



January 11, 2007

Mr. Greg Ainsworth
Impact Sciences, Inc.
803-A Camarillo Springs Road
Camarillo, CA 93012

Dear Mr. Ainsworth,

On December 29, 2006, Compliance Biology and Impact Sciences staff John Holson conducted on-site fish surveys in a portion of Haun Creek in Santa Paula, CA in association with the East Area One project. The attached Exhibit illustrates the approximate survey limits. The primary focus of the surveys was to determine if any special-status fish species were present; particularly arroyo chub (*Gila orcutti*), a California species of special concern.

The portion of Haun Creek surveyed totals approximately 2200 feet in length and flows in a north to south direction. Although the creek ultimately discharges to the Santa Clara River, it is not a typical tributary in that, when it is flowing, it drains to a flood plain on the north side of the river, where it fans out across the flood plain, rather than discharging directly through an open channel. At the time of the survey, there was flowing water in the northern half of the survey reach. The flows appeared to move underground in the southern half of the reach as there was no visible surface water with the exception of a few small isolated pools.

Within the survey reach, the drainage flows adjacent to agricultural orchards which have been established for over 100 years. Vegetation along the drainage varies from nearly clear to dense patches of mule fat (*Baccharis salicifolia*) and willows (*Salix* sp.). At the time of the survey there was no apparent aquatic vegetation with the exception of string algae.

Due to the narrow width of the stream, sampling equipment was limited to a D-shaped invertebrate sampling net. The length of the stream was walked and observed and random sweeps of the net were employed in an effort to capture any fish species potentially present.

No aquatic vertebrates were encountered either through visual surveys or in the net samples. The net samples were also remarkably devoid of aquatic invertebrates. In fact, only a single damselfly larvae was observed. Based on the lack of aquatic life and the relative abundance of string algae, it is apparent that the stream has been subject to several years of fertilizer and possibly pesticides from the adjacent agricultural practices. Additionally, due to the lack of direct connectivity to the Santa Clara River, it is expected that aquatic vertebrate species rarely occur, if at all in this section of the creek. Following storm events, there is some limited potential

for aquatic vertebrates to enter Haun Creek from the river. However, as connecting flows would be expected to be of high volume and velocity, very few aquatic vertebrates native to the river would be able to traverse the drainage upstream against the current. As such, any future proposed projects adjacent to this portion of Haun Creek would not be expected to result in significant impacts to aquatic vertebrate species based on the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) minimum thresholds of significance.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding this information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dave Crawford", with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Dave Crawford
President/Principal Biologist



Boosey Rd

Hobson Rd

Willard Rd

Orcutt Canyon Rd

Orcutt Rd

Peres Ln

Haun Creek

Padre Ln

Loop Ln

126

E Telegraph Rd

JD Popowich Rd

E Lemonwood Rd

Whipple Rd

E Harvard Blvd

Grant Line St

E Santa Paula St

N 13TH ST

Santa Paula

Ventura St

Richmond Rd

High St

E Orchard St

Sallycoy St

Gliff Dr

Say Rd

