

EXHIBIT 4d

Environmental Impact Report Addendum

Planning Commission Staff Report

June 11, 2015

CRC Oil and Gas Project
Case No. PL13-0150

Exhibit 4d:

Environmental Impact Report Addendum



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR) – ADDENDUM

This Addendum is prepared as supplemental environmental document to the certified Environmental Impact Report (EIR) prepared for the proposed project. The certified "EIR" for the subject oil and gas facility is comprised of the following documents previously certified by the County of Ventura:

- *October 4, 1984 Final Environmental Impact Report for the Modification of CUP No. 3344*
- *June 21, 1978 Final Environmental Impact Report for the Modification of CUP No. 3344*

This Addendum has been revised to reflect the public comments made at the January 8, 2015 Planning Director Public Hearing.

A. BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

1. **Entitlement:** Minor Modification of existing Conditional Use Permit (CUP 3344) to authorize the continued operation of 17 oil and gas wells and related production equipment and the drilling of 19 new oil and gas wells.
2. **Applicant:** Vintage Production California, LLC
3. **Property Owners:** Vintage Production California, LLC, Attention: Jim Robinson, 9600 Ming Avenue, Suite 300, Bakersfield, California 93311
4. **Location:** The project site is located in a mountainous region north of the City of Santa Paula and east of Thomas Aquinas College, 10,000 Ojai-Santa Paula Road, Santa Paula, in the unincorporated area of Ventura County.
5. **Assessor's Parcel Numbers:** 040-0-010-260, 040-0-210-080, 040-0-210-200, 040-0-060-055, and 040-0-210-070
6. **Lot Size:** 813.9 acres
7. **General Plan Land Use Designation:** Open Space and Agricultural
8. **Zoning Designation:** "OS-160 ac" (Open Space, 160 acre minimum lot size) and "AE-40 ac" (Agricultural Exclusive, 40 acre minimum lot size)

9. **Project Description:** The applicant requests that a modified CUP be granted to authorize additional oil and gas exploration and production activities within an existing oil field. The proposed project includes the following components:

- a. The drilling, testing, reworking, maintenance and placement into production of 19 new oil and gas wells on four existing drilling pads (Drill Sites 1, 2, 3 and 7).
- b. The continued operation of 17 existing oil and gas wells located on four existing drilling pads (Drill Sites 1, 2, 3 and 7). This operation includes well testing, reworking, maintenance and production activities.
- c. Separation of natural gas and produced water from crude oil.
- d. Processing activities required for on-site wastewater injection well operations.
- e. Operation of existing equipment associated with the storage, processing, and transportation of oil, gas, and wastewater (brine).
- f. Continued maintenance vehicle trips of 2 per day (4 one-way trips) from Monday through Saturday.

The location of the existing and proposed wells and the associated equipment located in the CUP area used to process, store and transport produced fluids is illustrated on the approved project plans included in Attachment 1 of the February 17, 2015 Planning Director decision letter.

The proposed project does not include any new grading or removal of vegetation. All proposed wells will be drilled on the existing drill pads (Drill Site Nos. 1-3 and 7). The existing oil facilities are accessed by a private gated road connected to State Highway 150 just east of Thomas Aquinas College. In addition to the onsite equipment located on the existing drilling pads, the facility is connected to existing pipelines that are used to transport produced fluids to an offsite facility for separation, storage and transport to market. No new pipelines for the conveyance of produced fluids to the offsite facilities are proposed. Pumping units, gathering lines, electrical connections, produced fluid tanks and ancillary equipment will continue to be used for the operation of the facility.

There is no trucking of oil and gas from the Ferndale lease. Oil and gas produced from wells drilled on the Ferndale lease is conveyed by existing pipeline to the HAMP lease, where the oil, gas and water is separated. The water is disposed of onsite at the Hamp lease, into an existing and approved injection well. The separated gas is conveyed by existing pipeline by way of the Shiells Canyon Plant and then via existing pipeline to the Santa Clara Valley Plant where it is ultimately sold into a Southern California Gas pipeline. Separated oil is shipped by existing pipeline from Hamp lease to market via the Crimson pipeline. In summary, all of the oil & gas produced on the Ferndale lease is conveyed to market by existing pipelines.

In the event of an interruption of pipeline service, produced fluids would be temporarily delivered to market by truck subject to the limitations specified in the conditions of approval of the requested CUP.

The existing equipment on the Drill Site No. 1 pad includes the following:

- Two crude oil LACT tanks (1,000 barrel capacity each)
- Two produced water tanks (1,000 barrel capacity each)
- One produced water tank (300 barrel capacity)
- One heater treater
- One vapor recovery compressor (electric)
- One gas dehydration unit
- One water filtration unit (includes backwash filter)
- One water reinjection pump
- Two 64 square foot covered sumps (approximately 300 barrel capacity each)
- One storage tank (approximately 150 barrel capacity)
- Five rod pumping units
- Eight oil and gas wells: Barker Ferndale 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, Valex Ferndale 107 and 110

The existing equipment on the Drill Site No. 2 pad includes the following:

- Three rod pumping units
- Four oil and gas wells: Valex Ferndale 209, 211, 214, 215

The existing equipment on the Drill Site No. 3 pad includes the following:

- One rod pumping unit
- Two oil and gas wells: Valex Ferndale 313, and Ferndale 8

The existing equipment on the Drill Site No. 7 pad includes the following:

- Two rod pumping units
- Three oil and gas wells: Ferndale 712, 716, and 717

Hydraulic fracturing or acid well stimulation techniques subject to the draft regulations for the implementation of Senate Bill 4 are not authorized by this permit. Any such well stimulation activity requires the granting of a modification of this permit by the County of Ventura.

B. STATEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL FINDINGS:

On June 6, 1978, the Planning Commission certified an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) dated June 21, 1978 that evaluated the environmental impacts of the drilling of 30 additional oil wells from a total of five additional drill sites, for a total of 36 wells from six drill sites and a product pipeline within the permit area.

On July 9, 1985, the Board of Supervisors certified an EIR (dated October 4, 1984) that evaluated the environmental impacts of the continued operation of 14 existing oil and gas wells, and the drilling of 22 additional wells for a total of 36 wells and related production equipment. *(This action by the County extended the drilling period for 22 of the originally permitted wells that had not yet been drilled.)*

The proposed project is comprised of the continued use of the existing 17 wells and related facilities on existing pads and the drilling of 19 new oil and gas wells on four existing drill pads as previously approved. The project does not include any new grading or vegetation removal outside of the existing pads. *(Similar to the 1985 action by the County, the current request would extend the drilling period for the remaining 19 previously permitted wells.)*

Section 15164(a) of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines (Title 14, California Code of Regulations, Chapter 3) states that the decision-making body shall prepare an addendum to a previously certified EIR if some changes or additions are necessary, but none of the conditions described in Section 15162 of the CEQA Guidelines calling for the preparation of a subsequent EIR have occurred.

The conditions described in Section 15162 of the CEQA Guidelines which require the preparation of an EIR or subsequent negative declaration, are provided below, along with a discussion as to why a subsequent EIR or supplemental EIR is not required:

- 1. Substantial changes are proposed in the project which will require major revisions of the previous EIR due to the involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects [§ 15162(a)(1)].**

The oil and gas facility was previously analyzed for its potential impacts on the environment and to identify any required mitigation measures. The proposed project is comprised of the continued operation of 17 existing oil and gas wells and related production facilities and the drilling of 19 new wells on existing drill pads. The proposed new oil wells and associated facilities would be installed at the same locations as analyzed in the EIR (as defined on Page 1 of this Addendum) previously prepared and certified by the County of Ventura for this oil and gas facility. All of the proposed new wells were previously authorized by the County with the granting of CUP 3543 in 1984. This permit authorized a total of

36 wells. The requested permit modification would extend the drilling period specified in CUP 3543 which expired in 2011. The proposed drilling of 19 new wells does not include any physical change to the land outside of the existing disturbed drilling pads. The effects of drilling 19 new oil wells, and placing these wells on production (such as truck transport of produced fluids), are analyzed in the existing certified EIR.

Therefore, the proposed drilling of 19 new oil and gas wells on the existing drill pads will not create any new environmental impacts that were not previously analyzed in the EIR.

- 2. Substantial changes occur with respect to the circumstances under which the project is undertaken which will require major revisions of the previous EIR due to the involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects [§ 15162(a)(2)].**

The circumstances under which the potential impacts to the environment were evaluated have not substantially changed such that the proposed drilling of 19 previously authorized oil and gas wells on existing drilling pads will require major revisions to the EIR. No new potentially significant environmental effects have been identified for the proposed project. The drilling of the proposed 19 oil and gas wells will not create any new impacts that are not analyzed in the previously certified EIR. In particular, the issue of visual impacts associated with the development and use of the permitted drillsites is evaluated in the Mitigated Negative Declaration incorporated into the October 3, 1984 certified EIR. It is stated in that document that "Drill Site Nos. 1 and 7 are clearly visible to hikers utilizing the Santa Paula Creek trail." The mitigation measures identified in the earlier EIR are incorporated into the current recommended conditions of approval. The addition of new wells on these drillsites is considered in the certified EIR. Thus, major revisions of the previous EIR are not required.

- 3. New information of substantial importance, which was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the Board of Supervisors certified the previous EIR, shows any of the following:**

- a. The project will have one or more significant effects not discussed in the previous EIR [§ 15162(a)(3)(A)].**

No new information or environmental impacts that were unknown and could not have been known when the EIR was certified have become available. The environmental conditions that currently exist on site are substantially the same as those that existed at the time at which the EIR was certified. Therefore, the drilling of 19 new oil and gas wells on existing drill pads will not create any significant effects that were not discussed in the previous EIR.

b. Significant effects previously examined will be substantially more severe than shown in the previous EIR [§ 15162(a)(3)(B)].

No new information or environmental impacts that were unknown and could not have been known when the EIR was certified have become available. The environmental conditions that currently exist on site are substantially the same as those that existed at the time at which the EIR was certified. The environmental impacts of the proposed project are the same as when the project was previously approved. The drilling of 19 new oil and gas wells on existing drill pads will not cause any significant effect that would be substantially more severe than shown in the previous EIR.

c. Mitigation measures or alternatives previously found not to be feasible would in fact be feasible and would substantially reduce one or more significant effects of the project, but the project proponents decline to adopt the mitigation measure or alternative [§ 15162(a)(3)(C)].

The environmental conditions that currently exist on site are substantially the same as those that existed at the time at which the EIR was certified. The EIR did not identify any mitigation measures or alternatives as infeasible. There are no mitigation measures or alternatives that would substantially reduce the significant effects of the project that the project proponents declined to adopt. Therefore, the proposed drilling of 19 new oil and gas wells on existing drill pads will not create any significant effects that were not discussed in the previous EIR.

d. Mitigation measures or alternatives which are considerably different from those analyzed in the previous EIR would substantially reduce one or more significant effects on the environment, but the project proponents decline to adopt the mitigation measure or alternative [§15162(a)(3)(D)].

The environmental conditions that currently exist on site are essentially the same as those that existed at the time at which the EIR was certified. There are no mitigation measures or alternatives that would substantially reduce the significant effects of the project that the project proponents declined to adopt. Therefore, the proposed drilling of 19 new oil and gas wells on existing drill pads will not create any significant effects that were not discussed in the previous EIR.

A significant impact on biological resources, specifically the endangered California Condor, was not identified in the certified EIR. Since the EIR was prepared, however, new mitigation measures have been developed by the County of Ventura to minimize any adverse effects on condors. These mitigation measures were developed based on the recommendations of the U.S. Fish and

Wildlife Service. Although not required to address an identified potentially significant impact, these measures (reproduced below) will be incorporated into the recommended conditions of approval of the requested permit modification as best management practices to protect this important species.

California Condor Protection BMPs

Purpose: To avoid adverse impacts during drilling and ongoing operation of approved wells and facilities and ensure compatibility with conservation efforts outlined in the Recovery Plan for California Condor (April 19, 1996) and direction provided by United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) for oil and gas facilities within the range of the California Condor in Ventura County (USFWS, 2013).

Requirement: During construction and operation, the Permittee shall adhere to the following USFWS recommended California condor Best Management Practices (BMPs):

Transmission and Landing Deterrents

- a. All power lines, poles, and guy wires shall be retrofitted with raptor guards, flight diverters, and other anti-perching or anti-collision devices to minimize the potential for collision or electrocution of condors. Landing deterrents (e.g. Daddi Long Legs or porcupine wire) shall be attached to the walking beams on pumping units. New power and distribution lines shall be installed underground if determined to be necessary to avoid impacts to the California condor by the Planning Director in consultation with USFWS.
- b. All surface structures which are identified by the USFWS or County-approved qualified biologists as a risk to California condors, shall be modified (e.g. to include installation of raptor guards, anti-perching devices, landing deterrents) or relocated to reduce or eliminate the risk.

Microtrash

- c. All construction debris, food items, road kill, cigarette butts, and other trash including micro-trash (including but not limited to small items as screws, nuts, washers, nails, coins, rags, small electrical components, small pieces of plastic, glass, or wire, and anything that is colorful or shiny) will be covered or otherwise removed from a project site (including the access road) at the end of each day or prior to periods when workers are not present at the site.
- d. All hoses or cords that must be placed on the ground due to drilling operations that are outside of the primary work area (immediate vicinity of the drilling rig) will be covered to prevent California condor access. Covering will take the form of burying or covering with heavy mats, planks, or grating that will preclude access by California condors.

- e. All equipment and work-related materials (including, but not limited to, loose wires, open containers, rags, hoses, or other supplies or materials) shall be contained in closed containers either in the work area or placed inside vehicles.
- f. Poly chemical lines shall be replaced with stainless steel lines to preclude condors from obtaining and ingesting pieces of poly line.
- g. Prior to issuance of a Zoning Clearance for drilling or re-working of wells, informational signs describing the threat that micro-trash poses to condors, and the cleanup or avoidance measures being implemented, shall be posted at the site.
- h. Prior to conducting work on-site, employees and contractors shall be made aware of the California condor, and how to avoid impacts on them. Special emphasis shall be placed on keeping the well pad site free of micro-trash and other hazards.
- i. Wells pads shall be inspected closely for micro-trash on a daily basis.

Chemicals

- j. Ethylene glycol based anti-freeze or other ethylene glycol based liquid substances shall be avoided, and propylene glycol based antifreeze will be encouraged. Equipment or vehicles that use ethylene glycol based anti-freeze or other ethylene glycol based liquid substances shall be inspected daily for leaks, including (but not limited to) areas below vehicles for leaks and puddles. Standing fluid (e.g. a puddle of anti-freeze) will be remediated (e.g. cleaned up, absorbed, or covered) immediately upon discovery. Leaks shall be repaired immediately. The changing of antifreeze of any type shall be prohibited onsite.
- k. Open drilling mud, water, oil, or other liquid storage or retention structures shall be prohibited. All such structures must have netting or other covering that precludes entry or other use by condors or other listed avian species
- l. The design and location of any flaring equipment shall be subject to review and approval by the Planning Director in consultation with the USFWS.

Miscellaneous

- m. All food items and associated refuse shall be placed in covered containers that preclude access or use by California condors.
- n. All equipment and work-related materials (including loose wires, open containers, rags, hoses, or other supplies) will be placed in closed containers or inside vehicles.
- o. No dogs or other potentially predatory domesticated animals shall be allowed on the drill site unless on a leash or otherwise contained at all times.
- p. All construction equipment, staging areas, materials, and personnel shall remain within the perimeter of the disturbed area authorized under the applicable permit.

