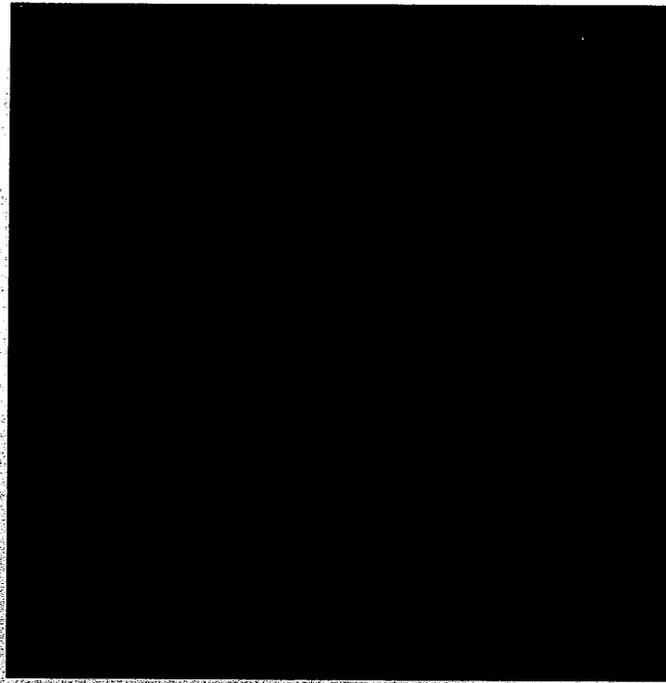


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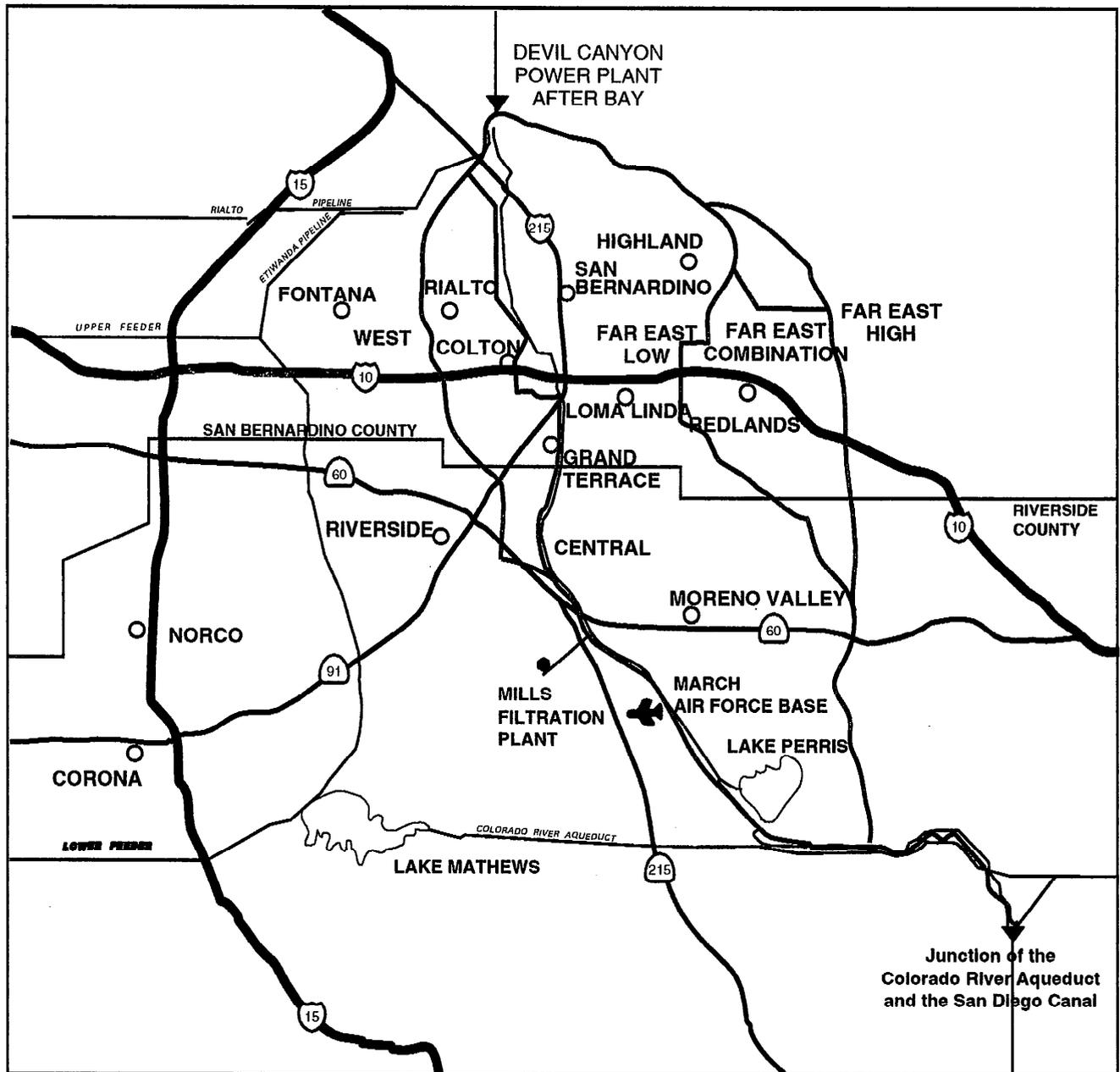
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# INLAND FEEDER PROJECT

## FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

### Addendum No. 3



**MWD**  
METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Report No. 1103



**U.S. FOREST SERVICE**  
SAN BERNARDINO NATIONAL FOREST

August 1995

**INLAND FEEDER  
LAND TRANSFER AND EXCHANGE  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT**

**ADDENDUM NO. 3**

*METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT  
OF  
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA*

August 1995

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**Section 1.0**

**INTRODUCTION**

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## SECTION 1.0 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF EIR ADDENDUM NO. 3

#### BACKGROUND OF THE INLAND FEEDER

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) is currently conducting final design and right-of-way acquisition for the approved Inland Feeder project. The Inland Feeder is a pipeline and tunnel water conveyance facility intended to ensure protection of Metropolitan's ability to provide uninterrupted service to its member agencies and its overall service area. The Metropolitan Board of Directors certified the Final Inland Feeder Environmental Impact Report (EIR) on February 9, 1993 and selected the Far East Combination Alternative as the preferred Inland Feeder project. Figure 1-1 shows the adopted alignment of Inland Feeder. The Inland Feeder would extend from the existing Department of Water Resources facility in Devil Canyon south to its terminus at the junction with the Colorado Aqueduct, as shown in Figure 1-1. The approximately 43.5 mile long alignment of the Inland Feeder is divided into "contracts" to simplify the management, design and construction of this facility, as shown in Figure 1-1.

Contract 2 of the approved Inland Feeder will require the acquisition and use of 40 acres of land currently owned by the United States Forest Service (USFS), in the East Waterman Canyon area, within the boundaries of the San Bernardino National Forest (SBNF). The impacts on high quality chaparral-sage scrub habitats due to the construction of the Inland Feeder require the acquisition and protection of land with comparable habitat. The Final EIR identified 842 acres of land in the Strawberry Creek area to be acquired and conveyed to the USFS for exchange for the 40-acres and to satisfy the mitigation requirement. Mitigation measure B-2 in the Final EIR documents this mitigation requirement. Metropolitan is now proposing to acquire a total of 880 acres in the Day Canyon and City Creek areas, to compensate for the impacts on biological resources from the entire Inland Feeder project and the land use impacts associated with the 40 acre site in East Waterman Canyon. This 880 acre area would be deeded to the USFS and would become part of the SBNF.

#### CEQA ISSUES AND PROCEDURES

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires a project proponent to evaluate proposed changes to an adopted project to determine if the potential impacts of the changes are consistent with, or different from, the impacts evaluated in the certified EIR. In particular, Section 15164 of the State CEQA Guidelines allows for the preparation of an EIR Addendum if:

- None of the conditions in Section 15162 of the State CEQA Guidelines calling for preparation of a subsequent EIR have occurred;
- Only minor technical changes or additions are necessary to make the EIR under consideration adequate under CEQA; and
- The changes to the EIR made by the Addendum do not raise important new issues about significant effects on the environment.



The conditions requiring the preparation of a Subsequent EIR as defined in Section 15162 of the State CEQA Guidelines include:

- The project will have one or more significant effects not previously discussed in the EIR;
- Significant effects previously examined will be substantially more severe than shown in the EIR;
- Mitigation measures or alternatives previously found not to be feasible would in fact be feasible and would substantially reduce one or more significant effects of the project; or
- Mitigation measures or alternatives which were not previously considered in the EIR would substantially lessen one or more significant effects on the environment.

As described later in this section, the proposed acquisition and transfer of the 880 acres, instead of land in the Strawberry Creek area, is not anticipated to meet any of the conditions requiring the preparation of a Supplemental EIR. Therefore, Metropolitan has determined that the proposed land acquisition and transfer, as part of the adopted Inland Feeder, would require only minor changes or additions to the evaluation in the certified Final EIR, to make this previous EIR adequate for the proposed land exchange. Therefore, Metropolitan has prepared this EIR Addendum No. 3 to assure the public and decision makers that the certified Final EIR and the EIR Addendum are adequate to provide the needed environmental clearance for the proposed acquisition and transfer of the 880 acres to the USFS.

This EIR Addendum was prepared consistent with Section 15164 of the State CEQA Guidelines. The use of an EIR Addendum for minor changes to a project does not require public review and circulation of the document, as described in Section 15164 of the State CEQA Guidelines.

## **1.2 THE PROPOSED LAND ACQUISITION AND TRANSFER**

As noted earlier, the Inland Feeder will require the acquisition and use of a 40 acre parcel in East Waterman Canyon which is currently part of the SBNF. To compensate for the impacts of entire Inland Feeder project on chaparral and sage scrub habitats and the land use impacts associated with the 40 acre parcel, Metropolitan is proposing to acquire 745 acres in Day Canyon and 135 acres in City Creek, for a total of 880- acres, and to deed these parcels to the USFS. The purpose of this EIR Addendum is to evaluate the potential impacts associated with this land acquisition and transfer, focussing on the biological values on the 880 acres, to determine if this exchange adequately compensates for the impacts of the Inland Feeder on chaparral and sage scrub habitats.

Chapter 2.0 (Description of the Proposed Land Exchange for the Inland Feeder) provides a detailed description of the proposed land acquisition and transfer.

## **1.3 SUMMARY**

As described earlier, the proposed acquisition and transfer of 880 acres in Day Canyon and City Creek is intended to satisfy the mitigation requirements of measure B-2 in the Final EIR for the Inland Feeder, regarding mitigation for the impacts of the Inland Feeder on chaparral and sage scrub habitats. It has been determined that the amount of chaparral and sage scrub habitats on the 880 acres satisfies the requirements of measure B-2. It has been documented that the

proposed land acquisition and transfer, assuming the 880 acres, will satisfy the requirements of measure B-2, as described later in detail in Chapter 3.

#### **1.4 INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE**

The following document was used in the preparation of EIR Addendum No. 3 and is incorporated by reference in this EIR Addendum No. 3, consistent with Section 15150 of the State CEQA Guidelines:

Inland Feeder Project Environmental Impact Report and Environmental Assessment (February 1993): This EIR evaluated the impacts of a range of possible alternatives for the Inland Feeder, including the No Project Alternative.

**Section 2.0**

**DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED LAND  
EXCHANGE FOR THE INLAND FEEDER**

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## SECTION 2.0 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED LAND ACQUISITION AND TRANSFER

### 2.1 INTRODUCTION

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) is currently conducting final design and right-of-way acquisition for the approved Inland Feeder. The Inland Feeder is a pipeline and tunnel water conveyance facility intended to ensure protection of Metropolitan's ability to provide uninterrupted service to its member agencies and its overall service area. The adopted Inland Feeder alignment was shown earlier in Figure 1-1.

As part of the requirements of mitigation measure B-2 for impacts on biological resources documented in the certified Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Inland Feeder, Metropolitan is required to compensate for the impacts on high quality chaparral-sage scrub habitats associated with the construction of the Inland Feeder. To compensate for the impacts on the chaparral-sage scrub and to allow an exchange for lands necessary for the Inland Feeder, Metropolitan originally proposed to acquire a total of 842 acres of land in the Strawberry Creek area, to deed to the USFS for permanent protection as part of the SBNF. At this time, Metropolitan is now proposing an alternative acquisition of 880 acres in Day Canyon and City Creek and transfer of these lands to the USFS for incorporation in the SBNF. This action will then serve, in place of the Strawberry Creek site, as the compensation associated with the impacts of the Inland Feeder on chaparral-sage scrub and for the exchange for the Forest Service lands required for the Project.

### 2.2 BACKGROUND OF THE INLAND FEEDER ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

Metropolitan initiated detailed planning for the Inland Feeder in the late 1980s. The Inland Feeder is part of Metropolitan's comprehensive groundwater management, water conservation and water reclamation programs to ensure the reliable delivery of water to its member public agencies which together currently serve approximately 15 million people in southern California. Metropolitan evaluated five alignment alternatives for the Inland Feeder in detail, as documented in the Final EIR (Report No. 1064). Metropolitan's Board of Directors certified the Final EIR for the Inland Feeder on February 9, 1993 and selected the Far East Combination Alternative as the preferred Inland Feeder project. Figure 1-1, shown earlier, shows the alignment of Inland Feeder. The Inland Feeder would extend from the existing Department of Water Resources facility in Devil Canyon south to its terminus at the junction with the Colorado Aqueduct.

The Final EIR for the Inland Feeder includes detailed descriptions of Metropolitan, the purpose and need for the Inland Feeder, the alternatives analysis and the environmental evaluation of the Inland Feeder alternatives.

Mitigation measure B-2 documents the program to mitigate the impacts of the Inland Feeder associated with chaparral-sage scrub and the 40 acre parcel. Mitigation measure B-2 reads as follows:

### "Compensation Program for Chaparral Habitat

Metropolitan will acquire lands adjacent to the San Bernardino National Forest in Sections 7 and 12 of the Strawberry Creek area as shown in Figure 6-26 [in the EIR]. If one of the Far East Alternatives is selected for implementation, this area will be acquired and conferred to the USFS for management in perpetuity as open space. The majority of this parcel, 642 of the total 842 acres, will be used as land use compensation for the acquisition from the USFS of a 40 acre parcel located in Waterman Canyon. The remaining 200 acres of this parcel are part of 211 acres of high quality chaparral-sage scrub habitats that will serve as compensation, at ratios of approximately 3:1, for project impacts on chaparral/sage scrub habitats. Other native habitats present on the remaining 642 acres include 389 acres of southern mixed chaparral, six acres of sycamore/alder riparian woodland, 208 acres of coast live oak woodland and 9.8 acres of Riversidean alluvial sage scrub."

## **2.3 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED LAND ACQUISITION AND TRANSFER**

### **PURPOSE AND NEED FOR THE PROPOSED LAND ACQUISITION AND TRANSFER**

As described earlier, Metropolitan is pursuing the proposed land acquisition and transfer to compensate for the adverse effects of the Inland Feeder on chaparral-sage scrub from the Inland Feeder Project. As documented in the Final EIR, the selected alternative for the Inland Feeder, the Far East Combination Alternative, will impact 101 acres of chaparral-sage scrub habitat.

As documented in mitigation measure B-2, Metropolitan has committed to mitigating the impacts on 101 acres of chaparral and sage scrub habitats associated with the construction of the Inland Feeder, through the acquisition of 842 acres of land in the Strawberry Creek area, as shown on Figure 2-1. Metropolitan is now proposing to acquire 880 acres of land in Day Canyon and City Creek. These sites are shown in Figure 2-1.

This EIR Addendum No. 3 was prepared to evaluate whether the proposed 880 acres in Day Canyon and City Creek would meet the mitigation requirements described in measure B-2.

### **DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED LAND ACQUISITION AND TRANSFER**

Metropolitan is proposing to acquire two land areas to compensate for the biological resources impacts of the Inland Feeder described above. These sites, shown in Figure 2-1, are:

- 745 acres in Day Canyon
- 135 acres in City Creek

The 745 acres in Day Canyon consist of six contiguous parcels surrounded by open space under the jurisdiction of the SBNF, the San Bernardino County Flood Control District and the San Bernardino Association of Governments. Each of these parcels currently shares a boundary with the SBNF. The parcels range in size from 40 to 315 acres, and range in elevation from 2,400 to 5,000 feet above mean sea level. The southernmost of these parcels is near the mouth of Day Canyon, at the base of the mountains, and includes a portion of Day Canyon Wash. This 70 acre parcel is partially developed for flood control purposes, including a dam, a concrete lined channel and several fences. The other five parcels are completely undeveloped. The 745 acres



in Day Canyon proposed to be acquired by Metropolitan and deeded to the USFS are shown in detail later on Figure 3-1.

The City Creek site is on the south flank of the San Bernardino Mountains in San Bernardino. This rectangular shaped property is within the SBNF and is adjacent to the City Creek Ranger Station. State Highway 330 (SR 330) bisects this site, with approximately 17 acres of the site on the west side of SR 330 and the remaining acres on the east side. The site is in the City Creek drainage, where the East and West Forks of City Creek converge. The East Fork intersects the southeast corner of the parcel and the West Fork passes through the middle of the property, from north to south. The west half of the site consists of a very steep slope. The site was formerly a ranch and a caretaker is present on the site. However, no grazing has occurred on the site for about two years. The parcel has been partially developed as a campground. Improvements such as asphalt roads and water and electricity lines exist on the site. There is also a four million gallon artificial lake on the site. During surveys conducted in 1995 for this site, the lake was dry. The 135 acres in City Creek proposed to be acquired by Metropolitan and transferred to the USFS are shown in detail later on Figure 3-2.

