

Minor Project Refinement Form**Provide basic information:**

MPR Request Number: 001

Date Submitted to CPUC: 05/19/2020

Requested Approval Date: 06/12/2020

Anticipated Start Date for

Proposed Action:

July 22, 2020

Anticipated End Date for

Proposed Action:

January 24, 2022

Describe the proposed minor Project refinement, including an explanation for why the refinements are necessary:**Proposal to add a new laydown area to the Project:**

Eleven staging areas were approved for use as part of the Project. Staging areas of a size large enough to accommodate material and equipment storage are needed at both ends of the Project. SCE's contractor, Wilson, can use only up to 7 acres out of the 80.4 acres of staging areas analyzed in the FEIR, all of which are located at the eastern end of the Project. None of the 11 approved project staging areas (80.4 acres) listed in FEIR Table 2-9 are suitable as a staging area for the westerly portion of the Project, as demonstrated in Table 1. Due to the elimination of options of staging areas analyzed in the FEIR (73.4 acres are not available for use; see Table 1), Wilson proposes to add an approximately 5.9 acre (approximately 257,004 square feet) staging area located at 14570 Concordia Ranch Road, Lake Elsinore, CA 92530 (Concordia Yard) to service the western portions of the Project.

During development of the staging area and in accordance with the SWPPP, sediment control BMPs would be placed at the perimeter, as necessary, and a stabilized construction entrance for controlling trackout would be installed at the entrance at the southern end of the property. Grading of the property would not be necessary; the ground surface would be scraped with a dozer blade to remove vegetation and three inches of gravel would be placed to suppress dust and create a suitable working surface. Post holes would be dug for the installation of a perimeter screening fence. Power for office trailers would come from an existing power pole located approximately 130 feet east of the southern end of the staging area. The installation of new utility poles would not be necessary.

Wilson has a lease agreement with the landowner to use the Concordia Yard as a construction staging area. The property would be used for mobile office trailers, material, and equipment storage, and as a crew show-up for the duration of the Project. Per the lease agreement, the staging area would be restored to pre-existing conditions upon vacating the area at the completion of the project, including the removal of all improvements. The perimeter fencing would be removed. Equipment would be used to remove the stabilized construction entrance and surface rock, and the ground surface would be stabilized as necessary, in accordance with the SWPPP to control erosion and restore the vegetation to pre-development condition.

Table 1
Usability of Approved Project Staging Areas from FEIR Table 2-9

Staging Site	Acres	Location	Useable	If Not Useable, Reason?
Staging Area VIG2	5.4	South of Valley Substation adjacent to Menifee Road, City of Menifee	Yes	Staging area at Valley Substation adequately fulfills needs for the east end of project.
Staging Area VIG3	3.5	Approximately 0.1 mile east of the intersection of SR-74 and Ethanac Road, unincorporated Riverside County	No	Under lease; not available for sublease.
Staging Area VIG4	2.8	Approximately 0.06 mi east of intersection of SR-74 and Ethanac Road, unincorporated Riverside County	No	Under lease; not available for sublease.
Staging Area VIG5	1.6	Southwest of intersection of Central Avenue and El Toro Cut Off Road, City of Lake Elsinore	Yes	Not large enough for use as a primary staging area.
Staging Area VIG6	5.0	Southwest of the intersection of Collier Avenue and Riverside Driver (SR-74), City of Lake Elsinore	No	Limited access for heavy equipment, poles, and conductor. Located within the City of Lake Elsinore; would be public hazard with frequent ingress/egress of construction equipment.
Staging Area VIG8	3.8	Southwest of the intersection of Collier Avenue and Chaney Street, City of Lake Elsinore	No	Limited access for heavy equipment, poles, and conductor. Located within the City of Lake Elsinore; would be public hazard with frequent ingress/egress of construction equipment.
Staging Area VIG9	11.0	Adjacent to Horse Thief Canyon Road, approximately 0.13 mile southwest of I-15, unincorporated Riverside County	No	Landowner will not lease to Wilson due to concern that nearby residents would not want construction staging area in the vicinity of their homes.
Staging Area VIG10	12.1	West of Menifee Road and south of Case Road, on north side of Rouse Road, City of Menifee	No	Currently being developed and not available.
Staging Area VIG12	13	Corner of SR-74 and Rosetta Canyon Drive, City of Lake Elsinore	No	Developed as residential homes.
Staging Area VIG13	5.0	Southwest corner of Chaney Street and West Minthorn Street, City of Lake Elsinore	No	Leasing company has plans to build office buildings and does not want to lease for project.
Staging Area VIG14	17.2	Approximately 0.17 mile south of West Minthorn Street on the northwest side of Chaney Street, City of Lake Elsinore	No	Leasing company has plans for office buildings and does not want to lease for project.

Describe the dimensions and area of any additional work areas and land disturbance associated with the proposed refinements. Include/attach photos, maps, or other documentation illustrating the existing conditions in the area:

The newly proposed staging area is approximately 5.9 acres in size and measures approximately 380 feet by 980 feet (at the widest/longest sections). See Figures 1 and 2. The site is a heavily disturbed vacant lot with minimal vegetative cover. Approximately 5.8 acres (126,324 square feet) of the 5.9-acre proposed staging area is located outside of the General Disturbance Area identified in the FEIR (Figure 2). The portion of the staging area included in the FEIR does not provide enough space for the storage of material and equipment required for the project.

Environmental impact analysis for use of the staging area was conducted as part of this MPR and is provided in the attached biological, cultural, and paleontological reports. A newly completed habitat assessment for biological resources focusing on the northern portion of the property is provided with this MPR. Cultural and paleontological resource assessment reports are also provided.

Provide a summary list of applicable Project requirements (e.g., MMs, etc.) for which the refinements are being requested:

No refinements to the Project requirements are being requested. The existing Project requirements will be followed, as applicable, for the newly requested area.

Would the proposed refinements conflict with any of the above-listed MMs or other Project requirements or applicable laws, regulations, or policies?	No	Yes
<i>Explain proposed refinements consistency/inconsistency with applicable Project requirements below.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The proposed refinement does not conflict with any of the Project commitments or mitigation measures listed in FEIR Section 9 Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Plan (Table 2).

Would the Proposed Project refinements result in a new impact, or increase the severity of a previously analyzed impact:	No	Yes
Aesthetics (e.g. damage scenic resources or vistas, degrade the existing visual character of the site and its surroundings, or create sources of light or glare)? <i>IS/MND Significance: Less than Significant with Mitigation</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Summary of Proposed Project Refinement Impacts on Aesthetics:

The proposed staging area is located adjacent to pole locations along Concordia Ranch Road within the Temescal Canyon landscape unit identified in Chapter 4.1 of the FEIR. Activities at the proposed staging area would be visible for approximately 22 months of construction. This impact would expose viewers to the degraded visual quality resulting from material and equipment storage activities occurring at the staging area. However, the property is heavily disturbed and was previously used as a construction staging area as recently as 2016. Compliance with Project Commitment D requires restoration of the staging area to pre-construction condition, in coordination with the property owner, and ensures the visual impact is temporary. Compliance with MM AES-1 requires that the staging area be screened with material that is visually consistent with the surrounding area. With implementation of Project Commitment D and MM AES-1, visual impacts at the staging area would be less than significant. Aesthetic impacts associated with the proposed staging area do not create a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified impact identified in the FEIR. All applicable avoidance/minimization measures identified in FEIR Chapter 9 Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Plan will be followed.

Agriculture and Forestry (e.g. convert farmland to non-agricultural use, or forest land to non-forest use, or create a conflict with existing agricultural zoning or a Williamson Act)? <i>IS/MND Significance: Less than Significant</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Summary of Proposed Project Refinement Impacts on Agriculture and Forestry:

The proposed staging area is currently a vacant, heavily disturbed, unpaved lot and is not designated as farmland or forest. Impacts to agriculture and forestry associated with the proposed staging area do not create a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified impact identified in the FEIR.

Air Quality (e.g. violate any air quality standard, or produce criteria air pollutant emissions, or expose sensitive receptors to additional pollutants)?