- q. The discharge of firearms at the project site or vicinity by any employee or contractor of the Permittee shall be prohibited.
- r. Feeding of wildlife by any employee or contractor working for the Permittee shall be prohibited.
- s. Access to the project site shall be made available to the representatives of the State and Federal wildlife agencies including California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and USFWS upon request. Should a California condor be observed on-site by personnel of the Permittee, the USFWS, CDFW and the Planning Division shall be contacted immediately.
- t. Any road kill found on the access road shall be immediately cleared from the roadway and disposed.

The Permittee shall implement the BMPs listed above throughout the entire life of the project, unless modified by the County Planning Director in consultation with USFWS and CDFW. A County-approved qualified biologist shall confirm and photo-document the installation of the BMPs.

Documentation: The application shall prepare photo documentation of the complete installation of the signage and above BMPs.

Timing: Prior to the issuance of a Zoning Clearance for Construction (i.e. grading or land clearing activities), the Permittee must take the following actions:

- Install signage.
- Submit photo-documentation of the installation of the signage to the Planning Division.

Prior issuance of a Zoning Clearance for Use Inauguration (i.e. the Zoning Clearance for the drilling of first well), the Permittee must provide the Planning Division with photo documentation of the implementation of the above requirements.

Monitoring and Reporting: Planning Division staff will review the submitted reports. The Planning Division has the authority to conduct site inspections to ensure ongoing compliance with this condition consistent with the requirements of § 8114-3 of the Ventura County Non-Coastal Zoning Ordinance.

Based on the information provided above, and the whole of the record, none of the conditions have occurred to require the preparation of a supplemental or subsequent EIR. The decision-making body shall consider this Addendum to the final EIR prior to making a decision on the project.


C. PUBLIC REVIEW:

Pursuant to the State CEQA Guidelines § 15164(c), this addendum to the EIR does not need to be circulated for public review, and shall be included in, or attached to, the adopted EIR.

Prepared by:

for 
Jay Dobrowalski, Case Planner
Commercial and Industrial Permits Section

Reviewed by:


Brian R. Baca, Manager
Commercial and Industrial Permits
Section

The Planning Director finds that this Addendum has been completed in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act.


Kimberly L. Prillhart, Planning Director

2-17-15
Date

Attachments:

- A. Responses to public comment
- B. Marked letters of public comment
- C. 2-12-15 Public Works Agency memorandum (J. O'Tousa)
- D. 2-10-15 memorandum by Brian R. Baca
- E. Climate change analysis and discussion document from the adopted MND Addendum for the Mirada Petroleum Project (Case No. LU11-0041)
- F. Topical response to comment (Seismic hazards and produced fluid spills) prepared for the review of the DCOR Project (Case No. PL13-0046).

Vintage Oil and Gas Facility, PL13-0150

Responses to Public Comments

Prepared by:

Jay Dobrowalski, Case Planner

Brian R. Baca, Manager

Ventura County Planning Division

INTRODUCTION

During the January 8, 2015, Planning Director Hearing, public comments were presented, as both testimony and written letters, for the proposed Vintage Oil and Gas Facility Project (Case No. PL13-0150). Planning Division staff prepared detailed responses to each of the issues raised in the testimony and comment letters. This memorandum compiles the comments and responses.

SUMMARY OF WRITTEN COMMENTS

The Planning Division has received seven (7) public comment letters regarding the proposed project as listed in the table below. These letters are attached to this document.

Public comment letters on application PL13-0150

No.:	Author and Date:	Summary of Content:
B	John Brooks, CFROG 1-8-15	Environmental analysis, air quality, greenhouse gases, seismic events, fracking
C	CFROG (Addendum to CUP 3344) 1-8-15	Biological resources, seismic hazards,
D	CFROG (Santa Paula Creek) undated	Catastrophe, red line channel, paving of drill pad 7, hiking trail
E	CFROG (Statement at Public Hearing) 1-8-15	Environmental review of proposed oil wells, seismic hazards, conditions of approval, storage of waste and petroleum products, steelhead trout

F	CFROG (Cumulative Effects) <i>undated</i>	Global warming, cumulative impacts
G	Jeff Kuyper (Los Padres Forest Watch) 1-8-15	Obligations of lead agency under CEQA, biological resources, hiking trail, archeological resources, incompatible land uses, risk to natural and cultural resources, suppression of public input, lead agency authority under CEQA, smell, noise, visual impacts, inconsistency with General Plan and Zoning Ordinance, Spill Contingency Plan, fracking.
H	John Q. Masteller (Thomas Aquinas College) 1-6-15	St. Thomas Aquinas College's concerns

RESPONSES TO COMMENT

Provided in the table below are specific responses to each comment in which a concern (or opposition to) the proposed oil and gas facility is expressed. The responses presented herein are numbered in correspondence with the attached marked copies of the comment letters.

Specific responses to public comment

Letter	Comment No.	Staff response to comment
B	B-1	<p>The Focused Environmental Impact Report does address access issues associated with the oil and gas development of the Ferndale lease. The effects of the project in other environmental issue areas were evaluated in previous certified CEQA documents. These previous documents, and the current Addendum, together comprise the environmental document (EIR) for the proposed project.</p> <p>The decision to prepare a Supplemental or Subsequent EIR must be made based on the standards set forth in Section 15162 of the CEQA Guidelines. The Section 15162 standards are listed in the Addendum to the EIR along with the analysis by Planning staff that concludes that none of the conditions have occurred that require the preparation of a Supplemental or Subsequent EIR.</p>

		<p>The conditions cited in CEQA Section 15162 refer to new circumstances, the identification of new impacts, and the increase in severity of already identified impacts. Any finding that such effects have occurred such that a supplemental or subsequent EIR is required must be based on "substantial evidence" as defined in Section 15064(f)(5) of the CEQA Guidelines. This section reads as follows:</p> <p><i>"Substantial evidence shall include facts, reasonable assumptions predicated upon facts, and expert opinion supported by facts."</i></p> <p>As indicated by the above language, general assertions or conclusionary statements unsupported by facts do not constitute substantial evidence. The comment provided pertains to procedure and does not include any specific comment on the adequacy of the EIR Addendum prepared for the project. Thus, no specific response is possible.</p>
B	B-2	Refer to comment B-1 above.
B	B-3	The Planning Division has not identified new or different potentially significant environmental impacts that would result from the proposed project that were not evaluated in the previous EIR. This comment does not provide any evidence of a newly identified potentially significant impact.
B	B-4	<p>The project has been reviewed by the Ventura County Air Pollution Control District (VCAPCD). The VCAPCD did not identify any new potentially significant impacts on air quality. Moreover, the project will be subject to APCD rules and regulations, including requirements for air permits, emission controls, and annual compliance inspections. These requirements will ensure that project air emissions will be controlled to the maximum extent feasible throughout the life of the project. With regard to the emission of greenhouse gases (GHG), the attached analysis of greenhouse gas emissions included in the County-adopted Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Mirada Petroleum project (LU11-0041) is adequate to address potential GHG impacts (C. Thomas, VCAPCD, Pers. Comm.). This analysis evaluates the GHG emissions of 9 new oil and gas wells in another area of the Ojai Oil Field and concluded that the GHG emissions would be far below any threshold of significance for GHG emissions adopted by any air district in the state. Therefore, even with the proportional increase of GHG emissions by a factor of 2.1 times due to the greater number of wells (19), the GHG emissions from the</p>

		<p>project will remain far below any adopted GHG threshold of significance.</p> <p>The statement that "no determination has been made as to the safety of the waste water injection" does not provide any evidence of an environmental impact of the continuing use of the existing wastewater disposal wells located on the Hamp Lease. The California Division of Oil and Gas and Geothermal Resources (DOGGR) is responsible for the permitting and inspection of these injection wells and has not reported any safety concern with their operation.</p>
B	B-5	This comment does not provide any substantial evidence of an impact. Thus, no specific response is required.
B	B-6	<p>This comment does not provide any evidence of a potentially significant impact. Refer to response to comment B-4 above with regards to air quality issues. No evidence has been provided that the continued use of the injection wells at the Hamp Lease will cause damaging earthquakes. The injection wells have been used for decades without any identified environmental impact.</p> <p>The proposed project does not include "extreme extraction methods" such as hydraulic fracturing. The use of such well stimulation techniques would require a modification of the permit and additional environmental review.</p>
B	B-7	This comment asserts that air pollution from oil and gas development can "reach levels associated with adverse health effects...". No explanation is provided as to what the "levels" of concern are or what is meant by the phrase "associated with adverse health effects." This comment does not provide any evidence of a potentially significant air quality impact that would result from the proposed project. Refer to comment B-4.
B	B-8	This comment does not provide any evidence of a potentially significant air quality impact that would result from the proposed project. The oil wells will be operated under permits issued by the VCAPCD and will be required to meet established standards for emissions and control technology. Refer to comment B-4.
B	B-9	This comment does not provide any evidence of a potentially significant air quality impact that would result from the proposed project. The oil wells will be operated under permits issued by the VCAPCD and will be required to meet established standards for emissions and control technology. Refer to responses to comment B-4, B-5, B-6, B-7 and B-8.
C	C-1	The designation of Santa Paula Creek as critical habitat for

		<p>steelhead trout does not, in itself, constitute substantial new information of a new potentially significant impact of the proposed project. Environmental review under CEQA is conducted to assess the physical impacts on the environment due to a proposed project. A substantial adverse effect on aquatic wildlife would be an impact under CEQA regardless of the species or habitat status.</p> <p>The current proposal involves the placement and operation of 5 new oil and gas wells on an existing graded pad identified as Drillsite #7. Three active oil wells already exist on this pad and have been in operation for more than two decades. No grading, expansion or other alteration of this pad is proposed other than the installation of the 5 new wells. The pad is maintained in an un-vegetated state and the drainage characteristics of this facility will not be altered. The operation of the proposed oil wells will not generate noise and vibration in excess of the limits established in County General Plan policy. No gas flaring or oil storage will occur on this pad as all produced oil, gas and brine is conveyed offsite by existing pipelines. As indicated in the attached memoranda from the Public Works Agency, the oil wells will be installed in accordance with the creek setback standards established in Section 8107-5.6 of the County Non-Coastal Zoning Ordinance. The placement of 5 new oil and gas wells will not result in any physical effect on Santa Paula Creek or any of the adjacent habitat area.</p> <p>Given the above factors, the Planning Biologist has determined that the proposed project would not result in a significant impact on the biological resources associated with Santa Paula Creek.</p>
C	C-2	<p>The proposed project involves the continued use of existing oil and gas facilities, including drilling pads. The only new facilities would be additional oil wells. The installation of an oil well only involves an increase in impervious surfaces of about 400 square feet. Thus, the change in the drainage characteristics of the four existing drillsites would be negligible. Refer to the attached Topical Response to Comment prepared for the DCOR application (PL13-0046) regarding the potential for impacts related to seismic hazards and produced fluid spills. The comment does provide any substantial evidence that the proposed project will result in potentially significant impacts related to produced fluid spills.</p> <p>In summary, this comment does not provide substantial evidence of a significant impact.</p>

C	C-3	Refer to the attached Topical Response to Comment prepared for the DCOR application (PL13-0046) regarding the potential for impacts related to seismic hazards and produced fluid spills. It is speculative that a major earthquake will occur during the life of the project and that such an earthquake will result in the spill of produced fluids. As indicated in the attached Topical Response to Comment, there is no definitive evidence that the primary fault in the area (the San Cayetano Fault) has experienced a major earthquake in the past 200 years. As indicated in Section 15064(f)(5) of the CEQA Guidelines, "speculation" does not constitute substantial evidence of an impact.
D	D-1	<p>According to a September 3, 2013 report by the M3 Civil, Inc. (Katherine McCunney, CE 43604), the graded surface of Drillsite #7 is at an elevation approximately 13 feet above the elevation of the floodplain of Santa Paula Creek. This report concludes that the placement of the proposed additional wells on this drillsite "will have no impact on the floodplain."</p> <p>Drillsite #7 is a permitted facility that is part of the existing setting. The physical dimensions of this pad are not proposed to be changed. The addition of 5 oil wells will not substantially change the drainage characteristics of this facility. No new impacts on Santa Paula Creek will occur with the proposed project.</p> <p>Refer to the attached memoranda from Engineering Geologist Brian R. Baca (CEG 1922) and the Public Works Agency regarding the evaluation of the continued use of Drillsite #7 for oil and gas activities. These document conclude that the proposed wells will be consistent with the creek setback standards established in Section 8107-5.6 of the NCZO.</p>
D	D-2	Refer to response to comment D-1 above.
D	D-3	The proposed project does not include the paving of Drillsite #7. Refer to response to comment D-1 regarding the consistency of the project with the NCZO creek setback standards. The proposed wells will meet the NCZO-required 100-foot setback from creeks and wetlands. The proposed project does not involve any disturbance of the riparian habitat along Santa Paula Creek.
D	D-4	There will be no change in the current public hiking trail as a result of the proposed project. As noted in the 1984 certified EIR, Drillsite #7 will be "clearly visible to hikers using the Santa Paula Creek trail." The site is now and will be characterized by a fenced 2-acre area with operating oil equipment. Thus, there will

		be no new impact on public recreation.
E	E-1	<p>In 1978, a Final Environmental Impact Report evaluated the drilling and production of up to 30 wells from six drill sites within the permit area. The cover page of the document is titled "Final Environmental Impact Report."</p> <p>The "environmental document" considered by the Planning Director in the review of the PL13-0150 application includes all of the previously certified documents (MND, EIRs) and the EIR Addendum prepared for the current application.</p>
E	E-2	Refer to responses to comments C-3 above.
E	E-3	This comment does not provide substantial evidence of a new potentially significant impact. The road between Drill Site Nos. 1 and 2 has been improved and Condition No. 46 satisfied.
E	E-4	The proposed project does not include the paving of Drillsite #7. This comment does not provide substantial evidence of a new potentially significant impacts.
E	E-5	This comment does not provide substantial evidence that the addition of new oil and gas wells to the existing oil and gas production facilities will result in any new flood-related impact. Refer to the attached memorandum by Brian R. Baca (CEG 1922).
E	E-6	This comment does not provide substantial evidence of a new potentially significant impact that would result from the proposed project. The standard requirement that industrial facilities maintain compliance with stormwater regulations is not evidence of an impact. The proposed project does not involve any substantial changes in the runoff characteristics of any of the existing facilities.
E	E-7	Refer to response to comment E-6.
E	E-8	<p>The proposed project includes the conveyance of produced fluids from the site to offsite existing facilities by existing pipelines. No new storage facilities will be constructed as part of the project. Refer to responses to comment C-1 and D-1.</p> <p>This comment does not provide evidence of a new potentially significant impact that would result from the proposed project.</p>
E	E-9	The requirement that hazardous materials be contained in accordance with applicable regulations is a standard requirement and not indicative of an environmental impact. No evidence has been presented that any such storage or containment would be unsuccessful and result in an environmental impact. Refer to response to comment E-8 above.
E	E-10	This comment expresses general concerns but does not provide

		any evidence of a new potentially significant impact that would result from the proposed project. With regard to flooding and geologic issues associated with the use of Drillsite #7, refer to the attached memorandum by Brian R. Baca (CEG 1922).
E	E-11	Refer to response to comment C-1 above.
F	F-1	Refer to response to comment B-4 above.
F	F-2	<p>Oil production facilities and operations, including oil wells, operate under permits issued by the Ventura County Air Pollution Control District (VCAPCD). These permits and associated requirements, including emission offsets, emission control equipment, and annual inspections, will ensure that project air emissions will be controlled to the maximum extent feasible throughout the life of the project. Hence, facilities that operate under permit by the VCAPCD are not considered to have the potential to cause or create a project-specific significant (or cumulatively considerable) impact on air quality. Moreover, air permit requirements, including those for oil production facilities and operations, have long been a major component of VCAPCD's overall strategy to bring Ventura County into compliance with state and federal clean air standards and as such have contributed to the county's progress towards meeting those standards.</p> <p>Refer to the attached memorandum regarding the potential impacts of greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>The cumulative effects of a 36-well oil and gas facility (as currently proposed) are evaluated in the previously-certified environmental documents (i.e. the 1978 and 1984 EIRs).</p> <p>The comment does not provide substantial evidence of a new potentially significant impact on the environment that would result from the proposed project.</p>
F	F-3	Refer to response to comment F-2 above.
F	F-4	This comment does not provide substantial evidence of a new potentially significant impact.
F	F-5	The proposed project was evaluated for cumulative impacts on the environment in the certified EIR. The subject oil and gas facility is existing and has been in operation for more than two decades. The current proposal does not involve a substantial change in the existing facilities except for the additional oil wells. The proposed project does not involve substantial changes in existing permitted facilities or operations, and does not involve any new long-term truck traffic. No potentially significant impacts have been identified that would result from