No construction associated with the Inland Feeder will occur on either the Day Canyon or City Creek sites. Metropolitan proposes to acquire these sites and will not make any improvements of any sort on these sites prior to conveying them to the USFS. Therefore, the proposed acquisition and transfer will not include any construction or other activities associated with the Inland Feeder on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites. In the event that the USFS desires to make any improvements on these sites, such as fire roads or other facilities, these improvements would be subject to separate future environmental analysis and clearance by the USFS.

Section 3.0

**ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING AND PROJECT  
IMPACTS FOR THE PROPOSED LAND EXCHANGE**

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## SECTION 3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING AND PROJECT IMPACTS FOR THE PROPOSED LAND ACQUISITION AND TRANSFER

### 3.1 OVERVIEW

The Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Inland Feeder provides detailed discussions of the existing environmental setting, methodology, thresholds of significance, impacts, mitigation measures and level of significance after mitigation for the following environmental parameters:

- |   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| ■ Topography, soils and geology                   | ■ Aesthetics              |
| ■ Faults and seismicity                           | ■ Noise                   |
| ■ Air quality                                     | ■ Traffic and circulation |
| ■ Water quality and hydrology                     | ■ Public services         |
| ■ Biological resources and special status species | ■ Utilities               |
| ■ Cultural resources                              | ■ Land use                |
| ■ Public safety and hazardous materials           | ■ Fisheries               |

As noted earlier in Section 1.0 (Introduction), review of the proposed land acquisition and transfer in the Initial Study indicated that this proposed action would result in no impacts or no significant impacts for all the noted environmental parameters except biological resources. As noted in the Initial Study, this EIR Addendum No. 3 focuses on evaluating whether the proposed 880 acres in Day Canyon and City Creek will satisfy the compensation requirements associated with the impacts of the Inland Feeder on chaparral-sage scrub. The Day Canyon and City Creek sites will replace the Strawberry Creek site as the mitigation property for the impacts of the Inland Feeder on 101 acres of chaparral-sage scrub habitat. The Day Canyon, City Creek and Strawberry Creek sites were shown previously on Figure 2-1.

For this EIR Addendum No. 3, the existing information in the Final EIR was used as the base information and is incorporated by reference in this current environmental document. Therefore, unless necessary for the analysis for the proposed land acquisition and transfer, this information is not repeated in this document.

### 3.2 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES AND SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES

#### EXISTING CONDITIONS RELATED TO BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES AND SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES

This section describes the existing biological resources on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites. It includes a discussion of the plant and wildlife communities that are characteristic of these sites. A description of special interest species known to occur in the general vicinity of these sites and their potential for occurrence on these sites is provided.

#### Existing Setting on the 745 Acre Day Canyon Site

Description of the Day Canyon Site. The six contiguous parcels comprising this site are in the Day Canyon watershed, in the eastern portion of the San Gabriel Mountains. All of the parcels\

are surrounded by open space, most of which is under jurisdiction of the United States Forest Service (USFS), as part of the SBNF. The remaining open space is property managed by the San Bernardino County Flood Control District and the San Bernardino Association of Governments (SANBAG). The SANBAG property is a mitigation property for the State Route 30 project.

Each of the six parcels on the Day Canyon site has a boundary shared with the surrounding SBNF property. The parcels range in size from 40 to 315 acres, and in elevation range from approximately 2,400 feet to over 5,000 feet above mean sea level. The southernmost parcel is near the mouth of Day Canyon at the base of the mountains and includes a portion of Day Canyon Wash. This 70 acre parcel is partially developed for flood control purposes. There is a dam, a concrete lined channel and several fences on this parcel. The other five parcels are completely undeveloped.

Plant Communities on the Day Canyon Site. Six vegetation communities were found on the Day Canyon site. These communities include southern sycamore-alder riparian forest, bigcone spruce-canyon oak forest, mixed chaparral, Riversidean sage scrub, alluvial scrub and annual grassland as shown on Figure 3-1. An additional community, disturbed, was also identified as shown on Figure 3-1. These plant communities and disturbed areas are described in the following sections and are summarized in Table 3-1.

Southern Sycamore-Alder Riparian Forest. The southern sycamore-alder riparian forest community typically occurs in very rocky streambeds that receive seasonally high intensity flooding. White alders are typically abundant in perennial streams and Western sycamores favor more intermittent streams. This community is generally dominated by tall, open, broadleafed, winter-deciduous streamside woodland, seldom forming closed canopy forests. This vegetation community is known to occur between the Transverse and Peninsular ranges, from Point Conception south into Baja California Norte (Holland 1986).

The southern sycamore-alder riparian forest on the Day Canyon site comprises approximately 48 acres along Day Canyon Creek and its tributaries. The riparian forest occurs along a perennial stream and, therefore, white alders are the dominant tree species. The community is relatively undisturbed, with the exception of the gaging station and an undeveloped footpath adjacent to the Creek.

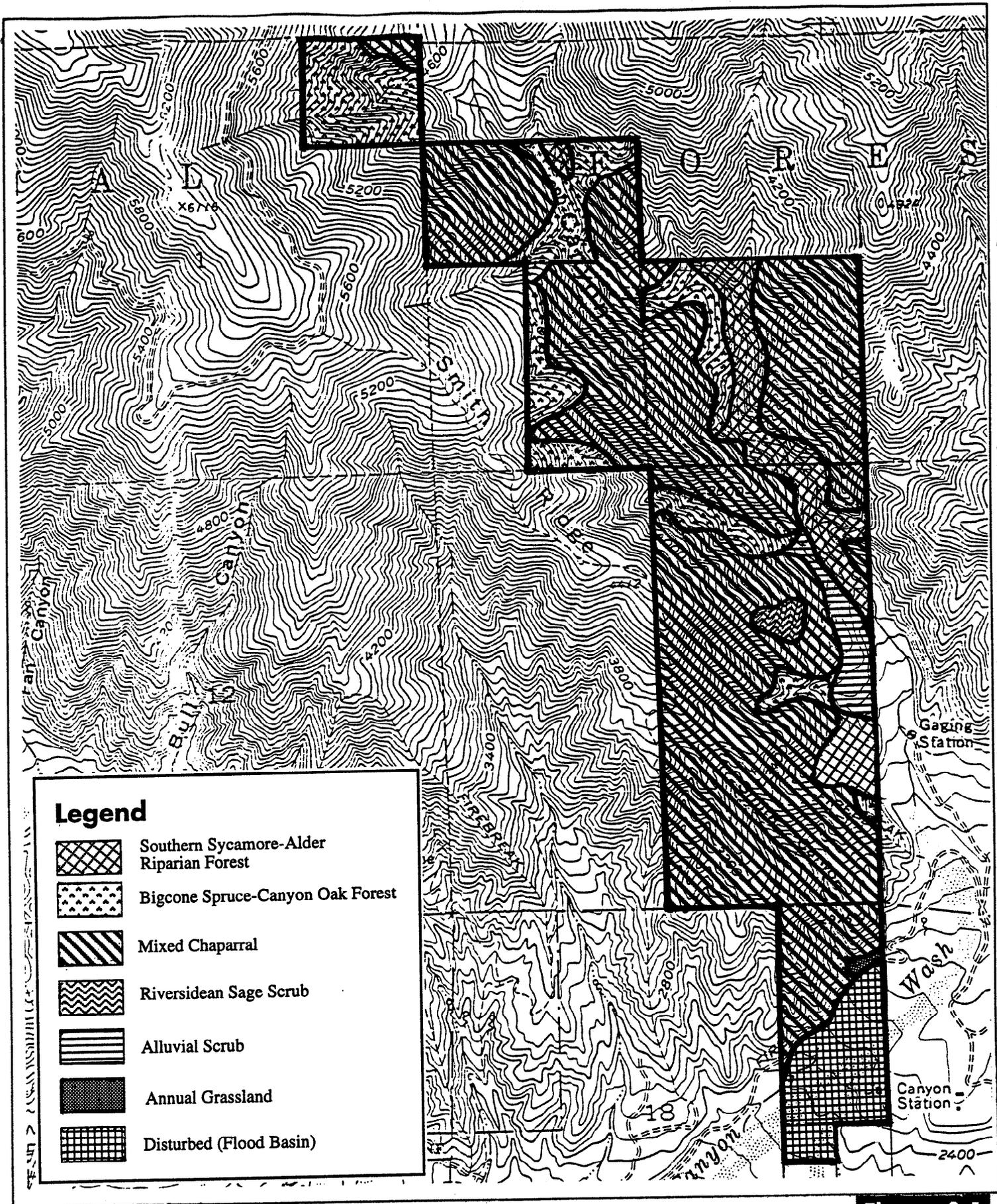
Species present on the Day Creek site include big-leaf maple (*Acer macrophyllum*), white alder (*Alnus rhombifolia*), Western sycamore (*Platanus racemosa*), mugwort (*Artemisia douglasiana*), common scouring rush (*Equisetum hyemale*), blue elderberry (*Sambucus mexicana*), poison oak (*Toxicodendron diversilobium*), California bay (*Umbellularia californica*), giant chain fern (*Woodwardia fimbriata*), wood fern (*Dryopteris arguta*) and hoary nettle (*Urtica dioica* ssp. *holsoericea*).

Bigcone Spruce-Canyon Oak Forest. The bigcone spruce-canyon oak forest occurs on rocky sites within stands of chaparral. This community is typically restricted to mesic exposures and canyon sides at low elevations, approximately 1,000 feet, but on warmer aspects at upper elevation limits of approximately 8,000 feet. This community intergrades with southern riparian forest in canyon bottoms, with upper sonoran mixed chaparral on more xeric sites and coniferous forest at higher elevations. This vegetation community is known to occur in the Transverse and Peninsular Ranges from the Mount Pinos region south to near Banner in San Diego County, mostly on coastal, rather than desert-facing, slopes.

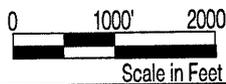
**TABLE 3-1  
PLANT COMMUNITY ACRES FOR THE  
DAY CANYON AND CITY CREEK SITES**

Plant Community	Day Canyon	City Creek
Riversidean sage scrub	6.0	0.0
Mixed chaparral (coastal sage-chaparral scrub)*	505.0	99.7
Non-native grassland	3.0	4.4
Sycamore-alder riparian woodland	48.0	70.1
Urban/disturbed	42.0	20.8
Bigcone Spruce - Canyon Oak Forest	129.0	0.0
Alluvial scrub (Alluvial fan scrub) *	12.0	0.0
<b>TOTAL ACREAGE</b>	<b>745.0</b>	<b>135.0</b>

\* Name referenced in original East Waterman document (Metropolitan 1992a).



**Figure: 3-1**



**Vegetation Community Map- Day Canyon**

The bigcone spruce-canyon oak forest comprises approximately 129 acres along the slopes and canyons on the Day Canyon site. This community replaces the southern sycamore-alder riparian forests in the drainages at higher elevations and occurs among the chaparral on the slopes. This community is relatively undisturbed since the majority of the slopes and canyons are inaccessible. The bigcone spruce-canyon oak forest on the Day Canyon site is dominated by big-leaf maple, incense cedar (*Calocedrus decurrens*), birch-leaf mountain-mahogany (*Cercocarpus betuloides*), bigcone spruce (*Pseudotsuga nacrocarpa*), canyon live oak (*Quercus chrysolepis*), poison oak, California bay and bigberry manzanita (*Arctostaphylos glauca*).

Mixed Chaparral. Chaparral consists of evergreen woody shrubs that form a dense and nearly impenetrable cover, with or without an understory of shrub seedlings, annual herbs or grasses. Chaparral occurs throughout California in areas with mild temperatures, limited rainfall and hot summers. This community is adapted to periodic fire and drought conditions.

The chaparral community on the Day Canyon site comprises approximately 505 acres, the majority of the site. The chaparral community on the Day Canyon site contains a mixture of species including whitethorn (*Ceanothus leucodermis*), scrub oak (*Quercus berberidifolia*), blue elderberry, chamise (*Adenostomma fasciculatum*), California buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*), Our Lord's candle (*Yucca whipplei*), black sage (*Salvia mellifera*), California sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*), yerba santa (*Eriodictyon trichocalyx*), bigberry manzanita, California broom (*Lotus scoparius*) and white sage (*Salvia apiana*). Most of the chaparral on the Day Canyon site is undisturbed, however the chaparral on the southernmost portion of the site has been graded and many non-native grasses are present in this area.

Riversidean Sage Scrub. Riversidean sage scrub favors xeric sites on steep slopes, severely drained soils or clays that release soil moisture slowly. It intergrades with southern Californian chaparrals at higher elevations. Riversidean coastal sage scrub occurs south of Ventura County, along the coastal base of the Transverse and Peninsular ranges from central Los Angeles County to the Mexican frontier (Holland 1986). It is considered a sensitive habitat (Holland 1986) due to its potential to support threatened and endangered plant and wildlife species.

The Riversidean sage scrub comprises approximately 60 acres on the Day Canyon site, consisting of one patch in the middle of the chaparral. The dominant species on the Day Canyon site include white sage, California buckwheat, coastal sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*), California broom, black sage (*Salvia mellifera*) and yerba santa.

Alluvial Scrub. Alluvial scrub occurs on outwash fans and riverine deposits along the coastal side of major mountains in southern California. This vegetation type is adapted to severe floods and erosion, nutrient-poor substrates and the presence of subsurface moisture. This habitat is considered unique, with a high priority for preservation. The vegetation consists of drought-deciduous subshrubs and large evergreen woody shrubs adapted to porous, low fertility substrate and to survival of intense, periodic flooding and erosion. There are three types of alluvial vegetation, pioneer, intermediate and mature. This habitat is known to occur in the San Gabriel, San Bernardino and San Jacinto Mountains and lesser floodplain and riverine locations in southern California.

Approximately 12 acres of alluvial scrub occur on the Day Canyon site, on the sandy benches throughout the sycamore-alder riparian forest. The alluvial scrub was more abundant in the 1960s. This could have been caused by high floods or as a result of the construction of

the dam sometime after the 1960s. The alluvial scrub on the Day Canyon site consists of both mature and pioneer alluvial scrub. Dominant species in this plant community include California buckwheat, scalebroom, white sage, California broom and California sagebrush.

**Annual Grassland.** Annual grassland is dominated by annual grasses that are primarily Mediterranean in origin. These grasses dominate areas that have been previously disturbed by flood control activities, grazing and other activities. Many species of native forbs and bulbs, as well as naturalized forbs, are found in annual grasslands.

Approximately 30 acres of annual grassland occur on the southern portion of the Day Canyon site, above the flood basin. The dominant species on the Day Canyon site include foxtail chess (*Bromus madritensis*), slender wild oat (*Avena barbata*), red-stemmed filaree (*Erodium cicutarium*), California everlasting (*Gnaphalium californicum*), barley (*Hordeum* sp.), black mustard (*Brassica nigra*), soft chess (*Bromus hordeaceus*), sourclover (*Melilotus indica*) and Mediterranean grass (*Schismus barbatus*).

**Disturbed.** The disturbed area on the Day Canyon site covers 42 acres and consists of flood control structures, such as channels and a dam. This area contains minimal vegetation. The vegetation in the basin behind the dam consists of scattered mulefat (*Baccharis salicifolia*). Downstream from the dam is disturbed alluvial scrub, with plant species similar to those described above for alluvial scrub.

**Wildlife Species on the Day Canyon Site.** The Day Canyon watershed supports viable wildlife populations characteristic of the coastal slopes of the San Gabriel and San Bernardino Mountains. In particular, Day Canyon provides high quality wildlife habitat because it supports a perennial stream and a variety of habitats. In general, plant communities support distinctive groups of wildlife species. This discussion addresses the wildlife species either observed on, or expected to frequent the plant communities on, the Day Canyon site. No discussion is provided for the annual grassland community because only a small patch of this plant community is present on the Day Canyon site. The disturbed area is not discussed because it does not provide quality habitat for wildlife species.

**Southern sycamore-alder riparian forest** provides high value habitat for a wide diversity of wildlife species. Riparian communities provide seasonal, if not permanent, pools of standing water of critical importance to many species. These seasonal pools are essential for breeding activities of a number of salamanders and frogs. Amphibians that frequent or depend on this habitat and are known to occur in Day Canyon include Pacific slender salamander (*Batrachoseps pacificus*), western toad (*Bufo boreas*), Pacific (*Hyla regilla*) and Canyon (*Hyla cadaverina*) tree frogs and mountain yellow-legged frog (*Rana muscosa*). Some reptile species expected to be common in this habitat include southern alligator lizard (*Gerrhonotus multicarinatus*), striped racer (*Masticophis lateralis*), gopher snake (*Pituophis melanoleucus*) and western rattlesnake (*Crotalus viridis*). The two most common reptiles are western fence and side-blotched lizards, which are found in a wide variety of habitats. A number of bird species are attracted to this habitat for drinking and bathing, foraging opportunities, shelter and possibly nesting. Species expected to nest in this habitat in Day Canyon include Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*), Black-chinned (*Archilochus alexandri*) and Anna's hummingbirds, Pacific-slope flycatcher (*Empidonax difficilis*), house wren (*Troglodytes aedon*), warbling vireo (*Vireo gilvus*), black-headed grosbeak (*Pheucticus melanocephalus*) and northern oriole (*Icterus galbula*). Mammals expected in this habitat include ornate shrew (*Sorex ornatus*), deer mouse

(*Peromyscus maniculatus*), California vole (*Microtus californicus*), gray fox (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*), raccoon (*Procyon lotor*) and western spotted skunk (*Spilogale gracilis*).

