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Planning, Building & Environmental Services

1195 Third Street, Suite 210
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Brian D. Bordona
Director

To: Planning Commission	From: Sean Trippi
Date: October 31, 2023	Re: Vineyard 29 Use Permit Modification and Exception to the Road & Street Standards (P20-00062- MOD)

Attached is correspondence received subsequent to publication of the staff report.

From: [ruralangwin](#)
To: [Brunzell, Kara](#); [Dameron, Megan](#); [Heather Phillips](#)
Cc: [Gallagher, Joelle](#); [Ramos, Belia](#); [Trippi, Sean](#); anne.cottrel@countyofnapa.org
Subject: Vineyard 29 modification comment
Date: Wednesday, October 25, 2023 2:51:54 PM

[External Email - Use Caution]

Commissioners,

Please don't be swayed by WHO the applicant is in the Vineyard 29 modification application. They are requesting an exemption from road and street standards because the required road way would encroach into a stream and would be located in a steep slope! sound familiar? Didn't we just go over this on the Erickson Residence driveway? Doesn't ever applicant ask for a variance from REQUIRED Road and street standards? Shouldn't out policies stand up when a project is too big for the site as in this case?

I request you do NOT grant the modification unless the legally required road standards can be met. This is a matter of life safety which must not be dismissed!

The section of Highway 29 is already completely over burdened by commercial activity including Krug, CIA, Markum, Beringer, Revana, Turkley, now the proposed Duckhorn expansion, the Krug Hotel and the KJ hotel at Free Mark Abbey! There are other multiple small wineries and hotels in the mix as well! But the traveling public considers this section of Hwy 29 a speed way! Despite the proposed turn lanes on 29 the drive way access MUST meet standards!

The request for a reduction of road standards puts workers and guests, emergency responders and the greater community at risk! If the proposed project can not meet the basic safety requirements you must deny the project! I'm shocked thar Staff continues to bring projects to you for consideration that simply do not comply with regulations and policy! This is a failure within PBES that must end! You should call your respective BOS members and ask why these non compliant projects are coming to the Planning Commission! The culture of PBES is clearly broken.

The decision you make will be a blue print for future exceptions. I urge you to NOT go down that road!

Please deny the project.

Respectfully,

Kellie Anderson
Angwin

From: [ruralangwin](#)
To: [Trippi, Sean](#)
Cc: [Brunzell, Kara](#); [Dameron, Megan](#); [Heather Phillips](#)
Subject: Northern Spotted owl Survey qualifications Vineyard 29
Date: Wednesday, October 25, 2023 3:09:02 PM

[External Email - Use Caution]

Sean,

What qualifications does Monk and Associates have to conduct Northern Spotted Owl surveys at the Vineyard 29 project site? Have you contacted U S Fish and Wildlife Service to establish they in fact have required qualifications and the survey was conducted according to professional scientific standards? We're required survey protocols followed?

Please advise under which survey scenario the potential impact to NSO nesting, breeding, foraging habitat were evaluated. As lead agency for this project, Napa County is obligated to ensure all surveys are conducted assorting to standards of all other agencies.

Thank you,

Kellie Anderson
Angwin

<https://www.fws.gov/project/northern-spotted-owl-surveys-and-site-monitoring>

California Department of Transportation

DISTRICT 4
OFFICE OF REGIONAL AND COMMUNITY PLANNING
P.O. BOX 23660, MS-10D | OAKLAND, CA 94623-0660
www.dot.ca.gov



October 30, 2023

SCH #: N/A
GTS #: 04-NAP-2023-00331
GTS ID: 31115
Co/Rt/Pm: Napa/29/30.46

Sean Tripp, Supervising Planner
County of Napa
1195 Third Street, Suite 210
Napa, CA 94559

Re: Vineyard 29 Winery Major Modification #P20-00062-MOD – Initial Study/Negative Declaration (IS/ND)

Dear Sean Tripp:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the review process for the Vineyard 29. We are committed to ensuring that impacts to the State's multimodal transportation system and to our natural environment are identified and mitigated to support a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system.

