

County of Santa Cruz

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

701 OCEAN STREET, 4TH FLOOR, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060 (831) 454-2580 FAX: (831) 454-2131 TDD: (831) 454-2123

KATHLEEN MOLLOY PREVISICH, PLANNING DIRECTOR

www.sccoplanning.com

ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION NOTICE OF PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT PERIOD

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, the following project has been reviewed by the County Environmental Coordinator to determine if it has a potential to create significant impacts to the environment and, if so, how such impacts could be solved. A Negative Declaration is prepared in cases where the project is determined not to have any significant environmental impacts. Either a Mitigated Negative Declaration or Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is prepared for projects that may result in a significant impact to the environment.

Public review periods are provided for these Environmental Determinations according to the requirements of the County Environmental Review Guidelines. The environmental document is available for review at the County Planning Department located at 701 Ocean Street, in Santa Cruz. You may also view the environmental document on the web at www.sccoplanning.com under the Planning Department menu. If you have questions or comments about this Notice of Intent, please contact Matt Johnston of the Environmental Review staff at (831) 454-3201

The County of Santa Cruz does not discriminate on the basis of disability, and no person shall, by reason of a disability, be denied the benefits of its services, programs or activities. If you require special assistance in order to review this information, please contact Bernice Romero at (831) 454-3137 (TDD number (831) 454-2123 or (831) 763-8123) to make arrangements.

APPL. # 131090

JUVENILE HALL RECREATION FACILITY

This is a proposal to construct a 6,880 square foot pre-fabricated steel-frame building to be used as a recreational facility for the Santa Cruz County Juvenile Hall. Requires a Development Permit and a Grading Permit. Property located at 3650 Graham Hill Road.

APN: 061-371-16

ZONE DISTRICT: SU (SPECIAL USE)

APPLICANT: COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ, PROBATION DEPARTMENT

OWNER: COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT: FIFTH

STAFF PLANNER: ALICE DALY, (831) 454-3140

EMAIL: PLN401 @co.santa-cruz.ca.us

ACTION: Negative Declaration with mitigations REVIEW PERIOD: April 16, 2013 to May 15, 2013

The project will be considered at a public hearing by the County of Santa Cruz Zoning Administrator. The time, date, and location have not been set. When scheduling does occur, these items will be included in all public hearing notices for the project.

NAME:

Juvenile Hall Gym

APPLICATION:

131090

A.P.N:

061-371-16

NEGATIVE DECLARATION MITIGATIONS

A. In order to ensure that the impacts to sandhills habitat and the related sandhills species are reduced to less than significant levels, no disturbance shall take place until the conditions set forth in the required Habitat Conservation Plan and Incidental Take Permit, to be issued by the US fish and Wildlife Service, have been incorporated into the conditions of approval for County Grading Permit. These conditions must include either on-site restoration of sandhills habitat, purchase of credits through the Zayante Sandhills Conservation Bank, or some combination thereof.



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CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW INITIAL STUDY

Date: 4/12/13 Staff Planner: Alice Daly	Application Number: 131090
I. OVERVIEW AND ENVIRONMENTAL DI	ETERMINATION
APPLICANT: County of Santa Cruz Probation Department	APN : 061-371-16
OWNER: County of Santa Cruz	SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT: Fifth
PROJECT LOCATION: The property is local approximately one-half mile north of Lockew	•

SUMMARY PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Proposal to construct a 6,880 square foot pre-fabricated steel-frame building to be used as a recreational facility for the Santa Cruz County Juvenile Hall.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: All of the following

•	ential environmental impacts are evaluated ked have been analyzed in greater detail	
	Geology/Soils	Noise
	Hydrology/Water Supply/Water Quality	Air Quality
\boxtimes	Biological Resources	Greenhouse Gas Emissions
	Agriculture and Forestry Resources	Public Services
	Mineral Resources	Recreation
	Visual Resources & Aesthetics	Utilities & Service Systems
	Cultural Resources	Land Use and Planning
	Hazards & Hazardous Materials	Population and Housing
	Transportation/Traffic	Mandatory Findings of Significance

Environmental Review Initial Study Page 2

DISCRETIONARY APPROVAL(S) BEING CONSIDERED:						
	General Plan Amendment		Coastal Development Permit			
	Land Division	\boxtimes	Grading Permit			
	Rezoning		Riparian Exception			
\boxtimes	Development Permit		Other:			
NON	I-LOCAL APPROVALS					
	er agencies that must issue permits or a e Permit)	uthoriza	ations: US Fish & Wildlife (Incidental			
	ERMINATION: (To be completed by the he basis of this initial evaluation:	e lead a	gency)			
	I find that the proposed project COULD environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLA					
	I find that although the proposed project environment, there will not be a signific the project have been made or agreed NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be pre	ant effe to by th	ect in this case because revisions in			
	I find that the proposed project MAY ha and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT RE					
	I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.					
	I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.					
- // de	Mat Ding		U/15/2013			
	new Johnstøn ronmental Coordinator		Date			

II. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS Parcel Size: 27.88 acres Existing Land Use: public facility (County Juv Vegetation: native evergreen and oak trees a Slope in area affected by project: 0 - 30% Nearby Watercourse: Bean Creek Distance To: 3,500 feet north	nd shrubs
ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND CON Water Supply Watershed: yes Groundwater Recharge: Yes Timber or Mineral: mapped timber Agricultural Resource: no Biologically Sensitive Habitat: Sandhills Fire Hazard: mapped high hazard area Floodplain: no Erosion: n/a Landslide: not a mapped hazard Liquefaction: low	Fault Zone: no Scenic Corridor: yes Historic: no Archaeology: not a mapped resource Noise Constraint: none Electric Power Lines: no Solar Access: good Solar Orientation: good Hazardous Materials: no
SERVICES	
Fire Protection: Scotts Valley School District: Santa Cruz	Drainage District: Zone 4 Project Access: driveway from Graham Hill Road
Sewage Disposal: private septic	Water Supply: San Lorenzo Valley Water
PLANNING POLICIES Zone District: SU (Special Use) General Plan: Public Facility, Mountain Residential	Special Designation: none
Urban Services Line: Inside Coastal Zone: Inside	✓ Outside✓ Outside

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING AND SURROUNDING LAND USES:

The project area is surrounded on the west, south and east by existing Juvenile Hall buildings, and abuts intact dense Sandhills parkland habitat to the north. Other areas of the subject parcel support Sandhills chaparral and ponderosa pine forest communities with dense litter and canopy cover. The yard area that is the proposed location for the new recreational facility building contains an asphalt volleyball court, a planted lawn with ornamental trees, asphalt walkways, a dirt road and a former garden area. The project area features Zayante sand soils, and within the unpaved portion, the soils are somewhat compacted and covered in some areas with non-native rock and mulch.

The Hanson Quarry Conservation Area is approximately 800 feet northeast of the project area on an adjacent parcel. Unimproved chaparral and pine forested land owned by the Mt. Hermon Association is west of the subject property, and the unimproved land on the south side of Graham Hill Road across from the project site is State Parks land.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The Juvenile Hall on the project site was originally constructed in 1968. A baseball field (Michael Gray Field), used by the community, was added to the property, southeast of the Juvenile Hall facility, in 1986. On December 22, 1992, Permit # 92-0615 (a Commercial Development Permit, Grading Permit and Master Site Plan) was approved to allow for the subsequent construction of a 4,200 square foot addition to the facility that included a courtroom and associated offices. On September 27, 1993, Permit # 93-0446 (Amendment to # 92-0615) was approved to allow for the installation of two prefabricated buildings in order to expand the residential treatment program from 12 to 18 children.

The total gross area of the Santa Cruz Juvenile Hall is 18,039 square feet. The facility houses both male and female youthful offenders. State Title 24 standards for recreation and physical activity space for Juvenile Facilities are not met, as there is currently a lack of sufficient, secure indoor recreation area that can be used during inclement weather for large-muscle activities. Currently, the facility uses a combination of dayrooms and the unimproved outdoor courtyard to try to meet exercise and recreation regulations. The lack of adequate physical recreation space has been noted by the Corrections Standards Authority, Grand Jury and the Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Committee.

DETAILED PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The proposed 6,880 square foot multi-use recreation and programs facility would be located in the open outdoor recreation field and paved court area south of the existing Juvenile Hall building at 3650 Graham Hill Road. The building would be a freestanding pre-engineered steel building placed on a concrete foundation with an insulated foam sandwiched roof system.

The building will contain a full-size junior high school basketball court (dimensions: 74 feet x 42 feet) with two adjacent single-occupancy restrooms, an equipment room for athletic gear, two 400 square foot classrooms for Juvenile Hall and Probation programs, one HVAC/electrical room and fold-out bleachers.

Potentially Significant Impact

Significant with Mitigation Incorporated

Less than

Less than Significant Impact

M

No Impact

III. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW CHECKLIST

Seismic-related ground failure,

including liquefaction?

Landslides?

A. GEOLOGY AND SOILS

Would the project:

C.

D.

1.	pot inc	cose people or structures to rential substantial adverse effects, luding the risk of loss, injury, or ath involving:			
	A.	Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.			
	B.	Strong seismic ground shaking?		\boxtimes	

Discussion (A through D): The project site is located outside of the limits of the State Alquist-Priolo Special Studies Zone (County of Santa Cruz GIS Mapping, California Division of Mines and Geology, 2001). However, the project site is located approximately eight miles southwest of the San Andreas fault zone, approximately nine and one-half miles northeast of the Palo Colorado/San Gregorio fault zone and approximately four and one-half miles southwest of the Zayante fault zone. While the San Andreas fault is larger and considered more active, each fault is capable of generating moderate to severe ground shaking from a major earthquake. Consequently, large earthquakes can be expected in the future. The October 17, 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake (magnitude 7.1) was the second largest earthquake in central California history. All of Santa Cruz County is subject to some hazard from earthquakes. However, the project site is not located within or adjacent to a County or state mapped fault zone, therefore the potential for ground surface rupture is low.

The project site is likely to be subject to strong seismic shaking during the life of the improvements. The improvements would be designed in accordance with the Uniform Building Code, which should reduce the hazards of seismic shaking and liquefaction to

CEQA Environmental	Review	Initial	Study
Page 6			_

Potentially Significant Impact Less than
Significant
with
Mitigation
Incorporated

Less than Significant Impact

No Impact

			Impact	Incorporated	Impact	No Impact
	s than significant level. d at this site.	There is no inc	lication t	hat landslid	ing is a s	significant
2.	Be located on a geolog that is unstable, or that unstable as a result of t potentially result in on- landslide, lateral spread subsidence, liquefaction	would become the project, and or off-site ding,				
Inc. d silty s excav is red subsid propo recom Provid poten latera	ated 4/13 (Attachment 1) and soils with some contation and re-compaction puired to evaluate the particular project may be a mendations of the geot ded that the project adtial impacts from the project and I spreading, subsidence, cant level.	found subsurfact mpressibility, and of the soils on the octential for on- collapse, and to a subject to, ar echnical report be theres to the re- coposed project a	e condition included building or off-site address and Counter incorportions are a resuments are aresuments.	ons that inclusive specific regularity. The stands into the control of the contro	ude loose commendageotechnic lateral specified hazards requires the project County Corroff-site l	to dense ations for cal report preading, that the that the ct design. ode, any andslide,
3.	Develop land with a slo	pe exceeding				\boxtimes
	rssion: There are slopes vements are proposed or		-		owever, no	
4.	Result in substantial so loss of topsoil?	il erosion or the			\boxtimes	
project required project erosion disturi	ession: Some potential et, however, this potential ed condition of the project must have an appropriate and sedimentation conced areas to be planted se erosion.	al is minimal bed ct. Prior to approved Erosion Cor control measures.	cause sta oval of a ntrol Plar The pl	indard eros grading or l n, which w an will incl	ion contro building pe ill specify ude provi	ols are a ermit, the detailed sions for
5.	Be located on expansive defined in Section 1802 California Building Code creating substantial risk	.3.2 of the e (2007),				

Discussion: The geotechnical report for the project by Haro, Kasunich & Associates,

CEQA Environmental Review Initial Study Page 7

Potentially Significant Impact Significant with Mitigation Incorporated

Less than

Less than Significant Impact

No Impact

Inc. dated 4/13 (Attachment 1) found subsurface conditions that include loose to dense silty sand soils with some compressibility, but did not identify expansive soil conditions. In addition, the report included specific recommendations for excavation and recompaction of the soils in order to achieve re-densification of the soil on the building site. County Code requires that the recommendations of the geotechnical report be incorporated into the project design.

incor	porated into the project design.		9		
6.	Place sewage disposal systems in areas dependent upon soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks, leach fields, or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available?				
syste Envir buildi	ussion: The proposed project would use om that is permitted by County Environme conmental Health has reviewed and appro- ing, which will not result in any increased e used by Juvenile Hall staff and clients w	ental Health oved the propuse of the e	Services. posed nev xisting sys	County v recreation stem, as the	nal
7.	Result in coastal cliff erosion?				\boxtimes
	ussion: The proposed project is not loca and therefore, would not contribute to co		•	coastal clif	for
	YDROLOGY, WATER SUPPLY, AND Work the project:	ATER QUA	LITY		
1.	Place development within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?				
Natio	ussion: According to the Federal Emergonal Flood Insurance Rate Map, dated Marithin a 100-year flood hazard area.	•	•	• •	,
2.	Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?				\boxtimes

Discussion: According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) National Flood Insurance Rate Map, dated March 2, 2006, no portion of the project site lies within a 100-year flood hazard area.