In Day Canyon, bigcone spruce-canyon oak forest is found adjacent to the southern sycamore-alder riparian forest and shares many of the same characteristics. One amphibian more likely to occur in this habitat is the arboreal salamander (*Aneides lugubris*). The western fence, side-blotched and southern alligator lizards, gopher snake and western rattlesnake are common in this habitat. These woodlands provide nesting sites for raptors, with red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*), Cooper's hawk, western screech-owl (*Otus kennicottii*) and great horned owl (*Bubo virginianus*) expected here. The Steller's jay (*Cyanocitta stelleri*) and mountain chickadee (*Parus gambeli*) are expected to nest in this habitat at the highest elevations of the Canyon. The Nuttall's woodpecker (*Picoides nuttallii*) and Hutton's vireo (*Vireo huttoni*) are expected to nest in both the riparian and oak woodlands. The western gray squirrel (*Sciurus griseus*) is expected to be common in this habitat.

Chaparral is a complex and widespread plant community in southern California west of the deserts. This community can be floristically diverse and support a wide variety of wildlife or it can be monotypic, such as chamise chaparral, providing relatively limited resources for wildlife. The mixed chaparral on the Day Canyon site is a complex and relatively moist type of chaparral. It supports a diverse range of wildlife species. The Pacific slender salamander is expected to occur in this habitat on the site only where sheltered locations retain enough moisture. The western fence and side-blotched lizards are expected to be very common in the mixed chaparral. Reptile species expected to be common in the mixed chaparral include southern alligator lizard, striped racer, gopher snake and western rattlesnake. Typical bird species expected to use this habitat for nesting on the site are bushtit (*Psaltriparus minimus*), Bewick's wren, wrentit, California thrasher and rufous-sided towhee. Mammals expected to be common on the site include desert cottontail (*Sylvilagus audubonii*), deer mouse and dusky-footed woodrat (*Neotoma fuscipes*).

Although the Riversidean and alluvial sage scrub communities are structurally less diverse than most chaparral communities, they are increasingly scarce communities that support numerous special interest wildlife species. The western fence and side-blotched lizards are numerous in these two habitats. Coachwhip (*Masticophis flagellatum*), gopher snake and western rattlesnake are expected to be common in this habitat on the Day Canyon site. Bird species which are common breeders in this habitat are Costa's hummingbird, bushtit, Bewick's wren and California towhee. Typical mammal species found in this habitat and expected on the Day Canyon site are desert cottontail, agile kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys agilis*), deer mouse and coyote (*Canis latrans*).

Special Interest Plant and Wildlife Species on the Day Canyon Site. A total of six special interest plant species and 25 wildlife species were observed on, or are expected to occur on, the Day Canyon site. These species were summarized earlier in Table 3-1 and are described in the following sections. For those special interest species described earlier for the East Waterman Canyon site, the general description is not repeated here and only the likely occurrence of those species on the Day Canyon site is described in this section. Those special interest species not anticipated to occur on the Day Canyon site are also summarized in Table 3-2.

Plummer's mariposa lily (*Calochortus plummerae*) is a perennial herb that grows in chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal sage scrub, lower montane coniferous forest, and valley and foothill grassland/granitic in Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino and Ventura Counties.

This species blooms from May through July. This species is known to hybridize with *C. weedii* var. *intermedius* in the San Jose Hills and Puente Hills. This species is known to occur on the Day Canyon site.

**Peirson's spring beauty** (*Claytonia lanceolata* var. *peirsonii*) is a perennial herb in subalpine coniferous and upper montane coniferous forests in San Bernardino County. This species blooms from May through June. Limited habitat is present on the Day Canyon site. For the purposes of this evaluation, this species, and the plant species described in the following paragraphs, are expected to occur on the Day Canyon site.

**Pious daisy** (*Erigeron breweri* var. *bisanctus*) is a perennial herb that grows in chaparral and lower montane coniferous forests in Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties. This species blooms from May through September. Suitable habitat is present on the Day Canyon site.

**Johnston's buckwheat** (*Eriogonum microthecum* var. *johnstonii*) is a deciduous shrub that grows in rocky areas in subalpine coniferous and upper montane forests in Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties. This species blooms from July through September. This species is known from fewer than ten occurrences, mostly in designated wilderness areas. This species is threatened by foot traffic in a portion of its range. Limited habitat is present on the Day Canyon site.

Suitable chaparral habitat for the **Hall's monardella** is present on the Day Canyon site.

There is suitable habitat on the Day Canyon site for the **Laguna Mountains jewel-flower**.

The **mountain yellow-legged frog** (*Rana muscosa*) occurs from the Sierra Nevada to the mountain ranges of southern California. Its preferred habitat is streams in deep narrow canyons, usually where rocky beds or numerous boulders form pools and small waterfalls. In southern California it is closely restricted to permanent water. Day Canyon provides suitable habitat for this species and there are historical records of the occurrence of this species for this location. However, there are no recently published records for this location.

The **silvery legless lizard** (*Anniella pulchra pulchra*) occurs from San Francisco south to northwest Baja California. This species is a small, secretive snake-like lizard that lives and forages beneath leaf litter, under debris or within soil (Stebbins 1985). The legless lizard occurs in a variety of habitats including chaparral and coastal sage scrub. In the San Bernardino Mountains, the legless lizard is expected to occur in riparian and oak woodland habitats and upper alluvial fans with coastal sage scrub habitat. In this portion of its range, the silvery legless lizard is rarely encountered and has a highly localized distribution. There are records for this species at Day Canyon and it is expected to occur on the Day Canyon site. In addition, the vertebrate species described in the following paragraphs are also expected to occur on this site.

The **San Diego banded gecko** (*Coleonyx variegatus abbottii*) occurs along the coast of southern California from Los Angeles County south to middle Baja California (Dixon 1970). In the peninsular ranges, this nocturnal lizard inhabits open chaparral and coastal sage scrub communities, and may also occur in open woodlands (Stebbins 1985). There are records for this species at Day Canyon.

The **San Diego horned lizard** generally occurs in sage scrub and chaparral.

**TABLE 3-2  
SPECIAL INTEREST SPECIES POTENTIALLY OCCURRING AT  
DAY CANYON (DC) AND CITY CREEK (CC)**

Species	USFWS	USFS	CDFG	CNPS	DC	CC
<b>PLANTS</b>						
Thread-leaved brodiaea <i>Brodiaea filifolia</i>	PFE	-	CE	1b	N	N
Orcutt's brodiaea <i>Brodiaea orcuttii</i>	C2	-	-	1b	N	N
Plummer's mariposa lily <i>Calochortus plummerae</i>	C2	-	-	1b	X	X
Parry's spineflower <i>Chorizanthe parryi</i> var. <i>parryi</i>	C2	-	-	3	N	N
San Bernardino Mountains owl's-clover <i>Castilleja lasiorhyncha</i>	C2	-	-	1b	N	N
Peirson's spring beauty <i>Claytonia lanceolata</i> var. <i>peirsonii</i>	C1	-	-	1b	X	N
Slender-horned spineflower <i>Dodecahema leptoceras</i>	FE	SP	CE	1b	N	N
Many-stemmed dudleya <i>Dudleya multicaulis</i>	C2	SP	-	1b	N	N
Santa Ana River woollystar <i>Eriastrum densifolium</i> ssp. <i>sanctorum</i>	FE	-	CE	1b	N	N
Pious daisy <i>Erigeron breweri</i> var. <i>bisanctus</i>	-	-	-	1b	X	N
Johnston's buckwheat <i>Eriogonum microthecum</i> var. <i>johnstonii</i>	C2	SP	-	1b	X	N
Hot-springs fimbriatylis <i>Fimbristylis thermalis</i>	C3b	-	-	2	N	N
Smooth tarplant <i>Hemizonia pungens</i> ssp. <i>laevis</i>	C2	-	-	1b	N	N
Parish's desert-thorn <i>Lycium parishii</i>	-	-	-	2	N	N
Nevin's barberry <i>Mahonia nevinii</i>	C1	SP	CE	1b	N	N
Hall's monardella <i>Monardella macrantha</i> ssp. <i>halli</i>	C3c	-	-	1b	X	X
Parish's yampah <i>Perideridia parishii</i> ssp. <i>parishii</i>	-	-	-	2	N	N
Laguna Mountains jewelflower <i>Streptanthus bernardinus</i>	C3c	SP	-	1b	X	N
<b>FISHES</b>						
Speckled dace <i>Rhinichthys osculus</i>	C2	-	-	-	N	N

**TABLE 3-2  
SPECIAL INTEREST SPECIES POTENTIALLY OCCURRING AT  
DAY CANYON (DC) AND CITY CREEK (CC)**

Species	USFWS	USFS	CDFG	CNPS	DC	CC
<b>AMPHIBIANS</b>						
Western spadefoot <i>Scaphiopus hammondi</i>	C2	-	-	-	N	N
California red-legged frog <i>Rana aurora draytoni</i>	PFE	TES	CSC	-	N	N
Mountain yellow-legged frog <i>Rana muscosa</i>	C2	TES	CSC	-	X	N
<b>REPTILES</b>						
Silvery legless lizard <i>Anniella pulchra pulchra</i>	C2	-	CSC	-	X	N
San Diego banded gecko <i>Coleonyx variegatus abbottii</i>	C2	-	-	-	X	N
Southwestern pond turtle <i>Clemmys marmorata pallida</i>	C2	TES	CSC	-	N	N
San Diego horned lizard <i>Phrynosoma coronatum blainvillei</i>	C2	TES	CSC	-	X	X
Coastal western whiptail <i>Cnemidophorus tigris multicutatus</i>	C2	-	-	-	X	X
Coastal rosy boa <i>Lichanura trivirgata roseofusca</i>	C2	-	-	-	X	X
San Bernardino ringneck snake <i>Diadophis punctatus modestus</i>	C2	-	-	-	X	X
Coast patch-nosed snake <i>Salvadora hexalepis virgultea</i>	C2	-	CSC	-	X	X
Two-striped garter snake <i>Thamnophis hammondi</i>	C2	TES	CSC	-	X	X
Red diamond rattlesnake <i>Crotalus ruber ruber</i>	C2	-	CSC	-	N	N
<b>BIRDS</b>						
Northern harrier <i>Circus cyanius</i>	-	-	CSC	-	X	X
Sharp-shinned hawk <i>Accipiter striatus</i>	-	TES	CSC	-	X	X
Cooper's hawk <i>Accipiter cooperi</i>	-	TES	CSC	-	X	X
Golden eagle <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	-	TES	CSC/FP	-	X	X
Peregrine falcon <i>Falco peregrinus</i>	E	TES	CE	-	N	N
Mountain quail <i>Oreorty pictus</i>	C2	-	-	-	X	X

**TABLE 3-2  
SPECIAL INTEREST SPECIES POTENTIALLY OCCURRING AT  
DAY CANYON (DC) AND CITY CREEK (CC)**

Species	USFWS	USFS	CDFG	CNPS	DC	CC
<b>BIRDS (Continued)</b>						
Burrowing owl <i>Speotyto cunicularia</i>	C2	-	CSC	-	N	N
California horned lark <i>Eremophila alpestris actia</i>	C2	-	-	-	X	N
Coastal cactus wren <i>Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus couesi</i>	C3c	-	CSC	-	N	N
Coastal California gnatcatcher <i>Polioptila californica californica</i>	T	-	CSC	-	N	N
Loggerhead shrike <i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>	C2	-	-	-	X	N
Southern California rufous-crowned sparrow <i>Aimophila ruficeps canescens</i>	C2	-	CSC	-	X	X
Bell's sage sparrow <i>Amphispiza belli belli</i>	C2	-	CSC	-	X	N
<b>MAMMALS</b>						
San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit <i>Lepus californicus bennettii</i>	C2	-	CSC	-	X	N
Los Angeles pocket mouse <i>Perognathus longimembris brevinasus</i>	C2	TES	CSC	-	N	N
San Bernardino Merriam's kangaroo rat <i>Dipodomys merriami parvus</i>	C2	-	-	-	N	N
Southern grasshopper mouse <i>Onychomys torridus ramona</i>	C2	-	CSC	-	X	N
San Diego desert woodrat <i>Neotoma lepida intermedia</i>	C2	-	CSC	-	X	X
Badger <i>Taxidea taxus</i>	-	-	CSC	-	X	X
Ringtail <i>Bassariscus astutus</i>	-	FP	-	-	X	X
Mountain lion <i>Felis concolor</i>	-	CSC	-	-	X	X
Nelson's bighorn sheep <i>Ovis canadensis nelsoni</i>	-	TES	-	-	X	N

**LEGEND**

USFWS United States Fish and Wildlife Service

E Federally endangered

T Federally threatened

**TABLE 3-2  
SPECIAL INTEREST SPECIES POTENTIALLY OCCURRING AT  
DAY CANYON (DC) AND CITY CREEK (CC)**

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**LEGEND (Continued)**

**USFWS United States Fish and Wildlife Service (Continued)**

PFE Proposed for federal endangered species listing

C1 Federal Candidate for listing, Category 1. Indicates USFWS has sufficient biological information to support a proposal to list the species as endangered or threatened

C2 Federal Candidate for listing, Category 2. Indicates that USFWS has information that indicates a listing may be warranted, but substantial biological information to support a proposed rule is currently lacking

C3c Federal Candidate Category 3. Indicated the species is more common than previously believed; no longer being considered for listing.

**USFS United States Forest Service**

TES Considered threatened, endangered, or sensitive by USFS

SP Considered a sensitive plant species by USFS

**CDFG California Department of Fish and Game**

CE California endangered

FP California fully protected

CSC California Species of Special Concern

**CNPS California Native Plant Society**

1b Rare, threatened or endangered in California and elsewhere in its range

**Potential for Occurrence**

X Expected to occur or observed on the site.

N Not expected to occur on the site

The **coastal western whiptail** occupies a variety of habitats, from woodlands and dense chaparral to relatively open and brushy areas.

The **coastal rosy boa** (*Lichanura trivirgata roseofusca*) is a rather secretive snake found from the deserts to the coast, but is generally uncommon throughout its southern California range. The coastal subspecies occurs from Los Angeles County south into Baja, typically inhabiting rocky, chaparral covered slopes and canyons up to about 4,500 feet in elevation. Population declines in this subspecies are attributable to habitat loss and collecting.

The **San Bernardino ring-necked snake** (*Diadophis punctatus modestus*) is a small, very secretive snake that occurs in a variety of moist habitats, including riparian woodlands, grasslands and sage scrub.

The **coast patch-nosed snake** (*Salvadora hexalepis virgultea*) is found in coastal southern California from approximately Santa Barbara County into Baja California. This species inhabits a variety of habitats, including chaparral and sage scrub.

The **two-striped garter snake** (*Thamnophis hammondi*) occurs along the coast of southern California, usually in or near permanent rock lined streams. It generally retreats to protected pools if disturbed. Although the two-striped garter snake has declined significantly in recent years, there is suitable habitat present.

There are limited amounts of suitable foraging habitat for the **northern harrier** at the Day Canyon site. This raptor is expected to occur on the site only during the winter season.

The **sharp-shinned hawk** is expected to occur on the Day Canyon site only during the winter season.

The **Cooper's hawk** (*Accipiter cooperi*) is a fairly common winter visitor and an uncommon breeder in southern California. This raptor nests primarily in fairly dense oak and riparian woodlands. One Cooper's hawk was observed on the Day Canyon site during the surveys. Suitable nesting habitat for this species is present on the Day Canyon site.

During the surveys, an adult **golden eagle** was observed foraging over the sage scrub habitat near the mouth of Etiwanda Canyon adjacent to the Day Canyon site. This species is expected to at least forage on the Day Canyon site.

The **mountain quail** (*Oreortyx pictus*) is a common resident of montane habitats west of the deserts in southern California. It occurs in a variety of brushy habitats such as chaparral and also woodlands with a suitable understory of brush. Several individuals were heard on both days of the surveys of the Day Canyon site. Mountain quail were heard as low as about 2,500 feet elevation near the mouth of Day Canyon. This species is expected to be present in moderate numbers throughout much of the Day Canyon site.

The **California horned lark** (*Eremophila alpestris actia*) is a year round resident along the coastal region of California, from Sonoma County south to Baja California (Grinnell and Miller 1944). This lark requires open fields and grasslands. Suitable habitat for this species is limited to small areas around the dam on the southernmost parcel of the Day Canyon site. The horned lark is expected to occur here as an occasional visitor, but is not expected to nest on this site.

The **loggerhead shrike** is expected to occur on the site as a winter visitor and may occasionally nest on the Day Canyon site.

Three individual **Southern California rufous-crowned sparrows** were heard on the April 7, 1995 Day Canyon site survey. They were singing from the slopes above the riparian forest plant community. Moderate numbers of this species are expected to be present throughout most of the Day Canyon site.

The **Bell's sage sparrow** (*Amphispiza belli belli*) occurs along the coast from Trinity County south into Baja California. This sparrow generally is resident in areas of fairly dense chaparral as well as mixed chaparral and sage scrub associations. Sage sparrows were observed on both survey days in sage scrub habitat near the Day Canyon site. Small numbers of sage sparrows are expected to occur locally in the sage scrub and chaparral habitat at the lower elevations on the Day Canyon site.

