Appendix D2 Gnatcatcher Survey Report

LSA

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BERKELEY
CARLSBAD
COLMA
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PALM SPRINGS
POINT RICHMOND
RIVERSIDE
ROCKLIN
SAN LUIS OBISPO

January 10, 2008

Ms. Sandra Marquez
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Carlsbad Field Office
6010 Hidden Valley Road
Carlsbad, California 92011

Dr. John Gustafson
Nongame Unit, Wildlife Branch
California Department of Fish and Game
1416 9th Street, 12th Floor
Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: Protocol Coastal California Gnatcatcher Survey Results, September 11, 2007, to January 7, 2008, 35-Acre Parcel in the City of San Bernardino, County of San Bernardino, California

Dear Ms. Marquez and Dr. Gustafson:

This letter report documents the results of protocol surveys for the coastal California gnatcatcher *(Polioptila californica californica)* conducted by LSA Associates, Inc. (LSA) biologists within the boundaries of the approximately 35-acre project site (Assessor's Parcel Number 266-041-62) located in the City of San Bernardino, San Bernardino County, California (Figures 1 and 2, attached). No coastal California gnatcatchers were detected during the nine protocol surveys.

SURVEY AREA

The project site is bounded on the northeast by Interstate 215, on the southeast by a vacant lot and industrial development, on the south and west by Industrial Parkway, and on the northwest by Palm Avenue/Institution Road. The entire site is vacant, with approximately one-third of the site cleared of vegetation as a result of recent disking and the remaining portions of the site primarily composed of sage scrub/chaparral vegetation. Geographically, the study area is within a portion of the southeast quarter and northeast quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 21, Township 1 North, Range 5 West in the City of San Bernardino, San Bernardino County, as shown on the United States Geological Survey *San Bernardino North, California* 7.5-minute topographic map (Figure 1). Approximate Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) coordinates are $^{37}82^{800m}$ on the north, $^{37}82^{500m}$ on the south, $^{4}66^{500m}$ on the west, and $^{4}67^{200m}$ on the east. The elevation of the study area ranges from approximately 1,640 to 1,800 feet above mean sea level. Vegetation on site is dominated by Riversidean sage scrub.

METHODS

LSA biologists walked slowly throughout the patches of native habitat during each survey. A taped recording of a coastal California gnatcatcher was played periodically along the survey route during each survey. The surveying biologist waited several minutes after each playing to look and listen for gnatcatchers.

A total of nine gnatcatcher surveys were conducted between September 11, 2007, and January 7, 2008. LSA biologists conformed to protocol techniques for all nine surveys (the recommended survey number during the nonbreeding season survey period).

Leo Simone and I conducted protocol surveys approximately every two weeks (weather permitting) for a total of nine surveys. We conducted surveys pursuant to LSA's Federal Fish and Wildlife Permit No. TE-777965 (May 10, 2004–May 9, 2007; renewal request submitted April 9, 2007, extending coverage indefinitely) and a temporary authorization from the California Department of Fish and Game (Department) (May 12, 2003–March 31, 2007; renewal request submitted March 26, 2007, extending coverage indefinitely) in lieu of a Memorandum of Understanding between LSA and the Department.

Survey Conditions

Date	Time	Weather Conditions	Surveyors
September 11, 2007	0745–0915	Clear, warm, calm	RE
September 25, 2007	0710–0920	Partly overcast, mild, light wind	LS
October 9, 2007	0710–0940	Clear, mild, light wind	LS
October 25, 2007	0820–1020	Mostly clear (smoky), mild, light wind	RE
November 6, 2007	0710–0910	Clear, cool, calm	RE
November 27, 2007	0640–0900	Mostly cloudy, cool, light wind	LS
December 6, 2007	0810–0940	Mostly clear, cool, calm	RE
December 19, 2007	1015–1220	Complete overcast (recent rain), cool, calm	RE
January 7, 2008	0810–0940	Mostly clear, cool, calm	RE

Surveyors: RE = Richard Erickson; LS = Leo Simone

RESULTS

No coastal California gnatcatchers were detected during any of the nine focused surveys.

A single brown-headed cowbird *(Molothrus ater),* a broad parasite of gnatcatchers and other passerines, was observed on site on October 25, 2007. A complete list of animals detected during the surveys is included in Appendix A.

Please contact me or Leo Simone at (949) 553-0666 if you have any questions about these survey results.

