.

Outdoor Recreational Area – An area designed for active recreation, whether publicly- or privately-owned, including, but not limited to, baseball and softball diamonds, soccer and football fields, golf courses, equestrian arenas/corrals, and tennis courts.

Regional Habitat Linkages – Areas of contiguous natural habitats or undeveloped land of sufficient width to facilitate the movement, migration, foraging, breeding, and dispersal of multiple wildlife or plant species between two or more *core habitat areas* (as defined in the General Plan). The *regional habitat linkages* within the Regional Habitat Linkage (RHL) overlay zone include the Sierra Madre – Castaic Connection, the Santa Monica – Sierra Madre Connection, and the Ventura and Santa Clara River linkages. The *regional habitat linkages* areas are mapped in the County Resource Management Agency's Geographic Information System.

Security Lighting – A *luminaire* that is primarily intended to deter or detect intrusions or other unwanted activity. It can also be used to allow safe passage.

Surface Water Feature - Waters depicted on the *National Wetlands Inventory Dataset*, as amended. Data consists of mapped wetlands and riparian areas. Artificially created freshwater ponds, lakes, and agricultural water impoundments are excluded from this definition because their primary purpose is typically agriculture or water supply, they provide marginal habitat value, and they are not essential to the objectives of the regulations of this ordinance. Buffer distances are measured from the furthest extent of both the mapped wetland and riparian areas.

United States Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetlands Inventory Dataset – The United States Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetlands Inventory is a publicly available spatial data set published by the United States government that provides information on the abundance, characteristics, and distribution of U.S. wetlands. The layer specifically includes the California Wetlands Geodatabase, which contains both a Wetlands and a Riparian layer. For the purposes of this definition, artificially created freshwater ponds, lakes, and agricultural water impoundments are excluded because their primary purpose is typically agriculture or water supply, they provide marginal habitat value, and they are not essential to the objectives of the regulations of this ordinance.

Uplighting – A *luminaire* placed or designed to illuminate upward.

Vegetation – Other than landscaping associated with legally permitted development, the term *vegetation* includes native and nonnative trees and plant communities (e.g., grassland, coastal scrub, riparian vegetation, chaparral), including *invasive plants*. For purposes of this definition, commercial agricultural products are excluded.

Wildlife Crossing Structures – *Structures* that allow animals to cross human-made barriers safely, such as culverts, bridges, and underpasses. Cattle guards are not considered *wildlife crossing structures*.

Wildlife Impermeable Fencing - *Fencing* that prevents various species of wildlife (including amphibians, reptiles, mammals, birds), from freely passing through a *fence* with little or no interference. Examples of *wildlife impermeable fencing* include wrought iron, plastic mesh,

woven wire, razor wire, chain link, electric fencing, and solid walls and *fences*. Retaining walls are excluded from this definition.

Section 2

ARTICLE 3 – ESTABLISHMENT OF ZONES, BOUNDARIES AND MAPS

Article 3, Section 8103-0, Purpose and Establishment of Zones and Minimum Lot Areas, of the Ventura County Ordinance Code is hereby amended to add the Regional Habitat Linkages (RHL) overlay zone and the Critical Wildlife Passage Area (CWPA) overlay zone to read as follows:

Overlay Zones

Scenic Resource Protection	/SRP	Not Applicable
Mineral Resource Protection	/MRP	Not Applicable
Community Business District	/CBD	Not Applicable
Regional Habitat Linkages	/RHL	Not Applicable
Critical Wildlife Passage Area	/CWPA	Not Applicable

Section 3

ARTICLE 4 – PURPOSES OF ZONES

Article 4- PURPOSES OF ZONES, Section 8104-7 – Overlay Zones, of the Ventura County Ordinance Code is hereby amended by adding a new **Section 8104-7.7 – Regional Habitat Linkages Overlay Zone**, and a new **Section 8104-7.8 – Critical Wildlife Passages Area Overlay Zone**, to read as follows:

Sec. 8104-7.7 – Regional Habitat Linkages (RHL) Overlay Zone

The general purpose of the *RHL overlay zone* is to preserve *functional connectivity* for wildlife and *vegetation* throughout mapped areas defined as *regional habitat linkages* by minimizing direct and indirect barriers, minimizing loss of *vegetation* and habitat fragmentation and minimizing impacts to those areas that are narrow, impacted or otherwise tenuous with respect to wildlife movement. More specifically, the purposes of the *RHL overlay zone* include the following:

- a. Minimize the indirect impacts to wildlife created by *outdoor lighting*, such as disorientation of nocturnal species and the disruption of mating, feeding, migrating, and the predator-prey balance.

- b. Preserve the *functional connectivity* and habitat quality of *surface water features*, due to the vital role they play in providing refuge and resources for wildlife.
- c. Protect and enhance *wildlife crossing structures* to help facilitate safe wildlife passage.
- d. Minimize the introduction of *invasive plants*, which can increase fire risk, reduce water availability, accelerate erosion and flooding and diminish biodiversity within an ecosystem.
- e. Minimize *wildlife impermeable fencing*, which can create barriers to food and water, shelter, and breeding access to other individuals needed to maintain genetic diversity.

Sec. 8104-7.8 – Critical Wildlife Passage Area (CWPA) Overlay Zone

Within the *RHL overlay zone*, three subareas, referred to as *critical wildlife passage areas*, have been identified as particularly critical for facilitating wildlife movement due to (1) intact, native habitat or higher habitat values; 2) proximity to water bodies or ridgelines; 3) proximity of critical roadway crossings; 4) likelihood of encroachment by future development, and within which wildlife movement and plant dispersal could be easily disturbed by development; or 5) presence of undeveloped lands within a geographic location that connects core habitats at a regional scale. The purpose of the *CWPA overlay zone* is to address habitat fragmentation by siting *structures* in a *compact development* pattern within individual lots, thereby preserving more undeveloped, open areas for native plants and wildlife to move.

Section 4

ARTICLE 5 – PERMITTED USES

Article 5 Sections 8105-4 and 8105-5 – Uses and Structures by Zone, are hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 8105-4 - Permitted Uses in Open Space, Agricultural, Residential and Special Purpose Zones

	OS	AE	RA	RE	RO	R1	R2	RPD	RHD	TP
FENCES AND WALLS 6' HIGH OR LESS PER ART. 6 (42)	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
<u>Within the Regional Habitat Linkages Overlay Zone</u>	<u>Pursuant to Article 9</u>									
Over 6' High Per Art. 6 (18, 42)	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	△	△

Sec. 8105-5 - Permitted Uses in Commercial and Industrial Zones

	CO	C1	CPD	M1	M2	M3
FENCES AND WALLS 6' HIGH OR LESS PER ART. 6	E	E	E	E	E	E
Within the Regional Habitat Linkages Overlay Zone			Pursuant to Article 9			
Over 6' High Per Art. 6 (18)	△	△	△	△	△	△

E – Exempt; △ – Zoning Clearance

Section 5

ARTICLE 9 – STANDARDS FOR SPECIFIC ZONES AND ZONE TYPES

Article 9 – Standards for Specific Zones and Zone Types, Section 8109-4, Standards for Overlay and Special Purpose Zones, is hereby amended by adding new **Section 8109-4.8 – Regional Habitat Linkages Overlay Zone**, and **Section 8109-4.9 – Critical Wildlife Passage Area** to read as follows:

Sec. 8109 – 4.8 – Regional Habitat Linkages Overlay Zone

Sec. 8109 – 4.8.1 - Applicability

a. The abbreviated reference for the *regional habitat linkages* overlay zone when applied to a base zone shall be “RHL.” The provisions of this overlay zone are intended to apply to areas of the County depicted as *regional habitat linkages* on official RMA/GIS maps (as amended). The suffix “RHL” shall be added to the base zone covering land so identified (example: AE-40 ac/RHL) but shall have no effect on the provisions of the base zone, except as provided herein.

b. Except as provided below, the standards and procedures in this Sec. 8109-4.8 shall apply to all property in the *RHL overlay zone*, including all new construction, reconstruction, addition, modification, alteration, relocation, and replacement of *structures* or alteration of the physical site. Where a property is subject to conflicting standards of more than one overlay zone, the more restrictive standards shall apply. Land within the *RHL overlay zone*, and activities conducted on such land that meet the following criteria are exempt from the standards and requirements of the *RHL overlay zone*:

(1) Grading or excavation that involves a cumulative area of 500 square feet or smaller, or grading to improve drainage within 50 feet of any existing *structure*, not otherwise regulated by Appendix J of the Ventura County Building Code, as amended;

- (2) Restoration of land and improvements to their prior condition following floods, landslides, or natural disasters;
- (3) Construction of any *structure* pursuant to Sec. 8113-6;
- (4) Planting of crops or orchards that will be commercially sold;
- (5) Removal of agricultural crops or *vegetation* on previously cultivated agricultural land that may have been left uncultivated for up to ten years, or on land classified as "Prime," or "Statewide Importance", "Unique," of "Local Importance," or "Grazing" by the California Department of Conservation Important Farmlands Inventory;
- (6) *Vegetation* removed pursuant to a restoration plan approved by a public agency or *conservation organization*;
- (7) Removal of *vegetation* that has been intentionally planted as a landscape.
- (8) *Vegetation* modification adjacent to existing buildings as required by the Ventura County Fire Protection District (VCFPD) pursuant to VCFPD ordinances, or pursuant to a Community Wildfire Protection Plan or similar fuel modification/wildfire protection plan adopted by the VCFPD; and
- (9) *Vegetation* removed by a public agency as required by, or consistent with regulations to protect public health and safety. This includes but is not limited to *vegetation* removed to properly maintain vehicle sight distances, drainage, or flood control facilities.
- (10) Land subject to more restrictive standards established as a condition of a specific permit.
- (11) Land otherwise exempt by law.

When any development within the *RHL overlay zone* requires a discretionary permit, potential impacts to *functional connectivity* shall be evaluated and any applicable development standards contained within Sec. 8109-4.8 shall apply except as provided in Sec. 8109 – 4.8.2.

Sec. 8109 – 4.8.2 – Deviation from Standards and Requirements

- a. The Planning Director may authorize deviations from any standard or requirement of this Sec. 8109-4.8 during the processing of an application for a discretionary permit or approval. The decision to authorize each deviation must include written findings of fact supported by substantial evidence in the record establishing that the applicant's proposed deviation will be the functional equivalent of that which would otherwise be required by the applicable standard or requirement.
- b. The request shall state the circumstances and conditions relied upon as grounds for each deviation, and shall be accompanied by the following information and documentation:

- (1) Plans depicting the proposed project, identifying the location, size, height, and other physical aspects of the deviation, if requested.
- (2) A detailed description of the proposed deviation and the circumstances that justify the deviation.
- (3) Other data and information relevant to the requested deviation as may be required by the Planning Division.

Sec. 8109 – 4.8.3 – Outdoor Lighting – Purpose and Applicability

Outdoor lighting standards are intended to minimize potential impacts of light on wildlife. Except for *outdoor lighting* that is exempt pursuant to Sec. 8109-4.8.3.2 or authorized pursuant to Sec. 8109-4.8.2, this Sec. 8109-4.8.3 shall apply as follows:

- a. The standards and requirements of Sec. 8109-4.8.3.1 and Sec. 8109-4.8.3.3 shall apply to all *outdoor luminaires*, and *luminaires* within translucent or transparent enclosed structures for agricultural operations that were installed or replaced after [ordinance effective date].
- b. In cases where any portion of a lot is outside the *RHL overlay zone*, applicable *outdoor lighting* standards shall only apply to *luminaires* located on the portion of the lot that is within the *RHL overlay zone*.
- c. Any *outdoor luminaire* installed prior to [ordinance effective date] (i.e., existing lighting) that does not comply with any standard or requirement of Sec. 8109-4.8.3.1 may remain in use for up to one year from [ordinance effective date]. Any non-compliant lighting still in place after the compliance deadline shall be turned off between 10:00 p.m. and sunrise.
- d. *Existing lighting* that is prohibited by Sec. 8109-4.8.4 shall be discontinued as of [one year from effective date].
- e. If a permitted *structure* or use requires a major modification to, or time extension of, the underlying discretionary permit, then all *outdoor lighting* within the development impacted by the permit modification or time extension shall be brought into compliance with the standards and requirements of Sec. 8109-4.8.3.

Sec. 8109 – 4.8.3.1 – Outdoor Lighting – General Standards

All *outdoor lighting* installed or replaced after [ordinance effective date] shall comply with the following standards and requirements:

- a. All *outdoor lighting* shall be *fully-shielded luminaires*, directed downward, and installed and maintained in such a manner to avoid *light trespass* beyond the property line. Lights at building entrances, such as porch lights and under-eave lights, may be *partially-shielded luminaires*.

b. Maximum Height of Lighting

- (1) *Luminaires* affixed to structures for the purposes of lighting *outdoor recreational areas* shall not be mounted higher than 15 feet above ground level. In cases where a *luminaire* is affixed to a fence, the top of the *luminaire* shall be no higher than the height of the fence.
- (2) Freestanding light fixtures used to light walkways and driveways shall use *luminaires* that are no higher than two feet above ground level.
- (3) All other freestanding light fixtures shall not exceed 20 feet above ground level, unless specified by a discretionary permit granted under this Chapter.

c. Lighting Color (Chromaticity) - The *correlated color temperature* of all *outdoor lighting* shall not exceed 3,000 Kelvin.

d. Maximum Lumens - All *outdoor lighting*, except that used for *security lighting*, *outdoor recreational facility lighting*, and driveway and walkway lighting shall have a maximum output of 850 *lumens* per *luminaire*, (which is approximately equivalent to the light output of a 60-watt bulb).

- (1) Driveway and walkway lighting shall have a maximum output of 100 *lumens* per *luminaire* (which is approximately equivalent to the light output of a 20-watt bulb).
- (2) See Sec. 8109-4.8.3.1(e) for standards regarding *security lighting*.
- (3) See Sec. 8109-4.8.3.1(g) for standards regarding *outdoor recreational facility lighting*.

e. Security Lighting

- (1) *Outdoor lighting* installed for *security lighting*, shall have a maximum output of 2,600 *lumens* per *luminaire*. Where the light output exceeds 850 *lumens*, *security lighting* shall be operated by motion sensor or a timer switch and shall be programmed to turn off no more than 10 minutes after activation.
- (2) If *security lighting* is used within 200 feet of a mapped *surface water feature*, it shall be programmed to turn off no more than five minutes after activation. (See Sec. 8109-4.8.4 for additional standards related to *surface water features*).
- (3) *Outdoor lighting* installed for *security lighting* that is not controlled by motion sensor or timer switch as specified by subsections (e) (1) & (2) above are prohibited.
- (4) Agricultural uses located in the Agricultural Exclusive (AE) zone shall not be subject to the requirement for motion sensors.

f. Parking Area Lighting shall comply with the standards set forth in Sec. 8108-5.12 and is not subject to any other standard set forth in this Sec. 8109-4.8.3

g. Outdoor Recreational Area Lighting

(1) *Outdoor recreational area* lighting may exceed an output of 850 *lumens* and 3,000 *Kelvin* per *luminaire*. Lighting levels for these facilities shall not exceed those levels recommended in the Lighting Handbook available online by the Illuminating Engineering Society of North America (IESNA) for the class of play (Sports Class I, II, III or IV).

(2) In cases where *fully-shielded luminaires* would impair the visibility required for the intended recreational activity, *partially-shielded luminaires* and *directional lighting* methods may be used to reduce *light pollution*, *glare* and *light trespass*.

(3) *Outdoor recreational area lighting* shall not be illuminated between 10:00 p.m. and sunrise, except to complete an organized recreational event that is in progress as of 10:00 p.m. Exceptions include any necessary *security lighting* as specified in Sec. 8109-4.8.3.1(e), and parking area lighting as specified in Sec. 8108-5.12 operated as part of the *outdoor recreational facility*.

(4) The lighting system design (including lamps, *lumens*, *Kelvin*, etc.) and installation shall be prepared by a qualified engineer, architect or landscape architect, in conformance with this Sec. 8109-4.8.3.1(g)

(5) Applicants shall demonstrate that the proposed lighting installation is consistent with the purpose of this section and mitigates the effects of *light pollution* on adjacent undeveloped areas within the RHL overlay zone

h. Service Station Lighting: All *luminaires* mounted on or recessed into the lower surface of the service station canopy shall be *fully-shielded luminaires* and utilize flat lenses. No additional lighting is allowed on columns of the service station.

i. Wireless Communication Facilities: In addition to all other applicable standards for *wireless communication facilities* specified in Sec. 8107-45, *wireless communication facilities* (including radio and television towers) that are higher than 200 feet shall not use red-steady lights unless otherwise required by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Only white strobe or red strobe lights, or red flashing LED lights shall be used at night, and these should be the minimum number, minimum intensity, and minimum number of flashes per minute (i.e., longest duration between flashes/dark phase) allowable by the FAA. To the extent feasible, light flashes emanating from a single tower shall be set (synchronized) to flash simultaneously.

j. Night lighting for Translucent or Transparent Enclosed Agriculture Structures: All night lighting within translucent or transparent enclosed structures used for ongoing agriculture or agricultural operations (e.g., greenhouses for crop production) shall use the following methods to reduce *light pollution* beginning at 10:00 p.m. until sunrise:

(1) *Fully- or partially-shielded directional lighting*; and

(2) Blackout screening for the walls and roof, preventing interior night lighting from being visible outside the structure.

Sec. 8109 – 4.8.3.2 – Outdoor Lighting – Exemptions

The following *outdoor lighting* and activities are not regulated by this section:

a. *Temporary* lighting for construction.

- b. *Temporary* emergency lighting.
- c. Lighting for *wireless communication facilities* to the extent required by the Federal Aviation Administration. (See Sec. 8109-4.8.3.1(i) for additional requirements related to *wireless communication facilities*.)
- d. *Temporary* or intermittent outdoor agricultural night lighting necessary to conduct agricultural activities, including *outdoor lighting* during weather events such as frosts.
- e. *Outdoor lighting* for signage permitted in accordance with Article 10.
- f. *Temporary seasonal or festive lighting*.
- g. *Outdoor lighting* with a maximum output of 60 *lumens* or less, including solar lights.
- h. *Temporary outdoor lighting* associated with a use authorized by this Chapter or a permit granted pursuant to this Chapter.
- i. Lighting on public and private streets.
- j. Any facility, equipment, or activity that is subject to preemptive state or federal regulations regarding lighting or illumination.

Sec. 8109 – 4.8.3.3 – Outdoor Lighting – Prohibited Lighting

- a. Permanently installed *luminaires* that blink, flash, rotate, have intermittent fading, or have strobe light illumination.
- b. *Luminaires* located along the perimeter of a lot except those used for security purposes that comply with all other applicable standards and requirements of Sec. 8109 – 4.8.3.
- c. *Uplighting* of landscapes (e.g., trees, fountains), or for aesthetic purposes (e.g., outdoor statues, buildings).

Sec. 8109 – 4.8.4 – Surface Water Features – Purpose and Applicability

The purpose of these standards is to preserve *functional connectivity* within *regional habitat linkages* and protect the habitat quality of *surface water features*. The provisions in this section shall apply to all lots in the *RHL overlay zone*.

In cases where any portion of a lot is outside the *RHL overlay zone*, applicable *surface water feature* standards shall only apply to the portion of the lot that is within the *RHL overlay zone*.

Sec. 8109 – 4.8.4.1 – Surface Water Features – General Standards

- a. Except as otherwise exempt pursuant to Sec. 8109 – 4.8.4.2, all new *structures*, not attached to an existing legally established *structure*, or all existing *structures* for which new uses are proposed, and that are within 200 feet of a *surface water feature* (also referred to herein as the *surface water feature 200-foot buffer area*), shall require a Planned Development permit. *Structures* and uses listed as exempt, or those requiring a zoning clearance in Secs. 8105-4 and

8105-5 shall require a Planning Director-approved planned development permit pursuant to this section.

b. Except as otherwise exempt pursuant to Sec. 8109 – 4.8.4.2, any *vegetation* removal conducted within a *surface water feature 200-foot buffer area* shall require a Planning Director-approved planned development permit.

c. The Planning Director or designee may approve a deviation from the *vegetation* removal standards described in (c) above. Applications for deviations shall be submitted in writing to the Planning Division. The request shall include documentation requested by the County Planning Division Biologist, including a field study report characterizing and classifying the vegetation type(s) proposed to be impacted, current photographs of the site, and any additional information requested by the Planning Director that is reasonably related to the deviation requested. A deviation request for a proposal to remove vegetation shall be granted provided that at least 60 percent of the vegetated area to be removed comprises *invasive plants*.

d. Any Planned Development permit issued pursuant to Sec. 8109 – 4.8.4.1 shall include an approved *least damaging alternative analysis*, as described in Sec. 8109-4.9.7. This analysis is in addition to any other applicable analyses required by the Initial Study Assessment Guidelines, including Initial Study Biological Assessments.

Sec. 8109 – 4.8.4.2 – Surface Water Features – Exemptions

A Planned Development permit is not required for the following:

a. Any addition to an existing legally established *structure*, or any new *accessory structure* within a mapped *surface water feature 200-foot buffer area*, provided the addition will not result in any *vegetation* modification within the *surface water feature 200-foot buffer area* required by the Ventura County Fire Protection District (VCFPD) pursuant to VCFPD ordinances, or pursuant to a Community Wildfire Protection Plan or similar fuel modification/wildfire protection plan adopted by the VCFPD.

Sec. 8109 – 4.8.5 – Wildlife Crossing Structures – Purpose and Applicability

The purpose of these standards is to protect and enhance areas near *wildlife crossing structures* to help facilitate safe wildlife crossing. These *structures* can include culverts, bridges, and underpasses, but do not include cattle guards. Standards set forth in this section apply to both highly-functional (HF) *wildlife crossing structures* and moderately-functional (MF) *wildlife crossing structures*. Both HF and MF *wildlife crossing structures* are typically at least 24 inches in diameter. A HF *wildlife crossing structure* provides a high level of potential *functional connectivity* and includes several features that support increased use by wildlife (e.g., vegetation that provides cover or habitat is present at entrances, light is visible at the opposite entrance, suitable wildlife habitat is located nearby). MF *wildlife crossing structures* provide a moderate level of potential *functional connectivity* and include fewer features that support increased use by wildlife. The locations of both HF and MF *wildlife crossing structures* are identified in RMA/GIS.

The provisions in this section shall apply to all lots in the *RHL overlay zone*. For lots that are partially within the *RHL overlay zone*, this section shall apply only to the portion of the lot within the *RHL overlay zone*.

Sec. 8109 – 4.8.5.1 – Wildlife Crossing Structures – General Standards

a. *HF Wildlife Crossing Structures*

No *vegetation* shall be removed from, and no new *structures* shall be allowed on property outside of the Caltrans or County right-of-way that is within 300 feet of the entry and exit of a *HF wildlife crossing structure* unless a Planning Director-approved Planned Development permit is approved.

b. *MF Wildlife Crossing Structures*

No *vegetation* shall be removed from, and no new *structures* shall be allowed on property outside of the Caltrans or County right-of-way that is within 100 feet of the entry and exit of a *MF wildlife crossing structure* unless a Planning Director-approved Planned Development permit is approved.

c. In cases where a *wildlife crossing structure* is located within a *surface water feature*, the largest buffer applicable to the *surface water feature*, *HF wildlife crossing structure* or *MF wildlife crossing structure*, shall be used.

d. All discretionary permits issued pursuant to this section shall include an approved *least damaging alternative analysis*, as described in Sec. 8109-4.9.7. This analysis is in addition to any other applicable analyses required by the Initial Study Assessment Guidelines, including Initial Study Biological Assessments.

e. The Planning Director or designee may approve a deviation from the *vegetation* removal standards set forth in Secs. 8109-4.8.5.1 a and b. Applications for deviations shall be submitted in writing to the Planning Division. The request shall include, documentation requested by the County Planning Division Biologist, including a field study report characterizing and classifying the vegetation type(s) proposed to be impacted, current photographs of the site, and any additional information requested by the Planning Director that is reasonably related to the deviation requested. A deviation request for a proposal to remove vegetation shall be granted provided that at least 60 percent of the vegetated area to be removed comprises *invasive plants*.

Sec. 8109 – 4.8.5.2 – Wildlife Crossing Structures – Exemptions

A planned development permit is not required for projects that are within or include a portion of land within *wildlife crossing structures* as follows:

a. Regular maintenance required to clean out soil, debris, and overgrowth, consistent with all federal, state, and local regulations and permits.

b. Any addition to an existing legally established structure, or any *new accessory structure* within 300 feet of the entry or exit of a *HF wildlife crossing structure*, or within 100 feet of the entry or exit of a *MF wildlife crossing structure*, in the event that the proposed addition will not result in any *vegetation* modification within those buffer areas pursuant to VCFPD ordinances, or pursuant to a Community Wildfire Protection Plan or similar fuel modification/wildfire protection plan adopted by the VCFPD.

Sec. 8109 – 4.8.6 – Invasive Plants – Purpose and Applicability

The purpose of this standard is to protect areas within the *regional habitat linkages* from further degradation caused by *invasive plants*.

Sec. 8109 – 4.8.6.1 – Invasive Plants – General Standard

The intentional planting of *invasive plants* is prohibited throughout the *RHL overlay zone*, except those planted as commercial agricultural crops or grown as commercial nursery stock.

Sec. 8109 – 4.8.7 – Wildlife Impermeable Fencing – Purpose and Applicability

The purpose of these standards is to limit the direct barriers created by *fencing* and to address geographic areas where the mapped *regional habitat linkages* are constrained, potentially resulting in limited wildlife movement. This section does not apply to any *fencing* installed prior to the effective date of this ordinance amendment (*existing fencing* or *existing wildlife impermeable fencing*).

In cases where any portion of a lot is outside the *RHL overlay zone*, applicable *fencing* standards, including the calculation of gross lot area required by Secs. 8109 – 4.8.7.2 and 8109 - 4.8.7.3, shall only apply to the portion of the lot that is within the *RHL overlay zone*.

Sec. 8109 – 4.8.7.1 – Wildlife Impermeable Fencing – General Standards

For purposes of Sec. 8109-4.8.7, an enclosure is defined as 1) an area that is entirely surrounded by a wall or *fence*, or 2) an area that operates as a functional enclosure due to a wall or fence. Except for gates and associated gate support components, any portion of a new or replacement fence, which forms an enclosure and includes one or more of the following design features shall be considered *wildlife impermeable fencing*:

- a. Any fence that is higher than 60 inches above grade, unless otherwise exempt pursuant to Sec. 8109-4.8.7.4. This includes any wire strands that are placed above a top rail of a fence.
- b. Electric *fences* comprised of any material or number of electrified strands. Electric *fences* are not allowed in Urban Residential Zones, pursuant to Sec. 8106-8.1.3.
- c. Wrought iron, plastic mesh, woven wire, razor wire, chain link, and any solid wall (e.g., brick, cinderblock) or *fence* (e.g., wood or vinyl).

Sec. 8109 – 4.8.7.2 – Wildlife Impermeable Fencing – Ministerial Permit

a. On lots zoned as Open Space (OS) or Agricultural Exclusive (AE), *wildlife impermeable fencing* not exempt pursuant to Sec. 8109-4.8.7.4 may be permitted with a Zoning Clearance provided that the following standards are met:

(1) Except as otherwise required by this section, *fences* shall be consistent with current *fence* standards in Article 6 (Sec. 8106-8.1); and

(2) For lots with no *existing wildlife impermeable fencing*, the cumulative area enclosed by the proposed *fencing* shall not exceed ten percent of the gross lot area; or

(3) For lots with *existing wildlife impermeable fencing* the cumulative area enclosed by the proposed *fencing* shall not exceed ten percent of the gross lot area, excluding the cumulative area already enclosed by *existing wildlife impermeable fencing*.

(4) A *fencing* site plan shall be provided to the Planning Division that includes information about the type, design, and location of all *existing fencing* on the subject lot, including calculations for the area of each *existing fence enclosure*.

Sec. 8109 – 4.8.7.3 – Wildlife Impermeable Fencing – Discretionary Permit

a. On lots zoned Open Space (OS) or Agricultural Exclusive (AE), *wildlife impermeable fencing* not otherwise exempt pursuant to Sec. 8109-4.8.7.4, or subject to a ministerial permit pursuant to Sec. 8109-4.8.7.2, shall not be constructed without, or be inconsistent with, a planned development permit approved pursuant to this section.

b. An application for a planned development permit for proposed *wildlife impermeable fencing* that meet either criteria in Secs. 8109-4.8.7.3.b (1) or (2) below shall include a *fencing* site plan. The *fencing* site plan shall include information depicting the type, design, and location of all *existing* and proposed *fencing* on the subject lot, including calculations for the area of each *fence enclosure*.

(1) For lots with no *existing wildlife impermeable fencing*, the cumulative area enclosed by the proposed *fencing* is greater than ten percent; or

(2) For lots with *existing wildlife impermeable fencing*, the cumulative area enclosed by the proposed *fencing* is greater than ten percent of the gross lot area excluding the cumulative area already enclosed by *existing wildlife impermeable fencing*.

c. An application for a planned development permit for *wildlife impermeable fencing* pursuant to Secs. 8109-4.8.7.3 b (1) or (2) shall include an approved *least damaging alternative analysis*, as described in Sec. 8109-4.9.7. This analysis is in addition to any other applicable analysis required by the *Initial Study Assessment Guidelines*, including the *Initial Study Biological Assessments*.

d. In all zones, any *fence* installed or replaced as part of a new discretionary permit or major permit modification shall be reviewed as part of the whole discretionary entitlement to minimize impacts to wildlife movement.

e. A planned development permit shall not be granted unless a finding can be made that the configuration of any proposed *wildlife impermeable fencing* will not substantially impede wildlife from moving through the remaining connected undeveloped areas within the regional habitat linkages areas. Criteria for making this determination shall be based on the size and configuration of proposed *wildlife impermeable fencing* areas. It shall also take into account the configuration of existing development, areas that provide potential habitat, landscape features that could facilitate wildlife movement such as riparian corridors or ridgelines, major barriers such as freeways, and other undeveloped areas that could facilitate wildlife movement. This analysis shall also consider movement of wildlife at a range of spatial scales, including local scales and movements of hundreds of feet up to regional scales which could include movements of tens of miles.

Sec. 8109 – 4.8.7.4 – Wildlife Impermeable Fencing – Exemptions

A planned development permit is not required for the following activities conducted within the RHL overlay zone:

a. Any *existing wildlife impermeable fencing*.

b. Any *wildlife impermeable fencing* that is required by any federal or state law or local regulation.

c. Any *wildlife impermeable fencing* necessary to enclose commercially grown agricultural products. For purposes of this section, commercially grown agricultural products are defined as any plant product (including food, plant fiber, feed, ornamentals, or forest), that will be commercially sold.

d. Any *wildlife impermeable fencing* that is required to protect public health and safety as determined by a regulatory agency. This includes any *wildlife impermeable fence*, or portion thereof, installed as an outdoor swimming pool barrier, provided it meets the requirements of the Ventura County Building Code and does not extend more than 50 feet from the edge of the outdoor swimming pool.

e. On lots zoned as Open Space (OS) and Agricultural Exclusive (AE), any *wildlife impermeable fencing* within 50 feet from the exterior walls of any dwelling or a principal *structure* related to agriculture, provided it is otherwise consistent with existing *fencing* standards included in Sec. 8106-8.1.

f. Any *wildlife impermeable fencing* used to enclose a water well or pump house, provided the enclosure allows for clearance of up to a maximum of 10 feet from the water well or pump house infrastructure and does not enclose more than 500 square feet.

- g. Any *wildlife impermeable fencing* installed by or for a public agency, including Caltrans and the Ventura County Public Works Agency for the sole purpose of restricting wildlife from entering a road right-of-way or directing wildlife toward road crossing *structures*.
- h. *Wildlife impermeable fencing* or wall spans that do not form an enclosure.
- i. Any *wildlife impermeable fencing* used for habitat protection/restoration by a *conservation organization*, or public agency when specified by a habitat preservation plan or habitat restoration plan approved by a public agency.
- j. In Open Space (OS) and Agricultural Exclusive (AE) zones, any *wildlife impermeable fencing* on lots with an area of 10,000 square feet or less, notwithstanding subsection f.

Sec. 8109 – 4.8.7.5 – Wildlife Impermeable Fencing – Prohibited Fences

The following *wildlife impermeable fencing* is prohibited:

- a. *Wildlife impermeable fencing* on any lot that has no *principal use* or *structure*.
- b. *Wildlife impermeable fencing* around the perimeter of a lot, unless otherwise exempt.

Sec. 8109 – 4.9 – Critical Wildlife Passage Area Overlay Zone

Sec. 8109 – 4.9.1 - Application

The abbreviated reference for the *critical wildlife passage areas* overlay zone when applied to a base zone shall be “CWPA.” The provisions of the *CWPA overlay zone* are intended to apply to areas of the County depicted as *critical wildlife passage areas* on official RMA/GIS maps (as amended). *Critical wildlife passage areas* cover portions of land within the *regional habitat linkage areas* overlay zone as depicted on official RMA/GIS maps (as amended). The suffix “CWPA” shall be added to the base zone covering land so identified (example: RA-40 ac/RHL/CWPA), but shall have no effect on the provisions of the base zone, except as provided herein. Except as noted in Sec. 8109-4.9.6, the provisions of this section shall apply in all *critical wildlife passage areas* to any *structure*, use, or *wildlife impermeable fencing*, on lots meeting the following zoning and size criteria:

- a. Lots zoned Open Space (OS), Agricultural Exclusive (AE), Commercial (CPD), Industrial (M1, M2, or M3), or Timber Preserve (TP) and larger than one acre; or
- b. Any proposed *structure* or use on vacant lots zoned as Residential (RA, RE, RO, R1, R2, RPD, RHD) that are larger than one acre; or
- c. Any addition to any *existing structure* or modification to any existing use on lots zoned as Residential (RA, RE, RO, R1, R2, RPD, RHD) that are larger than two acres.

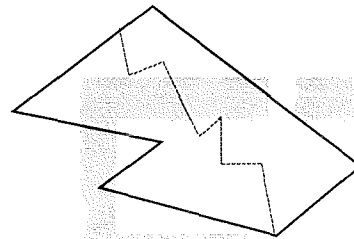
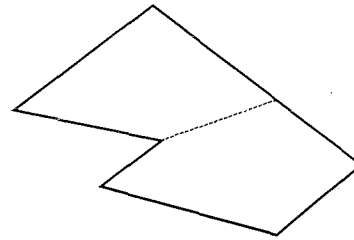
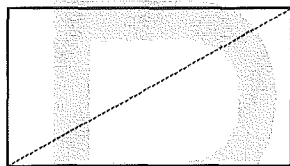
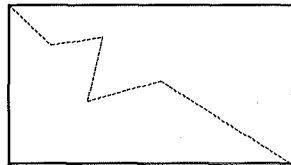
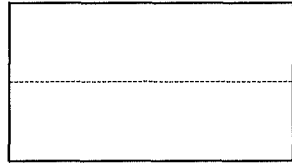
Sec. 8109 – 4.9.2 – Deviation from Standards and Requirements

- a. The Planning Director may authorize deviations from any standard or requirement of this Sec. 8109-4.8 during the processing of an application for a discretionary permit or approval. The decision to authorize each deviation must include written findings of fact supported by substantial evidence in the record establishing that the applicant's proposed deviation will be the functional equivalent of that which would otherwise be required by the applicable standard or requirement.
- b. The request shall state the circumstances and conditions relied upon as grounds for each deviation, and shall be accompanied by the following information and documentation:
 - (1) Plans depicting the proposed project, identifying the location, size, height, and other physical aspects of the deviation, if requested.
 - (2) A detailed description of the proposed deviation and the circumstances that justify the deviation.
 - (3) Other data and information relevant to the requested deviation as may be required by the Planning Division.

Sec. 8109 - 4.9.3 – Compact Development –Siting Standard

Subject to Sec. 8109-4.9.4 or Sec. 8109-4.9.5, any proposed *structure* or use that meets any one of the criteria set forth in Sec. 8109-4.9.1 shall be sited exclusively in one of the two contiguous areas created by a line bisecting a single lot into two sections of equal areas (halves). The bisecting line may consist of a single, straight line segment or a series of connected, non-intersecting line segments that do not form a straight line. Each of the two endpoints of a bisecting line shall coincide with any two lot boundary lines. As part of the Planning Division application for any structure or use for which a ministerial permit is required pursuant to Sec. 8109-4.9.4, or a discretionary permit is required pursuant to Sec. 8109-4.9.5, a site plan shall be submitted which shows the location, length, and orientation of each segment of the bisecting line. The site plan shall be drawn to scale and shall identify the area in square feet of each section of land on either side of the bisecting line. If any existing *structure* or use is present within both halves, any new *structure* or use must be sited in the half with the largest relative cumulative area of existing building coverage. Once the location of the bisecting line for a lot is approved by the Planning Division, it shall not be modified and shall be the basis of siting any future *structure* or use pursuant to this section.

Example Illustrations of Lines Bisecting Lots into Two Sections of Equal
Area
Section 8109-4.9.3



Sec. 8109 – 4.9.4 – Compact Development – Ministerial Permit

Except those *structures* or uses that otherwise require a discretionary permit pursuant to Secs. 8105-4 and 8105-5, a zoning clearance shall be required for any new *structure* or use that meets any one of the criteria set forth in Sec. 8109-4.9.1, and that complies with any of the following:

- a. The siting standard set forth in Sec. 8109-4.9.3; or
- b. Located within 50 feet of an existing legally established *structure*, use, public road or street, or driveway; or
- c. Located within 50 feet of an agricultural access road necessary to support the production of *commercially grown agricultural products*. For purposes of this section, *commercially grown agricultural products* are defined as any plant or animal agricultural product (including food, feed, fiber, ornamentals, or forest), that will be commercially sold, including livestock raised for commercial production.

Sec. 8109 – 4.9.5 – Compact Development – Discretionary Permit

A Planning Director-approved planned development permit, including a *least damaging alternative analysis* pursuant to Sec. 8109-4.9.7, shall be required for any *structure* or use described in Sec. 8109-4.9.1 that does not comply with the standards set forth in Sec. 8109-4.9.4.

Sec. 8109 – 4.9.6 – Compact Development – Exemptions

Sec. 8109-4.9 shall not apply to the following:

- a. Lots where only a portion lies within the *CWPA overlay zone*.
- b. Any *structure* or use on property zoned commercial (CO, C1, CPD) or industrial (M1, M2, or M3).
- c. Grading or excavation within 50 feet of an existing *structure* to improve drainage.
- d. Planting of crops and orchards that will be commercially sold.

Sec. 8109 – 4.9.7 – Least Damaging Alternative Analysis

a. The purpose of the *least damaging alternative analysis* is to identify and select project design alternatives that minimize the direct and indirect adverse impacts on biological resources, such as wildlife habitat that potentially support wildlife movement. The objective of the *least damaging alternative analysis* is to provide a reasonable range of options from which to select a development proposal that minimizes these impacts to wildlife movement and habitat connectivity to the greatest extent practicable.

b. The *least damaging alternative analysis* shall evaluate the proposed development with respect to the biological resources both on and near the site, including, but not limited to, undeveloped areas, areas with *vegetation*, crossing *structures*, drainages, and ridgelines.

c. The *least damaging alternative analysis* does not take the place of an Initial Study Biological Assessment (ISBA). If a *least damaging alternative analysis* is required, it shall be completed in addition to an ISBA. The *least damaging alternative analysis* shall be prepared in consultation with the County Planning Division Biologist. The *least damaging alternative analysis* shall include some or all the following elements, as determined by the County Planning Division Biologist:

(1) Written description and graphic depiction of project design alternatives on a site plan that meets the purpose of the *least damaging alternative analysis*, as determined by the County Planning Division Biologist. The description shall include mapped biological resources, including all applicable *vegetation* community types (e.g., coastal sage scrub, chaparral). A description and photographs of all biological resources on the property shall be provided by request of the County Planning Division Biologist. Project design alternatives may include different building site

locations, different *structure* sizes/locations within the building site, and related fuel modification zones, driveway/access roads, location, extent and description of all *wildlife impermeable fencing*, and water/wastewater system locations;

(2) A table that includes comparative data for project design alternatives, such as cubic yards of cut/fill for grading and acres of impacts on the resource area (e.g., *surface water features* and buffers, *vegetation*, and land within the *RHL overlay zone*);

(3) Written summary explaining how the proposed project elements and design will protect *functional connectivity* of the *RHL overlay zone*. Project elements may include *compact development* to the maximum extent feasible both within the site, and with respect to offsite development. The summary shall also provide detailed information on why proposed alternatives are not the least damaging alternative. The summary shall also include consideration and determination of any alternatives suggested by the County Planning Division Biologist.