<i>CEQA</i> Page 8	Environmental Review Initial Study	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
3.	Be inundated by a seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?				\boxtimes
tsuna	ussion: The project site is not in a locatio mi or mudflow due to its substantial distar urs that could potentially allow for inundat	nce from ai	•		•
4.	Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?				
Water water areas	r. The Juvenile Hall facility currently r. The addition of a gym to the existing factor demand, and therefore will not impact was determined by the project engineer to be opment groundwater infiltration rates per to the project engineer to be opment groundwater infiltration rates per topic the second s	ilities will r ter supplie adequate	ot result in s. Runoff for maintai	any chang will be dire ning pre-	ge in É
5.	Substantially degrade a public or private water supply? (Including the contribution of urban contaminants, nutrient enrichments, or other agricultural chemicals or seawater intrusion).				
site, the substance directle are pre siltation	ression: While there is a well serving the some is no indication that runoff from the reantially degrade groundwater quality. The y into a public or private water supply, and oposed that would generate a substantial on from construction of the proposed projementation of erosion control measures.	oof of the p project wo d no comm amount of	roposed st uld not disc nercial or in contamina	ructure wo charge run dustrial ac ints. Pote	ould off stivities
6.	Degrade septic system functioning?				\boxtimes
	ssion: County Environmental Health has is no indication that existing septic system oject.			•	

CEQA Page 9	Environmental Review Initial Study	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
7.	Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding, on- or off-site?				
not a	ussion: The proposed project is not local lter the existing overall drainage pattern of age Section staff has reviewed and appro	of the site.	Departmen	t of Public	Works
8.	Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems, or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?				
have increa	ussion: Department of Public Works Draidetermined that existing storm water facionse in drainage associated with the project an contaminants and/or other polluting running ru	lities are ac ct. Refer to	lequate to l	nandle the	!
9.	Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?				
Disc	ussion: There are no levees or dams in	the vicinity	of the proje	ct site.	
10.	Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?				\boxtimes
<i>Discu</i> pollut	ussion: The project would not result in a ants.	ny impacts	from use o	r release o	of urban

Page 10	w Imuai Study	Potentially Significant Impact	Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
C. BIOLOGICAL RE Would the project:	SOURCES				
either directly modifications, identified as a special status regional plans or by the Calife	intial adverse effect, or through habitat on any species candidate, sensitive, or species in local or , policies, or regulations, ornia Department of Fish U.S. Fish and Wildlife				

T --- 41---

Discussion:

A Biotic Report was prepared for this project by Jodi McGraw, dated 9/30/11 (Attachment 2). Although there are multiple species associated with the sandhills habitat in which this project is located, the disturbed nature of the site, within the existing compound and currently used as a partially paved activities yard, precludes the presence of most of those species. The subject parcel was surveyed by Dr. McGraw and County Planning staff for various sandhills species, and only one species, the Mount Hermon June Beetle (MHJB), was determined to be potentially impacted as a result of this project. The MHJB is federally-listed as an endangered species. The footprint and surrounding area to be disturbed by the proposed project is partially covered by asphalt, which precludes the use of the soil below by the MHJB. However, the adjacent, unpaved areas and access route, while degraded by compaction and non-native landscape modifications, does contain potential MHJB habitat. Thus, the biotic report concludes that the proposed construction has the potential for causing some MHJB mortality. The initial estimate of the area potentially impacted by the project is approximately 8,600 square feet.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) administer the Federal Endangered Species Act and can permit take of the endangered insect that might occur incidentally during the course of otherwise lawful projects by issuing what is known as an "incidental take permit" (ITP).

To establish the best mitigations and to receive an ITP for the project, a proposal for a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and Incidental Take Permit Application prepared by Jodi McGraw Consulting, dated 1/17/13 (Attachment 3) has been submitted. Under the HCP/ITP proposal, Biologist McGraw will prepare a memo outlining the anticipated qualitative and quantitative impacts of the project upon the MHJB. Alternative approaches to project mitigations will be fully explored, to include both onsite habitat restoration and off-site mitigations.

The remainder of the subject parcel contains high quality sandhills parkland habitat, and has been the subject of several mitigation efforts for unrelated projects. Further opportunities for on-site mitigation exist, and would include long-term exotic plant removal and vegetative management developed specifically for enhancement of the

Potentially Significant Impact Less than
Significant
with
Mitigation
Incorporated

Less than Significant Impact

No Impact

Sandhills ecosystem.

Impacts to the MHJB can also be mitigated by providing permanent protection and management of Sandhills habitat off-site through the purchase of conservation credits which correspond to the area (in square footage) of impacted Sandhills habitat. The Zayante Sandhills Conservation Bank was created and approved by the USFWS and the County of Santa Cruz to provide options for mitigation for small projects that impact degraded Sandhills habitat such as the area of disturbance affected by the proposed project. The purchase of credits in the Ben Lomond Sandhills preserve results in the protection in perpetuity of prime habitat. The HCP and ITP will also describe measures to avoid or minimize construction-related impacts to the MHJB and their larvae, including but not limited to the timing of construction, covering soils and specific lighting requirements.

As the primary agency entrusted with the protection of the MHJB, the USFWS will determine the appropriate mitigation for the impacts to the MHJB habitat. This mitigation will either be through the purchase of credits or the restoration of habitat on site, or some combination thereof. In order to ensure that the impacts to the MHJB and Sandhills habitat are reduced to less than significant, the conditions set forth in the HCP and ITP shall become conditions of approval of the grading permit required by the County Planning Department.

2.	Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations (e.g., wetland, native grassland, special forests, intertidal zone, etc.) or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?		
Disc	eussion: See C-1 above.		
3.	Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species, or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native or migratory wildlife nursery sites?		

Discussion: The proposed project does not involve any activities that would interfere with the movements or migrations of fish or wildlife, or impede use of a known wildlife nursery site. There are no waterways on the site, and much of the 27.88 acre site is open and undeveloped, with no impediments to migratory wildlife corridors or nursery sites. The proposed recreational structure is clustered within the previously developed

CEQA Page	A Environmental Review Initial Study 12	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
area	within the site.				
4.	Produce nighttime lighting that would substantially illuminate wildlife habitats?			\boxtimes	. 🔲
exist prope The	cussion : The proposed recreational structuring Juvenile Hall structures in the middle certy, and would not result in a significant in project would be conditioned so that any nage, shielded and downward-directed.	of the large acrease in t	(27.88 acr the existing	e) subject i nighttime	lighting.
5.	Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?				
	ussion: There are no federally protected Clean Water Act in the vicinity of the projec		as defined	by Section	404 of
6.	Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources (such as the Sensitive Habitat Ordinance, Riparian and Wetland Protection Ordinance, and the Significant Tree Protection Ordinance)?				
Cruz incide Cons would	ussion: The project would conflict with the Sensitive Habitat Ordinance (County Codental take of Mount Hermon June Beetles servation Plan (HCP) to address and mitigate be incorporated into the project, and a Unit obtained, as described under C-1.	e Chapter is not mitig ite potentia	16.32) if the ated. How al impacts t	e potential ever, a Ha o Sandhill	ıbitat s habitat
7.	Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	``````````````````````````````````````			

Discussion: A Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) to address and mitigate potential impacts to Sandhills habitat is required and will be incorporated into the project, and a

1.

Potentially Significant Impact Significant with Mitigation Incorporated

Less than

Less than Significant Impact

No Impact

 \boxtimes

US Fish and Wildlife Incidental Take Permit must be obtained, as described under C-1.

D. AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES

Convert Prime Farmland, Unique

In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment Project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:

	Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?				
Farmla maps Califoi Local Statev	ression: The project site does not common and, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of prepared pursuant to the Farmland Marnia Resources Agency. In addition, the Importance. Therefore, no Prime Farmland of Local Importance who impact would occur from project impless.	Statewide Inflapping and e project do miland, Unice would be cor	mportance Monitorir es not co jue Farm	e as showr ng Progran ontain Farn land, Farn	n on the n of the nland of nland of
2.	Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?				

Discussion: The project site is zoned Special Use (SU), which is not considered to be an agricultural zone. Additionally, the project site's land is not under a Williamson Act Contract. Therefore, the project does not conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act Contract. No impact is anticipated.

CEQA I	Environmental Review Initial Study 4	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
3.	Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code Section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code Section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code Section 51104(g))?				
Discu	ussion: The project is not adjacent to land	designate	ed as Timb	er Resour	ce.
4.	Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?				
open	ission: The proposed recreational facility area developed with a volleyball court and ags. No impact to forest lands is anticipate	lawns, be		•	
5.	Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?				
desigr or Far Farmla There of Loc propos would would	ression: The project site and surroundinated as Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland rmland of Local Importance as shown or and Mapping and Monitoring Program fore, no Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland all Importance would be converted to a sed area of disturbance within the project be no impacts to forested areas of the page be sited between existing Juvenile Hall but fore, no impacts are anticipated.	nd, Farml of the maj of the Ca d, Farmla non-agric site conta project sit	and of Star ps prepare alifornia Ro nd of State ultural use ains no fore e, as the p	tewide Impled pursuares esources ewide, or Formal in additional in additional est land, a proposed s	portance of the Agency. Farmland there structure
	NERAL RESOURCES I the project:				
1.	Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?				
value 1	ession: The site does not contain any know to the region and the residents of the state project implementation.				

CEQA Page 1	Environmental Review Initial Study 15	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
2.	Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?		,		
an Ex Designification	ussion: The project site is zoned Special ctractive Use Zone (M-3) nor does it have gnation Overlay (Q) (County of Santa Cruzicant loss of availability of a known mineral rce recovery (extraction) site delineated of land use plan would occur as a result of the	a Land Usez 1994). The al resource on a local g	e Designati nerefore, no of locally in eneral plar	ion with a potential mportant r	Quarry lly nineral
	SUAL RESOURCES AND AESTHETICS d the project:	,			
1.	Have an adverse effect on a scenic vista?				
Coun would topog	ussion: Although Graham Hill Road is ty's General Plan (1994), public views be almost entirely blocked by the extraphy, trees and other landscaping. The set back more than 600 feet from the edges	of the proisting Juve entire Juve	posed rec enile Hall s enile Hall d	reational structures, evelopme	structure and by
2.	Substantially damage scenic resources, within a designated scenic corridor or public view shed area including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?				
(Grah existir feet f	assion: The project site is located along am Hill Road), but most of the propose ng Juvenile Hall structures, at a differen- from public view areas along Graham pated.	ed structure t elevation	e will be si and set ba	ituated be	hind the than 600
3.	Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings, including substantial change in topography or ground surface relief features, and/or development on a ridgeline?				

Discussion: The existing visual setting is a large (27.88 acre) site, much of which is undisturbed chaparral and ponderosa pine forest. The proposed project would be

CEQA	Environmental	Review	Initial	Study
Page 1	16			

Potentially Significant Impact Less than
Significant
with
Mitigation
Incorporated

Less than Significant Impact

No Impact

M

X

located between two existing Juvenile Hall buildings in a previously disturbed and largely level area, and is designed and landscaped to fit into this setting.

4. Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?

Discussion: The proposed recreational facility would be located between existing Juvenile Hall buildings within a large parcel. While the project could contribute an incremental amount of night lighting to the visual environment if used at night, it is a substantial distance from any public or private views. However, the project would be conditioned to require that new outdoor lighting, if any, would be shielded, non-glare and low wattage in order to reduce this potential impact to a less than significant level.

G. CULTURAL RESOURCES

Would the project:

 Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5?

Discussion: The existing structures on the property are not designated as a historic resource on any federal, state or local inventory.

 Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5?

