




Essex Environmental, Inc.

ENVIRONMENTAL INSPECTION REPORT
City of Oakland – Leona Quarry

Date:	January 12, 2005; 8:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.	
Inspector:	Matthew Weinand (Essex Environmental)	
Weather:	Partly cloudy, approximately 55 degrees Fahrenheit, and approximately 0 to 5 mph wind.	

ACTIVITY: Meeting and Coordination

COMMENTS: A meeting onsite between Jeff Dreier (WRA), Kevin Kilpatrick (Essex Environmental), and myself occurred. Jeff will be taking over WRA's responsibilities from Dana Riggs. Provided a general site orientation and discussed biological issues including the ongoing noncompliant condition of the Alameda whipsnake fence. Jeff agreed that a continuous and unbroken line of fence should be properly installed to protect the Alameda whipsnake. Jeff stated that he intends to set up a meeting with the Contractor to discuss scheduled construction activities and determine a final compliant fence installation strategy and alignment.

ACTIVITY: Whipsnake Fence and General Site Inspection

COMMENTS: Inspected portions of the Alameda whipsnake protection fence with Jeff Dreier (WRA) and Kevin Kilpatrick (Essex Environmental) along the northwest side of the project from the west end near Hwy 580 to beyond the north slope repair area.

The majority of the deficiencies in the protective fence for Alameda whipsnakes, which were addressed in previous reports, have not been corrected, and continue to present a risk to whipsnakes. These deficiencies generally include several hundred feet of missing, collapsed, or incorrectly installed protective fence. Additional hazards include areas of mesh netting that are accessible to whipsnakes, and an area of black plastic that may attract whipsnakes and their prey.

Construction activities appeared to be restricted to water quality control and grading. No sensitive species were observed in the work area. Outstanding items are listed below.

OUTSTANDING ITEMS:

At this time the overall condition of the Alameda whipsnake fence is inadequate to eliminate the potential for harm or harassment to the species and noncompliant with the Project's Special Status Species Mitigation and Monitoring Plan. Multiple continuing problems as detailed in previous reports such as holes in the fence, insufficient fence height, incorrect fence lean, insufficient fence base burial depth, and large missing sections of fence occur along the entire length of the whipsnake fence.

As per the Project's Special Status Species Mitigation and Monitoring Plan, the potential for direct harm or harassment of Alameda whipsnake needs to be eliminated and fencing needs to be:

- Installed and adequately maintained around the construction footprint.
- Have a height of at least 24-inches (fabric height from ground surface) and be buried approximately 6-8 inches below the ground surface.
- Angled outward away from the construction zone.

In order to meet project requirements and protect the Alameda whipsnake, a continuous and unbroken line of fence should be properly installed. The fence should extend from the dirt access road parallel to Hwy 580, along the outer edge of the construction footprint, including the north slope repair area, up to where the rocky outcrop once was. As stated above, Jeff Dreier (WRA) intends to set up a meeting with the Contractor to discuss scheduled construction activities and determine a final compliant fence installation strategy and alignment.