



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Cleveland National
Forest

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File Code: 2670

Date: January 14, 2011

Subject: Biological Evaluation/Assessment
Ramona Burn Dump CERCLA Project

To: Noelle Graham, Environmental Engineer

Introduction

The Cleveland National Forest is analyzing the Ramona Burn Dump site, which will be treated to address hazardous materials. Treatment is expected to be either capping the site with clean fill, or excavating the hazardous material from the site. The burn dump site occupies approximately 10 acres of National Forest System land on the north side of the Ramona Dump Road. The project site is located in Township 12 South, Range 1 East, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 34.

This document is prepared to comply with the legal requirements set forth under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1536(c), 50 CFR 402), and policy and standards set forth in Forest Service Manual (FSM) 2672.4 through 2672.42. Modeled habitat for the following federally-listed species is present at the site: Quino Checkerspot and California Gnatcatcher (USDA Forest Service 2000). There is no potential for any other federally-listed species to occur at the project site. Downstream of the project site, along Santa Ysabel Creek and its tributaries, there is occupied habitat for two federally-listed species- Arroyo Toad and Least Bell's Vireo, and modeled habitat for two federally-listed species – Southwestern Willow Flycatcher and Stephen's Kangaroo Rat. Downstream of the project site there is designated critical habitat for Southwestern Willow Flycatcher and proposed critical habitat for Arroyo Toad. There are no known locations of any Regional Forester's Sensitive list plant or animal species at the project site. A habitat suitability analysis was conducted for each sensitive plant and animal species on the Regional Forester's sensitive list. The project area is potential habitat for two Regional Forester's sensitive plant species, Ramona Horkelia and Delicate Clarkia, and two Regional Forester's sensitive animal species – Coastal Rosy Boa and San Diego Horned Lizard.



Existing Conditions

Kirsten Winter, Forest Biologist, and Pete Gomben, Forest Planner, surveyed the project site on August 3, 2010. Kirsten Winter and David Faulkner, contract entomologist, re-visited the site on August 10, 2010. The project site is in a stand of Diegan coastal sage scrub that burned in 2007. Buckwheat and Deerweed are dominant species at the site. A list of plant species observed is shown in Table 1. The soil type at the site is mapped as Fallbrook sandy loam which is a soil type weathered from granite (USDA Soil Conservation Service and Forest Service 1973). Fallbrook soil map units may include areas of Las Posas soils, which are derived from gabbro. Gabbro soils were evident at the eastern edge of the dump site. There is some erosion and gullying occurring, especially near the southern edge of the site.

Table 1. Plant list for Ramona Burn Dump site – August 3, 2010

Scientific name	Common Name	Status
<i>Adenostoma fasciculatum</i>	Chamise	Native
<i>Ambrosia sp.</i>	Ragweed	Native
<i>Artemisia californica</i>	California Sage	Native
<i>Avena sp.</i>	Wild Oat	Non-native
<i>Bahiopsis (Viguiera) laciniata</i>	San Diego Sunflower	Native
<i>Bromus diandrus</i>	Ripgut Brome	Non-native
<i>Bromus hordeaceus</i>	Soft Chess	Non-native
<i>Bromus madritensis v.rubens</i>	Red Brome	Non-native
<i>Centaurea melitensis</i>	Tocalote	Non-native
<i>Chorizanthe fimbriata</i>	Turkish Rugging	Native
<i>Croton setigerus</i>	Doveweed	Native
<i>Cryptantha sp</i>	Popcorn Flower	Native
<i>Datura wrightii</i>	Datura	Native
<i>Deindrana fasciculata</i>	Fascicled Tarweed	Native
<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	Filaree	Non-native
<i>Eriogonum fasciculatum</i>	Buckwheat	Native
<i>Eriophyllum confertiflorum</i>	Golden Yarrow	Native
<i>Gutierrezia californica</i>	Matchweed	Native
<i>Hazardia squarrosa</i>	Sawtooth Goldenbush	Native
<i>Hesperoyucca whipplei</i>	Spanish Bayonet	Native
<i>Heterotheca grandiflora</i>	Telegraph Weed	Native
<i>Hirschfeldia incana</i>	Mustard	Native
<i>Keckiella antirrhinoides</i>	Yellow Bush Monkeyflower	Native
<i>Lamarckia aurea</i>	Golden-top	Non-native
<i>Lotus scoparius</i>	Deerweed	Native
<i>Lupinus sp.</i>	Lupine	Native
<i>Malosma laurina</i>	Laurel Sumac	Native
<i>Navarretia hamata</i>	Skunkweed	Native
<i>Nicotiana glauca</i>	Tree Tobacco	Non-native

<i>Salsola australis</i>	Tumbleweed	Non-native
<i>Salvia mellifera</i>	Black Sage	Native
<i>Stephanomeria diegensis</i>	Wreath Plant	Native
<i>Trifolium willdenovii</i>	Tomcat Clover	Native
<i>Xylococcus bicolor</i>	Mission Manzanita	Native

Federally-listed Species

The project site is located within coastal sage scrub. The site has been disturbed by past activity. No primary host plants (*Plantago* sp. or *Castilleja exserta*) for Quino Checkerspot were observed during the site surveys. In general the vegetation at the site is dense and the project area is not suitable habitat for Quino Checkerspot. See Faulkner (2010) which is attached.

The project site is suitable habitat for California Gnatcatcher. The vegetation at the site is dominated by buckwheat at present, so the habitat is of moderate quality for this species. A protocol survey for this species was completed, and no California Gnatcatchers were detected (Winter 2010) – see attachment.

Downstream of the project site, along Santa Ysabel Creek and its tributaries, there is occupied habitat for two federally-listed species- Arroyo Toad and Least Bell’s Vireo, and modeled habitat for two federally-listed species – Southwestern Willow Flycatcher and Stephen’s Kangaroo Rat. Downstream of the project site there is designated critical habitat for Southwestern Willow Flycatcher and proposed critical habitat for Arroyo Toad.

Regional Forester’s Sensitive List Species

There are no known occurrences of Regional Forester’s list sensitive plant species at the site and no Regional Forester’s list sensitive plant species were detected at the site. There is moderate potential for occurrence of Delicate Clarkia and Ramona Horkelia at the site.

There is suitable foraging habitat for two Regional Forester’s List sensitive animal species - Coastal Rosy Boa and San Diego Horned Lizard – throughout the site. A large San Diego Horned Lizard was observed near the southwestern corner of the project site during surveys on August 3, 2010. Both the Coastal Rosy Boa and the San Diego Horned Lizard are associated with sandy or loose soils in chaparral (Jennings and Hayes 1994).

