

ENVIRONMENTAL INSPECTION REPORT City of Oakland – Leona Quarry

Date:	November 18, 2004; 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
Inspector:	Matthew Weinand (Essex Environmental)
Weather:	Sunny, approximately 65 degrees Fahrenheit, and approximately 0 to 5 mph wind.

ACTIVITY: Whipsnake Fence Inspection

COMMENTS: Inspected the entire length of the Alameda whipsnake protection fence along the north side of the project from the west end near Hwy 580 to beyond the north slope repair area. Observed that many of the small holes in the fence had been repaired with duck tape. Holes in the fence have been an outstanding maintenance issue and will continue to require regular ongoing repair. Outstanding issues also include portions of the fence that are falling over, have completely collapsed, or need to be extended (refer to Environmental Inspection Report of November 4, 2004). Outstanding items are listed below.

Construction activities noted at the site during inspection today included installation of what appeared to be the site's utility/drainage system and minimal grading. A backhoe was also observed working on the uppermost ridge of the quarry. I contacted Dana Riggs (Wetland Research Associates) and confirmed with her that the location the backhoe was working was not within potential whipsnake habitat. Dana also spoke with Peter Helseth (DeSilva Gates) who stated that the backhoe on the ridge was performing some light soil pit digging. Equipment in use throughout the site at the time of inspection included backhoes, bulldozers, and multiple pickup trucks. No sensitive species were observed in the work area. No white-throated swifts were noted during this site inspection.

OUTSTANDING ITEMS:

1. The Contractor needs to patch holes as needed to the Alameda whipsnake fence and ensure that it has an outward lean or is tall enough to preclude snakes from easily getting over the top.
2. The Contractor needs to make the following repairs to the Alameda whipsnake fence:
 - West of the north slope repair area, the last approximately 30-foot long section of fence terminating at the west edge of the north slope repair area has collapsed and should be repaired.
 - East of the north slope repair area, some of the fencing is now falling over or has already completely collapsed and requires repair. This compromised section of fence is located in the proximity of a metal drainage pipe.

- East of the north slope repair area, the western edge of the fence ends near the top of a ledge. Fencing should exclude more habitat at this location by either extending down the ledge and up the dirt road or along the dirt road so as to create an effective parallel overlap with the existing fence.
- East of the north slope repair area, at the eastern end of the fence, the fence should be extended across the talus slope to the base of the rocky outcrop.