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**FLx, "Sensitive Plant Species Surveys at the Magic Mountain Entertainment Site Fireworks Area" (2006; 2006A)**



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May 7, 2006

Mr. Cris Perez  
The Newhall Land and Farming Company  
P.O. Box 250  
Piru, CA 93040

Subject: Sensitive Plant Species Surveys at the Magic Mountain Entertainment Site Fireworks Area

Attachment: Figure of Sensitive Plant Species Locations at the Fireworks Area

Dear Mr. Perez:

The purpose of this letter is to document the results of sensitive plant species surveys conducted at the Magic Mountain Entertainment (MME) site fireworks area. The 26-acre fireworks area was surveyed for sensitive plant species by FLx personnel on May 5, 2006. The particular focus of the surveys was for the state-listed endangered species San Fernando Valley spineflower (*Chorizanthe parryi* var. *fernandina*) and the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) List 1B species, slender mariposa lily (*Calochortus clavatus* var. *gracilis*). At the same time, we also looked for other potentially occurring sensitive species.

Much of the 26-acre fireworks area has been cleared previously, and that area now is occupied by annual non-native grasses, with scattered native and non-native herbaceous species. Areas not recently subject to clearing are occupied by coastal sage scrub, dominated by California sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*), purple sage (*Salvia leucophylla*), and California buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum* ssp. *foliolosum*). In both cleared and non-cleared areas, scattered valley oaks (*Quercus lobata*) and coast live oaks (*Quercus agrifolia* var. *agrifolia*) also are present.

Both the target sensitive species were found during the current surveys (see Attachment). San Fernando Valley spineflower (*Chorizanthe parryi* var. *fernandina*) populations were found generally in the same locations as recorded previously in surveys of the site conducted from 2003 through 2005 by Dudek and Associates and FLx. These populations were enclosed by four protective fences in 2004. These fences remain in place, however, they are in need of repair in several sections.

At the time of the current survey in May 2006, hand-clearing of vegetation had begun within some areas of slender mariposa lily (*Calochortus clavatus* var. *gracilis*) populations marked by pin flags remaining from the 2005 surveys. The species has been late in blooming in 2006 as a result of late rains and cool weather this winter and spring. No flowers of the slender mariposa lily (*Calochortus clavatus* var. *gracilis*) were observed, however, a few plants were seen in leaf and bud in some of the previously documented locations. These known populations were reflagged during the current surveys.

C. Perez  
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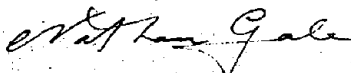
Following is a list of recommendations to assist in minimizing botanical impacts at the site.

1. Strictly maintain the buffer boundaries around the spineflower populations, repair the exclusion fences where necessary, and avoid all activities within the enclosure zones.
2. Minimize ground disturbance during vegetation clearing activities to avoid impact to underground bulbs of slender mariposa lily plants, and reduce related erosion potential.
3. Leave all valley oaks and coast live oaks intact, and do not operate mechanized equipment within the drip line of these trees.

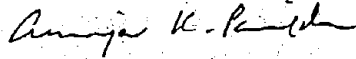
If you have any questions or need further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

FLx



Nathan Gale, Ph.D.



Anuja K. Parikh, Ph.D.

MAGIC MOUNTAIN  
FIREWORKS FALLOUT AREA  
FLX Survey 2006

0 70 140 280 420  
Foot



San Fernando Valley Spineflower  
Slender Mariposa Lily