Effects

Federally-listed Species

Quino Checkerspot. The project site is not suitable habitat for this species. Activity at the project site is expected to have no effect on this species.

California Gnatcatcher. The project site is suitable habitat for California Gnatcatcher. Activity at the project site may disturb potential habitat for this species. Protocol surveys for this species were conducted and no California Gnatcatchers were located.

Arroyo Toad, Least Bell's Vireo, Southwestern Willow Flycatcher, Stephen's Kangaroo Rat. Downstream of the project site, along Santa Ysabel Creek and its tributaries, there is occupied habitat for two federally-listed species- Arroyo Toad and Least Bell's Vireo, and modeled habitat for three federally-listed species – California Red-legged Frog, Southwestern Willow Flycatcher, and Stephen's Kangaroo Rat. Downstream of the project site there is designated critical habitat for Southwestern Willow Flycatcher and proposed critical habitat for Arroyo Toad. Effective remediation of the site will reduce or eliminate any indirect effects on these species and their habitat.

Regional Forester's Sensitive List Species

There are no known occurrences of Regional Forester's list sensitive plant species at the site and no Regional Forester's list sensitive plant species were detected at the site. There is moderate potential for occurrence of Delicate Clarkia and Ramona Horkelia at the site. Remediation work at the site may disturb or kill individuals of these species.

There is suitable foraging habitat for two Regional Forester's List sensitive animal species - Coastal Rosy Boa and San Diego Horned Lizard. Remediation work at the site may disturb or kill individuals of these species. Both of these species are expected to avoid or move away from areas where machinery is working.

Determinations

Federally-listed Species

The project site is not suitable habitat for Quino Checkerspot. It is my determination that remediation work at the Ramona Burn Dump Site will have no effect on Quino Checkerspot.

The project site is suitable habitat for California Gnatcatcher. A protocol survey for this species consisting of nine survey visits was conducted in fall 2010; no California Gnatcatchers were detected. Based on the absence of California Gnatcatcher from the site, it is my determination that remediation work at the Ramona Burn Dump Site will have no effect on this species.

Arroyo Toad, Least Bell's Vireo, Southwestern Willow Flycatcher, Stephen's Kangaroo Rat. Downstream of the project site, along Santa Ysabel Creek and its tributaries, there is occupied habitat for two federally-listed species- Arroyo Toad and Least Bell's Vireo, and modeled habitat for three federally-listed species – California Red-legged Frog, Southwestern Willow Flycatcher, and Stephen's Kangaroo Rat. Downstream of the project site there is designated critical habitat for Southwestern Willow Flycatcher and proposed critical habitat for Arroyo Toad. Effective

remediation of the site will reduce or eliminate any indirect effects on these species and their habitat.

Regional Forester's Sensitive List Species

There is moderate potential for occurrence of Delicate Clarkia and Ramona Horkelia around the periphery of the site. Remediation work at the site may disturb or kill individuals of these species. These species are relatively abundant in the general vicinity of the project. It is my determination that remediation of the Ramona Burn Dump Site may affect individuals, but is not expected to result in a trend toward federal listing nor a loss of viability for these species.

A San Diego Horned Lizard was observed at the project site. There is potential habitat for the Coastal Rosy Boa at the site. In general these species will avoid areas where machinery is working, but there is a possibility that individuals could be injured or killed during remediation work. It is my determination that remediation of the Ramona Burn Dump site may affect individuals, but is not expected to result in a trend toward federal listing nor a loss of viability for Coastal Rosy Boa and San Diego Horned Lizard.

Management Indicator Species, Weed Risk Assessment

Due to the small area affected by the proposed project and the disturbance history at the site, no effects on Management Indicator Species or weed introduction are expected.

Recommendations

Wildlife species are occupying the project site. If feasible, I recommend limiting the surface disturbance to the smallest area practicable, and revegetating the site with recommended species at the first opportunity following disturbance. After remediation of the site, coastal sage scrub should be re-established on the site. Species recommended for seeding at the site include California Sage, Buckwheat, Laurel Sumac, and Spanish Bayonet.

s/Kirsten Winter
Kirsten Winter
Forest Biologist

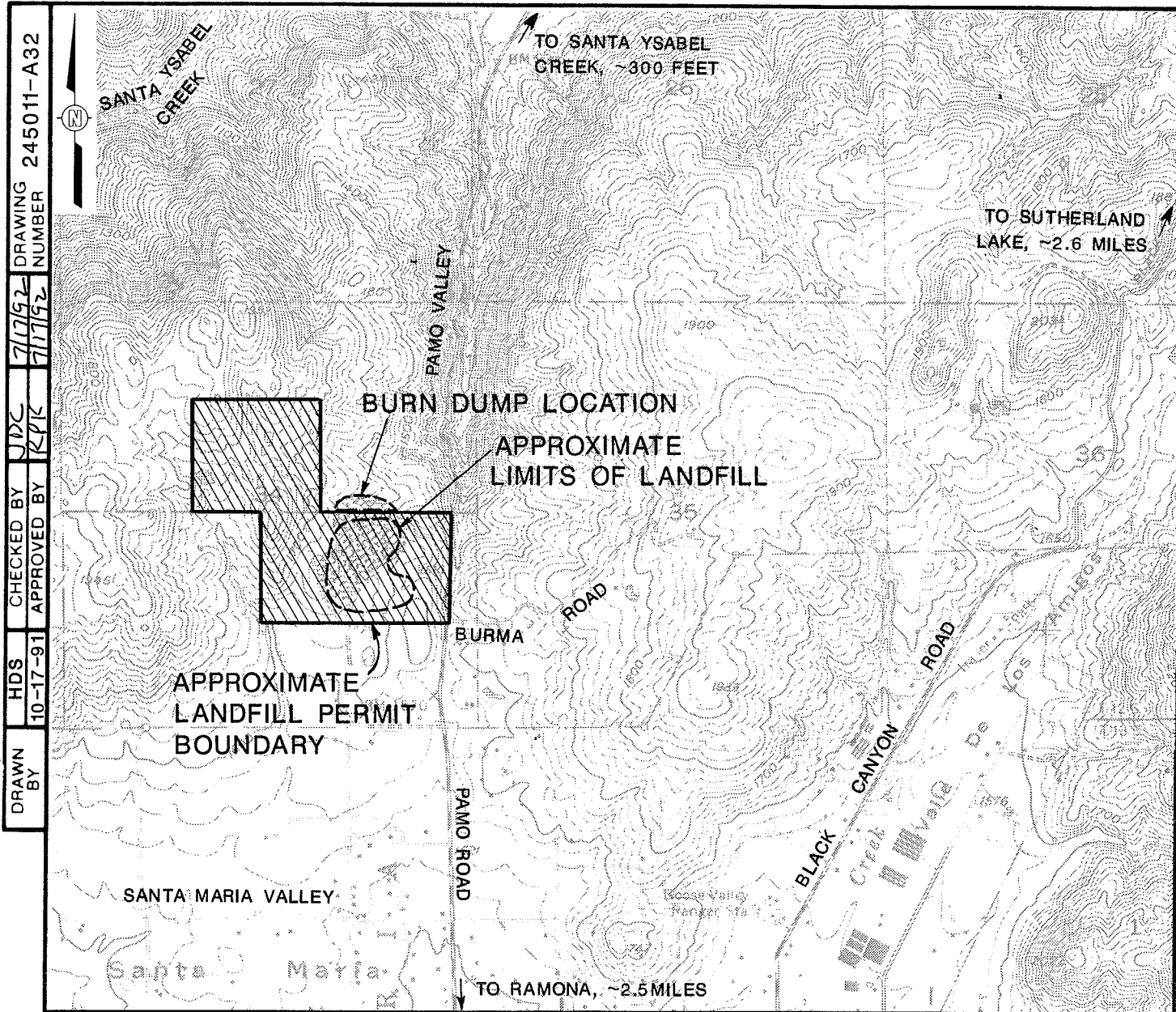
Enclosures:
List of threatened, endangered, and sensitive species considered
Map of site
Quino Checkerspot habitat assessment
California Gnatcatcher survey report