Discussion: No archeological resources have been identified in the project area. Pursuant to County Code Section 16.40.040, if at any time in the preparation for or process of excavating or otherwise disturbing the ground, any human remains of any age, or any artifact or other evidence of a Native American cultural site which reasonably appears to exceed 100 years of age are discovered, the responsible persons shall immediately cease and desist from all further site excavation and comply with the notification procedures given in County Code Chapter 16.40.040.

3. Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?

Discussion: Pursuant to Section 16.40.040 of the Santa Cruz County Code, if at any time during site preparation, excavation, or other ground disturbance associated with this project, human remains are discovered, the responsible persons shall immediately cease and desist from all further site excavation and notify the sheriff-coroner and the Planning Director. If the coroner determines that the remains are not of recent origin, a

CEQA Environmental Review Initial Study Page 17

Potentially Significant Impact Significant with Mitigation Incorporated

Less than

Less than Significant Impact

No Impact

full archeological report shall be prepared and representatives of the local Native California Indian group shall be contacted. Disturbance shall not resume until the significance of the archeological resource is determined and appropriate mitigations to preserve the resource on the site are established.

prese	erve the resource on the site are established	ed.		_	
4.	Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?				
	ussion: No paleontological resources or a fified in the project area.	unique geo	logic featu	res have b	een
	AZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIAL d the project:	.S			
1.	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment as a result of the routine transport, use or disposal of hazardous materials?				
such	ussion: The proposed recreational struct as basketball, volleyball, calisthenics and azardous materials will be transported or c	other large	-muscle pl	•	•
2.	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?				
such and r	ussion: The proposed recreational structures as basketball, volleyball, calisthenics and seither the activities nor the equipment userdous materials, substances or waste, or here.	other large ed in the ac	-muscle pl tivities will	nysical acti involve the	vities,
3.	Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?				

Discussion: The proposed recreational structure will be used for exercise programs such as basketball, volleyball, calisthenics and other large-muscle physical activities, and neither the activities nor the equipment used in the activities will involve the use of hazardous materials, substances or waste.

CEQA A	Environmental Review Initial Study 8	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
4.	Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?				
Depar	ission: The project site is not inclirtment's list of hazardous sites in Santa (inclined code.				
5.	For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				
	ession: The proposed project is not located in two miles of a public airport or public us		n airport la	nd use pla	n area
6.	For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				
	ssion: The proposed project is not located in the vicinity of a private airstrip.	d within ar	n airport lai	nd use pla	n area
7.	Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?				
Juven	ssion: The proposed project will not gene ile Hall facility, and is not a part of any ado ation plan.	•			
8.	Expose people to electro-magnetic fields associated with electrical transmission lines?				\boxtimes

Discussion: There are no high-power electrical transmission lines in the vicinity of the proposed project, nor are any proposed as part of the project.

CEQA Page 1	Environmental Review Initial Study 19	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
9.	Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?				
	ussion: The project design incorporates a rements and includes fire protection devices.				gency.
	ANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC d the project:				
1.	Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?				
Discu gener	ussion: There would be no impact because rated.	se no addii	tional traffic	would be	
2.	Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?				
Discu air tra	ussion: There would be no impact becau ffic.	se the pro	ect would i	not genera	te any
3.	Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?				
Discu	ission: The project would not include haz	ardous de	sign feature	es or incon	npatible

Page 2	Environmentai Review Initiai Study 20	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
4.	Result in inadequate emergency access?				\boxtimes
	ussion: The project's road access meets oved by the local fire agency or California	•			
5.	Cause an increase in parking demand which cannot be accommodated by existing parking facilities?				\boxtimes
activi Juve	ussion: The proposed project is for a struties of Juvenile Hall residents who are alrestile Hall facility currently meets the code reng spaces.	eady house	ed at the pro	oject site,	and the
6.	Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?				
	ussion: The proposed project would coment potential hazards to motorists, bicyclist	. •		•	nts to
7.	Exceed, either individually (the project alone) or cumulatively (the project combined with other development), a level of service standard established by the County General Plan for designated intersections, roads or highways?				
Discu gener	ussion: There would be no impact because rated.	se no addit	ional traffic	would be	
J. No	OISE d the project result in:				
1.	A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?				
noise	ussion: The project would create a small environment. However, because the project ance from any sensitive receptors, the	ect is locat	ed within a	large pare	cel at a

Page 2	Environmental Review Initial Study 21	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
2.	Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?				\boxtimes
Disc	ussion: The project would not generate a	any ground	borne vibra	ition or no	ise.
3.	Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the General Plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?				
Gene Impul	ussion: Per County policy, average hour eral Plan threshold of 50 Leq during the day sive noise levels shall not exceed 65 db of swould not be exceeded, and there are no	y and 45 Le luring the d	_{eq} during th lay or 60 dl	e nighttim o at night.	e.
4.	A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?				
levels	ussion: Noise generated during construction for adjoining areas. Construction would duration of this impact it is considered to	be tempora	ary, howeve	er, and giv	
5.	For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				
	ussion: The proposed project is not locate hin two miles of a public airport or public u		n airport la	nd use pla	ın area
6.	For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				
Discu	ssion: The proposed project is not locate	d within the	e vicinity of	a private	airstrip.

CEQA Page 2	Environmental Review Initial Study 22	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Wherestab Air Po	IR QUALITY re available, the significance criteria blished by the Monterey Bay Unified collution Control District (MBUAPCD) may be to make the following determinations. Wo		oject:		
1.	Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?				
ozone would	ussion: The North Central Coast Air Basing and particulate matter (PM ₁₀). Therefore, be emitted by the project are ozone precuss] and nitrogen oxides [NO _x]), and dust.	the region	nal pollutar	nts of cond	ern that
emiss	ew traffic would be generated by the project sions of VOCs or NO_x would exceed MBUA herefore there would not be a significant co ion.	PCD thres	sholds for t	hese pollu	ıtants
gener as pe	ct construction may result in a short-term, lo ration of dust. However, standard dust contribution riodic watering, will be implemented during than significant level.	trol best n	nanagemer	nt practice	s, such
2.	Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?				
	ussion: The project would not conflict with nal air quality plan. See K-1 above.	or obstruc	ot impleme	ntation of	the
3.	Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?				
	ussion: See K-1 above. The project would all ambient air quality standards.	d not conf	ict with any	y applicab	le
4.	Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?				\boxtimes
Discu	ssion: The project would not generate sub	ostantial p	ollutant co	ncentratio	ns.

CEQA E Page 23	Environmental Review Initial Study 3	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
5.	Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?				\boxtimes
Discu	ssion: The project would not generate a	ny objectio	nable odo	rs.	
	REENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS I the project:				
1.	Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?				
increm site gr develo reduct levels specifi would require	ression: The proposed project, like all dependent increase in green house gas emistrading and construction. At this time, Seping a Climate Action Plan (CAP) in tion goals and necessary actions to reduce as required under AB 32 legislation. Under standards or criteria to apply to this probe required to comply with the Region ements for construction equipment. As rary increase in green house gas emeant.	sions by use canta Cruz tended to uce greenh itil the CAl pject. All pi al Air Qua a result,	sage of fos County is establish nouse gas P is compl roject cons ility Contro impacts a	sil fuels d in the pr specific levels to leted, ther struction ed Board e ssociated	uring the ocess of emission pre-1990 e are no quipment with the
2 .	Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?				

Discussion: See the discussion under L-1 above. No impacts are anticipated.

Page 2		onmental Review Initial Study	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
		IC SERVICES e project:				
1.	Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any of the public services:					
	a.	Fire protection?				
	b.	Police protection?				\boxtimes
	C.	Schools?				\boxtimes
	d.	Parks or other recreational activities?				
	e.	Other public facilities; including the maintenance of roads?				\boxtimes
clients would stand	s and I thus ards	on (a through e): The project would a would not generate any increase in a have no impact on public services. and requirements identified by the location.	employees Moreover,	or visitors the project	to the faci	ility, and
Would	d the	EATION project:	_			
1.	exis par suc det	ould the project increase the use of sting neighborhood and regional its or other recreational facilities that substantial physical erioration of the facility would occur be accelerated?				
		 The proposed Juvenile Hall recreased and thus would not impact existing page 				used by

CEQA Page 2	Environmental Review Initial Study 9	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
2.	Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?				
struct increa habita that th	ussion: The proposed gym is located with ures in an area currently designed for rease the footprint of the existing Juvenile Hat, as discussed under Section C (Biologichere would be any other potentially significant for this project.	ecreationa all facility o cal Resou	I use. The on areas of rces), but i	new struction potential struction to the structure of the	cture will Sandhills iticipated
	TILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS d the project:				
1.	Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?				
inform	ussion: Department of Public Works Drain nation and determined that downstream stocrease in drainage associated with the pro-	orm facilitie			
2.	Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?				
munic	rssion: The project site (Juvenile Hall) is a sipal water supply and served by an existin would be adequate to accommodate the I	g on-site s	sewage dis _l	posal syst	~
3.	Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?				
	ession: The project's wastewater flows wo nent standards.	ould not vio	olate any w	astewater	

<i>CEQA</i> Page	A Environmental Review Initial Study 26	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impaci
4.	Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?				
	ussion: The project would serve only the nile Hall with no expansion of use, thus no led.				
5.	Result in determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?				
	ussion: There will be no new demand as xisting Juvenile Hall population.	a result of	f the projec	t, which w	ill serve
6.	Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?				
	ussion: There will be no new demand on ct, which will serve the existing Juvenile Ha		•	result of th	ie
7.	Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?				\boxtimes
	ussion: There will be no new solid waste comply with all federal, state and local state			•	ect, and
	AND USE AND PLANNING d the project:				
1.	Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?				

Discussion: With mitigations to address new ground disturbance in a Sandhills

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Potentially Significant Impact Less than
Significant
with
Mitigation
Incorporated

Less than Significant Impact

No Impact

habitat area as discussed under Section C (Biologic Resources), the proposed project does not conflict with any regulations or policies adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect. An Incidental Take Permit from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) will be required, and either on-site habitat restoration or the purchase of off-site conservation credits, or some combination thereof, will be the required mitigation in order to be in compliance with sensitive species protection regarding potential incidental take of the federally-protected Mount Hermon June Beetle.

regard Beetle	ding potential incidental take of the fede	erally-prote	cted Mour	nt Hermon	June
2.	Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?			\boxtimes	
conse	rssion: There are no habitat conservation pervation plans that affect the subject parcel. rmance with, a low impact HCP.			•	d in
3.	Physically divide an established community?				\boxtimes
	ession: The project would not include any established community.	element tha	at would ph	ysically div	ide
	PULATION AND HOUSING I the project:				
1.	Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?				
develo propos not res does r areas	ssion: The proposed project is designed a opment allowed by the General Plan and zo sed new structure would serve the existing sult in additional users or trips to the Juvenil not involve extensions of utilities (e.g., water previously not served. Consequently, it is ring effect.	ning desig Juvenile H e facility r, sewer, o	nations for all populationally Additionally r new road	the parcel. on and wou y, the proje systems) ir	uld ct
2.	Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				

Discussion: The proposed project would not displace any existing housing since the site is currently developed with County Juvenile Hall facility and would have no impact

CEQA Environmental Review Initial Study Page 28		Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
on ho	ousing in the area.				
3.	Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				\boxtimes
Disc	ussion: The proposed project would not d	displace pe	eople becau	use the sit	e is

Discussion: The proposed project would not displace people because the site is currently used as a County Juvenile Hall facility.

R. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

	Significant	with	Significant	No
	Impact	Mitigation	Impact	Impact
1. 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 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?				

Less than

Significant

Less than

Potentially

Discussion: 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 were considered in the response to each question in Section III of this Initial Study. Resources that have been evaluated as significant would be potentially impacted by the project, particularly biotic resources. However, mitigation measures have been incorporated that clearly reduce these effects to a level below significance. Mitigation options include onsite habitat restoration, or off-site Sandhills habitat land bank investment as required to obtain a US Fish and Wildlife Incidental Take Permit in order to mitigate the potential for incidental take of Mount Hermon June Beetles during ground disturbance in a Sandhills habitat area. As a result of this evaluation, there is no substantial evidence that, after mitigation, significant effects associated with this project would result. Therefore, this project has been determined not to meet this Mandatory Finding of Significance.

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Page 30	

		Potentially Significant Impact	Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
2.	Does the project have impacts 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)?				

Less than

Less than

Discussion: In addition to project specific impacts, this evaluation considered the projects potential for incremental effects that are cumulatively considerable. As a result of this evaluation, there is no substantial evidence that, after mitigation, there are cumulative effects associated with this project. Therefore, this project has been determined not to meet this Mandatory Finding of Significance.