(4) Other data or information relevant to the least damaging alternative analysis as may be required by the County Planning Division Biologist.

d. The Planning Director or designee shall review and approve the design alternatives, and approval shall be based on an analysis of the following criteria:

(1) That the establishment or maintenance of the proposed development or use will not significantly reduce, restrict or adversely affect biological resources that have the potential to support wildlife movement. Biological resources considered during impact analysis shall include, but are not limited to, *vegetation*, wetlands and water features, ridgelines, and areas in and adjacent to roadway crossings. Impacts that will be considered include, but are not limited to, habitat and open space fragmentation and creation of new direct or indirect barriers;

(2) That *structures* will be sited to minimize developed land in such a way as to provide the largest possible contiguous undeveloped portion of land that avoids impacts to biological resources;

(3) That *wildlife impermeable fencing* configuration will be sited to minimize impacts to wildlife movement;

(4) That other uses proposed for the lot will not significantly reduce, restrict or adversely affect biological resources that have the potential to support wildlife movement on-site or in the area; and

(5) That the development or use will be sited to remove as little land containing biological resources that have the potential to support wildlife movement as possible.

**Section 6
Severability**

If any subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or word of the Ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decisions shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance. The Ventura County Board of Supervisors hereby declares that it would have passed and adopted this Ordinance, and each and all provisions hereof, irrespective of the fact that one or more provisions may be declared invalid.

**Section 7
Effective Date; Implementation**

This Ordinance shall become effective 30 days after adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this xxth day of xxx, 2018 by the following vote:

AYES:

Supervisors

NOES:

ABSENT:

CHAIR, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ATTEST:

MICHAEL POWERS

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

County of Ventura, State of California

By _____

Deputy Clerk of the Board

Rodgers, Patricia B.

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Tuesday, August 7, 2018 11:28 AM
To: 'Robert Kwong'
Subject: Draft Regional Habitat Linkages Ordinance

Hi Robert,

The Draft Regional Habitat Linkages Ordinance is available on the Planning Division webpage (as of 5:00 p.m. last night).

<https://www.vcrma.org/habitat-connectivity-and-wildlife-movement-corridors>

Thanks,

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



Ventura County Resource Management Agency | Planning Division
P. (805) 654 – 2493 | F. (805) 654-2509
800 S. Victoria Ave., L #1740 | Ventura, CA 93009-1740
Visit the Planning Division website at vcrma.org/planning
Ventura County General Plan Update. Join the conversation at VC2040.org
For online permits and property information, visit VC Citizen Access

Pursuant to the California Public Records Act, email messages retained by the County may constitute public records subject to disclosure.

Rodgers, Patricia B.

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Monday, October 8, 2018 9:41 AM
To: Seth_riley@nps.gov
Subject: checking your availability

Hi Seth,

I just left you a voicemail explaining that we're considering another postponement of the Wildlife Corridor Planning Commission hearing to give us more time to deal with remaining public comments and comments from Count Counsel. Are you available on Dec. 6 for a PC hearing if we moved it? This would obviously push out the Board hearing until early 2019, but we don't have a tentative date for that yet.

Please let me know ASAP.

Thanks,
Shelley

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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Rodgers, Patricia B.

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Thursday, October 19, 2017 11:45 AM
To: Jensen, Lynn
Cc: Prillhart, Kim
Subject: Wildlife Corridors

Lynn,

I wanted to get back to you after our brief call on Tuesday. Based on our conversation, I'm assuming what you wanted to discuss was the ministerial permit map that was part of our outreach presentation and the data that was used to create it. As I mentioned, zoning clearance data is not maintained in a way that allows us to sort by discreet development types - individual project descriptions are too variable to allow for such sorting. Over 1,000 different records were used to create that map and it reflects the full range of ministerial development types, not just the three examples that were included in the slide (i.e., fences/walls over 6 ft.; greenhouses; and accessory structures).

Staff is still researching development standards that make the most sense and as we discussed during our outreach meetings, one of our goals is to focus on the most sensitive areas within the mapped wildlife corridors.

I will be out of town for the next several days and won't be back in time to attend the meeting on Oct. 25. However, someone from the Planning Division is hoping to attend to listen to the discussion.

Thank you.

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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Pursuant to the California Public Records Act, email messages retained by the County may constitute public records subject to disclosure.

Rodgers, Patricia B.

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Thursday, November 1, 2018 2:44 PM
To: Wilkinson, Whitney
Subject: FW: The effect of artificial light on wildlife use of a passage structure
Attachments: Bliss-Ketchum2016BiologicalConservation.pdf

Last one.

From: Travis Longcore <longcore@usc.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2018 3:04 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: The effect of artificial light on wildlife use of a passage structure

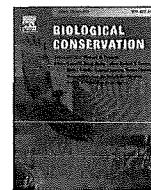
Quite relevant to your ordinance.

Bliss-Ketchum, L. L., de Rivera, C. E., Turner, B. C., & Weisbaum, D. M. (2016). Biological Conservation. Biological Conservation, 199, 25–28. <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.biocon.2016.04.025>

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The effect of artificial light on wildlife use of a passage structure



Leslie L. Bliss-Ketchum^a, Catherine E. de Rivera^{a,*}, Brian C. Turner^a, Dolores M. Weisbaum^b

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Light pollution

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ABSTRACT

Barriers to animal movement can isolate populations, impacting their genetic diversity, susceptibility to disease, and access to resources. Barriers to movement may be caused by artificial light, which is known to disrupt bird, sea turtle, and bat behavior, but few studies have experimentally investigated the effects of artificial light on movement for a suite of terrestrial vertebrates. Therefore, we studied the effect of ecological light pollution on animal usage of a bridge under-road passage structure. On a weekly basis, sections of the structure were subjected to different light treatments including no light added, followed by a Reference period when lights were off in all the structure sections. Sand track data revealed use by 23 mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians, nine of which had >30 tracks for species-level analysis. Columbia black-tailed deer (*Odocoileus hemionus columbianus*) traversed under unlit bridge sections much less when neighboring sections were lit compared to when none were, suggesting avoidance due to any nearby presence of artificial light. Similarly, deer mouse (*Peromyscus maniculatus*) and opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*) track paths were less frequent in the lit sections than the ambient. Crossing was correlated with temporal or spatial factors but not light for three of the other species. These findings suggest that artificial light may be reducing habitat connectivity for some species though not providing a strong barrier for others. Such information is needed to inform mitigation of habitat fragmentation in the face of expanding urbanization.

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1. Introduction

Artificial light is used pervasively at night in conjunction with the built environment, creating 'ecological light pollution' (Longcore and Rich, 2004) that can alter behavior and physiology and disrupt habitat connectivity (Bennie et al., 2014, Gaston et al., 2014, 2015 and Rotics et al., 2011). Light provides key information to organisms by enabling their vision, regulating circadian cycles and phenological events (Gaston et al., 2012). Even so, few studies have investigated the effects of artificial light on movement patterns, especially in an experimental setting, for terrestrial vertebrate communities (Gaston et al., 2015, and Longcore and Rich, 2004). Such information is needed to inform mitigation of habitat fragmentation in the face of expanding urbanization.

Artificial light can affect foraging, reproduction, communication and other critical behaviors (Bird et al., 2004, Kempnaers et al., 2010, Longcore and Rich, 2004, and Rotics et al., 2011). For example, it disrupts migratory behavior in birds, sea turtles, bats, and other species (Sella et al., 2006, Rich and Longcore, 2005, and Rodrigues et al., 2012). It also alters movement and foraging patterns, creating an under-exploited temporal niche that may promote invasion by less light-sensitive species (Rotics et al., 2011). Responses to artificial light vary

among species, however, ranging from increased orientation (van Langevelde et al., 2011) to disorientation (Riley et al., 2013) and from attraction (Polak et al., 2011) to avoidance of light (Beier, 1995, and Bird et al., 2004).

Organisms vary widely in their sensitivities to light and this sensitivity is highly dependent on design and size of the animal's eye (Gaston et al., 2012). Mammals in particular are theorized to be most affected behaviorally by artificial light because of the physical structure of the mammalian eye (Davies et al., 2013). Thus, some species will be more affected by certain types, intensities, and directionality of light than others.

Wildlife populations depend on the ability to traverse habitats, but for some species artificial lighting impacts these movements, fragmenting habitats and disrupting connectivity (Beier, 1995, Coelho et al., 2012, Grigione and Mrykalo, 2004, and Threlfall et al., 2013). Barriers to connectivity on the landscape, especially roads, can isolate populations, reducing their ability to maintain genetic diversity, increasing their susceptibility to disturbance and disease, and limiting their access to resources (Clark et al., 2010, Dixon et al., 2006, and Shepard et al., 2008). Many of the barrier effects of roads may be at least partially mitigated by under- or over-road passages, which increase safe animal movement across roads (Clevenger et al., 2001). Given the cost associated with constructing crossing structures, it is important that we ensure they are as effective as possible. Increasingly, crossing structures are proposed for use by foot or bike traffic as well as for wildlife. Structures

* Corresponding author.

E-mail addresses: blissket@pdx.edu (L.L. Bliss-Ketchum), derivera@pdx.edu (C.E. de Rivera), bcturner@pdx.edu (B.C. Turner), dmweisbaum@gmail.com (D.M. Weisbaum).

built for human use typically include artificial light for safety. However, studies have yet to examine the effect of artificial light on wildlife passage use. Examining wildlife response to artificial light in the context of an under-road passage allows for efficient sampling and separates out the effect of illumination from traffic volume and many other barrier effects of roads. Hence, examining artificial light in passages informs the larger question about the role of artificial light on connectivity as well as the specifics about passage structures.

We conducted an experimental study on the effect of light pollution on animal usage of an under-road passage structure in an urbanizing environment. This study aims to determine the effect of artificial light on wildlife use of passage structures by investigating if the presence of light influences use of a crossing structure by species in the local community of terrestrial vertebrates. We hypothesized that the presence of artificial light would decrease use of an under-road crossing structure, especially for mammals, and that higher intensity light would elicit a greater response.

2. Methods

2.1. Site description

We conducted the light-level experiment in a wetland portion of the Boeckman Road Extension, which was recently constructed (2006–2008) in Wilsonville, Oregon, USA (45.316245, –122.783933). Wilsonville lies at the edge of Portland's urban growth boundary. The Extension spans diverse land uses including wetlands, forests, farms, industrial land, and housing. Maintaining animal passage was an important goal of this Extension project because this area was deemed important for habitat connectivity between the Willamette River and the Rock Creek Unit of the Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge for the area's diverse animal community.

2.2. Passage structure & light treatment design

A variety of species cross under the structure we used for this experiment, a bridge at the Boeckman site (de Rivera and Bliss-Ketchum, 2009). The bridge ranges from 1.5 to 2.7 m tall, spans 122 m, and is 18 m wide. We used only a portion of the bridge at its east end, three consecutive 25 m long sections separated by ~1 m of support pylons topped by concrete supports perpendicular to the span (Fig. A1a,b). We established a sand pad (0.6 m wide, 0.025 m deep, 73 m long) spanning the midline of the three sections for wildlife tracking (Fig. A1c). The terrain leading up to the bridge is similar across sections (Fig A1d).

We added lights under the bridge in the three sections used in our experiment. Light treatments were rotated weekly (Table A1) and consisted of High (172 lx), Low (54 lx), or Zero (<1 lx) light level treatments. Street lighting standards adopted by Portland, Oregon list 32 lx as the average acceptable horizontal illumination (Portland, 1984); however, measurements of street and parking garage lighting ranged from 65 to 646 lx (Bliss-Ketchum, unpublished data). During these treatments, lights were on for 24 h a day to avoid startling, temporary blindness, or other effects of sudden illumination from the lights turning on in the evening. Before the experiment started each year and at the end of each 3-week experimental light-manipulation period, we turned off the lights in all sections for a week-long unlit reference period (herein referred to as "Reference"). This pattern was repeated throughout the 18 weeks of the study period for a total of 13 samples each of the High, Low and Zero treatments and 15 samples of the Reference period.

To provide artificial light to the experimental area under the bridge, three Lithonia Lighting 2-Light Wall-Mount Outdoor Floodlight housings (Model #OFTH300PR120PWHM12) were mounted to the ceiling in each of the three sections, equally spaced across the span of each section. Each light housing supported two halogen flood lights. For the High light treatment, six Phillips 100 watt 130 V halogen PAR38 flood light bulbs (1750 lm, warmth 2730 K) were used; for the Low treatment

six, Philips 45 watt 120–130 V halogen PAR38 Flood light bulbs were used (470 lm, warmth 3000 K). All bulbs in the given bridge section were removed for the Zero treatment and all bulbs in all sections were removed during the Reference. All treatments were exposed to ambient lighting, including from moonlight and shielded streetlights on the roadway above. Lights were directed at the sand tracking pad (Fig. A1c). An Extech Instruments Foot-Candle/Lux Light Meter model 401,025 with a minimum resolution of 1 lx was used to measure light levels in each section and to verify that artificial light from one section was not detectable across the boundary between sections. It should be noted that a full moon on a clear night can produce illumination ranging from 0.27 to 1.0 lx and so this light meter would mostly likely not be able to detect illumination from moonlight in the passages (Bunning and Moser, 1969).

At the end of each week, wildlife track data were recorded to determine use by terrestrial vertebrates. Data were collected August–October 2011 and July through October 2012, for a total of 18 weeks when water levels were low enough to collect sand track data (Table A1). We collected data once per week to minimize our presence; our pilot data showed this week-long interval was suitable for detecting all tracks in summer, the dry season. Tracks were identified in the field using Sheldon (1997) track identification guide. Tracks were measured and photographed for later identification if the identity of the species was in question. We consider a set of footprints leading across the pad in one direction as a track. After all sand tracks were recorded, the sand tracking beds were re-graded. Then, the light treatments were rotated or, in the case of a Reference period, all lights were removed.

2.3. Data analysis

Data collected during Reference treatments were compared to the Zero light treatments for each of the nine species that created at least 30 tracks. If more (>95% CI) tracks were left during the Reference period than during the Zero treatment we concluded that the species avoided the bridge undercrossing during light treatments and the bridge sections were not functioning independently; if, however, the number of tracks was similar between the Reference periods and Zero treatments, we also analyzed the effect of light on usage within the bridge sections. Species detections were analyzed for eight of the nine most commonly detected species (all but deer) using Generalized Linear Models (GLM) and a quasi-Poisson error distribution. These analyses examined the effects of light level, passage section, year, week nested within year, and average moon phase for the week on species detection (Table A2). We used diagnostic plots to ensure the data met the assumptions of the statistical tests. Analyses were conducted using R statistical software (version 2.15.2, R Development Core Team, 2012).

3. Results

Track data documented 23 species (Table A3) and over 1500 tracks. Detections of individual species varied from a minimum of one to a maximum of 459 tracks during the study.

The crepuscular Columbia black-tailed deer (*Odocoileus hemionus columbianus*) showed sensitivity to even nearby artificial light, crossing much less even in the Zero level treatment (4.15 ± 3.08 , Mean \pm 95% CI) than in the Reference period (14.2 ± 7.3) when all under-passage lights were off (Fig. 1). Deer mouse (*Peromyscus maniculatus*) crossings also showed sensitivity to light with significantly more crossings in the Zero treatment (11.62 ± 5.91) than lit sections (Low: 1.0 ± 1.09 ; High: 0.23 ± 0.33 ; GLM: Low vs. Zero: $t = -0.433$, $p < 0.001$; High vs. Zero: $t = -3.24$, $p < 0.001$; Fig. 2; Table A2). Similarly, opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*) tracks were significantly more numerous in Zero (3.0 ± 1.87) than High treatments (1.08 ± 0.81 ; $t = -2.46$, $p = 0.02$). No other species left significantly more tracks in Zero than lit sections, though the number of tracks left by Bullfrogs (*Lithobates catesbeianus*) was affected by temporal and spatial factors (Fig. 2; Table A2).

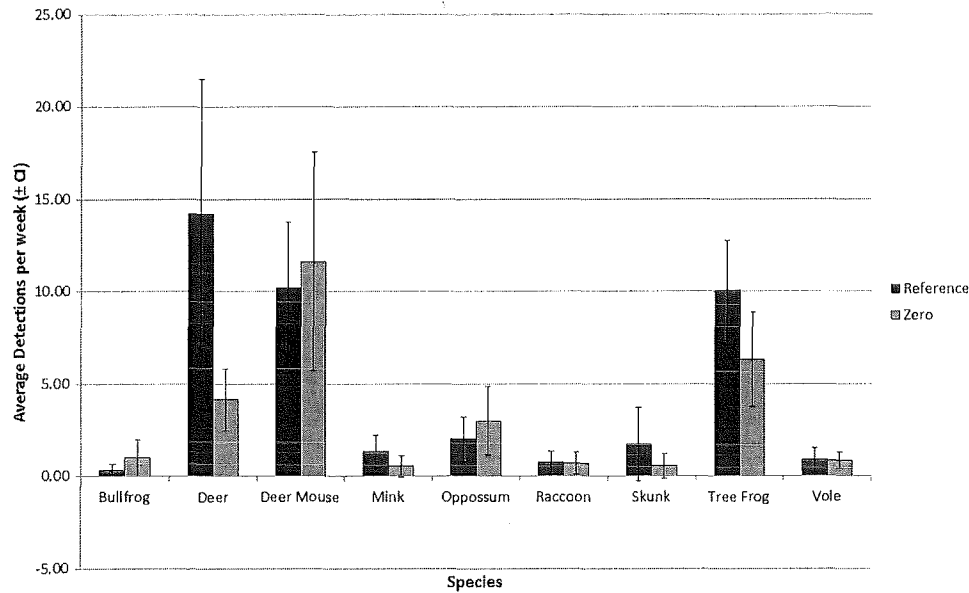


Fig. 1. Average detections during Reference and Zero periods for the nine most common species. Error bars represent 95% confidence intervals.

4. Discussion

The current presence and spread of ecological light pollution may be creating a partial “species filter” preventing habitat connectivity of species that are negatively influenced by light, but maintaining connectivity for those more tolerant of artificial light. Our experiment showed that species responses to artificial light were variable. Use of the undercrossing decreased and therefore habitat connectivity was disrupted in the presence of artificial light for three species. In contrast, six other species showed no obvious light avoidance.

While light did not affect use of the under-road passage structure for a majority of the terrestrial vertebrate species, habitat connectivity was disrupted by the presence of artificial light for Columbia black-tailed deer (*O. hemionus columbianus*), deer mice (*P. maniculatus*), and

opossum (*D. virginiana*). Changes in use of the crossing structures by deer are of particular importance given a key objective of such structures is preventing animal–vehicle collisions with large animals that are a safety concern for motorists. Deer crossed through the passage sections much less when some sections contained light than when lights were off in all sections. The potential effects of this avoidance response include reduced connectivity and re-routing over the road, risking collision with vehicles. The observed strong effect of light on deer mice could greatly reduce habitat connectivity across the road when the main option for movement is over a well-lit road or through a lit passage. Anecdotally, camera traps caught predation by cats on mice in lit passages, perhaps offering an explanation for why mice typically avoided well-lit crossings. Because of their high fertility and the likelihood that some mice in the extensive population can cross the

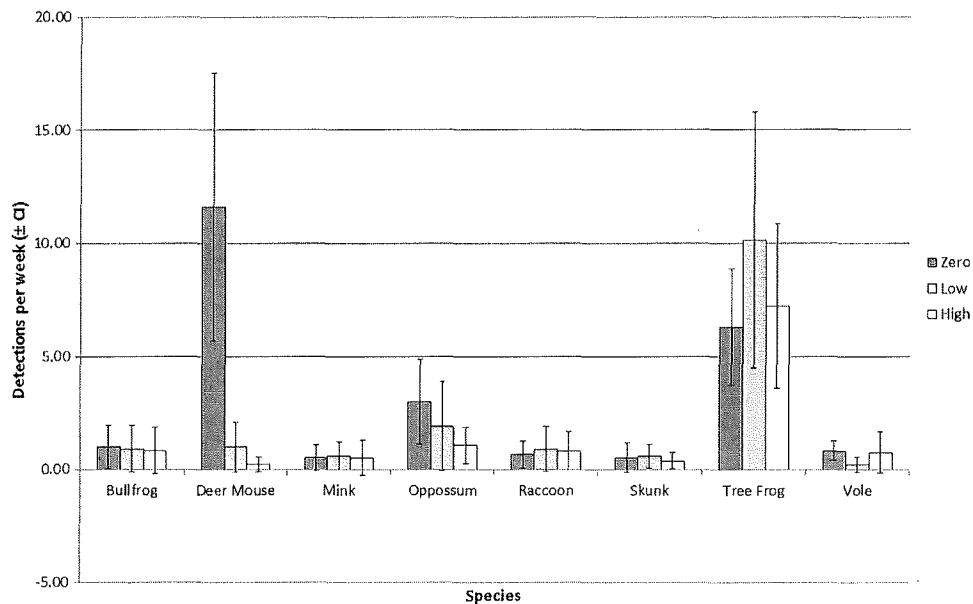


Fig. 2. The mean number of tracks detected per week for each of the three light-level treatments, High, Low and Zero, for each species with >30 tracks and no strong difference between the Reference period and the Zero treatment. Bars with the same letter are not significantly different from one another and species were not compared with each other and are shown with different letters. Error bars represent 95% confidence intervals.

road in some areas, genetic connectivity likely can be maintained for deer mice as can a rescue effect if well-lit passages and roads create a metapopulation structure. Organisms averse to artificial light but with lower population replacement rates, may suffer genetic differentiation across the road and decreased population size from fragmentation and vehicle collision risk in darker stretches (Clark et al., 2010, Steen et al., 2006, and Shepard et al., 2008). As opossum only slightly decreased use of passages in low light, they would be less likely to suffer strong fragmentation effects under many lighting scenarios but may preferentially cross over roads rather than through lit passages.

The lack of response to artificial light seen in the Northern raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), Pacific tree frog (*Pseudacris regilla*) and four of the other observed species could be a common trait of animals that use urban areas. Studies have referred to artificial light as a new nocturnal niche, the light night niche (Henderson and Powell, 2001, and Rotics et al., 2011). This temporal niche is less attractive to some species and, conversely, can promote usage of an area by species that do not avoid lit areas, like raccoons (Randa and Yunker, 2006). We do not expect strong population-level effects from lighting for these species but the partial filter allowing these species but not others such as the deer mice through could have consequences to their populations due to shifts in community composition.

These results could help inform management. Structures that also are meant for human use could have portions left unlit or could include a push button system that would turn lights on only as a person passes through. Building on research by Spoelstra et al. (2015), spectra may also be able to be manipulated to facilitate connectivity by particular species. Additionally, artificial light could be used to influence movement. For example, lights could be used like a fence to prevent animals from crossing roads, while darkness could be used to encourage them to use crossing structures. If, however, the motivation to move through a lit area is high or the energy expenditure to go around is extreme, the avoidance response might be muted.

Ecological light pollution influences natural systems and contributes to the cumulative effects of urbanization on wildlife and ecosystems. With a greater understanding of the effect of artificial light we can make informed decisions about removing or reducing lighting and test additional methods to reduce the impacts of ecological light pollution in order to preserve habitat connectivity.

Acknowledgments

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Appendix A. Supplementary data

Supplementary data to this article can be found online at <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.biocon.2016.04.025>.

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Rodgers, Patricia B.

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Thursday, November 1, 2018 2:43 PM
To: Wilkinson, Whitney
Subject: FW: Dispersal of juvenile cougars in fragmented habitat
Attachments: Beier1995JournalofWildlifeManagement.pdf

More from Longcore

From: Travis Longcore <longcore@usc.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2018 2:59 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: Dispersal of juvenile cougars in fragmented habitat

This paper describes how cougars avoid bright areas when dispersing.

Beier, P. (1995). Dispersal of juvenile cougars in fragmented habitat. *Journal of Wildlife Management*, 59(2), 228–237.

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DISPERSAL OF JUVENILE COUGARS IN FRAGMENTED HABITAT

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Abstract: There is little information on the spatiotemporal pattern of dispersal of juvenile cougars (*Felis concolor*) and no data on disperser use of habitat corridors. I investigated dispersal of radio-tagged juvenile cougars (8 M, 1 F) in a California landscape containing 3 corridors (1.5, 4.0, and 6.0 km long) and several habitat peninsulas created by urban growth. Dispersal was usually initiated by the mother abandoning the cub near an edge of her home range. The cub stayed within 300 m of that site for 13–19 days and then dispersed in the direction opposite that taken by the mother. Mean age at dispersal was 18 months (range 13–21 months). Each disperser traveled from its natal range to the farthest part of the urban-wildland edge. Dispersing males occupied a series of small (<30% the area used by ad M in the same time span), temporary (10–298 days) home ranges, usually near the urban-wildland interface, and often with its longest border along that edge. Each of the 3 corridors was used by 1–3 dispersers, 5 of the 9 dispersers found and successfully used corridors, and 2 dispersers entered but failed to traverse corridors. Dispersing cougars will use corridors that are located along natural travel routes, have ample woody cover, include an underpass integrated with roadside fencing at high-speed road crossings, lack artificial outdoor lighting, and have <1 dwelling unit/16 ha.

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Key words: California, corridors, cougar, dispersal, *Felis concolor*, habitat fragmentation, mountain lion, population dynamics, urban.

For carnivores, dispersal is the movement of an individual away from its natal range upon reaching the age of independence (Bekoff 1989:104). Dispersal plays an important role in cougar population dynamics because recruitment into a local population occurs mainly by immigration of juveniles from adjacent populations, while the population's own offspring emigrate to other areas (Seidensticker et al. 1973). Dispersal enables cougars to expand their ranges and recolonize habitats where chance local extinction has occurred (Hemker et al. 1984). However, most studies of cougar dispersal have been limited to reports of age at onset of dispersal and net distance moved from the predispersal home range (except Hornocker 1970:16, Maehr et al. 1991b, Seidensticker et al. 1973:18, Anderson et al. 1992).

Cougars have been used as a focal species in planning habitat corridors to facilitate animal movement between larger habitats in a regional landscape (Harris and Scheck 1991, Beier and Loe 1992, Royle 1992). However, corridors decrease extinction risk only if they aid dispersal (Beier 1993), and there is no evidence on whether

er cougars use corridors during dispersal. My objectives were to (1) describe movements of mother and offspring just before dispersal, juvenile movement patterns during dispersal, and characteristics of transient home ranges (THRs) used by dispersers, and (2) document how dispersers negotiate the urban-wildland interface, including corridors and habitat peninsulas.

This paper is dedicated to colleagues working on the Paseo Pantera, a 7-nation effort to link wildlands in the Central American isthmus. Research was supported by California Agricultural Experiment Station Project 4326-MS, California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG), Orange County, and the U.S. Marine Corps. D. Choate, K. Drewe, D. Krucki, W. D. Padley, T. Tennant, and D. Wroe were radio trackers. I thank CDFG telemetry pilots R. Anthes and J. Veal, and especially pilots R. C. Chipman, J. T. Hornacek, and J. Williams, who donated their services. Friends of Tecate Cypress, the Mountain Lion Foundation, The Nature Conservancy, Sierra Club, and others have struggled to maintain connectivity in the Santa Ana Mountains. I thank B. B. Ackerman, T. H. Hemker, R. F. Noss, D. S. Maehr, and an anonymous reviewer for comments. This study operated under Animal Use Protocol R139-0394 issued by the Animal Care and Use Committee at the University of California at Berkeley.

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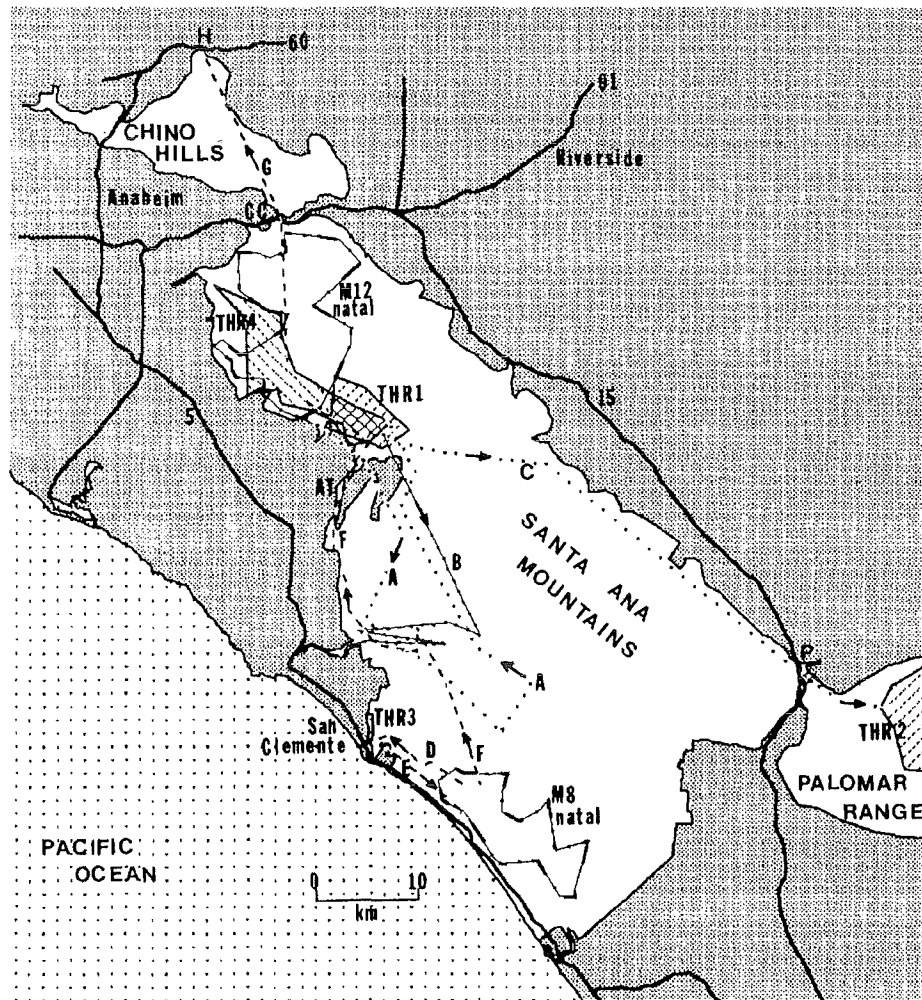


Fig. 1. Santa Ana Mountains study area and dispersal movements of cougars M8 and M12 in southern California, 1990–92. Urban (nonhabitat) areas are indicated by dark stippling, transient home ranges (THR) by diagonal hatching. All roads shown are 6- to 10-lane freeways. The 3 habitat corridors are designated CC (Coal Canyon), AT (Arroyo Trabuco), and P (Pechanga, with the Temecula Creek habitat peninsula extending east from the label). All thin habitat peninsulas shown were explored by dispersers. Natal ranges (natal) enclose mothers' locations for 12 months before dispersal. A (35 days, 94 km): M12 abandoned natal range and wandered before establishing THR1. B (16 days, 87 km): During an excursion from THR1, M12 explored this 6-km habitat peninsula, then returned to THR1 within 48 hours. C (8 days, 59 km): Abandoning THR1, M12 used the Pechanga Corridor to reach THR2 (partially shown) in the Palomar Range. D (12 days, 16 km): M8 abandoned natal range and moved to THR3 for 18 days. E (2 days, 17 km): M8 abandoned THR3, returned to natal range for 7 days. F (17 days, 67 km): M8 used the Arroyo Trabuco Corridor en route to THR4 (used 70 days). G (2 days, 20 km): M8 abandoned THR 4, moved into the Chino Hills via Coal Canyon Corridor. H: 20 days later he was killed in a vehicle accident at the end of a habitat peninsula.

STUDY AREA

I studied cougars in the Santa Ana Mountains of southern California (Fig. 1) from May 1988 through December 1992. Radio-tagged juveniles dispersed only during the final 27 months (Beier and Barrett 1993). The cougar population (approx 20 ad) used about 2,070 km² of habitat (Fig. 1). Over 1.1 million people lived in the 17 cities and 7 unincorporated towns surrounding the mountain range. About 61% of cougar habitat in the area was protected within Cleveland

National forest, Camp Pendleton, and several smaller reserves (Beier 1993). Terrain was rugged, with elevation varying from 0 to 1,680 m, and vegetation included chaparral, coastal scrub, oak (*Quercus agrifolia* and *Q. engelmannii*) woodlands, and annual grasslands. Small areas of coniferous forest occurred at higher elevations, mainly on north-facing slopes. Few drainages had perennial aboveground water flow, but seeps and springs were well distributed throughout the range. Cougars were born in all seasons, with a peak in summer.

METHODS

Corridors and Habitat Peninsulas

Before radiotracking dispersers, I identified 3 potential corridors (Coal Canyon, Pechanga, and Arroyo Trabuco) connecting larger habitat parcels in the area (Fig. 1). These 3 areas were not designed as wildlife movement corridors, but were simply habitats made linear by urban growth.

The Coal Canyon Corridor provided the only potential habitat link between the Santa Ana Mountain Range and the Chino Hills, and was the shortest of the 3 corridors, with 1.5 km separating the large blocks of intact habitat on either end. Habitat in the corridor was degraded, containing 2 shrubless golf courses and a horse stable devoid of understory. The corridor was intersected by an 8-lane freeway (State Route 91) with heavy night traffic that precluded any at-grade road crossing. The only potential freeway undercrossings were a vehicle underpass (not used at night, but devegetated, brightly lit, and noisy at all hours) and a 2.6- × 3.3-m concrete box culvert 200 m long. Although home ranges of several radio-tagged adult cougars abutted the corridor, none used it.

The Pechanga Corridor was about 4.0 km long. The main impediments to movement were the 6-lane Interstate 15 freeway (I-15) and 2 golf courses. A bridge over the Santa Margarita River provided the only freeway undercrossing, and the area under it was characterized by riparian vegetation, little traffic noise, and minimal light pollution. However, to use the underpass, a cougar had to cross >400 m of golf course and skirt 2 fences along a driving range. If it skirted east of the driving range, it would encounter a habitat peninsula (Temecula Creek), which offered habitat for 900 m but then ended in a residential area. The Pechanga Corridor was the last potential habitat link between the Santa Ana Mountains and the Palomar Range, and was not used by any radio-tagged adult.

In 1990, nonurban habitat along the Arroyo Trabuco was 400–600 m wide for 6.0 km of its length. Tract homes lined both sides of the arroyo, but steep bluffs (20–70 m deep) minimized urban vistas, noise, and light pollution in the arroyo. The relatively undisturbed vegetation was dominated by an oak-sycamore (*Platanus racemosa*) riparian forest, with shrub and grassland communities on slopes and in smaller side canyons. In 1990–91, a 4-lane bridge was being

built over the southern arroyo, with grading, excavating, and storage of steel beams, tractors, and other equipment in the arroyo. Unlike the other 2 corridors, the arroyo was not the sole link between the large habitat area at either end (Fig. 1).

In addition, several habitat peninsulas extended into urban areas. Because these peninsulas contained habitats avoided by adults (e.g., open grasslands, cut and fill slopes bordering tract homes), I did not try to identify and list them a priori. Instead we monitored dispersers near the urban-wildland interface and observed several dispersers explore these peninsulas.

Radio Telemetry

I captured and radiotagged 6 juvenile (9–18 months old) offspring of previously radio-tagged females when they were still in their mother's home range. Because the mothers were radiotagged before births of these juveniles, their birth dates were known within 4 days. One juvenile was radiotagged simultaneously with her mother (1 month before dispersal), and 2 others (mothers not radiotagged) were captured as dispersers; I estimated their birth dates from tooth wear, pelage, and mass (Ashman et al. 1983:19–27).

We obtained single locations, $\leq 1/\text{day}/\text{animal}$, from the ground (54% of locations) or aircraft (46%) using standard triangulation or homing techniques (Mech 1983). We determined locations almost every day when dispersers moved through new terrain, and as rarely as every 2 weeks when home ranges were stable for >1 month. We also monitored animals overnight, determining the focal animal's location by ground triangulation every 15 minutes starting 1 hour before sunset and continuing until 1 hour after sunrise or until 1 hour of stasis, whichever came last.

I could not establish a network of precisely located receiving stations. Ground triangulation was by a single observer using a vehicle to take successive bearings in as brief a time as possible. Under these conditions, it is impossible to assess precision of locations (White and Garrott 1990: 90–93), but we minimized location errors by using only azimuths that differed by 60–120° and by getting close to the animal (White and Garrott 1990:58, 109). In obtaining 715 single locations on dispersers, we took 77% of the bearings from ≤ 500 m of the focal animal and 88% from within 1 km. These percentages increased

Table 1. Dispersal timing, fate, distance traveled, and intensity of radiotracking for 1 female and 8 male juvenile cougars in southern California, 1990–92.

ID	Dispersal age (month)	Dispersal duration ^a (days)	Dispersal month	Fate	Dispersal distance (km)	Max. possible distance ^b (km)	Intensity of radiotracking	
							Single locations	Overnight monitoring sessions
F17	20	128	Sep	Died (natural cause)	48	48	39	5
M3	18	20	Jan	Died (disease)	19	42	14	0
M5	19 ^c	414	Aug ^d	Died (vehicle)	69	75	163	3
M6	19.5 ^c	475	Aug ^d	Recruited	75	75	117	2
M7	19.5	392	Apr	Recruited	56	61	97	1
M8	18.5	148	Dec	Died (vehicle)	77	67	73	8
M10	22	536	Mar	Died (vehicle)	66	67	155	8
M11	17	41	Jan	Died (shot)	69	64	20	1
M12	13.5	195	Sep	Died (natural cause)	75	64	37	4
\bar{x}	18 ^e	278 ^c		2 of 9 recruited	63 ^e	64 ^e	84.5	3.4
SD	2.8	201			19	10		

^a Until death, or until disperser (M6 and M7) occupied a stable home range.

^b The distance from the centroid (\bar{x} , \bar{y}) of the natal home range to the most distant habitat edge that could be accessed without using the Coal Canyon or Pechanga corridors or (for M5 and M6, captured as dispersers) the longest straightline distance between any animal location and the most distant habitat edge without using those 2 corridors.

^c Age cougar was captured as a disperser (excluded from \bar{x}).

^d Month cougar was captured as a disperser.

^e Excludes F17.

to 83 and 96%, respectively, during the 31 night monitoring sessions.

I computed home range size by the minimum convex polygon (MCP) method (Hayne 1949) excluding locations isolated by >7 km from the other locations. I monitored each disperser until death or until it occupied a stable adult home range, defined as an area ≥ 250 km² (for M) or ≥ 75 km² (for F) used for ≥ 3 consecutive months without a subsequent change in location. I defined dispersal as a movement >7 km beyond the boundary of a juvenile's natal range (mother's MCP for the previous 12 months) for >7 days. A THR was an area that an animal used after leaving its natal range, but later abandoned.

To compare THRs with ranges of adults of the same sex, I computed ≥ 3 MCPs for each radio-tagged adult for the same time span as each THR. Because I did not monitor adults as intensively, in most cases I computed the adult range from fewer locations. In the other cases, I randomly deleted points from adult samples if necessary, so that the adult ranges matched THRs in duration and number of locations.

I estimated time of dispersal, death, or entry into a home range by the midpoint between the closest known dates before and after the event. I defined dispersal date as the midpoint between the last date a juvenile was located within its natal range and the first date it was located off the natal range. I calculated dispersal distance

as the maximum distance between a disperser's location and the centroid (\bar{x} , \bar{y}) of its mother's home range (for the 7 with radio-tagged mothers) or the maximum distance between centroids of THRs (for the 2 captured as dispersers). I contrasted each dispersal distance with a maximum possible distance, calculated as the distance from the centroid of the natal home range to the most distant habitat edge that could be accessed without using the Coal Canyon or Pechanga corridors (for the 7 with radio-tagged mothers) or as the longest straight-line distance between any animal location and the most distant habitat edge without using those 2 corridors (for the 2 captured as dispersers).

RESULTS

Dispersal Patterns

Age and Direction.—Eight male and 1 female juvenile cougar were radiotagged and survived to dispersal age; all 9 dispersed (Table 1). Mean dispersal age for 6 male cougars of known age was 18 months (Table 1). Littermates (2 pairs: M8 and M10, and M11 and M12) did not disperse at the same age but did disperse in the same direction.

Behavioral Initiation.—In 5 of 7 cases, dispersal was initiated by the mother leaving the cub 0–3 km from an edge of her home range while she moved to or just beyond the opposite edge of her home range, remaining there for 2–

Table 2. Characteristics of transient home ranges (THR; range 1–4) of 7 dispersing juvenile male cougars in southern California, 1990–92.