References

- Faulkner, D. 2010. Habitat Assessment for Quino Checkerspot Butterfly, Ramona Landfill/Burn Site. 4 p. Cleveland National Forest files.
- Jennings, M.R. and M.P. Hayes. 1994. Amphibian and Reptile Species of Special Concern in California. Report to California Department of Fish and Game, Contract #8023. 255 pp.
- USDA Soil Conservation Service and Forest Service. 1973. Soil Survey, San Diego Area, California. 2 volumes plus maps.
- USDA Forest Service. 2000. Biological Assessment for Forest Plans. 3 notebooks. Cleveland National Forest files.
- Winter, K. 2010. California Gnatcatcher Surveys, Ramona Burn Dump site. 4 p. Cleveland National Forest files.

THREATENED, ENDANGERED, PROPOSED, CANDIDATE, AND SENSITIVE PLANT SPECIES - CLEVELAND NATIONAL FOREST							
Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal E	Federal T	Federal P	Federal C	USFS Sen	State
San Diego Thornmint	<i>Acanthomintha ilicifolia</i>		X				E
Munz's Onion	<i>Allium munzii</i>	X					T
Braunton's Milkvetch	<i>Astragalus brauntonii</i>	X					
Encinitas Baccharis	<i>Baccharis vanessae</i>		X				E
Nevin's Barberry	<i>Berberis nevinii</i>	X					E
Thread-leaved Brodiaea	<i>Brodiaea filifolia</i>		X				E
Vail Lake Ceanothus	<i>Ceanothus ophiochilus</i>		X				E
Slender-horned Spineflower	<i>Dodecahema leptoceras</i>	X					E
Oval-leaved Dudleya	<i>Dudleya cymosa</i> ssp. <i>ovatifolia</i>		X				
San Bernardino Bluegrass	<i>Poa atropurpurea</i>	X					
Sand Verbena	<i>Abronia villosa</i> v. <i>aurita</i>					X	
Rainbow Manzanita	<i>Arctostaphylos rainbowensis</i>					X	
San Bernardino Aster	<i>Aster bernardinus</i>					X	
Dean's Milkvetch	<i>Astragalus deanei</i>					X	
Jacumba Milkvetch	<i>Astragalus douglasii</i> v. <i>perstrictus</i>					X	
San Diego Milkvetch	<i>Astragalus oocarpus</i>					X	
Jaeger's Milkvetch	<i>Astragalus pachypus</i> v. <i>jaegeri</i>					X	
Orcutt's Brodiaea	<i>Brodiaea orcuttii</i>					X	
Dunn's Mariposa Lily	<i>Calochortus dunnii</i>					X	R
Plummer's Mariposa Lily	<i>Calochortus plummerae</i>					X	
Intermediate Mariposa Lily	<i>Calochortus weedii</i> v. <i>intermedius</i>					X	
San Bernardino Mts. Owls' Clover	<i>Castilleja lasiorhyncha</i>					X	
Payson's Jewelflower	<i>Caulanthus simulans</i>					X	
Lakeside Ceanothus	<i>Ceanothus cyaneus</i>					X	
Parry's Spineflower	<i>Chorizanthe parryi</i> v. <i>parryi</i>					X	
Long-spined Spineflower	<i>Chorizanthe polygonoides</i> v <i>longispina</i>					X	
Delicate Clarkia	<i>Clarkia delicata</i>					X	
Tecate Cypress	<i>Cupressus forbesii</i>					X	
Cuyamaca Cypress	<i>Cupressus stephensonii</i>					X	
Cuyamaca Larkspur	<i>Delphinium hesperium</i> ssp. <i>cuyamacae</i>					X	R
Many-stemmed Dudleya	<i>Dudleya multicaulis</i>					X	
Sticky Dudleya	<i>Dudleya viscida</i>					X	
Vanishing Wild Buckwheat	<i>Eriogonum evanidum</i>					X	
Mission Canyon Bluecup	<i>Githopsis diffusa</i> ssp. <i>Filicaulis</i>					X	

Tecate Tarplant	Hemizonia floribunda					X	
Mojave Tarplant	Hemizonia mohavensis					X	
Star Potentilla	Horkelia cuneata puberula					X	
Ramona Horkelia	Horkelia truncata					X	
Heart-leaved Pitcher Sage	Lepechinia cardiophylla					X	
Warner Springs Lessingia	Lessingia glandulifera v. tomentosa					X	
Lemon Lily	Lilium parryi					X	
Parish's Meadowfoam	Limnanthes gracilis v. parishii					X	E
Orcutt's Linanthus	Linthanthus orcuttii					X	
Laguna Mountains Aster	Machaeranthera asteroides v. lagunensis					X	R
Felt-leaved Monardella	Monardella hypoleuca v. lanata					X	
Hall's Monardella	Monardella macrantha v. hallii					X	
San Felipe Monardella	Monardella nana v. leptosiphon					X	
Baja Navarretia	Navarretia peninsularis					X	
Chaparral Beargrass	Nolina cismontana					X	
California Beardtongue	Penstemon californicus					X	
Santiago Peak Phacelia	Phacelia suaveolens ssp. Keckii					X	
Moreno Currant	Ribes canthariforme					X	
San Miguel Savory	Satureja chandleri					X	
Southern Skullcap	Scutellaria bolanderi ssp. austromontana					X	
Gander's Butterwort	Senecio ganderi					X	R
Hammitt's Claycress	Sibaropsis hammittii					X	
Laguna Mountains Jewelflower	Streptanthus bernardinus					X	
Southern Jewelflower	Streptanthus campestris					X	
Parry's Tetracoccus	Tetracoccus dioicus					X	
Velvety False-lupine	Thermopsis californica v. semota					X	