The Local Development Review (LDR) Program reviews land use projects and plans to ensure consistency with our mission and state planning priorities. The following comments are based on our review of the October 2023 IS/ND.

Project Understanding

The proposed project is located at Vineyard 29 off State Route-(SR) 29. The modifications include direct changes to Caltrans' Right of Way (ROW) by proposing a two way left turn lane on SR-29 as well as a relocation of the existing driveway along SR-29 and gas line under the highway.

Encroachment Permit

Based on the submitted plans, there appears to be an existing wall within the Caltrans' ROW shown in Sheet UP2.0, please provide information on if that wall was allowed by an Encroachment Permit. In Sheet UP2.1, the planned wall extension is also within Caltrans' ROW. Please be advised that any permanent work or temporary traffic control that encroaches onto Caltrans' ROW requires a Caltrans-issued encroachment permit.

Please complete the TR-0416 Applicants Checklist to Determine Applicable Review Process form ([link](#)) which Caltrans uses to determine the appropriate review process for the project, depending on the project's scope, complexity and readiness.

As part of the encroachment permit submittal process, you may be asked by the Office of Encroachment Permits to submit a completed encroachment permit application package, digital set of plans clearly delineating Caltrans' ROW, digital copy of signed, dated and stamped (include stamp expiration date) traffic control plans, this comment letter, your response to the comment letter, and where applicable, the following items: new or amended Maintenance Agreement (MA), approved Design Standard Decision Document (DSDD), approved encroachment exception request, and/or airspace lease agreement. Your application package may be emailed to D4Permits@dot.ca.gov.

To obtain information about the most current encroachment permit process and to download the permit application, please visit Caltrans Encroachment Permits ([link](#)).

Highway Operations

Relocating the project driveway south of the existing location that creates an intersection with the Revana driveway. Please elaborate the impact on SR-29, including if the proposed changes will provide enough storage to accommodate turning traffic without impeding through movements on SR-29.

Please address issues related to the line of sight caused by the relocation of the driveway about 195 feet south of SR-29. New access to and from the State Highway requires review and concurrence from Caltrans' Office of Traffic Safety.

This project proposes to widen SR-29 for left-turn channelization for the project and the existing Revana Winery. Please provide a detailed plan layout of affected segment of SR-29.

The submittal indicates attachment J Traffic Impact Study was completed but not included in this submittal. Please provide information on if the study discussed the proposed two-way left turn lane on SR-29.

Hydrology

Impacts to existing State drainage facilities are unclear in the report. Please clarify if any pipes need to be extended, inlets adjusted, ditches reestablished at the new toe of slope, or other changes to be made. The plans need to show existing State drainage facilities within the project limits as some will be impacted by the proposed work.

Please clarify if any new drainage is proposed within Caltrans' ROW and how runoff down the new driveway will be addressed at SR-29. It appears that a driveway culvert will be needed at the new driveway.

Any floodplain impacts must be documented and mitigated. Any increase in stormwater runoff to State Drainage Systems or Facilities be treated, contained on project site, and metered to preconstruction levels. Provide drainage plans and calculations during the encroachment permit process required for project work within Caltrans' ROW.

Construction-Related Impacts

Project work that requires movement of oversized or excessive load vehicles on State roadways requires a transportation permit that is issued by Caltrans. To apply, please visit Caltrans Transportation Permits ([link](#)). Prior to construction, coordination may be required with Caltrans to develop a Transportation Management Plan (TMP) to reduce construction traffic impacts to the State Transportation Network (STN).

Utilities

Any utilities that are proposed, moved or modified within Caltrans' ROW shall be discussed. If utilities are impacted by the project, provide site plans that show the location of existing and/or proposed utilities. These modifications require a Caltrans-issued encroachment permit.