		<p>the current proposal. The determination of whether the EIR Addendum is adequate will be made by the Planning Director based on the evidence in the record at the time of decision.</p> <p>This comment does not provide substantial evidence of new potentially significant impacts.</p>
G	G-1	<p>The proposed project was evaluated for environmental impacts, and pursuant to Section 15164 of the CEQA Guidelines, the Planning Division prepared an Addendum to the existing Environmental Impact Report.</p> <p>This comment does not provide any substantial evidence of a new potentially significant impact that would result from the proposed project.</p>
G	G-2	<p>Refer to response to comment C-1 above.</p> <p>This comment does not provide substantial evidence of a new potentially significant impact.</p>
G	G-3	<p>There will be no change in the current public hiking trail as a result of the proposed project. Thus, there will be no new impact on public recreation.</p>
G	G-4	<p>The proposed project does not involve the development of new drillsites, roads or any grading that could substantially disturb cultural resources. This comment does not provide substantial evidence of a new potentially significant impact.</p>
G	G-5	<p>This comment does not provide substantial evidence of a new potentially significant impact. Issues of compatibility are addressed in the required findings for the granting of a CUP.</p>
G	G-6	<p>This comment does not provide substantial evidence of a new potentially significant impact. Refer to responses to comment C-1 and G-4.</p>
G	G-7	<p>The proposed project was evaluated for environmental impacts, and pursuant to CEQA, the Planning Division prepared an Addendum to the existing Environmental Impact Report. The previously-certified environmental documents for the existing facility evaluated a 36-well oil and gas facility as would result with approval of the current proposal.</p>
G	G-8	<p>The Planning Division publishes hearing documents one week prior to the scheduled public hearing. As a courtesy to interested parties, the hearing documents for Project PL13-0150 were published a week early.</p> <p>This comment does not provide substantial evidence of a new potentially significant impact.</p>
G	G-9	<p>The 1985 FEIR was prepared to augment the original 1978 EIR,</p>

		<p>which was prepared to augment an MND. All of these documents comprise the CEQA document included in the record and considered by the Planning Director in making a decision on the PL13-0150 application.</p> <p>The adequacy of the CEQA document (EIR Addendum) will be determined by the County decision-makers in accordance with the provisions of Section 15162 of the CEQA Guidelines.</p>
G	G-10	<p>The EIR Addendum prepared for the proposed project, as augmented by the public comments and responses to those comments, satisfies the environmental review requirements of CEQA. No new potentially significant impacts on the environment have been identified that require the preparation of a subsequent EIR. Refer to responses to comment B-1, B-4, B-6, C-1, C-2, C-3, and D-1.</p> <p>Note that the drilling period was extended through previous permit actions by the County.</p>
G	G-11	<p>There will be no change in the current public hiking trail as a result of the proposed project. Thus, there will be no new impact on public recreation. Refer to response to comment D-4.</p>
G	G-12	<p>This comment does not provide substantial evidence of an impact of the proposed project. Any odors derived from the existing permitted oil and gas facilities are part of the existing setting and not a subject of review for the current project. Moreover, compliance with applicable VCAPCD air regulations will help ensure that the project will not create objectionable odors offsite in the area. No evidence has been presented that the proposed addition of 19 oil wells to the existing facility will result in a significant impact on air quality. Refer to responses to comment B-4 and C-1.</p>
G	G-13	<p>This comment incorrectly describes the project. The project description has been clarified by the applicant such that no more than 5 new wells would be installed on Drillsite #7. There is no specific number of the other proposed 14 new wells to be installed on each of the other three drillsites.</p> <p>Planning staff disagrees that the placement of new oil wells at the two drillsites visible from a public viewpoint (Drillsites #1 and #7) will substantially alter scenic views adjacent to the existing oil field facilities. These sites would continue to be fenced and un-vegetated graded pads developed with operating oil wells and other oil field facilities.</p> <p>The issues of consistency with the General Plan and Non-</p>

		<p>Coastal Zoning Ordinance are addressed in the Planning Director staff report for the January 8, 2015 hearing.</p> <p>This comment does not provide substantial evidence of a new potentially significant impact.</p>
G	G-14	<p>The components of the proposed project are not visible from public roads included in the County Regional Road network. The commenter is correct in that the components of the project that would be located on Drillsites #1 and #7 will be visible from the public trail that extends from State Highway 150 through the St. Thomas Aquinas campus and into Santa Paula Canyon.</p> <p>Planning staff disagrees that the placement of new oil wells at the two drillsites (#1 and #7) visible from the trail will substantially alter scenic views adjacent to the existing oil field facilities. These existing sites are currently characterized by operating oil wells, tanks and other facilities. This character would not substantially change with the addition of new oil wells. The components of the project that would be located on Drillsites #2 and #3 will not be visible from public viewing areas.</p>
G	G-15	<p>The recommended conditions of approval include the requirement that the facilities be painted to blend with the surrounding area to the extent feasible. This requirement will have to be satisfied prior to the inauguration of uses under the requested modified CUP.</p>
G	G-16	<p>The recommended conditions of approval include the requirement that the facilities be maintained in a secure manner with fences and locked gates.</p>
G	G-17	<p>The addition of more wells on Drillsites #1 and #7 will not substantially alter the existing visual character of the site. No new potentially significant impacts on visual resources have been identified.</p> <p>The recommended conditions of approval include the requirement that the facilities be landscaped and otherwise screened to minimize public views of the facility as determined adequate by the Planning Director.</p> <p>The commenter is correct in that there is currently no screening of the views of Drillsite #7 or the existing oil well pumping units in operation on this site. However, given the narrow corridor where the public trail exists, full screening of Drillsite #7 would obscure views of the natural hillsides above the drillsite and could create a "tunnel effect" along the public trail. The Planning Director will determine the ultimate design of the required</p>

		landscaping and screening measures that will minimize visual effects. The vegetation included in the required landscaping will be comprised of native species.
G	G-18	There will be no change in the current public hiking trail as a result of the proposed project. Thus, there will be no new impact on public recreation. The proposed project will be conditioned to require cooperation by the Permittee with other interests to establish a permanent hiking trail.
G	G-19	Refer to response to comment C-2.
G	G-20	Refer to response to comment D-1.
G	G-21	<p>The July 18, 2013 letter to the Ventura County Planning Director from the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) provides a list of 23 recommended measures to "protect the condor from the potential adverse effects of oil and gas projects." The USFWS letter states that <i>"we are writing to provide you with information that we recommend considering during project review."</i> The letter further states that <i>"we understand that each oil and gas project is unique and every measure will not be applicable to all project."</i> Thus, the USFWS recognizes that the 23 listed measures are not laws or regulations but recommendations from agency staff to be considered by the local land use authority in the review of oil and gas projects.</p> <p>All of the onsite operational measures (measures 2 through 23) recommended by the USFWS in the 7-18-15 letter have been incorporated into the conditions of approval. The commenter asserts that USFWS recommendations #19 and #21 have been omitted from the recommended conditions of approval. This is incorrect. USFWS recommended measure #19 involves fire protection and is incorporated into condition of approval #69. USFWS recommendation 21 is included in condition of approval #34r.</p> <p>As pointed out by the commenter, the first of the 23 USFWS recommended measures states that <i>"oil and gas facilities will not be developed within 1.5 miles of active and historic nest sites and reintroduction sites, or within 0.5 miles of an active roost site."</i> This recommendation is not a mitigation measure that applies to a specific project but instead constitutes a proposed land use policy. Such a policy has not been codified in State or Federal law and has not been adopted by the County of Ventura.</p> <p>California condors are known to fly over most of Ventura County, including the Santa Paula Creek area in the vicinity of</p>

		<p>the proposed project. Data available from the USFWS obtained from the USGS document the presence of condors in the hillside areas near the proposed project site. Planning Division staff, however, has been unable to confirm the existence of a condor nesting or roosting site located within one-half mile of the proposed new oil wells.</p> <p>In any case, no substantial evidence has been presented that the addition of new oil wells to the existing drilling pads at an operating oil field will result in a new, potentially significant impact on the California condor. The proposed project does not involve the development of a new oil and gas facility. The project involves only the addition of new wells to an existing oil and gas facility that has been in operation for more than two decades. As stated by the Planning Division Biologist (H. Harris) at the September 25, 2014 Planning Commission hearing, <i>"there is no evidence that a condor has been injured or killed by operating oil equipment."</i> Thus, the potential but unconfirmed existence of a condor nesting/roosting site within 0.5 miles of the proposed project does not constitute a potentially significant impact of the proposed project.</p> <p>It is a speculative assertion that the proposed changes to the existing oil and gas facility will result in a significant impact on the condor. Any condor that utilizes a particular nesting site would have to fly over to an existing drillsite to suffer any ill effect. In this regard, the 22 mitigation measures recommended by the USFWS and imposed on the project are adequate to avoid potential impacts. The existing and proposed oil facilities are fixed in position and cannot travel to the nesting site to cause impacts at the nesting sites.</p> <p>The assertion that oil facilities located a substantial distance from a condor nest will result in significant impact on this species does not constitute substantial evidence as defined in Section 15064(f)(5) of the CEQA Guidelines.</p>
G	G-22	Refer to response to comment C-1.
G	G-23	<p>Regions throughout California are classified as being either attainment or nonattainment areas for the federal and state ambient air quality standards, depending on the number of times per year a standard has been exceeded.</p> <p>Ventura County is non-attainment of the federal 8-hour ozone standard, the state 8-hour and 1-hour ozone standards, and the state PM-10 standard. Ventura is attainment of all other federal and state air quality standards.</p>

		Refer to response to comment F-2.
G	G-24	The proposed project includes 19 oil and gas wells. The proposed project does not include oil drilling across the Ojai Oil Field. The existing wells in the Ojai Oil Field are part of the existing environmental setting under which project impacts are evaluated. The proposed wells represent less than 4 percent increase in the number of wells and would not create any new drillsites or require the installation of major facilities. The project involves no trucking of produced fluids or other activities that would combine with or affect the activities associated with other oil operations. A considerable contribution of the project to any cumulatively significant impact has not been identified. In any case, cumulative impacts of oil and gas activities are addressed in the certified EIRs prepared for the existing facility.
G	G-25	The requested permit specifically prohibits fracking. Should the applicant request to conduct hydraulic fracturing well stimulation techniques in the future, a modification of the requested permit and a new public hearing will be required.
G	G-26	The access road between drill sites 1 and 2 was improved many years ago. No grading is now required to alter this road.
G	G-27	The comments provided will be submitted to the decision maker.
H	H	During the Planning Director hearing, Planning Staff acknowledged this comment by stating that the concerns of the Thomas Aquinas College have been adequately addressed.

RESPONSES TO TESTIMONY

The Planning Division has received over two hours of public testimony from various speakers regarding the proposed project. Provided in the table below are specific responses to each comment in which a concern (or opposition to) the proposed oil and gas facility is expressed.

Speaker:	Summary of Content:
Bruce Carter CRC	The Permittee is now CRC (California Resources Corporation). Staff is thanked for work on this project. The proposed 19 new wells were previously authorized. Staff Response:

	<p>The clarification has been incorporated into the planning documents.</p>
<p>Uliana Micovic InterAct</p>	<p>As a consultant for the project, she is available to answer any questions.</p> <p><u>Staff Response:</u> No response provided.</p>
<p>Carol Holly CFROG</p>	<p>The goal of CFROG is to review the CUP correctly. CFROG's complaint is with County Planning because the County is not following their own regulations. She states that she has a personal problem with Drill Pad 7 since she first returned from college and found it. Wells in the middle of it are just not appealing.</p> <p><u>Staff Response:</u> The commenter does not indicate which specific regulations are not being followed. Based on the use of existing facilities in an active oil field, the proposed installation of additional wells will not create new potentially significant impacts on visual resources.</p>
<p>John Brooks CFROG</p>	<p>Well Pad 7 is "like twenty feet from Santa Paula Creek"; to put 7 new wells on that pad is hard to understand. There are several environmental impacts: 1) the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, 2) the threat of induced earthquakes from the injection well on the Hamp Lease, and 3) impacts to the college; emissions evaluation must use more modern methods.</p> <p><u>Staff Response:</u> Refer to responses to comments B-6, C-3, D-1, F-2, and E-10.</p>
<p>Jeff Kuyper LPFW</p>	<p>The EIR addendum is not appropriate due to 1) the passage of time since the previous environmental documents, 2) the project site is the most sensitive area in Ventura County due to the condor, steelhead trout, the most popular hiking trail in Ventura County, 3) all facilities are visible from the trail, 4) the Spill Control Plan is woefully inadequate, 5) the 300 foot setback from Santa Paula Creek is not adhered to, 6) appears drill pad 7 is located within a floodplain,</p>

	<p>7) active condor roosting sites are less than 0.5 miles away; standard is no development within .5 miles of active condor roosting sites, 8) the steelhead trout was not an endangered species in 1985; it is now, 9) air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions were not a part of the environmental analysis in 1985; they are now 10) cumulative impact analysis must evaluate the number of oil wells drilled in the Ojai Oil Field, 11) we need to look at the impacts of fracking, 12) grading and vegetation removal must be evaluated for the rerouting of the road.</p> <p><u>Staff Response:</u></p> <p>Refer to responses to comments G-1 through G-27.</p>
Marianne Ratcliffe	<p>Concerned over the lack of an EIR. The 1978 EIR states that groundwater is not used for much; the use of groundwater today needs to be addressed in an EIR.</p> <p><u>Staff Response:</u></p> <p>There will be no increase in the long-term demand for water as a result of the proposed project. During the temporary drilling phase of the project, about 0.5 acre-feet of water will be consumed per well. The temporary use of water (in this case approximated 10 acre-feet for the 19 wells) does not represent a significant impact on groundwater resources.</p> <p>Refer to response to comment C-2 regarding water quality.</p>
Tachima Shuman	<p>Supports an EIR being done for this. Global warming calculation is incorrect; it should use a figure of 34.</p> <p><u>Staff Response:</u></p> <p>Refer to response to comment F-2.</p>

Unknown speaker	<p>Decision in the Whitman lawsuit applicability should be considered in cumulative impact analysis. Concerned over the increasing number of flares.</p> <p><u>Staff Response:</u> The proposed project does not include any new flaring facilities. Gas would be conveyed from the site to market through an existing pipeline. Refer to response to comment G-24.</p>
Carole Holly	<p>There are about 100 oil wells per mile of valley floor; cumulative impacts of oil wells in Upper Ojai must be studied. The college students live in a small area; without looking at green technology that can help the ambient air, we are ignoring the fact that we live in 2015. As a hiker who frequents that area, she is not satisfied (with St Thomas Aquinas College having no opposition to proposed project).</p> <p><u>Staff Response:</u> Refer to response to comment G-24.</p>
John Brooks	<p>Has anyone contacted Pope Francis (regarding air quality)?</p> <p><u>Staff Response:</u> This comment relates to potential impacts on St. Thomas Aquinas College (STAC). Mr. John Masteller, General Counsel of STAC, has provided an email to the Planning Division that states "all of the College's concerns have been properly addressed."</p>

B-1



Statement by Citizens for Responsible Oil & Gas (CFROG) at Jan 8th Planning Director hearing PL13-0150 Vintage Oil at Thomas Aquinas College.