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 APPROVED BY KJK
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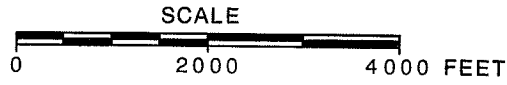


FIGURE 1

SITE LOCATION MAP
RAMONA LANDFILL

PREPARED FOR
 COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
 SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

REFERENCE:

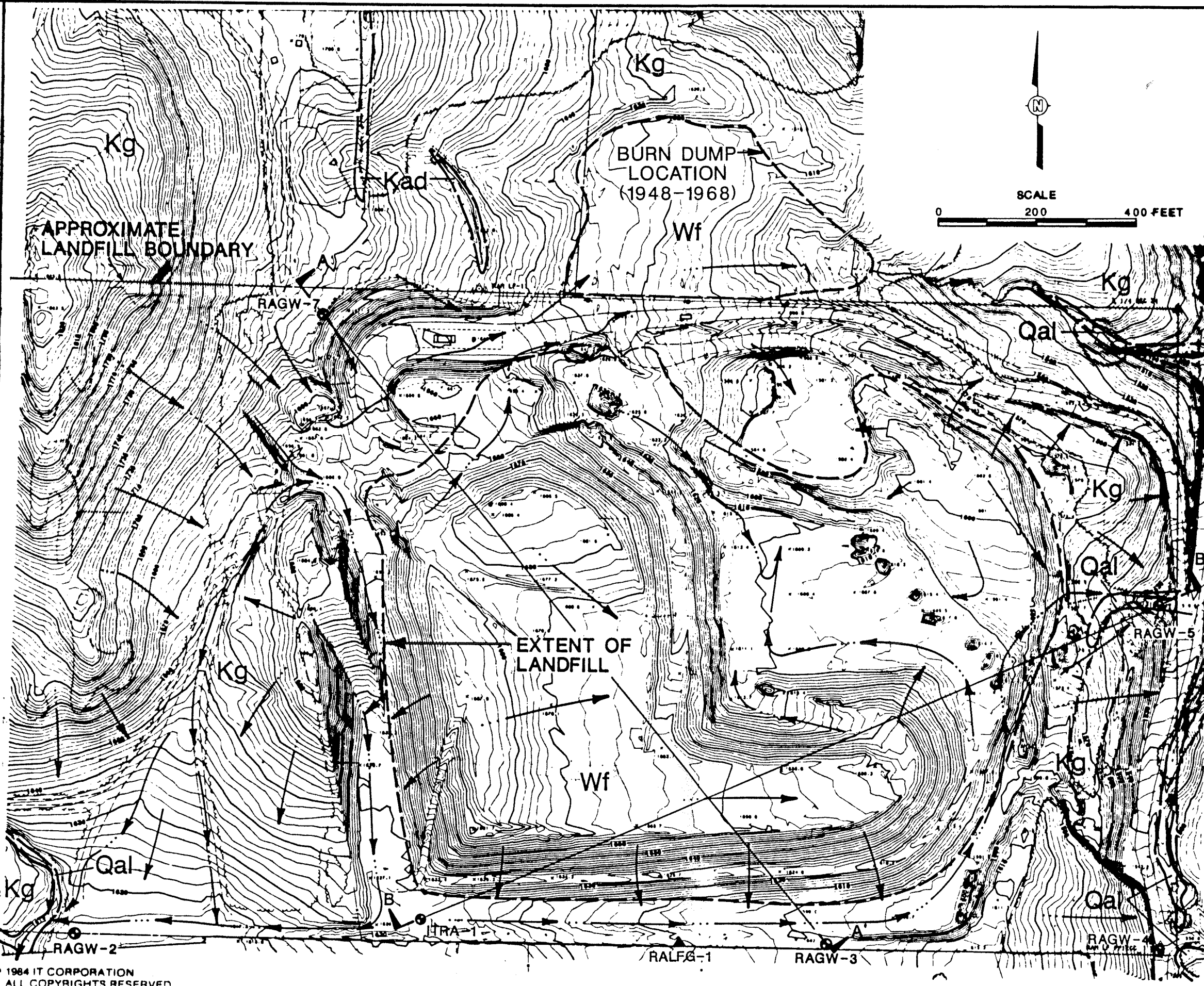
7.5 MIN. TOPOGRAPHIC MAP OF RAMONA, CALIFORNIA
 QUADRANGLE DATED 1955, PHOTOREVISED 1982
 SCALE: 1:24,000



1992 SWAT Report

"Do Not Scale This Drawing"

DRAWN BY: JDC
 CHECKED BY: JDC
 APPROVED BY: S. H. H. H.
 10-16-91
 10-16-91
 DRAWING NUMBER: 245011-B15



- EXPLANATION:**
- APPROXIMATE DIRECTION OF SURFACE-WATER FLOW
 - RAGW-2 EXISTING GROUND-WATER MONITORING WELL
 - RALFG-1 EXISTING LANDFILL GAS MONITORING WELL
 - WASTE FILL MATERIAL
 - QUATERNARY ALLUVIUM
 - APLITE AND FINE-GRAINED GRANITIC DIKES
 - UNDIFFERENTIATED GRANITIC ROCKS
 - GEOLOGIC CONTACT
 - CROSS-SECTION LOCATION

- REFERENCE:**
- 1) SAN DIEGO GEOTECHNICAL CONSULTANTS, GEOTECHNICAL MAP, RAMONA LANDFILL, FEBRUARY 1987
 - 2) FOR TOPOGRAPHIC REFERENCE, SEE FIGURE 2