Lead Agency

As the Lead Agency, the County of Napa is responsible for all project mitigation, including any needed improvements to the STN. The project's fair share contribution, financing, scheduling, implementation responsibilities and lead agency monitoring should be fully discussed for all proposed mitigation measures.

Equitable Access

If any Caltrans facilities are impacted by the project, those facilities must meet American Disabilities Act (ADA) Standards after project completion. As well, the project must maintain bicycle and pedestrian access during construction. These access considerations support Caltrans' equity mission to provide a safe, sustainable, and equitable transportation network for all users.

Sean Tripp, Supervising Planner
October 30, 2023
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Thank you again for including Caltrans in the environmental review process. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Marley Mathews, Transportation Planner, via LDR-D4@dot.ca.gov. For future early coordination opportunities or project referrals, please contact LDR-D4@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Luo Yunsheng". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Luo" being larger and more prominent than the last name "Yunsheng".

YUNSHENG LUO
Branch Chief, Local Development Review
Office of Regional and Community Planning

c: State Clearinghouse

October 30, 2023

County of Napa Planning Division
Planning, Building & Environmental Services
1195 Third Street, 2nd Floor
Napa, California 94559

Attention: Sean Trippi, Supervising Planner

RE: Response to Comment
Vineyard 29 Project, 2929 N St Helena Hwy, Saint Helena, California
APN 022-200-027-000 (~26.2 Acres)

Dear Mr. Trippi:

Monk & Associates, Inc. (M&A) has prepared this letter to respond to a comment that the County received via email from Ms. Kellie Anderson of Angwin on October 25, 2023. Below we reiterate Ms. Anderson's comment and provide a response.

Ms. Anderson's Comment: What qualifications does Monk and Associates have to conduct Northern Spotted Owl surveys at the Vineyard 29 project site? Have you contacted U S Fish and Wildlife Service to establish they in fact have required qualifications and the survey was conducted according to professional scientific standards? We're [*sic*] required survey protocols followed? Please advise under which survey scenario the potential impact to NSO nesting, breeding, foraging habitat were evaluated. As lead agency for this project, Napa County is obligated to ensure all surveys are conducted assorting to standards of all other agencies.

M&A's Response:

M&A's Principal Biologist, Mr. Geoff Monk had over 40 years of experience as a raptor biologist which included decades of Northern Spotted Owl (*Strix occidentalis caurina*) surveys. Ms. Sarah Lynch, M&A's Principal Biologist, has over 30 years of experience as a wildlife biologist which includes a decade of surveys for Northern Spotted Owl (NSO). Both Mr. Monk and Ms. Lynch are Certified Wildlife Biologists certified by The Wildlife Society in Washington D.C. Mr. Monk and Ms. Lynch have conducted numerous surveys for NSO in Napa, Sonoma, and Lake Counties of California. Mr. Monk's and Ms. Lynch's resumes are attached.

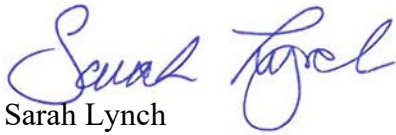
M&A completed a habitat assessment of the Vineyard 29 project site to determine if this project site provides suitable habitat for the NSO to hunt (forage) and nest. Survey methods followed the methodology prescribed in the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's (USFWS) current, revised 2012 protocol¹. Because it was determined during the five surveys (1 diurnal and 4 nocturnal surveys)

¹ USFWS (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service). 2012. Protocol for Surveying Management Activities That May Impact Northern Spotted Owls. February 2, 2011. Revised January 9, 2012.