Cougar	THR	Area (km ²)	Day entered ^a	Day abandoned ^a	Distance from previous range ^b (km)
M5	1	52.0	8	50	24
	2	51.5	64	262	63
	3	21.2 ^c	262	414	2
M6	1	1.8	13	26	23
	2	77.0	50	242	75
	3	292.0	242	Through Dec 1992	10
M7	1	404.0	12	300	13
	2	260.0 ^d	301	Through Dec 1992	27
M8	1	10.0	12	31	15
	2	112.0	56	126	36
	3	77.0	128	148	14
M10	1	1.4	4	23	12
	2	7.4 ^c	40	69	52
	3	89.0	116	290	19
M11	1	78.0 ^c	17	36	46
	2	97.0	121	195	66

^a Days after capture for M5 and M6 (captured as dispersers with unknown dispersal date); days after start of dispersal for all others.

^b Air line distance between centroids (\bar{x} , \bar{y}) of home ranges. For each animal, the first distance is the distance from centroid of mother's home range or (M5, M6) distance from release site.

^c Home range after automobile collision.

^d Abutted previous range with no overlap.

3 weeks. In 2 cases the cub was abandoned in the central part of the natal range. Each cub ($n = 7$) used a <50-ha area, centered on the abandonment site, for 13–19 days, then moved out of its mother's home range. Each male ($n = 6$) dispersed in the direction opposite (range 150–210°) that taken by his mother, but the female dispersed 45° from the direction taken by her mother.

Movements and Transient Ranges.—The female disperser wandered throughout the north-

ern half of the Santa Ana Mountains, changing directions ≥ 5 times upon encountering the urban-wildland interface, and covered ≥ 342 km without establishing a THR. Four months after her dispersal date, she returned to the edge of her natal range and bedded near her mother for 1 day, dying near that location 5 days later of unknown causes.

Each male dispersed over several weeks to months, during which as many as 4 THRs were occupied sequentially (Table 2). For each disperser, the first THR was small and occupied for 7–20 days. On average, successive THRs were larger and occupied longer (0.5–8 months). Generally THRs were 2–30% as large as areas used by adult males over the same time span (Table 3). Thirteen of 18 THRs abutted the urban-wildland interface, and 11 of these 13 THRs had their longest border along that interface (Fig. 1). Three THRs were the result of restricted movements after vehicle collisions. Occasionally a disperser made an excursion from a THR, but returned to it; the 2 longest round trips were 87 km in 16 days and 89 km in 13 days.

Dispersers usually moved from 1 THR to the next in 1–16 days. In the only marked exception, M12 wandered 94 km over 35 days before entering a THR that abutted his natal range (Fig. 1: line A). Two of 6 dispersing males returned to their natal ranges 32 days (M8, traveling 15 km; Fig. 1: line E) and 87 days (M10, traveling 57 km) after dispersal and stayed there for 7 and 10 days, respectively, and then departed without a second return. One juvenile (M3) died 21 days after dispersal and traveled only 19 km. All other male dispersers moved from their natal range or capture site to the most distant corner of suitable habitat in the Santa Ana Mountains (Tables 1 and 2, Figs. 1 and 2).

Fates.—Seven of the 9 dispersers died before

Table 3. Size (km², based on minimum convex polygon) of male transient home ranges (THR) compared with the home ranges (HR) of adult M2 and adult M9, for similar durations and sampling intensities, in the Santa Ana Mountain Range, California, 1990–92.

Duration (days)	Transient home ranges				M2 home ranges				M9 home ranges			
	<i>n</i>	Locations/THR	\bar{x}	SD	<i>n</i>	Locations/HR	\bar{x}	SD	<i>n</i>	Locations/HR	\bar{x}	SD
13–20	5	7–15	23	32	7	7	134	83	5	7	182	42
29–43	2	12–21	30	22	7	11	176	84	7	11	259	89
70–77	3	10–31	80	36	13	10–28	278	75	5	11	416	78
152–198	4	42–83	60	26	5	50	439	70	4	36	585	114
236–288	2	35–53	270	134	5	35	487	16	4	44	673	76
360–366	2	32–145	276	16	3	35	506	61	3	35	704	32

establishing a stable home range, with 3 deaths due to vehicle collisions. One (M11) followed a habitat peninsula into an urban area, where he was killed by police. Another (M3) died of apparent intestinal disease, and F17 and M12 apparently died of natural causes (no external trauma, not emaciated). Dispersers recovered from 2 other vehicle accidents.

The 2 successful dispersers obtained territories by expanding their last THRs. One (M6) occupied a transient range in the Chino Hills for 187 days before he expanded this range to the south via the Coal Canyon Corridor (Fig. 2). He used the Coal Canyon Corridor 12 times during the next 140 days, 65% of which were spent in the Chino Hills. Over the next 433 days, he crossed the freeway 10 times. During the latter period, his stays in the Chino Hills continued to average 14 days, but his stays south of the freeway increased to an average of 60 days.

Use of Corridors

Five of the 9 dispersers used corridors, and 1 used 2 corridors (Fig. 1). Two dispersers failed to traverse corridors that they entered (M10 was hit by a vehicle in Coal Canyon Corridor; midway through the Pechanga Corridor, M5 entered the Temecula Creek habitat peninsula and was captured).

Coal Canyon.—Two dispersers successfully used the Coal Canyon Corridor, and a third was hit by a vehicle there. One (M6) used the Coal Canyon Corridor ≥ 22 times over 19 months to establish a home range that included both the Chino Hills and the northern part of the Santa Ana Mountains (Fig. 2). When crossing under the freeway in this corridor, his tracks indicated he used the culvert 18 times and the vehicle underpass 4 times. In the only 2 radio-tracked passages, he started from daybeds <1 km south of the freeway, began walking north about 1 hour after sunset, used the culvert, and reached Chino Hills State Park (2 km) within 2 hours. In addition, tracks indicate that an uncollared juvenile cougar used the Coal Canyon culvert under the freeway.

Pechanga.—Three dispersers encountered the Pechanga Corridor. One (M7) apparently did not enter it, another (M12) traversed it in a single night, and a third (M5) was halfway through the corridor when he entered a habitat peninsula (Temecula Creek), following it into a residential area where he was captured by animal control officers. Between October 1990 and

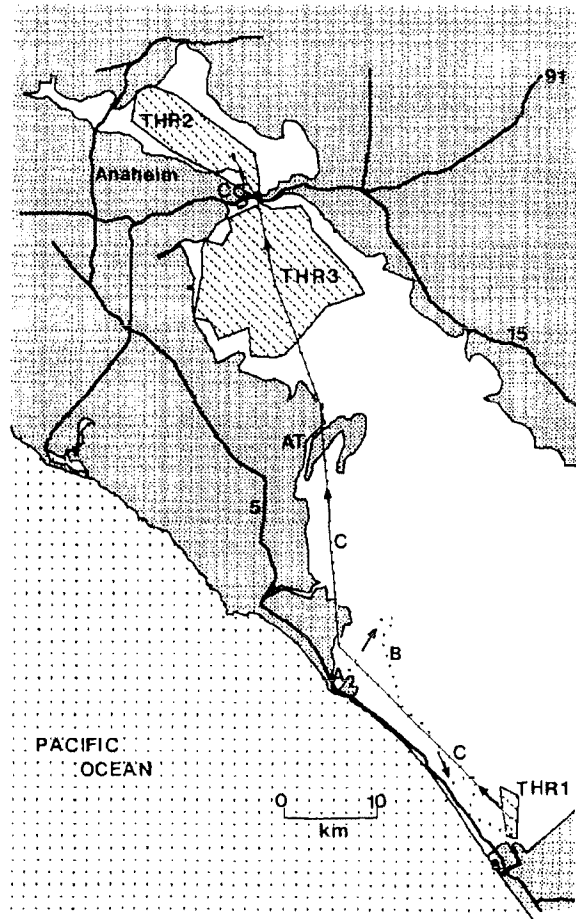


Fig. 2. Example of dispersal of a cougar (M6). A: M6 captured here as a disperser. B (10 days, 27 km): After release M6 traveled to THR1 (used 13 days). C (24 days, 85 km): M6 moved to the Chino Hills (perhaps using the Arroyo Trabuco [AT]), covering the final 52 km in <9 days. He spent 5.5 months in THR2 before expanding into an hourglass-shaped home range (THR2 and THR3). The 2 home range lobes are connected by the Coal Canyon Corridor (CC), which M6 used >22 times in 19 months.

December 1992, 4 uncollared cougars were killed by vehicles where I-15 crosses the Pechanga Corridor. Three of these deaths occurred where M12 crossed successfully, and 1 occurred 4 km south at the only other place where unlighted cougar habitat fronted both sides of the freeway. In 9 track searches, we found no evidence of a cougar crossing under the Santa Margarita Bridge.

Arroyo Trabuco.—Three dispersers successfully used the Arroyo Trabuco, taking 7 days (M8), 3–4 days (M10), and <48 hours (M11) to travel its length. Unlike the other 2 corridors, the arroyo was occasionally used by radio-tagged adults. Two of these adults were older than the corridor, having been born before the first housing tracts appeared east of the arroyo in 1986.

The third adult first encountered the arroyo in late 1988, when the constricted area was shorter and wider than in 1990.

Movements at the Wildland-Urban Interface

All dispersers frequently encountered the urban-wildland interface. Except for the short-lived M3, each disperser encountered at least 3 of the 4 habitat edges. Although all dispersers came within 100 m of urban areas and heavily peopled parklands for several hours to several weeks, only 5 sightings (involving 3 dispersers) were reported to local authorities. There were no instances of dispersers behaving aggressively toward humans or their pets in urban edge settings, although M12 took pet goats near 4 rural homes.

Seven of the 9 dispersers explored to the tips of habitat peninsulas, making a total of 10 such forays, averaging 2.9 km in 1-way length (range 0.8–7.0, SD = 2.3). All peninsulas extended into dense urban areas, and most were heavily used during the day by humans. One juvenile (M8) spent 14 days in a 350-ha riparian forest at Trestles Beach in San Clemente, and M5 explored Santiago Creek for 4.5 km into Orange and Anaheim, bedding for the day in a 10-ha riparian forest at Katella Street. Despite intense monitoring (149 overnight monitoring sessions and >10,000 single locations on 20 radio-tagged adults during 1988–92), there was no evidence that any adult cougar, tagged or untagged, visited any of the 10 habitat peninsulas. On 4 of the 10 explorations, the disperser bedded for the day near the tip of the cul-de-sac and returned to the main habitat block the following night. On 4 occasions, dispersers entered the urban area beyond the terminus of the peninsula, resulting in 2 dispersers being treed by domestic dogs (both were captured and released back into the wild), and 2 dispersers being killed (1 by police, 1 by a vehicle).

All travel in corridors and habitat peninsulas occurred at night. During overnight monitoring, the disperser usually avoided artificial lights when in the corridor or peninsula. For example, M12 consistently used dark areas as he rapidly (<4 hr) traveled the grassy ridge (6.0 × 1.5 km) separating San Juan Capistrano from San Clemente (Fig. 1). Also M12 seemed to use light cues when he negotiated the tightest part of the Pechanga Corridor; his consistent movements in the direction of the darkest horizon caused

him to miss the only bridged undercrossing of I-15.

Overnight monitoring showed that dispersers especially avoided night-lights in conjunction with open terrain. On M12's initial encounter with a well-lit sand factory and adjacent sand pits, he took 2 hours and 4 attempts to select a route that skirted the facility, after which he rested on a ridgetop for 2 hours. During 2 nights in the Arroyo Trabuco, M8 explored several small side canyons lacking woody vegetation. He followed each canyon to the ridgetop, where city lights were visible 300–800 m west. He stopped at each canyon ridgetop for 15–60 minutes before returning to the arroyo, without moving >100 m into the grasslands west of the ridgeline in view of the city lights.

Dispersers readily approached highways, but usually stopped 50–100 m from a newly encountered freeway until daylight. The following evening the cougar would either cross the freeway or retrace its route. As an example, M12 encountered a freeway at the tip of a 6-km peninsula of marginal habitat before 0400, stopping in an oak grove <30 m from the freeway. Across the freeway lay a dark industrial park with an unlit ridge beyond. By sunrise, the buildings were visible from his location, and after the following sunset, M12 traveled back to his THR (29 km away) within 48 hours.

Dispersers regularly crossed under highway bridges built to accommodate watercourses. For example, M8 crossed I-5 under the San Mateo Creek bridge ≥ 6 times, M6 crossed I-5 under the Las Flores Creek Bridge ≥ 2 times, and 3 dispersers made ≥ 8 crossings under the 2 bridges that spanned the Arroyo Trabuco.

Cougars (dispersers and adults) usually avoided large and small culverts under freeways or 2-lane rural highways. In 5 overnight monitoring sessions, the focal cougar used a drainage bottom, climbed out of the canyon, crossed the 2-lane road at grade, and re-entered the drainage. However, in 2 other sessions, 1.8-m box culverts were used to pass under 2-lane roads. Providing a striking exception to the pattern of culvert avoidance, M6 used the Coal Canyon box culvert to cross under an 8-lane freeway in 18 of his 22 known crossings.

In corridors and in the main habitat block, the most frequently used travel routes for dispersers and adults were scour zones in stream channels, followed by ridgeline routes and dirt roads. Dirt roads and hiking trails were es-

pecially favored as routes through dense chaparral. Adult and dispersing cougars occasionally bedded for the day 20–100 m from trails heavily used by hikers, bicyclists, and equestrians. Dispersers showed no aversion to parked vehicles, occasionally walking within 2 m of a researcher sitting in a vehicle on a dirt road with the engine off. They also passed within 30 m of isolated homes and buildings with no outdoor lighting.

DISCUSSION

Dispersal Patterns

The mean age for dispersal of males (18 months) was older than the mean of 13.3 months in previous studies (summarized by Anderson et al. 1992:61, 66), but lies well within the range of those reports, and is close to the 17.9 months reported by Maehr et al. (1991b) who used a similar definition of dispersal. Dispersal was initiated by the female abandoning the cubs within her home range, as also reported in Idaho by Seidensticker et al. (1973).

As was the case in the Santa Ana Mountains, Anderson et al. (1992:61 and Colo. Div. Wildl., Montrose, pers. commun.) found that all 9 radio-tagged juvenile males dispersed in Colorado. However, they found that 2 of 6 juvenile females failed to disperse. Additional reports are needed to determine how frequently juveniles fail to disperse. Although the mean dispersal distance for males in this study (63 km) was shorter than the average of 85 km reported in previous studies (Anderson et al. 1992:61, 66), cougars moved as far as possible within the Santa Ana Mountain Range. In Florida, where cougar habitat was limited, mean dispersal distance for males was 59 km (Maehr et al. 1991b).

In this fragmented landscape, 2 of 9 dispersers lived to establish stable adult home ranges. In the only comparable report, Anderson et al. (1992) found that 2 of 12 dispersers survived to establish stable home ranges in western Colorado. Although vehicles killed 4 of 9 dispersers in the Santa Ana Mountains (compared with zero cougars of any age in all other reported mortality rates in the west, U.S.), this vehicle mortality was apparently compensated by lack of other mortality factors, such as hunting. Maehr et al. (1991a), studying cougars in urban southern Florida, reported that 47% of deaths were due to vehicles.

Each male disperser used a series of small, elongate THRs along the urban-wildland edge

and moved rapidly from 1 THR to the next. Because adult male cougars tend to exclude other males from their territories (Anderson et al. 1992:70, Beier and Barrett 1993), these home range traits are probably due to dispersers attempting to avoid conflict with territorial adult males.

Maehr et al. (1991b) reported that the single female disperser in their study raised 1 litter within her mother's home range and then dispersed only 16 km, and Laing and Lindzey (1993) reported that vacated ranges of resident females were filled by their daughters or those of adjacent females. Because young females are more readily integrated into the resident adult population, females may not follow the pattern of THRs exhibited by males.

MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

Use of Corridors and Habitat Peninsulas

Cougars will disperse via habitat corridors in a landscape fragmented by urbanization, and some dispersers will use corridors containing unnatural features such as golf courses and major freeways. Significantly, 2 of the 3 corridors—Coal Canyon and Pechanga—were the only potential links between the large habitat blocks on either end and were important to persistence of this cougar population (Beier 1993). Corridor skeptics point out that a low quality corridor is a potential population sink and could decrease the size of a metapopulation (Simberloff et al. 1992). However, in this study no radio-tagged disperser was killed in the 2 low quality corridors (although 1 was injured), compared with 2 deaths in habitat peninsulas and 5 deaths inside the main habitat block. Furthermore, in this urban area, the only alternative to corridors is isolation, which might increase mortality because dispersers would be unable to escape the urban-wildland interface. Finally, even if some mortality occurs in corridors, it only takes a few successful dispersers per decade to benefit a cougar population (Beier 1993). For cougars, any connection between 2 isolated patches is better than no connection.

Implications for Corridor Design

A cougar cannot use a corridor unless its normal travel pattern causes it to encounter the corridor entrance. Conversely, a corridor along a natural travel route is likely to be used even

if habitat conditions within the corridor are sub-optimal (Foster and Humphrey 1992:17). Radio telemetry is ideal for identifying such routes if data are gathered when matrix lands are still intact (Beier 1993, Beier and Barrett 1993). If such data are not available for a particular area, scour zones in canyon bottoms are the most probable travel routes for cougars, followed by ridgelines free of artificial light.

Dispersers exploring new terrain and navigating corridors apparently oriented toward dark areas and away from city lights. Lights are especially detrimental in a road undercrossing or in open habitats. Lighting could also be an effective tool to deter an animal from entering a habitat peninsula that dead-ends in an urban area.

Traffic can kill or injure dispersers and may preclude an at-grade crossing. Where a heavily used road crosses a corridor, a bridged undercrossing is preferable to a culvert (Foster and Humphrey 1992, this study). A wide median should be open rather than covered (Foster and Humphrey 1992, Mock et al. 1992), but a narrow median should be covered to minimize noise, debris, and traffic light (Reed et al. 1975). Mock et al. (1992) recommended that noise in the underpass not exceed 60 db during expected time of use.

Vehicle accidents within corridors may have been prevented if the freeways had fencing to guide animals away from the roads and into underpasses. Foster and Humphrey (1992) found that a 3.1-m-high chain link fence topped with 3 strands of barbed wire helped Florida panthers stay off freeways and use underpasses. On first approaching busy freeways, dispersers stopped until daylight, perhaps to visually assess the habitat on the opposite side. I agree with Foster and Humphrey (1992:25) that the approach to the underpass should give the animal a good view of the habitat on the other side.

Cougars frequently used dirt roads and trails. Where dense woody vegetation impedes cougar travel, a trail or dirt road running the length of the corridor can facilitate use by cougars and discourage travel into adjacent urban areas. Mock et al. (1992) found that all functional wildlife corridors in urban San Diego County, California, had a path, drainage, railroad, or other linear feature, and speculated that these features helped guide animals through the corridor.

Unrestrained pets should be excluded from corridors because pet owners almost always de-

mand the death of a cougar that preys on a pet animal. Because cougars showed no aversion to hikers, bicyclists, equestrians, isolated unlit buildings, or parked vehicles, I conclude that corridors are compatible with such activities. However, there is a low risk of an attack on humans (Beier 1991).

In the Santa Ana Mountains, there was no housing within any of the 3 corridors or in most of the central habitat block. Where housing did occur, cougars readily moved through low density areas (about 1 dwelling/16 ha) and found dense areas (>20 dwellings/ha) impassible. I could not observe cougar movement in areas of intermediate housing density.

A corridor between the Santa Ana Mountains and the Palomar Range needs to accommodate only 2–4 immigrants/decade (Beier 1993), with each animal making a single passage. In contrast, because Chino Hills is smaller than an adult male home range, it requires a better linkage that will allow a breeding male to find and repeatedly use the corridor to breed with resident females (Fig. 2). Protected areas smaller than an adult female home range would require high quality, preferably multiple linkages, to enable a resident adult to use them as part of a home range.

Some native woody vegetation should be present to provide visual cover. I observed cougars move ≤ 400 m across unlit open terrain when the surrounding areas were in native woody vegetation, but they did not cross this span of open terrain with urban areas nearby on either side. Because some dispersers waited 12–24 hours near a freeway crossing point, woody cover is especially important near road crossings. In this study, cougars avoided row crops and orchards.

Lacking empirical data on corridor use, Harrison (1992) suggested that long corridors be ≥ 1 home range wide (about 5 km for cougars), and Noss (1992) recommended that regional corridors exceed 1.6 km in width with no bottleneck <400 m wide. Working on a smaller landscape, I documented that cougars will use corridors as narrow as 400 m for distances <7 km, with bottlenecks as narrow as 3.3 m for road undercrossings. Similarly, Mock et al. (1992) documented cougar use of 1 corridor 500 m long and 100–160 m wide and found that cougars did not use 8 potential corridors in which the most constrained sections were <100 m wide for >200 m. If disturbance level, cover, and the other factors discussed above are suitable, I suggest

that a corridor designed for use by cougars should be >100 m wide if the total distance to be spanned is <800 m, and >400 m wide for distances of 1–7 km. To the extent that other factors are suboptimal, and as the corridor length increases, corridor width should be increased.

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Received 29 December 1993.

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Associate Editor: Clark.

Rodgers, Patricia B.

Subject:

RE: Conference Call info for tomorrow

Attachments:

Exh 2a Figure 1.5.5 Habitat Connectivity Wildlife Corridors Map.pdf; Exh 1a Regional Linkages Map Incl Liberty Cnyn.pdf

Hi [REDACTED],

I'm so sorry to hear about your mom. Are you both in the same city, or are you trying to attend to her needs from afar? Both are excruciating in their own ways... I'm sorry to bother you at this difficult time with what must sound like trivial matters. Given your situation, I'm doubly grateful that you're willing to spend some time talking with us.

I'm not sure how much Lorraine filled you in, but the Planning Division resurrected the wildlife corridor ordinance project about 18 months ago and we're getting ready to bring it to the Planning Commission. As part of public outreach for the draft ordinance, we've had some questions about how the Ventura River came to be included as one of the mapped corridors. We've looked for, and failed to find, any good internal documentation related to the inclusion of the VR. It was not included in the South Coast Missing Linkages maps, which is what we're using as the basis for the corridor boundary.

The two maps I've attached show the areas the County considers wildlife corridors. There are the two that were mapped by SCW, including the Sierra Madre-Castaic and the Santa Monica – Sierra Madre. The latter includes the Santa Clara River, (that runs through Fillmore, S. Paula, Oxnard). But the SM-Castaic does not go south of Lake Casitas, (in Ojai), thus leaving out the Ventura River. At some point, the Planning Division added the Ventura River as a Corridor and since about 2010-11, we've considered it a Corridor for CEQA purposes. But, we can't find any documentation that describes the process by which the VR was added. Do you know anything about this history? For example, was there any official study/mapping effort that resulted in the inclusion of the VR? Was there work done as part of a grant project, (which ideally would include some written records we could review)?

If it is not possible to find this documentation, it may be necessary to include some formal adoption of the VR Corridor as part of our project. Essentially, we'll need to formally articulate and document why it should be included as a corridor...and we'll need to do it quickly. If we fail to make the case for adding it, there is some chance that we could end up litigating it and may end up just removing it from the mapped layer to avoid being sued.

The number for this afternoon's conference call is (712) 775-7031
Meeting ID is 910-372-148

I hope this call-in technology works. I've never used it before. In case it doesn't, my desk # is 805.654.2493.

Thanks again, [REDACTED]. I'm looking forward to hearing your voice, too!

Shelley

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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Ventura County General Plan Update. Join the conversation at VC2040.org
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Pursuant to the California Public Records Act, email messages retained by the County may constitute public records subject to disclosure.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2018 8:45 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: Re: Conference Call info for tomorrow

Hi,
This email works. If you have any maps you could send me, it would be helpful. My mom is dying, so I apologize but I'm not fully "present." I'll do my best.
Looking forward to hearing your voice.
Cheers,
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 11, 2018, at 5:33 PM, Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org> wrote:

[REDACTED]

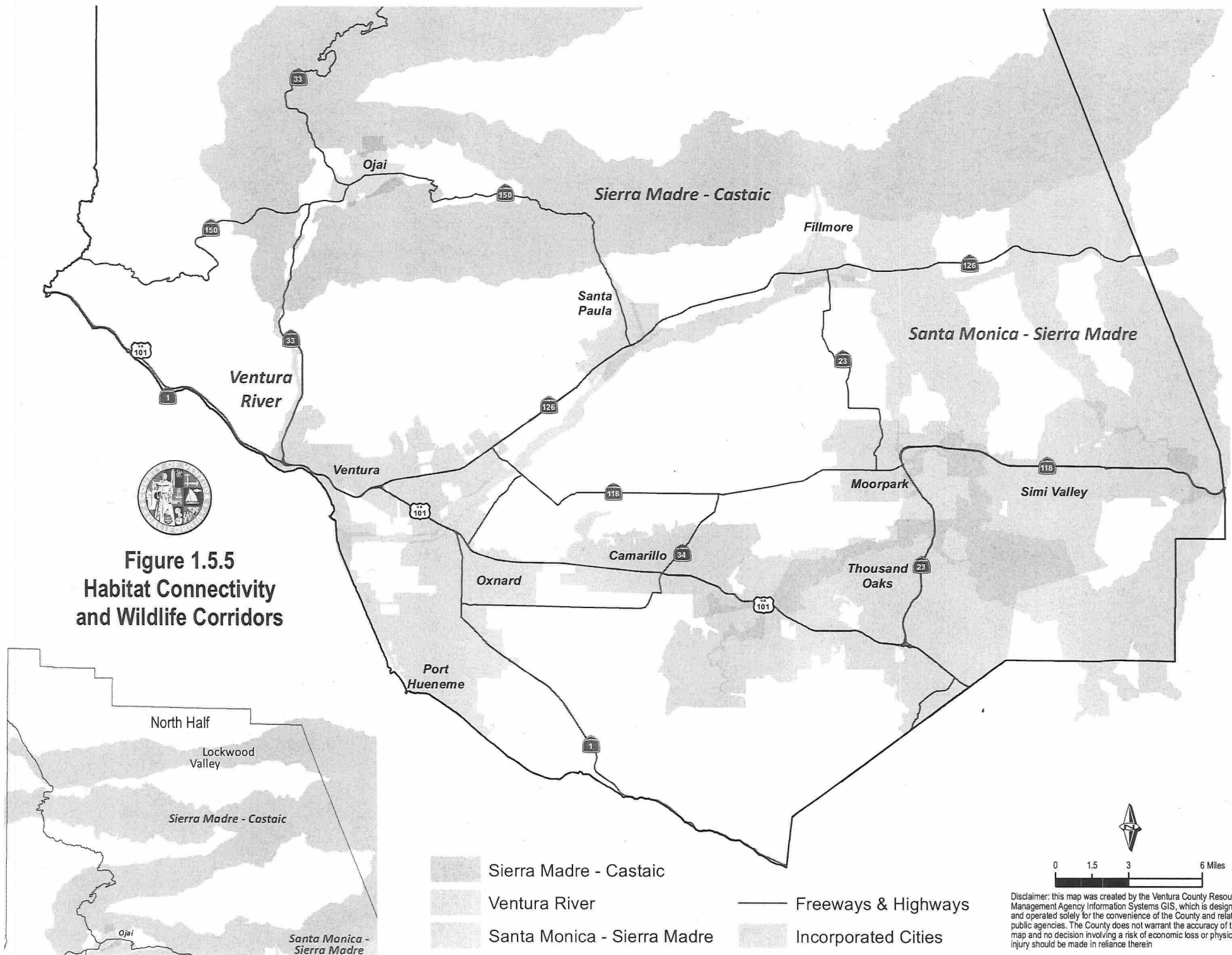
Please let me know if I've reached a working email address for you. If so, I will follow up with conference call info. for tomorrow. I'm looking forward to talking tomorrow!

Shelley

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
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<image001.png>

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Rodgers, Patricia B.

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Monday, September 10, 2018 10:22 AM
To: Madison Malear
Cc: zack@ninjio.com
Subject: RE: Your comments on the proposal of a Wildlife Corridor project

Hello Madison,

I'm available to speak with Mr. Schuler by phone either Tues. or Wed. at the times you've noted in your email below.

Thank you.

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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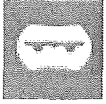
From: Madison Malear <madison@ninjio.com>
Sent: Friday, September 07, 2018 4:18 PM
To: Zack Schuler <zack@ninjio.com>; Prillhart, Kim <Kim.Prillhart@ventura.org>
Cc: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>; Pettit, Mike <Mike.Pettit@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: Your comments on the proposal of a Wildlife Corridor project

Good afternoon –

I'm happy to help schedule a call that would work for everyone's calendars. I've noted a few times that Zack would be available this next week; once confirmed, I will block out the time.

Tuesday, September 11, at 2:00PM PST
Wednesday, September 12, at 1:00PM PST
Friday, September 14, at 1:00PM PST

Thank you –



Madison Malear (née Vondrak)
Operations Manager
NINJIO
madison@ninjio.com
(805) 864-1991

From: Zack Schuler
Sent: Friday, September 7, 2018 3:45 PM
To: Prillhart, Kim <Kim.Prillhart@ventura.org>
Cc: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>; Pettit, Mike <Mike.Pettit@ventura.org>; Madison Malear <madison@ninjio.com>
Subject: RE: Your comments on the proposal of a Wildlife Corridor project

Hi Kim-

I phoned you yesterday and left a message with your office. I called again today and now you are off to vacation! I hope you are going somewhere really fun, and not doing a staycation.

If you're available to chat during your leave, feel free to call me at 805-501-2505.

Shelley- I understand that you would be a good person to speak with as well, so the offer is open to call me at your convenience. During the week, I'm packed with meetings and phone meetings, so we might want to coordinate a time via email prior to the call. Madison from my team can help coordinate that call.

I look forward to speaking to one, or hopefully, both of you.

Have a great weekend,

Zack Schuler

From: Prillhart, Kim <Kim.Prillhart@ventura.org>
Sent: Thursday, September 6, 2018 2:42 PM
To: Zack Schuler <zack@ninjio.com>
Cc: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>; Pettit, Mike <Mike.Pettit@ventura.org>
Subject: Your comments on the proposal of a Wildlife Corridor project

Good Afternoon Mr. Schuler,

My name is Kim Prillhart and I am the Planning Director of the County. I was forward an e-mail that you wrote expressing your concerns regarding a future Wildlife Corridor ordinance and how that ordinance may impact your property. I'm hoping that you can call me directly or contact the Project Manager Shelley Sussman at 805 654-2493 so that we can discuss the issues you raised. I can also schedule a meeting with you if you would prefer.

On the topic of notification, I want to assure you that **all property owners** within the mapped corridor will be notified when there is a public hearing before the Planning Commission. Right now that date is tentatively set before the Planning Commission on October 25th at 8:30 am. We also have a webpage dedicated to this Board of Supervisors directed project at <https://vcrma.org/habitat-connectivity-and-wildlife-movement-corridors>. The ordinance is in the drafting stage. It will be released to the public once the draft is completed and ahead of the Planning Commission hearing so that you will have time to review and either provide written comments or participate in the

public hearing process. We are also working on a Frequently Asked Questions sheet that will be ready soon and posted on the website.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kim L. Prillhart, AICPI Planning Director

Ventura County Resource Management Agency | Planning Division

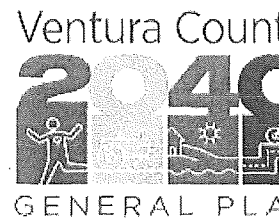
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Rodgers, Patricia B.

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Monday, October 22, 2018 4:11 PM
To: Elaine Krankl
Subject: RE: Wildlife Overlay in Ojai Valley

Hi Elaine,
I just left you a message on the Sine Qua Non general voicemail box. My understanding is that the contact information you need is available from the Assessor data you purchased. Please listen to my voicemail message and give me a call back.

Thank you.

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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From: Elaine Krankl <e@sinequanonwines.com>
Sent: Monday, October 22, 2018 3:44 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: Re: Wildlife Overlay in Ojai Valley

Dear Shelley,
May I please have the contact information for the corresponding owners as this is necessary.
Kind Regards,
Elaine Krankl

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 22, 2018, at 3:28 PM, Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org> wrote:

Hello Ms. Krankl,

Per your request, I have attached a list of APNs that are within both the proposed Wildlife Corridor boundary and Supervisor Bennett's district. Please contact Jose Moreno of our GIS staff and he will work with you on finalizing payment for GIS services. His email address is jose.moreno@ventura.org.

Thank you,

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org

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From: Elaine Krankl <e@sinequanonwines.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2018 12:57 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: Wildlife Overlay in Ojai Valley

Dear Shelley,
Thank you for your help.
Kind Regards, Elaine

From: Sussman, Shelley [<mailto:Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2018 12:29 PM
To: Elaine Krankl
Subject: RE: Wildlife Overlay in Ojai Valley

Ms. Krankl,
The list of parcels within the proposed wildlife corridor overlay zone that are also within Supervisor Bennett's district can be created for you. I will need to speak with GIS staff to understand when it can be prepared.

Thank you.

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org

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From: Elaine Krankl <e@sinequanonwines.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2018 10:23 AM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: Wildlife Overlay in Ojai Valley

Dear Ms. Sussman,

I do at this time have an excel sheet with the full list of parcel numbers within Supervisor Bennett's district. What I am looking for are a separate list of parcels within the overlay. I am happy to pay associated fees. Please let me know how to proceed.

Thank You, Elaine Krankl

From: Sussman, Shelley [<mailto:Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2018 10:13 AM
To: Elaine Krankl
Subject: RE: Wildlife Overlay in Ojai Valley

Hello Ms. Krankl,

I did receive your phone message yesterday and needed some time to research options for getting you the information you are requesting. The Resource Management Agency (RMA) can provide you a list of Assessor Parcel Numbers that are within Supervisor Bennett's district and also within the boundaries of the Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridor. (GIS staff charge \$66.37/hour for their time and I'm told that this should take approximately an hour to prepare.) You would then need to provide this APN list to the Assessor's Office for the corresponding names and addresses. I believe the Assessor also charges a fee.

Before I make the request of GIS staff, please let me know if you would like to proceed.

Thank you.

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org

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From: Elaine Krankl <e@sinequanonwines.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2018 9:52 AM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: Wildlife Overlay in Ojai Valley *

Dear Ms. Sussman,

My name is Elaine Krankl and I reside in the Ojai Valley. I am writing today to request a copy of parcel numbers and contact information for properties in Supervisor Bennett's district that are to be affected by the Proposed Wildlife corridor. I have signed a non-disclosure agreement for the county and paid fees associated with the request. I called yesterday and left a message for you at 805-654-2493, would you please be so kind as to let me know if this information is available to me? Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Best Regards, Elaine Krankl

Thank You,

Elaine Krankl

Sine Qua Non | 805-649-8901 | www.sinequanon.com

Next of Kyn | 805-649-1291 | www.nextofkyn.net

The Third Twin | 805-649-8813

<Linkages 10 digit APNs in Sup District 1_EKrankl.xlsx>

Brower, Neill

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Sunday, April 22, 2018 7:50 PM
To: Jim Harnish
Cc: rick@mintierharnish.com
Subject: Re: Wildlife Corridor Workshop

Hi Jim and Rick,
I've had to postpone the Wildlife Corridor public workshop again...we're still in the internal review stages. Sorry for not notifying you sooner!

Shelley

From: Jim Harnish <jim@mintierharnish.com>
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 7:55:43 AM
To: Sussman, Shelley
Cc: rick@mintierharnish.com
Subject: Wildlife Corridor Workshop

Hi Shelley,

Have you has a chance to put together an agenda, PowerPoint, or other materials for the Wildlife Corridor Workshop that I could use to prep for the workshop? I'm returning from Ohio tomorrow. I know you are pretty busy Monday but maybe we could find a few minutes to touch bases. I expect to arrive in Ventura Tuesday morning around 9:30 so we won't have a lot of time to prep that day.

Thanks,

Jim

--

Jim Harnish

mintierharnish
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Planning Consultants
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F: (916) 446-7520
www.mintierharnish.com

Rodgers, Patricia B.

From: Lynn Gray Jensen <execdirector@colabvc.org>
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2018 4:41 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley
Subject: RE: Wildlife Corridor Ordinance

Hey Shelley,
Thank you for the information.

We looked at the first page of the draft ordinance together at APAC last week which has the following language in Section 8109-4.7.1 Applicability:

c. Unless otherwise exempt, or unless other more restrictive standards are established as a condition of a specific permit, the provisions of this overlay zone apply to all new construction, reconstruction, addition, modification, alteration, relocation, and replacement of structures or alteration of the physical site (e.g., grading or vegetation removal), except for the following:

(1) Grading or excavation that involves a cumulative area of 500 square feet or smaller, or grading to improve drainage within 50 feet of any existing structure;

This does not appear to only apply to a 200' buffer to a stream or the other areas described below.

Please explain.

Thank you,
Lynn

"Collaboration for Sensible Regulatory Solutions"

Lynn Gray Jensen, P.G.
Executive Director
Ventura County Coalition of Labor Agriculture and Business
Phone (805) 633-2291
Email: execdirector@colabvc.org
Website: www.colabvc.org



From: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2018 11:14 AM
To: Lynn Gray Jensen <execdirector@colabvc.org>
Cc: Whitney Wilkinson <wwilkinson@reconenvironmental.com>; Uhlich, Kim <Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: Wildlife Corridor Ordinance

Lynn,
Per request, I've attached the PowerPoint presentation from last week's APAC meeting. Regarding your question about how we're proposing to handle "brush clearance", the general approach we're proposing includes the following:

- Vegetation removal within the Surface Water Feature buffer of 200 ft. would be discretionary, with an exemption for "removal of agricultural crops and previously cultivated areas that have been abandoned for up to [10] years on Prime, Statewide Importance, Locally Important, Unique or Grazing farmland." (See second bullet on slide 12. The highlights in the sentence above indicate the issues we discussed at APAC, i.e., discussed going from 5 years, as noted on the slide to 10 years based on predictions of long/persistent droughts; Also discussed clarifying definition of "abandoned" as differentiated from the practice of "fallowing" and other "usual and customary agricultural practices..." These revisions are still in the works.
- Vegetation removal within the buffer areas around Wildlife Crossing Structures would require discretionary permit, but vegetation removed to accommodate planting of commercial crops is exempt.
- Vegetation removal required for compliance with Fire Protection District regulations is exempt.
- Vegetation removed by a public agency, (or as required by a public agency) to protect public health and safety is exempt, e.g., maintenance of safe vehicle site distances, and maintenance of flood control facilities.

Thanks,
Shelley

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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From: Lynn Gray Jensen <execdirector@colabvc.org>
Sent: Friday, July 13, 2018 9:47 AM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: Wildlife Corridor Ordinance

Shelley,

Thank you for the great presentation on the wildlife corridor at APAC. I would appreciate it if you would send me the PP slides from the presentation.

Also, we had a discussion about brush clearance in the meeting and I would like to understand what you are proposing and how it is being handled in the draft ordinance.

Thank You,
Lynn

“Collaboration for Sensible Regulatory Solutions”

Lynn Gray Jensen, P.G.
Executive Director
Ventura County Coalition of Labor Agriculture and Business
Phone (805) 633-2291
Email: execdirector@colabvc.org
Website: www.colabvc.org



Rodgers, Patricia B.

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Monday, November 19, 2018 9:19 AM
To: Lampara L (Louise) at Aera
Subject: RE: Cancellation of December Planning Commission hearing on the Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridor Project

Thanks, Louise. We don't have any outstanding questions about oil/gas operations at this point, but I will definitely reach out if questions do arise.

Happy Thanksgiving to you, too!

Shelley

From: Lampara L (Louise) at Aera <LLampara@aeraenergy.com>
Sent: Monday, November 19, 2018 7:59 AM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: Cancellation of December Planning Commission hearing on the Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridor Project

Hi, Shelley –

Thanks for the notice of the cancellation. Just wanted to reach out and see if there was any additional information I might be able to provide, or any questions related to oil field activities/corridor overlap.

Have a good Thanksgiving!

Louise

Louise Lampara
Environmental Advisor
Ventura Production Unit
Aera Energy LLC
805-648-8382
805-797-5679 (cell)



From: Sussman, Shelley [<mailto:Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>]
Sent: Thursday, November 15, 2018 1:40 PM
To: Prillhart, Kim <Kim.Prillhart@ventura.org>; Stephens, Chris <Chris.Stephens@ventura.org>; Uhlich, Kim <Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org>
Cc: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: [External] Cancellation of December Planning Commission hearing on the Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridor Project

Dear Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridor Stakeholder,

The Ventura County Planning Commission hearing scheduled for Thursday, December 6, 2018 on the Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridor project has been cancelled due to the impacts on communities that have been affected by both the Hill and Woolsey fires. We want to ensure that all interested stakeholders have the opportunity to participate in the hearing process. As their energies will surely be focused on family, recovery and rebuilding at this time, we will reschedule this hearing in the new year at a more appropriate time for our community.