FIGURE 4
 SITE GEOLOGIC AND
 CROSS-SECTION LOCATION MAP
 RAMONA LANDFILL

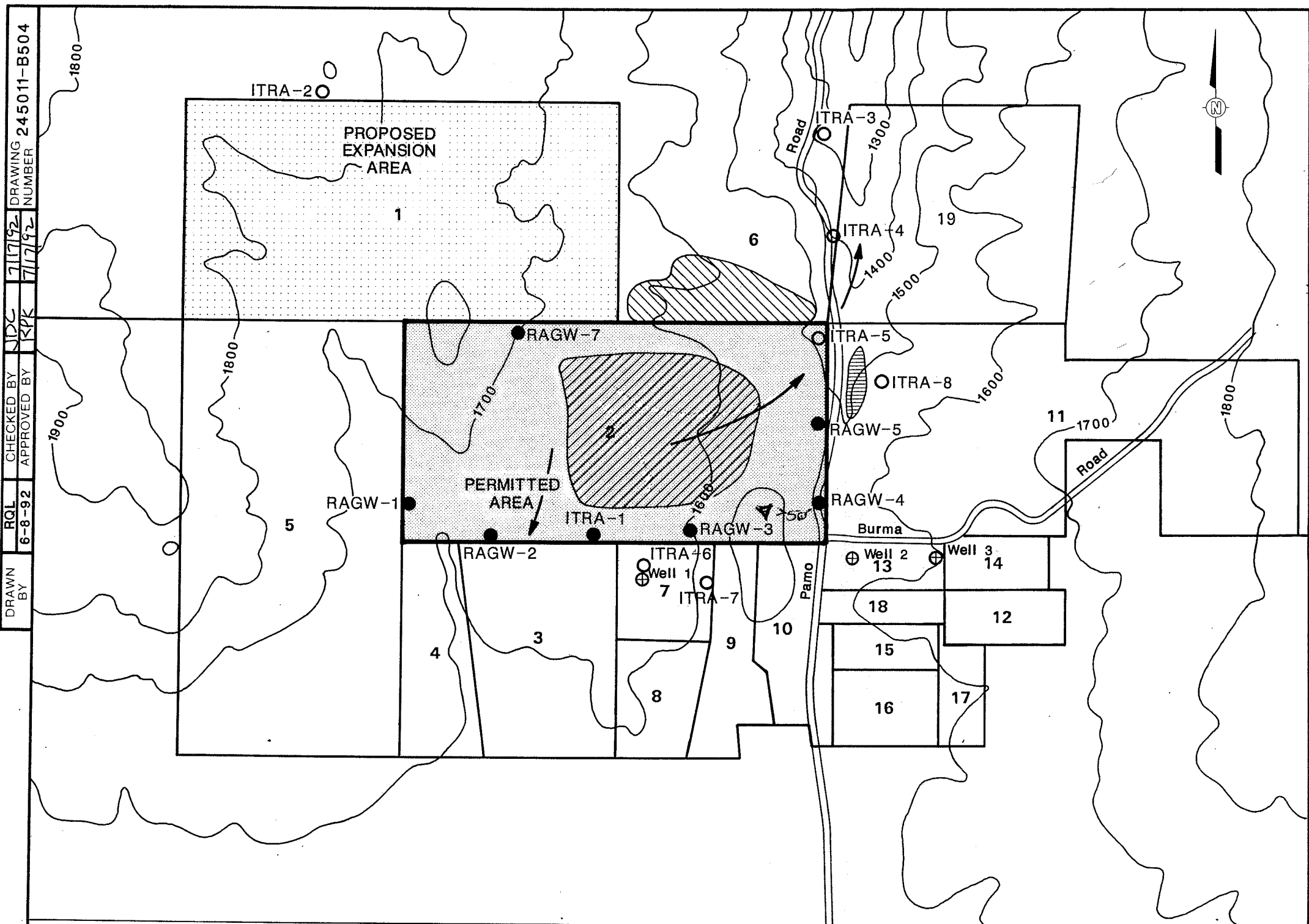
PREPARED BY
 COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
 SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA



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DRAWING NUMBER 245011-B504
 CHECKED BY NDC 7/17/92
 APPROVED BY KPK 7/17/92
 DRAWN BY RQL 6-8-92



EXPLANATION:

Owners	Parcel	Area (ac)	Zoning	Use Regulation	
1	County of San Diego	244-100-01	80.00	A72	22
2	County of San Diego	244-100-02	80.00	A72	22
3	K. L. Doring	244-100-05	27.00	A70	19
4	K. L. Doring	244-100-06	13.00	A70	19
5	K. L. Doring	244-100-07	80.00	A70	19
6	Cleveland Nat. Forest	244-100-17		S80	23
7	George Lucas, et al.	244-100-30	7.76	A70	17
8	Parside Apartments Inc.	244-100-35	8.50	A70	17
9	Ann E. Wallace	244-100-36	8.80	A70	17
10	William E. Ferguson	244-100-37	8.00	A70	17
11	James Hodges, et al.	244-110-06	68.32	A70	17
12	Daniel M. & Eva Vaca	244-110-19	5.81	A70	17
13	Michael Raynes, et al.	244-110-39	5.10	A70	17
14	Judith L. Vaughn, et al.	244-110-40	4.78	A70	17
15	Laurann M. Volk	244-110-42	4.30	A70	17
16	Charles Lohman, et al.	244-110-43	7.22	A70	17
17	Florence Klein, et al.	244-110-58	4.79	A70	17
18	Florence Klein, et al.	244-110-60	3.26	A70	17
19	Alis Pajak	244-110-60	40.00	A70	18

RAMONA LANDFILL PERMITTED AREA BOUNDARY
 APPROXIMATE WASTE FILL BOUNDARY FROM 1968 TO PRESENT
 ADJACENT COUNTY DUMP SITE OPERATED FROM 1948-1969
 DUMP PRIOR TO 1947
 SCALE
 0 1000 2000 FEET

General Plan	Zoning		
17	Estate	A-70	Limited Agriculture
18	Multiple Rural Use	A-72	General Agriculture
19	Intensive Agriculture	S-80	Open Space
22	Public/Semi-Public		
23	Nat. Forest/State & Reg. Parks		

EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS

RAGW-1 ● EXISTING GROUNDWATER MONITORING WELL
 ITRA-1 ○ PROPOSED GROUNDWATER MONITORING WELL
 Well 1 ⊕ EXISTING PRIVATE WELL
 DIRECTION OF GROUNDWATER FLOW

FIGURE 15
 WELL LOCATION AND
 LAND OWNERSHIP MAP
 RAMONA LANDFILL
 PREPARED FOR
 COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
 SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA
 INTERNATIONAL
 TECHNOLOGY
 CORPORATION

- REFERENCE:**
1. USGS TOPOGRAPHIC MAP, 7.5 MINUTE SERIES, RAMONA QUADRANGLE, PHOTOREVISED 1988.
 2. SAN DIEGO COUNTY GENERAL PLAN, AMENDED 1990.
 3. SAN DIEGO TAX ASSESSORS PLAT MAPS, PAGE 244-10, DATED 12-14-88, PAGE 244-11, DATED 12-16-87.