To the Planning Director:

Damn good roads up there on the old Ferndale Ranch. Why? Because a focused environmental impact report (FEIR) was prepared in 1984 to address ONLY the environmental consequences of providing access to the lease. The report states :“It does not address the actual drilling and production of oil from the proposed new wells.”

B-1

Its now the year 2015. There was no comprehensive environmental impact report (EIR) when the first well was drilled in 1971 and the (FEIR) that was certified was, as mentioned ,very limited .

B-2

This statement in the current staff report for PL-0150 is incorrect : “ No new substantial environmental impacts that were not evaluated in the previous EIR have been identified for the use of the existing permitted wells and facilities and the proposed drilling of the 19 previously-authorized wells.”

B-3

According to CFROG advisory board member Steven Colome Sc.D . (see attached biography) there has been no evaluation of the pollutants the project will produce including (GHG) greenhouse gas and no determination has been made as to the safety of the waste water injection.. Dr. Colome says today there is wider recognition of the need to reduce the release of (GHG) and the intense role of methane as a shorter-lived but very potent (GHG). It was not until about 1985 that the effects of methane on global warming were fully appreciated.

B-4

The Ventura County Air Pollution District says : "Before an agency determines the significance for any environmental issue, it must be made clear that a threshold, or the absence of one, does not relieve a lead agency from having to prepare an EIR." "CEQA has generally favored the preparation of an EIR where there is any substantial evidence to support a fair argument that the project may cause a significant adverse environmental impact "

B-5

The project involves the drilling of 19 new oil and gas wells and the continued operation of 17 wells for another 30 years. The waste water would be injected into a well on the Hamp lease which has already taken in an enormous quantity in an area of earthquake faults. There are unstudied impacts of air pollution, green house gas emissions and potential seismic events from injection wells .Plus the likelihood that extreme extraction methods such as hydraulic fracturing will be used .

B-6

Multiple studies have found that air pollution from oil and gas development can reach levels associated with adverse health impacts for residents and communities in regions with intense oil and gas development. Air pollution from unconventional oil and gas development can be classified into emissions during preproduction, production,transmission and storage, use, and after well abandonment.

B-7

Preproduction emissions (i.e., well pad preparation, drilling well stimulation, and completion) include methane, benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylene (BTEX),volatile organic compounds (VOCs), nitrogen oxides (NOx), fine particulate matter (PM2.5), hydrogen sulfide, and silica dust. VOCs and NOx contribute to the formation of regional ozone, which causes smog and harms the respiratory system.

During production, methane and VOCs, including numerous toxic air contaminants (TACs), may continue to be released from the wellhead and other equipment such as condensate tanks and compressor stations. Oil and gas transmission and storage release VOCs and methane.

B-8

Improper plugging of a well at the end of its life cycle can cause continued leakage of oil, methane, and other VOCs even after the well has ceased production

Constraints on these emission and openers for the use of best available control technology (BACT) must be built into the CUP .

5-3

In the (EIR) addendum prepared by the Ventura County Planning Department, staff cites CEQA guidelines:

"3. New information of substantial importance, which was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the Board of Supervisors certified the previous EIR, shows any of the following:
a. The project will have one or more significant effects not discussed in the previous EIR."

And then concludes falsely we believe,

"No new information or environmental impacts that were unknown and could not have been known when the EIR was certified (1985) have become available. The environmental conditions that currently exist on site are substantially the same as those that existed at the time at which the EIR was certified."

The laws have changed since this project was first studied. CEQA Guidelines that became effective in March 2010 require the lead Agency to determine whether a project's GHG emissions significantly affect the environment and to impose feasible mitigation to eliminate or substantially lessen any such significant effects. And if the planning department intends to use the same formulae that it used to determine GHG emissions in preparing estimates for the Mirada Petroleum project in the Upper Ojai and the now withdrawn DCOR project in Modelo Canyon, CFROG believes those are very deficient, in error in key parts, undocumented and highly opaque.

For example: Concerning reactive organics (ROC) Real data from oil & gas fields have been proven consistently to have higher emissions of (ROC) than assumed by Ventura County emission estimates. There must be actual sampling done to determine the local characteristics to establish a baseline. According to EPA estimates in 2002 there were nearly 500,000 pounds of polluting emissions a year in a five mile area surrounding this project.

There is also an absence of GHG data for this project. The EIR addendum notes changing circumstances require best management practices to protect the condors, but skips over changing conditions and requirements to protect the humans in the area and on the planet.

We recommend a comprehensive (EIR) on all unstudied aspects of expanding this oilfield and especially not the deficient cut and paste method used to estimate GHG in past projects ..

In those projects the planning department uses outdated CO2 GWP (global warming potential) value of 21 to equate the annual estimated methane emissions to CO2 equivalents. The factor of 21 comes from an older IPCC assessment; while the current IPCC estimate for the impact of methane over a 100 year period is 25.

This is a 20 per cent under estimate from the 100-year time frame.

But the analysis is also flawed because Methane is short-lived in the atmosphere (12 years) compared with CO2 (100+years). According to the IPCC, because of methane's relative short life, the 20 year impact factor for methane is over 75 times that of CO2. Therefore it would be more accurate to multiply the estimate of emissions from the entire project by a GHG-equivalence factor of 75-100. That number could very likely reach the arbitrary threshold of 10 thousand metric tons per year and will certainly reach the new limit of 7500 metric tons that the California Air Resources Board will soon adopt.

B-9

Since this request is for a 30 year extension of a CUP, there should be conditions to further reduce emissions as the regulatory laws evolve in response to the global crisis.

Natural gas and oil production is the second-biggest source of U.S. greenhouse gases and there have been no surveys of this oil field in the mouth of Santa Paula canyon with (FLIR) technology that can detect the leakage of methane. Curtailing fugitive methane emissions should be built into this CUP because they are so powerful a force for global warming.

In his final inaugural address this week, Governor Jerry Brown called on all of us, in an out of government, to curtail the flow of pollutants.

"Surely one moral precept we can agree on is to stop destroying our birthplace, the only home humanity will ever have. The evidence for climate warming, with industrial pollution as the principal cause, is now overwhelming."

And in words that certainly apply to PL13-0150 the governor said

"We must also reduce the relentless release of methane, black carbon and other potent pollutants across industries."

John Brooks President CFROG

.Biography for Steven D. Colome

Steven D. Colome, Sc.D. received his doctorate in Environmental Health Sciences from Harvard University, with an emphasis in air pollution control. He also earned an S.B. degree in Biological Sciences (molecular biology) from Stanford University.

His research experience is in the areas of air pollution exposure, pollution control, epidemiology, and risk assessment. He has served on the faculties of the University of California campuses at Irvine and Los Angeles. At UCLA he was Deputy Director of the Particle Research Center and Supersite, a multi-center research project supported by the National Institutes of Health, USEPA, and the Health Effects Institute

He is currently a Principal with EcoPAS, LLC, a startup firm developing control devices for the wine industry.

Dr. Colome has conducted original studies on multiple pollutants including ozone, nitrogen dioxide, carbon monoxide, particulate matter, VOCs, sulfur dioxide, sulfate, nitrate, particle-related metals, mutagenic compounds and formaldehyde. He is co-author of peer-reviewed publications on human pollutant exposure and health effects, has co-authored a highly respected book: "Health Effects of Fossil Fuel Combustion" and is co-author of the "Indoor Air Pollution: An Introduction for Health Professionals" sponsored by USEPA and CPSC along with the American Medical and American Lung Associations.

In addition to his original research, Dr. Colome has worked to integrate and summarize the effects of air pollution exposure. He has advised the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on health criteria documents for sulfur oxides and particulate matter, nitrogen dioxide, and carbon monoxide. He was a consultant to the EPA Science Advisory Board on ozone, served on the Expert Panel for the Health Effects Institute's reanalysis of particulate-matter epidemiology studies, and was appointed a member of the National Research Council/National Academy of Sciences Committees on carbon monoxide in cold climates and complex terrain, and on winter fuel oxygenates.

Dr. Colome served for a decade as a member of the Technical Advisory Committee to the Air Pollution Control Officer of the South Coast Air Quality Management District. He has served on governmental committees of the National Institutes of Health, NASA and DOD. The latter two dealing with astronaut exposures on the International Space Station and inhalation exposures of soldiers serving in Iraq.

C-1

CFROG January 8, 2015
Addendum to CUP 3344 Public Hearing
Comments

The March 2012 Supplemental Assessment of the Santa Paula Creek Flood Control Project

(http://www.ci.santapaula.ca.us/planning/SPCreek_Flood_Control_Project/Santa%20Paula%20Creek_SEA%20_March_2012.pdf)

contains new information not available and not known when the 1978 MND was written. The report states that the Santa Paula Creek, especially the upper portions immediately adjacent to the project drill pads 1 and 7 is critical habitat for the highly endangered steelhead trout. This is crucial new information not known, discussed or evaluated by the 1978 MND.

“In 2005, NMFS published a final designation of critical habitat for southern steelhead, with an effective date of January 2, 2006 (NMFS 2005). Santa Paula Creek was included in the final critical habitat designation as part of the Santa Clara Calleguas Hydrologic Unit.” (pg 3-33 Supplemental Assessment)

“The Southern California Distinct Population Segment (DPS) of steelhead which encompasses the populations occurring from the Santa Maria River to the California-Mexico border was listed as endangered in 1997 and its endangered status was reaffirmed in 2006 (NMFS 2006).

It is estimated that steelhead populations have been reduced to less than one percent of their former population size in southern California (Stoecker and Kelley 2005). Providing adequate upstream steelhead passage through Santa Paula Creek is essential for the recovery of the species to the watershed and would allow steelhead to take advantage of the spawning and rearing habitat in upper reaches of Santa Paula Creek (NMFS 2009b; Titus et al. 2010).

Historically, steelhead migrated upstream through the lower Santa Clara River to reach spawning grounds in Santa Paula, Sespe, and Piru creeks. Santa Paula Creek is the first major tributary above the Vern Freeman Diversion Dam along the Santa Clara River and is one of the three main historical spawning tributaries for southern steelhead. Rainbow trout (O.

C-1

C-2

mykiss) are the non-anadromous form of steelhead, and this wild, self-sustaining population of rainbow trout which inhabits Santa Paula Creek can produce some out-migrating smolts that emigrate to the Pacific Ocean (Stoecker and Kelley 2005; Harrison et al. 2006)." (pg. 3-33 Supp. Assmnt)

C-1

CFROG asserts that it is not within the discretion of the Ventura County Public Works Agency to allow an encroachment of less than 300' onto Santa Paula Creek. This is a Federally designated critical habitat location for a highly endangered species. The steelhead was designated as endangered in 1997 and reaffirmed in 2006 when this area of Santa Paula Creek was identified as critical habitat. It is unconscionable that in 2015 the Ventura County Lead Agency charged with the protection of our natural resources would not even allow for a study of the impacts of this encroachment.

C-2

CFROG calls for an EIR to evaluate the drill pad layouts, containment facilities, spill plans, floodwater plans, and drainage plans for runoff from the drill pads that will become impervious and all other possible environmental dangers to this critical habitat.

The 1978 MND recognizes that a

"fault line traverses the Ferndale Ranch in an east-west direction approximately midway between Drill Site No. 1 and proposed Drill Site No. 7. Public Works Agency staff have identified a significant environmental issue relating to the potential rupture of the oil flow line between Drill Site No. 7 and the oil and gas production facility located at Drill site No. 1. A rupture in the flow line could result in pollution of Santa Paula Creek."

C-3

This flow line is not singular. There are currently 3 above ground flow lines running from drill site no. 7 to drill site no. 1, one for each well on drill site 7. If this permit is allowed, there would be 10-12 flow lines running this same route. The impact of this potentially significant environmental hazard to the critical habitat of the steelhead trout must be evaluated in an EIR. Since the granting of this permit in 1985, the fault line that runs across Ferndale Ranch has been placed on the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Hazards Map and designated as an active fault with the potential for a M7 or greater earthquake.

C-3

The steelhead trout represents one of the major areas of environmental risks not recognized nor known when the MND was adopted. In the intervening years since 1985, circumstances have become dire regarding the steelhead trout habitat and its very existence is at great risk. This is new information that has become available and is of substantial importance. Not even this Addendum mentions this spawning ground. Rather than authorizing an encroachment, the drill pad should be eliminated and a more suitable drilling location sought.