You will receive an email notifying you of the new hearing date as soon as one is set.

Thank you.

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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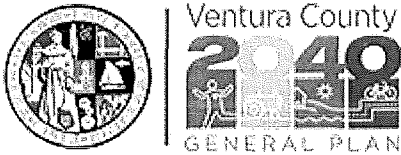
Rodgers, Patricia B.

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Thursday, June 14, 2018 11:45 AM
To: Geoff Abadee
Subject: RE: Access into Bell Canyon

Thank you, Geoff. I will call you at the number below when we're leaving Simi Valley and heading to Bell Canyon. I appreciate your assistance.

Shelley

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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From: Geoff Abadee <geoffbts@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 13, 2018 5:26 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: Re: Access into Bell Canyon

Happy to help you out Shelley. Just call me on 310-5050410 when you are leaving Simi and I will have a drive on for you. Nicole was right Im the right person to help you out and if you need access to any place just let me know. Best Geoff

On Wed, Jun 13, 2018 at 12:08 PM, Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org> wrote:

Hello Mr. Abadee,

My name is Shelley Sussman and I'm a Senior Planner in the Ventura County Planning Division. I'm currently working on a project dealing with wildlife movement throughout the County and there is a mapped wildlife corridor that includes Bell Canyon. I need to come to Bell Canyon and take a look around, but I understand that I need approval to gain

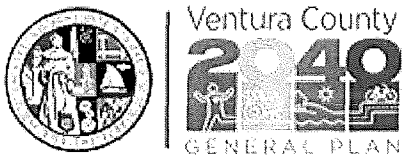
access. I spoke to my colleague Nicole Doner, and she thought you might be able to help me arrange access. I'll be in Simi Valley the morning of June 21 for another meeting; might it be possible to arrange for a site visit in Bell Canyon in the afternoon on 6/21?

Thank you very much for your assistance. Please let me know if there is someone else I should be contacting.

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner

General Plan Update Team

shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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Rodgers, Patricia B.

Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 8:36 AM
To: Travis Longcore
Cc: Whitney Wilkinson; Seth Riley
Subject: RE: [External] Re: Ventura County connectivity overlay

Hi Travis,
Thanks for your interest – and thanks again to Seth for the introduction. I just wanted to throw in my two cents. If you are so inclined, your review of the ordinance provisions related to lighting would be really helpful. We fashioned much of our regulatory strategy after a Dark Sky Ordinance developed for the unincorporated areas around the Ventura County community of Ojai. The Ventura County Planning Commission recently approved the Dark Sky Ordinance, and it now makes it way to the County Board of Supervisors in mid-September.

While we'll want to ensure as much consistency between the two ordinances (our Habitat Linkages ordinance and the Dark Sky ordinance), as makes sense, I'll be very interested to hear your thoughts on what we're proposing.

It wasn't clear to me from the email string whether you were aware of our hearing dates. We'll be taking our item to the Planning Commission on Sept. 6 and any comment letters that we receive by August 24 would be included in a staff report package that is reviewed by the Planning Commission. Also, as Whitney mentioned, if a trip to Ventura sounds interesting, and you're interested in speaking at the Planning Commission hearing, please let me know and we can coordinate more.

From: Whitney Wilkinson <wwilkinson@reconenvironmental.com>
Sent: Monday, August 13, 2018 9:01 PM
To: Travis Longcore <longcore@usc.edu>; Seth Riley <seth_riley@nps.gov>
Cc: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: [External] Re: Ventura County connectivity overlay

Thanks for the introduction Seth.

Hi Travis,

We are definitely interested in your input on the ordinance and any ability you have to participate in the process. If you have a minute, please feel free to review our draft ordinance which includes regulations on lighting for the purposes of wildlife movement. If you have any comments or questions, they would be helpful as we are in the process of finalizing the ordinance. If you would like, we can try set up a call later this week or early next to discuss. If you are willing to lend your voice and credentials to the process, we would appreciate your participation at our upcoming hearings (even a comment letter might be helpful).

Thanks for being willing to take a look, here is a link to our project page where you will find the draft ordinance:

<https://vcrma.org/habitat-connectivity-and-wildlife-movement-corridors>

Whitney Wilkinson

RECON Environmental, Inc.
5951 Encina Road, Suite 104 | Goleta, CA 93117
P (805) 928-7907 x208 | Toll Free (877) 399-1927

From: Travis Longcore [<mailto:longcore@usc.edu>]
Sent: Monday, August 13, 2018 5:40 PM
To: Seth Riley
Cc: Sussman, Shelley; Whitney Wilkinson
Subject: [External] Re: Ventura County connectivity overlay

Thanks Seth, and nice to meet you Shelley and Whitney. I'm excited to hear about the proposed ordinance and the inclusion of light pollution as an element to be regulated.

Best regards,
Travis

--
Travis Longcore, Ph.D., GISP
Assistant Professor of Architecture, Spatial Sciences, and Biological Sciences

USC School of Architecture *Discipline of Landscape Architecture*
USC Dana & David Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences *Spatial Sciences Institute*
University of Southern California
Watt Hall Room 204
Los Angeles, CA 90089-0291
Tel: 213.821.1310
Mobile: 310.247.9719
Website: <https://www.travislongcore.net>
Online meeting: <https://bluejeans.com/longcore>

On Aug 13, 2018, at 9:28 AM, Riley, Seth <seth_riley@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Travis,

As per our discussion yesterday, here is the link to the proposed regulations for habitat linkage areas that Ventura County is working on, which includes proposed lighting regulations:

<https://vcrma.org/habitat-connectivity-and-wildlife-movement-corridors>

(The ordinance link is close to the top of the page).

I have cced Shelley and Whitney who are working on this project for the County, so they can be in contact with you directly. Thanks a lot for being willing to help out with this!

Seth

--
Seth P. D. Riley, PhD -- Wildlife Ecologist, National Park Service
and Adjunct Associate Professor, University of California, Los Angeles

Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area
401 W. Hillcrest Dr.
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360
(805) 370-2358
seth_riley@nps.gov

Rodgers, Patricia B.

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Tuesday, August 21, 2018 10:47 AM
To: 'Riley, Seth'
Cc: Uhlich, Kim; Whitney Wilkinson
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Habitat Connectivity Hearing delayed

Hi Seth,

My apologies, again. I'm sorry the new tentative date does not work for you. There were several factors that led up to our decision to postpone, including a lengthy email we received from Lynn Jensen after last week's stakeholder meeting that staff is responding to.

We'll definitely keep you posted.

Shelley

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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From: Riley, Seth <seth_riley@nps.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 21, 2018 10:22 AM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Cc: Whitney Wilkinson <wwilkinson@reconenvironmental.com>; Uhlich, Kim <Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org>; Kate Kuykendall <kate_kuykendall@nps.gov>; David Szymanski <david_szymanski@nps.gov>; Jerald Weaver <jerald_weaver@nps.gov>; Melanie Beck <melanie_beck@nps.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Habitat Connectivity Hearing delayed

Hi Shelley,

No, I hadn't heard that. That is really unfortunately news. I am on vacation that week and am totally unavailable.

Please let us know right away if it ends up being a different date.

Thanks,

Seth

On Tue, Aug 21, 2018 at 9:54 AM, Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org> wrote:

Hi Seth,

I'm not sure if you've already heard that the Planning Commission hearing on the Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridor has been postponed from Sept. 6 to Sept. 20. As with all hearings, the 9/20 date is tentative until a hearing notice is published. But, we know for sure that we are NOT having a hearing on 9/6. I apologize ahead of time if the 9/20 hearing date doesn't work for; we had very few options. Let me know whether you're available on that day.

Thanks very much. I'll keep you posted.

Shelley

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner

General Plan Update Team

shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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Seth P. D. Riley, PhD -- Wildlife Ecologist, National Park Service
and Adjunct Associate Professor, University of California, Los Angeles
Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area
401 W. Hillcrest Dr.
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360
(805) 370-2358
seth_riley@nps.gov

Rodgers, Patricia B.

From: Shelley Sussman (shelley.sussman@ventura.org)
Sent: Tuesday, October 16, 2018 2:51 PM
To: Wilkinson, Whitney; Brown, Justin; Seth Riley
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] FW: Traffic levels on Rural County Roads

Hi all,

Lots of interesting threads here. I am definitely interested in pursuing the development of a General Plan policy/program to develop wildlife friendly crossing designs for County-managed culverts, and I will make sure I raise the issue during Transportation Element discussions with the Public Works Agency. If there are certain design features that you can identify that I can use as part of these discussions, that would be very helpful!

Justin: your question about locations for future growth is a good one. However, there is almost no growth projected for the unincorporated parts of Ventura County over the next 20 years. Also, due to the County's SOAR ordinance, land that is designated as Open Space, Agriculture or Rural can't be redesignated without a public vote...very expensive and complicated, and therefore, very rarely undertaken. There have been some new state laws that have relaxed rules for building accessory dwelling units, but on balance, I'm not sure that even a robust amount of ADU development would change the traffic counts much on many of these rural roads. (Whitney: I wouldn't bother researching this question...)

As for whether these small/low traffic-volume roads should stay in the mix to accommodate the crossings of small animals, I would defer to you bio experts. If, in your professional judgement, you believe that these setbacks are needed to facilitate the movement of small animals, I think we should keep them in. Are there any HF crossings identified along these really small roads? If so, maybe it makes sense to consider only requiring 100 ft.? (As opposed to the 300 ft. otherwise required for HF crossings.)

From: Wilkinson, Whitney <wwilkinson@co.santa-barbara.ca.us>
Sent: Tuesday, October 16, 2018 8:43 AM
To: Brown, Justin <justin_l_brown@nps.gov>
Cc: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>; Seth Riley <Seth_riley@nps.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] FW: Traffic levels on Rural County Roads

Thanks Justin, I wouldn't want to impose on your vacation, hope you enjoy it and thanks for reconnecting us with Seth, it would be great if he could weigh in (Seth please see discussion below regarding crossings on roads with low traffic volumes). To answer your question, it's really difficult to predict future growth in the unincorporated areas. One way of knowing is the zoning and land use designations of the surrounding properties, and whether or not these properties already have existing development, and whether or not the property has reached its max buildable lot coverage. That is something I can look into more closely for these particular areas.

You also raise a good point about wildlife friendly crossing design. This thought definitely had occurred to me, but we would have to get buy-in from Public Works to make it a reality. I think that idea would have its best shot through the General Plan Update process, maybe it could be a biological program. Shelley, thoughts?

Thanks all,

Whitney Wilkinson
Long Range Planning
568-2067

From: Brown, Justin <justin_l_brown@nps.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, October 16, 2018 8:32 AM
To: Wilkinson, Whitney <wwilkinson@co.santa-barbara.ca.us>
Cc: Shelley Sussman <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>; Seth Riley <Seth_riley@nps.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: Traffic levels on Rural County Roads

Hi Whitney,

I have included Seth back into this discussion again so he can weigh in as well since he is back from vacation and I am going to be off the rest of the week after today so contact him the rest of the week with questions or if it is following up on one of my comments you can text me at 661-496-0491 and I will call you back when in reception.

Before dropping these sites because of low traffic volumes has there been any consideration for future growth or is it only about current levels.

We have done so little work on roads of that size that I can't say for sure, however if the landscape is funneling the animals to the culvert it is likely they would still use it if it is of appropriate size (though it is probably not as important for them, due to the low traffic volume and them being less likely to view that size road as a barrier). If you are considering it for the smallest wildlife species then I think culverts on the small roads are valuable as long as the culvert is easily accessible by them.

I am amazed looking at the inventories how many of them were designed in ways making them ineffective for wildlife to use. I wish that all of the transportation agencies had to take wildlife use into consideration when building these culverts.

Thanks,

Justin

On Mon, Oct 15, 2018 at 6:13 PM Wilkinson, Whitney <wwilkinson@co.santa-barbara.ca.us> wrote:

Hey Justin,

Here are the vehicle counts for some of the roads I have been considering crossings on. As you can see, some of the roads have pretty low volumes. I'm really hoping to get in touch with Sean Anderson to get a sense if rural roads still result in substantial roadkill. Shelley, another question is if the Board would be willing to support protections for these crossings if only very small critters were using them. I could see this being an unpopular regulation.

My thought is to drop the crossings Norman has classified as extremely low traffic volumes e.g. Mupu, Sulphur Mountain, and Koenigstein. This leaves only about 24 County culverts as HF or MF crossings. Any thoughts on this?

Lockwood Valley Road 700 VPD (2002), about 1000 VPD for 2018

Creek Road the County maintains two separate count stations annually for Creek Rd (*Note: Creek Rd traffic volume is in the traffic booklet link above.*)

Hermosa Road moderately low traffic (less than 1000 VPD)

Koenigstein Road extremely low traffic (less than 200 VPD)

Matilija North 300 VPD (2011), about 350 VPD in 2018

Gridley Road low traffic (maybe less than 500 VPD)

Sulphur Mountain Rd extremely low traffic (maybe less than 200 VPD)

Mupu Rd at adjacent Pine Grove Rd: 100 VPD (2016)

Whitney Wilkinson

Long Range Planning

568-2067

From: Baculinao, Norman <Norman.Baculinao@ventura.org>

Sent: Monday, October 15, 2018 5:28 PM

To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>

Cc: Wilkinson, Whitney <wwilkinson@co.santa-barbara.ca.us>; Gallo, Anthony <Anthony.Gallo@ventura.org>; Balan, Anitha <Anitha.Balan@ventura.org>; DeLeon, Howard <Howard.DeLeon@ventura.org>

Subject: FW: Traffic levels on Rural County Roads

Shelley

See our response regarding volumes marked in red below:

From: Gallo, Anthony

Sent: Monday, October 15, 2018 4:34 PM

To: Baculinao, Norman <Norman.Baculinao@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: Traffic levels on Rural County Roads

Norman,

I found some volume data that may be useful. I estimated other values. See my comments below, in red.

Anthony

From: Balan, Anitha
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2018 2:48 PM
To: Baculinao, Norman <Norman.Baculinao@ventura.org>
Cc: Gallo, Anthony <Anthony.Gallo@ventura.org>
Subject: FW: Traffic levels on Rural County Roads

FYI

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2018 1:18 PM
To: Balan, Anitha <Anitha.Balan@ventura.org>; DeLeon, Howard <Howard.DeLeon@ventura.org>
Cc: Wilkinson, Whitney <wwilkinson@co.santa-barbara.ca.us>
Subject: RE: Traffic levels on Rural County Roads

Hi Anitha and Howard,

Thank you in advance for your help with this. We are in the final stages of preparing our staff report for the Planning Commission, so we'll need whatever information we can get by the end of this week. If you know now that you will NOT be able to provide any of the information Whitney has requested, it would be helpful to know that ASAP so we can move forward with the staff report.

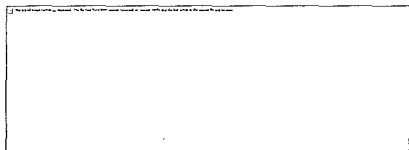
Thank you very much!!

Shelley

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner

General Plan Update Team

shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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From: Wilkinson, Whitney <wwilkinson@co.santa-barbara.ca.us>

Sent: Monday, October 15, 2018 12:18 PM

To: Balan, Anitha <Anitha.Balan@ventura.org>; DeLeon, Howard <Howard.DeLeon@ventura.org>

Cc: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>

Subject: Traffic levels on Rural County Roads

Hi Anitha/Howard,

You may not have heard that I accepted a new position with Santa Barbara County Planning, but I am still wrapping up some tasks for Ventura County's wildlife corridor project and was hoping you might be willing to answer some questions. As you may recall, I have been working on a classification project for Ventura County's culverts and bridges that provides info on how much a given crossing may facilitate wildlife movement. I know VC Transportation has documentation online for daily vehicle trips on some of its roads (the busier ones it seems), here:

http://pwaportal.ventura.org/TD/Residents/Streets_and_Transportation/Reports_and_Programs/TF_TrafficVolumeBookletTrends.pdf

I am wondering if there is any data on some of the smaller and more remote roads (list provided below). If there is no formal data on them, would you feel comfortable characterizing the estimated traffic trips, based on your knowledge of these roads e.g. moderate traffic, low traffic, very low traffic, extremely low or providing a ballpark estimation for daily vehicle trips or some other metric?

Here are the roads of interest:

Lockwood Valley Road 700 VPD (2002), about 1000 VPD for 2018

Creek Road the County maintains two separate count stations annually for Creek Rd (*Note: Creek Rd traffic volume is in the traffic booklet link above.*)

Hermosa Road moderately low traffic (less than 1000 VPD)

Koenigstein Road extremely low traffic (less than 200 VPD)

Matilija North 300 VPD (2011), about 350 VPD in 2018

Gridley Road low traffic (maybe less than 500 VPD)

Sulphur Mountain Rd extremely low traffic (maybe less than 200 VPD)

Mupu Rd at adjacent Pine Grove Rd: 100 VPD (2016)

If its easier to discuss this over the phone, or if you have questions, I am happy to set up a time to chat- please let me know when you are available.

Thanks,

Whitney Wilkinson

Senior Planner | Long Range Planning Division

County of Santa Barbara Planning and Development

123 East Anapamu St. Santa Barbara, CA 93101

(805) 568-2067

WWilkinson@CountyofSB.org

www.SBCountyPlanning.org

--

Thanks,

Justin Brown

Ecologist

National Park Service

Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area

401 W. Hillcrest Dr.

Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

(805)370-2335

Justin_L_Brown@nps.gov

From: Sussman, Shelley
To: ["Lynn Gray Jensen"](#)
Cc: [Prillhart, Kim](#); [Stephens, Chris](#)
Subject: RE: Wildlife Corridor Ordinance - Comments from VC CoLAB
Date: Tuesday, August 21, 2018 3:54:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Lynn,

Thank you for the written comments you submitted on August 15, 2018 on behalf of VC CoLAB regarding the draft Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridor Ordinance. Staff plans to incorporate some of your suggestions, (e.g., allowing non-conforming lights to remain on when people are present, explicitly exempting swimming pools from the definition of outdoor recreational area, adding a reference to "harvesting" in Section 8109-4.8.1b (4)). Project staff is also working to clarify the process for, and content of, the Least Damaging Alternatives Analysis to provide more certainty regarding the application requirements. We also intend to clarify the relationship between the LDAA and the CEQA alternatives analysis process for those projects subject to CEQA. In addition, project staff continues to work with the County's IT staff to ensure that the GIS layers for the wildlife crossing structures and surface water features will be available to the public prior to the hearing in keeping with the typical schedule for public notice and release of documents. Please note that the draft Ordinance already includes an exemption for luminaires with an output of 60 lumens or less. (See Sec. 8109 – 4.8.3.2 (g))

You requested, *"copies of all scientific analyses used by the County to designate the entire Tierra Rejada Valley as a Critical Wildlife Passage Area."* In response, please see the attached studies that were used to support the selection of the Tierra Rejada Valley as a critical area for wildlife movement. In addition to these studies, and as project staff explained at the August 14, 2018 stakeholder meeting, several other selection factors were evaluated, including existing habitat value, proximity to and extent of urban development, proximity of major water bodies, proximity to roadway crossings, and the number and density of small lots.

Several of the issues you've raised (e.g., staff's proposed approach for compact siting and impermeable fencing limits) are ultimately policy decisions that the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors will consider.

Thank you again for your comments and your participation in the process.

Sincerely,

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
shelley.sussman@ventura.org

vc2040gpu-logo

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From: Lynn Gray Jensen <execdirector@colabvc.org>

Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2018 7:10 PM

To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>

Cc: Prillhart, Kim <Kim.Prillhart@ventura.org>; Stephens, Chris <Chris.Stephens@ventura.org>

Subject: Wildlife Corridor Ordinance - Comments from VC CoLAB

Shelley,

The following are questions, comments and recommendations for changes with respect to the draft language in the Wildlife Corridor Ordinance. We would appreciate an acknowledgement of the receipt of this communication and a response to our comments.

1. Boundary lines from the original South Coast Missing Linkages Report for the corridor areas are rough and were not based on land use, parcel boundaries or existing uses. We recommend that any parcel that is partially within the boundary be exempted entirely from the overlay zone.
2. Article 9 Standards:
 - a. Sec. 8109-4.8.1 b. (4) Planting, harvesting and other standard agricultural practices related to crops or orchards that will be commercially sold and planting of grasses for forage on grazing lands.
3. Outdoor Lighting Standards:
 - a. Planning staff contended that there is not a curfew for lighting between 10:00 and sunrise as is in the draft Ojai Dark Sky Ordinance. We disagree. Our reading of the ordinance shows that after one year from effective date, all luminaires that do not comply (fully or partially shielded) will be subject to a curfew from 10:00 pm to sunrise. There will be thousands of residences that will be subject to this ordinance. Many will be unable to afford to replace all of their lights making this a curfew for most people. The ordinance needs to allow for dark hours, when people are no longer present, rather than the complete curfew, for the security and enjoyment of properties.
 - b. We are concerned about swimming pools – will they be considered a recreational use? This underwater outdoor lighting type cannot be directed downward or fully shielded. The

- language needs to allow swimming pools to be lighted after 10:00 pm when they are in use.
- c. Security Lighting is limited to 850 lumens (60 watt bulbs) without a motion sensor. Motion sensors are unreliable for protection of families in these areas and do not help to identify intruders on security cameras.
 - d. Driveway and walkway lighting allowance of 20 watts is a public safety hazard - will promote auto accidents and falls for elderly people in back yards, patios, driveways and walkways.
 - e. Agricultural properties commonly have fenced storage areas that need to have nighttime security lighting. This lighting must be bright enough to discourage intruders and be allowed to be on after 10:00 pm. The exemption needs to apply to all zones where crops are grown in Ventura County.
 - f. Need to add the exemption of lighting less than 60 lumens or less as in the Ojai Dark Sky Ordinance.
4. Surface Water Features:
- a. Maps of these water features with the buffers for all areas of the mapped corridors need to be supplied to the Planning Commission and the public prior to the hearing to see the total impact of such regulations.
 - b. It is unclear whether applications for a deviation from the vegetation removal standards described in section (c) of 8109- 4.8.3.2 would be a discretionary process requiring a CEQA analysis. We also do not believe that there should be a standard of 60% for invasive plant removal as it is important to catch invasive plants early, before they take over an area.
 - c. Is existing agriculture exempt from these standards?
5. Wildlife Crossing Structures:
- a. Location maps of crossing structures with the designations of HF and MF need to be provided with the buffers to the public and the Planning Commissioners prior to the hearing.
 - b. Requiring a Least Damaging Analysis for the mere request for a deviation for vegetation removal in such small areas is excessive.
 - c. Same comment as above for the 60% requirement for removal of invasive species.
 - d. Have you considered incentives for landowners for constructing private crossings that would allow wildlife passage?
6. Wildlife Impermeable Fencing
- a. The enclosure fencing limit of 10% is too low for small parcels. We recommend 30% for 1 ac to 40 acre parcels, 20% for 40 to 250 acre parcels and 10% for parcels over 250 acres.
 - b. We appreciate the exemption for barbed wire fencing for grazing.
7. Critical Wildlife Passage Areas pages (19-20)
- a. We hereby request copies of all scientific analyses used by the County to designate the entire Tierra Rejada Valley as a Critical Wildlife Passage Area. We believe this will be challenged in court. Particularly we recommend that the area west of Highway 23 between Tierra Rejada Road and Moorpark Road be removed from the critical passage area. Highway 23 and the City of Moorpark forms a major barrier to wildlife movement in this area. Moorpark Road has a crossing that allows passage across the 23 Freeway allowing safe passage into L.A. County to the southeast and Camarillo and the Santa Monica Mountains to the southwest through lands

protected by conservation easements. This area is isolated by the 23 Freeway and should not be considered a Critical Wildlife Passage Area.

- b. As we stated in an email to Shelley Sussman yesterday, we recommend that the standards for lots in Residential Zones be increased to a minimum of 3 acres to be included in the Compact Development requirements.

8. Compact Development – (pages 20-22)

- a. The proposed siting solution will not be effective in achieving wildlife passage. Instead it will create a set of isolated and disconnected areas, while forcing the taking of 50% of a landowner's parcel. The restriction on "uses" on half of a parcel is a complete overreach. We recommend to add a more effective option to the compact development siting requirement that would require a 15 foot setback on all sides of a subject property for all new uses, fencing and structures to create continuous passage for wildlife in an efficient manner through the valley. Driveways would cross these easements for access to a roadway.
- b. For the Compact Development standard, we do not understand the reason for the requirement that the bisecting line not able to be modified. We recommend this restriction be removed.
- c. We also recommend the allowance for landowners with multiple parcels to transfer development rights between parcels to secure larger open areas to create a more fair cluster development process such as is allowed in San Luis Obispo County. This was supported in a joint memo from CoLAB and The Nature Conservancy: *"When several parcels are under single ownership, the County should allow deed restrictions and the transfer of development rights to encourage owners to cluster structures on a single lot while still meeting the overall 5% lot coverage allowed for the combined lots. This would incentivize conservation easements that would preserve larger tracts of land for wildlife movement in perpetuity."* This concept was very well received in the General Plan stakeholder meetings as a way to conserve larger parcels. We would like a response as to why this option was not added to the draft ordinance.

9. Least Damaging Alternative Analysis – Page 22-24

- a. This requirement is excessive, adding unnecessary time and expense to a discretionary CEQA process that will already be based on conserving resources and wildlife passage. During the CEQA process, the consulting biologist will review the project and suggest changes to the design based on the biologic findings. Before the final submittal, the project should be reviewed by the County Biologist who can make further recommendations of ways to lessen impacts, if necessary. The requirement for a separate set of "least damaging alternatives" will add significant paperwork and cost and is unnecessary.

In conclusion, we believe this draft ordinance is being rushed to the Planning Commission without sufficient time to notify those who will be affected and for the public to consider and submit relevant comments prior to the hearing.

At the Dark Sky Ordinance hearing, Planning Commissioners were very conflicted and hesitant to vote because they did not have expert advice on the very technical lighting issues. There was also a lack of clear input from the Ventura County Sheriff's office on security lighting. We were told at yesterday's meeting that these same issues, that also relate to this ordinance, are still being worked

on.

We believe that many of the proposed standards and policies presented at the stakeholder meeting yesterday are entirely untested in other Counties. In addition, they have not had time to be vetted by the public. The stakeholder meeting was by invitation only by the Planning Division and the 2 hour session was inadequate as the only public meeting prior to bringing this to the Planning Commission.

We strongly recommend that the mapping of water features and crossing structures with buffers be prepared before a Planning Commission hearing. This ordinance has taken a long time to get to this point and while we appreciate being able to have input in the process, we believe the rush to push these new and untested standards through the Planning Commission before the work is complete is unwise.

Thank you for your consideration,

Lynn Gray Jensen

“Collaboration for Sensible Regulatory Solutions”

Lynn Gray Jensen, P.G.
Executive Director
Ventura County Coalition of Labor Agriculture and Business
Phone (805) 633-2291
Email: execdirector@colabvc.org
Website: www.colabvc.org



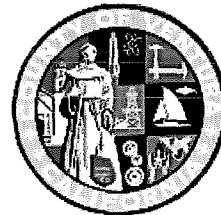
Padakowski, Dee

From: Uhlich, Kim
Sent: Wednesday, October 3, 2018 1:35 PM
To: kimuhlich@yahoo.com
Subject: FW: FW: Linkage vs Corridor Snapshots
Attachments: ConejoMtClefRidgeReview.pdf; MoorparkAreaReview.pdf; OjaiAreaReview.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Kim Uhlich, MPA | Senior Planner
Residential Permits Section
Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org

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From: kristeen@scwildlands.org <kristeen@scwildlands.org>
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2018 1:23 PM
To: Christina Danko <cmdanko@gmail.com>; Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Cc: Whitney Wilkinson <wwilkinson@reconenvironmental.com>; Uhlich, Kim <Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org>
Subject: re: FW: Linkage vs Corridor Snapshots

Hey there,

I made some additional maps of the areas under review, attached for our call.

Kristeen

From: "Sussman, Shelley" <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Sent: Tuesday, October 2, 2018 1:08 PM
To: "kristeen@scwildlands.org" <kristeen@scwildlands.org>, "Christina Danko" <cmdanko@gmail.com>
Cc: "Whitney Wilkinson" <wwilkinson@reconenvironmental.com>, "Uhlich, Kim" <Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org>
Subject: FW: Linkage vs Corridor Snapshots

Hi Kristeen and Christina,

The team is still trying to better understand the mapping anomalies that exist between the linkage layer and the County's mapped Regional Corridor layer. We've attached some additional screen shots below that illustrate some of these locations. Hopefully, you've been able to access the shapefiles that Whitney sent and you're able to peruse the data.

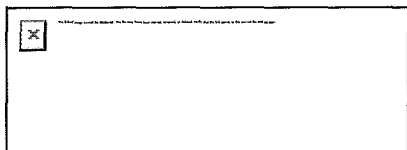
If you're both available, we'd like to host a conference call tomorrow and talk through some of these examples and to better understand the nature of the modeling, why it resulted in certain "spaces" within the SCML linkage, and why the County's boundaries sometimes seem to go beyond the linkage boundaries. **I have a conference room scheduled tomorrow, (Wed. 10/3 from 2:00 – 3:30.) Call-in info. is below. A meeting invitation will follow this email.** If this day/time don't work, please provide some alternate times that work for you.

Christina: Your participation in the call would be really helpful! Ideally, both Liz and Debby Millais would also participate, but I believe Liz is on travel and it's been difficult to reach Debby. **(KIM:** Maybe you can text Debby with call-in details?)

Thanks again for all your help!
Shelley

Conference Call 619-308-4494
Password 0142155#

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
General Plan Update Team
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



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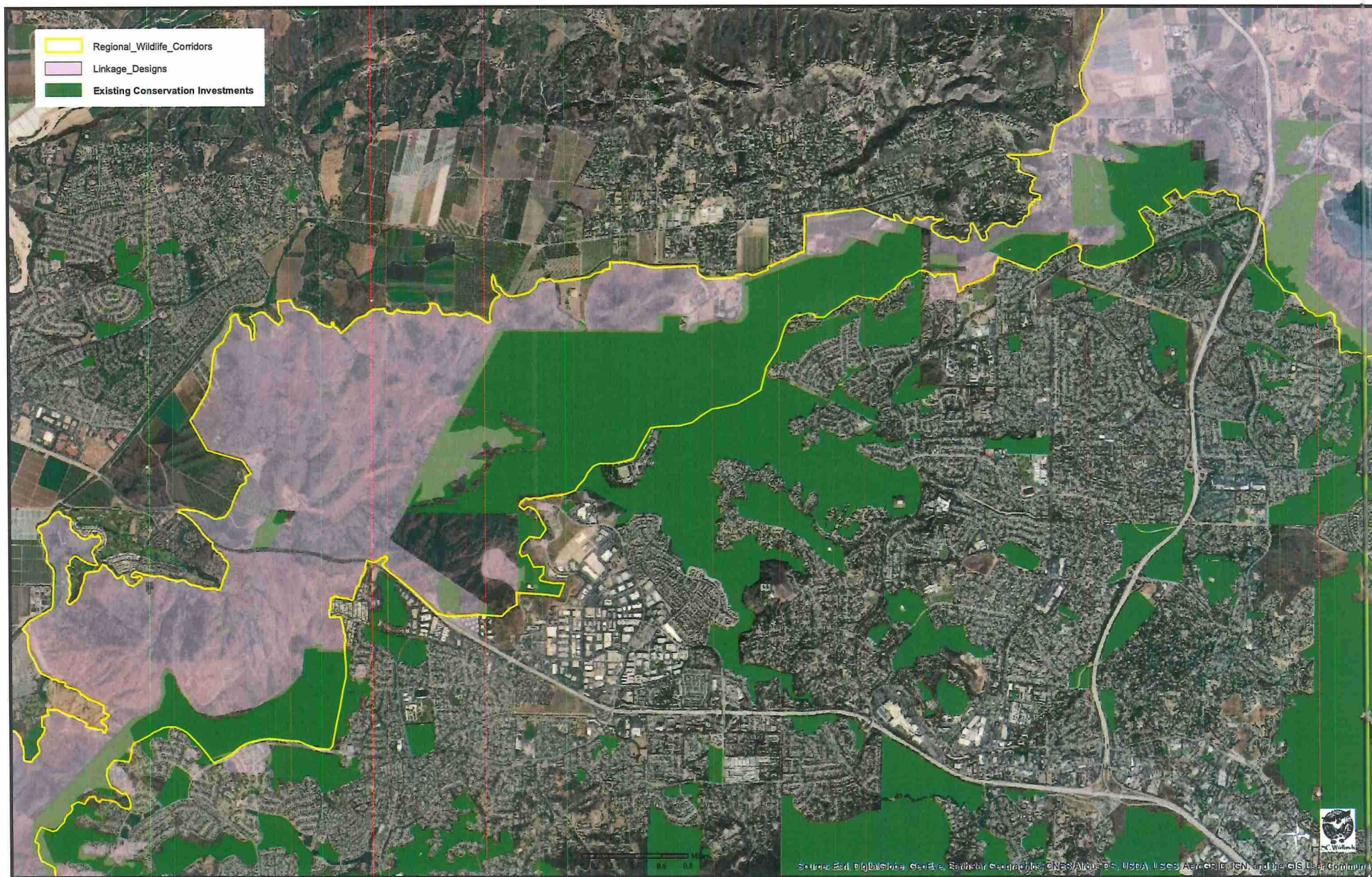
From: Whitney Wilkinson <wwilkinson@reconenvironmental.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 02, 2018 11:12 AM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>; Uhlich, Kim <Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org>
Subject: Linkage vs Corridor Snapshots

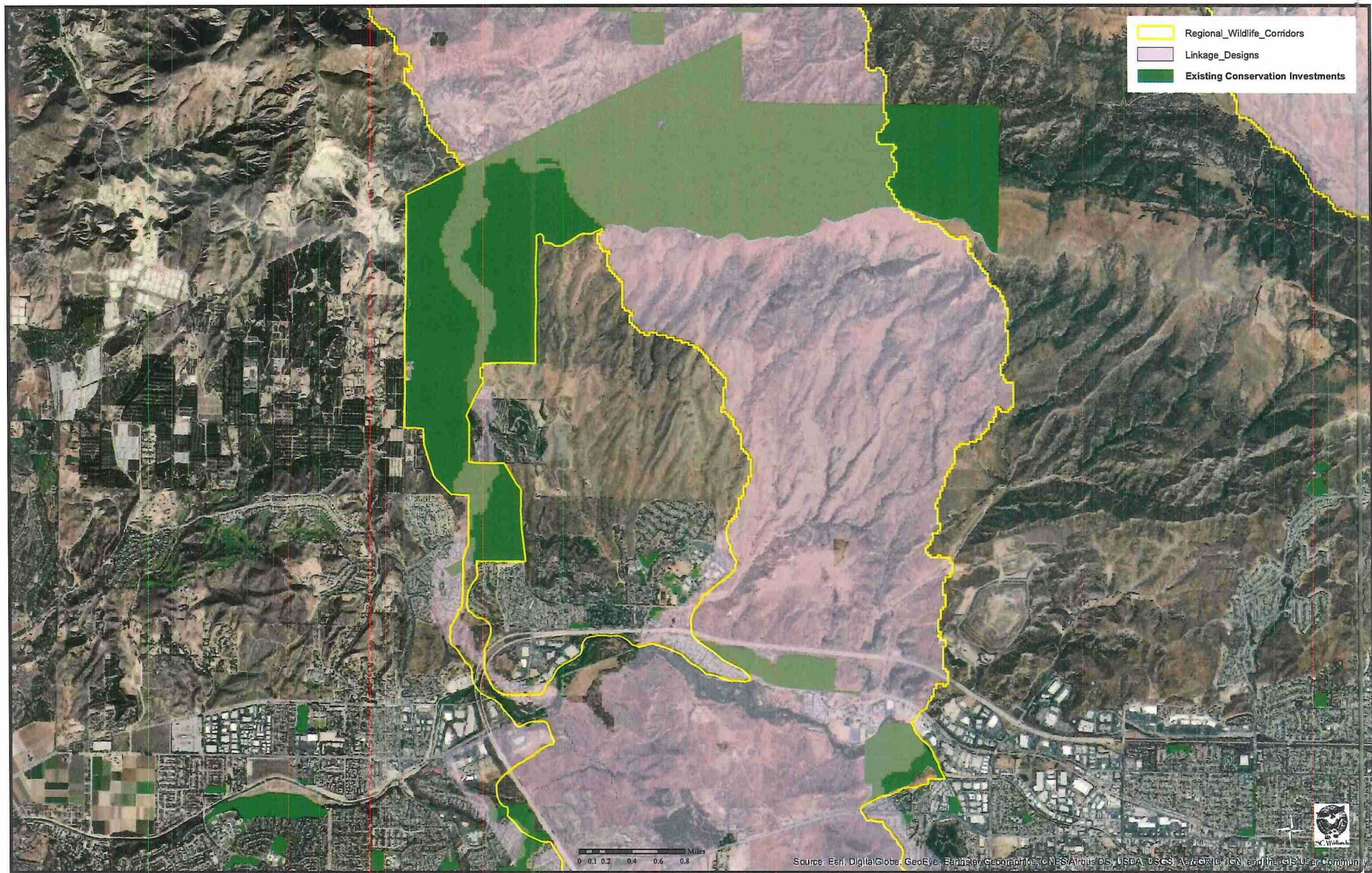
Green = linkage design
Red= County Regional Corridor
Yellow = city boundaries

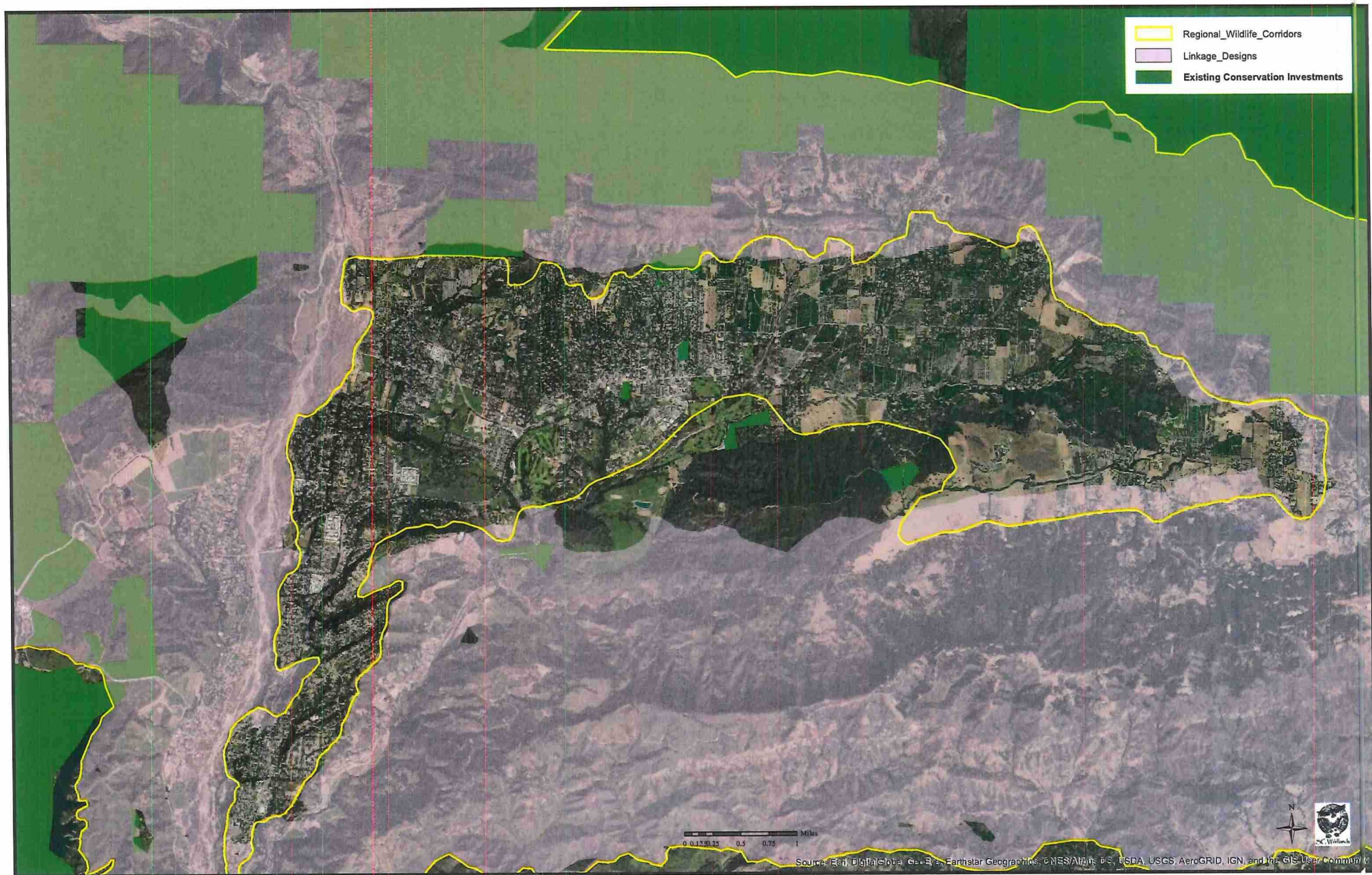
1. Ojai Area



2. northern Ojai







Regional_Wildlife_Corridors

Linkage_Designs

Existing Conservation Investments

Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

From: [Powers, Michael](#)
To: [Jacqui Irwin](#)
Subject: Re: Powerpoint deck that outlines everything they are planning on doing.
Date: Wednesday, September 5, 2018 10:58:35 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Thank you Assemblymember Irwin/Jacqui,

We will follow up w Mr. Schuler.