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conducted on the project site that suitable habitat for NSO is not present, additional surveys were not conducted. If you require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at Sarah@monkassociates.com or at (925) 947-4867, ext. 203. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Sarah Lynch
Principal Biologist

Attached: Resumes

J. GEOFF MONK
ENVIRONMENTAL BIOLOGIST

Mr. Monk has over 30 years of experience as a wildlife/environmental biologist in California, with additional experience in Idaho, Washington, Oregon, and Nevada. His technical expertise includes: design and implementation of rare and endangered species population studies; quantitative wildlife and vegetation analysis; multiparameter wetlands assessments; design and implementation of wetlands mitigation projects; mitigation monitoring; biological constraints analysis; and impact analysis pursuant to NEPA and CEQA. Mr. Monk has extensive experience with wetlands planning and permitting pursuant to Sections 401 and 404 of the Clean Water Act, and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act (as administered by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers). He also has extensive experience assisting applicants with the preparation of endangered species "incidental take permits" pursuant to Section 7 and 10 of the Federal Endangered Species Act and pursuant to Section 2081 of the California Endangered Species Act. Mr. Monk prepares Streambed Alteration Agreements pursuant to Sections 1602 of the California Fish and Game Code (as administered by the California Department of Fish and Game). Finally, Mr. Monk is recognized as an expert with many special-status animal and plant species, and holds numerous permits/authorizations to conduct presence/absence surveys for these species.

EDUCATION

M.S., Wildland Resource Science, University of California, Berkeley, 1981
B.S., Wildlife Management, Humboldt State University, Arcata, California, 1977

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

1992 - Present: Monk & Associates, Environmental Biologist/Principal.

1989 -1992: Harding Lawson Associates, Senior Biologist.

1986-1989: University of California, Santa Cruz, Federal and State Birds of Prey Monitoring Team Coordinator/ Data Base Manager (Research Associate).

1984 - 1986: Monk & Associates, Wildlife Biologist/Principal

1981 - 1983: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Wildlife Biologist. Sacramento Endangered Species Office.

1976-1980: U.S. Bureau of Land Management, Wildlife Biologist, Washington (Spokane), Nevada (Ely), and California Districts (Sacramento, Ukiah).

CERTIFICATIONS

Certified Wildlife Biologist - Certification from The Wildlife Society, Washington, D.C. 1993.

GEOFF MONK
Biologist

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE (Full Environmental Permitting and Mitigation Implementation Projects and/or Environmental Impact Report Biology Section Preparation, or as otherwise specified)

- Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Intermodal Facility, San Joaquin County, California
- Shea Homes LaVigne Development, City of American Canyon, California
- Ghisletta Project, City of American Canyon, California
- Blue Rock Country Club, City of Hayward, California
- Stonechase Housing Development, Livermore, Alameda County, California
- Highland View Development, El Dorado County, California.
- UNOCAL Ecological Risk Assessment, San Luis Obispo County, California
- Oak Manor Housing Development, Alameda County, California.
- Keller Canyon Sanitary Landfill, Contra Costa County, California.
- TMD-Brown Development, Sonoma County, California.
- PGT Coyote Springs and Medford Lateral Pipelines.
- Bennett Consolidated Commercial Development, Sonoma County, California.
- Granite Construction Company, Vernalis Project, Stanislaus County, California.
- Redwood Sanitary Landfill Salt Marsh Harvest Mouse Survey, Marin County, California.
- Lambie Ranch Development, Solano County, California.
- Manzanar Four Lane Project, Inyo County California.
- Vasco Road Sanitary Landfill, Alameda County, California.
- Pacific Gas & Electric, Pacific Gas Transmission - Natural Gas Pipeline Expansion Project.
- PGT/PG&E Pipeline Expansion Project from Central California to Kingsgate B.C, Canada.
- Port of Oakland Inner Harbor Deep Draft Navigation Improvement Project, Oakland, California.
- Lakeborough Community Development, Stanislaus County, California.
- Highway 89 improvements, Tahoe City, California.
- PG&E coal fired power plant siting studies, northern California
- Completed helicopter surveys in Oregon for nesting peregrine falcons, ospreys, and bald eagles on contract to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.
- Annual raptor surveys, California for BLM and USFWS.
- Completed wildlife/vegetation characterization studies in eastern Nevada and northern California. Projects included vegetation mapping, Emlin bird transects, rodent snap trapping, and carnivore live trapping. Employer: U.S. Bureau of Land Management.
- Ecological preserve suitability study, Yakima Canyon, Washington. Employer: U.S. Bureau of Land Management.
- Raptor banding studies, Alberta, Canada - Adult raptors were trapped and banded at the nest site. Nestlings were also banded. Species included the ferruginous hawk, Swainson's hawk, red-tailed hawk, Cooper's hawk, merlin, prairie falcon, and golden eagle. Employer: Canadian Wildlife Service.