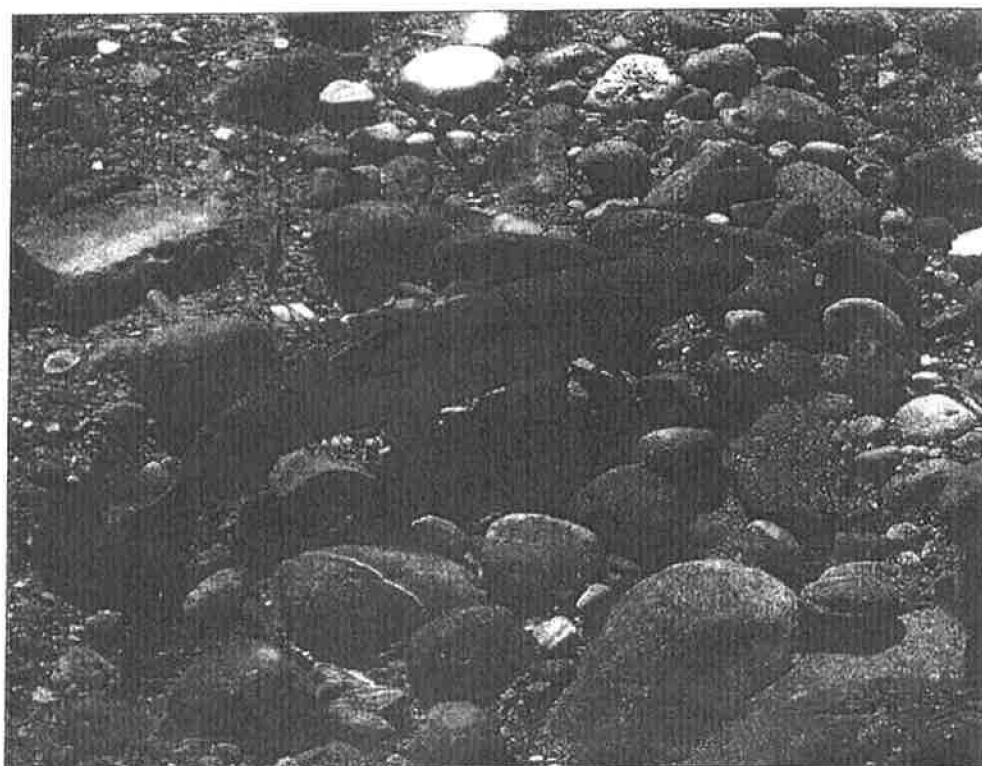
C-3



National Marine Fisheries Service

C-4
Southwest Regional Office

Southern California Steelhead Recovery Plan Summary



Adult Female Steelhead, Mission Creek, Santa Barbara County



**National Marine Fisheries Service
Southwest Regional Office
Long Beach, CA**

January 2012

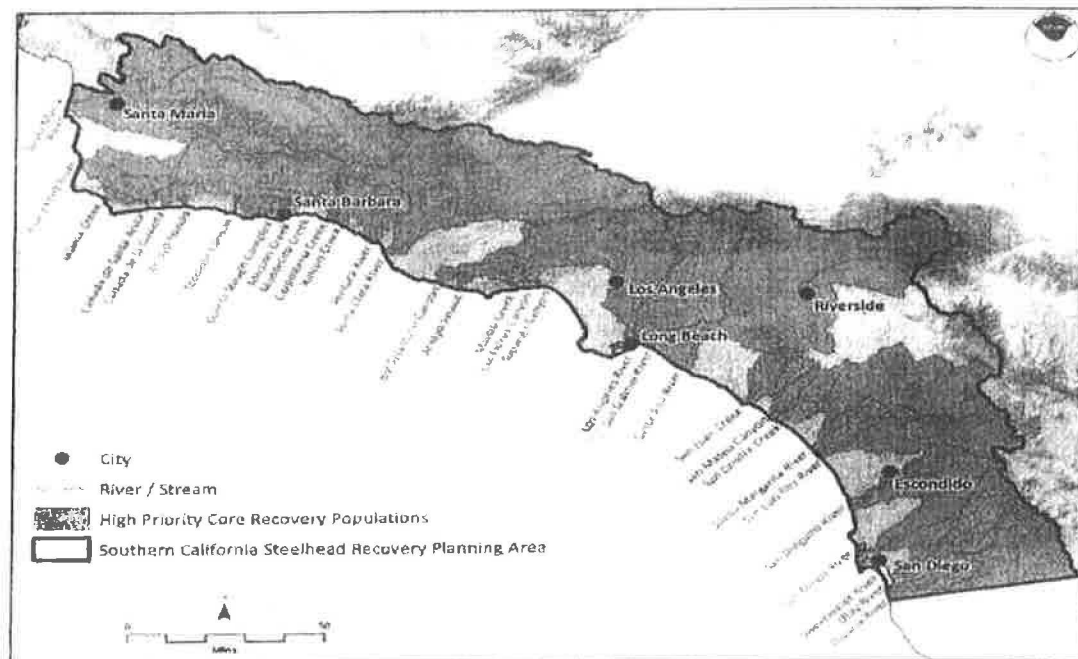


Introduction

Steelhead are the anadromous, or ocean-going, form of the species *Oncorhynchus mykiss*. Steelhead are one of six Pacific salmon species that are native to the west coast of North America, and are currently the only species of this group that naturally reproduces within the coastal watersheds of southern California. Because steelhead employ several different life-history strategies that exploit all portions of a river system, they serve as an indicator of the health of southern California watersheds. Southern California steelhead populations have declined precipitously, largely due to extensive watershed development.

Following a comprehensive status review of all West Coast steelhead populations by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), southern California steelhead were listed as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) on August 18, 1997; the range of the listed steelhead was extended to the U.S.-Mexico Border in 2002. Following a status review in 2005, a final listing determination was issued on January 5, 2006 for the Southern California Steelhead Distinct Population Segment (DPS); critical habitat was also designated within 32 DPS watersheds.

The Southern California Steelhead (SCS) Recovery Planning Area extends from the Santa Maria River to the Tijuana River at the U.S.-Mexico border. It includes both those portions of coastal watersheds that are at least seasonally accessible to steelhead entering from the ocean, and the upstream portions of watersheds that are currently inaccessible to steelhead due to man-made barriers but were historically used by steelhead. Major steelhead watersheds in the northern portion of the SCS Recovery Planning Area include the Santa Maria, Santa Ynez, Ventura, and Santa Clara Rivers, and Malibu and Topanga Creeks. Major steelhead watersheds in the southern portion of the SCS Recovery Planning Area include the San Gabriel, Santa Margarita, San Luis Rey, San Dieguito, and Sweetwater Rivers, and San Juan and San Mateo Creeks.

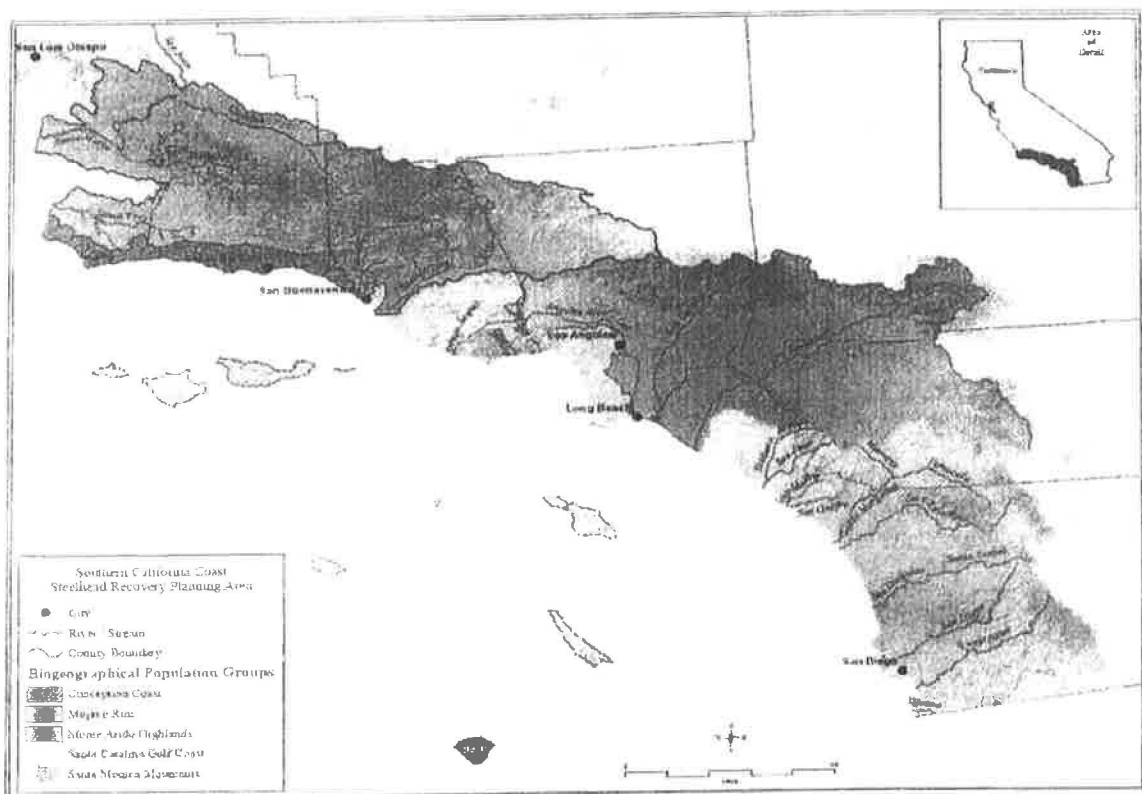


The Southern California Steelhead Recovery Planning Area.



The Southern California Steelhead DPS encompasses all naturally-spawned anadromous *O. mykiss* between the Santa Maria River (inclusive) and the U.S.-Mexico border, whose freshwater habitat occurs below artificial or natural impassible upstream barriers, as well as *O. mykiss* residing above impassible barriers that are able to emigrate into waters below barriers and exhibit an anadromous life-history.

The SCS Recovery Planning Area is divided into five Biogeographic Population Groups (BPGs): Monte Arido Highlands, Conception Coast, Santa Monica Mountains, Mojave Rim and Santa Catalina Gulf Coast. Each BPG is characterized by a unique combination of physical and ecological characteristics that present differing natural selective regimes for steelhead populations utilizing the individual watersheds. The separate watersheds comprising each BPG are generally considered to support individual *O. mykiss* populations (i.e., one watershed = one steelhead population). Thus, single BPGs encompass multiple watersheds and multiple *O. mykiss* populations.



The Southern California Steelhead Recovery Planning Area Biogeographic Population Groups.

The basic goal of the Southern California Steelhead Recovery Plan is to recover anadromous steelhead and ensure the long-term persistence of self-sustaining wild populations of steelhead across the DPS – and ultimately to remove southern California steelhead from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife. The Recovery Plan proposes to accomplish this goal by addressing factors limiting the species ability to survive and naturally reproduce in the wild within a set of core watershed populations distributed across the SCS Recovery Planning Area.



Environmental Setting

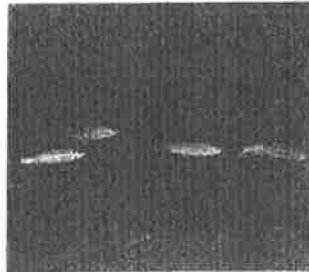
The SCS Recovery Planning Area is dominated by a series of steep mountain ranges and coastal valleys and terraces. Watersheds within the region fall into two basic types: those characterized by short coastal streams draining mountain ranges immediately adjacent to the coast and those watersheds containing larger river systems that extend inland through gaps in the coastal ranges. The SCS Recovery Planning Area has a Mediterranean climate, with long dry summers and brief winters with short, sometimes intense cyclonic winter storms. Significant portions of the upper watersheds within the SCS Recovery Planning Area are contained within four U.S. National Forests (Los Padres, Angeles, San Bernardino, and Cleveland National Forests).

Steelhead Biology and Ecology

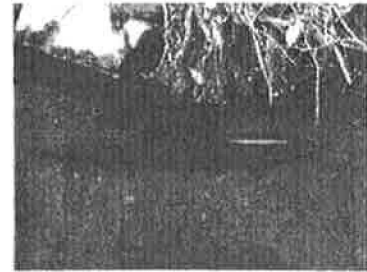
Steelhead exhibit an anadromous life-history: juveniles born and reared in freshwater undergo a physiological change (smoltification) that allows them to migrate to and mature in saltwater before returning to their natal rivers or streams (streams where they were spawned) to reproduce and complete their life cycle. After maturing in the marine environment for two to four years, returning adults may migrate from several to hundreds of miles upstream to reach their spawning grounds. Once in spawning habitat, a female will excavate a nest, termed a "redd", in streambed gravels where she deposits her eggs. After fertilization by the male, hatching time varies from about three weeks to two months, with the young fish emerging two to six weeks later. Adult anadromous steelhead do not necessarily die after spawning and may return to the ocean, sometimes repeating their spawning migration one or more times.



Juvenile *O. mykiss* (~10 cm)
Santa Ana Creek



Smolt *O. mykiss* (~16 cm)
Carpinteria Creek



Adult *O. mykiss* (~76 cm)
Mission Creek

Within this basic life-history pattern, individuals may exhibit great variation in the time and location spent at each life-history stage. *O. mykiss* exhibit three basic life-history strategies: fluvial-anadromous (migration between freshwater and saltwater), lagoon-anadromous (migration to and from a brackish lagoon) and freshwater residency (remain in freshwater). The diversity of these life-history strategies has allowed *O. mykiss* to take advantage of different habitats and to persist in the highly variable and challenging southern California environment. Anadromous steelhead reach a larger size and produce more eggs per individual than typical freshwater resident *O. mykiss*; they can also spawn in non-natal streams and thus re-colonize watersheds whose populations have been extirpated. Lagoon-reared juveniles can attain a larger size in a single rearing season than freshwater-reared individuals, which enhances their survival in the ocean. However, freshwater-reared individuals, referred to as rainbow trout, may exhibit higher survival rates than ocean-reared individuals during poor ocean conditions, that can persist for multiple decades. Fish that exhibit any one of these life-history strategies can produce progeny that exhibit one or more of the other life-history strategies. The switching of life-history strategies is an important adaptive response to the highly variable environments characteristic of southern California watersheds.



Southern California Steelhead

For millennia, steelhead have been an integral part of southern California watershed ecosystems. The subsistence role of steelhead in pre-European settlement Native American cultures, however, is not as well understood as other marine species, and continues to be a subject of archeological and ethnographic research.



Ventura River Steelhead Anglers, 1909



Santa Ynez River Steelhead Angler, 1942

Up until the mid-1900s recreational steelhead angling was prevalent during the early to mid-1900s, and both steelhead and their progeny were sought out by recreational anglers - the ocean going steelhead pursued during the winter and the freshwater juveniles during the spring and summer angling seasons.

Following the dramatic rise in southern California's human population after WW II, and the associated land and water development in coastal watersheds, steelhead populations rapidly declined from an estimated 32,000 - 46,000 fish per year to less than 500 returning adults. While the steelhead populations declined sharply, most coastal watersheds retained populations of the non-anadromous form of the species, with many populations trapped behind dams and other impassible barriers.

Factors Leading to Federal Listing

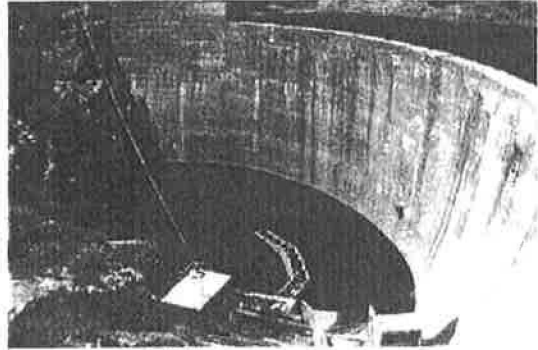
There is no single factor responsible for the decline of southern California steelhead; however, the destruction and modification of habitat has been identified as one of the primary causes of the decline of the Southern California Steelhead DPS.

Approximately half of the population of the State of California currently lives and works within the SCS Recovery Planning Area, placing extraordinary pressure on natural resources. As a result, anadromous *O. mykiss* in southern California face significant threats from water and land management practices that have degraded or curtailed freshwater and estuarine habitats, reducing the capability of the anadromous form of *O. mykiss* to persist within many watersheds.

Water withdrawals and diversions for agriculture, flood control, domestic water supply and hydropower purposes have greatly reduced or degraded historically accessible habitat. Dams and other water control structures have blocked access to historically important spawning and rearing areas; modified flow regimes necessary for migration, spawning and rearing; increased downstream water temperatures; degraded riparian habitats; and reduced gravel recruitment essential to support spawning and invertebrate food sources for rearing juveniles.



Rincon Creek Estuary and Urban Development



Matilija Dam, Matilija Creek

Land-use and flood control activities associated with urban development, mining, agriculture, ranching, and recreation have significantly altered the quantity and quality of steelhead habitat in multiple ways. These include: alteration of stream banks; increases in ambient stream water temperatures; degradation of water quality through municipal and industrial waste discharges; removal of riparian vegetation resulting in increased stream bank erosion, loss of channel complexity, pool habitat, and increased sedimentation into spawning and rearing areas; and fragmentation of remaining habitats. The substantial increase of impermeable surfaces (including roads) as a result of urbanization has also altered the natural flow regimes of rivers and streams, particularly in their lower reaches. A significant percentage of estuarine habitats have been lost across the DPS due to urban development, including recreational development; the remaining wetland areas remains at risk of further loss or degradation.



Agricultural Development



Sedimentation Following Wildfires



Channel Modification

Other factors contributing to the decline of southern California steelhead populations and leading to the listing of the species as endangered include impacts from recreational activities (*e.g.*, off-road vehicles, summer dams); the introduction and spread of non-native species which can compete directly or indirectly for habitat space, serve as vectors for disease, or increase predation; and the inadequacy of existing planning or regulatory and enforcement mechanisms at the local, state, and federal levels.

The natural environmental variability of the SCS Recovery Planning Area has both masked and exacerbated the problems associated with degraded and altered riverine and estuarine steelhead habitats. Floods and persistent drought conditions have periodically reduced naturally limited spawning, rearing, and migration habitats. Projected impacts of future climate change pose additional challenges to southern California steelhead.



