




Essex Environmental, Inc.

ENVIRONMENTAL INSPECTION REPORT

City of Oakland – Leona Quarry

Date:	February 10, 2005; 7:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	
Inspector:	Kevin Kilpatrick (Essex Environmental)	
Weather:	Sunny, approximately 50-60 degrees Fahrenheit, and approximately 0 to 5 mph wind.	

ACTIVITY: Whipsnake Fence and General Site Inspection

I inspected the entire length of the Alameda whipsnake protection fence with DeSilva Gates' contracted biologist Jeff Dreier (WRA). Overall, the fence complies with the requirements of the project's Special Status Species Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (SSSMMP). There were some areas that require minor adjustments and maintenance level repairs, which are discussed below.

A new section of fence was added in the Ridgemont basin area. The new fence was installed on a steep slope that runs from an upper bench near the north slope repair site down to a water collection basin east of the repair site. The majority of the fence complies with the SSSMMP; however, there were some areas where the bottom of the fence was not sufficiently buried. Due to the steepness of the slope it does not appear feasible to place additional soil at these locations. As an alternative, Jeff and I discussed securing the bottom flap of the fence to the soil with several 6 to 8-inch long staples. The staples would be tightly spaced to effectively close off any openings at the bottom of the fence to prevent whipsnakes from moving under the barrier. Some vegetation cutting has already been conducted at this location, and clearing work is planned to begin on Friday February 11. Jeff said he would conduct the fence maintenance, and will be onsite during clearing to monitor for whipsnake activity.

Along other areas of the existing fence we found a few similarly exposed sections where the bottom of the fence needs additional soil (or long staples). We found a few posts that need to be repositioned for a correct angle of lean away from the construction zone, and some sections where the fence was at the correct angle of lean, but due to the adjacent steep slope, there was less than 24 inches of space between the ground and the top of the fence. To increase the space between the ground and the fence in these locations, Jeff proposed either stripping back additional soil from the slope or adding an extension to the existing fence. On all of these maintenance issues Jeff said that he would work with the contractor to conduct the repairs.