

TRC 1920 Old Middlefield Way Mountain View, CA 94043

Main 650.967.2365 Fax 650.967.2785

# Memorandum

To: Mr. Abdullah Arakozie

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E)

From: Molly Sandomire

TRC Solutions, Inc.

**Subject:** PG&E Fulton-Fitch Mountain Reconductoring Project

Biological Reconnaissance Survey for Work Areas

**Date:** February 20, 2017

CC: Nate Lishman, PG&E

#### Dear Mr. Arakozie:

This memorandum documents the results of additional biological reconnaissance survey conducted for modified work areas for the Fulton-Fitch Mountain Reconductoring Project. The survey extent is shown in Figure 1, Biological Survey Areas.

## **Temporary Construction Staging at Bailhache**

PG&E proposes to use a part of the agricultural fields south of Bailhache Road and adjacent to the Fitch Mountain #1 Tap for staging of approximately 20 poles. The proposed construction work area will be approximately 200 by 300 feet.

Previously, a reconnaissance-level survey of areas within 250-feet of the Fitch Mountain Tap was conducted in October, 2016 (TRC 2016b); this survey included the majority of the agricultural field south of the Tap. PG&E requested that the biological survey area be extended south to the field's fence line.

On February 17, 2017, I conducted a pedestrian survey of the 0.4-acre area 250-feet south of the Fitch Mountain #1 Tap and extending to the fence line of the field. The purpose of the field survey was to identify the existing land use and vegetation communities within the survey area, identify aquatic resources, and determine the suitability of the survey area to support special-status plant and wildlife species. The weather was rainy and overcast.

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The survey area covers approximately 0.4 acres and consists of agricultural land. No wetland or water resources were observed. The surveyed area has been previously disturbed by agricultural activity and lacks suitable habitat to support the special-status plant and wildlife species known to occur in the vicinity of the project.

The plant and wildlife species that have any potential to occur in this portion of the project area are the same species identified in the GANDA report as having potential to occur along the project alignment. Not only does the surveyed area lack suitable habitat to support special-status plant and wildlife species, but the potential for project activities to adversely impact special-status species is further reduced with implementation of the AMMs identified in Garcia and Associates 2012. Therefore, implementation of the AMMs prescribed in the GANDA report will avoid project-related impacts on any special-status species in the surveyed area.

### **Revised Vegetation Mapping at Pull Site 7**

I also visited the pull site (PS-7) and staging area north of Shiloh Ridge Road. Portions of this proposed work area were converted to vineyards, which were mapped in October, 2017. The vineyards were incorrectly mapped as extending out to the property line. The northeast corner of the parcel remains grassland. The vegetation mapping has been corrected.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (650) 967-2365 or by email at msandomire@trcsolutions.com.

Molly Sandomire
Senior Environmental Planner
TRC Solutions

#### References

Garcia and Associates, 2012. *Biological Resources Technical Report, Pacific Gas & Electric Company's Fulton-Fitch 60kV Power Line Reconductor Project, Sonoma County, California.* Unpublished report prepared for Pacific Gas and Electric Company, San Ramon, CA.

Swaim Biological Inc., 2016. Results of Surveys for the California Red-Legged Frog Near the Fulton-Fitch Mountain Reconductoring Project Site. Unpublished report prepared for the Pacific Gas and Electric Company, San Ramon, CA.

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- TRC Solutions, 2015. Fulton-Fitch Mountain Reconductoring Project. Unpublished memorandum prepared for Pacific Gas and Electric Company, San Ramon, CA.
- TRC Solutions, 2016a. *Fulton-Fitch Mountain Reconductoring Project*. Unpublished memorandum prepared for Pacific Gas and Electric Company, San Ramon, CA.
- TRC Solutions, 2016b. *Fulton-Fitch Mountain Reconductoring Project*. Unpublished memorandum prepared for Pacific Gas and Electric Company, San Ramon, CA.



