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INSPECTION 6

Mark Cassady
Essex Environmental
637 Main Street
Half Moon Bay, CA 94019

PROJECT: LEONA QUARRY TREE PROTECTION
SUBJECT: Monthly Inspection Report
INSPECTION DATE 7/13/05

Mark,

I reviewed the quarry trees on Wed, 7/13. The purpose of the inspection was to review trees in the area referred to as Ridgemont Basin. Of primary concern is a young Coast Live Oak tree. Arborist also inspected the site from above and from below. The grading operation has not caused any additional impact to any of the existing trees.

Ridgemont Basin

This previously untagged and un-surveyed Coast Live Oak (*Quercus agrifolia*) is growing near the back of the basin area. The tree is not large but the current size qualifies it as a protected tree. It is likely that the original survey did not include this tree because it was below minimum size at the time.

The live oak tree has three stems that measure 6", 5" and 4" at 54 inches above average soil grade (DBH)¹. This is equivalent to a single stem tree with a DBH of 9 inches.

It is unsure as to what activity is to take place in the area. At the time of my visit, the tree is protected by orange fencing and silt fencing. The orange fencing is at the required distance (9 feet) from the tree.

Also in the Ridgemont Basin area are three Elderberry trees. Only one, #351 was originally tagged. The tag is no longer on the tree. All three are in marginal health. The trees are all currently protected by orange fencing.

Recommendation – Contact arborist prior to encroachment inside of the orange tree protection fencing.

¹ DBH is diameter at breast height or diameter taken at 54 inches above average soil grade.

The three elderberry trees are of minor concern due to the low value of this species. If it is desired to retain these trees, some mulch and water are required.

Photo 1. The white arrow indicates the location of the subject Coast Live Oak. This tree is safe for now but may require attention later if there is construction activity in the area.



Trees #'s (323, 324, 331, 332, 339)

Health mitigation treatments were recommended for these trees in the June 24 inspection report. The mitigation treatment recommended was mulching and watering. To aid in the treatment, additional comments are provided.

Oak Tree Health Mitigation – It is recommended that the treatment be provided as soon as is possible to gain more benefit. The 6-8 inches of mulch can be blown on the surface. One company that provides this service is Jet Mulch. The number I have for Jet Mulch, Inc. is 925-676-7068.

Water application should be accomplished asap but preferably after mulching. The amount of water needed is determined by first measuring the soil surface area to be treated (same as mulched area). Calculate the amount of water needed to provide three inches of water over the entire surface area. If need be, the cubic feet of water requirement can be converted to gallons. Water should be applied slow enough to avoid runoff. One of the water trucks currently on site should be able to accomplish the watering.

Photo 2. Photo shows the cut slope below the oak trees where mulch and water are still required.



End Report

This report is submitted by:

Steve Batchelder, Consulting Arborist