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Steelhead Recovery Goals, Objectives, and Criteria

The Recovery Plan is a guidance document for achieving recovery goals that include viability criteria for populations of *O. mykiss* and the DPS as a whole. The basic goal of the Southern California Steelhead Recovery Plan is to prevent the extinction of anadromous steelhead by ensuring the long-term persistence of viable, self-sustaining, wild populations of steelhead across the DPS. It is also the goal of the Recovery Plan to re-establish a sustainable southern California steelhead sport fishery.

The Recovery Plan outlines the following objectives that address factors limiting the species' ability to survive and naturally reproduce in the wild:

- ☐ *Prevent steelhead extinction by protecting existing populations and their habitats.*
- ☐ *Maintain current distribution of steelhead and restore distribution to some previously occupied areas.*
- ☐ *Increase abundance of steelhead to viable population levels, including the expression of all life-history forms and strategies.*
- ☐ *Conserve existing genetic diversity and provide opportunities for interchange of genetic material between and within viable populations.*
- ☐ *Maintain and restore suitable habitat conditions and characteristics to support all life-history stages of viable populations.*

Biological viability criteria are identified for individual populations and the DPS as a whole. A *viable population* is defined as a population having a negligible (< 5%) risk of extinction due to threats from demographic variation, non-catastrophic environmental variation, and genetic diversity changes over a 100-year time frame. A *viable DPS* is comprised of a sufficient number of viable populations widely distributed throughout the DPS but sufficiently well-connected through ocean and freshwater dispersal to maintain long-term (1,000-year) persistence and evolutionary potential of the DPS.

The population-level viability criteria apply to core populations in all of the BPGs. These criteria include population characteristics such as mean annual run-size, persistence during varying ocean conditions, spawner density, and the anadromous fraction of the individual populations. Because of the uncertainty regarding important aspects of the biology and ecology of southern California steelhead further research is needed to refine the population-level criteria in all BPGs, as well as the role of each of the BPGs.

The DPS-level viability criteria identify a minimum number of populations which must be restored to viability and the minimum spatial distribution between populations in each BPG: Monte Arido – 4 populations, Conception Coast - 3 populations, Santa Monica Mountains – 2 populations, Mojave River – 3 populations, and Santa Catalina Gulf Coast -8 populations).

This redundancy ensures that there are a sufficient number of populations within the BPGs and across the DPS to provide resiliency in the face of environmental fluctuations, and also that a variety of habitat types and environmental conditions are represented to promote the continued evolution of the species. Some of these populations may be comprised of multiple watersheds if further research indicates that they act as trans-basinal populations.



Summary of DPS-Wide Recovery Actions

Recovery of the Southern California Steelhead DPS will require recovery of a number of viable populations (or sets of interacting trans-basinal populations) within each of the five BPGs to conserve the natural diversity (genetic, phenotypic, and behavioral), spatial distribution, and resiliency of the DPS as a whole. Core populations in all BPGs must be restored to viability before the DPS as a whole can be recovered and delisted.

There are two types of developments and activities that pose the principal threats to the species: 1) impassible barriers to fish passage; and 2) water storage and withdrawal, including groundwater extraction. The Recovery Plan provides additional information on these and other threats and related recovery actions necessary to recover steelhead within individual watersheds and the DPS as a whole.

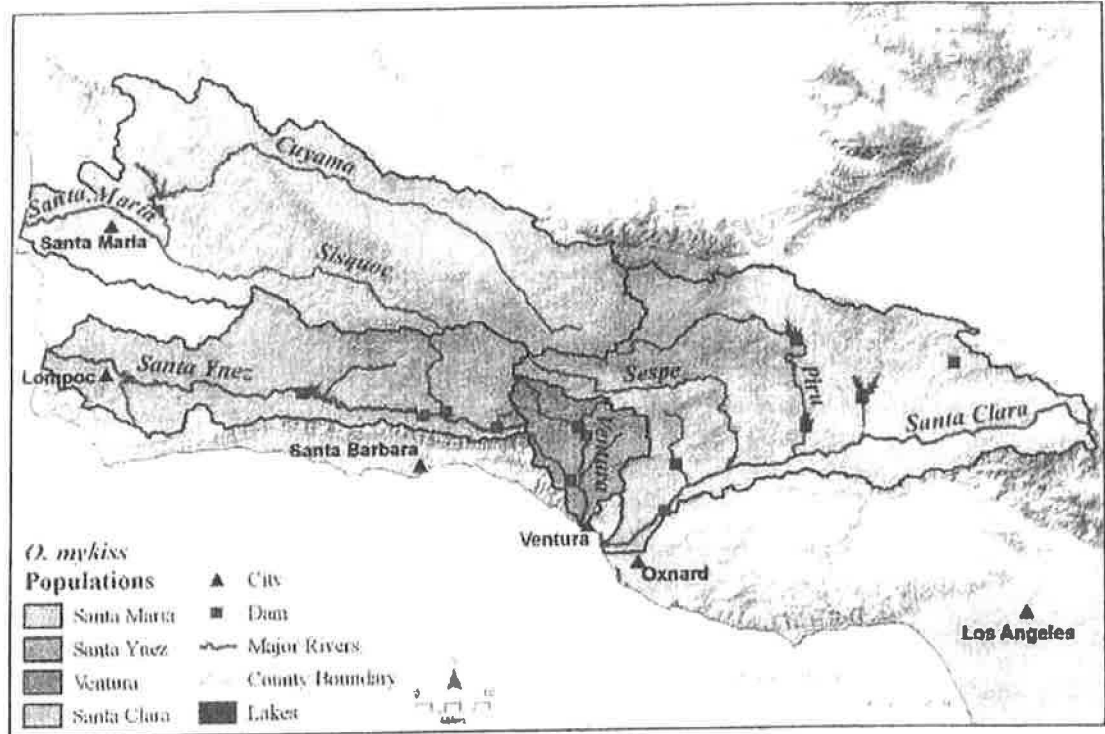
The Recovery Plan highlights a number of high priority DPS-wide recovery actions, including:

- ☐ *Physically modify passage barriers such as dams and diversion facilities to allow natural rates of migration to upstream spawning and rearing habitats.*
- ☐ *Coordinate with the California Department of Fish and Game and State Water Resources Control Board to ensure the effective implementation of California Fish and Game Code Sections 5935-5937 (provision of fishway and fish flows associated with dams and diversions).*
- ☐ *Extend California Water Code Section 1294.4 (dealing with instream flows to protect instream beneficial uses, including native fishes), to southern California.*
- ☐ *Enhance protection of natural in-channel and riparian habitats, including appropriate management of flood-control activities, off-road vehicle use, and in-river sand and gravel mining practices.*
- ☐ *Reduce water pollutants such as fine sediments, pesticides, herbicides, and other non-point source waste discharges.*
- ☐ *Assess the condition of and restore estuarine habitats through the control of fill, waste discharges, and establishment of buffers; control artificial breaching and/or draining of coastal estuaries.*
- ☐ *Conduct research on the relationship between resident and anadromous forms of *O. mykiss*, and the population dynamics regarding distribution, abundance, residualization, dispersal, and recolonization rates.*
- ☐ *Survey and monitor the distribution and abundance of non-native plant and animal species that degrade natural habitats or compete with native species; reduce and/or control such non-native invasive species.*
- ☐ *Incorporate appropriate elements of the Recovery Plan into the state-sponsored and funded Integrated Regional Water Management Plans (IRWMP).*
- ☐ *Finalize and implement the Statewide Coastal Monitoring Plan for anadromous salmonids.*

As part of an adaptive management program, population and habitat responses to recovery actions will be evaluated through on-going research and monitoring.



Monte Arido Highlands Biogeographic Population Group



The Monte Arido Highlands BPG encompasses four medium to large coastal watersheds and eight sub-watersheds that drain the western half of the Transverse Range in southern San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura, and eastern Los Angeles counties. These watersheds are highly disparate in terms of slope, aspect, and size, but share one common feature: the interior portions are mountainous and include high peak elevations, ranging between 5,700 and 8,600 feet above sea level. Each of these watersheds flows across a coastal terrace in its lower elevation, but the Santa Maria, Santa Ynez, and Santa Clara rivers traverse broad coastal plains before entering the Pacific Ocean. Overall, stream lengths tend to be long, due to multiple tributaries and topographic relief in the interior watersheds. The Santa Maria River watershed (Cuyama River sub-watershed) extends the furthest inland—almost 90 miles between the mouth and the limits of the upper watershed.



Santa Maria River



Adult Steelhead, Santa Clara River



Bradbury Dam, Santa Ynez River



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Threat Source Rankings: Monte Arido Highlands BPG Component Watersheds (north to south)												
Threat Sources	Santa Maria River	Cuyama River	Sisquoc River	Santa Ynez River	Ventura River	Coyote Creek	Matilija Creek mainstem	North Fork Matilija Creek	San Antonio Creek	Santa Clara River	Santa Paula Creek	Sespe Creek
Dams and Surface Water Diversions												
Groundwater Extraction												
Agricultural Development												
Urban Development												
Recreational Facilities												
Non-Native Species												
Levees and Channelization												
Flood Control												
Wildfires*												
Mining and Quarrying												
Roads												
Urban Effluents												
Agricultural Effluents												
Culverts & Road Crossings												

Key: Red = Very High threat; Yellow = High threat; Light green = Medium threat; Dark green = Low threat
Threat cell colors represent threat rating from Conservation Planning (CAP) Workbooks.

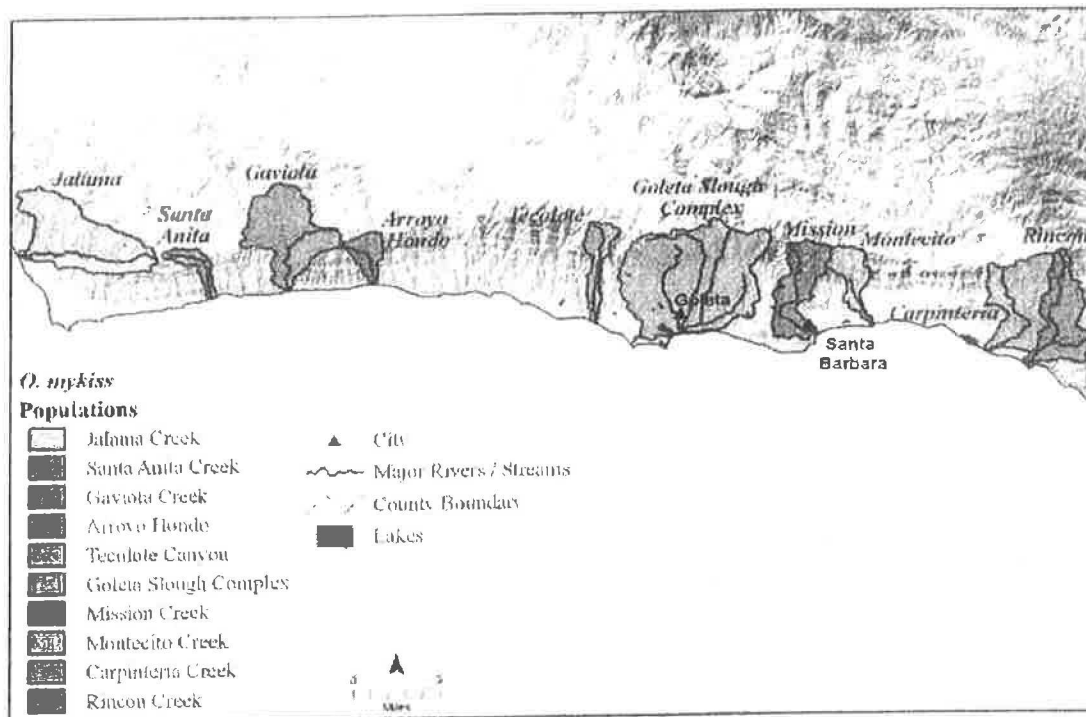
*Wildfires were not identified during the CAP Workbook analyses as one of the top five threats in several of these watersheds, but recent fires in coastal watersheds indicates that future wild fires could result in significant habitats impacts.

Priority Recovery Actions

- Develop and implement operating criteria to ensure the pattern and magnitude of water releases from dams, including Twitchell, Bradbury, Gibraltar, Juncal, Casitas, Matilija, Robles Diversion, Santa Felicia, Pyramid, Vern Freeman Diversion, and Castaic dams, provide the essential habitat functions to support the life-history and habitat requirements of adult and juvenile *O. mykiss*.
- Develop and implement plans to physically modify Twitchell, Bradbury, Gibraltar, Mono, Juncal, Casitas, Matilija, Robles Diversion, Santa Felicia, Pyramid, Vern Freeman Diversion, and Castaic dams to allow natural rates of adult and juvenile *O. mykiss* migration between the estuary and upstream spawning and rearing habitats, and passage of smolts and kelts downstream to the estuary and ocean.
- Develop and implement a groundwater monitoring program to guide management of groundwater extractions within steelhead bearing watersheds to ensure surface flows provide essential support for all *O. mykiss* life-history stages, including adult and juvenile *O. mykiss* migration, spawning, incubation, and rearing habitats.
- Develop and implement plans to physically modify the lower Santa Paula Creek flood control channel to allow natural rates of migration of adult and juvenile *O. mykiss* between the estuary and upstream spawning and rearing habitats, and passage of smolts and kelts downstream to the estuary and ocean.
- Develop and implement restoration and management plans for the estuaries associated with steelhead bearing watersheds. To the maximum extent feasible, the plan should restore the physical configuration, size and diversity of the wetland habitats, eliminate exotic species, control artificial breaching of the sand bar, and establish effective buffers to restore estuarine functions and promote *O. mykiss* use (including rearing and acclimation) of the estuaries.



Conception Coast Biogeographic Population Group



The Conception Coast BPG encompasses eight small coastal watersheds that drain a 50-mile long stretch of the south-facing slopes of the Santa Ynez Mountains in southern Santa Barbara County and extreme southwestern Ventura County. The Santa Ynez Mountains are an east-west trending spur of the Transverse Range that creates some of the steepest watersheds in any of the five BPGs in the SCS Recovery Planning Area. Peak elevations reach 4,300 feet within a few miles of the Pacific Ocean. These watersheds are relatively homogeneous in slope, aspect, and size, with steep upper watersheds and lower watersheds that cut across a relatively narrow coastal terrace. Stream lengths are relatively short in this BPG; the Gaviota Creek watershed penetrates the furthest inland (about seven miles). Rainfall amounts in the upper watersheds can be five to six times higher than on the coastal terrace during the same storm event, and the steep topography creates extremely "flashy" flows within these watersheds.



Gaviota Creek



Maria Ygnacio Creek



Adult Steelhead, Carpinteria



C-15

Threat Source Rankings: Conception Coast BPG Component Watersheds (north to south)											
Threat Source	Jalama Creek	Canada de Santa Anita	Gaviota Creek	Arroyo Hondo	Tecolote Creek	Galeto Slough	Mission Creek	Monterey Creek	Carpinteria Creek	Rincon Creek	
Roads											
Culverts & Crossings											
Groundwater Extraction											
Levees and Channelization											
Urban Development											
Wildfires*											
Recreational Facilities											
Non-Point Pollution											
Flood Control											
Mining and Quarrying											
Agricultural Development											
Dams and Surface Water Diversions											

Key: Red = Very High threat; Yellow = High threat; Light green = Medium threat; Dark green = Low threat
Threat cell colors represent threat rating from Conservation Action Planning (CAP) Workbooks.