The **San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit** was not observed on the Day Canyon site, but is expected to occur in low densities in the southernmost parcel of the Day Canyon site.

The **southern grasshopper mouse** (*Onychomys torridus ramona*) is limited to southwestern California in habitats such as sage scrub, mixed chaparral and riparian areas. There is potentially suitable habitat for this species at Day Canyon and it has been reported from this area.

The **San Diego desert woodrat** (*Neotoma lepida intermedia*) occurs along the coast from northwest Baja California to San Luis Obispo County. The desert woodrat is found in a variety of habitats from sea level to 8,500 feet elevation. There is potentially suitable habitat for this species at Day Canyon and it has been reported from this area.

Potentially suitable habitat for the **badger** is present on the Day Canyon site and the badger is resident in the San Gabriel and San Bernardino Mountains.

The **ringtail** (*Bassariscus astutus*) occurs in brushy and wooded areas at lower and middle elevations throughout the state. It is often associated with steep rocky slopes adjacent to streams. This species is nocturnal, but the ringtail is shy and seldom observed. It preys on small mammals, birds, lizards and insects and will eat a variety of plant foods. There is potentially suitable habitat for this species at Day Canyon and it has been reported from this area.

The **mountain lion** (*Felis concolor*) occurs throughout the state, but is rarely seen due to its shy nature and preference for forested and brushy areas. This species holds an important role in the food chain, with deer being its primary prey. It is seldom found away from deer populations, although rabbits, squirrels and other rodents are also taken as food. Lions maintain very large home ranges, with male home ranges usually a minimum of 15 square miles and female home ranges usually three to twelve square miles (Russell 1978). There is potentially suitable habitat for this species at Day Canyon and it has been reported from this area.

The **Nelson's bighorn sheep** (*Ovis canadensis nelsoni*) is found in desert mountain ranges from the White Mountains of Mono County south to the San Bernardino Mountains. Bighorn sheep inhabit a variety of montane habitats. An isolated population exists in the San Gabriel

Mountains and this species has been reported in Day Canyon. Potentially suitable habitat is present on the Day Canyon site.

Additional sensitive plant and wildlife species were evaluated for their potential occurrence on the Day Canyon site, but these species were determined not to occur on this site, as shown earlier in Table 3-1. Appendices B and C provide additional discussion regarding those species.

Wildlife Dispersion Corridors in Day Canyon. The ridges on the site, and especially the Creek in Day Canyon, provide locally important wildlife corridors on the Day Canyon site. In particular, the site connects the habitat within the SBNF and allows for free movement up and down the slopes. This movement up and down the slopes in the winter season can be critical for numerous species such as mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*).

#### Existing Setting on the 135 Acre City Creek Site

Description of the City Creek Site. The City Creek site is on the south flank of the San Bernardino Mountains in San Bernardino. This rectangular shaped property is within the SBNF and is adjacent to the City Creek Ranger Station. State Highway 330 (SR 330) bisects this site, with approximately 17 acres of the site on the west side of SR 330 and the remaining acres on the east side. The site is in the City Creek drainage, where the East and West Forks of City Creek converge. The East Fork intersects the southeast corner of the parcel and the West Fork passes through the middle of the property, from north to south. The west half of the site consists of a very steep slope. The site was formerly a ranch and a caretaker is still present on the site. However, no grazing has occurred on the site for about two years. The parcel has been partially developed as a campground. Improvements such as asphalt roads and water and electricity lines exist on the site. There is also a four million gallon artificial lake on the site. During surveys conducted in 1995 for this site, the lake was dry. The 135 acres in City Creek proposed to be acquired by Metropolitan and transferred to the USFS are shown on Figure 3-2.

Plant Communities on the City Creek Site. Three vegetation communities were found on the City Creek site, southern sycamore-alder riparian forest, mixed chaparral and disturbed mixed chaparral, and annual grassland, as shown on Figure 3-2. An additional community, urban/disturbed, was also identified as shown on Figure 3-2. These plant communities and disturbed areas are described in the following sections and were summarized earlier in Table 3-2. The general characteristics of these communities, if described earlier for the Day Canyon site, are not repeated here. The specific characteristics of these plant communities on the City Creek site are described.

Southern Sycamore-Alder Riparian Forest. The southern sycamore-alder riparian forest on the City Creek site comprises approximately 10.1 acres along City Creek. The riparian forest occurs along a perennial stream and, therefore, white alders are the dominant tree species directly adjacent to the stream. Western sycamores are the dominant tree species along the sandy benches adjacent to the stream. The community is disturbed on the eastern side of the site by the previous development activities. Species present on the City Creek site include white alder, Western sycamore, canyon live oak, mugwort, poison oak, poison hemlock (*Conium maculatum*), woolly mullein (*Verbascum thapsus*), California polypody (*Polypodium californicum*), miner's lettuce (*Claytonia perfoliata*), heart-leaved bush penstemon (*Keckiella cordifolia*) and hoary nettle (*Urtica dioica* ssp. *holsoericea*).

**Mixed Chaparral.** The chaparral community on the City Creek site comprises approximately 79.2 acres, the majority of the site. This chaparral community contains a mixture of species including whitethorn (*Ceanothus leucodermis*), scrub oak (*Quercus berberidifolia*), blue elderberry, chamise, California buckwheat, Our Lord's candle, black sage, California sagebrush, yerba santa, California broom and white sage. Disturbed mixed chaparral, found on the northern half of the City Creek site, has been disturbed by campsite development and previous ranching activities. The disturbed mixed chaparral contains a combination of chaparral and annual grassland species.

**Annual Grassland.** Approximately 4.4 acres of annual grassland occur on the City Creek site. The dominant species on the City Creek site include foxtail chess, slender wild oat, red-stemmed filaree, California everlasting, barley, black mustard, soft chess, sourclover and Mediterranean grass.

**Urban/Disturbed.** The urban/disturbed area on the City Creek site covers 20.8 acres. These areas include a man-made lake bed used as a dumping area, the caretaker's campsite and dilapidated structures previously used for ranching. The vegetation in the area consists of annual grassland species and remnant chaparral species.

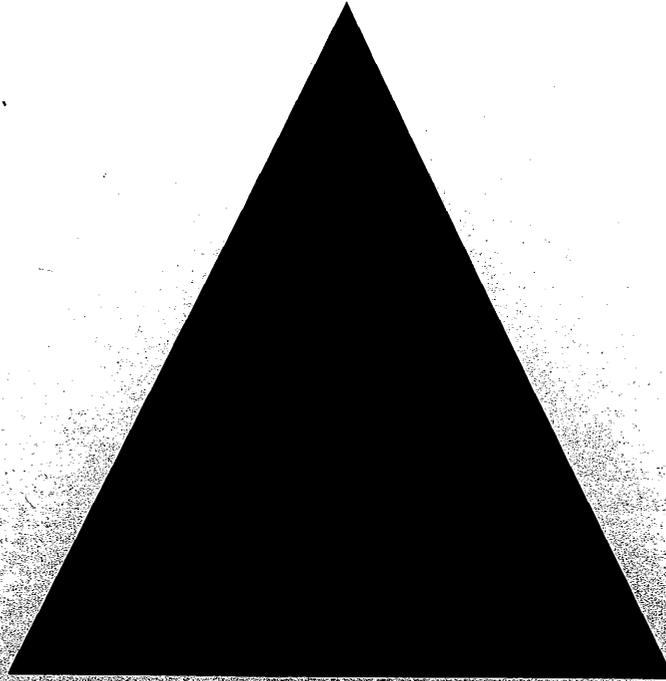
**Wildlife Species on the City Creek Site.** The City Creek watershed supports viable wildlife populations characteristic of the coastal slopes of the San Bernardino Mountains. The City Creek site provides moderate quality wildlife habitat. There are a perennial stream and a variety of high quality habitats on the site. However, there are portions of the site whose value for wildlife has been diminished by partial development as a campground and past ranching activities. This discussion addresses the wildlife species either observed on, or expected to frequent the plant communities identified on, the City Creek site. The urban/disturbed area is not discussed because it does not provide quality habitat for wildlife species.

**Southern sycamore-alder riparian forest** provides high value habitat for a wide diversity of wildlife species. Riparian communities provide seasonal, if not permanent, pools of standing water of critical importance to many species. These seasonal pools are essential for breeding activities of a number of salamanders and frogs. Amphibians that frequent or depend on this habitat and are known to occur in City Creek include Pacific slender salamander, western toad, Pacific and Canyon tree frogs and mountain yellow-legged frog. Some reptile species expected to be common in this habitat include southern alligator lizard, striped racer, gopher snake and western rattlesnake. The two most common reptiles are western fence and side-blotched lizards, which are found in a wide variety of habitats. A number of bird species will be attracted to this habitat for drinking and bathing, foraging opportunities, shelter and possibly nesting. Those species expected to nest in this habitat in City Creek include Cooper's hawk, Black-chinned and Anna's hummingbirds, Pacific-slope flycatcher, house wren, warbling vireo, black-headed grosbeak and northern oriole. Mammals expected in this habitat include ornate shrew, deer mouse (*Peromyscus maniculatus*), California vole, gray fox, raccoon and western spotted skunk.

The mixed chaparral on the City Creek site is a complex and relatively moist type of chaparral, which supports a diverse range of wildlife species. The Pacific slender salamander is expected to occur in this habitat on the site only where sheltered locations retain enough moisture. The western fence and side-blotched lizards are expected to be very common in the mixed chaparral. Other reptile species expected to be common in the mixed chaparral include southern alligator lizard, striped racer, gopher snake and western rattlesnake. Typical bird

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Page Place Holder Sheet

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Page Tracking Sheet

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species expected to use this habitat for nesting on the site are bushtit, Bewick's wren, wrenit, California thrasher and rufous-sided towhee. Mammals expected to be common here include desert cottontail, deer mouse and dusky-footed woodrat.

Although grassland, including both native and non-native species, typically supports a less diverse wildlife community, a number of species are generally dependent on the resources provided by this plant community. It provides foraging opportunities for many raptors and is the preferred habitat for many reptiles and small to medium-sized burrowing mammals. Common wildlife species expected in grasslands include western fence and side-blotched lizards, gopher snake, common kingsnake (*Lampropeltis getulus*), red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*), common raven (*Corvus corax*), mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*), house finch, California ground squirrel (*Spermophilus beecheyi*), California pocket mouse (*Chaetodipus californicus*) and Botta's pocket gopher (*Thomomys bottae*).

Special Interest Plant and Wildlife Species on the City Creek Site. Two special interest plant species and 16 wildlife species were observed on, or are expected to occur on, the City Creek site. These species were summarized earlier in Table 3-1 and are described in the following sections. For those special interest species described earlier for the East Waterman Canyon and Day Canyon sites, the general description is not repeated here. Only the likely occurrence of those species on the City Creek site is described in this section. Those special interest species not anticipated to occur on the City Creek site are also summarized in Table 3-1.

Suitable chaparral habitat for Plummer's mariposa lily and Hall's monardella is present on the City Creek site.

The San Diego horned lizard, coastal western whiptail, coastal rosy boa, San Bernardino ring-necked snake and coast patch-nosed snake are expected to occur on the City Creek site.

Although the two-striped garter snake has declined significantly in recent years, there is suitable habitat present.

Potential foraging habitat for the northern harrier on the City Creek site is marginal. The northern harrier is expected to occur on the City Creek site only as an occasional transient.

The sharp-shinned hawk is expected to occur on the City Creek site only during the winter season.

One pair of Cooper's hawk was observed in a courtship flight over the City Creek site during the survey. There is suitable nesting habitat for this raptor on the City Creek site.

The golden eagle is expected to occasionally forage on the City Creek site.

A few mountain quail were heard during the survey at City Creek. The mountain quail is expected to be present in moderate numbers on the steep slopes in the western portion of the City Creek site.

One individual Southern California rufous-crowned sparrow was heard during the City Creek survey. Small numbers of this species are expected to be present throughout much of the City Creek site.

There is potentially suitable habitat for the **San Diego desert woodrat, badger, ringtail and mountain lion** at the City Creek site.

Additional sensitive plant and wildlife species were evaluated for their potential occurrence on the City Creek site, but these species were determined not to occur on this site, as shown earlier in Table 3-1. Appendices B and C provide additional discussion regarding those species.

Wildlife Dispersion Corridors on the City Creek Site. The ridge on the site, and especially City Creek, provide locally important wildlife corridors on the City Creek site. In particular, the site is at the confluence of three different creek systems, the East Fork City Creek, the West Fork City Creek and Schenk Creek. The City Creek site may serve as an important staging area for wildlife species moving from one creek to another.

#### METHODOLOGY RELATED TO BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES AND SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES

The existing conditions on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites were documented based on a literature review and site surveys, as described below.

##### Literature Review

Prior to the field surveys, potential sensitive or special interest biological resources in the vicinity of Day Canyon and City Creek were identified through a literature search. Special interest plant species potentially occurring in these areas were identified using Skinner (1994a and 1994b), USFS (USFS 1991) and United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS 1993). For wildlife, the following sources were used: USFWS (1990 and 1991), California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG 1980 and 1986), National Audubon Society (NAS 1986) and Remsen (1978). Documents for other projects in the area were also reviewed, including the City of Rancho Cucamonga Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) (Michael Brandman Associates 1991), Biological Resources Environmental Planning Technical Report (Metropolitan 1992b) and the Old Webster Quarry EIR (P&D Technologies 1989). These environmental documents are for areas in the vicinity of the Day Canyon site. References used in the preparation of this biological resources impact analysis are summarized in Appendix D of this EIR.

##### Survey Methods, Dates and Personnel

The first visit to the Day Canyon, on March 28, 1995, included an airplane ride over the site to take photographs and generally appraise the terrain and habitats present. This was followed by a visit by car to assess access routes to the site. The site was then surveyed on April 7 and 14, 1995. The City Creek site was surveyed by car and foot on April 6, 1995.

Plant species encountered during the surveys were identified in the field or samples were collected for identification at a later date. Scientific nomenclature in this report follows standard references including Holland (1986) for vegetation communities and Hickman (1993) for plants. Common names of plants are from Munz (1974) or Abrams (1923, 1960) when not available in Hickman (1993). Vegetation on the Day Canyon site was mapped on a topographical map from the ridges and canyons on the site. Inaccessible canyons were mapped using a 1" = 2,000' aerial photograph from the San Bernardino County Flood Control District. The vegetation on the City Creek site was mapped on a topographical map.

Wildlife species detected at the Day Canyon site during the surveys were identified by sight, calls, scat or other sign. Records from previous wildlife studies and accounts were reviewed. Expected wildlife use of the site was determined through habitat analysis in combination with the known habitat preferences of regional wildlife species. During the field surveys, attention was focused on those areas suspected of containing habitat for special interest species.

#### IMPACTS RELATED TO BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES AND SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES

As described earlier, the Inland Feeder requires the acquisition and use of a 40-acre parcel in the East Waterman Canyon area in the SBNF. As compensation for the acquisition of this 40-acre parcel, Metropolitan will acquire private lands to be transferred to the SBNF. The Day Canyon and City Creek sites have been identified for possible acquisition. Metropolitan had identified an earlier site in Strawberry Creek, as noted in mitigation measure B-2 in the Final EIR. Metropolitan is now considering the 880 acres in Day Canyon and City Creek to satisfy the requirements of mitigation measure B-2.

This analysis focuses on whether approximately 200 acres of the 880 total acres at the Day Canyon and City Creek sites will serve as adequate compensation for the 101 acres of high quality mixed chaparral (coastal sage-chaparral scrub) impacted by the Inland Feeder.

As documented in the certified Final EIR, the adopted Inland Feeder Far East Combination Alternative will impact a total of 101.6 acres of high quality mixed chaparral. The 200 acres of mixed chaparral referenced in measure B-2 in the Final EIR is adequately compensated for on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites.

Table 3-3 summarizes the plant communities on the two compensation sites and whether the sites satisfy the compensation requirements in measure B-2.

The Day Canyon and City Creek sites support five plant communities that generally exhibit little disturbance, and only two plant communities that are disturbed. Both the Day Canyon and City Creek sites are surrounded by open space, most of which is within the boundaries of the SBNF.

There will be 405 acres of chaparral-sage scrub plant communities on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites remaining after the 200 acre compensation requirement is satisfied. The total acreage of native plant communities on the Day Canyon/City Creek sites is 817 acres. The Day Canyon/City Creek sites have a total of six plant communities. The two compensation areas on the Day Canyon/City Creek sites would meet the mitigation requirements in measure B-2.

The acquisition of the Day Canyon and City Creek sites and the transfer of these sites to the SBNF is anticipated to beneficially affect biological resources on these sites and wildlife species using these plant communities and habitats.

Therefore, the proposed acquisition and transfer of the 880 acres on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites will beneficially affect biological resources and will satisfy the requirements to compensate for adverse impacts of the Inland Feeder on biological resources and the land use impacts associated with the use of the East Waterman Canyon 40 acre site, consistent with mitigation measure B-2 in the certified Final EIR. No further mitigation is necessary.

