

ENVIRONMENTAL INSPECTION REPORT City of Oakland – Leona Quarry

Date:	December 09, 2004; 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
Inspector:	Kevin Kilpatrick (Essex Environmental)
Weather:	Mostly cloudy, approximately 60 degrees Fahrenheit, and approximately 0 to 5 mph wind. Storms over the previous several days, dropped approximately 2 inches of rain in the area.

ACTIVITY: Whipsnake Fence and General Site Inspection

COMMENTS: Inspected portions of the Alameda whipsnake protection fence along the northwest side of the project from the west end near Hwy 580 to beyond the north slope repair area. Also inspected the east side of the project where grading work is continuing.

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.

At the north slope repair area, there is a strip of black plastic approximately 150 feet long by 15 feet wide that lines a drainage ditch that is immediately adjacent to potential whipsnake habitat. The dark plastic provides an area of elevated temperatures on otherwise cool days, which could attract both whipsnakes and their prey. There is no fence in this area to prevent whipsnakes from reaching the area, but the contractor has requested that construction personnel not walk around on the plastic tarp to help prevent crushing whipsnakes that may be attracted to this site.

There were minimal construction activities noted at the site during the inspection. There was a heavy rainstorm the previous day, and the contractor was observed conducting water quality testing. No sensitive species were observed in the work area. Outstanding items are listed below.

OUTSTANDING ITEMS:

1. The Contractor needs to patch holes as needed to the Alameda whipsnake fence and ensure that the fence has an outward lean and is tall enough to both meet the mitigation requirements and to preclude Alameda whipsnakes from easily climbing over the top of the fence.
2. The Contractor needs to make the following repairs to the Alameda whipsnake fence:
 - At the north slope repair area, several hundred feet of fence has either been removed, or has collapsed and requires replacement or repair.
 - 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 adjacent to the erosion control blankets.
3. On the eastern portion of the project there is no protective fencing installed anywhere along the potential whipsnake habitat.