

CRANE TRANSPORTATION GROUP

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Chuck Meibeyer, Esq.
Meibeyer Law Group
(707) 963-7703

FROM: Carolyn Cole, AICP
Mark D. Crane, P.E.

DATE: May 14, 2013

RE: **Left Turn Lane Evaluation – Darioush Winery at 4240 Silverado Trail, Napa County, California**

Chuck:

At your request, Crane Transportation Group (CTG) has evaluated peak hour use of the existing left turn lane on the southbound approach to the Darioush Winery at 4240 Silverado Trail in Napa County. Silverado Trail carries 360 vehicles per hour during the peak traffic period (Caltrans Traffic Counts, 2011, post mile 7.37 Napa County). The existing left turn lane provides 75 feet of vehicle storage (not including tapers). At 25 feet per queued vehicle, the left turn lane has a capacity of 3 vehicles. The winery intends to increase employees from an existing 20 to 55 employees, with no more than 35 employees on the site on any one day. This represents a potential increase in employee traffic of 75 percent on weekdays. There would be no increase in allowed production (100,000 gallons), or in visitation (maximum 400 visitors per day).

Employee hours are 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM on weekdays. Employee arrivals and departures typically occur from 7:30 to 8:00 AM and 5:30 – 6:00 PM. Observations of weekday arrivals and departures revealed slightly more inbound vehicles to/from the south than from the north during both time periods. Observed vehicle queues in the southbound left turn lane did not exceed one vehicle at any time. It is anticipated that an increase in employee vehicle activity of 75 percent could increase the southbound left turn lane vehicle queues by one vehicle during employee arrival and departure periods. This maximum queue of two inbound vehicles would be easily accommodated by the 75-foot long left turn lane.

This Report is intended for presentation and use in its entirety, together with all of its supporting exhibits, schedules, and appendices. Crane Transportation Group will have no liability for any use of the Report other than in its entirety, such as providing an excerpt to a third party or quoting a portion of the Report. If you provide a portion of the Report to a third party, you agree to hold CTG harmless against any liability to such third parties based upon their use of or reliance upon a less than complete version of the Report.

May 13, 2013

Darioush Khalid Winery
c/o Meibeyer Law Group
Attn: Lynn Sletto
1236 Spring Street
St. Helena, CA 94574

Subject: Biological Resources Report
Darioush Khalid Winery (APN #039-400-084), Napa, California

Dear Ms. Sletto:

LSA Associates, Inc. (LSA) has completed a reconnaissance-level biological survey of the above-referenced parcel in Napa. The purpose of the survey was to collect information on existing biological resources on the parcel for submittal to Napa County (County) as part of an application for the construction of new facilities (e.g., barrel warehouse, new stainless cellar) behind the existing winery. This letter report summarizes our survey methods and findings.

METHODS

LSA wildlife biologist Matt Ricketts visited the site on April 24, 2013 to assess current habitat conditions and evaluate the site's potential to support special-status plant and/or animal species. Plants and animals observed were recorded in field notes.

To identify special-status species potentially occurring in the parcel vicinity, LSA searched the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) for records of special-status plant and/or animal species within 2 miles of the parcel using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software (ArcGIS 10.1).

RESULTS

Existing Conditions

With the exception of the existing winery buildings and associated landscaping, the entire parcel, including the proposed expansion area, is comprised of vineyards. No native vegetation was observed during LSA's April 24 site visit. The hillside north of the parcel supports native valley oak (*Quercus lobata*) woodland. The only vegetation within the proposed expansion area consists of vineyard plantings and ornamental trees and shrubs (e.g., linden trees [*Tilia* spp.]) planted behind (north of) the existing stainless cellar. No wetlands, drainages, or ponds are present in the expansion area.

Five wildlife species, all birds, were observed during the survey: cliff swallow (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*), northern mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*), California towhee (*Melospiza crissalis*), house finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*), and lesser goldfinch (*Spinus psaltria*). All of these species are common residents or summer residents (i.e., cliff swallow) of rural and semi-rural areas throughout

the Napa Valley. Additional common wildlife species likely to use the parcel include western fence lizard (*Sceloporus occidentalis*), American crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*), coyote (*Canis latrans*), northern raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), and mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*).