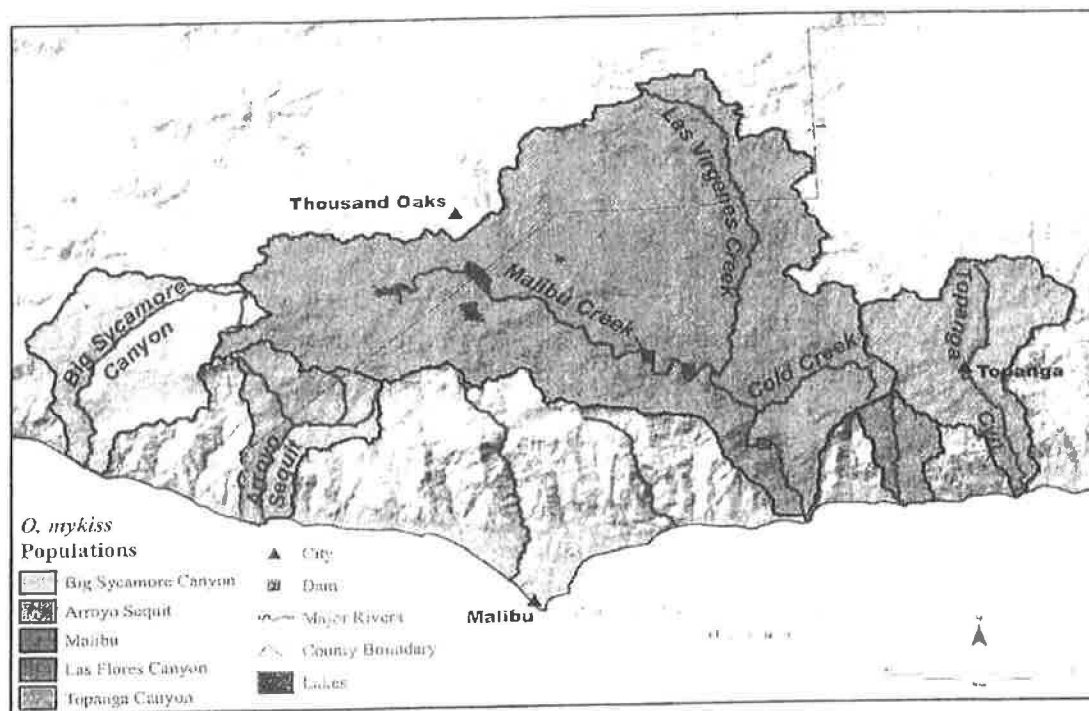
*Wildfires were not identified during the CAP Workbook analyses as one of the top five threats in several of these watersheds, but recent fires in coastal watersheds indicates that future wildfires could result in significant habitats impacts.

Priority Recovery Actions

- Develop and implement a plan to physically modify channelized reaches of lower Mission Creek, and upstream road crossings, to allow natural rates of migration of adult and juvenile *O. mykiss* between the estuary and upstream spawning and rearing habitats, and passage of smolts and kelts downstream to the estuary and ocean.
- Develop and implement a plan to physically modify upstream debris basins and other fish passage barriers within steelhead bearing watersheds to allow natural rates of adult and juvenile *O. mykiss* of migration between the estuary and upstream spawning and rearing habitats, and passage of smolts and kelts downstream to the estuary and ocean.
- Develop and implement a plan to physically modify the Highway 101 and railroad culvert over lower Rincon Creek, and upstream road crossings to allow natural rates of adult and juvenile *O. mykiss* migration between the estuary and spawning and rearing habitats, and passage of smolts and kelts downstream to the estuary and ocean.
- Develop and implement a groundwater monitoring program to guide management of groundwater extractions within steelhead bearing watersheds to ensure surface flows provide essential support for all *O. mykiss* life-history stages, including adult and juvenile *O. mykiss* migration, spawning, incubation, and rearing habitats.
- Develop and implement restoration and management plans for estuaries associated with steelhead bearing watersheds. To the maximum extent feasible, the plans should restore the physical configuration, size and diversity of the wetland habitats, eliminate exotic species, control artificial breaching of the sand bar, and establish effective buffers to restore estuarine functions and promote *O. mykiss* use (including rearing and acclimation) of the estuaries.



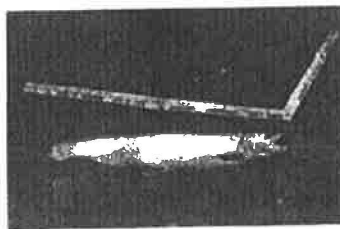
Santa Monica Mountains Biogeographic Population Group



The Santa Monica Mountains BPG consists of five coastal watersheds located in southern Ventura and western Los Angeles counties which drain the east-west coastal Santa Monica Mountains. Similar to the Conception Coast BPG, it is comprised of a series of short, nearly parallel streams that drain steep south-facing slopes, but with an average elevation of less than 2,500 feet. These watersheds are relatively homogeneous in slope, aspect, and size, with steep upper watersheds and lower watersheds that cut across a relatively narrow coastal terrace. Malibu Creek is the largest of the five watersheds, encompassing approximately 110 square miles, and penetrates through a break in the Santa Monica Mountains to drain a portion of its north-facing slopes and the south-facing slopes of the Simi Hills. There are also a number of smaller watersheds within this BPG (e.g., Trancus, Zuma, Solstice, and Las Flores Canyon) which may also be used by steelhead when water conditions are periodically favorable. Calleguas Creek and the Los Angeles River, to the east and west of the BPG, drain the northern slopes of the Santa Monica Mountains.



Malibu-Los Angeles



Adult Steelhead, Malibu Creek



Rindge Dam, Malibu Creek



C-17

Threat Source Rankings: Santa Monica Mountains BPG Component Watersheds (west to east)					
Threat Sources	Big Sycamore Canyon Creek	Arroyo Sequit	Malibu Creek	Las Flores Canyon Creek	Topanga Canyon Creek
Roads					
Recreational Facilities					
Culverts and Road Crossings					
Wildfires*					
Urban Development					
Levees and Channelization					
Dams and Surface Water Diversions					
Non-Native Species					
Upslope/Upstream Development					
Urban Effluents					

Key: Red = Very High threat; Yellow = High threat; Light green = Medium threat; Dark green = Low threat
Threat cell colors represent threat rating from Conservation Action Planning (CAP) Workbooks.

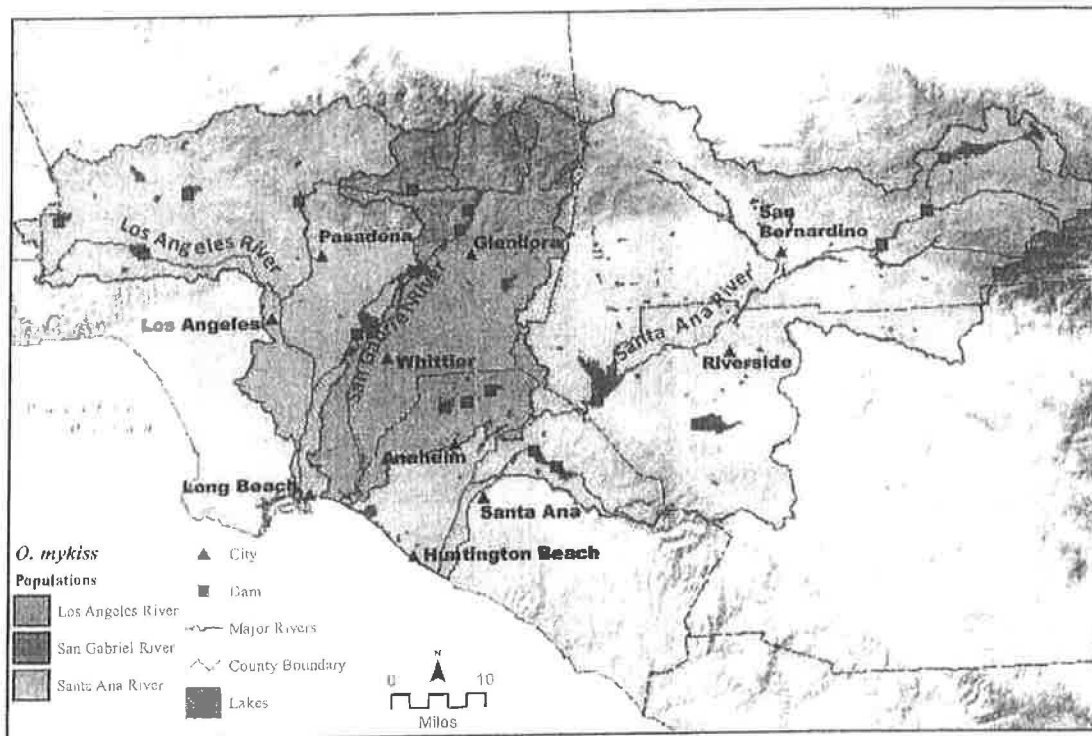
*Wildfires were not identified during the CAP Workbook analyses as one of the top five threats in several of these watersheds, but recent fires in coastal watersheds indicates that future wildfires could result in significant habitats impacts.

Priority Recovery Actions

- Develop and implement plans to remove Rindge and Malibu dams, and physically modify road crossings and other fish passage barriers to allow natural rates of adult and juvenile *O. mykiss* migration between the estuary and upstream spawning and rearing habitats, and passage of smolts and kelts downstream to the estuary and the ocean.
- Develop and implement plan to replace the U.S. 101 culvert over Topanga Creek with a full span bridge and remove fill from the Topanga Creek Estuary to allow natural rates of adult and juvenile *O. mykiss* migration to upstream spawning and rearing habitats, and passage of smolts and kelts downstream to the estuary and ocean.
- Develop and implement restoration and management plans for estuaries associated with steelhead bearing watersheds. To the maximum extent feasible, the plans should restore the physical configuration, size and diversity of the wetland habitats, eliminate exotic species, control artificial breaching of the sand bar, and establish effective buffers to restore estuarine functions and promote *O. mykiss* use (including rearing and acclimation) of the estuaries.
- Develop and implement an integrated wildland fire and hazardous fuels management plan, including monitoring, remediation and adaptive management, to reduce potentially catastrophic wildland fire effects to adult and juvenile *O. mykiss* and their habitat and preserve natural ecosystem processes (including sediment transport and deposition).



Mojave Rim Biogeographic Population Group



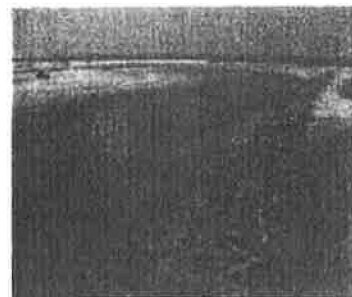
The Mojave Rim BPG encompasses three large coastal watersheds that drain the northern slopes of the Santa Monica Mountains and the southern slopes of the San Gabriel and San Bernardino mountains in southern Los Angeles County, southwestern San Bernardino, and western Riverside and Orange counties: the Los Angeles River, San Gabriel River, and the Santa Ana River. The upper portions of each of these watersheds include steep, mountainous terrain (within the Angeles and San Bernardino National Forests) and the lower watersheds cut across the Los Angeles Basin - an extensive coastal plain, with comparatively few, small tributaries.



Morris Dam, San Gabriel River



East Fork San Gabriel River



Santa Ana River Estuary



Threat Source Rankings: Mojave Rim BPG Component Watersheds (west to east)								
Threat Sources	Los Angeles River mainstem	Arroyo Seco	San Gabriel River mainstem	West Fork San Gabriel River	East Fork San Gabriel River	Santa Ana River mainstem	Lytle Creek	Mill Creek
Dams and Surface Water Diversions								
Flood Control								
Groundwater Extraction								
Levees and Channelization								
Urban Development								
Recreational Facilities								
Culverts and Road Crossings								
Agricultural Development								
Upslope/Upstream Development								
Wildfires*								

Key: Red = Very High threat; Yellow = High threat; Light green = Medium threat; Dark green = Low threat
Threat cell colors represent threat rating from Conservation Action Planning (CAP) Workbooks.

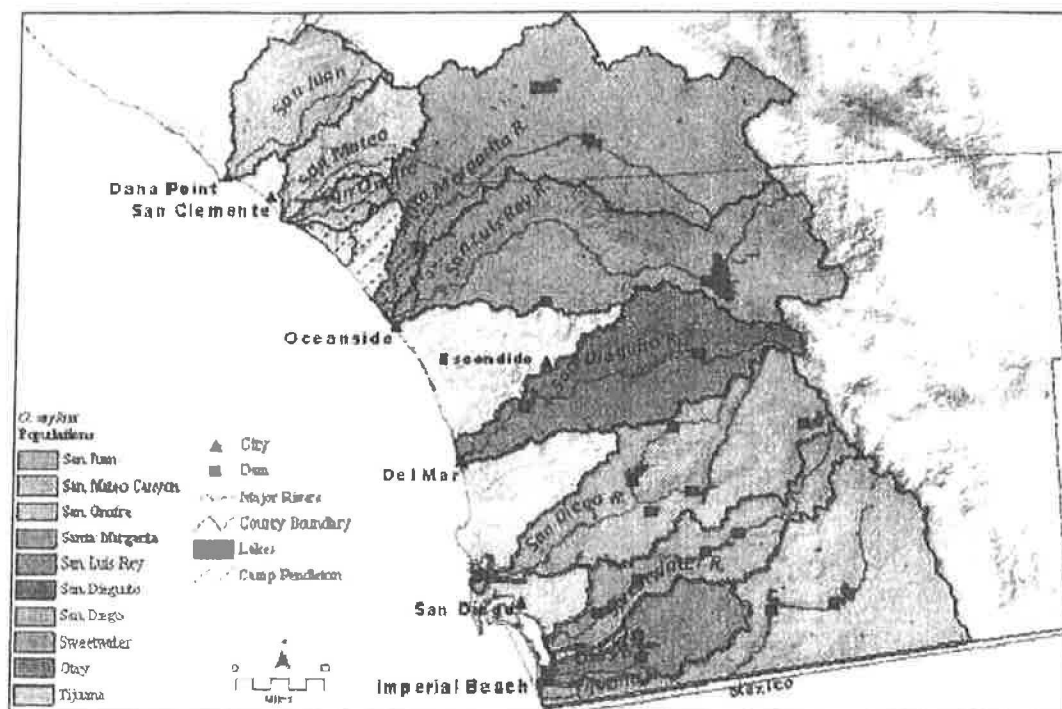
* Wildfires were not identified during the CAP Workbook analyses as one of the top five threats in several of these watersheds, but recent wildfires indicates that future wildfires could result in significant habitats impacts; additionally, the presence of non-native species is not reflected in the CAP Workbook analyses, but non-native species is a potential threat in this BPG.

Priority Recovery Actions

- Develop and implement operating criteria to ensure the pattern and magnitude water releases from dams, including Morris, San Gabriel, Cogswell, Santa Fe, Prado, Seven Oaks, and Bear Valley dams, provide the essential habitat functions to support the life-history and habitat requirements of adult and juvenile *O. mykiss*.
- Develop and implement a plan to physically modify dams, including Morris, San Gabriel, Cogswell, Santa Fe, Prado, Seven Oaks, and Bear Valley dams, to allow adult and juvenile *O. mykiss* natural rates of migration between the estuary and upstream spawning and rearing habitats, and passage of smolts and kelts downstream to the estuary and ocean.
- Develop and implement a plan to physically modify or remove fish passage barriers at debris basins, diversions, roads, and highways to allow adult and juvenile *O. mykiss* natural rates of migration between the estuary and upstream spawning and rearing habitats, and passage of smolts and kelts downstream to the estuary and ocean.
- Develop and implement restoration and management plans for steelhead bearing watersheds. To the maximum extent feasible, plans should restore the physical configuration, size and diversity of the wetland habitats, eliminate exotic species, control artificial breaching of the sand bar, and establish effective buffers to restore estuarine functions and promote *O. mykiss* use (including rearing and acclimation) of the estuaries.
- Develop and implement an integrated wildland fire and hazardous fuels management plan, including monitoring, remediation and adaptive management, to reduce potentially catastrophic wildland fire effects to adult and juvenile *O. mykiss* and their habitat and preserve natural ecosystem processes (including sediment transport and deposition).
- Develop and implement flood control maintenance plan for steelhead bearing watersheds to minimize the frequency and intensity of disturbance of instream habitats and riparian vegetation of the mainstem and tributaries to protect all *O. mykiss* life-history stages, including adult and juvenile migration, spawning, incubation and rearing, and their associated habitats.