Potentially Less than Significant Significant with Significant No Impact Mitigation Impact Impact 3. Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

Discussion: In the evaluation of environmental impacts in this Initial Study, the potential for adverse direct or indirect impacts to human beings were considered in the response to specific questions in Section III. As a result of this evaluation, there is no substantial evidence that, after mitigation, there are adverse effects to human beings associated with this project. Therefore, this project has been determined not to meet this Mandatory Finding of Significance.

IV. TECHNICAL REVIEW CHECKLIST

	REQUIRED	DATE COMPLETED
Agricultural Policy Advisory Commission (APAC) Review	Yes No No	
Archaeological Review	Yes 🔲 No 🔲	
Biotic Report/Assessment	Yes 🛛 No 🗌	9/11
Geologic Hazards Assessment (GHA)	Yes 🗌 No 🗌	
Geologic Report	Yes 🗌 No 🗌	
Geotechnical (Soils) Report	Yes 🛛 No 🗌	4/13
Riparian Pre-Site	Yes 🗌 No 🗌	
Septic Lot Check	Yes No No	
Other:	Yes No	·

V. <u>REFERENCES USED IN THE COMPLETION OF THIS ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW INITIAL STUDY</u>

County of Santa Cruz 1994.

1994 General Plan and Local Coastal Program for the County of Santa Cruz, California. Adopted by the Board of Supervisors on May 24, 1994, and certified by the California Coastal Commission on December 15, 1994.

VI. ATTACHMENTS

- 1. Geotechnical Investigation (Conclusions and Recommendations attached; the full document is on file with the County of Santa Cruz Planning Department), prepared by Haro, Kasunich & Associates, Inc., dated April 2013
- 2. Biotic Report, prepared by Jodi McGraw Consulting, dated September 30, 2011
- 3. Proposal to Develop a Habitat Conservation Plan and Incidental Take Permit Application, prepared by Jodi McGraw Consulting, dated January 17, 2013
- 4. Vicinity Map, Map of Zoning Districts; Map of General Plan Designations; and Assessors Parcel Map.

GEOTECHNICAL INVESTIGATION FOR PROPOSED MULTI USE BUILDING SANTA CRUZ COUNTY PROBATION CENTER/JUVENILE HALL 3650 GRAHAM HILL ROAD **FELTON, CALIFORNIA**

PREPARED FOR COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ PROBATION DEPARTMENT P. O. BOX 1812 SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA

PREPARED BY HARO, KASUNICH & ASSOCIATES, INC. **GEOTECHNICAL AND COASTAL ENGINEERS** PROJECT NO. SC10483 **April 2013**

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GEOTECHNICAL INVESTIGATION

Introduction

This report presents the results of our Geotechnical Investigation for a proposed Multi Use Recreation and Programs Building at the Santa Cruz County Probation Center/Juvenile Hall, located at 3650 Graham Hill Road in Felton, California (see Site Vicinity Map, Figure 1 in Appendix A).

A Title Exceptions Map of the project site, dated 12 July 2011, was prepared by the County of Santa Cruz Public Works Department. We used the map as the base for our Boring Site Plan (see Figure No. 2 in Appendix A). Site descriptions, distances, elevations, and gradients discussed in this report are based on a site reconnaissance by the engineer and review of the Topographic Map.

At the time this report was prepared, foundation and grading plans had not been developed. We should review the project plans prior to construction to evaluate if the geotechnical criteria and recommendations presented were properly interpreted and implemented and determine if this report is adequate and complete for proposed grading and construction.

<u>Purpose</u>

The purpose of our investigation was to explore and evaluate the soil conditions at the building site and provide geotechnical criteria and recommendations for design and construction of the Multi Use Building and associated improvements.

Scope of Work

The specific scope of our services was as follows:

- Site reconnaissance and review of available maps and reports in our files regarding the site and region.
- 2. A field exploration program at the project site consisting of logging and interval sampling of soil encountered in five (5) continuous flight-augered borings drilled to depths of 16.5 to 21.5 feet. The soil samples obtained were sealed and returned to the laboratory for testing.
- 3. Laboratory testing and classification of selected samples were performed to determine pertinent engineering properties required for our analyses. Moisture content and dry density tests were performed to evaluate the consistency of the in situ soils. Grain size analysis and Atterberg Limits tests were performed to aid in soil classification and evaluate the soil plasticity and expansion potential.

- 4. Engineering analysis and evaluation of the resulting field and laboratory test data was performed. Based on our findings we developed geotechnical design criteria for site grading, foundations, retaining walls, site drainage and erosion control.
- 5. Preparation and submittal of this report presenting the results of our investigation.

Site Location and Conditions

The project site is located at 3650 Graham Hill Road in Felton, California. The Probation Center/Juvenile Hall Facility includes the Juvenile Hall Building, the Probation Offices Building, a Portable Building and a paved parking lot and baseball field. The facility was built on a level pad graded into the sloping site many years ago. The natural slopes surrounding the facility have gradients of 10 to 15 percent.

The proposed Multi Use Building site is a level grass lawn yard area and asphalt basketball court on the north side of the Probation Offices, between the Juvenile Hall and the Portable Building. The lawn area surrounding the basketball court has numerous gopher burrow holes. The northeast side of the yard is at the toe of a 12 to 14 foot high graded slope (30 to 35 percent gradient). The southwest facing slopes above the site are vegetated with numerous pine trees and brush typically found on Santa Cruz Sandhills Habitat.

Project Description

A new 64 foot by 107 foot pre-manufactured Multi Use Building, primarily used as a sports gym, is proposed for the site. A concrete slab-on-grade foundation is anticipated for the building. The building will be situated about 15 feet from the toe of the cut slope and 20 to 35 feet from adjacent buildings. Much of the grass lawn area and the asphalt basketball court will be removed during grading for the project. Sub-excavation and redensification of on-site soil is anticipated for the building area. A small retaining wall may be constructed to support a portion of the cut slope on the east side of the site.

Field Exploration

Subsurface conditions at the project site were investigated on 18 March 2013 by drilling five (5) exploratory borings 16.5 feet deep to 21.5 feet deep. The borings were advanced with 6-inch diameter continuous flight-auger equipment mounted on a truck. The approximate locations of the test borings are indicated on the Boring Site Plan (see Figure 3 in Appendix A).

Representative soil samples were obtained from the exploratory borings at selected depths, or at major strata changes. These samples were recovered using the 3.0 inch outside diameter (O.D.) Modified California Sampler (L), or the 2.0 inch O.D. Standard Terzaghi Sampler (T).

The penetration resistance blow counts noted on the boring logs for the 6-inch diameter continuous flight-auger borings were obtained as the sampler was dynamically driven into the in situ soil. The process was performed by dropping a 140-pound hammer a 30-inch free fall distance, driving the sampler 6 to 18 inches and recording the number of blows for each 6-inch penetration interval. The blows recorded on the boring logs represent the accumulated number of blows that were required to drive the last 12 inches.

The soil encountered in the borings was continuously logged in the field and described in accordance with the Unified Soil Classification System (ASTM D2487). A description of the soil and moisture conditions underlying the site is presented in our Logs of Test Borings (see Figures 5 to 9 in Appendix A).

The Boring Logs denote subsurface conditions at the locations and time observed, and it is not warranted that they are representative of subsurface conditions at other locations or times.

Laboratory Testing

The laboratory testing program was directed toward determining pertinent engineering and index soil properties.

The natural moisture contents and dry densities were determined on selected samples and are recorded on the boring logs at the appropriate depths. Since the engineering behavior of soil is affected by changes in moisture content, the natural moisture content will aid in evaluation of soil compressibility, strength, and potential expansion characteristics. Soil dry density and moisture content are index properties necessary for calculation of earth pressures on engineering structures. The soil dry density is also related to soil strength and permeability.

A particle size analysis test (ASTM D422-63) was performed on a select sample to aid in soil classification in accordance with the Unified Soil Classification System (USCS). An Atterberg Limits test (ASTM 4318-10) was performed on a select soil sample to evaluate the range of moisture contents over which the soil exhibits plasticity, and to also aid in soil classification in accordance with the Unified Soil Classification System (USCS). The test results indicate that the on site soil is classified as Non-Plastic silty sand (SM).

The strength parameters of the underlying earth materials were determined from Standard Penetration Test (SPT) values obtained during drilling and soil sampling.

The results of the field and laboratory testing appear on each "Log of Test Boring" opposite the sample tested.

Subsurface Conditions

Based on our subsurface exploration, the general soil profile in our borings at the project site consisted of very loose to dense silty sand and sand with silt from the surface to the depths explored (21.5 feet). In Borings 1 to 4, the soil was loose from the surface to depths of 1 to 3 feet and medium dense by a depth of 5 feet. The soil density generally increased with depth and was dense at a depth of 20 feet in Boring 1. In Boring 5, loose soil was found from the surface to a depth of about 8 feet. The loose soil found in Boring 1 appears to be colluvium or loose fill soil from the cut portion of the pad placed during original grading at the project site.

Groundwater

Groundwater was not encountered in our borings. High groundwater is not anticipated at the project site due the relatively uniform particle size and porous nature of the natural sand found at the project site. However, groundwater levels may fluctuate due to variations in rainfall or other factors not evident during our investigation.

Site Geology

Based on a review of the Geologic Map of Santa Cruz County, the project site is mapped as Tsm: Santa Margarita Sandstone (upper Miocene) - Very thick bedded to massive, thickly cross-bedded yellowish-gray to white friable granular medium to fine-grained arkosic

sandstone; locally calcareous and locally bituminous. Thickness is 430 feet along Scotts Valley syncline (Clark, 1981, p.25).

The soil encountered in our borings is consistent with the geologic description of the Tsm: Santa Margarita Sandstone.

Seismicity

The following is a general discussion of seismicity in the project area. Detailed studies of seismicity and geologic hazards are beyond the scope of this study.

A review of State Fault Traces on the Santa Cruz County Planning Department GIS website indicates the building site is 11.85km (7.36 mi) from the active San Andreas Fault Zone, 6.99 km (4.34 mi) from the potentially active Zayante-Vergeles Fault Zone.

The south Santa Cruz Mountains section of the San Andreas Fault is a major fault zone of active displacement which extends from the Gulf of California to the vicinity of Point Arena, where the fault leaves the California coastline. Between these points, the San Andreas Fault is about 700 miles long. The fault zone is a break or series of breaks along the earth's crust, where shearing movement has taken place. This fault movement is primarily horizontal.

The largest historic earthquake in Northern California occurred on 18 April 1906 (M8.3+). The 17 October 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake (M6.9) is considered to have been associated with the San Andreas Fault system. This event was the second largest earthquake in Northern California this century. Although no surface rupture was evident following the Loma Prieta earthquake, Hall et al. (1974) indicate that the San Andreas Fault has a high potential for surface rupture, with a recurrence interval of 50 to 1,000 years.

Potential seismic hazards at the site include liquefaction, landsliding, surface ground rupture, and strong seismic shaking. Because of the medium dense to dense condition of the soil underlying the site and lack of high groundwater at the site, the potential for seismic induced liquefaction at the site is low. The potential for landsliding at the gently sloping site to negatively impact the proposed building site is also low.

Due to the proximity of the site to active and potentially active faults, there is high potential for strong seismic shaking at the site. We recommend the Multi Use Building be designed in conformance with the most current California Building Code (CBC) seismic design standards.

DISCUSSIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

Based on the results of our investigation, the proposed construction of a Multi Use Building in the location shown on our Boring Site Plan (see Figure 3 in Appendix A) is feasible from a geotechnical standpoint provided the design criteria and recommendations presented in this report are incorporated into the design and construction of the proposed project.

The geotechnical considerations at the site include: the compressibility of near surface soil; providing firm uniform support for the proposed premanufactured building; and the high potential for strong seismic shaking.

To provide uniform support for the proposed Multi Use Building, increase the bearing capacity of foundation zone soil and reduce the potential for differential settlement, we recommend the proposed building be supported on redensified soil. We recommend loose soil within the building pad be sub-excavated and replaced as engineered fill. The redensified zone should extend to a minimum depth of 2 feet below the bottom of footings and slabs.

In addition, where loose soil is encountered, the bottom of the sub-excavation should extend to a depth sufficient to remove loose soil. We estimate the sub-excavation may need to extend to an average depth of 6 feet in the southwest portion of the building site.

The bottom of excavations should be scarified, moisture conditioned (dried back) and compacted as engineered fill. The geotechnical engineer or his/her representative should evaluate the bottom of sub-excavation and confirm loose soil has been sub-excavated prior to scarification and compaction.

