



plant
2006

April 25, 2006

Cris Perez
The Newhall Land and Farming Company
Post Office Box 250
Piru, CA93040

Subject: Sensitive Plant Species Survey for the Potrero Irrigation Project

Attachments: 1. Table of sensitive plant species potentially occurring in the project area
2. Figure of Potrero irrigation pipe

Dear Mr. Perez:

The purpose of this letter is to document the results of a sensitive plant species survey conducted by FLx at the Potrero Irrigation Project site on April 24, 2006. The particular focus of the survey was for the state-listed endangered species San Fernando Valley spineflower (SFVS; *Chorizanthe parryi* var. *fernandina*), known to occur in the vicinity. In addition, we also looked for other potentially occurring sensitive species (see attached Table).

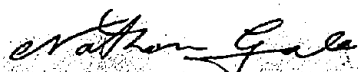
The proposed irrigation pipeline route, including a 50-foot buffer on either side, was surveyed for sensitive plants (see attached Figure). The majority of the proposed route follows an old dirt road, and the entire length of the route crosses previously disturbed land. The dominant vegetation cover in the survey area consists of weedy species such as milk thistle (*Silybum marianum*), tocalote (*Centaurea melitensis*), Italian thistle (*Carduus pycnocephalus*), black mustard (*Brassica nigra*), and sourclover (*Melilotus indica*). Annual non-native grasses also are common, and include ripgut grass (*Bromus diandrus*), slender wild oat (*Avena barbata*), and hare barley (*Hordeum murinum* ssp. *leporinum*). Sparsely scattered native shrubs in the area include California sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*), Palmer's goldenbush (*Ericameria palmeri* var. *pachylepis*), and big saltbush (*Atriplex lentiformis* ssp. *lentiformis*). Very few native herbaceous species were observed; the most common were rancher's fireweed (*Amsinckia menziesii* var. *intermedia*) and western ragweed (*Ambrosia psilostachya*).

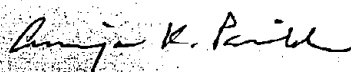
We did not observe San Fernando Valley spineflower (*Chorizanthe parryi* var. *fernandina*) or any other sensitive plants in the survey area. SFVS does occur in the vicinity of the pipeline project, but outside the 50-foot buffer zone. The closest observed population occurs 59 feet (18 meters) southwest of the proposed pipeline route on the banks of an erosion gully. This population originally was discovered in 2003 and has been flagged, documented, and mapped in continuing surveys at Newhall Ranch through the year 2005. During the current survey, SFVS plants in early flowering stages were observed again at this location.

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.

**SENSITIVE PLANT SPECIES POTENTIALLY OCCURRING IN THE
POTRERO IRRIGATION PROJECT AREA, NEWHALL RANCH, LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

Scientific Name	Common Name	Family	Status* Federal/State/CNPS
<i>Astragalus brauntonii</i>	Braunton's milk-vetch	Fabaceae	FE/-/1B
<i>Berberis nevadensis</i>	Nevadensis barberry	Berberidaceae	FE/SE/1B
<i>Calochortus catalinae</i>	Catalina mariposa lily	Liliaceae	-/-/4
<i>Calochortus clavatus</i> var. <i>clavatus</i>	Club-haired mariposa lily	Liliaceae	-/-/4
<i>Calochortus clavatus</i> var. <i>gracilis</i>	Slender mariposa lily	Liliaceae	-/-/1B
<i>Calochortus plummerae</i>	Plummer's mariposa lily	Liliaceae	-/-/1B
<i>Calochortus weedii</i> var. <i>vestus</i>	Late-flowered mariposa lily	Liliaceae	-/-/1B
<i>Calystegia peirsonii</i>	Peirson's morning-glory	Convolvulaceae	-/-/4
<i>Centromadia parryi</i> ssp. <i>australis</i>	Southern tarplant	Asteraceae	-/-/1B
<i>Cercocarpus betuloides</i> var. <i>blanchetii</i>	Island mountain-mahogany	Rosaceae	-/-/4
<i>Chorizanthe parryi</i> var. <i>fernandina</i>	San Fernando Valley spineflower	Polygonaceae	FC/SE/1B
<i>Deinandra minimiflora</i>	Santa Susana tarplant	Asteraceae	-/SR/1B
<i>Dodecahema leptoceras</i>	Slender-horned spineflower	Polygonaceae	FE/SE/1B
<i>Dudleya blochmaniae</i> ssp. <i>blochmaniae</i>	Blochman's dudleya	Crassulaceae	-/-/1B
<i>Dudleya multicaulis</i>	Many-stemmed dudleya	Crassulaceae	-/-/1B
<i>Dudleya parva</i>	Conejo dudleya	Crassulaceae	FT/-/1B
<i>Erodium macrophyllum</i>	Round-leaved filaree	Geraniaceae	-/-/2
<i>Harpagonella palmeri</i>	Palmer's grappling hook	Boraginaceae	-/-/4
<i>Helianthus nuttallii</i> ssp. <i>parishii</i>	Los Angeles sunflower	Asteraceae	-/-/1A
<i>Juglans californica</i>	Southern California black walnut	Juglandaceae	-/-/4
<i>Juncus acutus</i> ssp. <i>leopoldii</i>	Southwestern spiny rush	Juncaceae	-/-/4
<i>Lasthenia glabrata</i> ssp. <i>coulteri</i>	Coulter's goldfields	Asteraceae	-/-/1B
<i>Malacothamnus davidsonii</i>	Davidson's bush mallow	Malvaceae	-/-/1B
<i>Muhlenbergia californica</i>	California muhly	Poaceae	-/-/4
<i>Navarretia fossalis</i>	Spreading navarretia	Polemoniaceae	FT/-/1B
<i>Navarretia jaredii</i>	Paso Robles navarretia	Polemoniaceae	-/-/4
<i>Navarretia setiloba</i>	Piute Mountains navarretia	Polemoniaceae	-/-/1B
<i>Nemacladus gracilis</i>	Slender nemacladus	Campanulaceae	-/-/4
<i>Nemophila parviflora</i> var. <i>quercifolia</i>	Oak-leaved nemophila	Hydrophyllaceae	-/-/4
<i>Nolina cismontana</i>	Chaparral nolina	Liliaceae	-/-/1B
<i>Opuntia basilaris</i> var. <i>brachyclada</i>	Short-joint beavertail	Cactaceae	-/-/1B
<i>Orcuttia californica</i>	California Orcutt grass	Poaceae	FE/SE/1B
<i>Pentachaeta lyonii</i>	Lyons' pentachaeta	Asteraceae	FE/SE/1B
<i>Perideridia pringlei</i>	Pringle's yampah	Apiaceae	-/-/4
<i>Senecio aphanactis</i>	Rayless ragwort	Asteraceae	-/-/2
<i>Sidalcea neomexicana</i>	Salt spring checkerbloom	Malvaceae	-/-/2

- *
 - = No listing
 FE = Federal endangered
 FT = Federal threatened
 FC = Federal candidate
 SE = State/California endangered
 SR = State/California rare
 1A = CNPS List 1A, plants presumed extinct in California
 1B = CNPS List 1B, plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere
 2 = CNPS List 2, plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California, but more common elsewhere
 3 = CNPS List 3, plants about which more information is needed, a review list
 4 = CNPS List 4, plants of limited distribution, a watch list

POTRERO IRRIGATION PIPE