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1992 SWAT Report

FORENSIC ENTOMOLOGY SERVICES

25 August 2010

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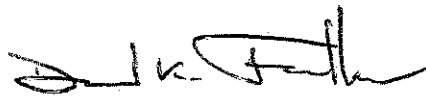
**RE: Habitat Assessment for Quino Checkerspot Butterfly
Ramona Landfil/Burn Site, Ramona, California**

INTRODUCTION

A habitat assessment was completed in August, 2010, at the Ramona Landfill/Burn Site for possible suitability to support the federally listed Quino Checkerspot Butterfly (QCB), *Euphydryas editha quino*. The approximately 10 acre property is located in northwest Ramona, west of Pamo Road and north of Dump Road, and is part of the Cleveland National Forest. Although currently covered in vegetation, the site was used for dumping and burning trash until about 1974 and was more recently burned in the Witch Creek Fire in October, 2007. It is anticipated that the site will be impacted to remove dump material, requiring removal of existing vegetation during the process.

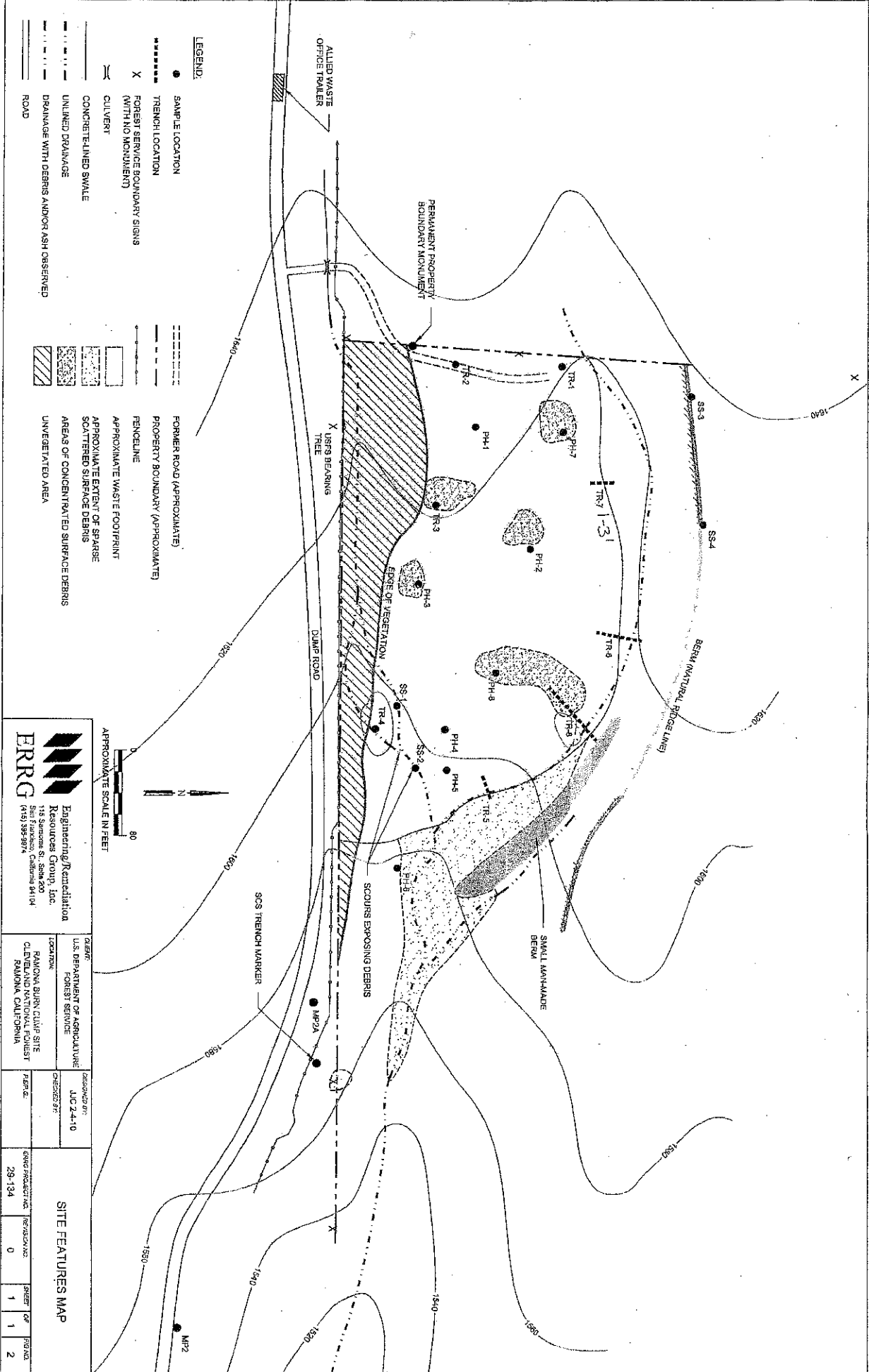
RESULTS

The habitat would be considered chaparral or chaparral coastal sage scrub before the most recent fire. At present, the site is composed of recovering vegetation dominated by weedy introductions (grasses, filaree, mustard), along with buckwheat, deer weed, California sage, lupine, telegraph weed, and popcorn flower. Open soils are restricted to the edges of the property and adjacent to exposed granite surfaces. Sand or gravel soils are compressed in areas that have been impacted by vehicle activity and clay-like or stabilized soils with crusts are limited. There are no hilltops or ridgelines on the property. Other than adult QCB nectar sources, there is no habitat available to support colonies of this butterfly. There is no evidence of any primary or secondary larval host plants such as *Plantago* (plantain), *Collinsia* (chinese houses), *Castilleja* (owl's clover), *Cordylanthus* (bird's beak), or *Antirrhinum* (snapdragon). Although dispersing adult QCB might take advantage of existing nectar sources, there are no other physical or biological features that would attract adult butterflies or support the insects' immature stages. Therefore, any impact to this abandoned dump/burn site would be expected to have no impact on Quino Checkerspot butterflies.



