

ENVIRONMENTAL INSPECTION REPORT City of Oakland – Leona Quarry

Date:	July 9, 2004; 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
Inspector:	Kevin Kilpatrick
Weather:	Partly cloudy, approximately 61 degrees Fahrenheit, and approximately 5 to 10 mph wind.

ACTIVITY: Whipsnake Replacement Fence Inspection

COMMENTS: The items noted during last week’s fence inspection were repaired. The small holes in the fence were sealed off. Also, the end of the fence was extended to terminate on a cliff face, instead of the moderate slope where it had ended previously.

ACTIVITY: Bird Nesting Inspection

I joined construction Monitor Eric Vance (Wetlands Research Associates) and biologist David Cowell (Wetlands Research Associates) in a bird nesting status check in the project area. Bird nesting activity appears to be tapering off, and some species (such as Lazuli buntings) have apparently left the site. The biologists, however, have determined that several species may still be concluding breeding in the chaparral scrub in the upper quarry. Also, we monitored the rock crevice on the northern perimeter of the lower quarry where there are nesting white throated swifts. No swifts were observed, however, Eric reported seeing them during the week. He will continue to monitor the site until they have concluded that the swifts have left the nest. The contractor (DeSilva Gates) is continuing to grade the slope in the lower quarry and is avoiding work in the bird nesting areas.

OUTSTANDING ITEMS:

1. The contractor needs to either build a whipsnake exclusion fence or submit plans for approval to the City of Oakland for an alternative protection measure for Alameda whipsnake in the area of the slope repair in the lower quarry. The plans must be submitted prior to the initiation of construction activity on the North Slope in potential whipsnake habitat (refer to Environmental Inspection Report of June 9, 2003).
2. The City of Oakland and the contractor need to determine if the Alameda whipsnake fence should be reconstructed to provide an outward lean, per the Special Status Species Plan and Conditions of Approval (refer to Environmental Inspection Report of June 24, 2003).