Santa Catalina Gulf Coast Biogeographic Population Group



The Santa Catalina Gulf Coast BPG encompasses ten coastal watersheds of moderate size that drain the western slopes of the Santa Ana Mountains and Peninsular Range in southwestern Orange and Riverside counties southward through San Diego County to the United States-Mexico border. The upper portions of almost all of these watersheds include steep, mountainous regions and the lower watersheds cut across coastal terraces. Two watersheds, the Sweetwater River and Otay River, drain into San Diego Bay; the other eight watersheds drain directly into the Pacific Ocean. The component watersheds vary greatly in size and numerous tributaries contribute to the large total stream length for this BPG (4,235 miles). Because of low rainfall, many of the drainages in this BPG are naturally seasonal or have extensive dry reaches during years of below-average precipitation, particularly in their lower reaches.



Arroyo Trabuco Creek

*O. mykiss*, Pine Valley Creek

San Mateo Creek



6-2-1

Threat Source Rankings: Santa Catalina Gulf Coast Component Watersheds (north to south)										
Threat Sources	San Juan Creek/ Trabuco Creek	San Mateo Creek	San Onofre Creek	Santa Margarita River	San Luis Rey River	San Dieguito River	San Diego River	Sweetwater River	Otay River	Tijuana River
Groundwater Extraction										
Dams and Surface Water Diversions										
Urban Development										
Agricultural Development										
Levees and Channelization										
Culverts & Road Crossings										
Recreational Facilities										
Non-Native Species										
Roads										
Flood Control Maintenance										
Upslope/Upstream Development										
Agricultural Effluents										
Wildfires*										

Key: Red = Very High threat; Yellow = High threat; Light green = Medium threat; Dark green = Low threat
Threat cell colors represent threat rating from the Conservation Action Planning (CAP) Workbooks.

* Wildfires were not recognized during the CAP Workbook analyses as one of the top five threats in these watersheds, but recent fires indicate that future wildfires could result in significant habitat impacts.

Priority Recovery Actions

- Develop and implement plans to physically modify or remove fish passage barriers at dams, debris basins, diversions, roads, and highways to allow adult and juvenile *O. mykiss* natural rates of migration between the estuary and upstream spawning and rearing habitats, and passage of smolts and kelts downstream to the estuary and ocean.
- Development and implement operating criteria to ensure the pattern and magnitude of water releases from Pilgrim, Turner, Lower and Upper Stohly, Agua Tibia, Henshaw, Eagles Nest, and O'Neill Diversion dams provide the essential habitat functions to support the life-history and habitat requirements of adult and juvenile *O. mykiss*.
- Develop and implement watershed-wide plans for steelhead bearing watersheds to identify and determine the type, distribution, and density of non-native species; assess their impacts on all *O. mykiss* life-history stages; and eliminate or control non-native species to protect all *O. mykiss* life history stages.
- Develop and implement restoration and management plans for estuaries in steelhead bearing watersheds. To the maximum extent feasible, the plan should restore the physical configuration, size and diversity of the wetland habitats, eliminate exotic species, control artificial breaching of the sand bar, and establish effective buffers to restore estuarine functions and promote *O. mykiss* use (including rearing and acclimation) of the estuaries.



Summary

An array of natural and anthropogenic factors has reduced both the population size and historical distribution of steelhead within the SCS Recovery Planning Area, placing severe pressure on the species' ability to survive. However, steelhead are resilient fish and despite encroaching agricultural and urban development, they continue to persist in small numbers throughout the SCS Recovery Planning Area. The Southern California Steelhead Recovery Plan outlines a strategy for species' recovery by identifying core watersheds, threats to these watersheds and recovery actions to address those threats. The Recovery Plan also identifies a research program to address the biology and ecology of southern California steelhead necessary to refine the viability recovery criteria, and a monitoring program to assess the effectiveness of recovery actions and the status of individual populations and the DPS as a whole.

Many of the recovery actions identified in this Recovery Plan address watershed-wide processes (e.g., wild-fire cycle, erosion and sedimentation, runoff, and non-point waste discharges) which will benefit a wide variety of other native species (including other state and federally listed species, or species of special concern) by restoring natural ecosystem functions.

Restoration of steelhead habitats in coastal watersheds will also provide substantial benefits for human communities. These include, but are not limited to, improving and protecting the water quality of important surface and groundwater supplies, reducing damages from periodic flooding resulting from floodplain development, and controlling invasive exotic animal and plant species which can threaten water supplies and increase flood risks. Restoring and maintaining ecologically functional watersheds also enhances important human uses of habitats occupied by steelhead; these include such activities as outdoor recreation, environmental education (at primary and secondary levels), field-based research on the physical and biological processes of coastal watersheds, aesthetic enjoyment, and the preservation of important tribal and cultural heritage values. Investment in the recovery of southern California steelhead will provide economic benefits, including stimulating the economy directly through the employment of a restoration workforce, and the expenditure of wages and restoration dollars for the purchase of goods and services. In addition, viable salmonid populations provide ongoing direct and indirect economic benefits as a natural resource base for angling, outdoor recreation, and tourist related activities. Recovering and delisting the Southern California Steelhead DPS will also reduce the regulatory obligations imposed by the ESA, and allow land and water managers greater flexibility to optimize their activities, and reduce costs related to ESA protections.

Recovery of viable, self-sustaining populations of southern California steelhead will require a shift in societal attitudes, understanding, priorities, and practices, and ultimately the re-integration of the species into a highly altered landscape that is home to more than 22 million people. These changes are necessary to both ensure sustainable communities in southern California and to restore the habitat upon which viable steelhead populations depend.

Recovery of southern California steelhead depends most fundamentally on a shared vision of the future. A shared vision for the future can align interests and encourage cooperation that, in turn, has the potential to improve rather than undermine the adaptive capacity of natural public resources such as functioning watersheds and river systems. The on-going cooperation and dedication of many stakeholders from both public and private sectors will therefore be essential to achieve the recovery of southern California steelhead.

Southern California Steelhead Recovery Plan may be obtained from:

National Marine Fisheries Service
Office of Protected Resources
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-980-4000

Or can be downloaded from the NMFS Recovery Planning website:

<http://swr.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/recovery/plans.htm>

D-1

Santa Paula Creek
CFROG

Santa Paula Creek is a red-line stream that flows out of a fork of Santa Paula Canyon and then through the west side of St. Thomas Aquinas College to join Sisar Creek at Highway 150. As a life-long resident of Ojai, I have hiked and camped in this Canyon and along this clear, fast running stream for approximately 50 years. Swimming holes abound, and the popular, deep punch bowls are a nice day's hike during the summer.

The 1978 Mitigated Negative Declaration states:

"the proposed Drill Site No. 7 is located as close as 20 feet from the main bank of the Santa Paula Creek. The drill pad elevation is 2-6' below the 100 year flood level."

I cannot understand how this stream encroachment was permitted in 1978. It has damaged the riparian environment, changed the course of the stream, and channeled runoff stormwater from the drill pad into the streambank. D-1

Drill Site No. 7 required rerouting the hiking trail which was a meandering walk along the creek where the first nice swimming hole could be found during wet years. The trail now runs adjacent to a chain link fence that surrounds the drill pad and two oil wells. The pad is not a large area. According to the FEIR it is approximately .8 of an acre. On one side is a steep canyon wall with visible rock slides and on the other side just along the trail not 10 feet from the fence is the streambed. As one commenter to the 1985 Focused EIR stated, "I don't know where they could put seven more wells. The drill pad is already up against the canyon wall."

It was a mistake to allow drill pad #7 to be developed in the early '80's. It would be a catastrophic mistake to allow tripling of the number of wells in the year 2015.

The Ventura County Non-Coastal Zoning Ordinance for oil and gas production clearly prohibits the authorization of this type of encroachment.

Ventura County Non-Coastal Zoning Ordinance
Section 8107-5 Oil and Gas Exploration and Production
Sec. 8107-5.2 - Application D-2

D-2

Unless otherwise indicated herein, the purposes and provisions of Section 8107-5 et seq. shall be and are hereby automatically imposed on and made a part of any permit for oil or gas exploration and development issued by Ventura County on or after March 24, 1983. Such provisions shall be imposed in the form of permit conditions when permits are issued for new development or for existing wells/facilities without permits, or when existing permits are modified.

Sec. 8107-5.6.1 No well shall be drilled and no equipment or facilities shall be permanently located within:

d. 300 feet from the edge of the existing banks of "Red Line" channels as established by the Ventura County Flood Control District (VCFCD). These setbacks shall prevail unless the permittee can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Public Works Agency that the subject use can be safely located nearer the stream or channel in question without posing an undue risk of water pollution, and impairment of flood control interests. In no case shall setbacks from streams or channels be less than 50 feet. All drill sites located within the 100 year flood plain shall be protected from flooding in accordance with Flood Control District requirements.

D-2

There is no layout plan for drill site 1 or 7 that shows the well locations in relation to the stream. A full environmental review must be done BEFORE the public works department or flood control district required permits can be obtained. The lack of public information is an attempt to cut the public out of the review process for this important encroachment upon one of Ojai's few red line streams.

Ventura County Planning Department does not have the authority to grant a project approval that is in direct non-compliance with Ventura County Zoning Ordinances. The ordinance clearly states that the purposes and provisions of Section 8107-5 SHALL be and are hereby AUTOMATICALLY imposed on and made a part of any permit for oil and gas exploration and development issued by Ventura County on or after March 24th, 1983.

As a member of the public and a frequent visitor to Santa Paula Creek, I am very concerned about the requirement to pave drill pad #7 as it will create major run-off into the creek since the drill pad currently drains in the

D-3

D-3

direction of the streambed. This runoff cannot be re-channeled without new grading which is not within the scope of the permit.

D-3

I am also concerned about the riparian habitat that is adjacent to the trail. There needs to be a biological study of the area both for flora and fauna in order to ensure major damage is not done to the wetland area.

D-4

As troubling as the above concern is the fact that this project lies ON one of the most popular hiking trails in Ventura County. The public has the right to know how this trail will be affected and what plans are being made to once again alter the hiking experience that has far preceded the existence of oil drill pad #7.

E-1

Statement at Public Hearing
January 8th, 2015
CFROG

The Statement of Environmental Findings in the EIR Addendum incorrectly states that the 1978 document prepared by Ventura County Planning Department is an EIR. This document is an MND dated 1978 that was certified by the Board of Supervisors, as was often the custom for new CUP documents in the 1970's (see appendix A of the 1984 FEIR).

The July 9, 1985 Focused EIR certified by the Board of Supervisors is not an EIR that "evaluated the environmental impacts of the continued operations of 14 existing oil and gas wells, and the drilling of 22 additional wells for a total of 36 wells and related production equipment" as stated in the EIR addendum.

The July 9, 1985 Focused EIR states specifically on page one in a letter to Dennis Hawkins, then Planning Director,

"Purpose of the EIR

This report is a focused EIR that only addresses the environmental consequences of providing access to Argo Petroleum's Ferndale Ranch lease. It does not address the actual drilling and production of oil from the proposed new wells. The Board of Supervisors previously found that this was adequately addressed in the Mitigated Negative Declaration for the project."

As to the oil and gas application to authorize the continued operation of 17 oil and gas wells and related production equipment and the drilling of 19 new oil and gas the wells, the only environmental review is that done in the MND of 1978.

New information of substantial importance which was not known at the time of the previous EIR has become available that demonstrates that significant effects previously examined will be substantially more severe than previously shown in the MND of 1978. Seven to nine new above ground pipelines would be needed to transport oil from drill site #7. These pipes run for approximately 1/3 mile or more and were identified in the 1978 MND as having the potential to significantly affect Santa Paula Creek if one were to break in an earthquake or for any other reason. The unnamed fault that was mentioned as a major concern in the MND is now identified as the San

E-2

E-2

Cayetano Fault that in 2010 was identified as an active earthquake hazard fault having the potential to be of M7 or greater. In 2010 it was included in the Alquist-Priolo Hazards Maps.

The following conditions added to the project demonstrate that significant effects previously examined will be substantially more severe than previously shown in the 1978 MND.

E-3

Condition 46: "The access road between Drill site No 1. And Drill Site No. 2 shall be realigned to reduce grades and runaway vehicle escape ramps shall be provided to reduce runaway vehicle hazards. Particular attention shall be paid to surface water run-off." This condition will require some amount of significant grading and vegetation removal. It will also affect surface water run-off. The Addendum specifically states that there will be no new grading. There is no plan for this realignment, no reason given for its inclusion, and no evaluation of its environmental implications.

E-4

Condition 49: "Prior to commencement of drilling operations, Drill Site Nos. 1 and 7 shall be paved or otherwise made impermeable to minimize the potential for ground water pollution." Paving these two drill sites, both adjacent to a red line stream is a major project and the environmental consequences of that action have not been evaluated. The prior review did not consider the potential for groundwater pollution created by seepage through the drill pad, but it is equally concerning that the surface will now become impermeable.

E-5

4. Condition 58: The fact that the permittee is required to obtain a Floodplain Clearance issued by the County Public Works Agency is substantial evidence of a concern on the part of Ventura County Planning Staff that serious flooding is very possible on the Santa Paula Creek as it exits the Santa Paula Canyon which could cause significant damage to the oil infrastructure and the college campus.

E-6

5. Condition 57: Requires the proper filing of all compliance documents required under the NPDES General Industrial Stormwater Permit (No. CAS000001) This requirement is substantial evidence that waste discharge from stormwater is a significant concern and requires a permit. However, before a permit can be issued, a CEQA environmental review must be completed. The 1978 MND does not constitute environmental review of this issue.

6. Condition 56: This condition that requires a Municipal Stormwater Permit is substantial evidence of a significant concern that construction of the project may affect stormwater.

E-7

There is no plan for the location and storage of liquid waste and petroleum products included in the record as part of a CEQA review. The new impermeable areas required by this permit create new stormwater runoff problems and problems with containment of liquid wastes and petroleum products. These new problems have had no environmental review and the public has had no opportunity to assess the new substantial risks to the environment in close proximity to Santa Paula Creek.

E-8

7. Conditions 54 and 55: Once again, the storage of hazardous materials as to location, amount, length of time, type of storage containers, and other pertinent concerns have not been addressed by the addendum nor provided to the public.

E-9

There is clearly a general concern expressed by our lead agency regarding the capacity of Santa Paula Creek to flood, canyon walls to slide, and areas of saturated soils to slump causing catastrophic damage to the adjacent stream and college. This is evidenced by the new requirements by planning staff to obtain various permits and submit future plans for grading, containment, paving, stormwater runoff plans, flood emergency plans, etc. However, each of these these new requirements require prior CEQA review by the lead agency. Additionally, the right of the public to examine these plans, weigh in on the possible affects to the environment, and participate in our rights as citizens of Ventura County are being circumvented because there is no information given prior to granting the entitlement to allow an opportunity for fair review.

E-10

There has also been a designation of Santa Paula Creek in this exact location as Critical Habitat for the endangered California Steelhead Trout in 2005. There is no mention of the steelhead trout in any of the record for CUP 3344. This is new information of substantial importance which was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the previous MND was adopted and the FEIR was certified.

E-11