Special-status Species

For the purposes of this report, special-status species are defined as follows:

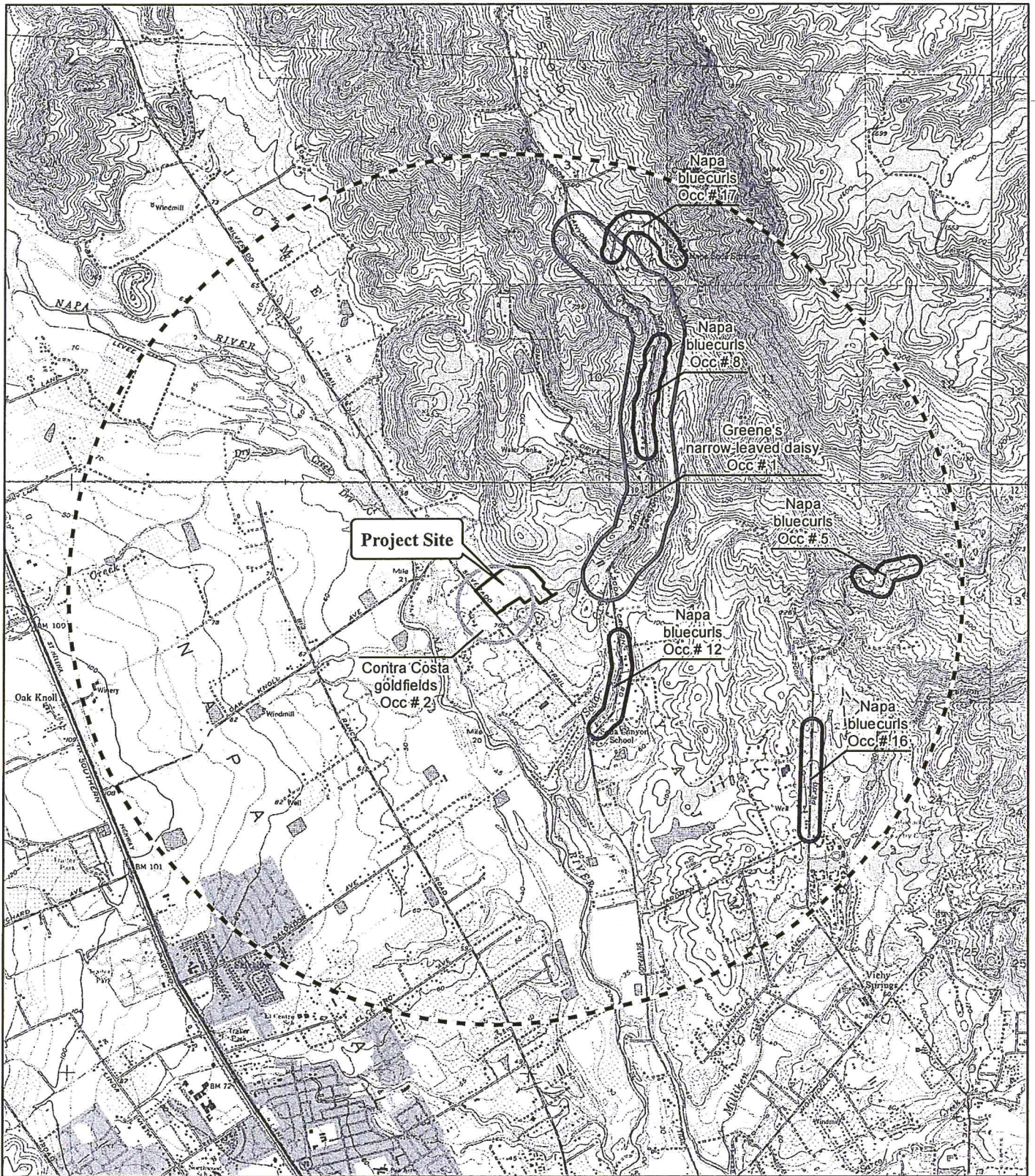
- Species that are listed, formally proposed, or designated as candidates for listing as threatened or endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA)
- Species that are listed, or designated as candidates for listing, as rare, threatened, or endangered under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA)
- Plant species assigned to California Rare Plant Ranks 1A, 1B, and 2
- Animal species designated as Species of Special Concern by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)
- Species that meet the definition of rare, threatened, or endangered under Section 15380 of the CEQA guidelines
- Considered to be a taxon of special concern by the relevant local agencies