The sub-excavated soil should be moisture conditioned, placed in thin lifts, and compacted as engineered fill to design grades. The redensified zone should extend a minimum of 5 feet beyond the building perimeters on the building site. Provided the soil below the Multi Use Building pad is redensified as recommended above, spread footing foundations are recommended for the structure.

The site will most likely experience strong seismic shaking during the design lifetime of the proposed structure. The Multi Use Building should be designed utilizing current California Building Code (CBC) seismic design standards.

APPENDIX A

Site Vicinity Map

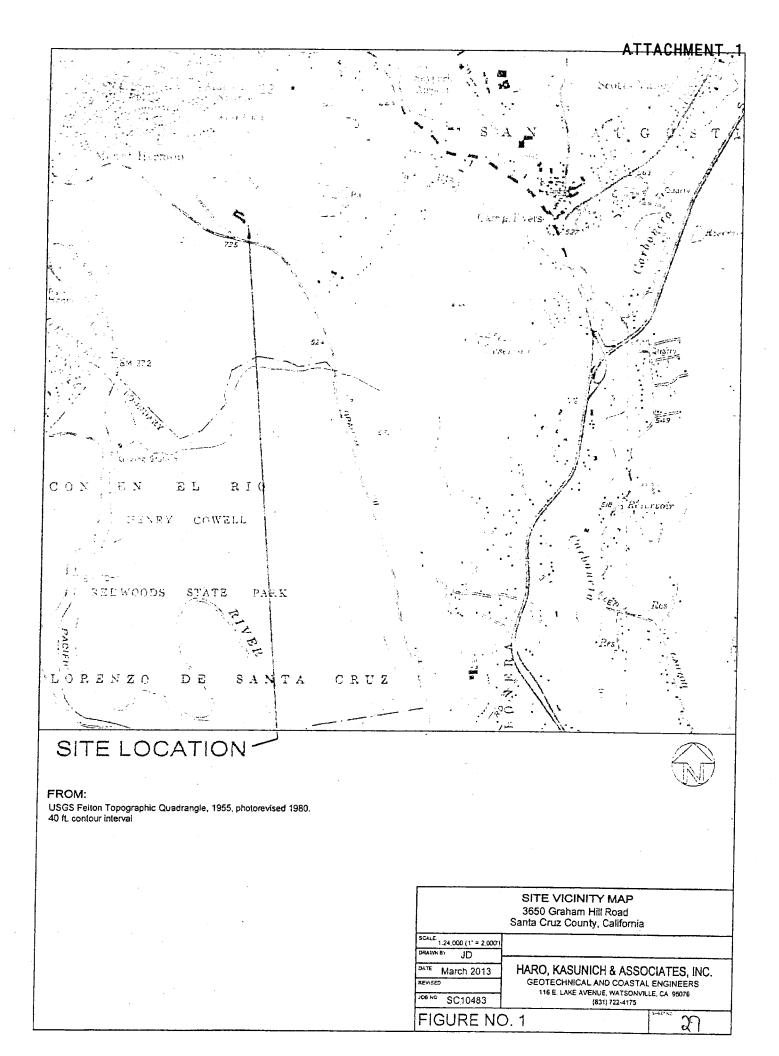
Regional Geologic Map

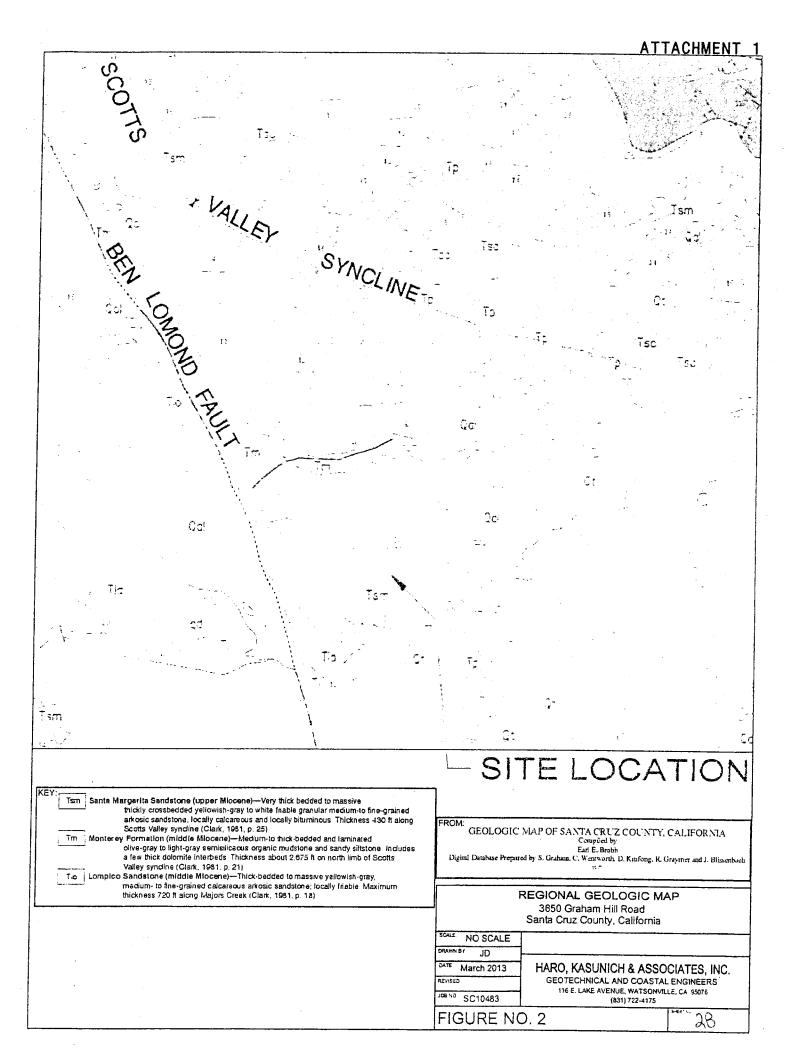
Boring Site Plan

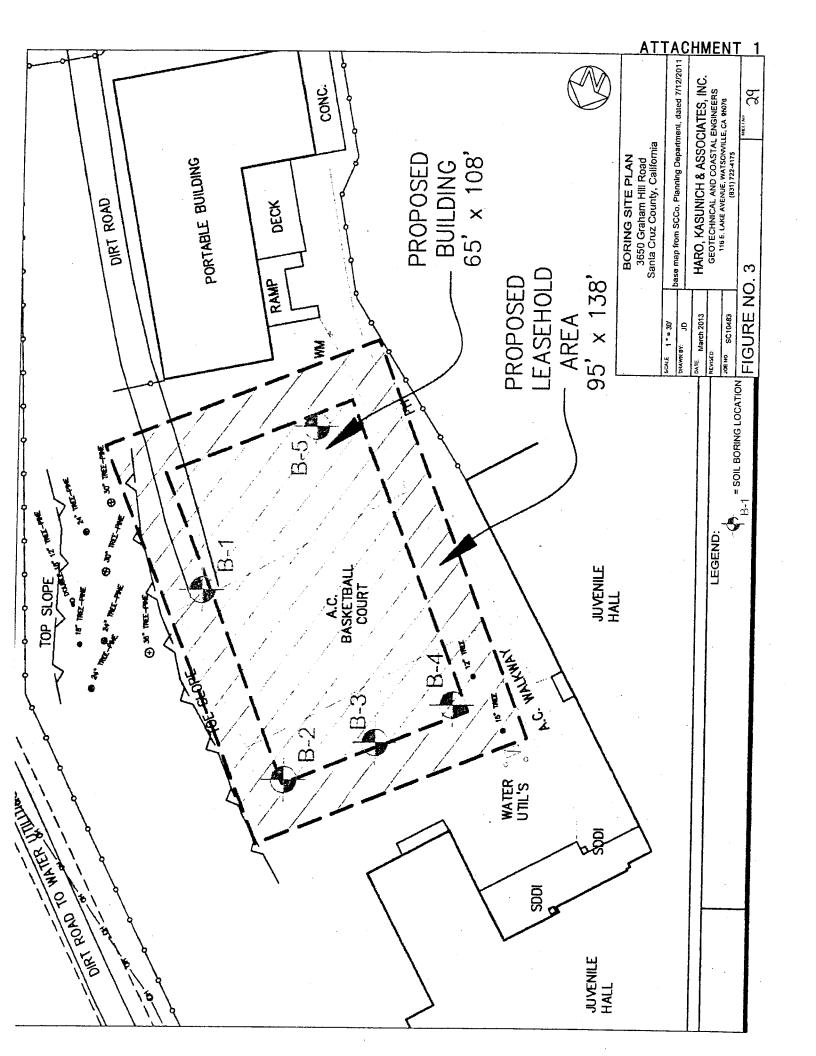
Key to Logs

Logs of Test Borings

Grain Size Analysis Test









Jodi McGraw Consulting www.jodimcgrawconsulting.com PO Box 221 • Freedom, CA 95019 phone/fax: (831) 768-6988 jodi@jodimcgrawconsulting.com

September 30, 2011

Julie Rudge Administrative Services Manager County of Santa Cruz Probation P.O. Box 1812 Santa Cruz, CA 95061-1812

RE: Biological Report for Juvenile Detention Center Site, 3650 Graham Hill Road Felton, CA (APN: 061-371-16). The survey in this Report was conducted under US Fish and Wildlife Service Recovery Permit TE 118641-1, issued to Jodi M. McGraw for the Mount Hermon June beetle and Zayante band-winged grasshopper.

Dear Ms. Rudge:

I am writing to provide you with a report of my assessment of the rare and endangered species and sensitive habitat within a portion of the County of Santa Cruz Probation Department's Juvenile Detention Center, which is located within the County's approximately 28-acre parcel (APN: 061-371-16) at 3650 Graham Hill Road in the unincorporated portion of Santa Cruz County between Felton and Scotts Valley, California. Based on our correspondence, I understand that your department is evaluating constructing an approximately 6,880 ft² (107.5 foot x 64 foot) multipurpose facility within the development envelope of the existing juvenile detention center that the County operates within the southern portion of the subject parcel.

In fall 2008, I conducted an initial assessment of the habitat within the proposed project area, to determine whether it supports or provides habitat for, special status plants and animals that occur within the Santa Cruz Sandhills (Table 1) (McGraw 2008). These species occur within Sandhills communities found on Zayante coarse sand soil within Mount Hermon and elsewhere in central Santa Cruz County.

In summer 2011, I conducted a presence/absence survey for the Zayante band-winged grasshopper, to determine whether the endangered species occurs within the proposed project area or elsewhere on the County's parcel. As part of the survey, I also re-examined the habitat conditions in the proposed project area, as well as the potential construction access route from the paved road to the east, to make sure that it was complete and up to date.

This document integrates the results of both habitat assessments and the Zayante band-winged grasshopper survey, and outlines potential permitting requirements and approaches based on my findings and prior experience assisting landowners with permitting such projects.

Table 1: Special status species with potential to occur within or adjacent to the County's Juvenile Detention Center.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status		
Zayante band-winged grasshopper	Trimerotropis infantilis	Federally Endangered		
Mount Hermon June beetle	Polyphylla barbata	Federally Endangered		
Ben Lomond spineflower	Chorizanthe pungens var. hartwegiana	Federally Endangered; CNPS 1B¹ (rare or endangered)		
Ben Lomond (Santa Cruz) wallflower	Erysimum teretifolium	Federally Endangered; California Endangered; CNPS		
silverleaf manzanita	Arctostaphylos silvicola	CNPS 1B		
Ben Lomond buckwheat	Eriogonum nudum var. decurrens	CNPS 1B		

¹ California Native Plant Society Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants of California (CNPS 2011)

Habitat Assessment

The assessment evaluated habitat conditions within an approximately 0.8-acre area proposed project area, which includes the around surrounding the proposed building site in the existing yard, and a access strip from the paved road east of the juvenile detention center (Figure 1).

Existing Development and Land Use

The assessed area features a yard and dirt road. The yard is surrounded on the west, south, and east by existing buildings, and abuts intact habitat to the north. It features a planted lawn with ornamental shade trees, an asphalt volleyball court, asphalt walkways, a former garden site, and some open space. The dirt road is used infrequently to conduct maintenance activities.

Soils |

As mapped by the Soil Conservation Service, the subject parcel contains Zayante soils, which are poorly developed, deep, coarse, sand soils derived from the weathering of uplifted marine sediments and sandstones (USDA 1980). The unpaved portion of the proposed project area features a light to medium grey sand soil characteristic of the Zayante series. Within the yard, the soils are somewhat compacted as a result of historic land use, including perhaps grading and compaction to flatten the area, and recreational use of the yard. The central portion of the yard is covered by an asphalt volleyball court. The eastern one-third features compacted sand soil that is partially covered by non-native rock and mulch. The western approximately one-third of the project area features relatively loose sand soil on the northern half, and compacted, higher nutrient soil surrounding the planted trees, which are in an area that is apparently irrigated. The access road and garden area feature loose grey brown Zayante sand soil.