**TABLE 3-3  
COMPARISON OF PLANT COMMUNITIES  
ON THE MITIGATION SITES**

Habitats	DC Acres	CC Acres	DC and CC Acres	Mitigation Requirement Acres [1]	Acres Remaining after Mitigation
Riversidean sage scrub	6.0	0.0	6.0	0.0	6.0
Mixed chaparral (coastal sage-chaparral scrub) *	505.0	99.7	604.7	200.0	404.7
Non-native grassland	3.0	4.4	7.4	0.0	7.4
Sycamore-alder riparian woodland	48.0	10.1	58.1	0.0	58.1
Mulefat scrub	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Coast live oak woodland	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Urban/disturbed	42.0	20.8	62.8	0.0	62.8
Bigcone spruce-canyon oak forest	129.0	0.0	129.0	0.0	129.0
Alluvial scrub (alluvial fan scrub) *	12.0	0.0	12.0	0.0	12.0
Jeffrey pine scrub	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Total acreage</b>	<b>745.0</b>	<b>135.0</b>	<b>880.0</b>	<b>200.0</b>	<b>680.0</b>

DC - Day Canyon  
CC - City Creek

[1] The acres add up to 200 per mitigation measure B-2.

\* Name referenced in original East Waterman document (Metropolitan 1992a).

**Section 4.0**

**OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS**

## **SECTION 4.0 OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS**

### **4.1 UNAVOIDABLE ADVERSE IMPACTS**

As described earlier in Section 3.0 and in the Initial Study in Appendix A, the proposed acquisition of, and transfer to the United States Forest Service (USFS), of 880 acres of land in Day Canyon and City Creek will not result in any significant adverse impacts on the environment. It will result in a beneficial effect in that the transfer of the 880 acres to the USFS will ensure the long term protection of the biological resources in this area and will provide long term recreation benefits to the general public.

### **4.2 RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LOCAL SHORT TERM USES OF MAN'S ENVIRONMENT AND THE MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT OF LONG TERM PRODUCTIVITY**

As described earlier, the proposed land acquisition and transfer will not result in any significant adverse effects on the environment. Therefore, the short term land acquisition and transfer will not result in long term adverse impacts. The land acquisition and transfer will actually result in a beneficial long term enhancement of the environment, based on the long term protection of biological resources on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites and on the provision of long term recreation opportunities on these sites.

### **4.3 IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENT OF RESOURCES**

The proposed land acquisition and transfer to the USFS will result in the long term protection of the biological resources on these sites.

There may be potential for mineral resources in isolated pockets in the San Bernardino Mountains where the Day Canyon and City Creek sites are located. Depending on USFS policies regarding the protection of biological resources, it is possible that any mineral resources on these sites would no longer be available for removal after the USFS assumes ownership of these sites. However, these two sites cover only a very small area in the San Bernardino Mountains and do not contain any rare or unusual mineral resources. Therefore, the potential lack of availability of any mineral resources on these two sites in the future is not a significant effect. Therefore, the proposed acquisition and transfer of the Day Canyon and City Creek sites will not result in significant adverse effects related to mineral resources.

### **4.4 GROWTH INDUCING AND CUMULATIVE IMPACTS**

The land acquisition and transfer will not result in the provision of new infrastructure and will not open areas to pressure for urban development. Therefore, the proposed land acquisition and acquisition will not result in growth inducing impacts in the San Bernardino Mountains.

The land acquisition and transfer will contribute beneficially to the regional and subregional protection of biological resources and the provision of long term recreation resources for the general public. The proposed land acquisition and transfer will not result in any significant adverse effects on the environment and, therefore, will not contribute to cumulative adverse effects of other projects in this part of the San Bernardino Mountains.

In summary, the proposed land acquisition and transfer will not result in adverse growth inducing and cumulative impacts in the San Bernardino Mountains.

**Section 5.0**

**LIST OF PREPARERS**

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**SECTION 5.0  
LIST OF PREPARERS**

**P&D CONSULTANTS, INC.**

Michael Benner, Project Manager  
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Sandra Leatherman, Project Biologist  
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**METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

Laura Simonek, Project Manager, Mitigation Monitor  
Dirk Reed, Project Manager  
Randy Case, Manager, Real Estate Services  
Joe Vanderhorst, Deputy General Counsel

**APPENDIX A**  
**INITIAL STUDY**

## ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM

<b>1.</b>	<b>Project Title:</b>  Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Land Acquisition and Transfer
<b>2.</b>	<b>Lead Agency Name and Address:</b>  Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Planning and Resources Division 350 South Grand Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90071
<b>3.</b>	<b>Contact Person and Phone Number:</b>  Ms. Laura Simonek, Project Manager, Mitigation Monitor (213) 217-6242
<b>4.</b>	<b>Project Location:</b>  Unincorporated San Bernardino County, north of the City of San Bernardino
<b>5.</b>	<b>Project Sponsor's Name and Address:</b>  Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Planning and Resources Division 350 South Grand Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90071
<b>6.</b>	<b>General Plan Designation:</b>  Unknown.
<b>7.</b>	<b>Zoning:</b>  Unknown.
<b>8.</b>	<b>Description of Project: (Describe the whole action involved, including but not limited to later phases of the project, and any secondary, support, or off-site features necessary for its implementation. Attach additional sheets if necessary)</b>  As part of the mitigation in the certified Inland Feeder Final Environmental Impact Report, Metropolitan is required to compensate for the impacts from the construction of the Inland Feeder project on high quality chaparral-sage scrub. To compensate for the chaparral-sage scrub impacts from the construction of the Inland Feeder pipeline, Metropolitan originally proposed to acquire land in the Strawberry Creek area, to transfer to the United States Forest Service (USFS). Metropolitan is now proposing to acquire 880 acres in Day Canyon and City Creek and transfer these parcels to the USFS, to serve as compensation associated with the chaparral-sage impacts. No Inland Feeder construction will occur on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites. Metropolitan proposes to acquire these sites and will not make any improvements on these sites prior to conveying them to the USFS.
<b>9.</b>	<b>Surrounding Land Uses and Settings: (Briefly describe the project's surroundings)</b>  The 745 acres in Day Canyon consist of six contiguous parcels surrounded by open space under the jurisdiction of the SBNF, the San Bernardino County Flood Control District and the San Bernardino Association of Governments. Each of these parcels currently share a boundary with the SBNF.  The 135 acre site in City Creek is on the south flank of the San Bernardino Mountains. This site is bisected by State Route 330. The parcel is in the City Creek drainage, where the East and West Forks of City Creek converge. The parcel has been partially developed as a campground, including asphalt roads and water and electricity lines. There is a four million gallon artificial lake on the City Creek site.

**ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM, (Continued)**

10. Other public agencies whose approval is required (e.g., permits, financial approval, or participation agreement)  
United States Forest Service.

**ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:**

These environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages:

<input type="checkbox"/> Land Use and Planning	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation/Circulation	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Services
<input type="checkbox"/> Population and Housing	<input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Utilities and Services Systems
<input type="checkbox"/> Geological Problems	<input type="checkbox"/> Energy and Mineral Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics
<input type="checkbox"/> Water	<input type="checkbox"/> Hazards	<input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources
<input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Noise	<input type="checkbox"/> Recreation
	<input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance	

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>I. LAND USE AND PLANNING. Would the proposal:</b>				
a) Conflict with general plan designation or zoning:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with applicable environmental plans or policies adopted by agencies with jurisdiction over the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Be incompatible with existing land use in the vicinity?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Affect agricultural resources or operations (e.g. impacts to soils or farmlands, or impacts from incompatible land uses)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Disrupt or divide the physical arrangement of an established community (including a low-income or minority community)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>II. POPULATION AND HOUSING. Would the proposal:</b>				
a) Cumulatively exceed official regional or local population projections?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Induce substantial growth in an area either directly or indirectly (e.g., through projects in an undeveloped area or extension of major infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Displace existing housing, especially affordable housing?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>III. GEOLOGIC PROBLEMS. Would the proposal result in or expose people to potential impacts involving:</b>				
a) Fault rupture?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Seismic ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Seiche, tsunami or volcanic hazard?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Landslides or mudflows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Erosion, changes in topography or unstable soil conditions from excavation, grading or fill?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Subsidence of the land?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h) Expansive soils?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
i) Unique geologic or physical features?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>IV. WATER. Would the proposal result in:</b>				
a) Changes in absorption rates, drainage patterns, or the rate and amount of surface runoff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Exposure of people or property to water related hazards such as flooding?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Discharge into surface waters or other alteration of surface water quality (e.g., temperature, dissolved oxygen or turbidity)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Changes in currents, or the course or direction of water movements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Changes in the amount of surface water in any water body?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Change in quantity of groundwaters, either through direct additions or withdrawals, or through interception of an aquifer by cuts or excavations or through substantial loss of groundwater recharge capacity?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Altered direction or rate of flow of groundwater?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h) Impacts to groundwater quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
i) Substantial reduction in the amount of groundwater otherwise available for public water supplies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>V. AIR QUALITY. Would the proposal:</b>				
a) Violate any air quality standard or contribute to an existing or projected air quality violation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Exposure sensitive receptors to pollutants?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Alter air movements, moisture, or temperature or cause any change in climate?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Create objectionable odors?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>VI. TRANSPORTATION/CIRCULATION. Would the proposal result in:</b>				
a) Increased vehicle trips or traffic congestion?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Hazards to safety from design features (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Inadequate emergency access or access to nearby uses?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Insufficient parking capacity on-site or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Hazards or barriers for pedestrians or bicyclists?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Conflicts with adopted policies supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Rail, waterborne or air traffic impacts?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>VII. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES. Would the proposal result in impacts to:</b>				
a) Endangered, threatened or rare species or their habitats (including but not limited to plants, fish, insects, animals or birds)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Locally designated species (e.g., heritage trees)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Locally designated natural communities (e.g., oak forest, coastal habitat, etc.)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Wetland habitat (e.g., marsh riparian and vernal pool)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Wildlife dispersal or migration corridors?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>VIII. ENERGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES. Would the proposal:</b>				
a) Conflict with adopted energy conservation plans?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Use non-renewable resources in a wasteful and inefficient manner?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of future value to the region and the residents of the State?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>IX. HAZARDS. Would the proposal involve:</b>				
a) A risk of accidental explosion or release of hazardous substances (including, but not limited to: oil, pesticides, chemicals or radiation)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Possible interference with an emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) The creation of any health hazard or potential health hazard?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Exposure of people to existing sources of potential health hazards?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Increased fire hazard in areas with flammable brush grass, or trees?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>X. NOISE. Would the proposal result in:</b>				
a) Increases in existing noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Exposure of people to severe noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>XI. PUBLIC SERVICES. Would the proposal have an effect upon, or result in a need for new or altered government services in any of the following areas:</b>				
a) Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
d) Maintenance of public facilities, including roads?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Other governmental services?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>XII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS.</b> Would the proposal result in a need for new systems or supplies or substantial alterations to the following utilities:				
a) Power or natural gas?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Communications systems?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Local or regional water treatment or distribution facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Sewer or septic tanks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Storm water drainage?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Solid waste disposal?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Local or regional water suppliers?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>XIII. AESTHETICS.</b> Would the proposal:				
a) Affect a scenic vista or scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Have a demonstrable negative aesthetic effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Create light or glare?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>XIV. CULTURAL RESOURCES.</b> Would the proposal:				
a) Disturb paleontological resources?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Disturb archaeological resources?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Affect historical resources?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Have the potential to cause a physical change which would affect unique ethnic cultural values?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Restrict existing religious or sacred uses within the potential impact area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>XV. RECREATION.</b> Would the proposal:				
a) Increase the demand for neighborhood or regional parks or other recreational facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Affect existing recreational opportunities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>XVI. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE.</b>				
a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Does the project have the potential to achieve short-term, to the disadvantage of long-term, environmental goals?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Does the project have impact that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects and the effects of probable future projects.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>XVII. EARLIER ANALYSES</b>				
<p>Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, one or more effects have been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a discussion should identify the following on attached sheets:</p>				
<p>a) Earlier analyses used. Identify earlier analyses and state where they are available for review.</p> <p>b) Impacts adequately addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.</p> <p>c) Mitigation measures. For effects that are "Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated," describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.</p>				
<p>Authority: Public Resources Code Sections 21083 and 21087.  Reference: Public Resources Code Sections 21080(c), 21080.1, 21080.3, 21082.1, 21083, 21083.3, 21093, 21094, 21151; <i>Sundstrom, County of Mendocino, 202 Cal. App. 3d 296 (1988)</i>, <i>Leonoff v. Monterey Board of Supervisors, 222 Cal App. 3d 1337, (1990)</i>.</p>				

## INLAND FEEDER LAND ACQUISITION AND TRANSFER INITIAL STUDY DISCUSSION

### 1.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) is currently conducting final design and right-of-way acquisition for the approved Inland Feeder. The Inland Feeder is a pipeline and tunnel water conveyance facility intended to ensure protection of Metropolitan's ability to provide uninterrupted service to its member agencies and its overall service area. The adopted Inland Feeder alignment is shown in Figure 1.

As part of mitigation measure B-2 in the certified Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Inland Feeder, Metropolitan is required to compensate for the impacts on high quality chaparral-sage scrub habitats impacted by the Inland Feeder and land use impacts associated with the acquisition of a 40 acre parcel in East Waterman Canyon. This site, owned by the United States Forest Service (USFS), is part of the San Bernardino National Forest (SBNF). To compensate for the impacts of the entire Inland Feeder project on the chaparral-sage scrub and the land use impacts, Metropolitan originally proposed to acquire land in the Strawberry Creek area, to transfer to the USFS. Metropolitan is proposing to acquire 880 acres in Day Canyon and City Creek and transfer these parcels to the USFS, for incorporation in the SBNF. The location of these various sites are shown in Figure 2.

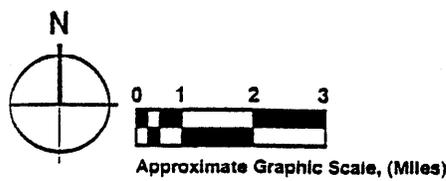
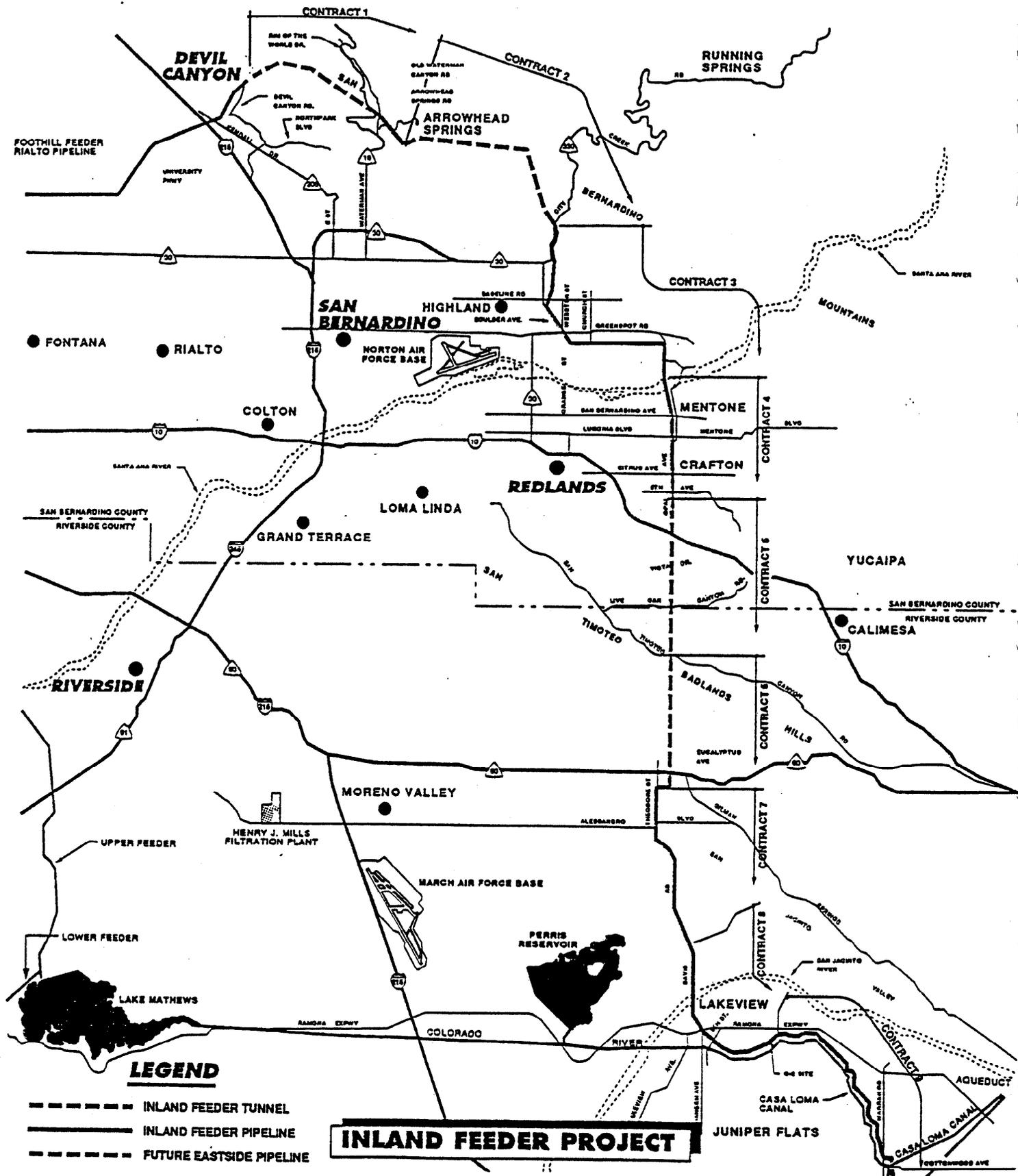
Mitigation measure B-2 documents the program to mitigate the impacts of the Inland Feeder on chaparral habitats. Measure B-2 reads as follows:

#### "Compensation Program for Chaparral Habitat

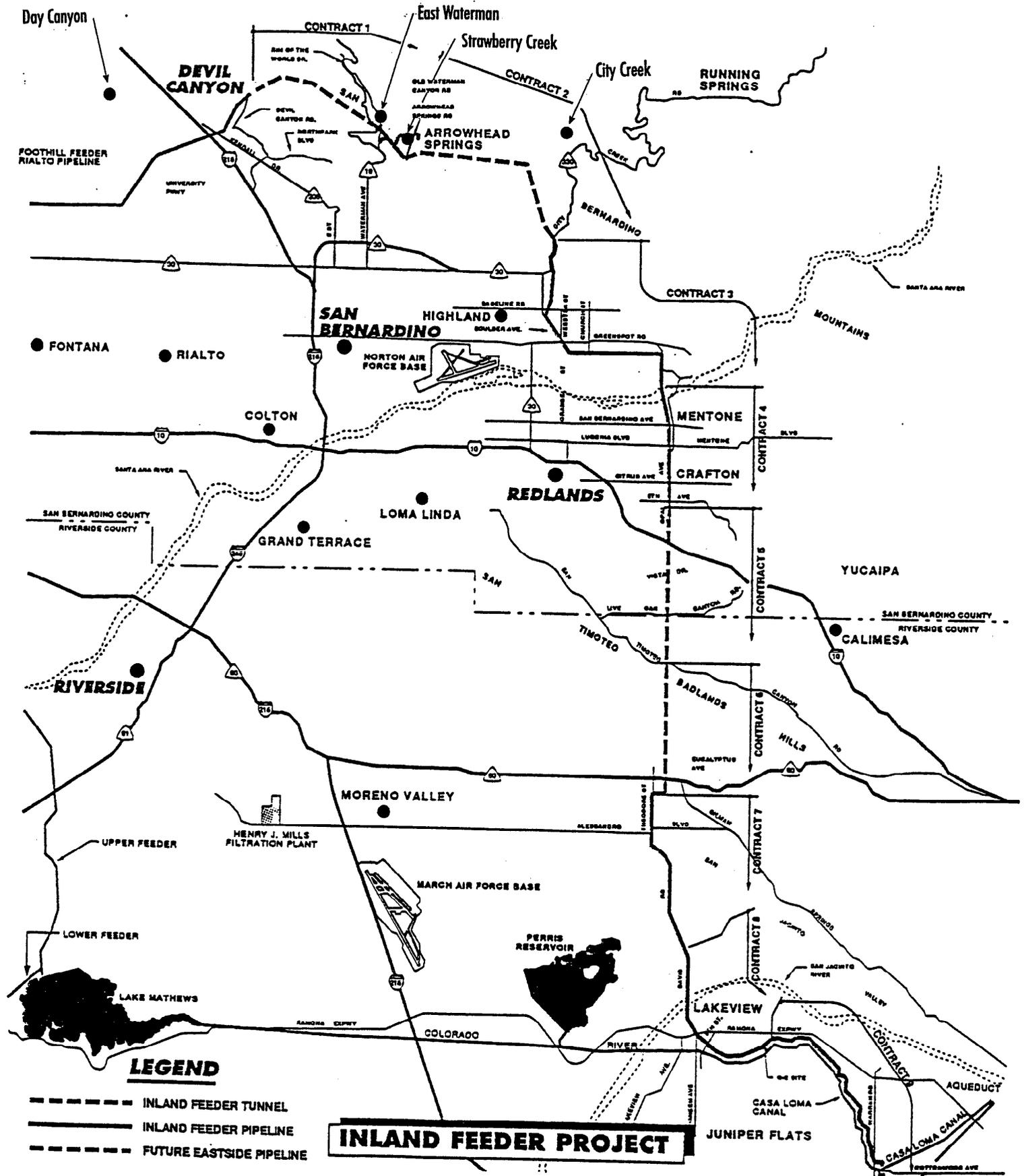
Metropolitan will acquire lands adjacent to the San Bernardino National Forest in Sections 7 and 12 of the Strawberry Creek area as shown in Figure 6-26 [in the EIR]. If one of the Far East Alternatives is selected for implementation, this area will be acquired and conferred to the USFS for management in perpetuity as open space. The majority of this parcel, 642 of the total 842 acres, will be used as land use compensation for the acquisition from the USFS of a 40 acre parcel located in Waterman Canyon. The remaining 200 acres of this parcel are part of 211 acres of high quality chaparral-sage scrub habitats that will serve as compensation, at ratios of approximately 3:1, for project impacts on chaparral/sage scrub habitats. Other native habitats present on the remaining 642 acres include 389 acres of southern mixed chaparral, six acres of sycamore/alder riparian woodland, 208 acres of coast live oak woodland and 9.8 acres of Riversidean alluvial sage scrub."

As described in measure B-2, Metropolitan has committed to mitigating the impacts of the acquisition and use of the 40 acre parcel and the impacts on chaparral and sage scrub habitats for the Inland Feeder project. Metropolitan is proposing to acquire 880 acres of land in Day Canyon and City Creek, shown in Figure 2, to mitigate the impacts on chaparral and sage scrub. These sites, shown in Figure 2, are:

- 745 acres in Day Canyon
- 135 acres in City Creek



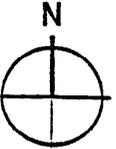
**FIGURE 1**  
**Alignment and Contracts for the Inland Feeder**



**LEGEND**

- INLAND FEEDER TUNNEL
- INLAND FEEDER PIPELINE
- - - FUTURE EASTSIDE PIPELINE

**INLAND FEEDER PROJECT**



0 1 2 3  
Approximate Graphic Scale, (Miles)

FIGURE 2  
Locations of Sites

The 745 acres in Day Canyon consist of six contiguous parcels surrounded by open space under the jurisdiction of the SBNF, the Cucamonga Flood Control District and the San Bernardino Association of Governments. Each of these parcels currently shares a boundary with the SBNF. The parcels range in size from 40 to 315 acres and range in elevation from 2,400 to 5,000 feet above mean sea level. The southernmost of these parcels is near the mouth of Day Canyon, at the base of the mountains, and includes a portion of Day Canyon Wash. This 70 acre parcel is partially developed for flood control purposes, including a dam, a concrete lined channel and several fences. The other five parcels are completely undeveloped. The 745 acres in Day Canyon proposed to be acquired by Metropolitan and transferred to the USFS are shown on Figure 2.

The City Creek site is on the south flank of the San Bernardino Mountains in San Bernardino. This rectangular shaped property is within the SBNF and is adjacent to the City Creek Ranger Station. State Highway 330 (SR 330) bisects this site, with approximately 17 acres of the site on the west side of SR 330 and the remaining acres on the east side. The site is in the City Creek drainage, where the East and West Forks of City Creek converge. The East Fork intersects the southeast corner of the parcel and the West Fork passes through the middle of the property, from north to south. The west half of the site consists of a very steep slope. The site was formerly a ranch and a caretaker is still present on the site. However, no grazing has occurred on the site for about two years. The parcel has been partially developed as a campground. Improvements such as asphalt roads and water and electricity lines exist on the site. There is also a four million gallon artificial lake on the site. During surveys conducted in 1995 for this site, the lake was dry. The 135 acres in City Creek proposed to be acquired by Metropolitan and transferred to the USFS are shown on Figure 2.

No construction associated with the Inland Feeder will occur on either the Day Canyon or City Creek sites. Metropolitan proposes to acquire these sites and will not make any improvements on these sites prior to conveying them to the USFS. Therefore, the proposed land acquisition and transfer will not include any construction or other activities associated with the Inland Feeder on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites. In the event that the USFS desires to make any improvements on these sites, such as fire roads or other facilities, these improvements would be subject to separate future environmental analysis and clearance by the USFS.

This Initial Study was prepared to evaluate whether the proposed land acquisition and transfer would result in significant adverse environmental effects not evaluated in the certified Final EIR for the Inland Feeder and, in particular, whether the 880 acres in Day Canyon and City Creek would meet the mitigation requirements described in measure B-2.

## **2.0 ENVIRONMENTAL DISCUSSION**

The Final EIR for the Inland Feeder provides detailed discussions of the existing environmental setting, methodology, thresholds of significance, impacts, mitigation measures and level of significance after mitigation in the study area for the environmental parameters discussed in this section. For this Initial Study, the existing information in the Final EIR was used as the base information and the EIR is incorporated by reference in this current environmental document. Therefore, unless necessary for the analysis for the proposed land acquisition and transfer, this information is not repeated in this document.

## **I. LAND USE AND PLANNING**

Potentially Significant After Mitigation: --  
Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated: --  
Less Than Significant: --  
No Impact: Ia, Ib, Ic, Id, Ie

Existing land uses in the San Bernardino Mountains at the Day Canyon and City Creek sites include a combination of transportation, communication, recreation, other public uses, utilities, National Forest and vacant. The only planned development in this area is the Paradise Hills Specific Plan, in the City of San Bernardino near Ben Canyon and Badger Canyon Roads.

The 745 acres in Day Canyon consist of six contiguous parcels surrounded by open space under the jurisdiction of the SBNF, the Cucamonga Flood Control District and the San Bernardino Association of Governments. Each of these parcels currently shares a boundary with the SBNF. The southernmost of these parcels is near the mouth of Day Canyon, at the base of the mountains, and includes a portion of Day Canyon Wash. This 70 acre parcel is partially developed for flood control purposes, including a dam, a concrete lined channel and several fences. The other five parcels are completely undeveloped.

SR 330 bisects the City Creek site, with approximately 17 acres of the site on the west side of SR 330 and the remaining acres on the east side. The East Fork of City Creek intersects the southeast corner of the parcel and the West Fork passes through the middle of the property, from north to south. The site was formerly a ranch and a caretaker is still present on the site. However, no grazing has occurred on the site for about two years. The parcel has been partially developed as a campground. Improvements such as asphalt roads and water and electricity lines exist on the site. There is also a four million gallon artificial lake on the site.

Metropolitan does not propose any construction or operations associated with the Inland Feeder on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites. In addition, Metropolitan is not proposing any construction or other activity on these sites between the time when it acquires the sites and then transfers them to the USFS.

There are no substantial identified agricultural resources in this area.

Therefore, the acquisition and transfer of the Day Canyon and City Creek sites will not result in impacts related to land use. No mitigation is necessary.

## **II. POPULATION AND HOUSING**

Potentially Significant After Mitigation: --  
Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated: --  
Less Than Significant: --  
No Impact: IIa, IIb, IIc

There are currently no existing or planned residential uses on the Day Canyon site. There is only one residence on the City Creek site, for the existing caretaker and there are no planned residential uses for this site. The existing caretaker will likely not be required after the site is acquired by Metropolitan and that person will be required to vacate the existing residence on the City Creek site. This is not a substantial impact as the caretaker position provides the residence

and when the caretaker is no longer required, then the caretaker will vacate the residential unit. Therefore, no existing or planned residential uses will be adversely impacted by the proposed land acquisition and transfer.

The acquisition and preservation of 880 acres of open space will not result in growth inducing impacts as it will not include the provision of any infrastructure and will not modify land use designations in the area. No mitigation is necessary.

### **III. GEOLOGIC PROBLEMS**

Potentially Significant After Mitigation:	--
Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated:	--
Less Than Significant:	--
No Impact:	IIIa, IIIb, IIIc, IIIe, IIIg IIId, IIIf, IIIh, IIIi

The area where the Day Canyon and City Creek sites are located includes substantial topographic relief, ranging from approximately 2,000 to 5,000 feet in elevation, in the San Bernardino Mountains. Hard ground and landslides are anticipated to occur in these areas. This area can potentially be subject to a range of seismic hazards including seismic shaking, ground lurching and ground rupture.

Metropolitan does not propose any construction or operations associated with the Inland Feeder on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites. In addition, Metropolitan is not proposing any construction or other activity on these sites between the time when it acquires the sites and then transfers them to the USFS. Therefore, the proposed land acquisition and transfer will not result in any impacts related to topography, soils and geology.

This area is already subject to a range of potential seismic effects, which would continue be a possibility after the acquisition and transfer of these sites. Metropolitan is not proposing the use of these sites for any structures or people and, therefore, the proposed land acquisition and transfer will not result in any impacts related to faulting and seismicity.

This area is not subject to seiche and tsunami as these seismic events generally occur near large bodies of water such as oceans and seas, and there are no such water bodies near this area. In addition, there are no volcanos near this area. There are no expansive soils or unique geologic or physical features on or near these sites.

In summary, the proposed acquisition of land in Day Canyon and City Creek would not result in any impacts related to geology and no mitigation is necessary.

### **IV. WATER**

Potentially Significant After Mitigation:	--
Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated:	--
Less Than Significant:	--
No Impact:	IVa, IVb, IVc, IVd, IVe, IVf, IVg, IVh, IVi

The area in the San Bernardino Mountains where the Day Canyon and City Creek sites are located includes a number of water courses, including City Creek. Metropolitan does not propose any construction or operations associated with the Inland Feeder on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites. In addition, Metropolitan is not proposing any construction or other activity on these sites between the time when it acquires the sites and then transfers them to the USFS. Therefore, the proposed land acquisition and transfer will not result in any impacts related to the quality and quantity of surface and ground waters; exposure to people or property to water related hazards; or changes to the course or direction of surface and ground waters. No mitigation is necessary.

## V. AIR QUALITY

Potentially Significant After Mitigation:	--
Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated:	--
Less Than Significant:	--
No Impact:	Va, Vb, Vc, Vd

The nearest air quality monitoring station to the study area is the San Bernardino station. In 1991, air quality monitored at this station exceeded the federal one hour ozone ambient air quality standard a total of 79 days; the state standard was exceeded a total of 127 days. The federal 24-hour standard for suspended particulates was exceeded 1.7 days at this station; the state standard was exceeded for 68.3 days. The state and federal standards were not exceeded for carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide, lead and sulfate in 1991.

As indicated in the Inland Feeder Final EIR, there are no sensitive receptors on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites.

Metropolitan does not propose any construction or operations associated with the Inland Feeder on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites. In addition, Metropolitan is not proposing any construction or other activity on these sites between the time when it acquires the sites and then transfers them to the USFS. Therefore, the proposed land acquisition and transfer will not result in any short or long term air quality impacts; will not result in modifications to air movements, moisture, temperature or climate; and will not result in the creation of objectionable odors. No mitigation is necessary.

## VI. TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION

Potentially Significant After Mitigation:	--
Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated:	--
Less Than Significant:	--
No Impact:	VIa, VIb, VIc, VIId, VIe, VIf, VIg

Roadways in the vicinity of the 40 acre parcel and the Day Canyon and City Creek sites include Arrowhead Springs Road, a private two lane road; Rim of the World Drive, a two lane arterial; City Creek Road/SR 330, a two lane road; Highland Avenue, a two lane arterial; and Baseline Road, a two lane road. Existing traffic volumes on these roadways are within their design capacities, resulting in an acceptable level of service on these roadways.

Metropolitan does not propose any construction or operations associated with the Inland Feeder on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites. In addition, Metropolitan is not proposing any

construction or other activity on these sites between the time when it acquires the sites and then transfers them to the USFS. There are no rail or air facilities on or near the Day Canyon and City Creek sites. Watercourses in the area are not used for waterborne transportation. Therefore, the proposed land acquisition and transfer will not result in any increase in vehicle trips or congestion; public safety hazards associated with design features; impacts on emergency access or access to adjacent land uses; impacts on parking supplies; impacts on pedestrians or bicyclists; conflicts with adopted transportation policies; or rail, waterborne and air traffic. No mitigation is necessary.

## **VII. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES**

Potentially Significant After Mitigation:	--
Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated:	--
Less Than Significant:	--
No Impact:	VIIa, VIIb, VIIc, VIId, VIIe

As described earlier, the proposed acquisition and transfer of 880 acres in Day Canyon and City Creek is intended to satisfy the mitigation requirements of measure B-2 in the Final EIR for the Inland Feeder, regarding mitigation for the impacts of the Inland Feeder on chaparral and sage scrub habitats. It has been determined that the amount of chaparral and sage scrub habitats on the 880 acres satisfies the requirements of measure B-2. It has been documented that the proposed land acquisition and transfer, assuming the 880 acres, will satisfy the requirements of measure B-2.

## **VIII. ENERGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES**

Potentially Significant After Mitigation:	--
Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated:	--
Less Than Significant:	--
No Impact:	VIIIa, VIIIb, VIIIc

There may be potential for mineral resources in isolated pockets in the San Bernardino Mountains where the Day Canyon and City Creek sites are located.

Metropolitan does not propose any construction or operations associated with the Inland Feeder on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites. In addition, Metropolitan is not proposing any construction or other activity on these sites between the time when it acquires the sites and then transfers them to the USFS. Therefore, the proposed land acquisition and transfer will not result in the wasteful or inefficient use of energy resources. It is possible there are pockets of mineral resources on the 880 acres proposed to be transferred to the USFS. Depending on USFS policies regarding the protection of biological resources, it is possible that any mineral resources on these sites would no longer be available for removal after the USFS assumes ownership of these sites. However, these two sites cover only a very small area in the San Bernardino Mountains and do not contain any rare or unusual mineral resources. Therefore, the potential lack of availability of any mineral resources on these two sites in the future is not a significant effect. Therefore, the proposed acquisition and transfer of the Day Canyon and City Creek sites will not result in significant adverse effects related to mineral resources. No mitigation is necessary.