The CNDDDB contains records for three special-status plant species within 2 miles of the parcel: Greene's narrow-leaved daisy (*Erigeron greenei*), Contra Costa goldfields (*Lasthenia conjugens*), and Napa bluecurls (*Trichostema ruygtii*) (see attached map and table). All three species have a California Rare Plant Rank of 1B (rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere) and Contra Costa goldfields is federally listed as endangered under the ESA. The CNDDDB occurrence for Contra Costa goldfields (Occurrence No. 2) overlaps the parcel boundary, but refers to a 1960 observation before the area was converted to vineyards (CDFG 2013). As such, this species has been extirpated from the area. The five records of Napa bluecurls were observed as recently as 2004 (4) and 2006 (1), but this species occurs in annual grasslands associated with oak woodland and such habitat is not present on the parcel. The lone record of Greene's narrow-leaved daisy (CNDDDB Occurrence No. 1) is from Soda Creek Canyon in 1938. This species occurs on serpentine substrates in chaparral and such habitat is not present on the parcel.

No other special-status plant or animal species are expected to occur on the parcel due to its developed condition and consequent lack of native substrates and vegetation.

Jurisdictional Waters

We did not observe any aquatic features (i.e., ponds, streams, wetlands, ditches) potentially subject to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) jurisdiction under Section 404 of the federal Clean Water Act during the reconnaissance survey. No streams or associated riparian vegetation under CDFW jurisdiction pursuant to Section 1602 of the California Fish and Game Code are present on the parcel.



LSA

LEGEND

- Project Site
- 2 Mile Radius
- around Project Site
- Species Occurrences**
- Contra Costa goldfields
- Greene's narrow-leaved daisy
- Napa bluecurls

FIGURE 1



SOURCE: CDFW CNDDDB (03/31/2013).

I:\DKW1301\Maps\CNDDDB\Figure1_CNDDDB_Polygons_20130331.mxd (5/10/2013)

Darioush Khaledi Winery

CNDDDB Occurrences within
2 Miles of Project Site

Darioush Khaledi Winery
 CNDDDB Occurrences with 2 Miles of Project Site
 Source: CDFG CNDDDB (03/31/2103).

SNAME	CNAME	OCC#	PRESENCE	SITEDATE	ELMDATE	FEDLIST	CALLIST	RPLANTRANK	DIST_MI
Erigeron greenei	Greene's narrow-leaved daisy	1	Presumed Extant	19380807	19380807	None	None	1B.2	0.04
Lasthenia conjugens	Contra Costa goldfields	2	Extirpated	1989XXXX	19600426	Endangerer	None	1B.1	0.00
Trichostema ruygtii	Napa bluecurls	12	Presumed Extant	20040918	20040918	None	None	1B.2	0.10
Trichostema ruygtii	Napa bluecurls	8	Presumed Extant	20040724	20040724	None	None	1B.2	0.23
Trichostema ruygtii	Napa bluecurls	16	Presumed Extant	20040821	20040821	None	None	1B.2	0.42
Trichostema ruygtii	Napa bluecurls	5	Presumed Extant	200611XX	200611XX	None	None	1B.2	0.44
Trichostema ruygtii	Napa bluecurls	17	Presumed Extant	20040918	20040918	None	None	1B.2	0.47