Jodi M. McGraw September 30, 2011 Page 3

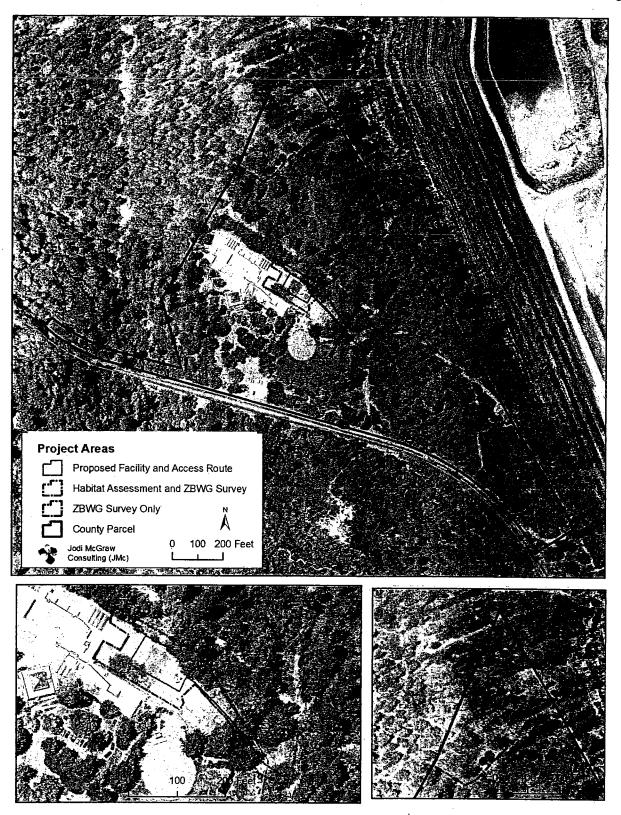


Figure 1: County of Santa Cruz property located at 3650 Graham Hill Road Felton, CA (APN: 061-371-16), showing the proposed project multipurpose facilitate project and construction access route (orange), the area of the habitat assessment and survey, and the additional area surveyed for the Zayante bandwinged grasshopper. Map prepared by Jodi McGraw.

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Plants

Native plant community species composition and structure (i.e. vegetation) has been altered within the assessment area through landscaping, hardscaping, and other activities. On either side of the asphalt volleyball court, the building envelope supports herbaceous vegetation that has likely been repeatedly mowed as part of the maintenance of the grounds. The cover is dominated by non-native annual grasses and forbs that are common in chronically disturbed Sandhills habitat, including rat-tail fescue (Vulpia myuros), cat's ears (Hypochaeris spp.), Filago spp., and telegraph weed (Heterotheca grandiflora). The hill slope north of the proposed building envelope features coast live oaks (Quercus agrifolia), Pacific madrone (Arbutus menziesii), and ponderosa pine (Pinus ponderosa). The access route features these trees, which on the eastern portion feature an understory of native Sandhills species including silver bush lupine (Lupinus albifrons var. albifrons) and golden aster (Heterotheca sessiliflora ssp. echiodes).

Special Status Plants

I did not observe any of the four special status plant species within the proposed project area during either assessment. Silverleaf manzanita is a conspicuous shrub that clearly was not present. Ben Lomond buckwheat, Ben Lomond spineflower, and Ben Lomond (or Santa Cruz) wallflower are herbaceous species that flower during the spring and summer. As a plant ecologist with extensive research experience with these species, I can detect them during various life stages. Based on this, I am fairly confident that the proposed project site does not feature the herbaceous species either.

Special Status Animals

Unpaved portions of the proposed project area likely support the Mount Hermon June beetle—an insect that feeds as a fossorial larva on plant roots and associated mycorrhizae, and then emerges as an adult in late spring and summer in order to mate. This species occurs in areas with Zayante soils that feature a variety of vegetation, including not only native Sandhills communities but also landscape and ornamental vegetation. Perhaps because it lives 99% of its life belowground, the Mount Hermon June beetle has been found within developed areas and other areas impacted by human uses, including the mowed areas subject to recreation. The Mount Hermon June beetle is known to occupy the intact habitat within the subject parcel (Arnold 2004, McGraw 2006). The intact Sandhills habitat on the northern portion of the parcel supports a relatively high abundance of the Mount Hermon June beetle (J. McGraw, unpublished data).

In the prior habitat assessment (McGraw 2008), I found that the proposed project area has limited potential to provide habitat for the Zayante band-winged grasshopper—an insect that requires open sunlit, sparsely vegetated areas in Zayante soils. The project area features such conditions; however, mowing and related activities likely degrade habitat for the rare insect. In addition, the area of potentially suitable habitat is small (<0.25 acre) and surrounded by buildings and ponderosa pine forest, both of which would preclude Zayante band-winged grasshoppers and further reduce the likelihood that the species occurs within the project area. The Zayante band-winged grasshopper is known to occur within the habitat set asides surrounding the Hanson Quarry, approximately 800 feet northeast of the project site (USFWS 2009).

Zayante Band-Winged Grasshopper Survey

Based on these factors indicating the site has limited ability to support the Zayante band-winged grasshopper, I recommended that a presence/absence survey be used to evaluate whether the project area is occupied by the endangered insect. On August 24, 2011 I received permission from Chad Mitcham, Biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (C. Mitcham, pers. comm.), to conduct the presence/absence survey under my recovery permit for the Mount Hermon June beetle and Zayante band-winged grasshopper (TE 118641-1).

Survey Methods

The survey area included all potentially suitable habitat for the Zayante band-winged grasshopper within the subject parcel, including the 0.8-acre project area as well as the dense sand parkland habitat located on the northern portion of the parcel (Figure 1). This area was surveyed to determine if the species occurred in closer proximity to the project area than the Hanson Quarry Conservation Areas 800 feet north of the project area, and thus aid evaluation or potential direct and indirect impacts of the project. The remainder of the subject parcel support Sandhills chaparral and ponderosa pine forest communities, which feature dense litter and canopy cover and do not provide habitat for the endangered grasshopper.

I conducted the presence/absence survey on three days during the height of the species' adult activity period this year (Table 2), which I determined through ongoing, weekly monitoring of the species since July at the Quail Hollow Quarry Conservation Areas, located two miles north-northwest of the project area. This 'control' population was examined each day of the survey to verify that the survey occurred on a day when the Zayante band-winged grasshopper was active, and thus more likely to be detected within the proposed project area if it is present. Surveys occurred on days with weather conditions conducive to the species' activity; temperatures were between 76 °F and 90 °F and there was little wind (Table 2). The three surveys were conducted across a range of times of the day during which the species is active (i.e. 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.) to ensure that sunlight fell on each portion of the ground through the surrounding tree canopy in each area during at least one survey.

Table 2: Number of Zayante band-winged grasshoppers observed during three survey days within the County's parcel and a reference site, the South Ridge Conservation Area of the Quail Hollow Quarry in Ben Lomond, CA. Survey details provided in text.

•	County Parcel			South Ri	idge Conservation Area		Area	
Survey Day	Time	Temp (°F)	Wind (mph)	ZBWG (n)	Time	Temp (°F)	Wind (mph)	ZBWG (n)
August 29, 2011	1430-1600	86	0-2	0	1200-1300	84	1-3	33
September 6, 2011	1330-1500	90	0-2	0	1130-1230	91	0-2	33
September 13, 2011	1100-1230	80	0-2	0	1330-1430	. 86	0-2	43
Total				. 0				109

On each survey day, I walked parallel, contiguous band transects throughout the survey area in search of grasshoppers. Surveys of the project area required 30 minutes, while surveys of the sand parkland in the northern portion of the parcel required an additional 60 minutes to complete. The survey in the control site required approximately one hour.

Survey Results

During the three-day survey, I did not observe any Zayante band-winged grasshoppers within the proposed project area, or the remainder of the survey area within the County parcel (Table 2). During the three days, I observed a total of 109 of the endangered grasshoppers at the reference site during the approximately same period of time spent searching (Table 2).

Jodi M. McGraw September 30, 2011 Page 6

Anticipated Project Impacts

Based on my survey results and observations of the habitat conditions within the proposed project area, and known information about the distribution and ecology of the special status species, construction of the new multipurpose room has the potential to impact the Mount Hermon June beetle by killing individuals and removing habitat within the portion of open soil that remains within the building disturbance envelope. Because the other rare and endangered plants and animals of the Sandhills do not occur within or adjacent to the project footprint, the project is not anticipated to impact the Zayante band-winged grasshopper, Ben Lomond spineflower, Ben Lomond buckwheat, or silverleaf manzanita.

Approximately one third of the footprint of the proposed building is covered by asphalt, which precludes use of the soil below by the Mount Hermon June beetle. The adjacent, unpaved areas and the access route contain habitat that has been degraded by soil compaction and vegetation modifications associated with use of the property. However, based on my assessment, the proposed construction project would remove degraded habitat as well as cause mortality of some individuals of the federally-listed species.

Project Permitting Requirements and Processes

The federal Endangered Species Act makes it illegal to 'take' (kill, harm, harass, etc.) endangered animals including the Mount Hermon June beetle (MHJB). However, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), which administers the Act, can permit take of the endangered insect that might occur incidentally during the course of otherwise lawful projects, such as construction of the multipurpose room, by issuing what is known as an 'incidental take permit' (ITP).

In order to receive an ITP, project proponents must complete a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), which outlines how they will mitigate the project's negative effects on the endangered species. Mitigation must include steps to avoid, minimize, and repair impacts at the project site, as well as efforts to compensate for them by benefiting similar habitat elsewhere. Given the modest size of the proposed project and low anticipated impacts to the MHJB as well as other environmental resources, it could potentially receive an ITP through preparation of a low effect HCP—the review of which can be expedited.

The US Fish and Wildlife Service, City of Scotts Valley, and County of Santa Cruz have developed an Interim Programmatic HCP (IPHCP) for the Sandhills, which is designed to cover take of MHJB and impacts to the Ben Lomond spineflower. To be eligible for take coverage, however, the IPHCP states that projects must be residential in nature, occur on a parcel of less than 1.5 acres that is located within one of the IPHCP unit, and impact no more than 15,000 square feet (USFWS et al. 2011). The proposed project does not meet three of IPHCP's eligibility criteria; specifically, it is not residential in nature, will not occur on a parcel of less than 1.5 acres, and will not occur within one of the IPHCP units. However, the IPHCP states: "On a case-by-case basis, the Service and appropriate local jurisdiction may also approve for coverage under the IPHCP and ITPs other similar development projects that meet the eligibility requirements listed in the IPHCP." (Page 26, USFWS et al. 2011).

I note that, if the proposed project involves an act of the federal government, such as provision of federal funding, then the project would be subject to an intra-agency consultation between the USFWS and the other federal agency involved in the project. Rather than preparing an HCP, the County would consult with the USFWS, which would then issue a biological opinion that describes project avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures designed to reduce impacts. An act of the federal government that would create the nexus that would trigger such a Section 7 consultation can include funding for the project (e.g. grants) and federal agency regulatory oversight or jurisdiction.

Jodi M. McGraw September 30, 2011 Page 7

Finally, the County's Sensitive Habitat Ordinance also regulates activities that occur within Sandhills habitat supporting rare species. Steps taken to avoid, minimize, and mitigate project impacts as part of compliance with the federal Endangered Species Act often satisfy the County's own requirements, though this is not always the case, making it important to coordinate project permitting with the County to ensure compliance with the ordinance.

Mitigation Options

The impacts of the proposed project on the Mount Hermon June beetle and Sandhills habitat can be mitigated through two, non-mutually exclusive mechanisms: on-site mitigation and off-site mitigation.

Onsite Mitigation

In on-site mitigation, the County could compensate for the direct and indirect impacts of constructing the multipurpose room on the MHJB by enhancing the condition of habitat elsewhere on the property. This could be accomplished through restoration projects designed to alleviate factors that degrade habitat for the MHJB and other rare species. For example, restoration could include exotic plant removal projects, or vegetation management projects designed to simulate the beneficial effects of fire—a natural component of the Sandhills ecosystem (McGraw 2004, McGraw 2006). Such habitat restoration projects are currently being conducted on the County's parcel as part of implementation of a five-year plan to mitigate the impacts of the development of the telecommunications facility on its northern end (McGraw 2006).