IS/MND Significance: Less than Significant with Mitigation

Summary of Proposed Project Refinement Impacts on Air Quality:

Activities occurring at the proposed staging area and the types of equipment used would be substantially similar to the activities and equipment types analyzed at each of the eleven approved (nine of which are unusable options for the Project) staging areas in the FEIR. The proposed staging area is not located within a 500-meter (approximately 1,640 feet) radius of sensitive receptors (e.g., schools, hospitals, playgrounds) except for two residences located north and east of the property. Placement of gravel ground cover would minimize fugitive dust at the site, and installation of a stabilized construction entrance at the ingress/egress would mitigate trackout onto Concordia Ranch Road. Impacts to air quality associated with the proposed staging area do not create a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified impact identified in the FEIR. All applicable avoidance/minimization measures identified in FEIR Chapter 9 Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Plan will be followed.

Biological Resources (e.g. have an adverse effect on sensitive or special-status species; impact riparian, wetland, or any other sensitive habitat; or interfere with the movement of native resident or migratory fish or wildlife)?

IS/MND Significance: Less than Significant with Mitigation

Summary of Proposed Project Refinement Impacts on Biological Resources:

The southern half of Concordia Yard was surveyed for biological resources previously for the FEIR, and the northern half was assessed in 2019 (biological assessment attached). Based on biological surveys of the proposed staging area, no impacts to special-status biological and jurisdictional resources are expected as a result of using the staging area for the duration of the Project. Areas currently covered in grass would be seeded after demobilization to ensure their return to pre-existing conditions. Impacts to biological resources associated with the proposed staging area would not create a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified impact identified in the FEIR. Indirect impacts that may occur to sensitive species in the vicinity of the staging area will be mitigated in accordance with the Project Commitments and Mitigation Measures. The Concordia Yard would have coverage under the WR-MSHCP certificate of inclusion prior to approval of NTPR-2 and mobilization to the property. The staging area is within the coverage area of the Stephens' kangaroo rat Habitat Conservation Plan; SCE will have coverage under the SKR HCP prior to approval of NTPR-2 and mobilization to the property. All applicable avoidance/minimization measures identified in FEIR Chapter 9 Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Plan will be followed.

Cultural Resources (e.g. cause an adverse change to a significant historical, archeological, paleontological, or tribal resource or disturb any human remains)?

IS/MND Significance: Less than Significant with Mitigation

Summary of Proposed Project Refinement Impacts on Cultural Resources:

The Concordia Yard was included in previous records searches completed for the VIG Project. The results indicate that the majority of the staging area was not previously surveyed for cultural/paleontological resources; however, cultural and paleontological resource analyses were analyzed in addendum reports

(attached). There are no sensitive archaeological or paleontological resources located at the proposed staging area based on survey results. The Concordia Yard is more than 100 feet from a known cultural resource; in accordance with the CRMTP, cultural resource monitoring for planned activities is not required. Planned activities would not require paleontological monitoring, including the digging of post-holes for perimeter fencing, the diameter of which would be under the threshold for monitoring). If a resource is found at the site, SCE would comply with the procedures for unanticipated discoveries provided in MMs CR-1b, CR-4, CR-5, CR-7, the CRMTP, and the PRMP. Impacts to cultural resources associated with the proposed staging area do not create a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified impact identified in the FEIR. All applicable avoidance/minimization measures identified in FEIR Chapter 9 Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Plan will be followed.

Geology, Soils, and Seismicity (e.g. expose people or structures to risk of loss, injury, or death involving seismic-related ground failure including liquefaction or landslides, be located on a geologic unit, unstable soil, or expansive soil)?

IS/MND Significance: Less than Significant with Mitigation

Summary of Proposed Project Refinement Impacts on Geology, Soils, and Seismicity:

The proposed staging area would be covered with gravel to minimize soil erosion. Impacts to geology, soils, and seismicity associated with the proposed staging area do not create a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified impact identified in the FEIR. All applicable avoidance/minimization measures identified in FEIR Chapter 9 Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Plan will be followed.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions (e.g. generate a substantial amount of greenhouse gas [GHG] emissions, conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing emissions or GHGs)?

IS/MND Significance: Less than Significant

Summary of Proposed Project Refinement Impacts on Greenhouse Gas Emissions:

Activities occurring at the proposed staging area and the types of equipment used would be substantially similar to the activities and equipment types analyzed at each of the eleven approved (nine of which are unusable options for the Project) staging areas in the FEIR. Therefore, impacts to Greenhouse Gas Emissions associated with the proposed staging area do not create a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified impact identified in the FEIR. All applicable avoidance/minimization measures identified in FEIR Chapter 9 Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Plan will be followed.

Hazards and Hazardous Materials (e.g. create hazards to public or environment through transport, use, disposal, or accident conditions of hazardous materials, be located on a site of hazardous materials, or expose people and structures to loss, injury of death involving wildland fires)?

IS/MND Significance: Less than Significant with Mitigation

Summary of Proposed Project Refinement Impacts on Hazards and Hazardous Materials:

The proposed staging area and adjacent properties were not identified on Cortese List databases including the State Water Resource Control Board's Geotracker database, solid waste disposal site list, Cease and Desist Orders and Cleanup and Abatement Orders list, or California Department of Toxic Substance Control's EnviroStor database. The ground-disturbing activities planned for the staging area are minimal, and underground hazardous materials are not expected; however, in the event of an inadvertent discovery, SCE would follow the procedures in Project's Contaminated Soil and Groundwater Contingency Plan. The staging area is located within a Very High Fire Hazard Zone. The proposed staging area is not within a 0.25-mile radius of a school, the nearest school (Luiseno Elementary School) is approximately 1.1 mile southwest. The proposed staging area is also not within two miles of a public airport. Impacts to hazards and hazardous materials associated with the proposed staging area do not create a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified impact identified in the FEIR. All applicable avoidance/minimization measures identified in FEIR Chapter 9 Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Plan will be followed, and the staging area will be managed in compliance with HZ-4.

Hydrology and Water Quality (e.g. violate water quality standards or discharge waste requirements, alter the existing drainage pattern creating additional sedimentation, runoff water, or polluted runoff, or inundate by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow)?

IS/MND Significance: Less than Significant with Mitigation

Summary of Proposed Project Refinement Impacts on Hydrology and Water Quality:

The proposed staging area is located within the Santa Ana Watershed and the Elsinore Groundwater Basin. The staging area is not located within a flood zone. No surface water bodies are located on or adjacent to the proposed staging area. Site activities are unlikely to expose hazardous materials. Site preparation, including digging for installation of perimeter fencing will occur during dry conditions. No dewatering will occur at the site. During rain events, it is likely that water runoff would flow east into an adjacent ravine or south towards Concordia Ranch Road. The proposed staging area would not substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the area. The staging area would be covered with gravel to reduce the amount and rate of runoff. Impacts to hydrology and water quality associated with the proposed do not create a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified impact identified in the FEIR. All applicable avoidance/minimization measures identified in FEIR Chapter 9 Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Plan will be followed. In compliance with MM BR-15 the staging area would have SWPPP coverage and undergo regular inspection. In the event of inadvertent discovery of contaminated groundwater, SCE would comply with MM HZ-2 and the Contaminated Soil and Groundwater Contingency Plan.

Land Use and Planning (e.g. physically divide an established community; conflict with a land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project, or conflict with a habitat conservation plan)?

IS/MND Significance: No Impact

Summary of Proposed Project Refinement Impacts on Land Use and Planning:

The parcels of land where the proposed staging area is located are zoned by Riverside County as Manufacturing-Service Commercial (M-SC) or Natural Assets (N-A) and have land use designations of Light Industrial (LI) or Open Space-Rural (OS-RUR). The parcels are within the Elsinore Area Plan. The proposed staging area has previously been used for staging/storing materials and equipment. Therefore, impacts to land use and planning associated with the proposed staging area do not create a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified impact identified in the FEIR. All applicable avoidance/minimization measures identified in FEIR Chapter 9 Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Plan will be followed.

Mineral Resources (e.g. result in the loss of known mineral resources of regional and/or state value, or availability of locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan)?

IS/MND Significance: No Impact

Summary of Proposed Project Refinement Impacts on Mineral Resources:

The proposed staging area is located in Mineral Resource Zone (MRZ) 3 indicating a likely but undetermined significant mineral resource. Since the staging area is temporary, it would not impact the ability to recover mineral resources in the future. No permanent structures would be installed at the proposed staging area. Impacts to mineral resources associated with the proposed staging area do not create a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified impact identified in the FEIR. All applicable avoidance/minimization measures identified in FEIR Chapter 9 Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Plan will be followed.

Noise and Vibration (e.g. expose sensitive receptors to additional noise or vibration, exposure of persons to or generation of excessive noise, ambient noise, ground-borne noise, or vibration)?