TECHNICAL REVIEW COMMITTEES

Invited member of the Amphibian, Reptile, and Mammal Focus Team for the Regional Wetland Monitoring Program sponsored by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board and other local and State agencies.

Invited member of the Contra Costa County Biological Technical Review Committee for the Alameda-Contra Costa Biodiversity Study.

GEOFF MONK
Biologist

Invited Participating Scientific Review Member of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service California Tiger Salamander Recovery Team.

AWARDS

U.S. Bureau of Land Management Special Achievement Award, California State Honors.
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Special Achievement Award, Western Regional Honors.

SARAH M. LYNCH
PRINCIPAL BIOLOGIST

Ms. Lynch is a biologist experienced in the fields of wildlife biology, botany, wetlands ecology and delineation, and threatened and endangered species surveys. She has worked as a biological consultant for over 25 years. Her passion for both wildlife and plants, and her strong education in both technical disciplines, has resulted in developing her expertise in both fields, wildlife and botany, with years of experience working with both. Her technical expertise includes: amphibian and fairy shrimp surveys; rare plant surveys; bird censusing; small mammal trapping; multiparameter wetland assessments; biological constraints analysis and impact analysis pursuant to CEQA and NEPA. Ms. Lynch prepares permit application packages for submittal to local, state, and federal resource agencies. She is involved in agency negotiation and mitigation development as part of the permit application process and oversees permitting of a project from start to completion. She prepares long-term management plans, mitigation and monitoring plans, PAR analyses, and permit compliance reports as part of the permit process.

EDUCATION

B.S., Environmental and Systematic Biology
California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo 1990

CERTIFICATIONS

Certified Wildlife Biologist - Certification from The Wildlife Society, Washington, D.C.

PERMITS/AGENCY AUTHORIZATIONS

Authorized by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as an Independent Researcher on a federal 10(a)(1)(A) Recovery Permit to survey for and handle the federally listed California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*), California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*) (all Distinct Population Segments), vernal pool Branchiopods (*Branchinecta* spp. and *Lepidurus packardii*), and the salt marsh harvest mouse (*Reithrodontomys raviventris*).

Authorized by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to survey for and handle the California tiger salamander, foothill yellow-legged frog (*Rana boylei*), and the salt marsh harvest mouse.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

2022 to Present: Monk & Associates, Principal Biologist
2010-2021: Monk & Associates, Senior Associate Biologist
1994 – 2010: Monk & Associates, Associate Biologist
1992 - 1994: Western Ecological Services Company, Inc., Biologist
1990 - 1992: Harding Lawson Associates, Staff Biologist

Sarah Lynch
Principal Biologist

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

Botanical and Wildlife Studies

Habitat Monitoring and Special-status Amphibian and Vernal Pool Branchiopod Surveys for the East Contra Costa Habitat Conservancy. Since 2006, Ms. Lynch has been providing biological survey support for the East Contra Costa Habitat Conservancy on their acquired land preserves. This survey support includes monitoring created seasonal wetland and restored creek habitats for special-status amphibians, surveying for federally-listed vernal pool branchiopods, surveying for special-status plant species, and monitoring the overall condition of the plant communities and wildlife habitats to see if any remedial efforts are necessary (for example, invasive weed eradication).

