

ENVIRONMENTAL INSPECTION REPORT City of Oakland – Leona Quarry

Date:	September 9, 2004; 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Inspector:	Matthew Weinand (Essex Environmental)
Weather:	Sunny, approximately 70 degrees Fahrenheit, and approximately 2 to 5 mph wind.

ACTIVITY: Whipsnake Fence Inspection

COMMENTS: Inspected the entire length of the Alameda whipsnake protection fence with Construction Monitor Eric Vance (Wetlands Research Associates). Sections of the fence still require ongoing repairs including some locations where it is not buried correctly or has pulled out of the ground, has slumped below the minimum height requirement of 24 inches, or is in need of having holes patched. The contractor should diligently continue repairs to the fence as a precaution to species entering into work areas. Eric continues to communicate the need for ongoing maintenance and fence repairs to the Foreman with the Contractor (DeSilva Gates).

Observed graders accessing the area behind the fence at the north slope repair area today. The graders were passing through one of the “gates” (refer to Environmental Inspection Report of August 26, 2004) and through a break in the fence at the opposite end of the area. Eric stated that he has continued to survey this area behind the fence where the graders are driving through for species prior to access by equipment.

ACTIVITY: Alameda Whipsnake Survey in the Large Rocky Outcrop Area

COMMENTS: The Contractor plans to remove the large rocky outcrop this weekend pending approval from the City of Oakland. In anticipation of this work, Eric began to survey potential habitat in proximity of the large rocky outcrop for Alameda whipsnake. The survey area was traversed on foot and I assisted Eric in carefully probing and hand-excavating burrows and rock outcrops in the area, in addition to examining vegetation for sheltering snakes. No Alameda whipsnakes were observed. Eric stated that the survey of the area would likely continue for the remainder of Thursday through Friday.

OUTSTANDING ITEMS:

1. The Contractor needs to make the repairs/reinstallation noted above to the Alameda whipsnake protection fence so that the fence meets the specifications of the project’s Special Status Species Mitigation and Monitoring Plan.
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, 2004).