Best,

Mike

Sent from my iPad

> On Sep 4, 2018, at 7:27 PM, Jacqui Irwin <jacqui.v.irwin@gmail.com> wrote:
>
>
>
> Assemblywoman Jacqui Irwin
>
> 44th District,
>
> California State Assembly
>
> (805) 482-1904 Camarillo
>
> (916) 319-2044 Sacramento
>
> Follow us on Facebook and Twitter
>
> [Facebook]<<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Assemblymember-Jacqui-Irwin/642805712512695?ref=bookmarks>>[Twitter]<https://twitter.com/ASM_Irwin>
>
> <http://asmdc.org/members/a44/>
>
>
>
>
> Begin forwarded message:
>
> From: Zack Schuler <zack@ninjio.com<<mailto:zack@ninjio.com>>>
> Date: September 4, 2018 at 3:27:25 PM PDT
> To: Jacqui Irwin <jacqui.v.irwin@gmail.com<<mailto:jacqui.v.irwin@gmail.com>>>
> Cc: Zack Schuler <zack@ninjio.com<<mailto:zack@ninjio.com>>>
> Subject: Powerpoint deck that outlines everything they are planning on doing.
>
>
> Hi Jacqui- Attached is the PowerPoint deck that lays out what they are proposing. Before forwarding, please read the text in yellow
>
>
>
> My rejections:

>
>
>

> 1. NO HOMEOWNER IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD RECEIVED ANY NOTICE ABOUT ANY OF THIS. WE FOUND OUT ABOUT IT THROUGH THE GROUP OPPOSING IT. THAT'S NOT RIGHT!!!!

> 2. My home appears to be in the Critical Wildlife Passage Area. What this means, is that they are going to cut my property in half, and forbid me from disturbing the other half. Here's the million dollar issue. The property that they would take has a dirt bike track on it. My house is in escrow right now for 200K over our asking price. Their main reason for him buying the home: The dirt bike track (that would have to be knocked down flat so weeds can grow on it.) The track was approved by the county back in 2011. When I disclose this to the buyer, which I have to, my house will go from 3.7M (in escrow at that now), to a guy who backs out. My agent then said the house value would be about 2.5M. This is a 1.2M loss for me. That simply isn't right

> 3. A 200ft clearance from a non-running water surface is crazy. If it is running water all the time then 200ft is fine. If it is a dry creek and only serves as run off, there are no fish or water living organisms in there. For that, 100ft is reasonable.

> 4. Making people change their lighting. Mine already complies, but if you look at the scope of the Wildlife Corridor, it moves through neighborhoods, and farming and ranching communities. Some of these people are living on little means. They have to pay for these huge lights for their arenas and such that shine straight down. How are these people going to afford this? No help financially from the county.

>
>
>

> Jacqui- Is there anything that you can personally do to step in and make this insanity stop? I'm happy to have some restrictions in the area so it doesn't become overdeveloped (those are already in place) and additional restrictions would be fine, but taking half of my land away from me is unfathomable, especially bad since I was never notified. They are trying to slip this past all of us.

>
>
>

> Thanks for reading.

>
>
>

> Zack

>
>
>
>

> [cid:f3336f62-80b5-4702-a42b-01adf417cb75@namprd09.prod.outlook.com]

>
>

> Zack Schuler

>

> Founder/CEO

>

> NINJIO

>

> zack@ninjio.com<<mailto:zack@ninjio.com>>

>

> O: (805) 864-1992

>

> M: (805) 501-2505

>
>
>
>
>

> <image001.png>

> <Stakeholder_Meeting_PPoint_for_Web_081418.pdf>

Ibaraki, Kathlyn S.

From: Convery, Abigail
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2018 9:34 AM
To: Jackson, Jamie@Wildlife
Subject: Ventura River Corridor

Hi Jamie,

The County is receiving push back about including the Ventura River as a wildlife corridor for the new proposed regulations. Out of curiosity, are there any Southwestern pond turtle populations found in the Ventura River. Staff is putting together a response and this was one that I thought of earlier this week. I did not get a chance to ask you about their locations..

Thanks!
Abigail

Ibaraki, Kathlyn S.

From: Convery, Abigail
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2018 9:20 AM
To: Whitney Wilkinson
Subject: RE: [External] Re: Ventura County Corridors Request

Hi Whitney,

I can make it. I have put it on my calendar.

Thanks!
Abi

From: Whitney Wilkinson <wwilkinson@reconenvironmental.com>
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2018 11:36 AM
To: Riley, Seth <seth_riley@nps.gov>
Cc: Convery, Abigail <Abigail.Convery@ventura.org>; Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: [External] Re: Ventura County Corridors Request

That sounds great. Depending on whether or not anyone else wants to join the call, I can send a conference call line, otherwise you can call my cell or desk line. I will let you know.

Thanks again, hope you are well!

WW

From: Riley, Seth [mailto:seth_riley@nps.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2018 11:24 AM
To: Whitney Wilkinson
Cc: Convery, Abigail; Sussman, Shelley
Subject: Re: [External] Re: Ventura County Corridors Request

Hi Whitney,

Sure Wed or Thur afternoon are fine for me. How about 3 PM on Thursday?

Seth

On Fri, Mar 23, 2018 at 11:11 AM, Whitney Wilkinson <wwilkinson@reconenvironmental.com> wrote:

Hey Seth,

No worries- would next week Wednesday afternoon or Thursday work? I will be out of the office Monday and Tuesday- let me know what works for you and maybe we can arrange a call. Abi, I know you are busy, but let me know if you want to be involved.

Thanks!

WW

From: Riley, Seth [mailto:seth_riley@nps.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2018 11:06 AM
To: Whitney Wilkinson
Cc: Convery, Abigail
Subject: [External] Re: Ventura County Corridors Request

Hi Whitney,

Just reading this fully now, sorry about that. Maybe we could schedule a time to talk next week, about what you're needing, and how we could try to help you? I'm pretty open next week at this point.

Thanks,

Seth

On Wed, Mar 14, 2018 at 9:50 AM, Whitney Wilkinson <wwilkinson@reconenvironmental.com> wrote:

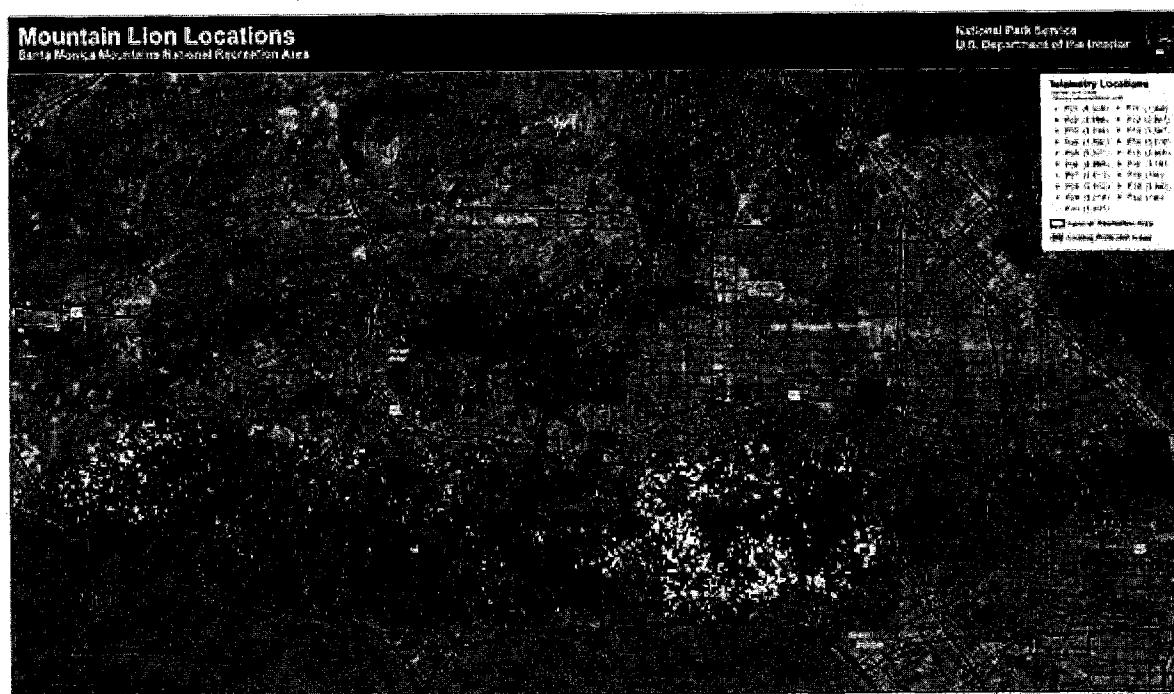
Hey Seth,

I hope you got my voicemail a couple months back—I appreciated your kind message. As it turns out, I am still working on the Ventura County Wildlife Corridor Project as a consultant (yay!). I am writing the Staff Report for the Planning Commission Hearing that I believe is scheduled for May. In reading the research available online, it's obvious the biggest obstacle to movement are the freeways which the County has no control over. But, I'm hopeful that by showing that animal movement is happening in VC that we can convince the Board that small increases in regulations on fencing, lighting, buffers from streams and roadway crossings and the clustering of development in certain critical areas are justified. We are still trying to finalize the ordinance—but I am hoping you can help me with some info/data needs for the report. NPS has great info online on the mountain lions moving mostly through LA County. I seemed to remember that in your presentation to the Planning Division, you had animal movement data specific to Ventura County.

Can we discuss using some of your data? Ideally if we could use your spatial data to make our own maps, this would be easiest and best. But if you don't feel comfortable sharing your GPS data, maybe you can share images/figures of maps

I have your slides from the last Board Hearing (attached) and I have your 2014 mountain lion paper (also attached).

This figure mainly shows movement in LA County and eastern VC. Do you have data that shows north-south movement through the Tierra Rejada Valley for any wildlife?



Whitney Wilkinson

RECON Environmental, Inc.

5951 Encina Road, Suite 104 | Goleta, CA 93117

P (805) 928-7907 x208 | Toll Free (877) 399-1927

WWilkinson@ReconEnvironmental.com

www.reconenvironmental.com

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--

Seth P. D. Riley, PhD -- Wildlife Ecologist, National Park Service
and Adjunct Associate Professor, University of California, Los Angeles
Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area
401 W. Hillcrest Dr.
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360
(805) 370-2358
seth_riley@nps.gov

--

Seth P. D. Riley, PhD -- Wildlife Ecologist, National Park Service
and Adjunct Associate Professor, University of California, Los Angeles
Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area
401 W. Hillcrest Dr.
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360
(805) 370-2358
seth_riley@nps.gov

Ibaraki, Kathlyn S.

Subject: Map of the South Coast Missing Linkages in Ventura County
Attachments: RMA GIS Wildlife Corridor.pdf

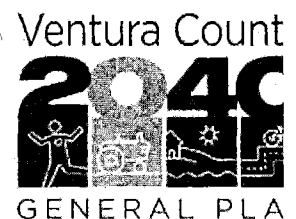
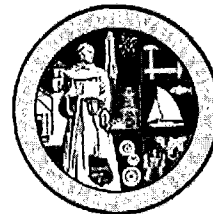
██████████
Attached is the promised RMA GIS Wildlife Corridor map. The official South Coast Missing Linkages identified in the: 1) Sierra-Madre-Castaic; and 2) Santa Monica-Sierra Madre South Coast Missing Linkages Project Reports are shown in blue and orange, respectively.

As I mentioned on the phone, the RMA GIS layer also includes the area shown in pink for at least the last ten years despite not being included (or even referenced) in any of the South Coast Missing Linkages Project Reports. Until recently, we were operating under the understanding that the RMA GIS map and the South Coast Missing Linkages contained within the boundaries of Ventura County were one and the same. Unfortunately, there is no metadata for this GIS file and we can locate no other records (including the draft Planning Commission staff report from xxx) to explain why or how the lower reach of the Ventura River came to be included. As you can imagine, we need to find some sort of legally supportable evidence to justify the inclusion of this area in the proposed regulatory overlay zone.

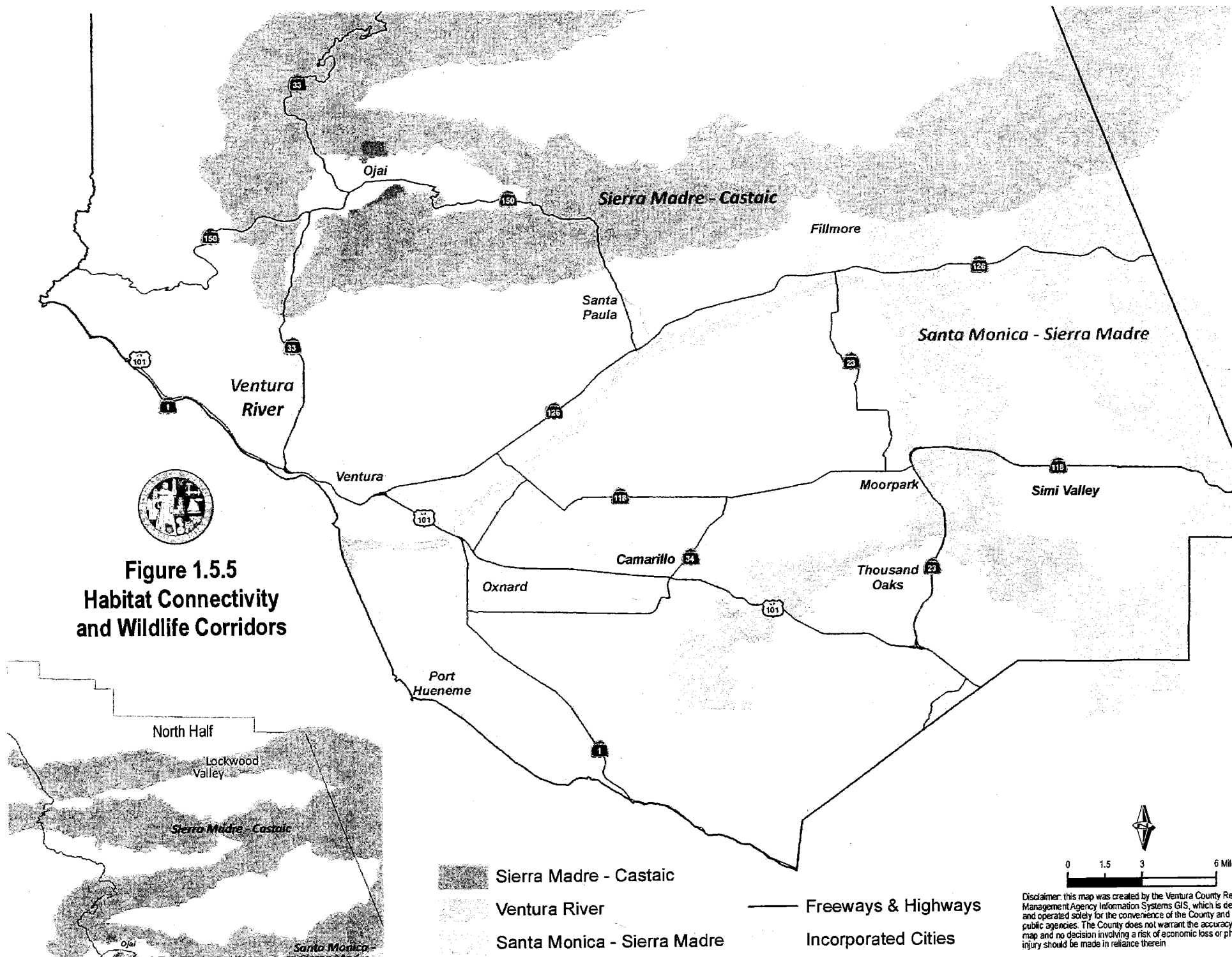
We have feelers out to find contact info for ██████████ (Nancy Settle may have already contacted you on our behalf) and we have also emailed Lorraine in case she remembers anything. If you happen to remember anything else, please let me know ☺
Thanks!

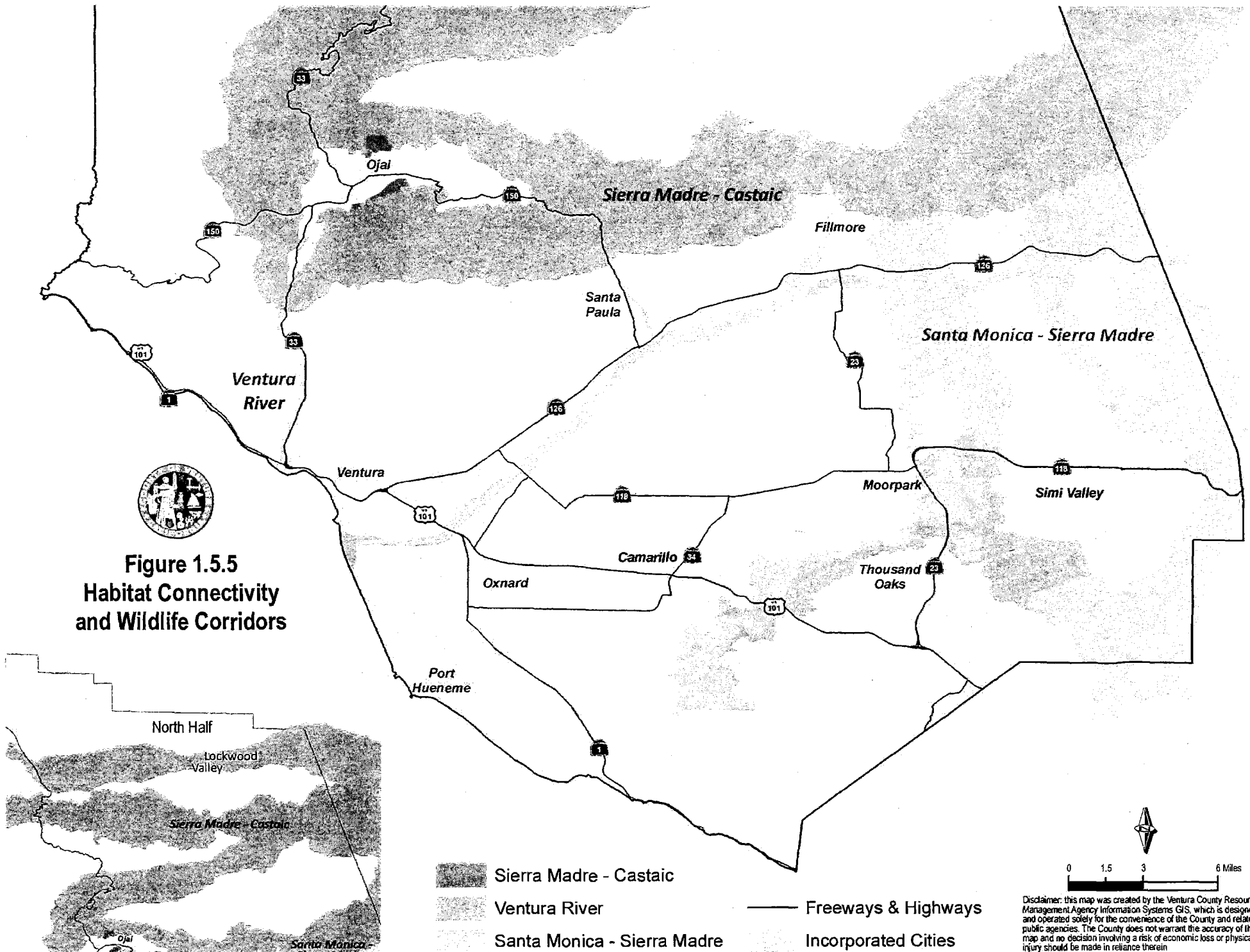
Kim Uhlich, MPA | Senior Planner
Residential Permits Section
Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org

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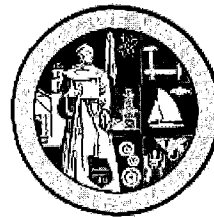
Ibaraki, Kathlyn S.

From: Uhlich, Kim
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2018 11:50 AM
To: Jane Farkas
Subject: RE: Request for Tour

Jane,
Would it be possible to push it to 10:00?

Kim Uhlich, MPA | Senior Planner
Residential Permits Section
Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org

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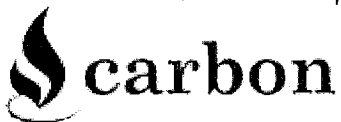
From: Jane Farkas <jfarkas@carbonenergycorp.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2018 11:47 AM
To: Uhlich, Kim <Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: Request for Tour

Hi Kim,

How does 9am Monday sound? The site visit shouldn't take more than 30-45 minutes.

Jane Farkas

Director of Land and Regulatory Affairs
Carbon California Company
270 Quail Court, Suite B | Santa Paula, CA 93060
Direct: 805-933-1901 x109 | Cell: 805-443-9276

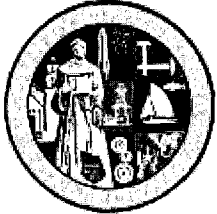


From: Uhlich, Kim <Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2018 3:19 PM
To: Jane Farkas <jfarkas@carbonenergycorp.com>
Subject: RE: Request for Tour

Hi Jane,

Thank you for being available and taking the time to provide a tour. The facility near T. Aquinas would be fine. How about Monday the 17th. Whatever time works best for you.
Best,

Kim Uhlich, MPA | Senior Planner
Residential Permits Section
Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org



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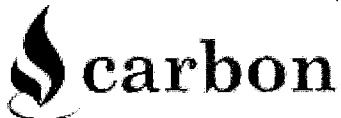
From: Jane Farkas <jfarkas@carbonenergycorp.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2018 2:08 PM
To: Uhlich, Kim <Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: Request for Tour

Hi Kim,

Sorry about the late reply, I was out of town. I'm happy to take you to our Ferndale lease. It is in upper Ojai near Thomas Aquinas College. My best days for the tour are Monday (9/17) or Friday (9/21) next week. I also may be able to make this Friday (9/14) work. Please let me know what works best for you.

Thank you,

Jane Farkas
Director of Land and Regulatory Affairs
Carbon California Company
270 Quail Court, Suite B | Santa Paula, CA 93060
Direct: 805-933-1901 x109 | Cell: 805-443-9276



From: Uhlich, Kim <Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org>
Sent: Monday, September 10, 2018 10:08 AM
To: Jane Farkas <jfarkas@carbonenergycorp.com>
Subject: FW: Request for Tour

Greetings Jane,

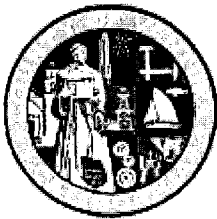
Following up on my email exchange with Louise Lampara (below). Shelley Sussman and I think that it would be helpful to see a real-world example of a large oil facility in the Open Space zone as we continue to work through some of the comments received regarding the draft proposed wildlife corridor regulations. Would it be possible to arrange a tour of a Carbon facility? We are hoping to find something in the south half of the County to minimize travel time.

Thank you,

Kim Uhlich, MPA | Senior Planner

Residential Permits Section

Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org



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From: Lampara L (Louise) at Aera <LLampara@aeraenergy.com>

Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2018 1:21 PM

To: Uhlich, Kim <Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org>

Subject: RE: Request for Tour

Kim –

Of course! I think you'll find the River/industrial activities/urban interface very interesting. Monday afternoon, Tuesday afternoon, or Thursday morning would work for me.

We don't have any property within the Corridor zone in other Open Spaced (only around the River). That would be CRC or Carbon. I think Carbon's property also is covered by the Condor requirements from USFWS – that might be a good location to see (although rather remote to travel to). I'll forward your email to Jane (Carbon) and Bruce (CRC) so they expect to hear from you.

Louise

From: Uhlich, Kim [<mailto:Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org>]

Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2018 12:12 PM

To: Lampara L (Louise) at Aera <LLampara@aeraenergy.com>

Subject: [External] Request for Tour

Greetings Louise,

It was nice to meet you yesterday and thank you again for sharing your insights regarding the applicability of the draft wildlife corridor ordinance to oil & gas operations in Ventura County.

Since those of us who are working on this project are unfamiliar with your industry, we believe it would be helpful to see a couple of real life sites/operations to further inform our understanding of the geographic context vis a vis the wildlife corridor areas. Would it be possible for the three of us (Shelley Sussman, Whitney Wilkinson and me) to tour a couple of your company's sites sometime next week? Ideally, we would like to see two sites located within the proposed wildlife corridor, if applicable. Among the two, it would be great to see one in west Ventura near the Ventura River and another on Open Space zoned land elsewhere in the unincorporated area. Would that be something that you could assist with? If not, we would appreciate a referral to one of your colleagues here in the County.

Thanks for your time,

Kim Uhlich, MPA | Senior Planner

Residential Permits Section

Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org



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Ibaraki, Kathlyn S.

From: Uhlich, Kim
Sent: Friday, September 28, 2018 11:29 AM
To: Conni Pallini
Subject: RE: City of LA Wildlife Corridor Regs

Hi again Conni,
It was a pleasure to speak with you on the phone and I look forward to exchanging more information in future.

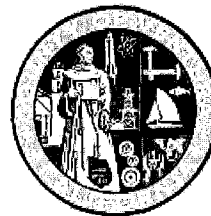
In case you didn't already find it, here is the link to the article I mentioned:
<http://www.takepart.com/feature/2015/01/30/urban-wildlife-backyard-bear-mountain-lions-in-cities>

This one is also interesting and relevant to urban corridors:
<https://e360.yale.edu/features/habitat-on-the-edges-making-room-for-wildlife-in-an-urbanized-world>

We'll be in touch once the draft ordinance is finalized.

Best,
Kim Uhlich, MPA | Senior Planner
Residential Permits Section
Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org

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From: Conni Pallini <conni.pallini-tipton@lacity.org>
Sent: Friday, September 28, 2018 10:07 AM
To: Uhlich, Kim <Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org>
Subject: Re: City of LA Wildlife Corridor Regs

yes, I am available. Please call me at 213.978.1179.
Conni



Conni Pallini-Tipton, AICP
Senior City Planner, Policy Planning
Department of City Planning
T: (213) 978-1179 | F: (213) 978-1477
200 N. Spring St., Room 278
Los Angeles, CA. 90012
planning.lacity.org



On Fri, Sep 28, 2018 at 9:36 AM, Uhlich, Kim <Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org> wrote:

Good morning Conni,

On behalf of the small team of staff members working on the Ventura County Wildlife Corridor Ordinance, I want to thank you for your email and willingness to share information. Would you be available for a call at 10:00 this morning?

Best,

Kim Uhlich, MPA | Senior Planner

Residential Permits Section

Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org



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From: Conni Pallini <conni.pallini-tipton@lacity.org>

Sent: Friday, September 28, 2018 9:20 AM

To: Prillhart, Kim <Kim.Prillhart@ventura.org>

Cc: Kevin Keller <kevin.keller@lacity.org>; Uhlich, Kim <Kim.Uhlich@ventura.org>; Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>

Subject: Re: City of LA Wildlife Corridor Regs

Good morning Kim and staff - I am eager to talk with you about your experience and share our approach. As Kevin mentioned we are fairly early in our process, but have spent some time trying to gather info on other cities approaches as well as gain a handle on our own resources. I am available this morning before 11 or this afternoon after 2 if you want to set up a call. Otherwise happy to look at times next week.

Looking forward to checking in!

Conni



Conni Pallini-Tipton, AICP

Senior City Planner, Policy Planning
Department of City Planning

T: (213) 978-1179 | **F:** (213) 978-1477

200 N. Spring St., Room 278

Los Angeles, CA. 90012

planning.lacity.org



On Thu, Sep 27, 2018 at 8:17 PM, Prillhart, Kim <Kim.Prillhart@ventura.org> wrote:

Thank you so much Kevin. We're going to our Planning Commission in late October. Already lots of threats of lawsuits... gotta love land use planning!

I'm copying our rockstar planners so they can reach out to Conni and share information.

Thanks Kevin,

Kim

On Sep 27, 2018, at 7:52 PM, Kevin Keller <kevin.keller@lacity.org> wrote:

Hi Kim!

Well, we took some twists and turns and actually have been very active on this for the last 5 months and are gearing up for our first public workshop in late October.

I am looping in Conni Pallini-Tipton of our team who I am sure you must either know or should know as you are kindred spirits and great people. Conni and I were very involved here at LA-APA. Conni, Kim is the planning director for Ventura County and is a fellow APA ringleader.

We would be delighted to share our details to date. Its a tough nut to crack but important to our hillsides. Conni, could you reach out to Kim when you have a moment?

Looking forward to seeing you at the San Diego conference!

Kevin

On Thu, Sep 27, 2018, 4:31 PM Prillhart, Kim <Kim.Prillhart@ventura.org> wrote:

Kevin,

Ventura County is in the final stages of drafting a Wildlife Corridor ordinance. Our staff came across the attached 2016 LA Times article and would like to follow up with LA City Planning staff as to the current status. Can you point me to the right staff person to chat with??

Thanks~. K



P-22, a mountain lion resident of the city of Los Angeles, photographed for 'National Geographic' in 2013. The Hollywood sign was not photoshopped in. (Photo: Steve Winter/Getty Images)

TAKEPART FEATURES

Everyone Loves Wild Animals in Their Backyard—Until They Don't

From Florida to California, wild animals are invading cities—and humans are invading wildlife habitat—like never before. What are they trying to tell us? (And how friendly is that crocodile?)

JAN 30, 2015 · 15 MIN READ



Judith Lewis Mernit is a contributing editor at *High Country News*. Her work has also appeared in *The Atlantic*, *Mother Jones* and *Sierra*. She lives in Venice, Calif.

Bio



As a toddler, River Simard had a way of entertaining himself that didn't involve a PlayStation or an Xbox or even electricity. He would perch himself on the back of the couch behind a plate-glass window in his family's tiny house and watch the animals. "Coyotes, bobcats, deer, raccoons, skunks, squirrels," says Simard, who has grown into a reedy 11-year-old with tufts of brown hair sticking out from under a Yankees cap. "They'd be out there, just prancing up and down!" He watched them gather food, he watched them raise babies, and he watched them hunt. More than once, while exploring his neighborhood, he came across the remains of a deer felled by a coyote, or saw a red-tailed hawk fly off with a wriggling squirrel in its talons. He sat at that window, he says, almost every morning from preschool until he was six, and often in the afternoons too. Tracking wildlife became his hobby, his after-school pastime, his extracurricular activity.

You might expect a child blessed with such a daily parade of fauna to live in a place we associate with wilderness. Montana, perhaps, or at least Marin County, California. But River lives with his parents, little sister, and dog just off Laurel Canyon Boulevard north of Sunset, a major artery for commuters in the heart of Los Angeles. River is a city kid.

His situation is not so unusual: More humans now live in cities than on farms, in forests, or in the countryside. We continue to coexist with wildlife nonetheless, and if it seems human and animal habitats are intersecting more today, it's not just that today there's a video camera in every pocket; the number of bear sightings reported to Florida wildlife officials increased from 99 in 1990 to more than 6,600 in 2013. Many of us are delighted to have their company: A woman in New Rochelle, New York installs a barrier to keep a raccoon out of her bird feeder; a month later the animal brings around the brood she had gestated on the promise of this formerly steady food supply, and the woman rushes to tear down the obstacle. In 2013, an American crocodile cruises into Miami's Biscayne Bay for the first time since the 1980s and basks in the fellowship of boaters, who name him Rupert. Even in New York City, cops name their intruding animal predators: When Riva the coyote turned up in Riverside Park on Jan. 10, she was gingerly sedated and sent back to the Bronx.

RELATED



What a Wolf's Extraordinary Journey Means for the Future of Wildlife



Is the Human Cost of Saving Gorillas Too High?

The city of Chicago beats them all, assiduously tending acres of dunes, forests, and wetlands for resident skunks, coyotes, shorebirds, and raptors, making the city and its environs a bountiful refuge from the corn and soybean monoculture that surrounds it.

“Cities,” said Travis Longcore, a professor of spatial sciences at the University of Southern California and the science director of The Urban Wildlands Group in Los Angeles, “are enormous collectors of resources [for wildlife]. We bring water into them, we plant plants, we take care of those plants. We have food, we have trash, we have shelter.” Such abundance can set up a good life for predators and their prey, animals that elsewhere would spend their short lives hunting or running for cover on the edge of existence.

But it’s not just that wild animals have moved into our neighborhoods; humans have moved into theirs. We have in the last few decades made the wild more urban, pushing deeper into the country and higher into the mountains, and building on ever-steeper slopes. A 2013 report by the research firm CoreLogic found that of the 17 million homes built in the U.S. between 1990 and 2008, ten million were built in the “wildland-urban interface,” or WUI, where the city collides with the outback. If a bear

strolls down from the mountains to swim in a suburban swimming pool, it may be because the pool covered her old familiar watering hole.



River Simard with his mother, Alison, in their backyard in the Laurel Canyon area of Los Angeles. (Photo: Larry Hirshowitz)

Yet however fascinated we might be with our urban animals, we are also tortured. Residents of Glendale, a city of 234,000 north of downtown Los Angeles, organized to halt state authorities from euthanizing a nuisance bear nicknamed Meatball (for the booty it snatched from someone's freezer), but the interloper didn't get to stay: After several failed relocation attempts, the animal was moved to a San Diego sanctuary. Residents responded with unalloyed horror three years ago when police in Santa Monica, California, shot and killed a mountain lion

that wandered into an office building's courtyard, but the police could hardly have allowed an apex predator to run amok through the busy outdoor shopping promenade a block away. And whatever enchantment we might derive from our encounters with urban mammals, we cherish our non-wild creatures more: Authorities in Seal Beach, California, south of Los Angeles, recently began trapping and gassing coyotes because they were killing locals' fluffy little dogs.

Simultaneously awed and terrified by our urban critters, we are at a loss to understand them. We leave food out for cats, but coyotes eat it; habituated to humans, they become a danger and have to be killed. We lure rats into boxes to gorge on blood-thinning poisons, not considering that the rats spread the poison up the food chain. We chop down rotting trees in the name of neighborhood beautification, destroying the homes of woodpeckers and egrets. We build freeways across canyons and lock animals into isolated parks to ensure their genetic decline. And as River Simard discovered, we build houses on mountainsides that disrupt movement critical to their hunting, hiding, and sheltering.

When River was six, the ecosystem outside his window began to collapse. A developer named Yossi Atia had received permits to build three palatial white mansions next door, and bulldozers started to grade the hillside. River's little singing wilderness turned to dust. "It used to be all grass and other plants," he says, sweeping his hand wide across the picture window. "Then it was all gone."

Perhaps most damaging of all, the contractors surrounded the construction site with towering fences, blocking the route wildlife had followed since tectonic forces lifted up the hills. Panicked skunks, possums, and raccoons skittered chaotically about, running for cover around the foundation of the Simards' house.

"That's how we learned the term 'wildlife corridor,'" River's mom, Alison Simard says. "We realized we'd been watching an ancient migratory pattern, not just on the ground but in the sky."

All cities have their wildlife pathways, some of them dating back before urbanization, some of them developed over decades of adaptation. But Los Angeles is unique. "I don't know of another North American city that's bisected by a mountain range like Los Angeles is," Longcore says. The Santa Monica Mountains extend 46 miles from the coast to the Los Angeles River, 3,111 feet at their highest point; they and the San Gabriels, which rise to 10,000 feet above sea level, make Los Angeles the wild and rugged place it is. Of the six cities CoreLogic's report looked at in depth, Los Angeles was the one with the most homes deep in the WUI.

The Simards' cottage in the Hollywood Hills belongs to the Santa Monica

range. For most of the city's history, no developer could economically build on the mountains' steeper slopes, so

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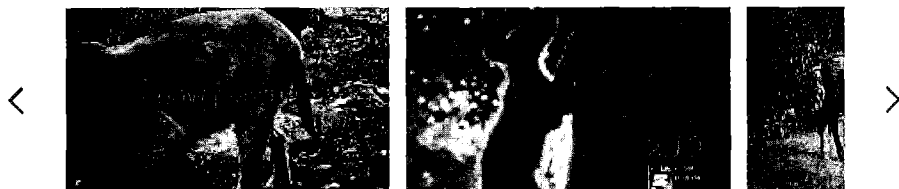


The 10 Most Friendly Cities for Critters

urban development was separated by large swaths of open space. But in the early 2000s, property values spiked and engineers were smarter. Steep-slope building suddenly became worth the expense and risk. Cement trucks, cranes, and bulldozers moved up the winding canyon roads. The new construction crews were not putting up 800-square-foot cottages like the one the Simards live in, or bungalows cantilevered over the sides of canyons. They were sinking steel beams for sealed fortresses thrust into hillsides, concrete boxes with spectacular views of the sage-scrub elfin forest.

Alison Simard at first thought the Atia houses were in violation of an anti-“mansionization” ordinance the city passed in 2008, limiting the floor plan to lot-size ratio. Then she talked to Paul Edelman, a biologist with the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, and realized she had an even better legal argument. Edelman had drawn maps of migratory pathways wildlife takes through the mountains, and the new houses cut right into them. Because the development harmed wildlife, it was in violation of California’s Environmental Quality Act. She and her neighbors formed a “concerned residents” coalition, and in August 2012, they sued.

urban wildlife 7 videos



Mountain Lion P-22 on
Path in Griffith Park

Backyard Bears

Baby Mo
Loose

Atia settled, agreeing to leave undeveloped a 15-foot-wide path for animals to pass through. The Simards claimed victory and used that momentum to form an environmental nonprofit, Citizens for Los Angeles Wildlife, or CLAW. The suit also set a precedent: At CLAW's urging, City Councilman Paul Kōretz authored an ordinance that would require developers to prove they weren't blocking migratory routes before building—a precautionary principle for wildlife. (The ordinance is now under review by the Los Angeles City Planning Commission.)

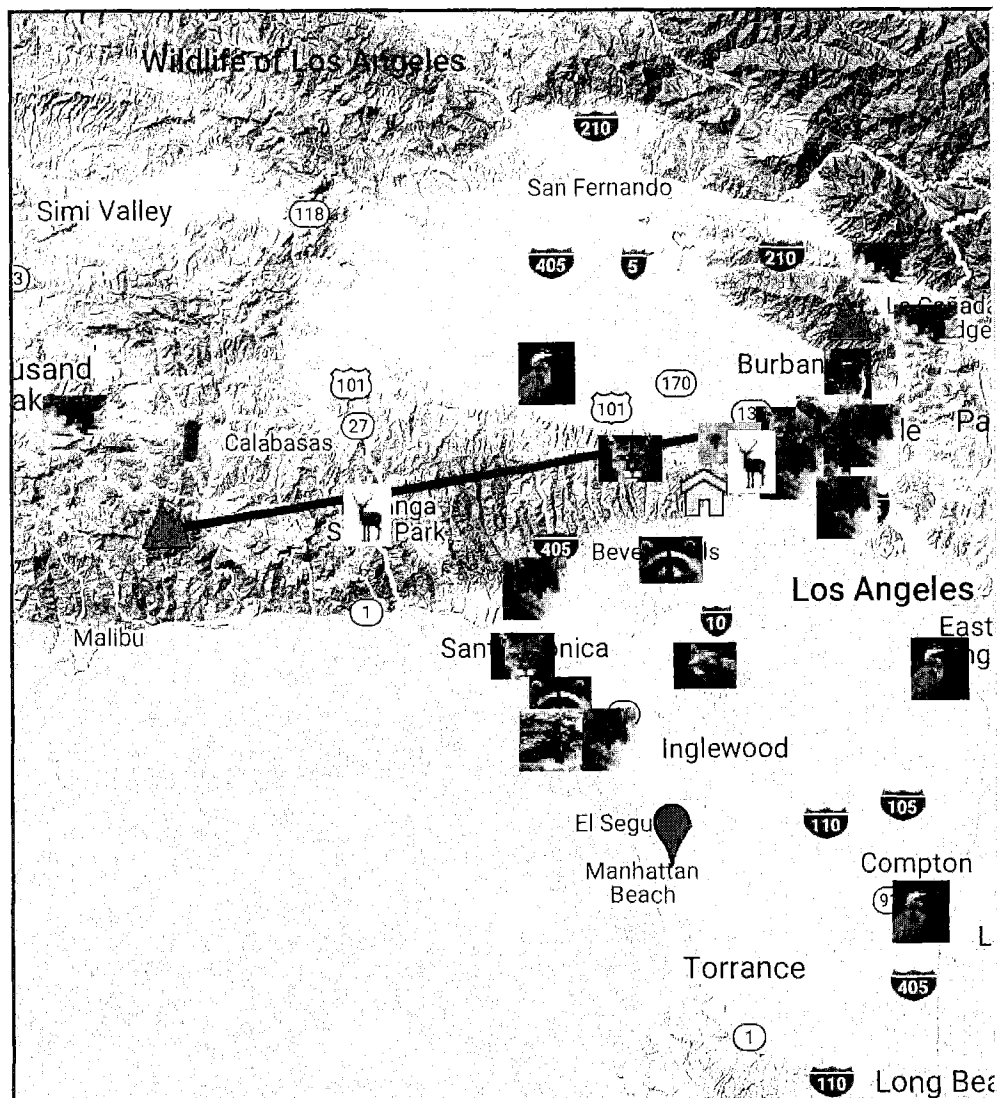
CLAW's efforts didn't end there. The wildlife corridor issue awakened the Simards and their neighbors to other ways they were inadvertently killing the animals they loved. Through a neighbor, Alison got to know Laurel Serieys, a biologist who was studying bobcats in the wilder western reaches of the Santa Monicas. "She said, 'That's great that you're so concerned about wildlife corridors,'" Alison remembers. " 'But how many of your neighbors are using rat poison?' "

River heard that and thought back to all the animals he'd found dead. Hawks fallen from the sky, their beaks covered in blood. Skunks, lifeless but intact, bleeding from the mouth. And then there was the bobcat. "We saw her with four kittens," River says. They played on the trampoline in a neighbor's backyard. For a summer, they were a beloved neighborhood fixture.