Special-Status Amphibian Surveys. 1991-Present. Authorized under a federal Recovery Permit (TE-776608) and State MOU (and Scientific Collector's Permit) to conduct surveys for federally listed and state listed amphibians. Conducted diurnal (daytime) surveys and nocturnal (night time) surveys for special-status amphibian species including the California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*) (all Distinct Population Segments), California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*), foothill yellow-legged frog (*Rana boylei*), and western spadefoot toad (*Spea hammondi*). Survey methods employed include visual surveys, spotlighting surveys, dip-netting, seining, funnel trapping, and pitfall trapping. Surveys followed California Department of Fish and Wildlife and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service protocols.

Rare Plant Surveys. 1991-Present. Conducted systematic transect surveys in a variety of plant communities in northern and central California, including coastal dune scrub, coastal salt marsh, chaparral, oak woodland, redwood forest, and vernal pools in the Santa Rosa Plain of Sonoma County and California's Central Valley. All surveys followed California Department of Fish and Wildlife and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recommended guidelines and survey protocols.

Provided Environmental Permitting Assistance and Conducted Two Years of Nesting Bird Surveys for common and special-status bird species at the Bobcat Flat Phase III River Restoration Project on the Tuolumne River east of Waterford, CA. Surveys conducted in accordance with EPIMS-STA-13719-R4. Surveys included U.S. Fish and Wildlife (USFWS) protocol-level surveys for nesting Least Bell's Vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*) which require eight surveys between April and July, as well as CDFW protocol-level surveys for nesting Swainson's Hawks (*Buteo swainsoni*) which requires six surveys over two survey periods. Other special-status birds surveyed for included the Tricolored Blackbird (*Agelaius tricolor*) and the Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*). These surveys resulted in a positive identification of two Swainson's Hawk nests, a Cooper's Hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*) nest, a White-tailed Kite (*Elanus leucurus*) nest, and three Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) nests among other more common nesting bird species. All nesting attempts were successful. Also prepared environmental permit applications for submittal to state and federal regulatory agencies and obtained a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 permit (Nationwide Permit 27), a California Regional Water Quality Control Board Section 401 water quality certification, and a California Department of Fish and Wildlife Section 1602

Sarah Lynch
Principal Biologist

Streambed Alteration Agreement for the river restoration work. 2018- 2023. Client: Tuolumne River Conservancy.

Conducted One Year of Western Pond Turtle Presence and Nesting Surveys at the Bobcat Flat Phase III River Restoration Project on the Tuolumne River east of Waterford, CA. Surveys conducted in accordance with EPIMS-STA-13719-R4. Surveys for nesting pond turtles were conducted in all upland locations near the Tuolumne River, away from the river, and in all upland locations outside of the river and its backwater sloughs. Several western pond turtles as well as multiple red-eared sliders were observed and documented. Western pond turtle observations were reported to the CNDDDB.

Biological Constraints Analysis and Special-Status Plant and Wildlife Surveys, Doolan Ranch Preserve, Alameda County, California. Completed a biological constraints analysis of this approximately 1,200-acre rural project site located in the hills east of Livermore. This constraints analysis provided the project proponent with information on the biological resources found on the project site and how these resources could pose a constraint to development. Following preparation of the constraints analysis, M&A completed four months of special-status plant surveys on the project site following California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the California Native Plant Society's "Rare Plant Survey Guidelines," as well as protocol level surveys for federally-listed vernal pool Branchiopods and the state and federally-listed California tiger salamander. Findings: two special-status plants, the California red-legged frog, and the California tiger salamander were identified on the project site.

Biological Support and Peer Review Services, Contra Costa County, Community Development Department, Martinez, CA. 2002 – 2021, 2023. On-call services. Between 2002 and 2021, and again 2023 assisted the County of Contra Costa, Community Development Department, with the peer review of biological constraints analysis reports and special-status species survey reports prepared for proposed development projects in the County. Assist Community Development Department personnel in the preparation of Initial Studies and the Biological Resource sections of Mitigated Negative Declarations for proposed projects. Assist Community Development Department staff in identifying project impacts to biological resources and crafting adequate mitigation measures to offset the impact to a less than significant level pursuant to CEQA.