IS/MND Significance: Less than Significant with Mitigation

Summary of Proposed Project Refinement Impacts on Noise and Vibration:

The proposed staging area is shown within the highest noise contour (70 CNEL) on Figure 4.11-1 in FEIR Chapter 4 due to the close proximity to I-15. There are no residences or businesses immediately adjacent to the proposed staging area, and the nearest receptor is a residence located approximately 330 feet east of the staging area. Blasting would not be conducted at the property. Impacts to noise and vibration associated with the proposed staging area do not create a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified impact identified in the FEIR. All applicable avoidance/minimization measures identified in FEIR Chapter 9 Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Plan will be followed.

Population and Housing (e.g. directly or indirectly induce substantial population growth in an area, or displace substantial numbers of people or existing housing)?

IS/MND Significance: No Impact

Summary of Proposed Project Refinement Impacts on Population and Housing:

The proposed staging area would not increase or displace populations. Impacts to population and housing associated with the proposed staging area do not create a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified impact identified in the FEIR. All applicable avoidance/minimization measures identified in FEIR Chapter 9 Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Plan will be followed.

Public Services and Utilities (e.g. result in substantial adverse physical impacts on government facilities that provide a public service or cause environmental impacts to service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives to fire protection, sheriff protection, schools, parks, or other public facilities)?

IS/MND Significance: Less than Significant

Summary of Proposed Project Refinement Impacts on Public Services and Utilities:

Power for office trailers would come from an existing power pole located approximately 130 feet east of the southern end of the staging area. The installation of new utility poles would not be necessary. The proposed staging area would not increase the need for or physically alter any public services. Impacts to

public services and utilities associated with the proposed staging area do not create a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified impact identified in the FEIR. All applicable avoidance/minimization measures identified in FEIR Chapter 9 Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Plan will be followed.

Recreation (e.g. increase the use of, or cause adverse effects on, existing neighborhood, parks, or other recreational facilities)?

IS/MND Significance: Less than Significant

Summary of Proposed Project Refinement Impacts on Recreation:

The proposed staging area would not cause deterioration to any recreational facilities and would not impact the use of trails, including those that parallel the south side of I-15. Impacts to recreation associated with the proposed staging area do not create a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified impact identified in the FEIR. All applicable avoidance/minimization measures identified in FEIR Chapter 9 Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Plan will be followed.

Transportation and Traffic (e.g. increase hazards due to design feature, result in inadequate emergency access, or conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities)?

IS/MND Significance: Less than Significant with Mitigation

Summary of Proposed Project Refinement Impacts on Transportation and Traffic:

The proposed staging area is located along Concordia Ranch Road adjacent to the Project Segment 5. The staging area would not change existing roads or emergency access. Concordia Ranch Road, accessed via Temescal Canyon Road, will be used to access the proposed staging area. A single ingress/egress at the southern end of the staging area will allow access to Concordia Ranch Road; no lane or road closures would occur during use of the proposed staging area. Usage of the proposed staging area would likely increase traffic over the course of the Project on Concordia Ranch Road, but will not require agency consultation relating to transportation. Concordia Ranch Road is not a main arterial road, there is no on-street parking, no sidewalks and thus pedestrian traffic is expected to be minimal. Additionally, Concordia Ranch Road is not a bus route. Impacts to transportation and traffic associated with the proposed staging area do not create a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified impact identified in the FEIR. All applicable avoidance/minimization measures identified in FEIR Chapter 9 Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Plan will be followed.

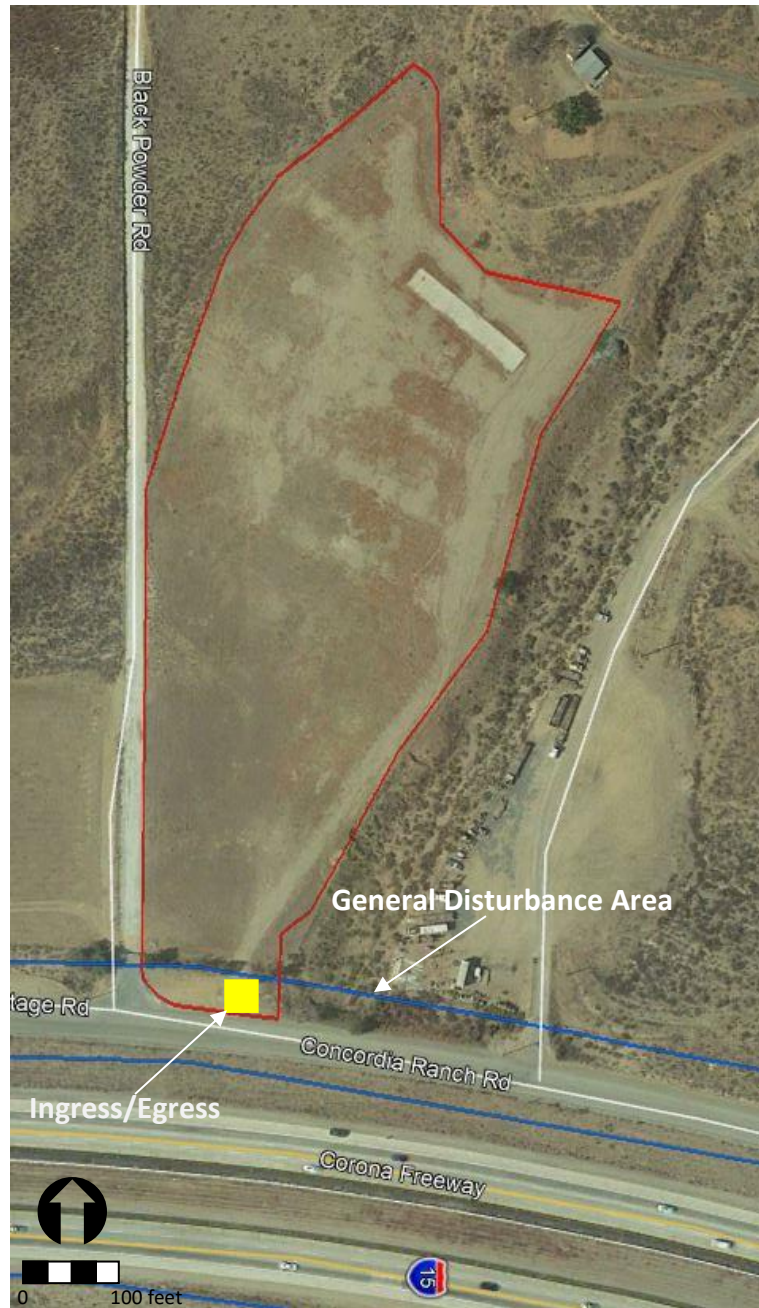
Describe any applicable consultation with other governmental agencies conducted for the proposed refinements:

No consultation with other governmental agencies was necessary or conducted for the proposed refinement.

Figure 1: Concordia Yard Location Map



Figure 2: Concordia Yard Boundary Map



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Environmental
Intelligence, LLC

January 17, 2020

Matt Hooge
Senior Environmental Manager
Wilson Construction Company
1190 NW 3rd Avenue
P.O. Box 1190
Canby, OR 97013

SUBJECT: Methods, Results, and Conclusions of a Habitat Assessment for Biological Resources at the Proposed Concordia Yard Minor Project Refinement for Southern California Edison's Valley-Ivyglen Subtransmission Line Project, Riverside County, California

SUMMARY: *On December 10, 2019, Environmental Intelligence, LLC, conducted a habitat assessment for biological resources and a jurisdictional delineation at Southern California Edison's Valley-Ivyglen Subtransmission Line Project in support of a Minor Project Refinement for the Concordia Yard. One jurisdictional Riparian/Riverine resource (wash) was identified within the Concordia Yard survey area, but east of and entirely outside of the Concordia Yard. Coulter's matilija poppy (*Romneya coulteri*) was detected in Riversidean alluvial fan sage scrub associated with the wash described above. No other special-status plants or wildlife were observed during the habitat assessment and no habitat for special-status species is present within the yard. In compliance with Mitigation Measure (MM) BR-2, pre-construction surveys are required two weeks prior to construction for special-status plant and wildlife species and to establish baseline conditions to guide post-construction restoration efforts. In addition, in compliance with MM BR-12, pre-construction burrowing owl (BUOW) surveys are required within 30 days of construction during the non-breeding season (September 1 through January 31) and within 14 days of construction during the breeding season (February 1 through August 31) to confirm whether BUOW occupy the site, with additional measures if present and unavoidable.*

Dear Mr. Hooge,

This report documents the methods, results, and conclusions of a general habitat assessment and formal jurisdictional delineation conducted on December 10, 2019, by Environmental Intelligence (EI) at Southern California Edison's (SCE) Valley-Ivyglen Subtransmission Line Project (VIG) in support of a Minor Project Refinement for the Proposed Concordia Yard. EI's habitat assessment was conducted in compliance with the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) as implemented by the Regional Conservation Authority (RCA; Riverside County Transportation and Land Management Agency 2003).

PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The Minor Project Refinement for the Concordia Yard is part of the larger VIG, which consists of Phase 1 (approximately 13 miles) and Phase 2 (approximately 11.5 miles). VIG involves the construction of a new 115-kilovolt (kV) subtransmission line to improve reliability and meet projected electrical load requirements in the western Riverside County area. Accordingly, SCE proposes to construct, operate, and maintain a new 115-kV subtransmission line, thereby connecting the existing SCE Valley Substation (near Perris, California) to the existing Ivyglen Substation (north of Lake Elsinore, California), in western Riverside County.

The Concordia Yard is located within Phase 2 of VIG, west of Black Powder Road and north of the Interstate 15 Frontage Road (Concordia Ranch Road), in an unincorporated portion of Lake Elsinore, Riverside County, California (Exhibit 1). The Concordia Yard consists of relatively flat (less than 4% slope), previously graded and disked land dominated by bare ground and gravel, with widely scattered annual weedy species and refuse debris, and a concrete pad, best described as heavily disturbed and previously developed. Elevations range from approximately 1,250 feet above mean sea level (amsl) at the southern end to approximately 1,285 feet amsl at the northern end.

HCP COMPLIANCE

The Concordia Yard is in the coverage area of the MSHCP as implemented by the RCA located in the Elsinore Area Plan, Cell Group I, within the southwest corner of Criteria Cell 3650 and the northwest corner of Criteria Cell 3750. No existing cores or existing linkages are located within the Concordia Yard study area. The Concordia Yard is located within the MSHCP Burrowing Owl Survey Area, Criteria Area Species Survey Area (CASSA), and Narrow Endemic Plant Species Survey Area (NEPSSA).

The Concordia Yard will not impede the functions and values or the goals and objectives of the MSHCP. SCE has submitted a Participating Special Entity application for MSHCP coverage, and with consistency as anticipated, issuance of a Certificate of Inclusion for Phase 2 of VIG.

SURVEY METHODOLOGY

A general habitat assessment and formal jurisdictional delineation were performed by EI qualified biologists Mitch Provance, PhD, and Joshua Zinn on December 10, 2019. Survey times and weather conditions are detailed below in Table I.

TABLE I. SURVEY DATE, TIMES AND WEATHER CONDITIONS

Date	Time	Survey Type	Biologists	Weather (Start and End)
12/10/2019	0700 - 1230	Habitat Assessment/ Jurisdictional Delineation	Mitch Provance and Joshua Zinn	75-79 °F, cloudy and light breeze at start, partly cloudy and calm at end

The Concordia Yard survey area included the proposed Concordia Yard and a 500-foot buffer. The survey area only included areas that had not been previously surveyed for Phase 2. As shown in Exhibit 1, the southern half of the yard and adjacent land out to 500 feet or more to the east, west, and south were surveyed previously between 2006 and 2018. The habitat assessment included a survey for all special-status species habitat with the potential to occur in the region

with particular focus on western burrowing owl (BUOW; *Athene cunicularia*), vernal pool branchiopods (fairy shrimp; Order Anostraca), Stephens' kangaroo rat (SKR; *Dipodomys stephensi*), and rare plants. The habitat assessment for BUOW included a focused burrow survey conducted in accordance with the *Burrowing Owl Survey Instructions for the Western Riverside Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Area* (County of Riverside 2006) and the *Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation* (California Department of Fish and Wildlife [CDFW] 2012). The habitat assessment was conducted by walking meandering transects no more than 30 meters apart throughout the Concordia Yard survey area to document existing site conditions, to identify all potential natural and surrogate potential BUOW burrows/crevices (i.e., California ground squirrel [*Otospermophilus beecheyi*] burrows) and map vegetation communities. Potential burrows/crevices were assessed for suitability and inspected for evidence of use by BUOW (i.e., sign, such as white wash, pellets, scat, feathers, and bone fragments). Wildlife and plant species were recorded, including areas that provide suitable habitat (e.g., vegetation communities, rocky outcrops, burrow complexes, drainages, etc.) for any special-status plant and wildlife species. All special-status biological resources were documented if observed. Binoculars were used to scan for biological resources outside the buffer and in any inaccessible areas. This assessment was conducted outside the optimal flowering period for some special-status annual plant species found in the region; however, many plants are often still recognizable by biologists proficient in identifying these species. The formal jurisdictional delineation documented waters that are potentially MSHCP Riparian/Riverine resources and/or jurisdictional waters features. Vegetation communities and all encountered special-status biological and jurisdictional resources were documented in the field using Collector for ArcGIS connected to an external receiver via Bluetooth, with accuracy to 3 meters.

SURVEY RESULTS

Existing Plant Communities

The Concordia Yard consists of relatively flat (less than 4% slope), previously graded and disked land dominated by bare ground and gravel, with widely scattered annual weedy species and refuse debris, and a concrete pad. The few sparse plants observed within the Concordia Yard included recently germinated fiddleneck (*Amsinckia* sp.), cheeseweed mallow (*Malva parviflora*), Mediterranean grass (*Schismus* sp.), brome grass (*Bromus* sp.), short-podded mustard (*Hirschfeldia incana*), stinknet (*Oncosiphon piluliferum*), white horehound (*Marrubium vulgare*), tumble mustard (*Sisymbrium* sp.), and horseweed (*Erigeron* sp.). A few small individuals of brittlebush (*Encelia farinosa*) were observed in the northern corner of the yard.

East of the Concordia Yard, an ephemeral wash conveys flows generally northeast to southwest, and vegetation consists of Riversidean alluvial fan sage scrub (RAFS; State Rarity: S3) dominated by scale broom (*Lepidospartum squamatum*), with California cholla (*Cylindropuntia californica*), white sage (*Salvia apiana*), tarragon (*Artemisia dracunculus*), spiny redberry (*Rhamnus crocea*), brittlebush, and linear leaved stillingia (*Stillingia linearifolia*). West of the Concordia Yard and the furthest extents of the buffer to the north and east, vegetation consists of Riversidean sage scrub (RSS) dominated by brittlebush and California buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*), with white sage, California matchweed (*Gutierrezia californica*), short-podded mustard, and brome grass (*Bromus* sp.). The area within the buffer directly north and east of the Concordia Yard consists of disturbed RSS (DRSS) dominated by brittlebush and linear leaved stillingia, with short-podded mustard, brome grass, Kellogg's tarweed (*Deinandra kelloggii*),

dove weed (*Croton setiger*), and a few individuals of sweetbush (*Bebbia juncea*). See Appendix A for representative site photographs.

Common Wildlife Observed

Wildlife observed included common species such as California towhee (*Melospiza crissalis*), common raven (*Corvus corax*), mourning dove (*Zenaidura macroura*), red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*), western kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*), and desert cottontail (*Sylvilagus audubonii*). No small rodent or large mammal burrows, ponding or depressions that may hold water, or nests were observed during the habitat assessment.

It should be noted that short-term inventories of this nature are limited in their scope by the seasonality, timing and duration of the survey, plant blooming periods, and the nocturnal and fossorial habits of many animals. Therefore, the lists of species presented above do not necessarily reflect the total number of plants and animals that potentially occupy the Concordia Yard survey area.

Special-Status Plant Species Observed

Coulter's matilija poppy (*Romneya coulteri*; California Rare Plant Rank 4.2) was observed in the ephemeral wash mapped as RAFS east of and well outside of the Concordia Yard. This species is a perennial herb typically found on dry, rocky, or sandy soils within dry washes and canyons. It typically blooms March through July. No other special-status plant species were observed during the habitat assessment.