Restoration and enhancement projects can have inadvertent negative impacts to the Sandhills habitat and species. Therefore, they should be developed and implemented following a site-specific habitat management plan developed by a biologist with experience in the Sandhills. The habitat management plan should identify monitoring protocols designed to evaluate whether the habitat restoration and enhancement measures have effectively compensated for the project impacts.

To ensure the restoration efforts provide a long-term conservation benefit for the species, restored or enhanced areas should be permanently protected from future development or other factors that degrade habitat, such as destructive recreation uses. A legal document such as a deed restriction or conservation easement can be used to describe allowable uses or activities within the enhanced area. To ensure compliance with the use terms, long term easement or compliance monitoring is often required.

Off-Site Mitigation

The impacts to the special status species and Sandhills habitat could also be mitigated by providing for the permanent protection and management of Sandhills habitat off-site; that is, in a location not on the project parcel. Off-site mitigation could include preservation and/or management of Sandhills habitat designed to benefit the impacts species on other properties, including perhaps Sandhills habitat located within the County's Quail Hollow Ranch County Park.

The Zayante Sandhills Conservation Bank can also provide project proponents with off-site mitigation. Rather than actually preserving or enhancing Sandhills habitat directly, project proponents contribute to the preservation and management of Sandhills habitat elsewhere, through the purchase of conservation credits, which correspond to the area (i.e. square feet) of Sandhills habitat supporting endangered species. Presently, the Zayante Sandhills Conservation Bank is selling credits in the Ben Lomond Sandhills Preserve, an approximately 23 acre Sandhills habitat preserve located in Ben Lomond. This preserve has been permanently protected under a conservation easement and is being actively managed to conserve the special status Sandhills species (Arnold 2004).

Due to the degraded condition of the habitat that would be disturbed by the proposed project, mitigation could likely be achieved with an off-site mitigation credit ratio of 1:1: that is, one square-foot credit is purchased for every square foot of habitat disturbed by the project. As an initial rough estimate, the proposed project would cause approximately 8,600 ft² of impacts. This is based upon the 13,062 ft² disturbance envelope of the 107 ft x 64 ft building surrounded by a 15 foot disturbance buffer, minus the approximately one-third of the area that is already covered by asphalt and thus non-habitat. Based on the current credit price of \$7.77/ ft², the County might pay a one time fee of roughly \$66,822 to mitigate the direct and indirect impacts of the project on the rare species and habitat. Such mitigation costs could be reduced by reducing the area of impact, and/or combining on-site mitigation with off-site mitigation.

Next Steps

This initial information is provided to assist evaluation of the proposed project. Should you decide to pursue the project, I recommend that you contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which administers the Endangered Species Act, and the County of Santa Cruz Planning Department, which implements the County's Sensitive Habitat Ordinance. Precise aspects of the project and its conservation strategy should be developed as part of a more detailed planning process conducted in coordination with representatives of these agencies (Table 3).

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	County of Santa Cruz
Douglas Cooper	Matt Johnston
Deputy Assistant Field Supervisor	Environmental Coordinator
US Fish and Wildlife Service	County of Santa Cruz
2493 Portola Road, Suite B	701 Ocean Street
Ventura, CA 93003	Santa Cruz, CA 95060
(805) 644-1766 x272	(831) 454-3114
Douglass_Cooper@fws.gov	PLN458@co.santa-cruz.ca.us

As a consulting ecologist with experience preparing Habitat Conservation Plans, Habitat Mitigation Plans, and other environmental review compliance documents for the Sandhills, I would be happy to assist the County further with project permitting for this project.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding the habitat assessment or if I can assist you further.

Sincerely,

Jodi M. McGraw

e-cc: Chad Mitcham, US Fish and Wildlife Service Biologist

Jodi M. McGraw September 30, 2011 Page 9

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PROPOSAL

DEVELOP A HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN AND
INCIDENTAL TAKE PERMIT APPLICATION FOR THE
SANTA CRUZ COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT'S
MULTIPURPOSE FACILITY CONSTRUCTION PROJECT AT THE
JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER
(APN: 061-371-16)

Prepared By:

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Principal and Ecologist

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Prepared for:

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January 17, 2013

Table 1: Special status species endemic to the Santa Cruz sandhills, noting their distribution with respect to the project area.

Name	Status ¹	Habitat	Occurrence within the Project Area
Animals			
Mount Hermon June beetle (Polyphylla barbata)	Federally Endangered	Zayante soil and adjacent transitional soils in central Santa Cruz County	Presumed present. The project area features suitable, albeit degraded, habitat for MHJB; the species has been observed on numerous occasions elsewhere on the County parcel, which is used as a 'control' site for presence/absence surveys owing to its high density population (J. McGraw, unpub. data.).
Zayante band-winged grasshopper (Trimerotropis infantilis)	Federally Endangered	Open sand parkland with sparse herbaceous understory	Not present. The ZBWG was not detected during a 3-day survey (McGraw 2011), and the project area features highly degraded habitat for this species, which has been observed on the adjacent property to the north (McGraw 2012a).
Ben Lomond spineflower (<i>Chorizanthe pungens</i> var. <i>hartwegiana</i>)	Federally Endangered; CA List 18.1	Openings in sand parkland and sand chaparral, away from woody vegetation, dense grasses, and litter	Not present. Not detected during initial assessment (McGraw 2008) or ZBWG surveys (McGraw 2011). Prior grading, landscaping, and partial hardscaping likely preclude use of the proposed project site by this species, which occurs just north of the facility property boundary in sand parkland.
Ben Lomond buckwheat (<i>Eriogonum nudum</i> var. <i>decurrens</i>)	CA List 1B.1	Sand parkland and sand chaparral canopy gaps	Not present. Not detected during initial assessment (McGraw 2008) or ZBWG surveys (McGraw 2011). Prior grading, landscaping, and partial hardscaping likely preclude use of the proposed project site by this species, which is scattered throughout the canopy openings elsewhere on the property.
Santa Cruz wallflower (Erysimum teretifolium)	Federally Endangered; California Endangered; CA List 1B.1	Openings in sand parkland and sand chaparral, away from woody vegetation, dense grasses, and litter	Not present. Not detected during initial assessment (McGraw 2008) or ZBWG surveys (McGraw 2011). Prior grading, landscaping, and partial hardscaping likely preclude use of the proposed project site by this species, which occurs on the adjacent property to the east but has not been observed on the County parcel.

guidance from the agencies regarding aspects of the plan to ensure it will meet the permit issuance criteria and thus be expeditiously approved.

A key aspect of the consultation will include discussion of the HCP's conservation strategy most notably, alternative mitigation approaches, which include on-site mitigation through permanent land protection and management, and off-site mitigation, such as purchase of conservation credits at the Zayante Sandhills Conservation. JMc will summarize agency input and provide a cost estimate in a brief memo to the County that outlines the alternative approaches. JMc will then meet with the County to discuss the memo and determine the mitigation approach

3 Prepare the Administrative Draft Habitat Conservation Plan

JMc will prepare a draft habitat conservation plan designed to meet the permit issuance criteria, promote expeditious permitting including environmental review by the USFWS and County. The plan will describe the proposed project, the environmental setting, the regulatory setting, the anticipated project impacts, the proposed avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures, the monitoring program, the project alternatives, and the funding mechanisms.

For purposes of budgeting, it is assumed here that the compensatory mitigation for unavoidable impacts will include on-site habitat restoration activities at the juvenile detention center parcel, and/or other County-owned Sandhills habitat, rather than or in addition to the purchase of conservation credits at the Zayante Sandhills Conservation Bank. As a result, this task will include development of the habitat management and restoration plan, through site visits to evaluate restoration opportunities, outreach to staff at the County Parks and/or County Planning Department to discuss arrangements for restoration, and work with the appropriate County staff in the lands or real estate division to discuss elements of a conservation easement or deed restrictions to ensure that the restored areas are protected in perpetuity. It will also include development of the biological effectiveness monitoring program required to demonstrate effectiveness of the habitat restoration efforts.

JMc will submit to the County an electronic copy of the draft HCP for review and comment, attend a meeting to discuss revisions.

Prepare the Draft Habitat Conservation Plan

JMc will integrate County feedback to create the revised draft HCP, which will be submitted to the USFWS electronically for their review. JMc will then follow up with them, as needed, to facilitate timely review and comment of the draft, review substantive comments with County staff, and then integrate feedback into the final draft.

Prepare the Incidental Take Permit Application 5

JMc will revise the draft HCP to prepare the final HCP, and prepare the following additional elements of final incidental take permit application:

Request for Cultural Resources Compliance form

Table 2: Deliverables including intermediate products that will be provided as part of this project. (Details provided in text).

Task	Product	Estimated Time Required for Completion
2	Memo outlining alternative mitigation approaches	2 weeks after site visit (Task 1)
3	Administrative Draft HCP (for County review)	4 weeks after decision regarding mitigation (Task 2)
. 4	Draft HCP (for USFWS Review)	2 weeks after County comments on draft
5	Incidental Take Permit Application Package	3 weeks after draft HCP comments received from USFWS (assuming comments are not extensive)

BUDGET

Table 3 lists the estimated labor and travel costs to complete the project tasks. Costs are based on Jodi McGraw's hourly billing rate of \$95 and the estimate of time required to complete each task. JMc will bill printing, mailing, and travel at cost, with private vehicle use based on the standard mileage rate set by the IRS (currently \$0.565/mile).

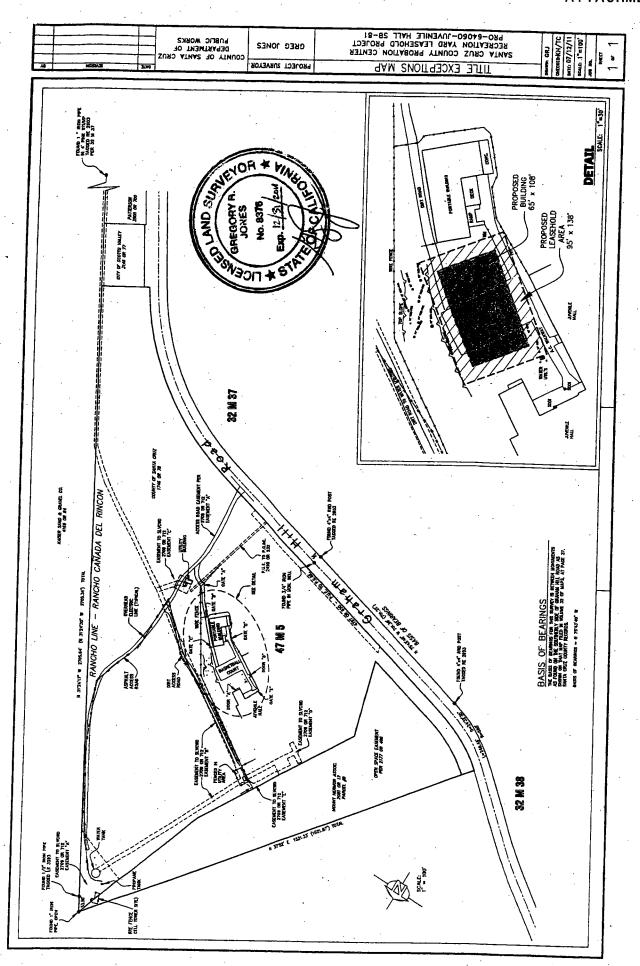
These costs do not include other costs the County may incur in permitting the project, including:

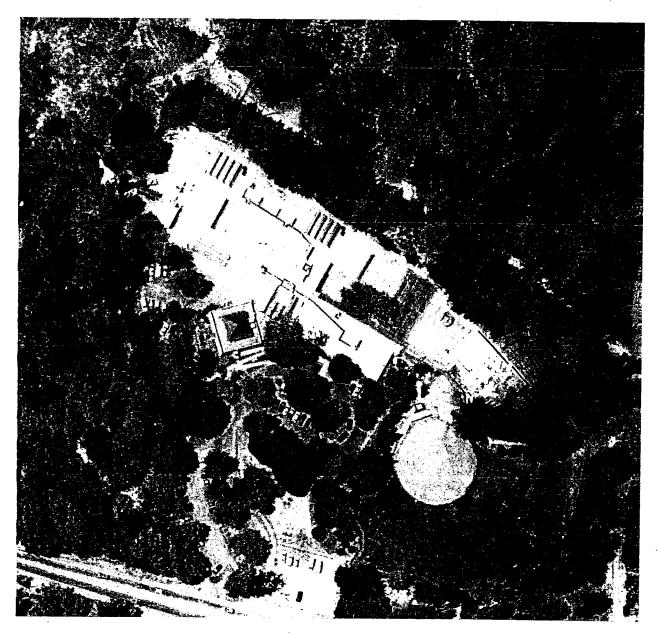
- Staff time necessary to help inform my development of the plan and submission of the incidental take permit application, including prepare legal documents that would substantiate the on-site habitat protection.
- Environmental Review documents required for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act: the County Environmental Coordinator will prepare these separately, based on the documents that I prepare.
- The \$100 application fee for the USFWS.
- Costs to implement the conservation strategy of the HCP (i.e. conduct the avoidance, minimization, habitat restoration, and monitoring).