Then they started to disappear—the bobcat lost her brood one by one. First the mother cat came by with just three kittens, then two, then one. Then that kitten disappeared,

too, and finally the mother was found lying in the road. She'd been struck by a car and later died in a neighbor's arms.

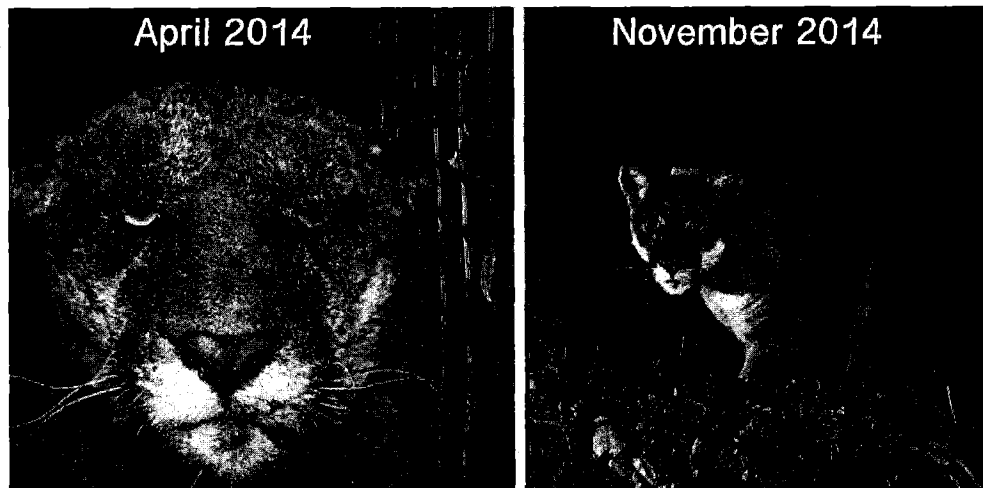
Biologists have long suspected a connection between a certain kind of feline mange and rat poison. Serieys has found blood-thinning chemicals in nearly every mange-ridden bobcat she's tested. But she wondered if it could be worse than that. Early studies were showing that poisoned rats get stupid before they hemorrhage to death, and a high number of road-killed bobcats Serieys tested turned up positive for rodenticides. Could the poisons be inhibiting the cats' ability to assess the risks of traffic?



“It isn’t yet possible to draw robust conclusions,” Serieys told me. The sample size is small, so while there seems to be a correlation, she’s a long way from showing causation. Frequent vehicle strikes of poisoned animals, she says, is for now just “an interesting trend.”

It was enough, though, to inspire CLAW to launch a new crusade. “Instead of using rodenticide, we wanted to control the rats the natural way,” River says. “We were thinking, ‘How about barn owls?’ They need food. They’re already up here.” The Simards and their friends now go door-to-door convincing neighbors to put up boxes where barn owls—fierce and skilled hunters of rats—can take refuge and raise their young.

Will there ever be enough barn owls to keep all the rats at bay? “No,” Alison says flatly. “But if we get people to connect with their little heart-shaped faces, and think they might be responsible for killing them [by using rat poison], then, we hope, they tell their exterminator to use traps.”



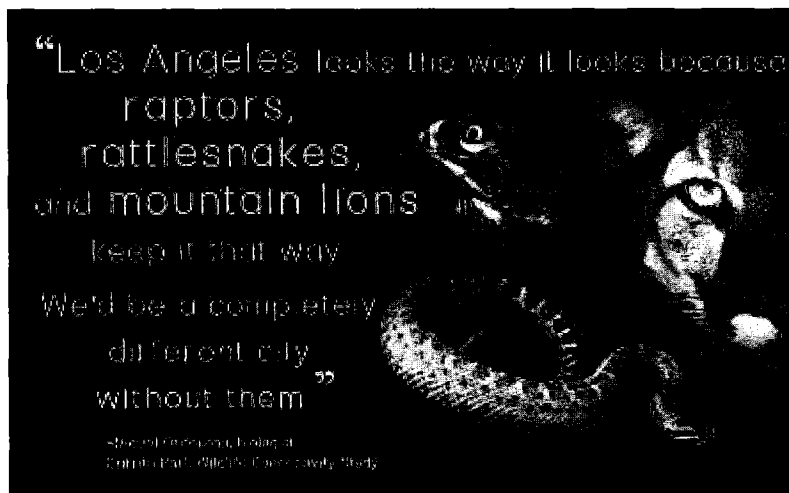
The Griffith Park mountain lion showed symptoms of mange (left), one form of which has been linked to a rat poison commonly used in urban areas. He was captured and treated by National Park Service biologists and a few months later had improved considerably (right). (Photos: National Park Service)

If, in the midst of the worst extinction crisis since the one that killed the dinosaurs, our cities of well-intentioned citizens are blindly making things worse for wildlife, we are not entirely to blame. It is only recently that biologists have tried to understand urban nature.

“They considered cities imperfect ecologies,” Longcore said, and therefore not worth studying. “They thought, ‘They don’t have top carnivores, so who cares? They’re not that interesting.’” Then, in 1997, the National Science Foundation issued two grants, one to Phoenix and the other to Baltimore, to study wildlife within their metro areas. Biologists found more birds in the Arizona suburbs than in the surrounding Sonoran Desert; they found deer, foxes, and rabbits along Baltimore’s industrial waterfront (which has now been restored, with support from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, as an urban wildlife refuge). The study of urban ecologies broke wide open, said Longcore. “The grants legitimized studying cities as ‘Hey, this is a place that we need to research and understand even if it doesn’t have grizzly bears.’”

The grants also triggered a public education campaign all over the nation. “Now we can use science to start to tell people some of the story of their place,” Longcore said, “to help people understand what they’re sharing their city with. And to appreciate it a little better, and to understand how nature works.” And, perhaps, to coexist more peaceably with its creatures.

On a chilly Sunday just before Christmas, I took a walk with Miguel Ordeñana, a biologist with the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County who over the years has developed a specialty: setting up motion-sensor cameras at known wildlife crossings to photograph what moves through. Rain had touched Los Angeles the week before, and the hillsides were sprouting emerald with new grasses and weeds. We slipped through tears in a couple of chain-link fences to get to a spot where a tunnel bores under Interstate 5 near Griffith Park, a 4,310-acre urban wilderness—one of the largest in the country—at the far eastern edge of the Santa Monica Mountains.



(Illustrated by Lauren Wade)

Ordeñana, 32, is the youngest member of the Griffith Park Wildlife Connectivity Study, a four-year-old effort begun by ecologist Dan Cooper to understand what lives in and moves through the park. With dark hair and an easy laugh, Ordeñana is gregarious for a scientist; he revels in persuading recalcitrant residents to keep their dogs on leash and their cats indoors (coyotes consider house cats a delicacy).

He's also full of wonder at the tenacity of the animals he studies. "When [the connectivity study] first got started," Ordeñana said, "people didn't think Griffith Park was any more than a habitat oasis, an island. Our study has proved that it's more than that. Animals come in, animals leave." They do so using whatever route they can find, through equestrian tunnels, over pedestrian bridges, even down into the Los Angeles River, a wildlife corridor itself.

"This tunnel's very popular," Ordeñana said, stopping at the entrance to an equestrian underpass beneath the freeway. One of his cameras is there, on a Telespar post, encased in a padlocked steel box. "It's the first place we got an image of a bobcat [using a wildlife corridor] in the Griffith Park area," he said. "Very cool." Bobcats, small felines with ringed tails and tufted ears, are among the most charismatic and resilient of the world's cat species, turning up in deserts, plains, wetlands, and forests. But before the study, only a few scientists were aware they were here.

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Beyond the tunnel, we came to an overpass spanning the Los Angeles River—another crossing built for horses, covered with soft, quiet dirt. Animals don't like to hear their own footsteps, Ordeñana explained. It freaks them out. "Sometimes I'll put a camera in some beautiful, isolated canyon and think, 'This is perfect, I'll get a lot of animals coming through here,'" he said. "Then I don't get anything, and I realize the area is full of noisy leaf litter." A camera on the overpass has snapped images of animals waiting cagily for horses to cross; another, lower down, caught a coyote chasing one of the ducks that fish and mingle among the great blue herons. "Not a staple of the coyote diet," Ordeñana said. "They usually prefer prey that can't fly."

In the first few months of the study, Cooper and his team focused exclusively on the west side of the park, to see what was coming in across the U.S. 101 freeway near the Hollywood Bowl. Their initial 13 cameras caught silvery images of the usual suspects: coyotes, deer, and raccoons, sometimes a homeless person. Then, at 9:15 p.m. on Feb. 12, 2012, they hit pay dirt: A full-grown mountain lion tripped a sensor and announced his presence to the world.

The team called in National Park Service biologist Jeff Sikich, a renowned expert in large carnivores who studies mountain lions. Sikich tracked, trapped, and sedated the animal, fitting him with a GPS collar. They named him P-22: the 22nd puma collared in an ongoing NPS study that began in 2002.

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To have a predator of a puma's caliber in a major metropolis is completely unheard of. P-22 put the connectivity study in the national news, particularly after Steve Winter later photographed him (above) and published the image in *National Geographic*. (Read TakePart contributor Mike Kessler's full account of P-22 here.) Of the estimated dozen or so animals that persist in the Santa Monicas, none had been documented so far east. P-22 likely braved two perilous freeways to avoid being killed by another male of his kind—intraspecies predation kills more pumas in the Santa Monicas' cloistered habitat than anything else. But to serve his species' future he'll need to find a mate. Unless a female puma makes her way across the freeways from the west, he'll have to move out, crossing I-5 to get to mountains to the northeast, and maybe even beyond, into the San Gabriels.

That will be tough. Obstacles galore—film studios' back lots, shopping malls, gravel-mining quarries, and more—lie between P-22 and real freedom. Which is not to say it hasn't been done, if not by a cougar, then by a bobcat or coyotes or gray foxes or skunks; no one knows for sure. No

one knows, either, whether the numbers of bobcats, coyotes, and deer that travel past Ordeñana's cameras have gone up or down in the last 10, 20, or 50 years or, really, if a lion even made it here before. While New York City has an award-winning team of more than 30 scientists monitoring the city's parks, forests, and wetlands, and Cleveland and Chicago have teams of biologists assessing wildlife in their verdant parks, the Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks has neither the funding nor the wherewithal to count the common animals of the city's fragmented habitat.

"It's embarrassing," Ordeñana said. "In order to manage urban open spaces responsibly, you have to base your management decisions on scientifically produced evidence and research." That's not happening in L.A., which seems misaligned with the interests of many of its citizens, who like to regale one another at parties with tales of coyote encounters. So Cooper, Ordeñana, and Erin Boydston, a research ecologist with the U.S. Geological Survey who also works on the connectivity study, have in the void become the city's unofficial biologists, meeting on weekends and enlisting volunteers to maintain cameras and change batteries. Ordeñana posts the photos they capture on the Urban Carnivores website; a friend posts them to the "Griffith Park Trail Cam" Tumblr. The pictures can't substitute for hard numbers, but they count for something. "People see the images, especially when they see the kittens, and it reminds them of their own cats, and they start to care," Ordeñana said. "Then they ask what they can do to help."

My main concern, driving west on a Friday morning this past September, was that I wouldn't be able to find the

event. The invitation only read, "101 Freeway at the Liberty Canyon exit," in the Los Angeles suburb of Agoura Hills, a sprawl of new condos and mid-level mansions north of the Santa Monica Mountains. The meeting point could be anywhere within a half-mile radius; the 25 or so attendees I expected to find could be hidden by a hill or tucked behind an office complex. I imagined an inconspicuous little gathering; how many would show up in support of a wildlife corridor?

Liberty Canyon connects the Santa Monicas with undeveloped land in the Simi Hills; if animals can walk through it, they can keep moving north all the way to Los Padres National Forest, where they can feast and kill and spread their seed among the thousands of their kind in the wilderness east of Big Sur. There's only one catch: The canyon funnels animals right down to an eight-lane freeway. Liberty Canyon is where wildlife comes to die. Drive it at dawn, and you're virtually guaranteed to find roadkill.

Wildlife advocates from the National Wildlife Federation, the Audubon Society, and the National Park Service have joined residents in pushing for a \$10 million underpass to allow wildlife to cross the freeway safely.

I needn't have worried about finding the rally to support the project; it was impossible to miss. There weren't just 25 people, or 50 people. There were 400, and I had to park almost a mile away. It was a mob scene: people dressed up like animals, busloads of children, limousines ferrying public officials, a woman from the Audubon Society with an ornery falcon on her arm. ("He's fed up with the heat," she told me.) CLAW member Skip Haynes unveiled an oil

painting, by Miami-based artist Rick Garcia, he'd commissioned of P-22, now fully recovered after having ingested rat poison and suffered mange himself. River Simard gave a speech: "When are you grown-ups gonna get it?" he complained. State Sen. Fran Pavley sashayed through the adoring crowd. "My whole district is one great big wildlife corridor!" she exulted.

It was an encouraging turnout, and I wanted to appreciate it. All these people, here to fight for the rights of wild animals to breed and feed and thrive: How could that be wrong? But I had to ask: Why does it matter? Why do we care whether carnivores, mesopredators, or birds of prey live among us? Will my life be diminished if P-22 gets hit by a car trying to find a mate? It would be sad, sure. But would it make any real difference to our well-being?

I asked the congenial but taciturn Jeff Sikich, who was standing quietly in the back of the crowd. "That's not an easy question to answer," he said. When I asked a friend of the falcon lady, she burst into tears and hugged me.

I kept asking, because it seemed important that these advocates have an answer when they stand before the lawyers and land managers who make decisions about city planning. I wanted the people I met to have better arguments in their arsenal than what one of the kids told me: "Because animals have the right to be here too!"

Months later, out walking with Ordeñana, I got closer to an answer. "If you want your kids and grandchildren to have a healthy, pretty park, you need predators in that ecosystem," he said. "Their position in the food web is making sure the plants stay healthy and the hillsides don't

slide. Los Angeles looks the way it looks because raptors, rattlesnakes, and mountain lions keep it that way. We'd be a completely different city without them."

River Simard can attest to that: His neighborhood has been incalculably altered since the big houses went up next door. Not that he's the sort to despair. "It's a terrible thing that happened," he says of his ruined view, and all the animals that were forced from their ancestral routes during the construction. "But it's also a good thing. If it hadn't happened, we never would have made CLAW, and we never would have started trying to stop people from using rodenticides. And that would mean so many more animals dying.

"So even though it's bad that they blocked the wildlife corridor," he concludes, "I still consider it a win."

UPDATED Feb. 2, 2015

On Jan. 30, the California Coastal Conservancy awarded a \$1 million grant to go toward the \$3.5 million needed to fund the environmental and design studies for a wildlife crossing at Liberty Canyon. The National Wildlife Federation is calling on supporters of the project to match the state's contribution. (Text "LION" to 25383 to donate \$10.)

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Yale Environment 360



LUISA RIVERA / YALE E360

Habitat on the Edges: Making Room for Wildlife in an Urbanized World

Efforts to protect biodiversity are now focusing less on preserving pristine areas and more on finding room for wildlife on the margins of human development. As urban areas keep expanding, it is increasingly the only way to allow species to survive.

BY RICHARD CONNIFF • JANUARY 3, 2018

One morning not long ago, in the southern Indian state of Karnataka, I traveled with a Wildlife Conservation Society biologist on a switchback route up and over the high ridge of the Western Ghats. Our itinerary loosely followed the corridor connecting Bhadra Tiger Reserve with Kudremakh National Park 30 miles to the south.

In places, we passed beautiful shade coffee plantations, with an understory of coffee plants, and pepper vines – a second cash crop – twining up the trunks of the shade trees. Coffee plantations managed in this fashion, connected to surviving patches of natural forest, “provide continuous camouflage for the predators,” – especially tigers moving through by night, my guide explained, and wildlife conflict was minimal. Elsewhere, though, the corridor narrowed to a thread winding past sprawling villages, and conservationists played a double game, part handholding to help people live with large predators on their doorsteps, part legal combat to keep economic interests from nibbling

into the wildlife corridor from both sides. It was a microcosm of how wildlife hangs on these days, not just in India, but almost everywhere in the world.

For conservationists, protecting biodiversity has in recent years become much less about securing new protected areas in pristine habitat and more about making room for wildlife on the margins of our own urbanized existence. Conservation now often means modifying human landscapes to do double-duty as wildlife habitat – or, more accurately, to continue functioning for wildlife even as humans colonize them for their homes, highways, and farms. There is simply no place else for animals to live.

The ambition to create new protected areas still persists, of course. National parks, wildlife refuges, and other protected areas remain essential, especially for species that do not adapt well to human-dominated landscapes. The 168 signatory nations to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) have acknowledged as much, at least on paper, committing to extend protected area coverage to 17 percent of their land area by 2020. But getting there has proved difficult. Coverage by national parks and other terrestrial protected areas has remained stuck for the past few years at about 15 percent worldwide, well short of CBD commitments, much less E.O. Wilson's grander vision of "half-Earth" set aside for nature.

Research has demonstrated substantial improvements in biodiversity from wildlife corridors as little as 25 yards in width.

Meanwhile, though, work to improve buffer zones around parks, and to establish corridors on the land between existing protected areas, has flourished. For instance:

- Just since 2000, the area protected by land trusts in the United States has more than doubled, from 23 million to 56 million acres, according to the Land Trust Alliance. Easements are one increasingly common tool for conservation on private lands, though recent research indicates that those easements tend to impose fewer restrictions on landowners than in the past.
- Corridor protection on the grand scale has achieved remarkable results, notably with the 2,000-mile long Yellowstone-to-Yukon Conservation Initiative. It aims to connect protected areas and to ensure safe passage for elk, grizzly bears, and other wildlife across 500,000 square miles of largely shared habitat, both public and privately owned. At the same time,

research by Nick Haddad, a conservation biologist at the University of Michigan's W.K. Kellogg Biological Station, has demonstrated substantial improvements in biodiversity from corridors as little as 25 yards in width, well within the range, he says, of "what's reasonable in urban landscapes." Indeed, a new study from northern Botswana has found that elephants traveling from Chobe National Park to the nearby Chobe River will use corridors as small as 10 feet wide to traverse newly urbanized areas.

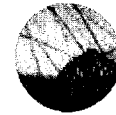
- Urban areas now increasingly recognize that it's cheaper to protect clean water by buying up natural habitat both within their own borders and at the source, instead of installing expensive technology to purify it after the fact. It's not just about New York City purchasing huge chunks of the Catskills. North Carolina's Clean Water Management Trust Fund, for instance, has also protected 500,000 acres of watershed and riverside habitat over the past 20 years – with enormous incidental benefits for wildlife.
- Cities have begun to recognize the value of protecting wildlife within their own borders. Singapore, for instance, has increased its natural cover to almost half its land area over the past 30 years, even as its human population has doubled. Its Central Catchment Nature Reserve has become one of the last refuges of the straw-headed bulbul, a bird once common across Southeast Asia. The government also recently announced plans to create new nature parks as habitat for the critically endangered banded leaf monkey.
- Even in the absence of new parks and other habitat, city residents have rallied to their wildlife, sometimes in extraordinary fashion. In Mumbai, development-oriented politicians continue to encourage the destruction of natural habitat, particularly in the Aarey Milk Colony neighborhood abutting the city's Sanjay Gandhi National Park. But local conservationists, together with the park itself, have launched a pioneering campaign to help densely populated neighborhoods around the park cope with more than 30 free-ranging leopards in their midst. Likewise, Los Angeles has turned its mountain lions into urban folk heroes. (The Facebook bio of the lion known as P22 begins: "Hi! I'm LA's loneliest



The 250-acre Gardens by the Bay park in Singapore. Nearly half of Singapore's land is comprised of green space and nature preserves. MARTIN/FLICKR

bachelor. I like to hang out under the Hollywood sign to try and pick up cougars. Likes: Deer, catnip, Los Feliz weekends. Dislikes: Traffic, coyotes, P-45.”)

- While gas and electric transmission lines commonly divide and destroy landscapes, some utility companies have found maintenance savings (and good press) by managing these corridors as habitat, especially for pollinators and migratory birds. California’s Pacific Power & Gas, with 6,400 miles of gas transmission lines, is the latest U.S. utility to sign up with the Right of Way Stewardship Council.
- Highway departments have learned that they can save money, reduce their carbon footprint, please tourists, and also help wildlife by converting roadsides and medians from grass to wildflowers. The Federal Highway Administration recently published best management practices for using roadside margins as pollinator habitat – with Florida incidentally saving \$1,000 per road mile in mowing costs and Oregon reducing pesticide use by more than 25 percent.
- While restoration of abandoned rail lines as habitat and hiking trails is old news, British companies have recently begun restoring habitat along active rail lines. Network Rail, which controls most of the rail lines in the United Kingdom, works with conservation groups on species from the great crested newt to the natterjack toad.



ALSO ON YALE E360

Can a monarch highway help save a species under siege? Read more.

The idea of making human landscapes more wildlife-friendly dates back at least to the anti-lawn movement of the 1970s.

The idea of making human-dominated landscapes more wildlife-friendly dates back at least to the 1970s, when the anti-lawn movement proselytized for turning backyards into habitat. But finding ways – large and small – for wildlife to live among us has come to seem dramatically more urgent in recent years. That may be partly because in this century *Homo sapiens* has become a predominately urban species for the first time in history, with huge projected growth in cities and megacities. It may also be due to a series of recent studies on the implications of that growth. These studies read, at times, as if the researchers are looking up from their data and describing the end of the natural world.



Even scientists were stunned in October by the report of a mass insect die-off in Germany. That study, published in the journal *PLOS One*, found that over a 27-year period, from 1989 to 2016, the population of flying insects at nature reserves across Germany had collapsed, down by 76 percent overall, and 82 percent in the peak mid-summer flying season. Most of the likely causes – including habitat fragmentation, deforestation, monoculture farming, and overuse of pesticides – were factors outside the borders of these ostensibly protected areas. “We appear to be making vast tracts of land inhospitable to most forms of life,” one co-author grimly commented, “and are currently on course for ecological Armageddon.”



ALSO ON YALE E360

What's causing the sharp decline in insects, and why it matters. Read more.

That came on the heels of a July report in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* describing a “biological annihilation” in which “as much as 50% of the number of animal individuals that once shared Earth with us are already gone,” with likely “cascading catastrophic effects on ecosystems,” and on economic and social services “vital to sustaining civilization.” In particular, global vertebrate populations – from elephants to amphibians – declined by 58 percent from 1970 to 2012, a 2016 report noted, with losses likely to reach 67 percent by 2020. That’s two-thirds of all vertebrate animals on Earth vanished in the lifetime of a person not yet 50.



A female mountain lion in the Verdugos Mountains, north of Los Angeles. Also known as cougars, these animals are an increasingly common sight in the mountains surrounding Southern California's cities.
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

In the face of “annihilation” and “Armageddon,” emphasis on tending the margins of our lives can seem, yes, marginal. “If the focus is on degraded landscapes – roadside edges, powerline rights of way – you can find examples where these habitats are important to particular species,” says Josh Tewksbury, a conservation biologist at the University of Colorado, Boulder.

“But it would be hard to find any evidence that it’s going to make a whit of difference to the big problem. It’s not going to solve 95 percent of the problem.”

Then, as a second thought, he added, “It could be the 95 percent solution for people and biodiversity,” in the sense that routinely seeing birds in a city park, or a fox running across a field, can have “big implications for how people think about the value of nature.” And changes in human attitudes about nature can have dramatic effects on the ability of wildlife to survive in human-dominated landscapes.

For instance, persistence of old cultural attitudes is the major reason wolf recovery has struggled in the U.S., despite an abundance of available land. Meanwhile, Europe, one of the most industrialized landscapes on earth, has welcomed the return of wolves even to the fringes of its largest cities – along with brown bears, lynx, bison, and other species. The surprisingly rapid recovery of such species in Europe has led to a call, as a recent commentary in the journal *Conservation Letters* put it, for rewilding to become “a primary component” of long-term biodiversity conservation on degraded landscapes elsewhere – even perhaps everywhere.

One danger is these landscapes may become
places where excess individuals from
undisturbed habitat can survive but not
increase.

But caution about the potential of our cities and suburbs as wildlife habitat is probably still a good idea. One danger is that these landscapes may become “ecological sinks” – that is, places where excess individuals from undisturbed habitat can survive, but not ultimately increase. Having straw-headed bulbuls in central Singapore does not, for instance, ensure survival of the species. Success with some more visible species may also blind us to broader but less obvious declines in other species. European rewilding, for instance, has not been rewilding for its insect population.

Finally, we know almost nothing about what ecologist Meredith Holgerson at Portland State University calls “these cryptic changes happening” as humans occupy and alter a landscape. For her doctoral research at Yale University, she looked at the effects of suburbanization on wood frogs in 18 ponds in the prosperous Connecticut suburb of Madison. The area around



ALSO ON YALE E360

Utilities are now managing power
transmission lines as valuable

the ponds had developed largely with two-acre zoning, allowing corridors for threatened wildlife.
for survival of “pretty good red maple swamps and vernal
ponds,” says David Skelly, a professor of ecology at the Yale School of
Forestry & Environmental Studies who oversaw the research. But chemical
analysis of the ponds demonstrated that, along with other changes, the wood
frog larvae were getting as much as 70 percent of their nutrients from
materials leaching out of septic systems. “It suggests,” says Holgerson, “that
tadpoles and other pond organisms are made up of human waste.”
Read more.

The consequences of that remain unknown. But it also suggests that we may
change the entire nutrient flow of an ecosystem, cause eutrophication, or
introduce hormone-disrupting drugs or other chemicals in our waste – and
still imagine that we live in a relatively intact habitat.



Richard Conniff is a National Magazine Award-winning writer whose articles have appeared in
The New York Times, *Smithsonian*, *The Atlantic*, *National Geographic*, and other publications.
His latest book is “House of Lost Worlds: Dinosaurs, Dynasties, and the Story of Life on Earth.”
He is a frequent contributor to *Yale Environment 360*. **MORE** →

From: [Tim Cohen](#)
To: [Hagel, Tim](#); [Dean, Geoff](#); [Ayub, William](#)
Cc: [Underwood, Craig](#); [Jensen, Lynn](#)
Subject: Fw: Upcoming Meeting on Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridors Draft Ordinance on August 14 at 1:30
Date: Monday, August 13, 2018 8:59:17 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[Questions to Sheriff about Security Lighting 8-13-18.docx](#)

Gentlemen,

I am not sure if you are aware of the contemplated changes in safety lighting for the animal habitat, but it seems to conflict with home and business safety....looks like you will be busy after 10:00pm when all the lights have to be out. Any input would be helpful.

Thanks,
Tim

From: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Sent: Friday, August 3, 2018 2:51 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley
Cc: Prillhart, Kim; Stephens, Chris; Uhlich, Kim; Whitney Wilkinson; Buehner, Charmaine; Hall, Anna; Batinica, Meighan
Subject: Upcoming Meeting on Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridors Draft Ordinance on August 14 at 1:30

Hello,

The Ventura County Planning Division invites you to attend a stakeholder meeting to review a draft ordinance related to habitat connectivity and wildlife corridors. **The meeting will take place on Tuesday, August 14, 2018 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Pacific Conference Room.** (See attached map.) The purpose of this meeting is to solicit input from stakeholders on the most current working draft of this ordinance, and therefore, the ordinance is subject to change.

As anticipated, the draft ordinance includes provisions related to fencing, lighting, limiting vegetation removal, treatment of land located within and adjacent to surface water features and wildlife crossing structures, and maintaining connectivity in key locations within the mapped corridors. You will likely note that the current working draft of the ordinance incorporates valuable stakeholder input and guidance received to date as a result of several stakeholder meetings held during the past year.

Seating at the August 14 meeting will be limited. If you are unable to attend, please feel free to identify a designee to attend in your place. Please RSVP by **Friday, August 10** by contacting Meighan Batinica at 805.654.2478 or at

Meighan.Batinica@ventura.org.

The draft ordinance will be available on the Planning Division website by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 6, 2018 at the following link.

<https://vcrma.org/habitat-connectivity-and-wildlife-movement-corridors>

If you have any questions about the meeting, please contact me at 805.654.2493 or Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org

Thank you.

Shelley Sussman, I Senior Planner
shelley.sussman@ventura.org



Ventura County Resource Management Agency | Planning Division

P. (805) 654 – 2493 | F. (805) 654-2509

800 S. Victoria Ave., L #1740 | Ventura, CA 93009-1740

Visit the Planning Division website at vcrma.org/planning

Ventura County General Plan Update. Join the conversation at VC2040.org

For online permits and property information, visit VC Citizen Access

Pursuant to the California Public Records Act, email messages retained by the County may constitute public records subject to disclosure.

From: Reedy, Amber
To: Sean Paroski
Cc: Kaiser, Ken
Subject: RE: Wildlife Corridor meeting
Date: Tuesday, September 11, 2018 3:36:19 PM

Good afternoon Mr. Paroski,

Assessor Goodwin would like to invite you and your colleague to the Assessor's Office for the meeting. We are located at 800 S. Victoria Avenue in the Hall of Administration on the main floor. Please let our front counter staff know you are here to see the Assessor and they will show you to our Management Conference room. We look forward to seeing you on Monday, September 24th at 9:30 am.

Please let me know if there is anything further I can assist you with and I hope you have a great rest of your week.

Sincerely,
Amber Reedy

*Amber Reedy - Management Assistant II
Ventura County Assessor's Office
800 S. Victoria Ave. Ventura, CA 93009
Office: 805-654-2161
Amber.reedy@ventura.org*

From: Sean Paroski [mailto:sparoski@colabvc.org]
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2018 2:16 PM
To: Goodwin, Dan
Cc: Kaiser, Ken; Reedy, Amber
Subject: RE: Wildlife Corridor meeting

Hi Dan,

Yes that works perfectly. Would that be at your office or ours?

Sean Paroski
Director of Policy and Advocacy
Ventura County Coalition of Labor,
Agriculture and Business
Office: 805-633-2257
Cell: 805-910-9393
Email: sparoski@colabvc.org

From: Goodwin, Dan <Dan.Goodwin@ventura.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2018 11:39 AM
To: Sean Paroski <sparoski@colabvc.org>
Cc: Kaiser, Ken <Ken.Kaiser@ventura.org>; Reedy, Amber <Amber.Reedy@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: Wildlife Corridor meeting

Good morning Mr. Paroski;

Thank you for the note below. I would like to schedule 9:30 AM, Monday, September 24 for the meeting you have requested. Please confirm.

Have a good one,
Dan Goodwin

From: Sean Paroski [mailto:sparoski@colabvc.org]
Sent: Monday, September 10, 2018 4:09 PM
To: Goodwin, Dan
Subject: Wildlife Corridor meeting

Hi Dan,

It was great talking to you over the phone about the proposed wildlife corridor regulations and their impact on property tax assessments. Thanks for being willing to sit down with us and talk more about this issue. I've included some dates and times we can get together in the next couple of weeks. Let me know if there is a particular time that works for your schedule.

September 24: 8 - 10:30 am
September 26: 8-12pm
September 28: 10 am – 3 pm

Here is a writeup of the proposed ordinance we have on our website outlining some of the major issues:

<http://colabvc.org/wildlife-corridor/>

And here is the draft ordinance that has been released by the Planning Department:

http://colabvc.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Regional_Habitat_Linkages_Ordinance_-_Public_Review_Draft_-8-7-18.pdf

Let me know if you have any other questions or need more information.

Thank you,

Sean Paroski
Director of Policy and Advocacy
Ventura County Coalition of Labor,
Agriculture and Business

Office: 805-633-2257

Cell: 805-910-9393

Email: sparoski@colabvc.org

From: [Sean Paroski](#)
To: [Goodwin, Dan](#)
Cc: [Kaiser, Ken](#); [Reedy, Amber](#)
Subject: RE: Wildlife Corridor meeting
Date: Tuesday, September 11, 2018 2:16:41 PM

Hi Dan,

Yes that works perfectly. Would that be at your office or ours?

Sean Paroski

Director of Policy and Advocacy
Ventura County Coalition of Labor,
Agriculture and Business
Office: 805-633-2257
Cell: 805-910-9393
Email: sparoski@colabvc.org

From: Goodwin, Dan <Dan.Goodwin@ventura.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2018 11:39 AM
To: Sean Paroski <sparoski@colabvc.org>
Cc: Kaiser, Ken <Ken.Kaiser@ventura.org>; Reedy, Amber <Amber.Reedy@ventura.org>
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Let me know if you have any other questions or need more information.

Thank you,

Sean Paroski

Director of Policy and Advocacy
Ventura County Coalition of Labor,
Agriculture and Business
Office: 805-633-2257
Cell: 805-910-9393
Email: sparoski@colabvc.org

From: [Goodwin, Dan](#)
To: [Sean Paroski](#)
Cc: [Kaiser, Ken](#); [Reedy, Amber](#)
Bcc: [Goodwin, Dan](#)
Subject: RE: Wildlife Corridor meeting
Date: Tuesday, September 11, 2018 11:38:00 AM

Good morning Mr. Paroski;

Thank you for the note below. I would like to schedule 9:30 AM, Monday, September 24 for the meeting you have requested. Please confirm.

Have a good one,
Dan Goodwin

From: Sean Paroski [mailto:sparoski@colabvc.org]
Sent: Monday, September 10, 2018 4:09 PM
To: Goodwin, Dan
Subject: Wildlife Corridor meeting

Hi Dan,

It was great talking to you over the phone about the proposed wildlife corridor regulations and their impact on property tax assessments. Thanks for being willing to sit down with us and talk more about this issue. I've included some dates and times we can get together in the next couple of weeks. Let me know if there is a particular time that works for your schedule.

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Let me know if you have any other questions or need more information.

Thank you,

Sean Paroski

Director of Policy and Advocacy
Ventura County Coalition of Labor,
Agriculture and Business
Office: 805-633-2257
Cell: 805-910-9393
Email: sparoski@colabvc.org

From: [Sean Paroski](#)
To: [Goodwin, Dan](#)
Subject: Wildlife Corridor meeting
Date: Monday, September 10, 2018 4:09:29 PM

Hi Dan,

It was great talking to you over the phone about the proposed wildlife corridor regulations and their impact on property tax assessments. Thanks for being willing to sit down with us and talk more about this issue. I've included some dates and times we can get together in the next couple of weeks. Let me know if there is a particular time that works for your schedule.

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Let me know if you have any other questions or need more information.

Thank you,

Sean Paroski

Director of Policy and Advocacy
Ventura County Coalition of Labor,
Agriculture and Business
Office: 805-633-2257
Cell: 805-910-9393
Email: sparoski@colabvc.org

From: Nash, Bill
Subject: Executive News Summary for Thursday, February 2, 2017
Date: Thursday, February 2, 2017 8:22:11 AM
Attachments: [2-2-17 County riders face overly long commutes, connection issues and hourly rate problems.pdf](#)
[2-2-17 Denser, taller developments key to easing housing shortage.pdf](#)
[2-2-17 Editorial - Save wildlife without over-regulating.pdf](#)
[2-2-17 Growth takes off at Camarillo Airport.pdf](#)
[2-2-17 Local farmworker sues over new pesticide rules.pdf](#)
[2-2-17 Supervisor Kelly Long seeking volunteers.pdf](#)
[2-2-17 Supervisors vote for animal protection with wildlife zone.pdf](#)

Stories of interest for Thursday, February 2, 2017. Some stories are also attached as PDF files from sites that are password protected.

VC REPORTER:

County riders face overly long commutes, connection issues and hourly rate problems
<https://www.vcreporter.com/2017/02/01/waiting-game-county-riders-face-overly-long-commutes-connection-issues-and-hourly-rate-problems/>

Supervisors vote for animal protection with wildlife zone
<https://www.vcreporter.com/2017/02/01/in-brief-23/>

VIDA NEWSPAPER:

Supervisor Kelly Long seeking volunteers (PDF only)

PACIFIC COAST BUSINESS TIMES:

Denser, taller developments key to easing housing shortage (PDF only)

ACORN – THOUSAND OAKS:

Groups gather to discuss homelessness (link only)
http://www.toacorn.com/news/2017-02-02/Community/Groups_gather_to_discuss_homelessness.html

DAILY BULLETIN (SAN BERNARDINO):

San Bernardino County supervisors select interim CEO (link only)
<http://www.dailybulletin.com/government-and-politics/20170131/san-bernardino-county-supervisors-select-interim-ceo>

VENTURA COUNTY STAR:

Growth takes off at Camarillo Airport
<http://www.vcstar.com/story/news/2017/02/01/growth-takes-off-camarillo-airport/97289204/>

Local farmworker sues over new pesticide rules
<http://www.vcstar.com/story/news/2017/02/01/local-farmworker-sues-over-new-pesticide-rules/97350556/>

Editorial: Save wildlife without over-regulating
<http://www.vcstar.com/story/opinion/editorials/2017/02/01/editorial-save-wildlife-without-over->

[regulating/97370766/](#)

VENTURA COUNTY NEWS CHANNEL:

Crisis Stabilization Unit opens- Board passes no-smoking ordinance – Watershed Protection Dist.
receives grant for Matilija Dam removal – More ...

<http://www.vcnewschannel.com/latest-news>

Bill Nash

Public Information Officer

Ventura County Executive Office

Tel: (805) 654-2640 Cell: (805) 701-3168

Email: bill.nash@ventura.org

for Ventura County government news, go to:

www.vcnewschannel.com

From: Parks, Linda
To: ejohanson@johansondielectrics.com
Bcc: Wing, Damon
Subject: Wildlife Corridor and your Fillmore property
Date: Thursday, February 15, 2018 5:13:00 PM

Hi Eric,

County Planning staff are still working on the proposed standards for wildlife corridors. They have had several meetings with Lynn Jensen for her input. Additionally, staff have participated in public meetings where the draft language for protecting wildlife corridors has been discussed.

The protections County staff are looking at putting in place for wildlife corridors relate to

1. fencing
2. lighting
3. protection of vegetation near surface water features
4. road crossing structures
5. some development clustering provisions

The wildlife corridor zoning standards above would only be triggered if one were proposing to build a structure in areas designated a wildlife corridor. If a structure is proposed to be built in these areas, standards would be imposed on the type of fencing that would be used if the structure includes adding new fencing. However, fencing standards would not apply to fences to protect homes, crops, and animal pens. If outdoor lighting is proposed with the new structure, specific standards on night lighting could also be imposed (for example motion detectors installed so the lights don't remain on throughout the night, and having the lights be downward shielded so it doesn't light up whole fields). Regarding vegetation, as we discussed, wildlife often seek to drink water from creeks and so habitat adjacent to creeks would be looked at for preservation.

Much of this is more thoroughly described in the PowerPoint on wildlife corridor protections that I sent to you a couple of weeks ago.