Special-Status Plant Species with Potential to Occur

Rare plants observed in the vicinity of the proposed yard during previous surveys, or that have the potential to occur in the region, include the following:

- MSHCP Adequately Conserved Species - Small-flowered morning glory (*Convolvulus simulans*), Palmer's grapplinghook (*Harpagonella palmeri*), long-spined spineflower (*Chorizanthe polygonoides* var. *longispina*), vernal barley (*Hordeum intercedens*), small-flowered microseris (*Microseris douglasii* ssp. *platycarpha*), Coulter's matilija poppy, and peninsular spineflower (*Chorizanthe leptotheca*);
- MSHCP Section 6.1.3 Narrow Endemic Plant Species (NEPS) in NEPSAA 1 - Munz's onion (*Allium munzii*), San Diego ambrosia (*Ambrosia pumila*), slender-horned spineflower (*Dodecahema leptoceras*), many-stemmed dudleya (*Dudleya multicaulis*), spreading navarretia (*Navarretia fossalis*), California Orcutt grass (*Orcuttia californica*), San Miguel savory (*Satureja chandleri*), Hammitt's clay-cress (*Sibaropsis hammittii*), and Wright's trichocoronis (*Trichocoronis wrightii* var. *wrightii*);
- MSHCP Section 6.3.2 Criteria Area Plant Species (CAPS) in CASSA 1 - thread leaved brodiaea (*Brodiaea filifolia*), Davidson's saltbush (*Atriplex serenana* var. *davidsonii*), Parish's saltbush (*Atriplex parishii*), San Jacinto Valley crownscale (*Atriplex coronata* var. *notatior*), little mousetail (*Myosurus minimus* var. *apus*), smooth tarplant (*Centromadia pungens* ssp. *laevis*), Coulter's goldfields (*Lasthenia glabrata* var. *coulteri*), and round-leaved filaree (*California macrophylla*); and

- Non-MSHCP Covered Sensitive Plant Species - chaparral sand verbena (*Abronia villosa* var. *aurita*) paniculate tarplant (*Deinandra paniculata*), Robinson's peppergrass (*Lepidium virginicum* var. *robinsonii*), white rabbit tobacco (*Pseudognaphalium leucocephalum*), and Engelmann Oak (*Quercus engelmannii*).

The topography of the site is flat, and the soils are intermixed with moderate amounts of concrete, plastic, metal, and paper debris. The soils of the proposed yard are mapped by Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) as Yokohl loam and Honcut sandy loam, and during surveys the soils appeared to be sandy loam in the broad sense. The native soil horizons within the yard have been turned over and mixed likely from past grading and current soil conditions are not representative of the adjacent undisturbed soil outside the yard. There is currently evidence of routine mechanical scarification or disking. The flat topography, polluted soils, presence of a concrete foundation, and previous development seen on historical aerial imagery suggest that historical grading or mechanical modification of the landscape occurred. The vegetation onsite is sparse at this time, and is comprised entirely of upland species. There are no drainages or low-lying areas to support plants that require more mesic conditions. There are also no heavy clay soils or other unique soils required for many upland rare plant species. Based on standing debris observed onsite, mechanically altered soil composition, and the highly disturbed condition of the site, habitat for any rare plant species is absent and rare plant species noted above are unlikely to occur within the proposed yard.

Special-Status Wildlife Species Observed

No special-status wildlife species were observed in the Concordia Yard survey area during the habitat assessment.

Special-Status Wildlife Species with Potential to Occur

Previous surveys for VIG have been conducted in the vicinity of the Concordia Yard for BUOW, listed fairy shrimp, and small mammals.

Fairy Shrimp

Two species of Anostracan branchiopods listed for Federal protection under the Endangered Species Act have the potential to occur at or near the yard: the Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus woottoni*) and the vernal pool fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta lynchi*). These listed fairy shrimp occur in natural and artificially created ephemeral habitats. Despite recent precipitation, no vernal pools, water-filled road ruts, or any otherwise inundated ponded areas were observed within the yard, or in surrounding areas during the survey. The yard is flat and there was no evidence of depressions or clay soils that would inundate and hold water to support fairy shrimp. Riverside fairy shrimp and vernal pool fairy shrimp are unlikely to occur based on the absence of suitable habitat.

Burrowing Owl

BUOW is a CDFW California Species of Special Concern (SSC) and MSHCP Group 3 Covered Species, and is not likely to occur. Adjacent areas with DRSS north of the yard, RSS to the west, and RAFS to the east may provide limited foraging habitat for BUOW; however, no suitable burrows or California ground squirrels were observed in the proposed yard or adjacent areas during the survey. Foraging would be limited to the more open disturbed areas within the DRSS. BUOW is unlikely to occur based on the absence of suitable habitat.

Stephens' Kangaroo Rat

Stephens' kangaroo rat (SKR) is Federally listed as endangered and California-listed as a threatened species. SKR is likely to occur within the survey area due to the presence of suitable habitat consisting of open sage scrub habitat, but is unlikely to occur within the proposed yard as no habitat is present. SKR was detected previously west of the proposed yard.

Coastal California Gnatcatcher

Coastal California gnatcatcher (CAGN; *Polioptila californica californica*) is Federally listed as threatened, SSC, and MSHCP Group 2 Covered Species, and is not likely to occur within the proposed yard. Adjacent areas with RSS west of the yard and DRSS to the north may provide foraging and limited nesting habitat for CAGN. No individuals of CAGN were detected within the Concordia Yard survey area during the habitat assessment or in the vicinity during previous surveys.

The Concordia Yard does not contain suitable habitat for any other special-status wildlife, although some special-status reptiles and birds such as Belding's orange-throated whiptail (*Aspidoscelis hyperythra beldingi*), coastal whiptail (*Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri*), and California horned lark (*Eremophila alpestris actia*) could venture onto the site from adjacent suitable habitat.

MSHCP Riparian/Riverine and Jurisdictional Features

One jurisdictional MSHCP Riparian/Riverine resource was identified in the Concordia Yard survey area during the formal jurisdictional delineation. This resource is the northern extension of the wash previously mapped by EI in late-summer/early-fall of 2018 during a formal jurisdictional delineation and MSHCP Riparian/Riverine site assessment. The limits by jurisdiction of this feature were updated during the December 2019 site visit. The unnamed drainage, observed east and entirely outside of the Concordia Yard, conveys flows generally northeast to southwest, does not contain riparian vegetation, is mapped as RAFS, and was dry during the assessment.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Species-specific surveys are required for projects occurring within an MSHCP-designated Survey Area if species-specific habitat conditions are present within the project area. The proposed Concordia Yard is located within the CASSA, NEPSSA, and Burrowing Owl Survey Area. However, because no suitable habitat for Criteria Area Species, Narrow Endemic Species, or BUOW with the potential to occur within the vicinity is present within the Concordia Yard, focused surveys are not recommended. Nonetheless, pre-construction surveys will identify any new locations and implement measures necessary to minimize impacts to special-status species consistent with Project Commitment L, Mitigation Measure (MM) BR-1, MM BR-2, and MM BR-4, as applicable.

In accordance with MM BR-12, pre-construction surveys for BUOW will be conducted within 30 days of construction during the non-breeding season (September 1 through January 31) and within 14 days of construction during the breeding season (February 1 through August 31) to confirm whether BUOW occupy the site. If an occupied burrow is identified, buffer distances detailed in the *Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation* (CDFG 2012) will be adhered to.

Additionally, biological construction monitoring will occur during initial work within the Concordia Yard. The Concordia Yard does not contain suitable habitat for BUOW, but suitable habitat occurs in the vicinity.

If appropriate buffers cannot be maintained, and impacts on BUOW or occupied burrows are unavoidable, a Determination of Biologically Equivalent or Superior Preservation report will be prepared and implemented in compliance with MSHCP Section 6.3.2, and as approved by CDFW and RCA. If, in consultation with CDFW, it is determined that project activities require removal of occupied burrows, eviction and burrow closure may be required to ensure against “take” of BUOW or nests. However, this will only occur after the preparation of a Burrowing Owl Exclusion Plan, as approved by CDFW.

CONCLUSION

The results of EI’s Habitat Assessment of Concordia Yard show that no State- or Federally listed plant or wildlife species were observed or are expected to occur. One CNPS-ranked plant, Coulter’s matilija poppy, was observed east and well outside of the Concordia Yard in RAFS. Marginally suitable habitat for CAGN is present north and west of the Concordia Yard. No nests or nesting activities were observed during the survey. No other special-status plant or wildlife species were observed or are expected to occur. Pre-construction surveys for special-status plant and wildlife species will be completed within two weeks of the start of construction in any given project construction area, and again if work has lapsed for longer than 30 days. Although no BUOW individuals, suitable burrows, or sign were observed during the habitat assessment, there is potential for this species to occur based on the presence of suitable foraging habitat to the north, west, and east. Pre-construction surveys for BUOW will be conducted by a qualified biologist within 30 days of construction during the non-breeding season and within 14 days of construction during the breeding season (February 1 through August 31) to confirm whether BUOW occupy the site.