Highway 37 Sonoma Creek Bridge Widening Project and SMHM Trapping, Sonoma County, CA. Monk & Associates, Inc. (M&A) assisted CalTrans with acquisition of a Federal Engineered Species Act Incidental Take Permit for project impacts to the federally listed (and state listed) salt marsh harvest mouse (*Reithrodontomys raviventris*). M&A had to assist with installation of rodent exclusion fencing, and trapped all rodents from within the enclosed areas clearing the way for CalTrans to complete the Highway 37 Bridge widening project. SMHM trapped were relocated to another portion of the Highway 37 marsh under authorization of the USFWS BO (Trapping personnel: Geoff Monk, Sarah Lynch, Dr. Phil Leitner). Client: CalTrans.

Salt Marsh Harvest Mouse Presence/Absence Trapping Survey, Shell Pipeline Corporation - Pipeline Repair Site Martinez, Contra Costa County, California. In June 2008, M&A (Sarah Lynch and Hope Kingma) completed a trapping study in the Shell Marsh and live-trapped 4 salt marsh harvest mice on the second trap night. In addition, 43 western harvest mouse (*Reithrodontomys megalotis*) (not including re-captures) were captured during the 2-day trapping study. Other small

Sarah Lynch
Principal Biologist

mammals captured during this study included the California meadow vole (*Microtus californicus*) (n = 158), house mice (*Mus musculus*) (n = 70), and the deer mouse (*Peromyscus maniculatus*) (n = 1).

Salt Marsh Harvest Mouse Presence/Absence Survey, Avon To Vine Hill Pipeline Construction Project, Contra Costa County, CA. M&A biologists Geoff Monk and Sarah Lynch conducted a SMHM presence/absence survey over an eight day period from July 10, 1995 through July 18, 1995. A total of 300 Sherman live-traps were set each night in the three most suitable SMHM habitats along the Chevron R/W. A total of 300 trap-nights per night or 1,200 trap-nights over the entire survey duration were completed. A total of 257 rodents were captured during the trapping effort. The house mouse (*Mus musculus*) was the most common mouse species captured (n= 117), followed by western harvest mouse (*R. megalotis*) (n=96), California meadow vole (*Microtus californicus*) (n=42) and finally brown rat (*Rattus norvegicus*).

Environmental Permitting, Safe Routes to School Program, Town of Fairfax, Marin County, CA. Assisted Moffatt & Nichol Engineering and the Town of Fairfax with environmental permit applications for the repair and reconstruction of a bridge over Fairfax Creek in the Town of Fairfax. Met with California Department of Fish and Wildlife personnel on the project site and acquired a streambed alteration agreement from Fish and Wildlife in accordance with Section 1602 of California Fish and Game Code. Client: Moffatt & Nichol Engineering, Walnut Creek, CA.

Burrowing Owl, California Red-Legged Frog, California Tiger Salamander, and Rare Plant Surveys. Martinelli Ranch, Petaluma, CA. Conducted focused surveys on 600 acres for special-status animals and plants in order to comply with a State Water Resources Control Board requirement for a pending Water Rights Permit application. Focused surveys were conducted on portions of the ranch proposed for water diversion and place of use (vineyard planting). Ms. Lynch identified the federally listed species, Contra Costa goldfields (*Lasthenia conjugens*) on the property which was a known range extension for this species. Identified the California red-legged frog onsite. Prepared several reports for the State Water Board to assist them with their water rights application. A California red-legged frog and burrowing owl survey report was prepared, a special-status plant survey report was prepared, and a California tiger salamander larval survey report was prepared. Client: Mr. Dave Martinelli.