When the draft document of the wildlife corridor standards is released for consideration, I will send you a copy, and there will be at least one hearing and time to learn more and get your questions answered.

Hope this helps,

--Linda

Linda Parks
Supervisor, District 2
625 W. Hillcrest Drive
Thousand Oaks, CA. 91360-4235
(805) 214-2510 Linda.Parks@ventura.org

From: [Wing, Damon](#)
To: [Wing, Damon](#)
Subject: Santa Rosa Valley Municipal Advisory Council Agenda Item Information
Date: Thursday, January 18, 2018 12:55:49 PM
Attachments: [Comments on MND.pdf](#)

Dear Santa Rosa Valley MAC Members,

Attached are additional comments submitted to the Ventura County Planning Division for your review of agenda item 12.a. in your consideration of making a recommendation.

Best regards,
Damon Wing
Aide to Ventura County Supervisor Linda Parks
625 West Hillcrest Drive
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360
(805) 214-2510

From: [Parks, Linda](#)
To: [Szymanski, David](#); [Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP](#)
Cc: [Paul Edelman](#); [Beth Pratt](#); [Kate Kuykendall](#); [Rorie Skei](#); [Seth Riley](#)
Subject: RE: Wildlife corridor
Date: Monday, November 13, 2017 1:42:00 PM

Excellent points Dave. If the article goes unchallenged it could make it appear to be accepted knowledge, based on science. Such a perception can damage preservation efforts.

Linda Parks
Supervisor, District 2
625 W. Hillcrest Drive
Thousand Oaks, CA. 91360-4235
(805) 214-2510 Linda.Parks@ventura.org

From: Szymanski, David [mailto:david_szymanski@nps.gov]
Sent: Monday, November 13, 2017 1:36 PM
To: Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP <edmiston@smmc.ca.gov>
Cc: Paul Edelman <edelman@smmc.ca.gov>; Beth Pratt <prattb@nwf.org>; Parks, Linda <Linda.Parks@ventura.org>; Kate Kuykendall <kate_kuykendall@nps.gov>; Rorie Skei <skei@smmc.ca.gov>; Seth Riley <seth_riley@nps.gov>
Subject: Re: Wildlife corridor

Seth - I concur with an interagency approach, and also suggest Seth contact members of the Cal Mt Lion group (CamelSwagger or some other such acronym), as well as our colleagues at UCLA and USC. Please advise.

The piece is philosophy, not science. Science has shown that the "urban" lions eat primarily deer, spend most of their time in natural habitat, and behave like other members of their species that live more removed from people. This is an easy case to make.

This does remind me of "wisdom" from the 1970s about wolves in the northern Great Lakes region. Conservationists claimed they needed large tracts of untouched wilderness to survive and succeed. The last 40 years have shown us that they need 2 things: prey and protection from extermination programs. With these two conditions, they have expanded their range and numbers and were delisted in 2014.

David

On Sun, Nov 12, 2017 at 9:24 PM, Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP <edmiston@smmc.ca.gov> wrote:

| So, who is going to rebut?

Paul, please make sure there is an inter-agency response to this.

Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon. ASLA
Executive Director
State of California - Natural Resources Agency
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
edmiston@smmc.ca.gov

οὕτως καὶ ἡ πίστις, ἐὰν μὴ ἔχῃ ἔργα, νεκρά ἐστὶν καθ' ἑαυτήν. *IAKOBOY 2:17*

From: Paul Edelman

Sent: Sunday, November 12, 2017 6:56 PM

To: Beth Pratt <prattb@nwf.org>; Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP <edmiston@smmc.ca.gov>

Cc: linda.parks@ventura.org linda.parks@ventura.org <linda.parks@ventura.org>;
david_szymanski@nps.gov; Kate Kuykendall <kate_kuykendall@nps.gov>; Rorie Skei
<skei@smmc.ca.gov>; Seth Riley <seth_riley@nps.gov>

Subject: RE: Wildlife corridor

I do not think this article changes what we do one bit. While some folks ponder such issues there are irreversible land use decisions made every day that need our attention. That Simberloff quote pisses me off royally – duh.

PE

From: Beth Pratt [<mailto:prattb@nwf.org>]

Sent: Saturday, November 11, 2017 9:36 PM

To: Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP <edmiston@smmc.ca.gov>

Cc: linda.parks@ventura.org linda.parks@ventura.org <linda.parks@ventura.org>;
david_szymanski@nps.gov; Kate Kuykendall <kate_kuykendall@nps.gov>; Paul Edelman
<edelman@smmc.ca.gov>; Rorie Skei <skei@smmc.ca.gov>; Seth Riley <seth_riley@nps.gov>

Subject: Re: Wildlife corridor

I read this last week. Obviously some big philosophical differences as Joe notes-and great response below-that reflect a difference of opinion about how and if wild things should be managed or even allowed in the urban interface (and I think the author gets some facts wrong as well).

I ran into this opinion when researching my book on urban wildlife as well. But as we know there is a growing field dedicated to urban wildlife conservation that would strongly disagree-and with scientific evidence to support that disagreement.

I was thinking of writing a letter to the editor, but do think a response from the research folks will be stronger. But keep me posted on responses so I can help support in whatever way you think is most effective from NWF.

Beth Pratt-Bergstrom
Regional Executive Director, California
National Wildlife Federation
(209) 620-6271 prattb@nwf.org

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 11, 2017, at 9:16 PM, Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP <edmiston@smmc.ca.gov> wrote:

Dear Linda,

Yes this does require an answer, and in some respects I'm with Chianese--not every critter needs a nametag or radio--but the premise of his piece, wild is wild and city is city and "ne'er the twain shall meet", to me assumes the posture that nature is "out there" and that we can just fill up all the spaces until we get to whatever "wild" boundary is set, and then we have wildness. Fortunately the Good Lord is subtle and dislikes absolute boundaries.

I'll make sure the cougar team, at least on our end, comes up with a good response.

Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon. ASLA
Executive Director
State of California - Natural Resources Agency
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
edmiston@smmc.ca.gov
οὕτως καὶ ἡ πίστις, ἐὰν μὴ ἔχῃ ἔργα, νεκρά ἐστὶν καθ' ἑαυτήν. IAKOBOY 2:17

-----Original Message-----

From: Parks, Linda [<mailto:Linda.Parks@ventura.org>]
Sent: Saturday, November 11, 2017 8:47 PM
To: david_szymanski@nps.gov; Kate Kuykendall <kate_kuykendall@nps.gov>; Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP <edmiston@smmc.ca.gov>
Cc: Seth Riley <seth_riley@nps.gov>; Beth Pratt <prattb@nwf.org>
Subject: Fwd: Wildlife corridor

Please see the attached article. I think a response would be helpful.

Linda Parks
Supervisor, District 2
625 W. Hillcrest Drive
Thousand Oaks, CA. 91360-4235

(805) 214-2510 Linda.Parks@ventura.org

--
David Szymanski
Superintendent
Santa Monica Mountains
National Recreation Area
Phone: 805-370-2344



From: [Parks, Linda](#)
To: [David Szymanski](#); [Kate Kuykendall](#); [FAICP Joseph T. Edmiston](#)
Cc: [Seth Riley](#); [Beth Pratt](#)
Subject: Fwd: Wildlife corridor
Date: Saturday, November 11, 2017 8:46:57 PM
Attachments: [2017-SeptOct Chianese Mt Lions Amer Sci copy.pdf](#)
[ATT00001.txt](#)

Please see the attached article. I think a response would be helpful.

Linda Parks
Supervisor, District 2
625 W. Hillcrest Drive
Thousand Oaks, CA. 91360-4235
(805) 214-2510 Linda.Parks@ventura.org

From: [Wing, Damon](#)
To: [Parks, Linda](#)
Subject: FW: Open Space Acquisition Roundtable Meeting on November 13th
Date: Wednesday, October 25, 2017 12:35:51 PM

From: Jeff Kuyper [<mailto:jeff@lpfw.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 25, 2017 12:32 PM
To: Wing, Damon <Damon.Wing@ventura.org>
Subject: RE: Open Space Acquisition Roundtable Meeting on November 13th

Hi Damon, I wanted to make sure you were aware of this anti-wildlife-corridor meeting being hosted by VC COLAB and Supervisor Long tonight in Fillmore. Perhaps you can help spread the word and encourage some pro-wildlife folks to attend and ask questions.

<http://www.fillmoreca.com/home/showdocument?id=3024>

Jeff Kuyper, Executive Director • Los Padres ForestWatch
Post Office Box 831 • Santa Barbara, CA 93102
805.617.4610 ext. 1 • jeff@LPFW.org

From: Wing, Damon [<mailto:Damon.Wing@ventura.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2017 3:09 PM
To: Wing, Damon <Damon.Wing@ventura.org>
Subject: Open Space Acquisition Roundtable Meeting on November 13th

Dear All,

Supervisor Linda Parks invites you to attend the Open Space Acquisition Roundtable, a gathering of invitees from agencies and organizations involved with the acquisition and/or stewardship of open space. The agenda is attached.

The Roundtable will be held on **Monday, November 13th** from 10:00 to 12:00 in the Multipurpose Room at the Ventura County Government Center, 800 S. Victoria Avenue, Ventura. The Multipurpose Room is located on the third floor of the Hall of Administration.

Best regards,
Damon Wing
Aide to Ventura County Supervisor Linda Parks
625 West Hillcrest Drive
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360
(805) 214-2510

***NOTICE: YOUR PROPERTY MAY BE
SUBJECT TO NEW LAND USE
REGULATIONS***

**VC COALITION OF LABOR,
AGRICULTURE AND BUSINESS (COLAB)
AND SUPERVISOR KELLY LONG TO
HOST**

WILDLIFE CORRIDOR MEETING

WHEN:

October 25, 2017

5:30pm – 7:00pm

WHERE:

Active Adult Center

535 Santa Clara St., Fillmore, CA 93015

Wildlife Corridors have been mapped on over 85,000 acres surrounding the communities of Piru, Fillmore and Santa Paula and 2,300 acres east of Camarillo. Regulations are being considered that will impact your most basic property rights. The corridors are primarily very high fire hazard zones and regulations restricting brush clearance may be dangerous to the public health and welfare of Ventura County residents.



**Attendance highly
recommended.** Contact
Supervisor Kelly Long's
office for more details at
(805) 654-2276.

**REGULATIONS
WOULD TARGET:**

**~YOUR ABILITY
TO BUILD A
STRUCTURE
(HOUSE, BARN,
SHED,
ACCESSORY
DWELLING UNIT,
ETC.).**

**~LIMITS ON
REMOVAL OF
NATIVE
VEGETATION.**

**~LIMITS ON
FENCES THAT
PROTECT YOUR
FAMILY,
ANIMALS, AND
CROPS.**

**~ LIMITS ON
LIGHTING MAY
IMPACT
SECURITY OF
YOUR PROPERTY**

From: [Parks, Linda](#)
To: [Sylvie Belmond](#)
Subject: Re: From Sylvie, reporter, Acorn
Date: Thursday, January 5, 2017 5:19:40 PM
Attachments: [Background Information Ventura County Wildlife Corridor Zone \(1\).pdf](#)
[Exhibit 1 - Protected Resource Areas and Wildlife Corridors.pdf](#)

I'll be in and out of meetings all day tomorrow, 2:30 should work though. My office number (805) 214-2510 should work, otherwise my cell is

Attached is a map of the existing wildlife corridors in Ventura County and a background sheet I made to help explain the proposed Wildlife Corridor Zone.

From: Sylvie Belmond <belmond@theacorn.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 5, 2017 4:59 PM
To: Parks, Linda
Subject: RE: From Sylvie, reporter, Acorn

Ok, any special time... what's the best number to call you?

From: Parks, Linda [<mailto:Linda.Parks@ventura.org>]
Sent: Thursday, January 5, 2017 4:54 PM
To: Sylvie Belmond
Subject: Re: From Sylvie, reporter, Acorn

Sure, how about we talk tomorrow afternoon?

From: Sylvie Belmond <belmond@theacorn.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 5, 2017 4:40 PM
To: Parks, Linda
Subject: From Sylvie, reporter, Acorn

Hi Linda, do you have a few minutes to talk about the wildlife corridor plan that will come to the supervisors Jan. 24.

Do you have a map showing the routes creatures currently use?

How would this affect property owners?

(I'm doing a story about the kitten that was killed on the 118 recent and wanted to include information about the upcoming agenda item)

How do you feel about the loss of two lions recently, do you think NPS should try to intervene to save the other kittens if they are still alive?

Thanks much
Sylvie

818-99-17521

From: [Parks, Linda](#)
To: [Wing, Damon](#)
Subject: Fwd: proposed Wildlife Corridor Zone
Date: Wednesday, January 11, 2017 3:38:06 PM
Attachments: [Exhibit 1 - Protected Resource Areas and Wildlife Corridors.pdf](#)
[ATT00001.htm](#)

Linda Parks
Supervisor, District 2
625 W. Hillcrest Drive
Thousand Oaks, CA. 91360-4235
(805) 214-2510 Linda.Parks@ventura.org

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Parks, Linda" <Linda.Parks@ventura.org>
To: "Kathi Colman" <rtist@pacbell.net>
Subject: Fwd: proposed Wildlife Corridor Zone

Hi Kathi, thanks for letting me know that Hector contacted you so we can collaborate on this. Below is my response to Hector (he sent us both the same questions). Here are some ideas you might want to add:

- 1) Other cities should follow suit
- 2) looking regionally at how to address crossing issues, for example using fencing to keep animals from getting hit on 118, and direct them to safe crossings.
- 3) Can help in planning OS acquisition
- 4) Road and building planning can and should be done in consideration of corridors
- 5) regarding private property, one can still build, but like in higher density areas where you have to have setbacks from roads and neighboring buildings, this has setbacks where there's plenty of land to allow both animal traversing and a house or barn, for example.
- 6) Animals were here first, develop with nature instead of wipe it out

Linda Parks
Supervisor, District 2
625 W. Hillcrest Drive
Thousand Oaks, CA. 91360-4235
(805) 214-2510 Linda.Parks@ventura.org <<mailto:Linda.Parks@ventura.org>>

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Parks, Linda"

<Linda.Parks@ventura.org<<mailto:Linda.Parks@ventura.org>>>

To: "Hector Gonzalez" <hector@theacorn.com<<mailto:hector@theacorn.com>>>

Subject: RE: proposed Wildlife Corridor Zone

From: Hector Gonzalez [<mailto:hector@theacorn.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2017 8:18 AM

To: Parks, Linda <Linda.Parks@ventura.org<<mailto:Linda.Parks@ventura.org>>>

Subject: proposed Wildlife Corridor Zone

Hi, Supervisor Parks,

My editors forwarded me your email regarding the proposed Wildlife Corridor Zone the Board will consider on Jan. 24, and I had some questions. Can you please help clarify what's going on for me? My questions are below. Thank you for your time and help.

Hector Gonzalez

Acorn Newspapers

Can you please explain exactly what a Wildlife Corridor Zone is? Would it be like special assessment district, or a completely new zoning designation?

Hi Hector,

The Wildlife Corridor Zone would do two things: 1) formally identify major wildlife corridors on County zoning and land use maps and, 2) establish development standards for the zone that preserve the ability of wildlife to travel on undeveloped land from the Santa Monica Mountains to the Las Padres Forest. The ability for wildlife to cross between large natural land masses is critical to their survival.

Can you please explain exactly what a Wildlife Corridor Zone is? Would it be like special assessment district, or a completely new zoning designation?

It would be a completely new zoning designation.

Did you originate this idea?

Yes, and staff has been working on it for several years.

What's the motivation behind creating a special zone for wildlife to travel on?

Wildlife already travel in these open space corridors, so in essence they created the wildlife corridor. Establishing safe passage along the existing wildlife corridors can make the difference as to whether species continue or decline in our region.

Some species, including mountain lions in the Santa Monica Mountains, are essentially on an island of nature surrounded by freeways, roads and urban development that limit their ability to roam. This constriction of movement threatens wildlife by reducing genetic diversity and increasing incidents of roadkill.

Unobstructed wildlife corridors also enhance public safety. If development chokes off these corridors, wildlife disperse into urban areas increasing interactions between wildlife and people, and wildlife and domestic animals.

Wildlife Corridor Zoning can also be used to identify measures, such as fencing, that would reduce car collisions with animals by channeling the animals to

underpasses or overpasses instead of onto roads.

Would the zone be one certain route designated by the board for wildlife traveling from the mountains to the forest, or several corridors/routes?

The area where the zone would be placed directly coincides with sophisticated mapping from the South Coast Missing Linkages Project, a collaborative effort by the National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, California State Parks, the State Resources Agency, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, and South Coast Wildlands. The Ventura County Wildlife Corridor Zone would act as an overlay zone, on top of existing zoning, in the unincorporated county. In our area the corridors connect large natural land masses in the Santa Monica Mountains with the Las Padres Forest. See attached map.

Which agency would identify the corridors? Would federal or state officials such as Forest Service or State Parks be involved in helping identify these routes?

See answer above –

How large of an area would it be? Any idea where?

See map

What if a route/corridor goes through private property? Or are we talking about only wilderness areas?

The wildlife corridors show where wildlife currently traverse, which by their natural preference, is on undeveloped land. Ventura County is fortunate to have a development pattern of open space buffers between cities, and it is here in the unincorporated county where most of the wildlife corridors exist. Seeing that these corridors continue unobstructed is a key component of Ventura County's environmental stewardship.

In the unincorporated area that the County oversees, the land is primarily very low density agricultural land or open space land, owned by agencies and private individuals. For example the Tierra Rejada Valley which has open space zoning that allows as much as one unit per 10 acres is mostly private land, as is agricultural zoned land which allows as much as one unit per 40 acres or as little as one unit per 160 acres.

What sort of development standards would be in line with the Wildlife Corridor Zone?

Some examples of standards include building setbacks, fencing type and location, requirements regarding night lighting, and not planting invasive species.

Will the board vote on a first reading of the ordinance establishing the zone on Jan. 24, or just to identify major wildlife corridors? Doesn't the county first need to identify where, then create the zone after identifying where it is?

The Board will decide (at 1:30pm Tuesday January 24 at our normal Board meeting) whether to go forward with the Wildlife Corridor Overlay Zone and if so, direct that staff take it to the County Planning Commission for their recommendation and then back to the Board for a final vote.

Can you please explain exactly what a Wildlife Corridor Zone is? Would it be like special assessment district, or a completely new zoning designation?

Did Linda Parks originate this idea?

What's the motivation behind creating a special zone for wildlife to travel on?
Would the zone be one certain route designated by the board for wildlife traveling from the mountains to the forest, or several corridors/routes?
Which agency would identify the corridors? Would federal or state officials such as Forest Service or State Parks be involved in helping identify these routes?
How large of an area would it be? Any idea where?
What if a route/corridor goes through private property? Or are we talking about only wilderness areas?
What sort of development standards would be in line with the Wildlife Corridor Zone?

Will the board vote on a first reading of the ordinance establishing the zone on Jan. 24, or just to identify major wildlife corridors? Doesn't the county first need to identify where, then create the zone after identifying where it is?

From: [Finley, Kari](#)
To: [Parks, Linda](#)
Subject: RE: Ministerial permit map?
Date: Monday, January 23, 2017 10:56:18 AM

Good morning Supervisor Parks,
It sounds as though you have seen this map and it already exists. Is that true? If so, do you know when it was created and with reference to what topic/project (or who presented it)? If you have any leads, it will be helpful for me in trying to hunt it down. Otherwise, it may be difficult to create it before the hearing but I will certainly look into it.
Kari

From: Parks, Linda
Sent: Monday, January 23, 2017 10:27 AM
To: Finley, Kari <Kari.Finley@ventura.org>
Subject: Ministerial permit map?

Hi Kari,

I would like to recommend that your presentation on the Wildlife Corridor Overlay Zone includes the map that shows all the ministerial permits that the County have given. Just as a picture tells a thousand words, so does this map show how much development in the county is done ministerial.

--Linda

From: [Parks, Linda](#)
To: [Carmen Ramirez](#)
Subject: Fwd: Wildlife Corridor Protection Zone-To add to the Ventura County General Plan
Date: Tuesday, January 24, 2017 8:03:34 AM

So glad to hear from someone from Oxnard, (hint, hint), see below. The third vote is John and hopefully he'll be with us. If you're available at 1:30 today, I'd love to see you! Councilmembers from Moorpark, Ojai, Agoura Hills, and letters from the city of Thousand Oaks and Moorpark have so far weighed in with support. If you can't come, an email might still get to us in time.

-- Linda

Linda Parks
Supervisor, District 2
625 W. Hillcrest Drive
Thousand Oaks, CA. 91360-4235
(805) 214-2510 Linda.Parks@ventura.org

Begin forwarded message:

From: Irene <ireneraus@hotmail.com>
Date: January 23, 2017 at 5:25:16 PM PST
To: "steve.bennett@ventura.org" <steve.bennett@ventura.org>, "linda.parks@ventura.org" <linda.parks@ventura.org>, "kelly.long@ventura.org" <kelly.long@ventura.org>, "peter.foy@ventura.org" <peter.foy@ventura.org>, "john.zaragoza@ventura.org" <john.zaragoza@ventura.org>, "bill.gallaher@ventura.org" <bill.gallaher@ventura.org>, "brian.palmer@ventura.org" <brian.palmer@ventura.org>
Subject: Fw: Wildlife Corridor Protection Zone-To add to the Ventura County General Plan

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I agree with my good neighbor's statement below; and support the hard work Linda Parks, Supervisor's does to preserve our environmental communities! Please approve the Wildlife Corridor Protection Zones, including our Santa Clara River in Oxnard, where I have heard the howling of coyotes some late evenings, and hear the honking of the wild Canadian geese as they flyover this historic migratory path, near River Ridge community.

Best,

Irene Rauschenberger
2111 Laurel Valley Place
Oxnard, CA 93036
983-2165

Sent from Windows Mail

From: starrags2144@aol.com

Sent: Monday, January 23, 2017 4:49 PM

To: brian.palmer@ventura.org

Cc: starrags2144@aol.com

January 23, 2017

Dear Board of Supervisors, Steve Bennet, Linda Parks, Kelly Long, Peter Foy, John Zaragoza, and Staff,

Please adopt the proposed 'Wildlife Corridor Protection Zone'. Please add the plan into the Ventura County General Plan land use protections to preserve natural wildlife corridors which are so important for the migration of wildlife species such as mountain lions, deer herds and other mammals. As our county becomes increasing urbanized wildlife is getting squeezed out of areas they have historically used for migration routes. To give our wildlife a fighting chance to populate into the future for our future generations.

Vickie Bowker

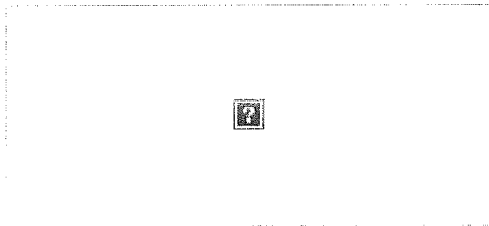
2011 Spyglass Trail West
Oxnard, Ca
805-844-4500

From: [Parks, Linda](#)
To: brookeschick@gmail.com
Subject: Wildlife Corridor letter to the editor
Date: Friday, October 19, 2018 8:32:09 PM

Dear Ms. Schick,

Thank you for wanting to respond to the letter to the editor against our proposed wildlife corridor zone. Here are some points that could be made:

- 1) The wildlife corridors in our open space have been well documented by California resource agencies and conservancies based on research on where the animals traverse. The County is not "making corridors", the wildlife made them and the County is trying to protect them from being blocked off.
- 2) When the corridors are blocked off it forces wildlife to disperse into neighborhoods or onto roadways where they become roadkill.
- 3) One would think if the gentleman supports wildlife and mountain lions as he says, he would not be opposed to the zoning which protects the corridors that are needed for the survival of mountain lions and other threatened wildlife species in our region. The zone allows development but encourages clustering it away from the most constricted portion of the corridors. The zoning also calls for reduced night lighting, protecting creeks and rivers, and standards on fencing so it doesn't block off the corridors. The Wildlife Corridor zoning also helps channel wildlife away from roads and towards wildlife crossing structures so the animals aren't hit by cars, one of the main reasons we're losing mountain lions, coyotes, bob cats and other wildlife in our region.
- 4) The letter writer cited a website for more information but it is a building industry website by a pro-developer group called CoLAB. If people want unbiased information, they should go to the County's website and read about the Wildlife Corridor zoning at <https://vcrma.org/habitat-connectivity-and-wildlife-movement-corridors>



Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Movement Corridors

vcrma.org

About Us The primary goal of the Resource Management Agency is to protect the health, safety and welfare of the general public through administration and enforcement of County ordinances, Board policy, and state

Thanks again for your assistance. Letters to the editor for the Wildlife Corridor zoning would

help a lot!

--Linda

From: Parks, Linda
To: kcolmanstudio@gmail.com
Subject: Wildlife Corridor Zone hearing on December 6
Date: Friday, October 12, 2018 4:39:45 PM

Good afternoon Open Space and Wildlife Advocates,

I wanted to let you know that the Ventura County Planning Commission will be holding its hearing on the adoption of a first-of-its-kind Wildlife Corridor overlay zone on Thursday, December 6 at 8:30am. Your support could make the difference!

The zone will protect major wildlife corridors including those used by mountain lions in the Santa Monica Mountains to get to the Simi Hills and Los Padres Forest. The zoning complements the work we're doing to build a wildlife bridge over the 101 freeway at Liberty Canyon. You can read the draft zoning ordinance, FAQ sheets, see maps and more at this link:

<https://vcrma.org/habitat-connectivity-and-wildlife-movement-corridors>

The Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Movement Corridors zone will provide standards for lighting and fencing, as well as setbacks from waterways. In the most constricted and threatened areas of the corridor, the zoning encourages clustering of new development to keep the corridor traversable by wildlife. The standards also support fencing that channels animals to wildlife crossings and protects habitat near existing wildlife tunnels and other safe crossings that reduce animal/vehicle collisions.

Your input at the hearing will be most valuable! It is hoped in the future if this zoning is adopted, that cities and counties may continue the effort in their jurisdictions to protect these corridors that are so essential to the survival of our region's wildlife.

Please consider attending the hearing and speaking. The Planning Commission hearing is at:

8:30am December 6, 2018

Hearing Room of the Board of Supervisors

County Government Center

Hall of Administration

800 South Victoria Avenue, Ventura, California.

You can also send comments on the Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Movement Corridors to the Planning Commission staff by emailing: Meighan.Batinica@ventura.org

Thank you in advance for your comments and for sharing with others who may also wish to comment,

--Linda

Linda Parks
Supervisor, District 2
625 W. Hillcrest Drive
Thousand Oaks, CA. 91360-4235
(805) 214-2510 Linda.Parks@ventura.org

From: Parks, Linda
To: Buehner, Charmaine
Subject: Fw: WILDLIFE CORRIDOR OVERLAY ZONE Board of Supervisors Agenda, January 24, 2017, 1:30PM
Date: Thursday, September 20, 2018 8:11:57 AM

From: Linda Parks <voteforparks@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 20, 2018 7:57 AM
To: Parks, Linda
Subject: Fwd: WILDLIFE CORRIDOR OVERLAY ZONE Board of Supervisors Agenda, January 24, 2017, 1:30PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Linda Parks <voteforparks@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Sep 19, 2018 at 10:34 AM
Subject: Fwd: WILDLIFE CORRIDOR OVERLAY ZONE Board of Supervisors Agenda, January 24, 2017, 1:30PM
To: Linda Parks parks <voteforparks@gmail.com>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Linda Parks <voteforparks@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Jan 23, 2017 at 8:05 PM
Subject: Re: WILDLIFE CORRIDOR OVERLAY ZONE Board of Supervisors Agenda, January 24, 2017, 1:30PM
To: Janet Murphy <jmurphy3gs@yahoo.com>

Great letter! Thank you!

On Jan 23, 2017, at 11:49 AM, Janet Murphy <jmurphy3gs@yahoo.com> wrote:

Thanks Linda! I can't be there tomorrow, but just sent a letter to Brian.Palmer@ventura.org ... Keep up the good work, thank you!!!!

From: Linda Parks <voteforparks@gmail.com>
To:
Sent: Sunday, January 22, 2017 5:53 PM
Subject: Fwd: WILDLIFE CORRIDOR OVERLAY ZONE Board of Supervisors Agenda, January 24, 2017, 1:30PM

Thank you for your support of the Wildlife Corridor Overlay Zone. CoLAB, the group that ran the campaign against SOAR, will be trying to fill the Board chambers trying to stop it. We need you there, and as the CoLAB alert (below) says, bring friends and neighbors!

--Linda

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Rosemary Allison via TopProducer.com" <mail@topproducer.com>
Date: January 22, 2017 at 3:53:08 PM PST
To: <toaks.parks@gmail.com>
: WILDLIFE CORRIDOR OVERLAY ZONE Board of Supervisors Agenda, January 24, 2017, 1:30PM
Reply-To: "Rosemary Allison" <rosemaryallison@aol.com>

Rosemary Allison, Director, Fine Estates / Everything Rosemary Touches Turns to SOLD!



Wildlife Corridor Overlay Zone on Agenda for the January 24 meeting at the Board of Supervisors:

I have been provided the information of the upcoming meeting at the Board of Supervisors from two different vantage points and want to provide you with the information I received from both:

Ventura County Board of Supervisors;

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: WILDLIFE CORRIDOR OVERLAY ZONE Board of Supervisors Agenda, January 24, 2017, 1:30PM

The proposed Wildlife Corridor Overlay Zone has been studied in various forms by the County for several years. The Board of Supervisors will decide whether to initiate the processing of the new zone at its January 24th meeting at 1:30PM. The public can speak at the meeting or email comments to: Brian.Palmer@ventura.org. The staff report for this item will be posted on the County of Ventura webpage on January 19th.

Based on sophisticated mapping from the South Coast Missing Linkages Project (a collaborative effort by the National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, California State Parks, the State Resources Agency, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, the Nature Conservancy, and South Coast Wildlands, among others), the Ventura County Wildlife Corridor Zone would act as an overlay zone that would add standards for development, such as building setbacks, night lighting, and fencing, in order to enable and not impede the movement of wildlife and the connectivity of habitat in existing corridors.

The ability for wildlife to cross between large natural land masses is critical to their survival. Some species, including mountain lions in the Santa Monica Mountains, are essentially on an island of nature surrounded by freeways, roads and urban development that limit their ability to roam. This constriction of movement threatens wildlife by reducing genetic diversity and increasing incidents of roadkill. Establishing safe passage along existing wildlife corridors can make the difference as to whether species continue or decline in our region.

Unobstructed wildlife corridors can also enhance public safety. If development chokes off a wildlife corridor, wildlife disperse into urban areas. Protecting wildlife corridors keeps wildlife away from urban areas, reducing interactions between wildlife and people, and wildlife and domestic animals. The Wildlife Corridor Zone can also be used to identify areas and implement measures to reduce car collisions with animals.

Ventura County is fortunate to have a development pattern of open space buffers

between cities, and it is here in the unincorporated county where the wildlife corridors exist. Seeing that these corridors continue unobstructed is a key component of Ventura County's environmental stewardship.

SECOND SOURCE OF INFORMATION: CoLab - information from their website:
The Ventura County Coalition of Labor, Agriculture and Business was founded in 2010 in response to a number of pending regulations threatening agricultural and other businesses in Ventura County. We are a 501(c)6 non-profit membership organization formed to support land based and industrial businesses including farming, ranching, oil, mining, service and support. Our staff, along with stakeholders, hired professionals and experts, collaborate to promote sensible and rational local government. We advocate for businesses through our focus on local regulation, providing expertise, research and educational campaigns to inform our members and the public. **CoLAB identifies and researches issues that impact businesses, works with regulatory agencies, organizing stakeholders and proposing solutions.** CoLAB Ventura County provides a funded, full-time presence in Ventura County to balance environmental, regulatory and economic concerns. Our efforts include monitoring local public agencies and elected boards where we commonly testify on regulatory issues. We cooperate with the COLAB groups in Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties forming a tri-county force.

DATE: 1/24/2017

CoLAB logo



Please note that items may be added and changes made on the addendum agenda. Pertinent updates will be circulated.

1:30 PM – Direct Staff Regarding Preferred Regulatory Options for Addressing Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Movement Corridors within the Non-Coastal, Unincorporated Areas of Ventura County; All Supervisorial Districts. (Resource Management Agency - Planning - 2 Hours)

LINK TO STAFF REPORT <http://files.constantcontact.com/589483b7501/45a0c71b-2b2e-4c69-9aff-6f3c1011b9bc.pdf>

LINK TO CORRIDOR MAP - this map incorporates areas of Santa Rosa Valley
<http://files.constantcontact.com/589483b7501/235d683e-4be6-45da-b491-8fa445b2d588.pdf>

This public hearing is important for VC CoLAB members to attend, submit comment cards and speak. The wildlife corridor overlay program will have a profound effect in county unincorporated areas on the ability to live and do business on private lands. Farming, ranching, energy, mining, and related businesses will be targets of this potentially devastating proposal.

Planning Division staff is looking for direction on the level of regulation of these lands with respect to environmental analysis of future projects within the overlay area.

The "wildlife corridors" have been adopted from the South Coast Missing Linkages study, written by the non-profit organization, South Coast Wildlands. This group conducted no public hearings and had no practical input from landowners who live in the "corridors". Their assumptions and scientific basis for the "corridors" are not available to the public.

The project includes 164,000 acres of county lands outside the Los Padres National Forest,

including over 4,600 acres of prime agricultural land, 44,000 acres of grazing land, and over 3,500 acres of residential lands. This represents another blow to the agricultural industry by added regulations that will limit crop protection and grazing.

Such regulation could take away the ministerial right to build single family dwellings and accessory structures on your own property without full CEQA review. **It could also place restrictions on fencing, lighting, noise, grading, walls and roads that will severely limit the ability to access, manage and protect your property.**

It is important for those who live and work in the unincorporated areas to send a message to the Board of Supervisors that further regulation of private unincorporated lands is unnecessary and unfair. These lands are already subject to strict SOAR anti-development rules and extensive biological guidelines adopted in 2011. In fact, new regulations inhibiting agriculture and grazing would conflict with County General Plan Goals and Policies with respect to Open Space and Agricultural designated land in Ventura County.

We encourage our members to attend, submit comment cards and speak on this agenda item next Tuesday - and tell your friends and neighbors!

Future Items to be Scheduled:

**Report Back on the State of Oil and Gas Pipelines within Ventura County.
(Resource Management Agency – February 7, 2017)
Public Hearing to Adopt Proposed Amendments, Including New Fees, to County,
Watershed Protection District, and Fire Protection District Service Rates and Fees for
FY 2017 (County Executive Office – May 16, 2017)**



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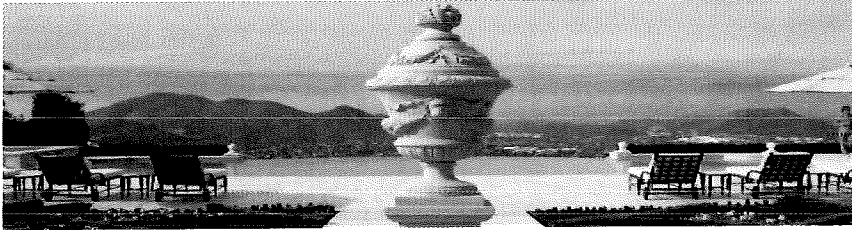


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Estates Director Coldwell Banker Previews International

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PH: 805 491-2100

FAX: 805 435-0407

DRE: #00545184

883 S. Westlake Blvd
Westlake Village, CA 91361



Local Area

Below are some local area links with information on the local cities, county, local attractions, schools and more.

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Rosemary Allison
Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage
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Westlake Village, CA 91361 US
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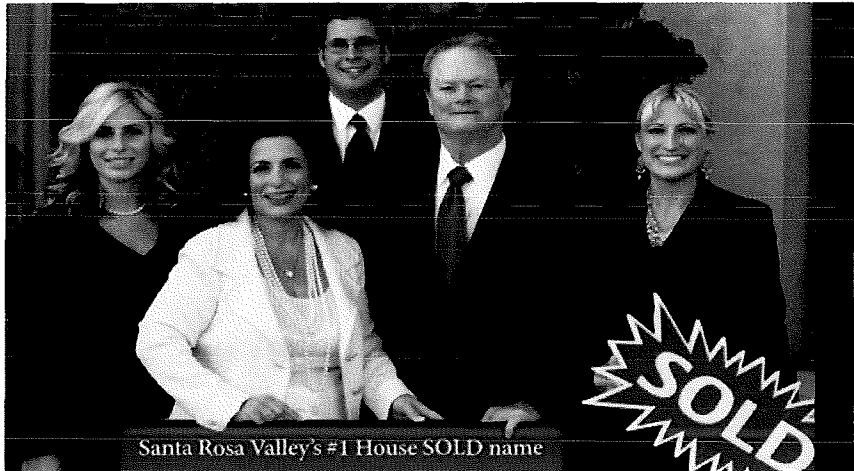
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ROSEMARY ALLISON

Estates Director Coldwell Banker Previews International

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Thousand Oaks Property
4 bedrooms, 3
baths, approx 4109
sq. ft.
\$1,395,000



Somis Property
4 bedrooms, 3
baths, approx 4109
sq. ft.



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Welcome to [rosemary4realestate.com](#), your source for real estate information on buying and selling real estate property and more!

At [rosemary4realestate.com](#) you can find information on local schools, weather, local information, links and other local resources for the Santa Rosa Valley area and its surrounding communities.

Rosemary Allison of Coldwell Banker Previews International, can assist you with a variety of real estate services, such as assisting buyers to find their next Santa Rosa Valley real estate property or Santa Rosa Valley home, and assisting sellers in selling their Santa Rosa Valley home or Santa Rosa Valley real estate property and getting the most for their Santa Rosa Valley real estate property.

Are you looking to buy Santa Rosa Valley real estate? Are you looking for something particular? Please let us assist you find your next Santa Rosa Valley home by completing our [VIP Home Request form](#). We will send you listings that match your criteria as soon as we get them.

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Buying or selling your next Santa Rosa Valley home or Santa Rosa Valley real estate property can be the single the most important transaction in your life, therefore it is important you work with someone who has the experience, professional expertise and integrity to make your next Santa Rosa Valley real estate transaction pleasurable and stress-free.

If you have further questions about the Santa Rosa Valley area or Santa Rosa Valley real estate markets, please don't hesitate to call Rosemary Allison at 805 491-2100 or [send an email](#).



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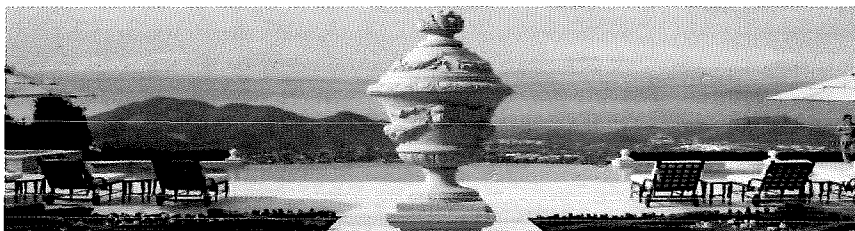
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Rosemary Allison

Estates Director

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From: [Parks, Linda](#)
To: [Buehner, Charmaine](#)
Subject: Fw: R; WILDLIFE CORRIDOR OVERLAY
Date: Thursday, September 20, 2018 8:10:51 AM

From: Linda Parks <voteforparks@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 20, 2018 7:53 AM
To: Parks, Linda
Subject: Fwd: R; WILDLIFE CORRIDOR OVERLAY

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Linda Parks** <voteforparks@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Sep 19, 2018 at 10:50 AM
Subject: Fwd: R; WILDLIFE CORRIDOR OVERLAY
To: Linda Parks parks <voteforparks@gmail.com>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Linda Parks** <voteforparks@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Jan 18, 2017 at 3:36 PM
Subject: Re: R; WILDLIFE CORRIDOR OVERLAY
To: g s <nastyw2@hotmail.com>
Cc: danica selvaggio <danica.selvaggio@gmail.com>

Hi Gary,

Thank you for your suggestions. The National Park Service is working with Caltrans to put fencing up to prevent wildlife from crossing the 118 freeway where the recent mountain lions have been killed.

One benefit of the wildlife corridor zone is to see that fencing doesn't impede animals from traversing the open space corridors, and another benefit is to see where fencing can help channel the wildlife to undercrossings and keep wildlife from entering freeways and roads.

Regarding changing speed limits, freeway speed limits are set by State and Federal law and not something local government can change. Even local road speeds are determined by State law and there is no discretion that local government has to change the speeds and make the limits enforceable.

I like your ideas about signage showing designated wildlife corridors and can consider if the Board approves initiating this zone and there is funding available. Please note, that e-mails to Brian.Palmer@ventura.org will be part of the public record used by the Board in their decision unless you request otherwise.