For MSHCP Covered Species, SCE is applying for MSHCP coverage as Participating Special Entity. Take of SKR will be processed directly through the SKR Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), leaving the MSHCP to cover incidental take, as needed, for 145 species potentially affected by the Project. SCE finalized an SKR HCP Implementation Agreement with the Riverside County Habitat Conservation Agency. This Agreement provides a process through which SCE may obtain take authorization of SKR pursuant to the SKR HCP.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this report, please contact Eric Kline directly at 858.261.2414.

Sincerely,

ENVIRONMENTAL INTELLIGENCE

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eric Kline". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Eric Kline

Attachments:

Exhibit 1 –Concordia Yard Habitat Assessment Results
Appendix A – Site Photographs

References

California Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2012. Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation. Unpublished report, Dated March 7, 2012.

County of Riverside. 2006. Burrowing Owl Survey Instructions for the Western Riverside Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Area. Riverside County, California.

Riverside County Transportation and Land Management Agency. 2003. Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP). Final MSHCP—Volumes 1 and 2. Approved June 17, 2003.



PHOTO 1:

VIEW OF NORTH END OF THE PROPOSED CONCORDIA YARD WITH CONCRETE PAD FACING NORTH.
PHOTO TAKEN ON 12/10/2019.

PHOTO 2:

VIEW FROM THE EASTERN MIDDLE OF THE CONCORDIA YARD FACING SOUTHWEST. PHOTO TAKEN ON 12/10/2019.



PHOTO 3:

VIEW FACING EAST FROM THE RIVERSIDEAN SAGE SCRUB ADJACENT TO THE CONCORDIA YARD WITH THE YARD IN THE BACKGROUND.
PHOTO TAKEN ON 12/10/2019.

PHOTO 4:

VIEW FACING NORTH OF THE RIVERSIDEAN ALLUVIAL FAN SAGE SCRUB LOCATED EAST OF THE CONCORDIA YARD.
PHOTO TAKEN ON 12/10/2019.





April 30, 2020

Matt Hooge
Senior Environmental Manager
Wilson Construction Company
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Canby, OR 97013
E: mhooge@wilsonconst.com

RE: Addendum: Cultural Resources Assessment for Southern California Edison's Concordia Yard, Riverside County

This memorandum examines potential impacts to cultural resources associated with the proposed addition of the Concordia Yard for the Southern California Edison Company (SCE) Valley-Ivyglen (VIG) 115 Kilovolt (kV) Subtransmission Line Project (Project). The yard was added after the Project's Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) was prepared. The yard will be used for material staging and will be enclosed with a fence. Wilson will use equipment to spread 3 inches of gravel over the surface of the yard and to auger holes to install perimeter fencing. At the end of the project, front-end loaders and other equipment will be used to remove the gravel. Ground disturbance in native sediments within the Concordia Yard will be limited to augering 12-inch diameter holes.

Concordia Yard is located along the western portion of the VIG Project alignment (Attachment A: Figure 1). Concordia Yard is a previously graded area located off of Concordia Ranch Road and Black Powder Road near Lake Elsinore, California (Attachment A: Figure 2). Locational detail is provided in Table 1. The Concordia Yard was not included in the cultural resources analysis for the FEIR for the VIG Project; therefore, it is analyzed in this addendum report, as discussed below.

Table 1. Project Components Locational Data

Name	Location	Acreage	Quadrangle: Section/Township/Range
Concordia Yard	North of I-15 and Concordia Ranch Road, 0.5 mile north-northwest of the community of Alberhill	5.89	Alberhill: S 16/T 5S/R 5W

The Concordia Yard was included in previous records searches completed for the VIG Project. The results of those searches indicate that the majority of the Concordia Yard has not been previously surveyed for cultural resources and there are no previously-recorded sites within the Yard. Two resources have been recoded within 0.25 mile of the Yard, including one historic-age (i.e., 50 years old or older) water conveyance feature (P-33-021069/CA-RIV-10914) and one historic-age single family property (P-33-019925). Resource P-33-021069/CA-RIV-10914 (water conveyance feature) is located within 10 feet of the access road to the yard but is more than 350 feet northeast of the yard itself. Resource P-33-019925 (single family property) is located



more than 100 feet to the north of the yard and has been evaluated and recommended not eligible for the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) and the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

As part of this assessment, a field survey of the 5.89-acre Concordia Yard was conducted by Paleo Solutions archaeologist, Amanda Lloyd on December 10, 2019. The entire Yard was surveyed using transect intervals spaced 10 meters apart. Surveyed areas were closely inspected for evidence of prehistoric or historic-age archaeological materials and historic-age structures or features. The area was confirmed to be open field that has been regularly disced and cleared for vegetation. Ground visibility was very good and varied from 85 to 95 percent. As a result of the survey, no cultural resources were observed within the Project area.

Summary of Findings

The Concordia Yard has been previously disturbed, and ground disturbance in native sediments within the yard will be limited to augering 12-inch diameter holes around the perimeter of the Yard for the installation of fencing. Two cultural resources were identified within the records search radius for Concordia Yard; however, both are more than 100 feet from the Yard. No cultural resources have been identified within the yard. As a result, fencing and use of the yard will not result in any impacts to cultural resources, and no additional cultural resources work is deemed necessary for the Concordia Yard.

Sincerely,

Evelyn N. Chandler
Principal Archaeologist & Program Director, Paleo Solutions

Attachments:

Attachment A Figures



ATTACHMENT A: Project Maps

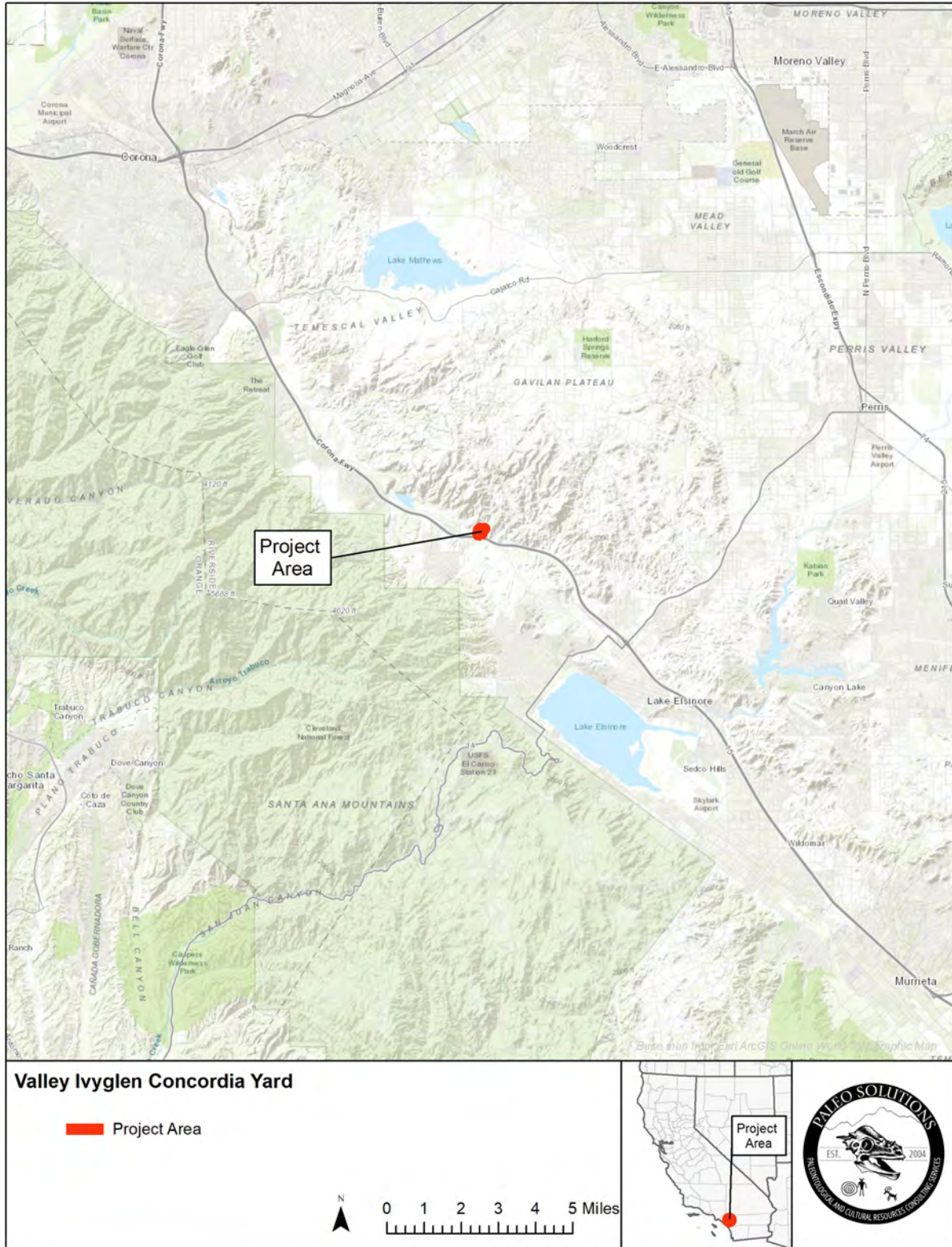


Figure 1. Project Vicinity Map.