Sincerely,

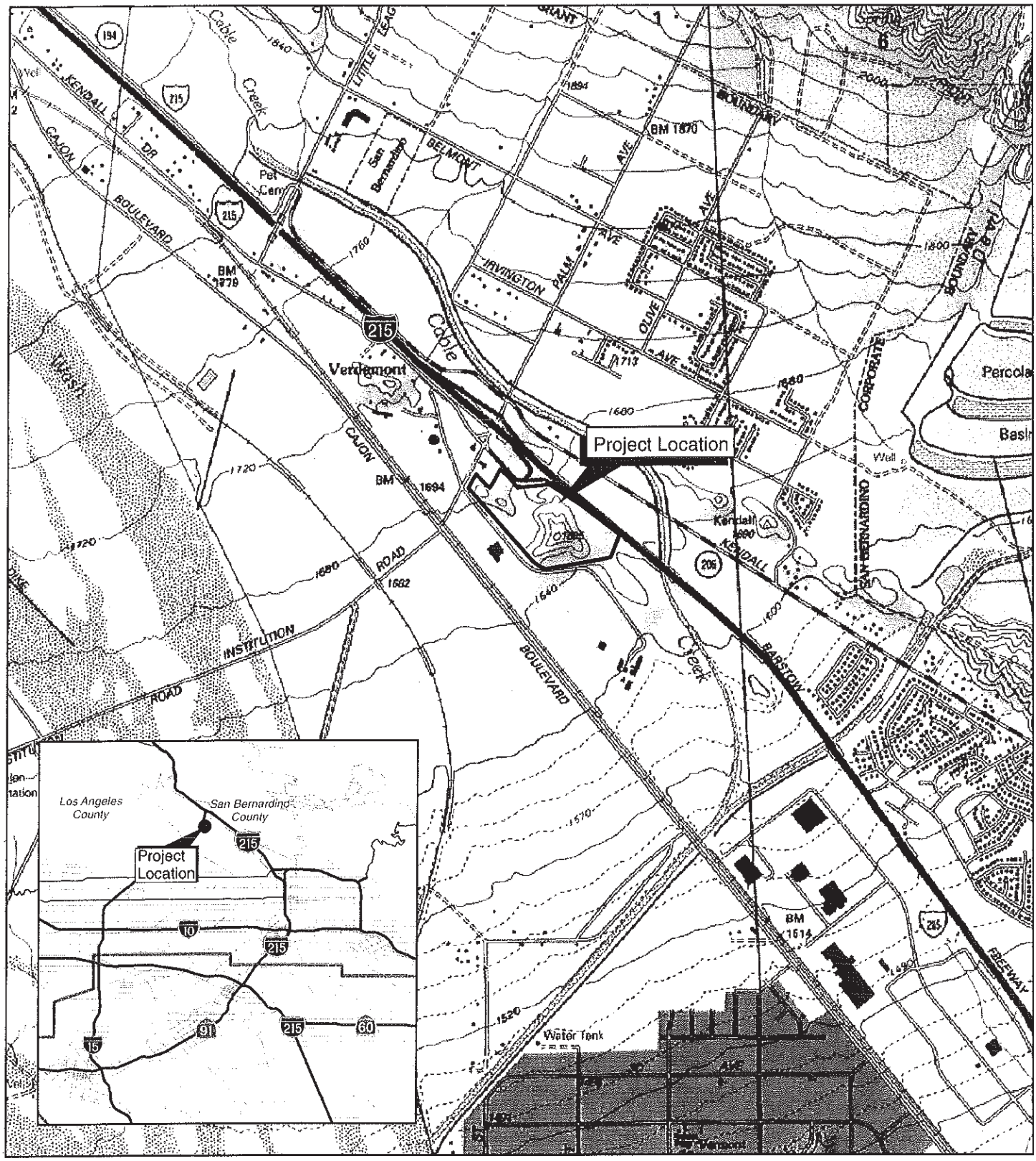
LSA ASSOCIATES, INC.