--Linda

On Wed, Jan 18, 2017 at 3:20 PM, g s <nastyw2@hotmail.com> wrote:

A suggestion:

Develop a plan to designate sections of our major highways and arteries as "**wildlife corridor zones** (WCZ)".

Imagine a three mile section of the 118 Frwy, between Topanga Canyon Blvd and Kuehner Drive, clearly marked with advisory signs indicating that wildlife may be encountered at any time. Unlike school zones, these designated sections would post, but only advise, a slower speed and perhaps only during off peak hours. On the 118 Frwy, the advised speed (AS) could be 55MPH. On a section of a major artery like Thousand Oaks Blvd, the AS could be 35MPH.

Too, a punitive level of fines could be assessed when a vehicle strikes any one of a special group of animals, ie, cougar, bear, deer, antelope, etc... but only in the event the operator has contributed to the accident through negligence or due to a moving violation within the WCZ, ie, unsafe driving or driving under the influence, etc.

The costs involved in establishing, signing and maintaining these WCZs may be able to be paid for wholly through donations and sponsorships.

In the Rocky Peak area residents tell of the death of several mountain lions due to traffic incidents. The two most recent fatalities might have been avoided if the drivers were more aware that these animals also use our highways.

Hoping you will consider thsi and other ways to help protect California's great wildlife.

Gary Selvaggio
805 501 1417
1273 Foothill Drive
The Knolls
Simi Valley 93063

From: [Parks, Linda](#)
To: [Buehner, Charmaine](#)
Subject: Fw: Wildlife Corridor
Date: Thursday, September 20, 2018 8:09:51 AM
Attachments: [AGENDA REPORT 2017 0118 CCSA REG ITEM 101.pdf](#)

From: Linda Parks <voteforparks@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 20, 2018 7:54 AM
To: Parks, Linda
Subject: Fwd: Wildlife Corridor

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Linda Parks** <voteforparks@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Sep 19, 2018 at 10:45 AM
Subject: Fwd: Wildlife Corridor
To: Linda Parks parks <voteforparks@gmail.com>

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From: **Linda Parks** <voteforparks@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Jan 18, 2017 at 9:03 AM
Subject: Fwd: Wildlife Corridor
To: Damon Wing <damon.wing@ventura.org>

Share with RMA staff as an FYI.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Roseann Mikos** <mikos2008@sbcglobal.net>
Date: Wed, Jan 18, 2017 at 8:56 AM
Subject: Re: Wildlife Corridor
To: Linda Parks <voteforparks@gmail.com>

Attached is our agenda report, with draft letter. It is on consent calendar so it is very likely that it will be passed without any problem. I'll let you know.

Roseann Mikos, Ph.D. Moorpark City Councilmember 805-529-4828

On Wednesday, January 18, 2017 8:11 AM, Linda Parks <voteforparks@gmail.com> wrote:

OMG, that's excellent! Thank you! A letter from your City Council will be very powerful and I will be sure to mention it if a representative can't be there to speak. I'm hopeful that it will pass and other cities will continue the zoning in their areas.

On Jan 18, 2017, at 8:08 AM, Campaign <mikos2008@sbcglobal.net> wrote:

FYI, we have this on our agenda at tonite's CC meeting to vote to provide a letter of support for this.

Do you think being there in person is important or not? Not sure if I can make that meeting yet. It might be tough to get there given that I am easing back into work from my surgery. We'll see.
Roseann

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 10, 2017, at 12:52 AM, Linda Parks <voteforparks@gmail.com> wrote:

Hi Roseann, just in case you can come to the Board I wanted to let you know that the item on wildlife corridors has been rescheduled to 1:30 PM the same day, January 24.

On Jan 5, 2017, at 5:28 PM, Linda Parks <voteforparks@gmail.com> wrote:

Hi Roseann,

Maybe Moorpark can do something similar (that is if VC will move forward on this). If you'd like to write a letter of support or come speak to the item, that'd be great!

<Exhibit 1 - Protected Resource Areas and Wildlife Corridors.pdf>

<Background Information Ventura County Wildlife Corridor Zone (1).pdf>

From: [Parks, Linda](#)
To: [Buehner, Charmaine](#)
Subject: Fw: WILDLIFE CORRIDOR OVERLAY ZONE Board of Supervisors Agenda, January 24, 2017, 1:30PM
Date: Thursday, September 20, 2018 8:07:55 AM
Attachments: [BACKGROUND INFORMATION - Wildlife Corridors.docx](#)

From: Linda Parks <voteforparks@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 20, 2018 7:57 AM
To: Parks, Linda
Subject: Fwd: WILDLIFE CORRIDOR OVERLAY ZONE Board of Supervisors Agenda, January 24, 2017, 1:30PM

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From: **Linda Parks** <voteforparks@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Sep 19, 2018 at 10:32 AM
Subject: Fwd: WILDLIFE CORRIDOR OVERLAY ZONE Board of Supervisors Agenda, January 24, 2017, 1:30PM
To: Linda Parks parks <voteforparks@gmail.com>

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From: **Linda Parks** <voteforparks@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Jan 23, 2017 at 6:01 PM
Subject: WILDLIFE CORRIDOR OVERLAY ZONE Board of Supervisors Agenda, January 24, 2017, 1:30PM
To: <poisonfreemalibu@gmail.com>

Hi Kian,

I'm sorry for the late notice but the Ventura County Board of Supervisors will be deciding tomorrow at 1:30 whether to move forward with an item to create a Wildlife Corridor Overlay Zone. It would establish standards and in the most protective of the three options staff gives us to choose from, it also includes not using anticoagulant rodenticides in the wildlife corridors. There's a fact sheet attached, and you can go online to our county website and see the agenda item and power point presentation for this agenda, Agenda Item 34 for the January 24th meeting at this link: http://m.ventura.org/site/Ventura_County_Site/employee-

[health-services?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.ventura.org%2Fbos-archives%2Fagendas-documents-and-broadcasts#2823](http://www.ventura.org/fbos-archives/fagendas-documents-and-broadcasts#2823)

If it's possible to draft a letter or attend that would be excellent! Again sorry for the late notice.

-- Linda

Talking points

- * Need wildlife corridors or some species will become extinct in our region.
 - * Animals use the corridors to access habitat, food, water, shelter, and available mates
 - * In Ventura County the wildlife corridors link the Santa Monica Mountains with the Las Padres Forest.
 - * Open Space in the unincorporated county is very low density where the corridors are, so development that doesn't block the corridor is do-able.
 - * Thankful to National Parks Service, U.S. Forest Service, California State Parks, the State Resources Agency, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, the Nature Conservancy that developed the corridor maps that is used by at least a couple of the east county cities (including Thousand Oaks) where the corridors are most critical, as well as by the county in its CEQA guidelines.
 - * While other cities have development standards to avoid blocking off wildlife corridors, the County of Ventura -- which has most wildlife corridor acreage, doesn't have any standards.
 - * Animals belong in large areas of natural habitat and they access these areas through wildlife corridors. Block that off and the wildlife end up in urban areas endangering pets and people.
- * Benefits of not using anti-coagulant rodenticides in the wildlife corridor

From: [Linda Parks](#)
To: [Parks, Linda](#)
Subject: Fwd: Ventura County Wildlife Corridor
Date: Thursday, September 20, 2018 7:58:52 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Linda Parks** <voteforparks@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Sep 19, 2018 at 10:29 AM
Subject: Fwd: Ventura County Wildlife Corridor
To: Linda Parks parks <voteforparks@gmail.com>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Fran Pavley** <franpavley@yahoo.com>
Date: Tue, Jan 24, 2017 at 10:43 AM
Subject: Fwd: Ventura County Wildlife Corridor
To: Linda Parks <voteforparks@gmail.com>

Good luck

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Bill Gallaher <gallaher459@aol.com>
Date: January 24, 2017 at 10:35:34 AM PST
To: Fran Pavley <franpavley@yahoo.com>
Subject: Re: Ventura County Wildlife Corridor

Hi Fran, happy to pass this on to John. Take care & tell Andy hello.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 24, 2017, at 9:46 AM, Fran Pavley <franpavley@yahoo.com> wrote:

Hi Bill-

Please let Supervisor Zaragoza know that I support Supervisor Parks wildlife corridor proposal that is before the Board of Supervisors. We are working on protecting wildlife corridors in LA County adjacent to Ventura county. Reducing traffic accidents between motorists and wildlife is beneficial to all of us.

Ventura County is fortunate to have open spaces that protects the quality of life for both recreational uses(walkers, bicyclists, equestrians,etc) for people and corridors for wildlife. Multi beneficial uses should be supported by all involved.

Happy New Year to both you and John,

Fran

From: [Parks, Linda](#)
To: [Buehner, Charmaine](#)
Subject: Fw: Ventura County Wildlife Corridor
Date: Thursday, September 20, 2018 8:07:24 AM

From: Linda Parks <voteforparks@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 20, 2018 7:58 AM
To: Parks, Linda
Subject: Fwd: Ventura County Wildlife Corridor

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From: **Linda Parks** <voteforparks@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Sep 19, 2018 at 10:29 AM
Subject: Fwd: Ventura County Wildlife Corridor
To: Linda Parks parks <voteforparks@gmail.com>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Fran Pavley** <franpavley@yahoo.com>
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Subject: Fwd: Ventura County Wildlife Corridor
To: Linda Parks <voteforparks@gmail.com>

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Sent from my iPhone

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Happy New Year to both you and John,

Fran

To: Peschka, Darrin

Subject: Op-Ed?

Hi Darrin,

I'd like to submit an op-ed on the proposed Wildlife Corridor Zone I've been championing. The County Planning Commission will be hearing it on 9/20 and Board of Supervisors on 10/30. If the Star is up for publishing the op-ed, could you please let me know the word limit and if it's possible to publish Sunday 9/9 or 9/16?

--Linda

From: [Linda Parks](#)
To: [Parks, Linda](#)
Subject: Fwd: Wildlife Corridor Protection - Janaury 24th Board of Supervisors Meeting
Date: Thursday, September 20, 2018 7:58:03 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Linda Parks** <voteforparks@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Sep 19, 2018 at 10:33 AM
Subject: Fwd: Wildlife Corridor Protection - Janaury 24th Board of Supervisors Meeting
To: Linda Parks parks <voteforparks@gmail.com>

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From: **Linda Parks** <voteforparks@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Jan 23, 2017 at 8:13 PM
Subject: Re: Wildlife Corridor Protection - Janaury 24th Board of Supervisors Meeting
To: merrill berge <merrillberge@gmail.com>

Thank you Merrill! We're pushing Option 1. It puts together a comprehensive set of standards that will best protect wildlife corridors. This allows for the staff, Planning Commission and Board to have the full set of tools to consider, instead of tossing them out without the opportunity to review and consider.

On Jan 23, 2017, at 10:20 AM, merrill berge <merrillberge@gmail.com> wrote:

FYI...

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **merrill berge** <merrillberge@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Jan 23, 2017 at 10:20 AM
Subject: Wildlife Corridor Protection - Janaury 24th Board of Supervisors Meeting
To: Elizabeth Cheever <cheever2@verizon.net>

So very nice to speak with you this morning, Elizabeth,

As promised, here is the information on the "Wildlife Corridor Protection Zones" (see attached map) hearing tomorrow/Tuesday at 1:30 in the Government Center Administration Building (in large room on ground floor).

As the map shows...and as we know!...the Camarillo Springs area is a critical linkage point from the open lands along the coast to the Santa Rosa Valley ag land and open space and beyond.

Especially with 2 development proposals being considered for this area, the

Conejo Mountain/Camarillo Springs open space areas leading to the Conejo Creek 101 undercrossing need protection, now more than ever.

Once again, people showing up and speaking up will make all the difference as to whether this proposal moves forward for study, or not.

Please ask the **Camarillo Springs Wildlife Protectors** to just bring their speech/comments they plan to present at the Camarillo City Council...and present them here, too!

This will help ensure we protect the amazing wildlife, in our own backyard!

Thanks so very much,
Merrill Berge
805/208-6058

E-mail from Ventura County Sierra Club:

Greetings Ventura County Wildlife Advocates:

The first of its kind planning zone in Ventura county to protect wildlife corridors will be discussed by the Ventura County Board of Supervisors at a public meeting:

January 24 2017
1:30 PM
Ventura County Government Center
800 S. Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA

The proposed 'Wildlife Corridor Protection Zone' if adopted would place into the Ventura County General Plan land use protections to preserve natural wildlife corridors which are so important for the migration of wildlife species such as mountain lions, deer herds and other mammals.

As our county becomes increasing urbanized wildlife is getting squeezed out of areas they have historically used for migration routes.

Thanks to the hard work of Ventura county supervisor Linda Parks who drafted this plan, we hope to have protected wildlife corridors be the official policy of the county of Ventura.

Attached is a copy of the map of proposed wildlife corridors to be protected in Ventura county.

Here is the agenda listing:

January 24 1:30 PM

Direct Staff Regarding Preferred Regulatory Options for Addressing Habitat

Connectivity and Wildlife Movement Corridors within the Non-Coastal,
Unincorporated Areas of Ventura County; All Supervisorial Districts. (Resource
Management Agency - Planning - 2 Hours)

So please join me at the January 24th public meeting to speak out for those who
cannot be there and speak, our endangered wildlife.

Jim Hines, Chair
Sierra Club Los Padres Chapter
Team Leader,
Sierra Club California/Nevada Wildlife Team

<Exhibit 1 - Protected Resource Areas and Wildlife Corridors (1).pdf>

From: [Linda Parks](#)
To: [Linda Parks](#)
Subject: Fwd: this is the best I could find off USFWS for the whole USA. Is that what we are proposing? It would be nice. But.....I don't see much connectivity? : Public Hearing: Speak Up Jan 26. To Protect Ventura County Wildlife Thursday 3pm
Date: Thursday, September 20, 2018 7:57:54 AM
Attachments: [Exhibit 1 - Protected Resource Areas and Wildlife Corridors.pdf](#)

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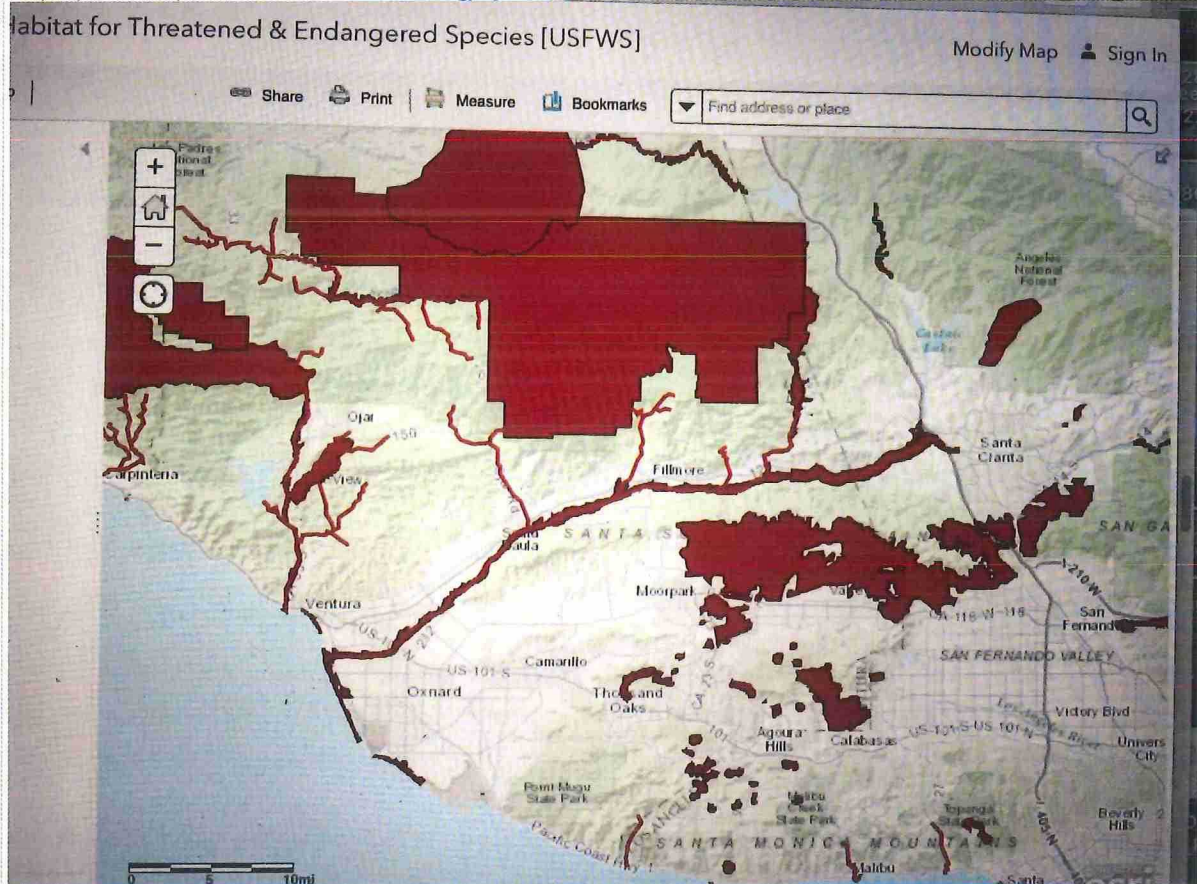
From: Linda Parks <vote4parks@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Sep 19, 2018 at 10:41 AM
Subject: Fwd: this is the best I could find off USFWS for the whole USA. Is that what we are proposing? It would be nice. But.....I don't see much connectivity? : Public Hearing: Speak Up Jan 26. To Protect Ventura County Wildlife Thursday 3pm
To: Linda Parks <vote4parks@gmail.com>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Linda Parks <vote4parks@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, Jan 5, 2017 at 5:15 PM
Subject: Re: this is the best I could find off USFWS for the whole USA. Is that what we are proposing? It would be nice. But.....I don't see much connectivity? : Public Hearing: Speak Up Jan 26. To Protect Ventura County Wildlife Thursday 3pm
To: MALINDA CHOUINARD <Malinda.Chouinard@patagonia.com>, James Hines <jhcasitas@gmail.com>

Here's a better map. There will no doubt be others once the staff report is released.

On Thu, Jan 5, 2017 at 2:47 PM, MALINDA CHOUINARD <Malinda.Chouinard@patagonia.com> wrote:



On Jan 5, 2017, at 2:18 PM, MALINDA CHOUINARD <Malinda.Chouinard@patagonia.com> wrote:

jim and linda I can't find a copy of the proposed map? can you direct me to the map, or send the map?

From: James Hines <jhcasitas@gmail.com>
Subject: Public Hearing: Speak Up To Protect Ventura County Wildlife
Date: January 5, 2017 at 11:28:43 AM PST

Greetings Ventura County Wildlife Advocates:

The first of its kind planning zone in Ventura county to protect wildlife habitat will be considered by the Ventura County Board of Supervisors at a public hearing:

January 26 2017
3 PM
Ventura County Government Center
800 S. Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA

The proposed 'Wildlife Corridor Protection' Zone if adopted would place into the Ventura County General Plan land use protections to preserve natural wildlife corridors which are so important for the migration of wildlife species such as mountain lions, deer herds and other mammals.

As our county becomes increasing urbanized wildlife is getting squeezed out of areas they have historically used for migration routes.

Thanks to the hard work of Ventura county supervisor Linda Parks who drafted this plan, we hope to have protected wildlife corridors be the official policy of the county of Ventura.

So pleased join me at the January 26th public hearing to speak out for those who cannot be there and speak, our endangered wildlife.

Jim Hines, Chair
Sierra Club Los Padres Chapter
Team Leader,
Sierra Club California/Nevada Wildlife Team

Kimberly Stroud
Executive Director
rapforcenter@roadrunner.com
805-798-3600

Kimberly Stroud
Executive Director
rapforcenter@roadrunner.com
805-798-3600

From: [Linda Parks](#)
To: [Parks, Linda](#)
Subject: Fwd: R; WILDLIFE CORRIDOR OVERLAY
Date: Thursday, September 20, 2018 7:53:46 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Linda Parks** <voteforparks@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Sep 19, 2018 at 10:50 AM
Subject: Fwd: R; WILDLIFE CORRIDOR OVERLAY
To: Linda Parks parks <voteforparks@gmail.com>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Linda Parks** <voteforparks@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Jan 18, 2017 at 3:36 PM
Subject: Re: R; WILDLIFE CORRIDOR OVERLAY
To: g s <nastyw2@hotmail.com>
Cc: danica selvaggio <danica.selvaggio@gmail.com>

Hi Gary,

Thank you for your suggestions. The National Park Service is working with Caltrans to put fencing up to prevent wildlife from crossing the 118 freeway where the recent mountain lions have been killed.

One benefit of the wildlife corridor zone is to see that fencing doesn't impede animals from traversing the open space corridors, and another benefit is to see where fencing can help channel the wildlife to undercrossings and keep wildlife from entering freeways and roads.

Regarding changing speed limits, freeway speed limits are set by State and Federal law and not something local government can change. Even local road speeds are determined by State law and there is no discretion that local government has to change the speeds and make the limits enforceable.

I like your ideas about signage showing designated wildlife corridors and can consider if the Board approves initiating this zone and there is funding available. Please note, that e-mails to Brian.Palmer@ventura.org will be part of the public record used by the Board in their decision unless you request otherwise.

--Linda

On Wed, Jan 18, 2017 at 3:20 PM, g s <nastyw2@hotmail.com> wrote:

A suggestion:

Develop a plan to designate sections of our major highways and arteries as "**wildlife corridor zones** (WCZ)".

Imagine a three mile section of the 118 Frwy, between Topanga Canyon Blvd and Kuehner Drive, clearly marked with advisory signs indicating that wildlife may be encountered at any time. Unlike school zones, these designated sections would post, but only advise, a slower speed and perhaps only during off peak hours. On the 118 Frwy, the advised speed (AS) could be 55MPH. On a section of a major artery like Thousand Oaks Blvd, the AS could be 35MPH.

Too, a punitive level of fines could be assessed when a vehicle strikes any one of a special group of animals, ie, cougar, bear, deer, antelope, etc... but only in the event the operator has contributed to the accident through negligence or due to a moving violation within the WCZ, ie, unsafe driving or driving under the influence, etc.

The costs involved in establishing, signing and maintaining these WCZs may be able to be paid for wholly through donations and sponsorships.

In the Rocky Peak area residents tell of the death of several mountain lions due to traffic incidents. The two most recent fatalities might have been avoided if the drivers were more aware that these animals also use our highways.

Hoping you will consider thsi and other ways to help protect California's great wildlife.

Gary Selvaggio

805 501 1417

1273 Foothill Drive

The Knolls

Simi Valley 93063

From: [Parks, Linda](#)
To: voteforparks@gmail.com
Subject: Fw: Thank you for attending our Wildlife Corridor Stakeholder Meeting
Date: Thursday, September 20, 2018 7:27:31 AM
Attachments: [VC CoLAB Membership Payment Form.pdf](#)

From: David Ross <david@mabryflp.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 28, 2018 3:20 PM
To: Parks, Linda
Subject: Fwd: Thank you for attending our Wildlife Corridor Stakeholder Meeting

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sean Paroski** <sparoski@colabvc.org>
Date: Tue, Aug 28, 2018 at 3:19 PM
Subject: Thank you for attending our Wildlife Corridor Stakeholder Meeting
To: Sean Paroski <sparoski@colabvc.org>

Thank you to everyone who came out to our Wildlife Corridor stakeholder meeting last Thursday! This is just the first step in our effort to fight back against these intrusive and disruptive regulations. There are a number of easy ways you can join in the fight and help us push back:

Join Ventura County CoLAB Today!

We are a nonprofit organization that works tirelessly taking action against harmful regulations happening right here in our County! The only financial support we receive are from our members and we need your help! In order for us to continue fighting back, we need you to become a member today! You can open the attached membership form and sign up by sending it to our office at 1672 Donlon Street, Ventura, CA 93003. Or you can visit www.colabvc.org/membership to sign up online. This is an important issue that will hugely impact your property and we need all hands on deck to fight this!

For more information about joining Ventura County CoLAB, please contact Rachel at Rachel@colabvc.org or 805-633-2260.

Attend the September 20 Planning Commission Meeting

Show up and have your voice heard! Showing up at a public meeting is the single best way to influence the Planning Commissioners. Most public meetings are lightly attended, so a big

group can make an outsized impact. The meeting is at the Board Hearing Room at the Ventura County Government Center, 800 S. Victoria Ave in Ventura at 8:30 AM. If you plan on attending, please RSVP to me at sparoski@colabvc.org. We will send out talking points soon.

Write a Letter to Your Elected Representatives

Send an email to the Planning Commission demanding that the County abandon their efforts to impose this misguided scheme. Please send your email by September 17th to the Planning Commission: Meighan.batinica@ventura.org.

Write a Letter to the Editor

These regulations will sail through under the cover of darkness if the public isn't informed. Spread the word by writing a letter to the editor to your local newspaper. Letters don't have to be long, with most papers maxing them out at 300 words.

- Ventura County Star: letters@vcstar.com
- Camarillo Acorn: camarillo@theacorn.com
- Thousand Oaks Acorn: tonewstip@theacorn.com
- Moorpark Acorn: moorpark@theacorn.com
- Simi Valley Acorn: simi@theacorn.com

You will need to include your full name, address and phone number at the end of your letter for it to be considered for publication, so don't forget!

Share on Social Media

Let your friends on Facebook and Twitter know what is happening by [sharing our information page](#) about the Wildlife Corridor regulations and their impact on the county. You can also [follow us on Facebook](#) to receive regular news and updates.

If you have any questions or know what else you can do to help, contact me at the information below.

Thank you again for your support!

Sean Paroski

Director of Policy and Advocacy
Ventura County Coalition of Labor,
Agriculture and Business
Office: 805-633-2257
Cell: 805-910-9393
Email: sparoski@colabvc.org

--

David J Ross

805.660.4080

From: [Peschka, Darrin](#)
To: [Parks, Linda](#)
Subject: Re: Op-Ed?
Date: Wednesday, September 5, 2018 5:34:24 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-1510269085.png](#)

Hi Linda,
Thanks for letting me know.

I'd love take a tour of Growing Works. Let me check my calendar and I'll suggest some dates.

Best,
Darrin

Darrin Peschka
News Director
Office: 805-437-0254 | Cell: 805-815-9305
darrin.peschka@vcstar.com

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From: Parks, Linda <Linda.Parks@ventura.org>
Sent: Wednesday, September 5, 2018 5:18 PM
To: Peschka, Darrin
Subject: Re: Op-Ed?

Hi Darrin, I just found out that the wildlife corridor zoning will be another month or so in coming so I'll hold off on submitting an op-ed on it at this point.

We are starting to do some clearing in preparation for planting the Demonstration Gardens on Lewis Road. I'd love to take you out there and give you a tour of Growing Works. It's so exciting to see a plan coming together! The nursery is coming along and we're already having some great success with the job training program. Let me know if you're up for a tour, and we

can schedule one that works for your calendar.

—Linda

Linda Parks
Supervisor, District 2
625 W. Hillcrest Drive
Thousand Oaks, CA. 91360-4235
(805) 214-2510 Linda.Parks@ventura.org

On Sep 3, 2018, at 7:25 PM, Peschka, Darrin <Darrin.Peschka@vcstar.com> wrote:

Hi Linda,
You can submit the op-ed to letters@vcstar.com. It should be roughly 500 to 600 words in length.

Our opinion page editor is out of the office this week, so please CC me on the email. I believe we should have room for the op-ed next Sunday, Sept. 9. If not, I'll let you know.

By the way, I've noticed a lot of new plantings at Lewis Road and Camarillo Street near CSUCI. Are they part of Growing Works?

Darrin

Darrin Peschka
News Director
Office: 805-437-0254 | Cell: 805-815-9305
darrin.peschka@vcstar.com

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<Outlook-1510269085.png>
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From: Parks, Linda <Linda.Parks@ventura.org>
Sent: Monday, September 3, 2018 5:05 PM

From: [Linda Parks](#)
To: [Parks, Linda](#)
Subject: Op ed attachment
Date: Wednesday, September 5, 2018 1:33:43 PM
Attachments: [Saving Wildlife op-ed2.docx](#)

Begin forwarded message:

From: Linda Parks <voteforparks@gmail.com>
Date: September 5, 2018 at 8:29:09 AM PDT
To: Nora Aidukas <sakudia@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: With survival/safety/God mentions

Here's the latest. It's should be 500-600 words and it's 617. The God stuff seems out of place, can you think of a better way to do it? L.A.'s you may have noticed, is just a draft, but has some good stuff. I'm meeting with Kim this afternoon on the proposed zone, want to come? Thanks for your attention to it. I need to get it out before tomorrow.

On Wed, Sep 5, 2018 at 6:38 AM James Aidukas <sakudia@gmail.com> wrote:
I'll look at this after I do my hike this morning. I'll be back at 10:00.

Does Ventura's approach connect with Los Angeles's Significant Ecological Areas?
http://planning.lacounty.gov/sea/regional_habitat_linkages_and_wildlife_corridors/

On Tue, Sep 4, 2018 at 10:00 PM Linda Parks <voteforparks@gmail.com> wrote:
Comments?

From: [E.J. Remson](#)
To: [Parks, Linda](#)
Subject: RE: Wildlife Corridor speaker?
Date: Wednesday, September 5, 2018 11:53:31 AM

We are having a small group strategy call soon so I will bring up your suggestions. I am planning on meeting with Supervisor Zaragoza to explain the importance of preserving the linkages and background on the HCOZ. I hope Seth will attend as the NPS seems to be highly regarded by everyone. I assumed that Supervisor Bennett would be on board so thanks for the heads up. I was planning on meeting with him on another topic but will add the HCOZ to my list.

I agree that the Santa Monica-Sierra Madre is the highest priority. When you say "east county" how far west would that go?

From: Parks, Linda <Linda.Parks@ventura.org>
Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2018 11:08 AM
To: E.J. Remson <eremson@TNC.ORG>
Subject: Re: Wildlife Corridor speaker?

I look forward to learning more! I'll let you know when it is, hopefully you can come too. I'm so glad she's engaged on our County's proposed zoning. If you get a chance, I think it would be helpful if you could talk with Supervisor Bennett. I know he has concerns about the impact of the zoning in his district. I'm wondering if it make sense to roll it out in the east county first so we can get the Santa Monica- Sierra Madre connection, if that's all I can get approved.

From: E.J. Remson <eremson@TNC.ORG>
Sent: Wednesday, September 5, 2018 10:38 AM
To: Parks, Linda
Subject: RE: Wildlife Corridor speaker?

Great! She literally wrote the book on linkage design.
E.J.

From: Parks, Linda <Linda.Parks@ventura.org>
Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2018 10:36 AM
To: E.J. Remson <eremson@TNC.ORG>
Subject: Fw: Wildlife Corridor speaker?

Good news! Thanks for recommending Kristeen, looks like she can make it.

From: kristeen@scwildlands.org <kristeen@scwildlands.org>

Sent: Wednesday, September 5, 2018 10:10 AM

To: Parks, Linda

Subject: re: Wildlife Corridor speaker?

Hey there Supervisor Parks,

Many thanks for the invitation. I would be honored to come speak on wildlife movement corridors and the proposed Wildlife Linkage Overlay Zone! Your request is timely, as I've been trying to coordinate a strategic planning session with my board to discuss linkage implementation strategies. I sent my board members your proposed dates to see which would be best to schedule our meeting around. I should know within the next few days which date will work best and will be back in touch shortly.

We are just thrilled with the proposed ordinance and are working with members of the Linkage Implementation Alliance to get a good turnout for the September 20th meeting in favor of the ordinance.

Best,
Kristeen

Kristeen Penrod, Director
SC Wildlands
www.scwildlands.org
Direct 206-285-1916 Cell 626-497-6492

From: "Parks, Linda" <Linda.Parks@ventura.org>

Sent: Tuesday, September 4, 2018 4:15 PM

To: "kristeen@scwildlands.org" <kristeen@scwildlands.org>

Subject: Wildlife Corridor speaker?

Hi Kristeen,

Would you be up for being a speaker on wildlife corridors both in general and also the proposed zoning I'm hoping my Board will support? We could schedule it for a time that works for you (if there is one). The presentation would be a part of a dinner series I do and we can expect approximately 75 people, mostly friends and government officials and sometimes the press. I do these quarterly dinners on a Wednesday or Thursday night at different restaurants in my District. The restaurant closes to the public for the evening to accommodate the event and the owner really enjoys having a restaurant full of new guests, and guests enjoy trying new restaurants and hearing interesting topics. The cost of the event is the cost of the dinner (usually around \$35) and we take people's orders in advance from a customized menu. You and a friend if you'd like, would be my guests.

Past dinner events have featured presenters and topics from Michael Dukakis on Citizens United, Fran Pavley on water, Eddy Hartenstein (then publisher of L.A.

Times) on the future of newspapers, Zev Yaroslavsky on county finances, Seth Riley on mountain lions, mag-lev designers, Brian Brennan on peak oil, LAFCo on greenbelts, LA DWP head on energy, State Controller John Chaing on state finances, State Attorney General Lockyer, Mulhardt/Janss/Lawrence historic photo presentation, Lucy Jones on earthquakes, and experts on automated vehicles.

If you can work it to come and present, would any of these dates work for you? (I'd like to have the presentation before the Board of Supervisors' decision on the proposed Wildlife Corridor zoning which is scheduled for October 30).

Wednesday or Thursday

September 19 or 20

October 3

October 10 or 11

October 17 or 18

The typical schedule for the event is drink reception at 5:30, seated about 6:15, speaker 6:30-6:50, 10 minute Q&A and dinner at 7pm. If you can do it, I'll get back to you with the logistics of the restaurant, location, etc.

Thank you for your consideration,

--Linda

Linda Parks
Supervisor District 2
County of Ventura
(805) 214-2510

From: [Osterhaven, Jan](#)
To: [Parks, Linda](#)
Subject: FW: upcoming County hearings
Date: Thursday, August 30, 2018 10:13:50 AM

From: Janet M. Wall [mailto:walljanetm@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, August 29, 2018 5:29 PM
To: Osterhaven, Jan <Jan.Osterhaven@ventura.org>
Subject: Re: upcoming County hearings

Hey Jan,

When does Linda get back? COTA has some CEQA questions for her. See below:

Went searching for the Environmental Checklist from the State site. Compare City version with State version. This is the link I used:
http://resources.ca.gov/ceqa/guidelines/Appendix_G.html

Compare City's Biological Resources questions in italics to the State version:

Would the project:

City version: Have an adverse effect on any plant or animal species listed by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as a sensitive, special status species or rare and/or endangered?

a) Have a substantial adverse effect, **either directly or through habitat modifications**, on any species **identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations**, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

City version: Have a substantial adverse effect on any jurisdictional riparian or wetland vegetation?

b) Have a substantial adverse effect on **any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations** or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?

c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?

City version: Substantially interfere with, or create a barrier to the movement of wildlife?

d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?

City: Conflict with any General Plan Policies or City Ordinances intended to protect native oak or landmark trees?

e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?

f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, **Natural Community Conservation Plan**, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?

On Wed, Aug 29, 2018 at 12:34 PM, Osterhaven, Jan <Jan.Osterhaven@ventura.org> wrote:

Hi,
I hear you did a great job of it! The meeting video is online now.
Chuck always asks for your number.
I'll let Linda know re availability.
Jan

From: Janet M. Wall [mailto:walljanetm@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, August 29, 2018 12:21 PM
To: Osterhaven, Jan <Jan.Osterhaven@ventura.org>
Subject: Re: upcoming County hearings

Hi Jan,
We spent our evening at City Hall last night and lost again. Traitor Al really fights for development now. What else is new!
Please let Linda know I'm not available on Thursdays for the Planning Commission meetings but have October 30 and December 4 on my calendar. I will look up the PC packets though so I know what's going on.
Thanks!
Not so sure about calling Chuck -- too busy this week.
~Janet

On Wed, Aug 29, 2018 at 12:04 PM, Osterhaven, Jan <Jan.Osterhaven@ventura.org> wrote:

Hi,
Chuck Kuenstle would like to speak with you, if you want. His number is 805 279-1610.
I hope you are doing fine!
Jan

From: Janet M. Wall [mailto:walljanetm@gmail.com]

Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2018 1:34 PM
To: Osterhaven, Jan <Jan.Osterhaven@ventura.org>
Subject: Re: upcoming County hearings

Thanks, Jan. Hope all is well with you!

~Janet

On Wed, Aug 22, 2018 at 10:39 AM, Osterhaven, Jan <Jan.Osterhaven@ventura.org> wrote:

Hello, from Supervisor Parks' office,
You may be interested in the Sept. 20 Planning Commission hearing on the wildlife corridors, especially, so she asks me to send you the schedule.
Jan

Planning Commission Hearing

August 23, 2018 - *Phase 2C Amendments to the Local Coastal Plan including Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas (ESHA)*
September 20, 2018 - *Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridor Ordinance (rescheduled from September 6th)*

Board of Supervisors Hearing

September 25, 2018 - *Dark Sky Overlay Zone in Ojai*
October 30, 2018 - *Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridor Ordinance*
December 4, 2018 - *Phase 2C Amendments to the Local Coastal Plan including Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas (ESHA)*

From: Kuykendall, Kate
Subject: 4 new mountain lion kittens!
Date: Tuesday, June 19, 2018 12:28:28 PM

Hi Friends,

It's always exciting to share the happy news from our research study. See our press release below for news of a litter of four female mountain lion kittens in the Simi Hills!

You can share the cute photos and videos via [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#).

Enjoy!
Kate

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Kate Kuykendall, 805-370-2343 or 805-750-9356

Researchers Discover Litter of Four Mountain Lion Kittens, All Female

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. -- National Park Service researchers recently discovered a litter of four mountain lion kittens in the Simi Hills, a small area of habitat wedged between the larger Santa Monica and Santa Susana mountain ranges. All four kittens are females and are now known as P-66, P-67, P-68, and P-69.

The mother is P-62, who researchers have been tracking since January. Biologists visited the den site while she was away on June 11, locating it after several previous attempts failed because radio telemetry showed that she was still at the den with her kittens. This is the first kitten den researchers have documented in the Simi Hills, between the 101 and 118 Freeways. The kittens were found on the 2,668-acre Santa Susana Field Laboratory site, with cooperation provided by the Boeing Corporation to access the closed area.

"This is the first litter we have marked at the den in the Simi Hills, which happens to be a critical habitat linkage between the Santa Monica Mountains and larger natural areas to the north," said Jeff Sikich, biologist for Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. "We are very interested to learn about how they will navigate the fragmented landscape and whether they will remain in the Simi Hills or eventually cross one or more freeways to the north or south."

The National Park Service, along with many other local partners, has been working for decades to preserve and increase connectivity for wildlife between the Santa Monica Mountains and other larger natural areas to the north. As the Simi Hills are immediately north of the 101 Freeway, any animals moving north-south into or out of the Santa Monicas must pass through this area. Except for P-62, the mother of the kittens, every mountain lion biologists have tracked in the Simi Hills (10 so far) has crossed either the 101 or 118 or both, providing valuable information about wildlife connectivity.

Sikich suspected P-62 had given birth after seeing a series of localized GPS locations from her radio collar, indicating that she may be denning. Even with the GPS information, however, determining the location of the den is challenging because the mothers choose locations that are difficult to find.

National Park Service biologists took tissue samples, conducted a general health check, and marked the kittens with ear tags. The blue-eyed, spotted kittens weighed between four and five pounds and were around four and half weeks of age.

This is the fifteenth litter of kittens marked by National Park Service biologists at a den site. Three additional litters of kittens were discovered and marked when the kittens were already at least six months old.

The National Park Service has been studying mountain lions in and around the Santa Monica Mountains since 2002 to determine how they survive in an increasingly fragmented and urbanized environment.

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife is responsible for overseeing the management and conservation of mountain lions in the state.

Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area (SMMNRA) *is the largest urban national park in the country, encompassing more than 150,000 acres of mountains and coastline in Ventura and Los Angeles counties. A unit of the National Park Service, it comprises a seamless network of local, state, and federal parks interwoven with private lands and communities. As one of only five Mediterranean ecosystems in the world, SMMNRA preserves the rich biological diversity of more than 450 animal species and 26 distinct plant communities.*

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Kate Kuykendall
Public Affairs Officer & Acting Deputy Superintendent
Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area
National Park Service
805-370-2343

From: Kuykendall, Kate
Subject: 4 new mountain lion kittens!
Date: Tuesday, June 19, 2018 12:28:28 PM

Hi Friends,

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Enjoy!
Kate

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Kate Kuykendall, 805-370-2343 or 805-750-9356

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Kate Kuykendall
Public Affairs Officer & Acting Deputy Superintendent
Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area
National Park Service
805-370-2343