JMc will bill on a time and materials basis, with the total amount not to exceed 14,927.11 unless, during the course of the project, the County approves significant changes in the tasks or level of effort required to complete the project.

REFERENCES

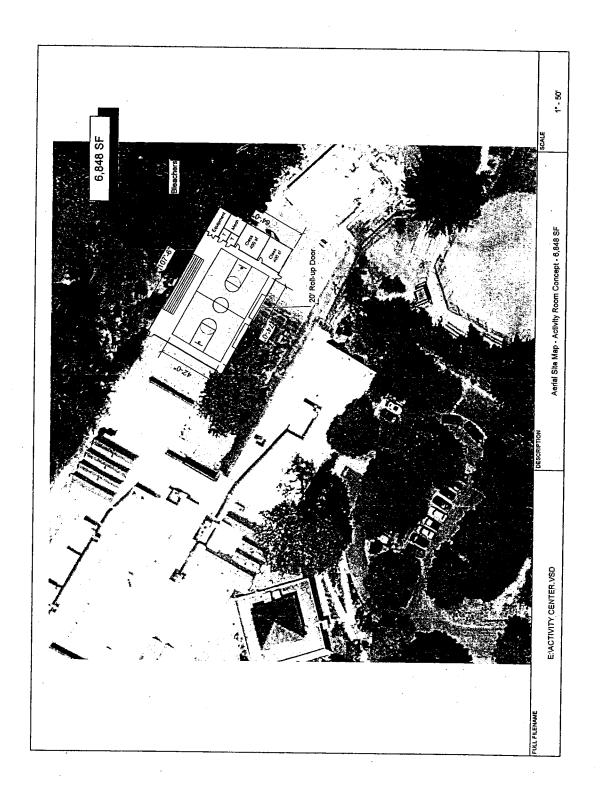
- California Native Plant Society (CNPS). 2012. Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants of California. Eighth Edition. California Native Plant Society. Sacramento, CA. http://www.cnps.org.
- McGraw, J. M. 2004. Sandhills conservation and management plan: a strategy for preserving native biodiversity in the Santa Cruz sandhills. Report submitted to the Land Trust of Santa Cruz County, Santa Cruz, CA.
- McGraw, J. M. 2008. Habitat Assessment for the County of Santa Cruz Juvenile Detention Center Multipurpose Facility project. Letter report submitted to Jeffrey Bidmon, October 7, 2008.
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- USFWS, County of Santa Cruz, and City of Scotts Valley. 2011. Interim Programmatic Habitat Conservation Plan for the Mount Hermon June Beetle and Ben Lomond spineflower. January 2011. 96 pages.

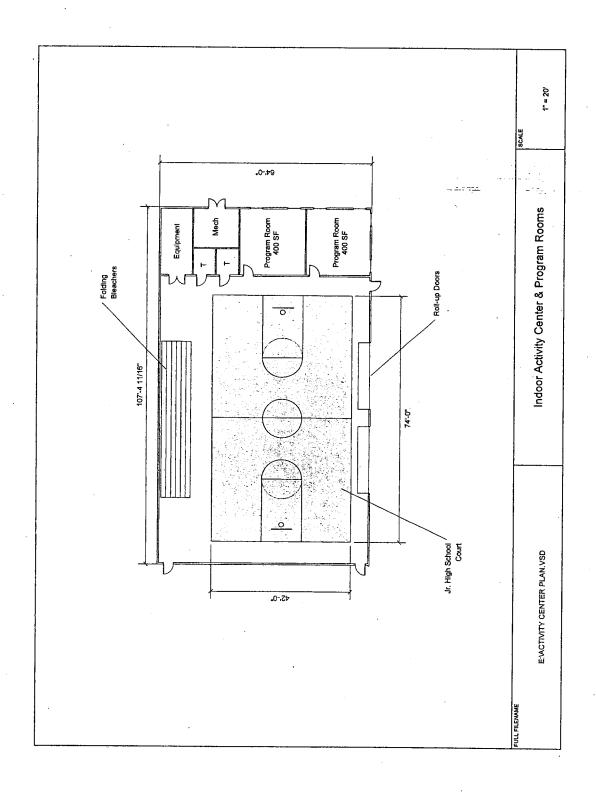


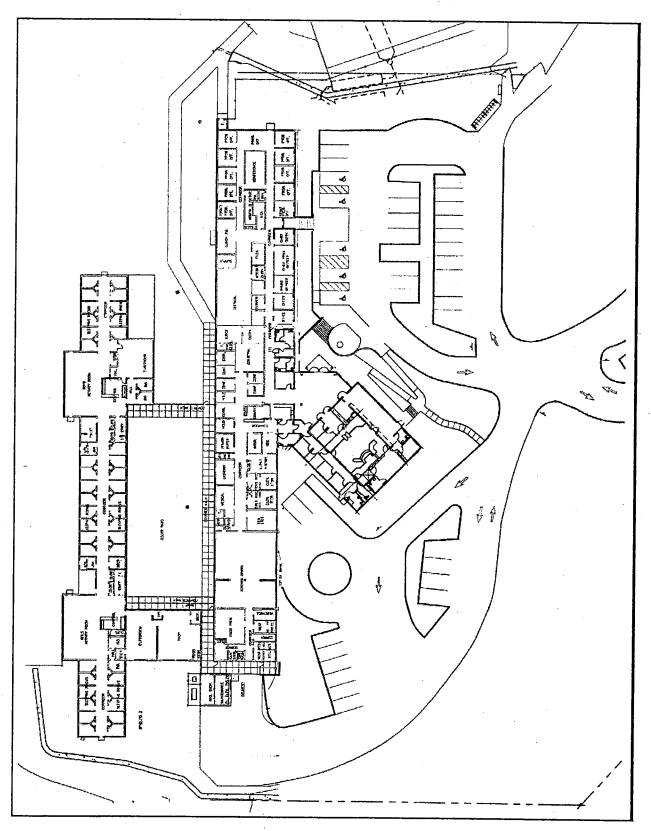


Aerial Photo of the Santa Cruz County Probation Department Juvenile Hall

This aerial photo highlights the surrounding area and building footprint for the Santa Cruz County Juvenile Hall.



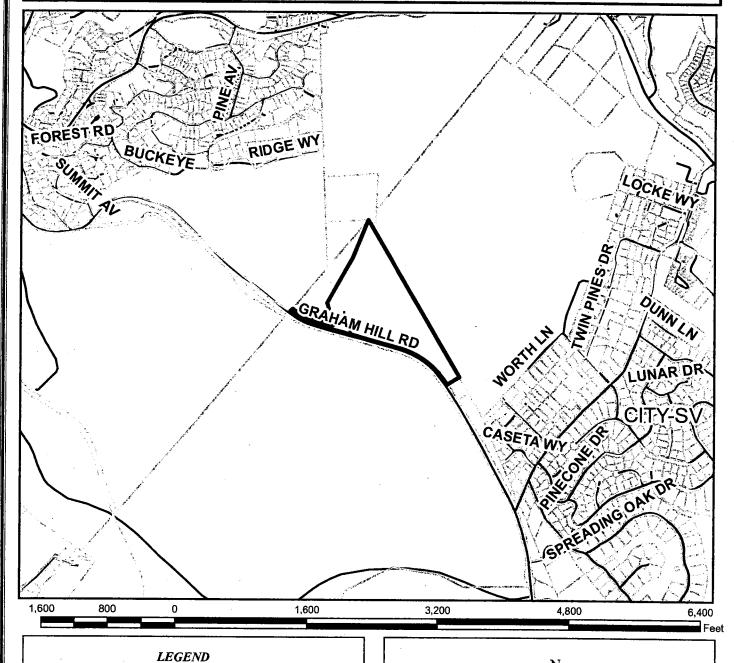


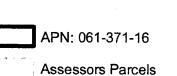


This diagram shows the existing space layout for the Santa Cruz County Juvenile Hall detention facility. The diagram shows the public entrance, parking area, Juvenile Court, Probation Department offices, and detention housing Units A and B. The layout and adjacency of the courtyard is also shown on the diagram.



Location Map





---- Streets

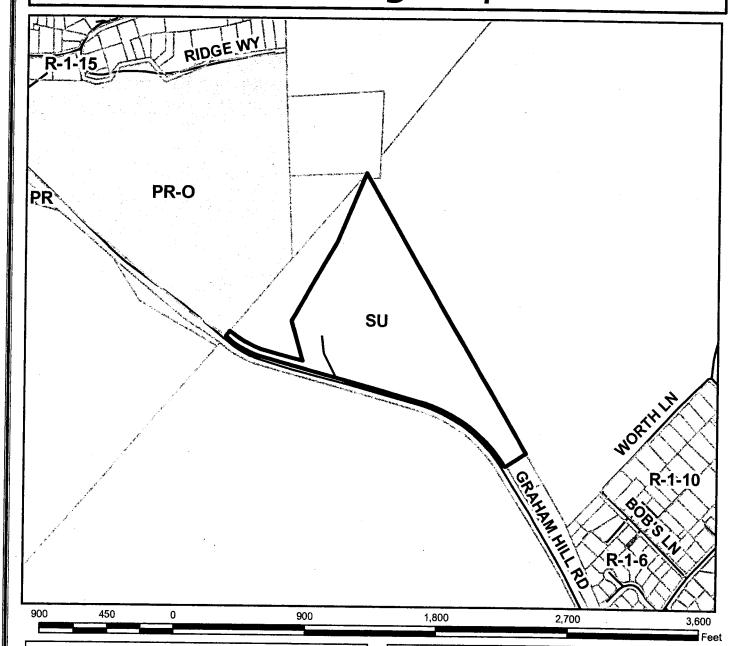
SCOTTS VALLEY



Map Created by County of Santa Cruz Planning Department April 2013



Zoning Map



LEGEND
APN: 061-371-16
Assessors Parcels
Streets

SPECIAL USE

RESIDENTIAL-SINGLE FAMILY

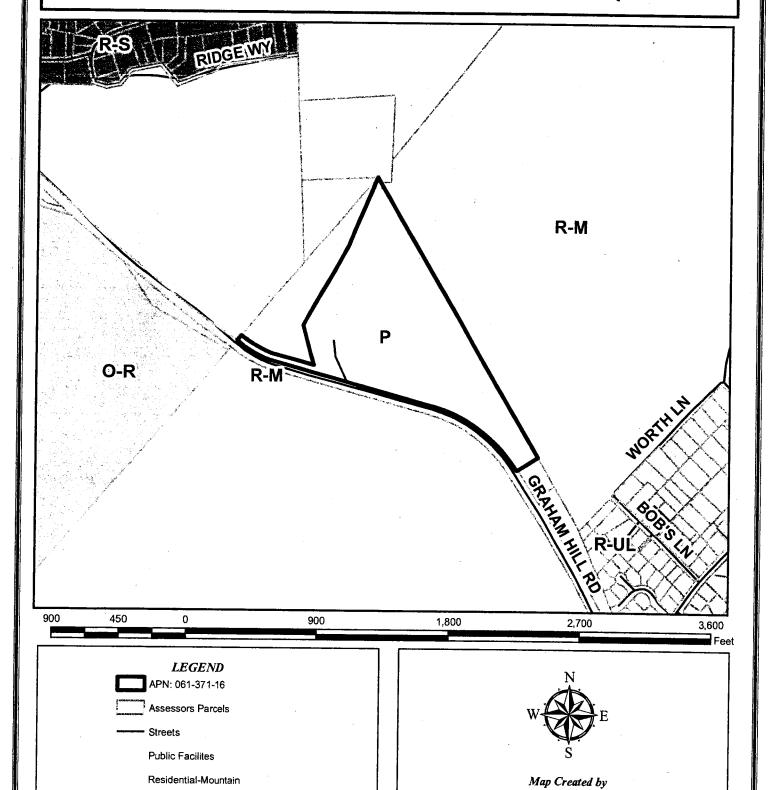
PARK



Map Created by County of Santa Cruz Planning Department April 2013



General Plan Designation Map



Residential - Urban Low Density

Parks and Recreation

Residential-Suburban

County of Santa Cruz

Planning Department April 2013

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