Figure 2. Concordia Yard Location Map.



April 30, 2020

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RE: Paleontological Resources Assessment for the SCE Valley-Ivyglen 115 kV Subtransmission Line Project – Concordia Yard

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This paleontological memorandum examines the potential impacts to paleontological resources associated with the proposed addition of the Concordia Yard to the Southern California Edison Company (SCE) Valley-Ivyglen 115 Kilovolt (kV) Subtransmission Line Project (Project). The yard was added after the Project's Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) was prepared. The Concordia Yard will be used for material staging only and will be enclosed with a fence. Wilson will use equipment to spread 3 inches of gravel over the surface of the yard and to auger holes to install perimeter fencing. At the end of the Project, front-end loaders and other equipment will be used to remove the gravel. Ground disturbance in native sediments within the Concordia Yard will be limited to augering 12-inch diameter holes. The Concordia Yard (Attachment A: Figure 1) is a previously graded area located off of Concordia Ranch Road and Black Powder Road near Lake Elsinore, California.

2.0 METHODS

The paleontological analysis consisted of a review of geologic mapping by Morton and Miller (2006), and the previously completed paleontological records searches and literature reviews for the Valley-Ivyglen Project (Jefferson, 1989; Lander, 2008; Scott, 2009), which cover the areas requested for the Concordia Yard. A supplemental paleontological survey of the Concordia Yard was conducted by Daniel Nolan, B.S. on December 10, 2019.



3.0 RESULTS

3.1 GEOLOGIC MAP REVIEW

The Concordia Yard is mapped as middle to early Pleistocene-age very old axial-channel deposits (Qvoa) with minor amounts of Cretaceous-age volcanic rocks, specifically Santiago Peak Volcanics (Kvsp) (Morton and Miller, 2006; Attachment A: Figure 2). The geologic units within the Concordia Yard occur elsewhere in the Valley-Ivyglen Project alignment and are discussed in the FEIR (Ecology and Environment, Inc., 2017).

3.2 RECORDS SEARCH AND LITERATURE REVIEW

Paleontological records searches conducted at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County and San Bernardino County Museum, as well as paleontological literature reviews, were negative for fossil localities within the Valley-Ivyglen Project area and immediate vicinity, which includes the Concordia Yard. However, Pleistocene-age deposits similar to those within the yard have proven to yield scientifically significant paleontological resources throughout the Inland Empire, typically from finer-grained alluvial deposits (Jefferson, 1989; Lander, 2008; Scott, 2009). Therefore, the generally fine-grained middle to early Pleistocene-age very old axial-channel deposits (Qvoa) are considered to have a high potential for buried resources based on Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP) guidelines (2010). Cretaceous-age volcanic rocks, such as the Santiago Peak Volcanics (Kvsp), do not contain fossils due to their high heat of formation deep below the surface of the earth, and are therefore considered to have no paleontological potential based on SVP (2010) guidelines.

3.3 FIELD SURVEY

The Concordia Yard survey area is located north of Concordia Ranch Road at Black Powder Road, north of Interstate 15 (I-15) near Lake Elsinore, California. The site is situated in an open field between private ranches located in a broad valley near the base of nearby foothills. The terrain is nearly exclusively flat with low relief hills near the northern side of the survey area that slope gently southerly with a total topographic differential of approximately 50 feet (Attachment A: Photos 1-3). Existing ground disturbances include a large concrete slab, exposed and partially buried pipelines, paved and unpaved roads, grading and spoils piles containing previously disturbed sediments, removed cement piles, fences, and miscellaneous debris (Attachment A: Photos 1 and 3-5). Additionally, most of the Concordia Yard surface is covered in previously disturbed and disked rolled sediments, as well as fresh grasses.

3.3.1 Geology

Sediments observed included previously disturbed sediments and middle to early Pleistocene-age very old axial-channel deposits (Qvoa). Previously disturbed sediments were observed mostly along the boundary limits of the survey area. Due to the minimal topographic relief, alluvial sediment exposures are limited to ground surface areas devoid of vegetation and the sidewalls and bases of low-relief drainages.

Pleistocene-age very old axial-channel (Qvoa) drainages range from less than one foot deep to approximately 4 feet deep (Attachment A: Photo 5). Very old axial-channel sediments consist of buff red-brown (weathered surface) to pale yellow-brown (fresh surface) colored, moderately to poorly sorted, fine- to very coarse-grained sand with some subangular granules, pebbles, and cobbles composed primarily of plutonic rock fragments (Attachment A: Photos 5-6). Exposures along drainage walls display some coarser gravels and cobbles within the outcropping (Attachment A: Photo 5).

3.3.2 Paleontology

No paleontological resources were observed or collected during the survey. However, sediments conducive to fossil preservation, particularly those of the Pleistocene-age very old axial-channel deposits (Qvoa), were observed.



4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

The Concordia Yard has been previously disturbed at the surface, there are no known paleontological resources within the yard, and ground disturbance in native sediments within the yard will be limited to augering 12-inch diameter holes. Per the Project's Paleontological Resources Monitoring Plan (PRMP) (Paleo Solutions, 2019), monitoring during augering is only required if the diameter is 3 feet or greater; therefore, paleontological monitoring is not required at the Concordia Yard. However, a paleontologist will be available on-call in the event of unanticipated discoveries.

In the event that ground disturbance in native sediments becomes necessary, then paleontological monitoring, spot checking, and fossil recovery should be implemented at the Concordia Yard in accordance with Mitigation Measures (MM) CR-4 and CR-5 and the Project's PRMP (Paleo Solutions, 2019).

If you have any questions concerning the results for this study, please contact me at crichards@paleosolutions.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Courtney Richards".

Courtney Richards, M.S.
Principal Paleontologist
Paleo Solutions, Inc.

Attachments:

Attachment A Figures

References:

- Ecology and Environment, Inc. 2017. Final Environmental Impact Report and Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Plan: Valley-Ivyglen 115-kV Subtransmission Line and Alberhill System Projects: Prepared for the California public Utilities Commission Energy Division.
- Jefferson, G.T. 1989. Late Cenozoic Tapirs (Mammalia: Perissodactyla) of Western North America. Contributions in Science, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, Number 406: 1-22.
- Lander, E.B. 2008. Paleontologic Resource Inventory, Impact Assessment, and Recommended Mitigation Measures in Support of SCE Alberhill Substation, Riverside County, California. Paleo Environmental Associated, Inc., Altadena, CA. Dated June 2, 2008.
- Morton, D.M. and Miller, F.K. 2006. Geologic map of the San Bernardino and Santa Ana 30' x 60' quadrangles, California. U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 2006-1217, scale 1:100,000.
- Paleo Solutions. 2019. Paleontological Resources Monitoring Plan for the Valley-Ivyglen 115 kV Subtransmission Line Project. Prepared for Southern California Edison. Dated November 2019.
- Scott, E. 2009 Paleontology Literature and Records Review, Alberhill Substation 500 kV Transmission Line and 115 kV Source Line, Riverside County, California. San Bernardino County Museum, Redlands, CA. Dated August 27, 2009.



Society of Vertebrate Paleontologists (SVP). 2010. Standard Procedures for the Assessment and Mitigation of Adverse Impacts to Paleontological Resources, 11 p.