David K. Faulkner
Entomologist
USFWS Permit #TE-838743-5

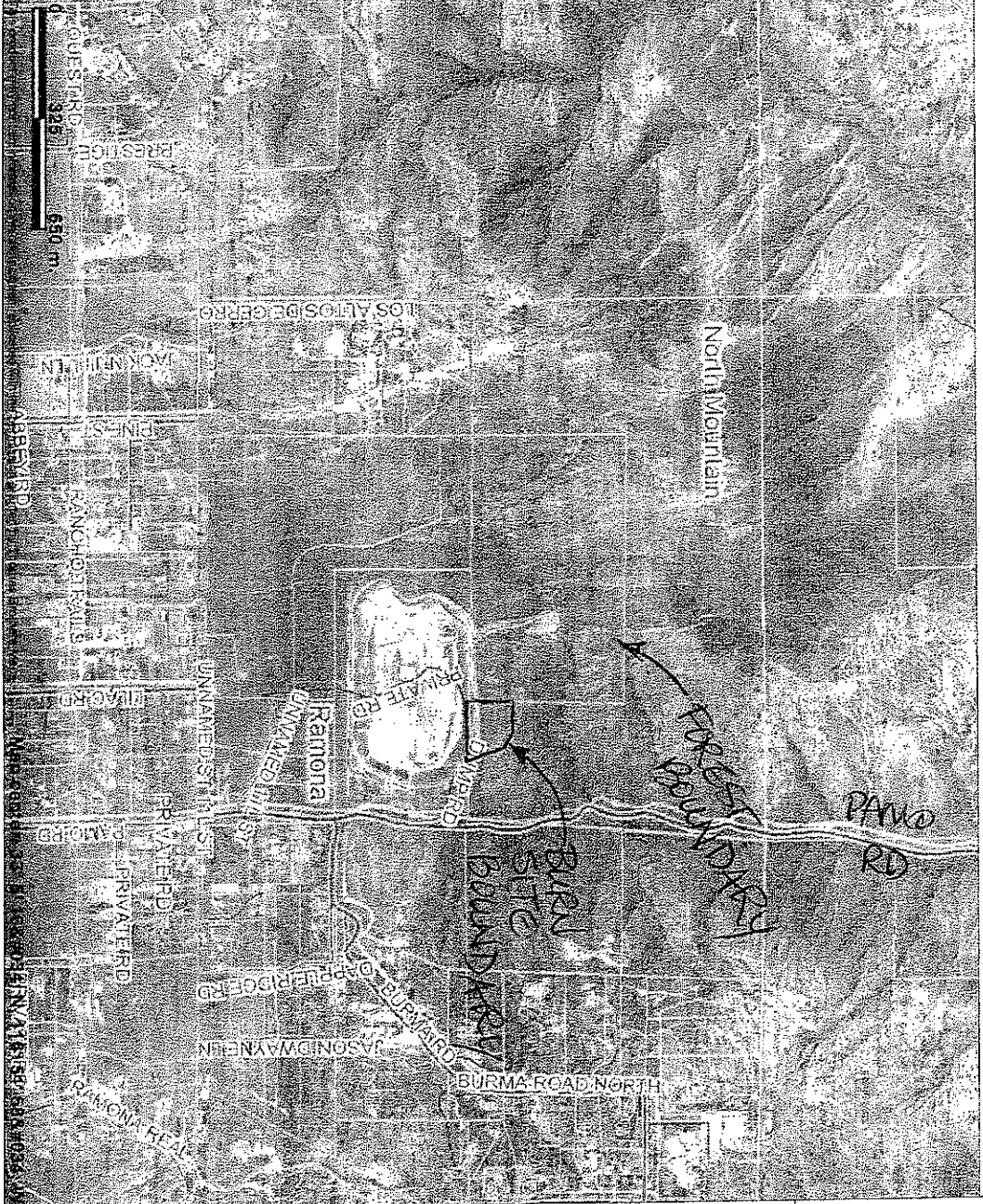




ERRG
 Engineering Remediation Resources Group, Inc.
 115 Saratoga St., Suite 400
 San Francisco, California 94104
 (415) 399-9874

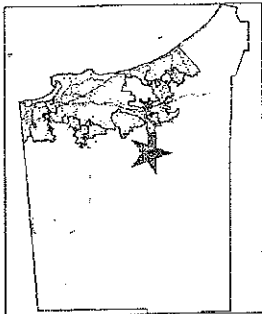
CLIENT	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOREST SERVICE	PROJECT NO.	ALJ 2-4-10
LOCATION	NATIONAL BURN CLIMB SITE CLEMENS, CALIFORNIA	CHECKED BY	
DATE		DATE	
SITE FEATURES MAP			
DATE PROJECTED	REVISIONS	SHEET OF	TOTAL
29-134	0	1	2

parcels aerial photo



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247 acres

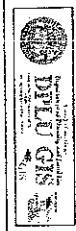
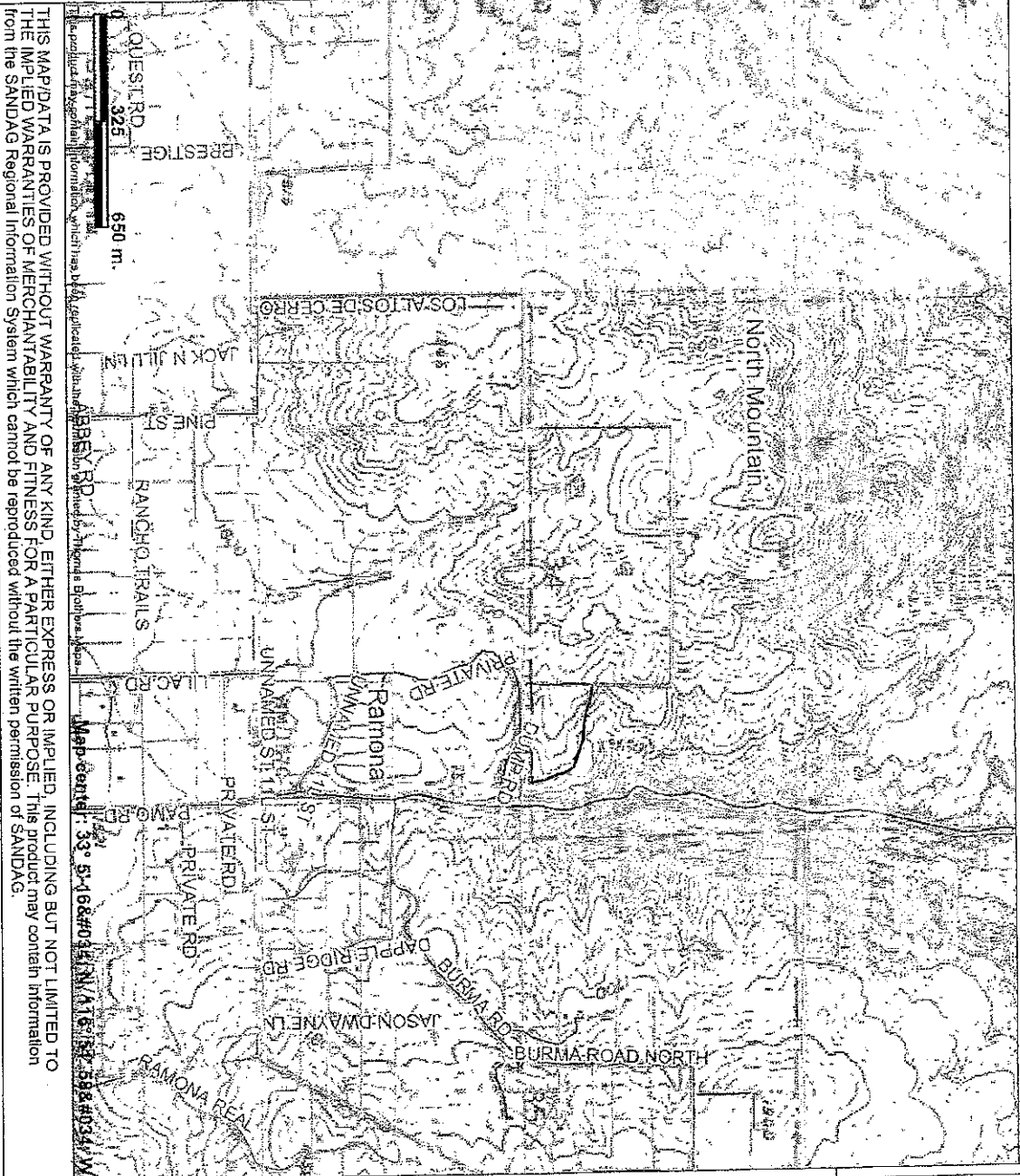