California Red-Legged Frog Surveys and Bird Point Count Surveys. Charles Krug's Willow Lake Ranch, Napa, CA. Charles Krug received a Water Rights Permit from the State Water Resources Control Board for the enlargement of two existing ponds (reservoirs) and creation of a third off-stream reservoir on their Willow Lake Ranch site. One of the Water Rights Permit conditions was for a biologist to conduct California red-legged frog surveys prior to enlargement of the existing reservoirs and construction of a third reservoir. Ms. Lynch participated in the focused surveys for this federally listed frog species. These surveys followed the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's survey protocol. No California red-legged frogs were identified in the existing ponds. A report with these findings was prepared and submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and no further survey work or mitigation was required. Dawn surveys for bird population census was also conducted. Ms. Lynch and Dr. Monte Kirven conducted a series of point counts over several months along the riparian corridor to document bird use. Client: Charles Krug Winery, Peter Mondavi Family.

Sarah Lynch
Principal Biologist

California Department of Fish and Game monitor for all biological surveys conducted along a 100-mile spread of the PGT/PG&E pipeline expansion project in Shasta, Siskiyou, and Modoc Counties, California. Responsibilities included monitoring activities of consulting biologists conducting special-status raptor surveys along the pipeline, monitoring construction activities, attending interagency meetings, and reviewing all biological survey status reports and mitigation plans. Client: Michael Sotak & Associates

Raptor (birds of prey) nesting/occurrence surveys. 1991 to Present. Conducted nesting/occurrence surveys for golden eagle, Cooper's hawk, sharp-shinned hawk, white-tailed kite, and burrowing owl for proposed developments in the San Francisco Bay Area and the Central Valley. All surveys follow regulatory agency protocols. Clients: Various.

Conducted kit fox den surveys along a 60-mile spread of the Westley-Tracy transmission line project in San Joaquin County, California. Surveys were conducted in order to determine alternative routes for the transmission line. Client: Transmission Agency of Northern California.

Environmental and Regulatory

Biological Resources Analysis, Santa Rosa Rancheria, Kings County, California. Conducted field surveys to document baseline biological conditions on three parcels proposed for development: a 20-acre, 200-acre, and a 400-acre parcel. Prepared a biological resources analysis for the 200-acre parcel. This biological resources analysis was incorporated into a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Environmental Assessment. Currently working on reports for the 20 and 400-acre parcels. Each report documents existing conditions on the parcel, discusses potential special-status species and "waters of the United States" issues, summarizes potential project-related impacts to biological resources, and suggests mitigation measures to minimize these impacts.

Biological Resources Analysis for inclusion in an Environmental Impact Report, Gillrie Property, Alameda County, CA. Completed a wildlife inventory, rare plant surveys, a wetland delineation, and protocol California red-legged frog surveys on this 78-acre property proposed for residential development. Prepared a biological resources setting, impacts, and mitigations section for Alameda County Planning Department for incorporation into the Environmental Impact Report being prepared for the project. Client: Alameda County Planning Department.

Oak Manor Development, Alameda County, California - Environmental permitting. Secured permits for impacts to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers jurisdictional "waters of the United States" pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, and obtained a waiver of water quality from the California Regional Water Quality Control Board (pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act). Also, obtained a Streambed Alteration Agreement, pursuant to Section 1603 of California Fish and Game Code, for proposed impacts to intermittent creeks from construction of the housing development. Prepared an oak tree management plan for distribution to new home owners to assist them with the care and maintenance of native oak trees on their property. Client: Branaugh Excavating, Inc., Livermore, California.

Sarah Lynch
Principal Biologist

Castlewood Water and Sewer System Rehabilitation Project, Alameda County, California. Prepared a biological constraints analysis for the proposed rehabilitation of an existing water and sewer system in the Castlewood County Service Area. Also conducted surveys for special-status plants within the proposed water and sewer easements area. Client: Alameda County Planning Department, Alameda County, California.

Delineated over 30 vernal pools and swales on a 110-acre site proposed for landfill expansion in Merced County, California. Prepared a report for submittal to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and obtained a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers jurisdictional determination for the delineation. Arranged mitigation for proposed impacts to vernal pools and habitat for the Federally listed threatened vernal pool fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta lynchi*).