## **IX. HAZARDS**

Potentially Significant After Mitigation: --  
Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated: --  
Less Than Significant: --  
No Impact: IXa, IXb, IXc, IXd, IXe

Hazardous materials are not currently used on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites. There is some risk of fire in this area, as this is predominantly vacant land with a variety of native and non-native vegetation. There is potential for fire associated with lightning strikes and the presence of humans in this area.

Metropolitan does not propose any construction or operations associated with the Inland Feeder on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites. In addition, Metropolitan is not proposing any construction or other activity on these sites between the time when it acquires the sites and then transfers them to the USFS. Therefore, the proposed land acquisition and transfer will not result in the presence or use of hazardous materials on these sites. The land acquisition and transfer will not result in any modifications to existing roads in the area and therefore will not adversely affect existing emergency response plans and evacuation plans in this area. However, the transfer of the 880 acres to the USFS will result in this land becoming public land, with the possibility for increased fire risks associated with increased human access in this area. The USFS will be responsible for the protection of the 880 acres, including fire protection, which is anticipated to be an extension of the existing fire protection services already provided by the USFS for the SBNF. Therefore, the proposed land acquisition and transfer will not result in significant adverse impacts related to hazards and no mitigation is necessary.

## **X. NOISE**

Potentially Significant After Mitigation: --  
Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated: --  
Less Than Significant: --  
No Impact: Xa, Xb

Existing noise sources in the vicinity of the 40 acre parcel and the Day Canyon and City Creek sites are limited to occasional vehicles servicing the flood control facilities, other vehicles in the area and campground users at the City Creek site. There are no identified noise sensitive receptors in the area.

Metropolitan does not propose any construction or operations associated with the Inland Feeder on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites. In addition, Metropolitan is not proposing any construction or other activity on these sites between the time when it acquires the sites and then transfers them to the USFS. Therefore, the proposed land acquisition and transfer will not result in the generation of excessive noise levels in this area. No mitigation is necessary.

## **XI. PUBLIC SERVICES**

Potentially Significant After Mitigation: --  
Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated: --  
Less Than Significant: XIa, XIb, XIc  
No Impact: XIc, XIId, XIe

There are no schools in the vicinity of the Day Canyon and City Creek sites. Fire protection and paramedic services are provided in this area by the San Bernardino County Fire Department, and also potentially by the California Department of Forestry and the State Department of Forestry. Police services are provided by the San Bernardino Sheriff's Department. Existing public facilities in the study area include some flood control facilities and some public roads.

Metropolitan does not propose any construction or operations associated with the Inland Feeder on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites. In addition, Metropolitan is not proposing any construction or other activity on these sites between the time when it acquires the sites and then transfers them to the USFS. However, once the USFS accepts ownership of the Day Canyon and City Creek sites, it will be responsible for the provision of police, fire protection and paramedic services and for the maintenance of any roads it provides through these sites. However, these services are anticipated to be an extension of the existing services and facilities provided by the USFS in the existing SBNF. Therefore, the proposed land acquisition and transfer will not result in significant adverse impacts related to public services and no mitigation is necessary.

## **XII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS**

Potentially Significant After Mitigation:	--
Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated:	--
Less Than Significant:	--
No Impact:	XIIa, XIIb, XIIc, XIIId, XIIe, XIIIf, XIIg

There are no existing utilities facilities on or near the Day Canyon site, with the exception of the flood control facilities at the southern end of the site. The City Creek site includes existing water and electricity lines and an artificial four million gallon lake. There are no water treatment facilities, sewers or septic tanks in this area. There is no solid waste collection service in this area as there are no solid waste generators on these sites.

Metropolitan does not propose any construction or operations associated with the Inland Feeder on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites. In addition, Metropolitan is not proposing any construction or other activity on these sites between the time when it acquires the sites and then transfers them to the USFS. However, once the USFS accepts ownership of the Day Canyon and City Creek sites, it will be responsible for the provision of needed utilities it provides through these sites. However, these utilities are anticipated to be an extension of the existing utilities already provided by the USFS for the existing SBNF and the existing utilities at City Creek. Therefore, the proposed land acquisition and transfer will not result in significant adverse impacts related to utilities and no mitigation is necessary.

## **XIII. AESTHETICS**

Potentially Significant After Mitigation:	--
Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated:	--
Less Than Significant:	--
No Impact:	XIIIa, XIIIb, XIIIc

Typical visual characteristics on and in the vicinity of the 40 acre parcel and the Day Canyon and City Creek sites include disturbed mountains, disturbed inland foothills and valleys, and

riparian habitat. Sensitive viewer groups in this area include travellers on area roads and campground users on the City Creek site.

Metropolitan does not propose any construction or operations associated with the Inland Feeder on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites. In addition, Metropolitan is not proposing any construction or other activity on these sites between the time when it acquires the sites and then transfers them to the USFS. Once the USFS accepts ownership of the Day Canyon and City Creek sites, this will provide for permanent protection of the aesthetic values provided by these sites, a beneficial effect of the proposed land acquisition and transfer. Therefore, the proposed land acquisition and transfer will not result in adverse impacts related to aesthetics and no mitigation is necessary.

#### **XIV. CULTURAL RESOURCES**

Potentially Significant After Mitigation:	--
Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated:	--
Less Than Significant:	--
No Impact:	XIVa, XIVb, XIVc, XIVd, XIVE

Cultural resources, including archeological, historical and paleontological resources have been documented or are expected in the general areas where the City Creek and Day Canyon sites are located. However, site specific surveys for these types of resources have not been conducted on the sites. Nonetheless, Metropolitan does not propose any construction or operations associated with the Inland Feeder on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites. In addition, Metropolitan is not proposing any construction or other activity on these sites between the time when it acquires the sites and then transfers them to the USFS. Once the USFS accepts ownership of the Day Canyon and City Creek sites, this will provide for permanent protection of the cultural and paleontological resources on these sites, a beneficial effect of the proposed land acquisition and transfer. Therefore, the proposed land acquisition and transfer will not result in adverse impacts related to cultural resources and no mitigation is necessary.

#### **XV. RECREATION**

Potentially Significant After Mitigation:	--
Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated:	--
Less Than Significant:	XVb
No Impact:	XVa

The SBNF borders the Day Canyon and City Creek sites. Part of the City Creek site is developed as a campground. There are no other recreation resources on or in the immediate vicinity of the Day Canyon and City Creek sites.

Metropolitan does not propose any construction or operations associated with the Inland Feeder on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites. In addition, Metropolitan is not proposing any construction or other activity on these sites between the time when it acquires the sites and then transfers them to the USFS. Once the USFS accepts ownership of the Day Canyon and City Creek sites, this will result in an expansion of the SBNF, increasing the area available for recreation purposes, a beneficial effect of the proposed land acquisition and transfer. Therefore, the proposed land acquisition and transfer will not result in adverse impacts related to recreation resources and no mitigation measures is necessary.

**APPENDIX B**

**DETAILED SUMMARIES OF SPECIAL INTEREST  
PLANT SPECIES**

## APPENDIX B DETAILED SUMMARIES OF SPECIAL INTEREST PLANT SPECIES

**Many-stemmed dudleya** (*Dudleya multicaulis*) is a small, succulent perennial that prefers dry, rocky areas in coastal sage scrub habitats. It is found at several Orange County locations and may also occur in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties (Skinner 1994a and 1994b). The coastal sage scrub on the Day Canyon site lacks openings of barren soil that are typically associated with this species. Many-stemmed dudleya is not expected to occur on the Day Canyon site. No suitable habitat is present on the City Creek site, therefore, this species is not expected to occur on that site.

The **thread-leaved brodiaea** (*Brodiaea filifolia*) is a perennial herb that reproduces by both insect pollination and through the formation of "cormlets," which are sprouts from the underground storage structure. It generally occurs in heavy clay soils in grassland areas. Populations of this species can be found in Riverside County on the Santa Rosa Plateau and in Los Angeles County in the hills north of Glendora. Suitable habitat is not present on the Day Canyon site and, therefore, this species is not expected to occur on the Day Canyon site. The City Creek site does not have suitable grassland habitat to support the thread-leaved brodiaea. Therefore, this species is not expected to occur on the City Creek site.

**Orcutt's brodiaea** (*Brodiaea orcuttii*) is known from a variety of habitats including chaparral, cismontane woodlands, valley and foothill grasslands, vernal pools, meadows and closed cone coniferous forest. It prefers mesic sites near streams, seeps or vernal pools (Munz 1974) and occurs in Orange, Riverside and San Diego Counties and Baja California. Suitable habitat is not present on either site and, therefore, this species is not expected to occur on the Day Canyon and the City Creek sites.

**Nevin's barberry** (*Mahonia nevinii*) can be found in coastal sage scrub and chaparral habitats in Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego and Los Angeles Counties. It frequently occurs along creeks, lake shores and canyons where there is sandy and gravelly substrate. This species is not known to occur in the vicinity of Day Canyon or City Creek, and is not expected to occur on the Day Canyon or City Creek sites.

**Plummer's mariposa lily** (*Calochortus plummerae*) is a perennial herb that grows in chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal sage scrub, lower montane coniferous forest, and valley and foothill grassland/granitic in Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino and Ventura Counties. This species blooms from May through July. This species is known to hybridize with *C. weedii* var. *intermedius* in the San Jose Hills and Puente Hills. This species is known to occur on the Day Canyon site. Suitable habitat chaparral habitat for Plummer's mariposa lily is present on the City Creek site. Therefore, this species is expected to occur on the City Creek site.

**Parry's spineflower** (*Chorizanthe parryi* var. *parryi*) is an annual herb that grows in chaparral and coastal sage scrub in sandy openings. This species blooms from April through June in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, and possibly in Los Angeles County. The habitat for this species is threatened by urbanization. No suitable habitat for Parry's spineflower is present on the Day Canyon and the City Creek sites. Therefore, this species is not expected to occur on the Day Canyon and the City Creek sites.

**Peirson's spring beauty** (*Claytonia lanceolata* var. *perirsonii*) is a perennial herb in subalpine coniferous forests and upper montane coniferous forest in San Bernardino County. This species blooms from May through June. This species is threatened by trampling and the proposed expansion of an existing ski area. Limited habitat is present on the Day Canyon site. For the purposes of this report, this species is expected to occur on the Day Canyon site. This species is not expected to occur on the City Creek due to lack of suitable habitat.

**San Bernardino Mountains owl's-clover** (*Castilleja lasiorhyncha*) is an annual herb (hemiparasitic) that grows in mesic areas chaparral, meadows, pebble (pavement) plain and upper montane forest. This species blooms from June through August in San Bernardino and San Diego Counties and potentially in Riverside County. This species is threatened by vehicles and recreation activities. Suitable habitat is not present on the Day Canyon or City Creek sites and, therefore, this species is not expected to occur on the Day Canyon and the City Creek sites.

**Slender-horned spineflower** (*Dodecahema leptoceras*) is a annual herb that grows in chaparral and coastal sage scrub in alluvial fans. This species blooms from April through June in Los Angeles, Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. This species is threatened because of development, flood control and off-road vehicles. Suitable alluvial wash habitat for the slender-horned spineflower is not present on the Day Canyon or City Creek sites. Therefore, the slender-horned spineflower is not expected to occur on the Day Canyon and the City Creek sites.

**Santa Ana River woollystar** (*Eriastrum densifolium* ssp. *sanctorum*) is a perennial herb that grows in chaparral and coastal sage scrub in alluvial fans. This species blooms from June through August in San Bernardino County and historically occurred in Orange County. This species is threatened by development, sand and gravel mining, grazing, flood control projects and non-native plants. Suitable habitat for the Santa Ana River woollystar is not present on the Day Canyon or City Creek sites. Therefore this species is not expected to occur on the Day Canyon and the City Creek sites.

**Pious daisy** (*Erigeron breweri* var. *bisanctus*) is a perennial herb that grows in chaparral and lower montane coniferous forest in Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties. This species blooms from May through September. Suitable habitat for this species is present on the Day Canyon site. For the purposes of this report, this species is expected to occur on the Day Canyon site. This species is not known to occur in the proximity of the City Creek site. Therefore, this species is not expected to occur on the City Creek site.

**Johnston's buckwheat** (*Eriogonum microthecum* var. *johnstonii*) is a deciduous shrub that grows in rocky areas in subalpine coniferous forest and upper montane forests in Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties. This species blooms from July through September. This species is known from fewer than ten occurrences, most of which are in designated wilderness areas. This species is threatened by foot traffic in a portion of its range. Limited habitat for this species is present on the Day Canyon site. For the purposes of this report, this species is expected to occur on the Day Canyon site. No suitable habitat for this species is present on the City Creek site.

**Hot-springs fimbriatylis** (*Fimbristylis thermalis*) is a perennial herb that grows in alkaline meadows near hot springs. This species blooms from July through September in Inyo, Mono and San Bernardino Counties and historically occurred in Kern County. This species is also known to occur in Nevada and Arizona. The habitat for this species threatened by thermo-regulating activities. Alkaline meadows are not present on the Day Canyon or City Creek sites.

Therefore, the hot-springs fimbriatilis is not expected to occur on the Day Canyon and the City Creek sites.

**Smooth tarplant** (*Hemizonia pungens* ssp. *laevis*) is an annual herb that grows in alkaline areas in chenopod scrub, meadows, playas, riparian woodland, valley and foothill grasslands. This species blooms from April through September in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, and historically occurred in San Diego County. This species is threatened by agriculture, urbanization and flood control. Alkaline habitats are not present on the Day Canyon or City Creek sites. Therefore, the smooth tarplant is not expected to occur on the Day Canyon and the City Creek site.

**Parish's desert-thorn** (*Lycium parishii*) is a shrub that grows in coastal sage scrub and Sonoran desert scrub. This species blooms from March through April in Imperial, Riverside and San Diego Counties, and historically occurred in San Bernardino County. This species also occurs in Arizona and Sonora Mexico. Suitable habitat for this species is not present on the Day Canyon or City Creek sites. Therefore, Parish's desert-thorn is not expected to occur on the Day Canyon and the City Creek sites.

**Hall's monardella** (*Monardella macrantha* ssp. *halli*) is a perennial herb that grows in broadleafed upland forest, chaparral, cismontane woodland, lower montane coniferous forest, and valley and foothill grassland. This species blooms from June through August in Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and San Diego Counties. Suitable chaparral habitat for this species is present on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites. Therefore, Hall's monardella is expected to occur on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites.

**Parish's yampah** (*Perideridia parishii* ssp. *parishii*) is a perennial herb that grows in lower montane coniferous forests, meadows and upper montane coniferous forests. This species blooms from June through July in San Bernardino County, Arizona, New Mexico and Nevada. Suitable habitat for Parish's yampah is not present on the City Creek site. Therefore, this species is not expected to occur on the City Creek site. This species is not known from the Day Canyon area and, therefore, it is not expected to occur on the Day Canyon site.

**Laguna Mountains jewel-flower** (*Streptanthus bernardinus*) is a perennial herb that grows in chaparral and lower montane coniferous forests in Riverside, San Bernardino and San Diego Counties and in Baja California. This species blooms from June through July. This species has a low status due to limited information on its distribution in Baja California. Suitable habitat for this species is present on the Day Canyon site. For the purposes of this report, this species is expected to occur on the Day Canyon site. This species is not expected to occur on the City Creek site.

**APPENDIX C**

**DETAILED SUMMARIES OF SPECIAL INTEREST  
WILDLIFE SPECIES**

## APPENDIX C

## DETAILED SUMMARIES OF SPECIAL INTEREST WILDLIFE SPECIES

The speckled dace (*Rhinichthys osculus*) is a native freshwater fish found throughout California. The Santa Ana River population of speckled dace is a Category 2 candidate for federal listing as threatened or endangered. This species, along with the arroyo chub and Santa Ana sucker, make up a sensitive aquatic community designated as the "south coastal minnow/sucker stream community." Potential habitat is available for the speckled dace in Day Canyon and City Creek and it is possibly present. However, if a population does exist at either of these sites, it would not be a Category 2 candidate because it is not part of the Santa Ana River population. For the purposes of this evaluation, the Santa Ana River population of this species is not expected to occur on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites.

The western spadefoot toad (*Scaphiopus hammondi*) occurs in grasslands and sage scrub habitats from south of San Francisco Bay to northwest Baja California. It breeds in temporary ponds, vernal pools and occasionally in streams. Suitable habitat for this species is present on the Day Canyon site, but only on the southernmost parcel. The habitat on this parcel has been disturbed as a result of the flood control structures, which has reduced the amount of suitable habitat for the toad. As a result, this species is not expected to occur on the Day Canyon site. The grassland area on the City Creek site has been degraded because of ranching and construction activities associated with the campground infrastructure. As a result, the western spadefoot toad is not expected to occur on the City Creek site.

The California red-legged frog (*Rana aurora draytoni*) occurs along the coast ranges of California and the foothills of the Sierra Nevada. There are very few known locations where this frog still occurs in southern California. Reasons for its relatively rapid decline are poorly understood, although loss of habitat and competition with non-native frogs and fish are thought to be important factors. It prefers quiet bodies of water such as ponds, lakes and marshes and will occasionally occupy streams with pools at least a meter deep. The Day Canyon Creek appears unsuitable for habitation by this species due to the small ponds and lack of refuge, such as rocky enclaves, during periods of high water. As a result, this species is not expected to occur on the Day Canyon site. The City Creek site appears unsuitable for habitation by this species due to the small ponds and lack of refuge, such as rocky enclaves, during periods of high water. As a result, the California red-legged frog is not expected to occur on the City Creek site.