Richard Erickson
Associate/Biologist

Attachments: Figure 1: Location Map
Figure 2: Survey Area Map
Appendix A: Animal Species Observed
Appendix B: California Native Species Field Survey Form

I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION IN THIS SURVEY REPORT AND ATTACHED EXHIBITS FULLY AND ACCURATELY REPRESENT MY WORK:

SURVEYOR:	PERMIT NUMBER:	DATE:
Richard Erickson	TE-777965-7	January 10, 2008
Leo Simone	TE-777965-7	January 10, 2008



LSA

FIGURE 1

LEGEND

Project Boundary

0 1,000 2,000

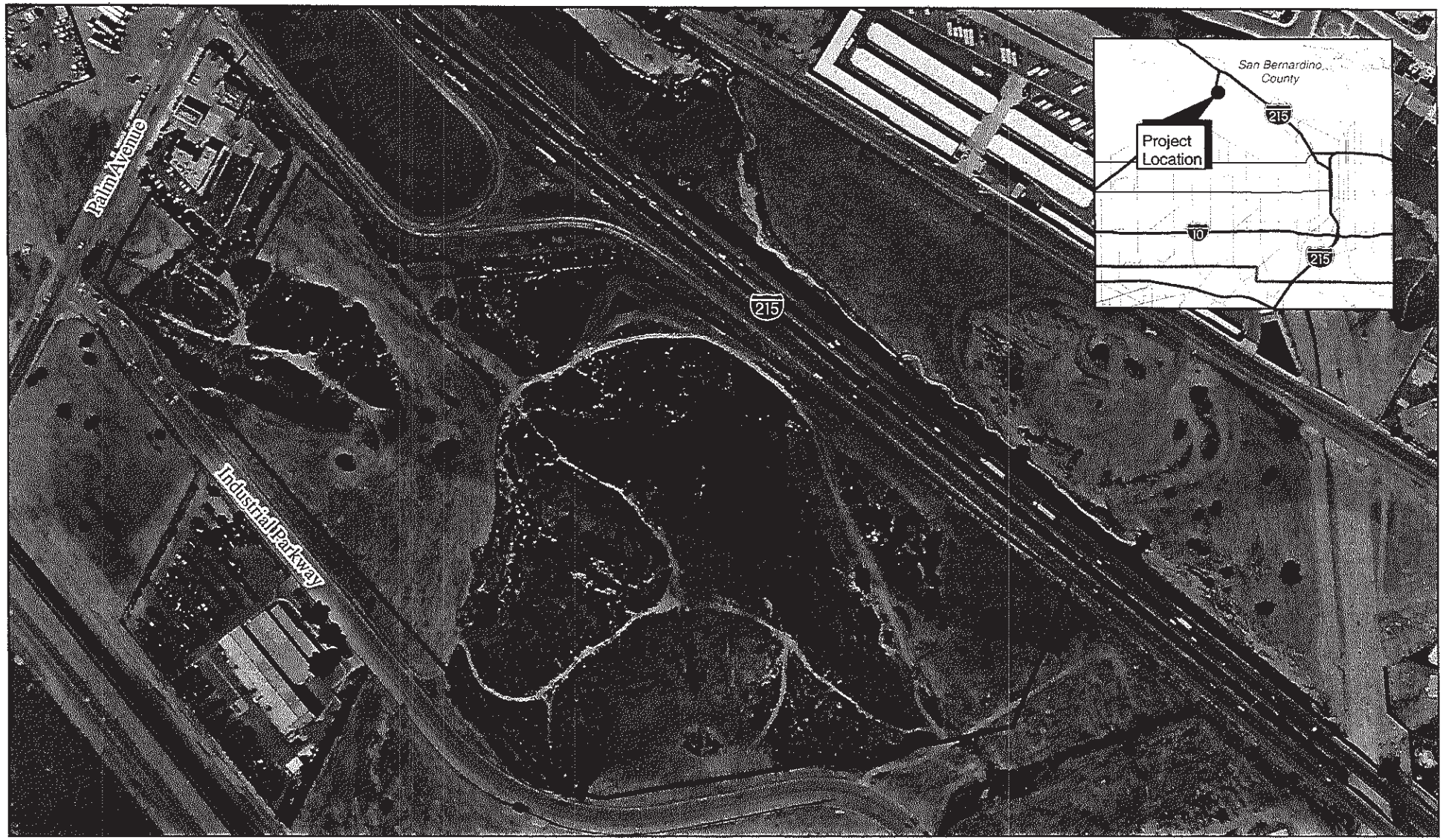
FEET

SOURCE: USGS 7.5' QUAD-San Bernardino North ('88)

I:\PBJ0702\GIS\fig1_projloc.mxd (1/9/2008)