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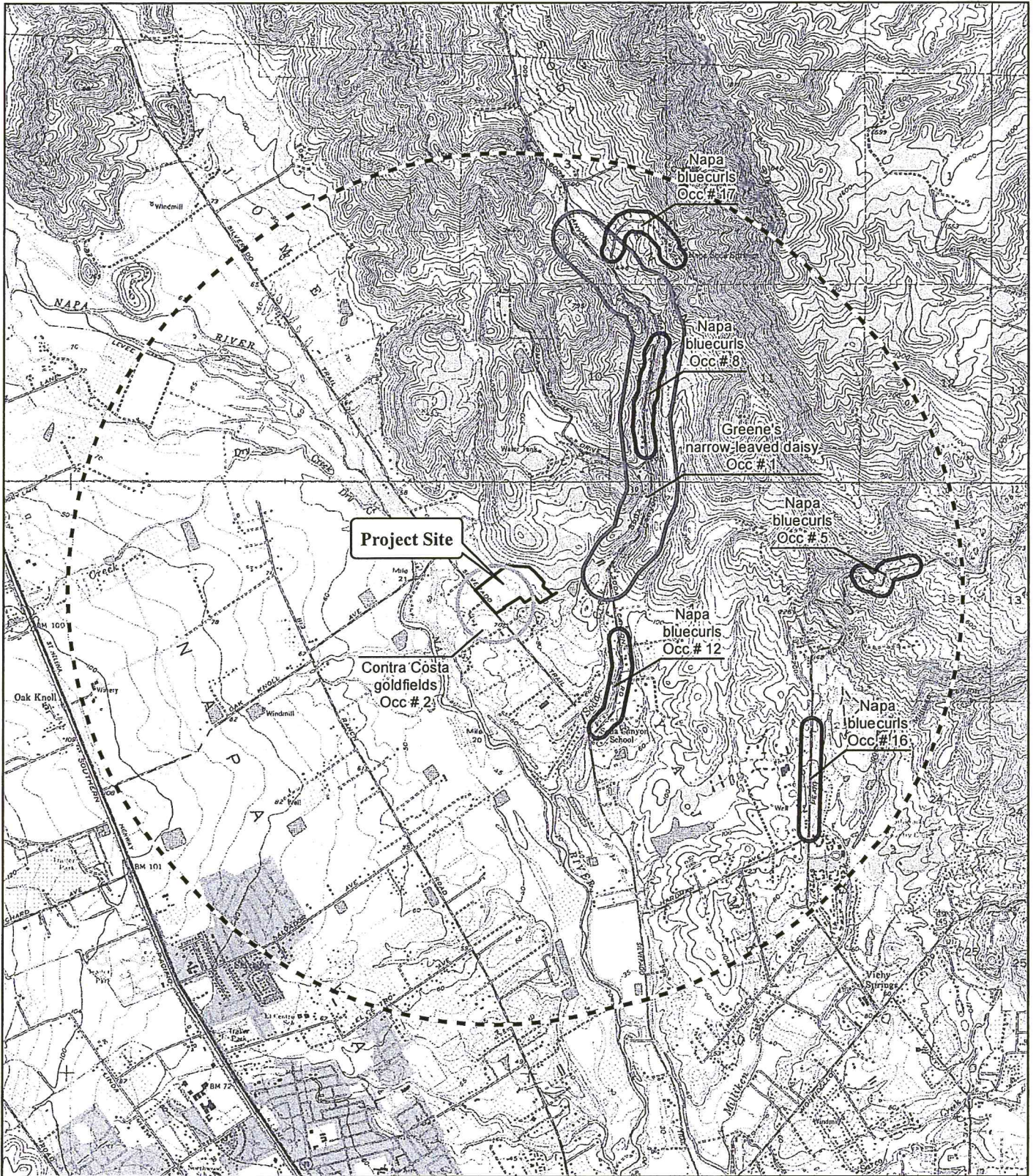
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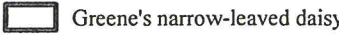

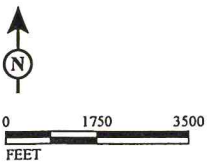
-  Project Site
-  2 Mile Radius around Project Site
-  Contra Costa goldfields
-  Greene's narrow-leaved daisy
-  Napa bluecurls

FIGURE 1



SOURCE: CDFW CNDDDB (03/31/2013).

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