ATTACHMENT A: Figures

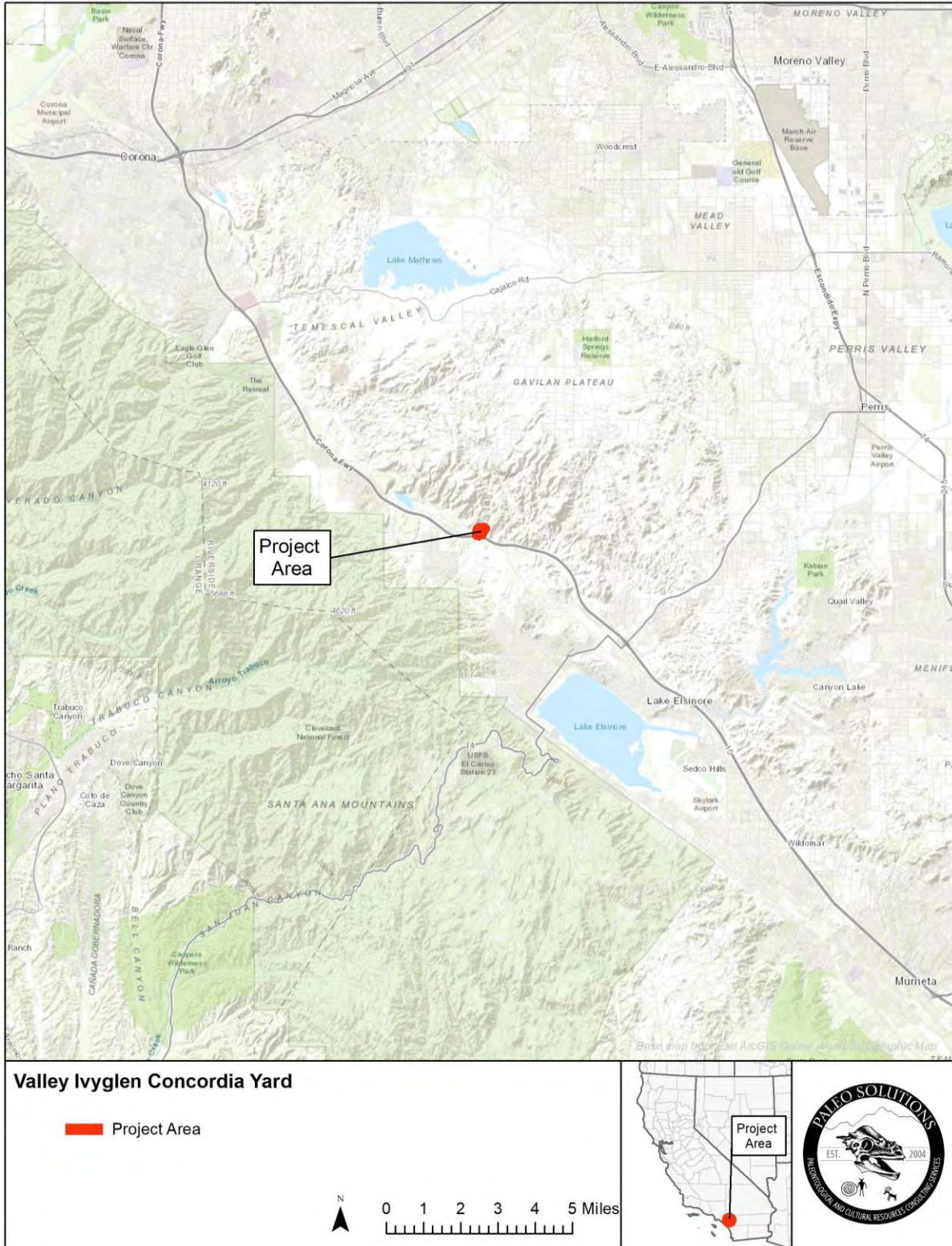


Figure 1. Concordia Yard Location Map.

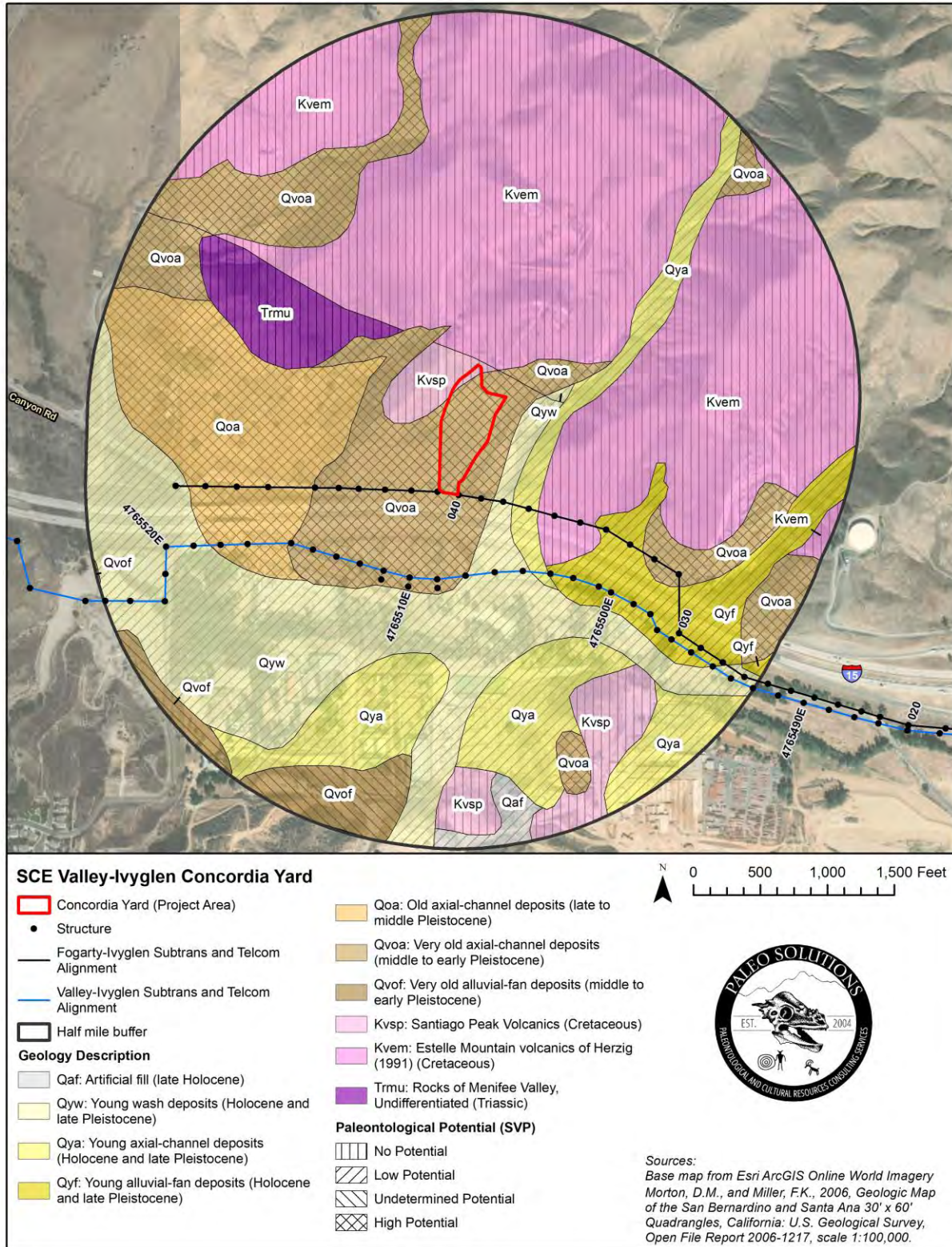


Figure 2. Concordia Yard Geology and Paleontological Sensitivity.



Photo 1. Overview of the survey area along the northern half of the western side of the proposed Concordia Yard, showing access road and northern slope. View facing to the northeast.



Photo 2. Overview of the Concordia Yard survey area along the northern access road pull out. View facing to the northeast.



Photo 3. Overview taken from along the southern half of the eastern side of the proposed construction yard, showing nearby slopes and paved road adjacent to the Concordia Yard survey area. View facing to the northeast.



Photo 4. Overview of the Concordia Yard survey area along the northern half of the eastern side of the proposed construction yard, showing the concrete slab. View facing to the southwest.



Photo 5. Drainage channel exposure of middle to early Pleistocene-age very old axial-channel deposits (Qvoa), consisting primarily of sands and gravels. Larger cobbles and occasional boulders can be observed within the wash. Partially buried pipelines are exposed within the channel and near the top of the wash. View facing to the north.



Photo 6. Weathered middle to early Pleistocene-age very old axial-channel deposits (Qvoa) as seen at and near the surface along the north end of the western side of the proposed Concordia Yard. View facing down.