San Bernardino Warehouse

Project Location Map



LSA

FIGURE 2

LEGEND

Project Boundary

0 162.5 325
FEET

SOURCE: AirPhoto USA (2007)

I:\PBJ0702\GIS\trapline_near_215.mxd (1/9/2008)

San Bernardino Warehouse
Survey Area

APPENDIX A

ANIMAL SPECIES OBSERVED

APPENDIX A

ANIMAL SPECIES OBSERVED

This is a list of the conspicuous aerial insects, bony fishes, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals noted in the study area by LSA biologists. Presence may be noted if a species is seen or heard or identified by the presence of tracks, scat, or other signs.

* Species not native to the study area

ZYGOPTERA	**DAMSELFLIES**
Coenagrionidae *Argia* sp.	**Pond Damsels** Dancer
ANISOPTERA	**TYPICAL DRAGONFLIES**
Aeshnidae *Anax junius*	**Darners** Common green darner
Libellulidae *Sympetrum corruptum* *Pantala flavescens* *Pantala hymenaea*	**Cruisers, Emeralds, Baskettails, and Skimmers** Variegated meadowhawk Wandering glider Spot-winged glider
LEPIDOPTERA	**BUTTERFLIES**
Riodinidae *Apodemia mormo*	**Metalmarks** Mormon metalmark
Nymphalidae *Danaus plexippus*	**Brush-Footed Butterflies** Monarch
Hesperiidae *Hylephila phyleus*	**Skippers** Fiery skipper
REPTILIA	**REPTILES**
Phrynosomatidae *Uta stansburiana*	**Phrynosomatid Lizards** Common side-blotched lizard

AVES	BIRDS
Accipitridae	**Hawks, Kites, Eagles, and Allies**
Circus cyaneus	Northern harrier
Accipiter cooperii	Cooper's hawk
Buteo jamaicensis	Red-tailed hawk
Buteo regalis	Ferruginous hawk
Falconidae	**Caracaras and Falcons**
Falco sparverius	American kestrel
Falco peregrinus	Peregrine falcon
Charadriidae	**Plovers and Lapwings**
Charadrius vociferus	Killdeer
Laridae	**Gulls, Terns, and Skimmers**
Larus delawarensis	Ring-billed gull
Larus californicus	California gull
Columbidae	**Pigeons and Doves**
* *Columba livia*	Rock (Feral) pigeon
Zenaida macroura	Mourning dove
Cuculidae	**Cuckoos, Roadrunners, and Anis**
Geococcyx californianus	Greater roadrunner
Trochilidae	**Hummingbirds**
Calypte anna	Anna's hummingbird
Picidae	**Woodpeckers and Allies**
Colaptes auratus	Northern flicker
Tyrannidae	**Tyrant Flycatchers**
Sayornis nigricans	Black phoebe
Sayornis saya	Say's phoebe
Corvidae	**Crows and Jays**
Corvus corax	Common raven
Alaudidae	**Larks**
Eremophila alpestris	Horned lark
Aegithalidae	**Long-Tailed Tits and Bushtits**
Psaltriparus minimus	Bushtit
Troglodytidae	**Wrens**
Salpinctes obsoletus	Rock wren
Thryomanes bewickii	Bewick's wren
Troglodytes aedon	House wren

Motacillidae	**Wagtails and Pipits**
Anthus rubescens	American pipit
Regulidae	**Kinglets**
Regulus calendula	Ruby-crowned kinglet
Sylviidae	**Old World Warblers and Gnatcatchers**
Polioptila caerulea	Blue-gray gnatcatcher
Turdidae	**Thrushes**
Catharus guttatus	Hermit thrush
Mimidae	**Mockingbirds and Thrashers**
Mimus polyglottos	Northern mockingbird
Oreoscoptes montanus	Sage thrasher
Toxostoma redivivum	California thrasher
Sturnidae	**Starlings**
* *Sturnus vulgaris*	European starling
Parulidae	**Wood Warblers**
Vermivora celata	Orange-crowned warbler
Dendroica coronata	Yellow-rumped warbler
Dendroica nigrescens	Black-throated gray warbler
Emberizidae	**Emberizids**
Pipilo crissalis	California towhee
Chondestes grammacus	Lark sparrow
Amphispiza belli	Sage sparrow
Passerculus sandwichensis	Savannah sparrow
Zonotrichia leucophrys	White-crowned sparrow
Icteridae	**Blackbirds**
Sturnella neglecta	Western meadowlark
Quiscalus mexicanus	Great-tailed grackle
Molothrus ater	Brown-headed cowbird
Fringillidae	**Fringilline and Cardueline Finches and Allies**
Carpodacus mexicanus	House finch
Carduelis pinus	Pine siskin
Carduelis psaltria	Lesser goldfinch
Passeridae	**Old World Sparrows**
* *Passer domesticus*	House sparrow
MAMMALIA	**MAMMALS**
Sciuridae	**Squirrels, Chipmunks, and Marmots**
Spermophilus beecheyi	California ground squirrel