- Legend**
- Parcels with out labels
 - Highways
 - Freeways
 - Streets
 - Water Bodies
 - Sponsor Groups
 - Sponsor Groups
 - Other
 - Community Planning Area
 - Community Planning Areas
 - County Boundary?

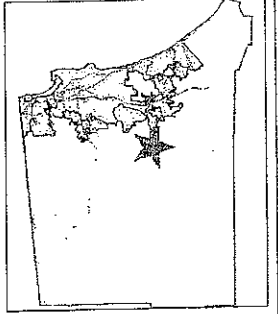
Scale: 1:17,931



parcels w usgs topo



Scale: 1:17,931



Legend

- Parcels with out labels
- Highways
- Freeways
- Streets
- Water Bodies
- Water Bodies
- Sponsor Groups
- Sponsor Groups
- Other
- Community Planning Area
- Community Planning Area
- County Boundary?

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CALIFORNIA GNATCATCHER SURVEYS

RAMONA BURN DUMP SITE

August 6 through November 29, 2010

Kirsten Winter

FWS permit # TEO41668-7

California Gnatcatcher surveys – Ramona burn dump site

The Cleveland National Forest is analyzing the Ramona Burn Dump site, which will be treated to address hazardous materials. Treatment is expected to be either capping the site with clean fill, or excavating the hazardous material from the site. The burn dump site occupies approximately 10 acres of National Forest System land on the north side of the Ramona Dump Road. The project site is located in Township 12 South, Range 1 East, SE¼ of NE ¼ of Section 34. Modeled or suitable habitat for California Gnatcatcher occurs at the site pursuant to previous consultations between the Cleveland National Forest and the Carlsbad office of US Fish and Wildlife Service.

The project site is in a stand of Diegan coastal sage scrub that burned in the Witch Fire in 2007. Buckwheat and Deerweed are dominant species at the site. Approximately 2 acres at the site are barren with little or no vegetative cover. There is a row of ash trees along the southern edge of the site. The soil type at the site is mapped as Fallbrook sandy loam which is a soil type weathered from granite. There is some erosion and gullyng occurring, especially near the southern edge of the site.

Surveys were conducted by Kirsten Winter, pursuant to FWS permit # **TEO41668-7**. Jeff Wells, Palomar District biologist, assisted with one survey. Surveys were performed on the dates shown in the table below. No California Gnatcatchers were detected on any visit. Bird species that were detected visit are shown on the attached table.

Survey conditions were as follows:

1. 8/6/2010 – Survey conducted from 0715-0800. Conditions overcast, 65 degrees F, no wind
2. 8/20/2010 – Survey conducted from 0800-0845. Conditions clear, 85 degrees F, no wind
3. 9/3/10- Survey conducted from 0845-0930 by Kirsten Winter and Jeff Wells. Conditions clear, 85 degrees F, no wind
4. 9/17/10 - Survey conducted from 0715 -0800. Conditions clear, 70 degrees F , no wind
5. 10/1/10 - Survey conducted from 0715-0800. Conditions partly cloudy (10% cover), 70 degrees F, no wind , rained yesterday
6. 10/15/10- Survey conducted from 0720-0805. Conditions overcast, 60 degrees F, no wind
7. 10/29/10 – Survey conducted from 0800-0845 – Partly cloudy (50% cover), 65 deg F, no wind
8. 11/12/10 – Survey conducted from 0725- 0810 – Clear, 65 deg F, wind 0-3 mph
9. 11/29/10 - Survey conducted from 0810-0855 – Clear, 50 deg F, wind 0-3 mph

Table 1. California Gnatcatcher survey results, Ramona Burn Dump. August 6- November 29, 2010.

	8/6	8/20	9/3	9/17	10/1	10/15	10/29	11/12	11/29
Turkey Vulture	1								
Red-tailed Hawk						1			
American Kestrel			2						
California Quail	1	1		1	1	12		12	
Mourning Dove		1	1						
Anna's Hummingbird		1		1	2	1	1	1	3
Nuttall's Woodpecker					1				
Northern Flicker	1								
Black Phoebe							1		
Say's Phoebe				1	1	1	1	1	1
Olive-sided Flycatcher					1				
Cassin's Kingbird		1				1			
Western Scrub Jay	2	1	1						
American Crow	1			1			1		
Common Raven	1	1		1	1	2		2	2
Phainopepla							2		
Horned Lark					20				
Loggerhead Shrike					1				
Western Bluebird					5		2		12
California Thrasher		1		1	1				
Rock Wren	2	3		2	2	2	2	1	1
Bewick's Wren				2	2	1	2	2	1
Wrentit	1	1			1	1	1		
Lesser Goldfinch					10				3
House Finch		1	1	2	10	1	1	4	6
White-crowned Sparrow					8	20	20	10	30
Lincoln's Sparrow					2		4	2	2
Lark Sparrow					4				
Sage Sparrow					1				
Rufous-crowned Sparrow	1	1		1	1		2		1
California Towhee	4	2	2	2	1	2	2	3	4
Yellow-rumped Warbler					1				
comments	Truck traffic	No traffic	No traffic	Truck traffic	No traffic	Truck traffic	Truck traffic	Truck traffic	Truck traffic



Figure 1. Photo of site, looking to southwest.



Figure 2. Photo of site, looking to northeast.