

December 10, 2018  
(2018-047.006)

Ms. Veronica Mardis  
County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Stormwater Engineering Division  
Via Email: [Vmardis@dpw.lacounty.gov](mailto:Vmardis@dpw.lacounty.gov)

**Subject: General Preconstruction Survey for the Devil's Gate Reservoir Restoration Project, in the City of Pasadena, California**

Dear Ms. Mardis,

This letter report has been prepared to present the results of general preconstruction surveys conducted by ECORP Consulting, Inc. (ECORP) for Los Angeles County Department of Public Works' (LACDPW) Devil's Gate Reservoir Restoration Project (Project) in the City of Pasadena, Los Angeles County, California. The general preconstruction surveys were conducted to comply with Condition 2.3 in the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Streambed Alteration Agreement (SAA) 1600-2015-0263-R5 that was issued for the Devil's Gate Sediment Removal and Management Project on March 21, 2017.

Condition 2.3 of the SAA states:

"Prior to Project Start a Designated Biologist shall conduct a preconstruction survey no more than three (3) days and no less than one (1) day before proposed activities for the presence of fish, wildlife, or plants within the Initial Sediment Removal Area and adjacent areas with accessible Suitable Habitat and establish protective measures in accordance with other conditions of the Agreement hereunder."

**SURVEY METHODS**

A general preconstruction survey for fish, wildlife, and plants was conducted within the Initial Sediment Removal area and adjacent areas with accessible suitable habitat on November 26, 2018. Biologists walked through the entire Project area and adjacent areas, using binoculars to scan ahead searching and listening for animals from a distance, before proceeding in a slow and quiet manner. Cover objects were turned over to search for reptiles and amphibians and were carefully returned to their original locations. All open water habitats, including potential basking or haul-out sites, were also searched. While surveying, the biologists also scanned the ground for sensitive plant species.

## **RESULTS**

The general preconstruction was conducted by CDFW-approved Designated Biologists. The dates, personnel, and weather conditions for the survey are presented in Table 1. Representative photographs of the project site during the survey are provided in Attachment A, field survey datasheets are provided in Attachment B.

**Table 1. Weather Conditions during Survey**

Date	Surveyors	Time		Temperature (°F)		Cloud Cover (%)		Wind Speed (mph)	
		start	end	start	end	start	end	start	end
11-26-18	Brian Zitt, Adam Schroeder	06:50	11:00	52	76	0	5	0-2	1-3

No least Bell's vireo or other sensitive species were identified during the preconstruction surveys. A complete list of all birds and other wildlife observed during the preconstruction surveys is provided in Attachment C.

## **DISCUSSION**

No protected species identified in the SAA were observed during the general preconstruction survey. Based on the negative findings of the general preconstruction survey, it was determined that protected species identified in the SAA were not present on the Project site and Project activities are not expected to affect these protected species at this time. Measures implemented during biological monitoring during initial vegetation removal activities will provide adequate protection to any protected species encountered during Project activities.

If you have any questions regarding the contents of this letter report, please contact me at (714) 648-0630 or [lsimpson@ecorpc consulting.com](mailto:lsimpson@ecorpc consulting.com).

SIGNED:   
Lauren Simpson  
Staff Biologist

DATE: December 10, 2018

### **Attachments:**

- Attachment A: Representative Site Photos
- Attachment B: Field Datasheets
- Attachment C: Wildlife Compendium

**ATTACHMENT A**

Representative Site Photos

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**Photo 1.** View of the drainage leading to the dam, facing southwest.



**Photo 2.** View of the north side of the dam.



**Photo 3.** View of dense black willow thickets, facing east.



**Photo 4.** Side-blotched lizard observed on the project site.





**Devil's Gate Reservoir Project Protected Species Preconstruction Survey**

Surveyor Names: Brian Zitt, Adam Schroeder Date: 11/26/2018

Location(s): Initial sediment removal area + adjacent areas

Targeted Species: General Preconstruction Survey

SURVEY CONDITIONS				
	Time	Temp (F)	Wind (mph)	% Cloud Cover
START	06:50	52	0-2	0
END	11:00	76	1-3	5

SUITABLE HABITAT/SPECIES OBSERVATIONS?	
TARGET SPECIES	NOTES (coordinates, photo numbers, # individuals, sex, age/size class behaviors)
	<i>No sensitive species observed.</i>


**Devil's Gate Reservoir Project Protected Species Preconstruction Survey**
Date: 11-26-2018
**ADDITIONAL NOTES:**

(e.g., site description, existing disturbances, other sensitive species identified?)

- Conducted survey within Initial Sediment Removal area and adjacent areas.
- Drainage that flows from the west has water present w/ good habitat. No sensitive species observed.
- No sensitive species observed during the survey.

**INCIDENTAL SPECIES OBSERVED**

(include sign: tracks, carcass, feathers, scat, etc.)

 CALT, RSHA, WESP, WSJA, NOMO, AMER, ACWO, HOFI, MOOO,  
 ANHU, CORA, EUST, NOFL, BLPH

Raccoon, Coyote, common side blotched lizard

Scientific Name	Common Name
<b>REPTILES</b>	
<b>Phrynosomatidae</b>	<b>Spiny Lizards</b>
<i>Sceloporus occidentalis</i>	western fence lizard
<i>Uta stansburiana</i>	common side-blotched lizard
<b>BIRDS</b>	
<b>Accipitridae</b>	<b>Hawks</b>
<i>Buteo lineatus</i>	red-shouldered hawk
<b>Columbidae</b>	<b>Pigeons and Doves</b>
<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	mourning dove
<b>Corvidae</b>	<b>Jays and Crows</b>
<i>Aphelocoma californica</i>	California scrub-jay
<i>Corvus corax</i>	common raven
<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	American crow
<b>Fringillidae</b>	<b>Finches</b>
<i>Haemorhous mexicanus</i>	house finch
<b>Mimidae</b>	<b>Mockingbirds and Thrashers</b>
<i>Mimus polyglottos</i>	northern mockingbird
<b>Passerellidae (previously Emberizidae)</b>	<b>Sparrows and Towhees</b>
<i>Pipilo crissalis</i>	California towhee
<i>Zonotrichia leucophrys</i>	white-crowned sparrow
<b>Picidae</b>	<b>Woodpeckers</b>
<i>Colaptes auratus</i>	northern flicker
<i>Melanerpes formicivorus</i>	acorn woodpecker
<b>Sturnidae</b>	<b>Starlings</b>
<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	European starling*
<b>Trochilidae</b>	<b>Hummingbirds</b>
<i>Calypte anna</i>	Anna's hummingbird
<b>Tyrannidae</b>	<b>Tyrant Flycatchers</b>
<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>	black phoebe
<b>MAMMALS</b>	
<b>Canidae</b>	<b>Dogs, Wolves, and Foxes</b>
<i>Canis latrans</i>	coyote
<b>Cricetidae</b>	<b>New World Rats and Mice</b>
<i>Neotoma sp.</i>	woodrat sp. (midden)
<b>Leporidae</b>	<b>Hares and Rabbits</b>
<i>Procyon lotor</i>	raccoon
<b>Procyonidae</b>	<b>Raccoons and Ringtails</b>
<i>Sylvilagus audubonii</i>	desert cottontail
<b>Sciuridae</b>	<b>Squirrels</b>
<i>Otospermophilus beecheyi</i>	California ground squirrel

\*Nonnative species

\*\*CDFW California Species of Special Concern/CDFW Fully Protected Species/Watch List Species

\*\*\*Federally or state-listed as threatened or endangered