Geomyidae
Thomomys bottae

Pocket Gophers
Botta's pocket gopher

Cricetidae

Neotoma macrotis

Hamsters, Voles, Lemmings, and New World Rats and Mice
Big-eared woodrat

Leporidae
Sylvilagus audubonii

Rabbits and Hares
Audubon's cottontail

Canidae
* *Canis lupus familiaris*

Foxes, Wolves, and Allies
Feral dog

Taxonomy and nomenclature are based on the following.

Damselflies and dragonflies: Manolis, T. (2003, Dragonflies and Damselflies of California, University of California Press, Berkeley).

Butterflies: North American Butterfly Association (2001, NABA checklist and English Names of North American Butterflies, Second Edition, North American Butterfly Association, Morristown, New Jersey).

Amphibians and reptiles: Crother, B.I., et al. (2000, Scientific and Standard English Names of Amphibians and Reptiles of North America North of Mexico, with Comments Regarding Confidence in our Understanding, *Herpetological Circular* 29; and 2003 update) for species taxonomy and nomenclature; Stebbins, R.C. (2003, A Field Guide to Western Reptiles and Amphibians, third edition, Houghton Mifflin, Boston) for sequence and higher order taxonomy.

Birds: American Ornithologists' Union (1998, The A.O.U. Checklist of North American Birds, Seventh Edition, American Ornithologists' Union, Washington D.C.; and 2000, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2007 supplements; see http://aou.org.whsites.net/checklist/index.php3).

Mammals: Wilson, D.E., and D.M. Reeder, eds. (2005. Mammal Species of the World, 3rd ed. Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, Maryland; see http://nmnhgoph.si.edu/msw/).

APPENDIX B

CALIFORNIA NATIVE SPECIES FIELD SURVEY FORM

Mail to:
California Natural Diversity Database
Department of Fish and Game
1807 13th Street, Suite 202
Sacramento, CA 95814
Fax: (916) 324-0475 email: CNDDB@dfg.ca.gov

Date of Field Work (mm/dd/yyyy): 25/10/2007

For Office Use Only

Source Code _____ Quad Code _____
Elm Code _____ Occ. No. _____
EO Index No. _____ Map Index No. _____

Reset

California Native Species Field Survey Form

Send Form

Scientific Name: Buteo regalis

Common Name: ferruginous hawk

Species Found? ☑ Yes ☐ No _____ If not, why?

Total No. Individuals 1 Subsequent Visit? ☐ yes ☑ no

Is this an existing NDDB occurrence? _____ Yes, Occ. # ☐ no ☑ unk.

Collection? If yes: _____ Number _____ Museum / Herbarium

Reporter: Richard A. Erickson
Address: LSA Associates, 20 Executive Park, Suite 200, Irvine, CA 92614
E-mail Address: richard.erickson@LSA-assoc.com
Phone: 949 553-0666

Plant Information

Phenology: _____% vegetative _____% flowering _____% fruiting

Animal Information

1 # adults _____ # juveniles _____ # larvae _____ # egg masses _____ # unknown

☐ breeding ☐ wintering ☐ burrow site ☐ rookery ☐ nesting ☐ other

Location Description ***(please attach map AND/OR fill out your choice of coordinates, below)***

County: San Bernardino Landowner / Mgr.: unknown
Quad Name: San Bernardino North Elevation: 1640 feet
T____ R____ Sec ____, ____ ¼ of ____ ¼, Meridian: H☐ M☐ S☐ Source of Coordinates (GPS, topo. map & type): _____
T____ R____ Sec ____, ____ ¼ of ____ ¼, Meridian: H☐ M☐ S☐ GPS Make & Model _____
DATUM: NAD27 ☐ NAD83 ☐ WGS84 ☐ Horizontal Accuracy _____ meters/feet
Coordinate System: UTM Zone 10 ☐ UTM Zone 11 ☐ *OR* Geographic (Latitude & Longitude) ☐
Coordinates:

Habitat Description *(plant communities, dominants, associates, substrates/soils, aspects/slope):*

coastal sage scrub/chaparral
disturbed

Other rare taxa seen at THIS site on THIS date:
(separate form preferred)

Site Information Overall site/occurrence quality/viability (site + population): ☐ Excellent ☐ Good ☑ Fair ☐ Poor

Immediate AND surrounding land use:

Visible disturbances: discing, commercial development, major roads

Threats: development

Comments:

Determination: *(check one or more, and fill in blanks)*

☐ Keyed (cite reference): _____
☐ Compared with specimen housed at: _____
☐ Compared with photo / drawing in: _____
☐ By another person (name): _____
☑ Other: personal experience

Photographs: *(check one or more)*

	Slide	Print	Digital
Plant / animal	☐	☐	☐
Habitat	☐	☐	☐
Diagnostic feature	☐	☐	☐

May we obtain duplicates at our expense? yes ☐ no ☐

Mail to:
California Natural Diversity Database
Department of Fish and Game
1807 13th Street, Suite 202
Sacramento, CA 95814
Fax: (916) 324-0475 email: CNDDB@dfg.ca.gov

Date of Field Work (mm/dd/yyyy): 09/2007 - 01/2008

For Office Use Only
Source Code _____ Quad Code _____
Elm Code _____ Occ. No. _____
EO Index No. _____ Map Index No. _____

Reset

California Native Species Field Survey Form

Send Form

Scientific Name: Polioptila californica californica

Common Name: coastal California gnatcatcher

Species Found? ☐ Yes ☑ No — not present (If not, why?)

Total No. Individuals _____ Subsequent Visit? ☐ yes ☑ no

Is this an existing NDDB occurrence? _____ (Yes, Occ. #) ☐ no ☑ unk.

Collection? If yes: _____ (Number) _____ (Museum / Herbarium)

Reporter: Richard A. Erickson
Address: LSA Associates, 20 Executive Park, Suite 200, Irvine, CA 92614
E-mail Address: richard.erickson@LSA-assoc.com
Phone: 949 553-0666

Plant Information

Phenology: _____% vegetative _____% flowering _____% fruiting

Animal Information

# adults	# juveniles	# larvae	# egg masses	# unknown

☐ breeding ☐ wintering ☐ burrow site ☐ rookery ☐ nesting ☐ other

Location Description ***(please attach map AND/OR fill out your choice of coordinates, below)***

County: San Bernardino Landowner / Mgr.: unknown
Quad Name: San Bernardino North Elevation: 1640 feet
T____ R____ Sec ____, ____ ¼ of ____ ¼, Meridian: H☐ M☐ S☐ Source of Coordinates (GPS, topo. map & type): _____
T____ R____ Sec ____, ____ ¼ of ____ ¼, Meridian: H☐ M☐ S☐ GPS Make & Model _____
DATUM: NAD27 ☐ NAD83 ☐ WGS84 ☐ Horizontal Accuracy _____ meters/feet
Coordinate System: UTM Zone 10 ☐ UTM Zone 11 ☐ *OR* Geographic (Latitude & Longitude) ☐
Coordinates:

Habitat Description *(plant communities, dominants, associates, substrates/soils, aspects/slope):*

coastal sage scrub/chaparral
disturbed

Other rare taxa seen at THIS site on THIS date: (separate form preferred) Buteo regalis

Site Information Overall site/occurrence quality/viability (site + population): ☐ Excellent ☐ Good ☑ Fair ☐ Poor
Immediate AND surrounding land use:
Visible disturbances: discing, commercial development, major roads
Threats: development
Comments:

Determination: *(check one or more, and fill in blanks)*
☐ Keyed (cite reference): _____
☐ Compared with specimen housed at: _____
☐ Compared with photo / drawing in: _____
☑ By another person (name): _____
☑ Other: personal experience

Photographs: *(check one or more)*

	Slide	Print	Digital
Plant / animal	☐	☐	☐
Habitat	☐	☐	☐
Diagnostic feature	☐	☐	☐

May we obtain duplicates at our expense? yes ☐ no ☐