The mountain yellow-legged frog (*Rana muscosa*) occurs from the Sierra Nevada to the mountain ranges of southern California. Its preferred habitat is streams in deep narrow canyons, usually where rocky beds or numerous boulders form pools and small waterfalls. In southern California it is closely restricted to permanent water. Day Canyon provides suitable habitat for this species and there are historical records of the occurrence of this species for this location. However, there are no recently published records for this location. For the purposes of this evaluation, this species is expected to be present on the Day Canyon site. City Creek provides potentially suitable habitat for this species. However, this species is currently a rare resident in the southern California mountains. Because of its current status and the lack of published records for this location, the mountain yellow-legged frog is not expected to occur on the City Creek site.

The silvery legless lizard (*Anniella pulchra pulchra*) occurs from San Francisco south to northwest Baja California. This species is a small, secretive snake-like lizard that lives and forages beneath leaf litter, under debris or within soil (Stebbins 1985). The legless lizard occurs in a variety of habitats, including chaparral and coastal sage scrub. In the San Bernardino Mountains, the legless lizard is expected to occur in riparian and oak woodland habitats and upper alluvial fans with coastal sage scrub habitat. In this portion of its range, the silvery legless lizard is rarely encountered and has a highly localized distribution. There are records for this species at Day Canyon and it is expected to occur on the Day Canyon site. Suitable habitat on the City Creek site is confined to the sandy soils associated with the stream. Because of the limited amount of suitable habitat and the rare status of the silvery legless lizard in the vicinity of the City Creek site, this species is not expected to be present on this site.

The San Diego banded gecko (*Coleonyx variegatus abbottii*) occurs along the coast of southern California, from Los Angeles County south to middle Baja California (Dixon 1970). In the peninsular ranges, this nocturnal lizard inhabits open chaparral and coastal sage scrub communities, and may also occur in open woodlands (Stebbins 1985). There are records for this species at Day Canyon and it is expected to occur on the that site. Although the status and distribution of this species is not well known in the vicinity of City Creek, most reports in this area are from lower elevations in the alluvial sage scrub habitat at the base of the Mountains. As a result, the San Diego banded gecko is not expected to occur at the City Creek site.

The southwestern pond turtle (*Clemmys marmorata pallida*) occurs from south of San Francisco to Baja California. It is most often found in quiet waters, such as lakes and ponds, although it can sometimes be found in rivers and streams. The Day Canyon and City Creek sites appear unsuitable for habitation by this species due to the lack of large ponds. As a result, this species is not expected to occur on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites.

The San Diego horned lizard (*Phrynosoma coronatum blainvillei*) is restricted to southwestern California and northwestern Baja California. It generally occurs in sage scrub and chaparral, but can also be found in coniferous forest and broadleaf woodland. It is usually found in sandy areas, especially where harvester ants are found. This species is expected to occur on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites.

The coastal western whiptail (*Cnemidophorus tigris multiscutatus*) occurs in coastal southern California from approximately Ventura County south into Baja California. This fairly conspicuous lizard occupies a variety of habitats, from woodlands and dense chaparral to relatively open, brushy areas. The coastal western whiptail is expected to occur on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites.

The coastal rosy boa (*Lichanura trivirgata roseofusca*) is a rather secretive snake found from the deserts to the coast, but is generally uncommon throughout its southern California range. The coastal subspecies occurs from Los Angeles County south into Baja, typically inhabiting rocky, chaparral covered slopes and canyons up to about 4,500 feet in elevation. Population declines in this subspecies are attributable to habitat loss and collecting. The coastal rosy boa is expected to occur on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites.

The San Bernardino ring-necked snake (*Diadophis punctatus modestus*) is a small, very secretive snake that occurs in a variety of moist habitats, including riparian woodlands, grasslands and sage scrub. The San Bernardino ring-necked snake is expected to occur on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites.

The coast patch-nosed snake (*Salvadora hexalepis virgulata*) is found in coastal southern California from approximately Santa Barbara County into Baja California. This species inhabits a variety of habitats, including chaparral and sage scrub. The coast patch-nosed snake is expected to occur on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites.

The two-striped garter snake (*Thamnophis hammondi*) occurs along the coast of southern California, usually in or near permanent rock lined streams. It generally retreats to protected pools if disturbed. Although the two-striped garter snake has declined significantly in recent years, there is suitable habitat present and it is expected to occur on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites.

The red diamond rattlesnake (*Crotalus ruber ruber*) has a limited range in the United States, occurring from Orange and western Riverside Counties south to the Mexican border. It is found primarily along the coastal slopes of the transverse and peninsular ranges. It inhabits a variety of brushy habitats, such as sage scrub and chaparral, often where rocky areas are present. The red diamond rattlesnake is not expected to occur on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites because these are out of the range for this species.

The northern harrier (*Circus cyaneus*) is a fairly common winter visitor and rare summer visitor to the coastal region of southern California. This raptor typically forages over grasslands, agricultural fields and marshes. There are limited amounts of suitable foraging habitat for this raptor at the Day Canyon site. This raptor is expected to occur on the site only during the winter season. Potential foraging habitat for this raptor at the City Creek site is marginal. The northern harrier is expected to occur on the City Creek site only as an occasional transient.

The sharp-shinned hawk (*Accipiter striatus*) is a fairly common winter visitor and rare summer resident in the mountains of southern California. This raptor frequents riparian and oak woodlands and coniferous forests. The sharp-shinned hawk is expected to occur on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites only during the winter season.

The Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperi*) is a fairly common winter visitor and an uncommon breeder in southern California. This raptor nests primarily in fairly dense oak and riparian woodlands. One Cooper's hawk was observed on the Day Canyon site during the surveys. Suitable nesting habitat for this species is present on the Day Canyon site. One pair of Cooper's hawks was observed in a courtship flight over the City Creek site during the survey. There is suitable nesting habitat for this raptor on the City Creek site.

The golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) is an uncommon to rare and local resident in the foothills of the San Bernardino and San Gabriel Mountains. It inhabits generally open areas, including grasslands, brushy or open wooded areas. During the surveys, an adult was observed foraging over the sage scrub habitat near the mouth of Etiwanda Canyon adjacent to the Day Canyon site. This species is expected to at least forage on the Day Canyon site. The golden eagle is expected to occasionally forage on the City Creek site.

The peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) occurs in southern California as a rare to uncommon migrant and winter visitor, especially along the coast. This falcon prefers coastal estuaries and other wetlands that concentrate waterfowl and shorebirds; however, it also occurs inland. This falcon may occur as a rare visitor to the Day Canyon and City Creek sites. However, for the

purposes of this evaluation, this raptor is not expected to occur on the Day Canyon or City Creek sites.

The **mountain quail** (*Oreortyx pictus*) is a common resident of montane habitats west of the deserts in southern California. It occurs in a variety of brushy habitats such as chaparral, but also including woodlands with a suitable understory of brush. Several individuals of this species were heard on both days of the surveys of Day Canyon. Mountain quail were heard as low as about 2,500 feet elevation near the mouth of Day Canyon. This species is expected to be present in moderate numbers throughout much of the Day Canyon site. A few mountain quail were heard during the survey at City Creek. The mountain quail is expected to be present in moderate numbers on the steep slopes in the western portion of the City Creek site.

The **burrowing owl** (*Speotyto cunicularia*) is an uncommon to locally common resident in southern California. This owl inhabits relatively flat and open areas such as grasslands, coastal dunes and agricultural areas. They require the presence of burrows for nesting and roosting activities. Potentially suitable habitat is limited to small areas around the dam in the southernmost parcel of the Day Canyon site. Because there is generally a lack of suitable habitat for this species in the vicinity of the site, the burrowing owl is not expected to occur on the Day Canyon site. There is no suitable habitat for this species on the City Creek site and, therefore, the burrowing owl is not expected to be present on this site.

The **California horned lark** (*Eremophila alpestris actia*) is a year round resident along the coastal region of California, from Sonoma County south to Baja California (Grinnell and Miller 1944). This lark requires open fields and grasslands. Suitable habitat for this species is limited to small areas around the dam on the southernmost parcel of the Day Canyon site. The horned lark is expected to occur here as an occasional visitor, but is not expected to nest on the Day Canyon site. There is no suitable habitat for this species on the City Creek site, although it may occur as a rare transient. For the purposes of this evaluation, the horned lark is not expected to occur on the City Creek site.

The **cactus wren** (*Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus couesi*) is an uncommon resident from Santa Paula, Ventura County south to San Diego. This wren requires sage scrub habitats with patches of prickly pear cactus and/or cholla. There is no suitable habitat on either site and, therefore, the cactus wren is not expected to occur on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites.

The **coastal California gnatcatcher** (*Polioptila californica californica*) is resident in coastal and Riversidean sage scrub habitats. It has a restricted range in the United States, mostly limited to Orange, Riverside and western San Diego Counties. In recent years, there are few records of this species for San Bernardino County. However, on April 16, 1994, this species was observed at Day Canyon. Because the portion of Day Canyon that is the subject of this evaluation supports a limited amount of coastal sage scrub habitat that is generally degraded and the status of the gnatcatcher in this County of only limited occurrence, this species is not expected to occur on the Day Canyon site. The California gnatcatcher is not expected to occur on the City Creek site because there is no suitable habitat present.

The **loggerhead shrike** (*Lanius ludovicianus*) is an uncommon, though widespread, resident throughout southern California. Loggerhead shrikes generally occupy open habitats with scattered large shrubs or trees. This species is expected to occur on the site as a winter visitor and may occasionally nest on the Day Canyon site. This species is generally absent from

mountain habitats such as the City Creek site. The loggerhead shrike is not expected to occur on the City Creek site.

The **Southern California rufous-crowned sparrow** (*Aimophila ruficeps canescens*) occurs west of the deserts, from Ventura County south into Baja California. This sparrow typically inhabits rocky slopes with relatively open shrub cover that is intermixed with grassy areas. Three individuals of this species were heard on the April 7, 1995 Day Canyon site survey. They were singing from the slopes above the riparian forest plant community. Moderate numbers of this species are expected to be present throughout most of the Day Canyon site. One individual of this species was heard during the City Creek survey. Small numbers of this species are expected to be present throughout much of the City Creek site.

The **Bell's sage sparrow** (*Amphispiza belli belli*) occurs along the coast from Trinity County south into Baja California. This sparrow generally is resident in areas of fairly dense chaparral as well as mixed chaparral and sage scrub associations. Sage sparrows were observed on both survey days in sage scrub habitat near the Day Canyon site. Small numbers of sage sparrows are expected to occur locally in the sage scrub and chaparral habitat at the lower elevations on the Day Canyon site. Sage sparrows were not detected and are not expected to occur on the City Creek site.

The **San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit** (*Lepus californicus bennettii*) occurs in coastal southern California from approximately Santa Barbara County into Baja California. It prefers open areas, typically occurring in alluvial sage scrub and open Riversidean sage scrub habitats. The black-tailed jackrabbit was not observed on the Day Canyon site, but is expected to occur in low densities on the southernmost parcel of that site. The City Creek site does not provide suitable habitat for the San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit and, therefore, it is not expected to occur on the City Creek site.

The range of the **Los Angeles pocket mouse** (*Perognathus longemembris brevinasus*) extends from the Los Angeles basin east into the valleys of southwestern San Bernardino County and western Riverside County. It typically occupies lower elevation grasslands and sage scrub habitats on fine sandy soils. The Los Angeles pocket mouse has not been reported from Day Canyon and is not expected to occur on this site. The City Creek site does not provide suitable habitat for the Los Angeles pocket mouse and, therefore, it is not expected to occur on this site.

The **San Bernardino Merriam's kangaroo rat** (*Dipodomys merriami parvus*) is found in a relatively small area south and west of the Transverse and Peninsular Ranges of southern California. This species, although relatively unknown, occurs in alluvial sage scrub areas. Because Day Canyon is outside the known range of this species, it is not expected to occur on this site. The City Creek site does not provide suitable habitat for the San Bernardino Merriam's kangaroo rat and, therefore, it is not expected to occur on this site.

The **southern grasshopper mouse** (*Onychomys torridus ramona*) is limited to southwestern California in habitats such as sage scrub, mixed chaparral and riparian areas. There is potentially suitable habitat for this species at Day Canyon and it has been reported from this area. As a result, this species is expected to occur on the Day Canyon site. The City Creek site provides habitat that is considered to be marginal for this species. As a result, for the purposes of this evaluation, this mouse is not expected to occur on the City Creek site.

The **San Diego desert woodrat** (*Neotoma lepida intermedia*) occurs along the coast from northwest Baja California to San Luis Obispo County. The desert woodrat is found in a variety of habitats from sea level to 8,500 feet elevation. There is potentially suitable habitat for this species at Day Canyon and it has been reported from this area. As a result, this species is expected to occur on the Day Canyon site. There is potentially suitable habitat for this species at the City Creek site and this species is fairly common in the area. As a result, the San Diego desert woodrat is expected to occur on the City Creek site.

The **badger** (*Taxidea taxus*) is an infrequently observed mammal that occurs throughout most of the open areas of the United States and southern Canada. Badgers inhabit a variety of open habitats with loose soils. Potentially suitable habitat for this species is present on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites and the badger is resident in the San Gabriel and San Bernardino Mountains. As a result, this species is expected to occur on the Day Canyon and City Creek sites.

The **ringtail** (*Bassariscus astutus*) occurs in brushy and wooded areas at lower and middle elevations throughout the state. It is often associated with steep rocky slopes adjacent to streams. Like the raccoon, this species is nocturnal, but ringtails are shy and seldom observed. It preys on small mammals, birds, lizards and insects and will eat a variety of plant foods. There is potentially suitable habitat for this species at Day Canyon and it has been reported from this area. As a result, this species is expected to occur on the Day Canyon site. There is potentially suitable habitat for this species at the City Creek site and it is expected to occur here.

The **mountain lion** (*Felis concolor*) occurs throughout California, but is rarely seen due to its shy nature and preference for forested and brushy areas. This species holds an important role in the food chain, with deer being its primary prey. It is seldom found away from deer populations, although rabbits, squirrels and other rodents are also taken as food. Lions maintain very large home ranges, with male home ranges usually a minimum of 15 square miles and female home ranges usually three to twelve square miles (Russell 1978). There is potentially suitable habitat for this species at Day Canyon and it has been reported from this area. As a result, this species is expected to occur on the Day Canyon site. There is also potentially suitable habitat for this species at City Creek. As a result, the mountain lion is expected to occur on the City Creek site.

The **Nelson's bighorn sheep** (*Ovis canadensis nelsoni*) is found in desert mountain ranges from the White Mountains of Mono County south to the San Bernardino Mountains. Bighorn sheep inhabit a variety of montane habitats. An isolated population exists in the San Gabriel Mountains and this species has been reported in Day Canyon. Potentially suitable habitat is present on the Day Canyon site and this species is expected to occur on this site. The City Creek site does not provide suitable habitat for this Nelson's bighorn sheep and, therefore, it is not expected to occur on this site.

**APPENDIX D**

**REFERENCES FOR THE  
BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES ANALYSIS**

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APPENDIX D

REFERENCES FOR THE BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES ANALYSIS

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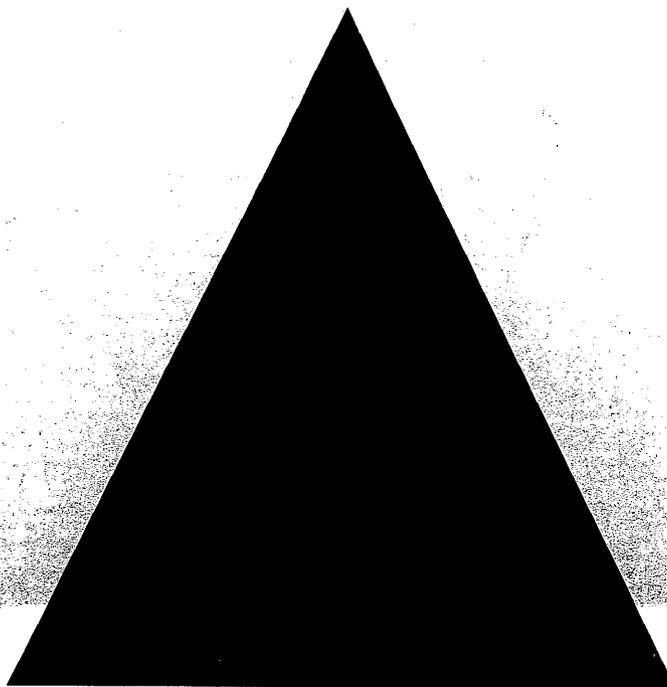
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USFWS, 1991. Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; 90-Day Findings and Commencement of Status Reviews for Seven Petitions to List Five Species as Threatened or Endangered. Federal Register Vol. 56, No. 56: 12146-12148.

USFWS, 1993. Plant Taxa for Listing as Endangered or Threatened Species; Notice of Review. Federal Register Vol. 58, No. 188. U.S. Department of Interior.

This section uses the following tracking code : 26a

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## Page Place Holder Sheet / Page Tracking Sheet

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Page Tracking Sheet

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BL-809: Inland Feeder

This section was pulled for seperate processing due to:

Duplex Pages

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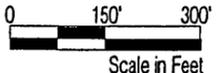
Page Rotation



**Legend**

-  Southern Sycamore-Alder Riparian Forest
-  Mixed Chaparral
-  Disturbed Mixed Chaparral
-  Annual Grassland
-  Urban / Disturbed





**P&D Environmental Services**

**Figure: 3-2**