

This page specifically mentions "Walnut woodland" 182-5 on site.

onsite provide a multitude of services for mammal species, including use for foraging, nesting/burrowing, and wildlife movement. A complete list of mammals that are known or expected to occur in the Study Area is provided in the faunal compendium included in Appendix D to the Biological Technical Report.

The Venturan coastal sage scrub in the Study Area represents potential habitat for a number of mammals. Species identified in the Study Area, either by direct observation or physical evidence, include the Audubon's cottontail (Sylvilagus audubonii), California ground squirrel (Spermophilus beecheyi), Botta's pocket gopher (Thomomys bottae), deer mouse (Peromyscus maniculatus), desert woodrat (Neotoma lepida intermedia), coyote (Canis latrans), striped skunk (Mephitis mephitis) and mule deer (Odocoileus hemmionus).

The mixed chaparral community in the Study Area provides habitat for the Audubon's cottontail, brush rabbit, California ground squirrel, deer mouse, desert woodrat, coyote, gray fox (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*) and striped skunk. Mule deer occur only on the portion of the project site south of Interstate 210 and only in low numbers.

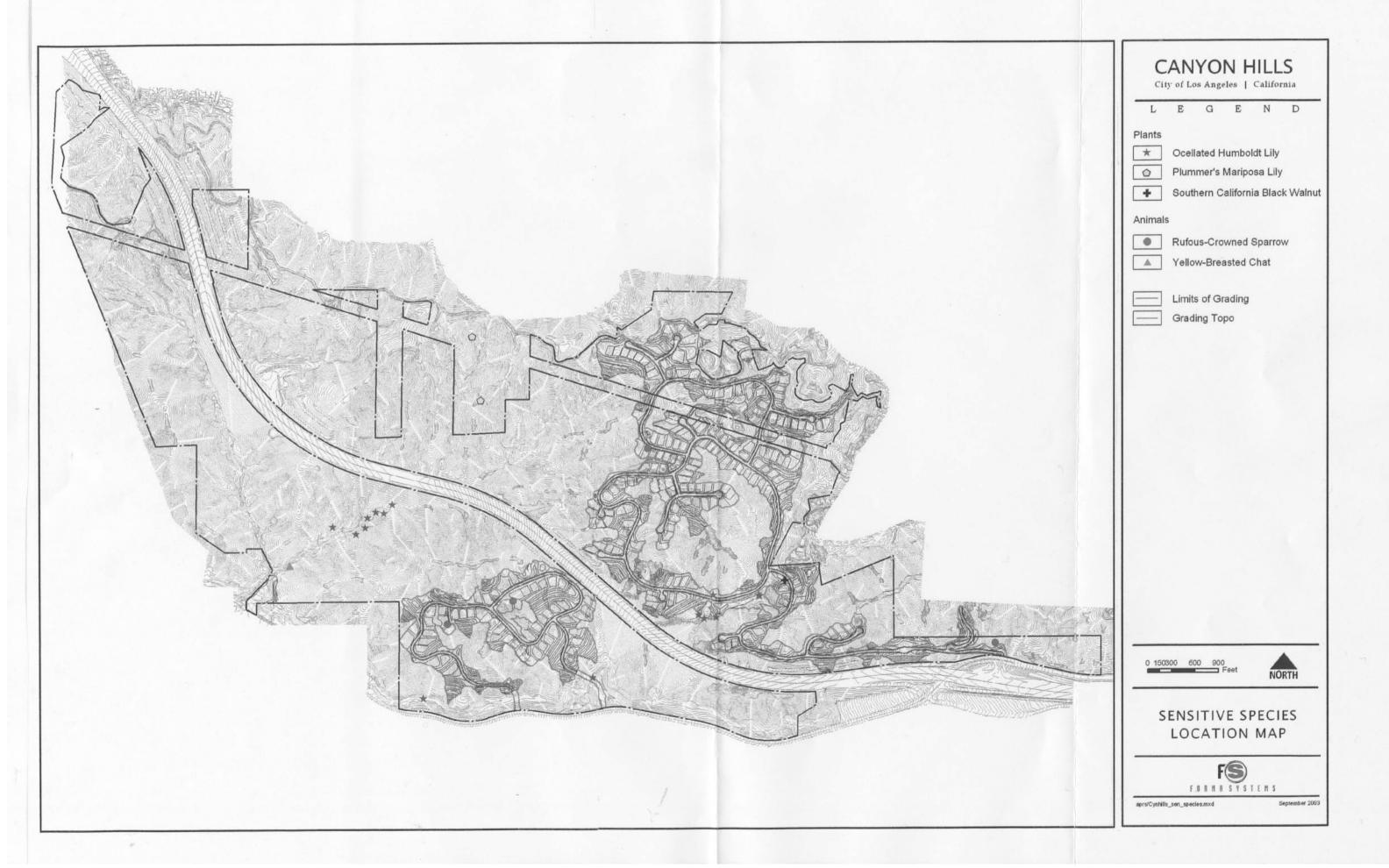
The riparian communities in the Study Area associated with semi-permanent water sources, especially areas of La Tuna Canyon and Drainage 4, can be heavily utilized. Therefore, the majority of the mammals present on the site would be expected to utilize these areas to some extent. Species that are known or have the potential to occur within the riparian communities in the Study Area include the deer mouse, California vole, coyote, ringtail (Bassariscus astutus), raccoon (Procyon lotor), western spotted skunk (Spilogale gracilis), striped skunk and mule deer.

The woodland communities present in the Study Area, including southern coast live oak woodland and walnut woodland, provide habitat for numerous mammal species. Mammals known to exist within the woodland communities present in the Study Area include the deer mouse, desert woodrat, coyote, gray fox, raccoon, striped skunk and mule deer.

Non-native woodland communities, such as eucalyptus and orchard/ornamental landscapes support opportunist mammals such as opossum, black rat (*Rattus rattus*) striped skunk, California ground squirrel and coyote, as well as mule deer.

Sensitive Biological Resources

A search of the California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDB) for the Sunland, Pasadena, Burbank and Glendale Quadrangles provided records for several sensitive species and habitats with the potential



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CWHRS (California Wildlife Habitat Relationship System) lists Holly Leaf Cherry Stand (mainland cherry forest) as a type of Coastal Oak Woodlands. The City of LA lists the mainland cherry forest habitat as "S-1," seriously threatened. This mainland cherry forest habitat is present within the project site & study area yet is not discussed at all in the DEIR, therefore this DEIR is deficient.

182-6

Environmental Review Unit Maya Zaitzevsky 200 North Spring Street Room 763 Los Angeles CA 90012

Re:

ENV-2002-2481-EIR SCH#2002091018

Canyon Hills Project DEIR Comments

Dear Ms Zaitzevsky:

The following Sensitive Species Location Map mentions only one adult California Black Walnut (depicted by the black cross) when in reality dozens of mature California Black Walnut will be impacted by the grading in the project area. California Black Walnut does not have the genetic capacity to reach 12" DBH threshold requirement set forth in the City of Los Angeles Oak Tree ordinance.

182-7

The Jurisdictional Delineation map that follows the species location map does not indicate the California Black Walnut woodland acreage present within the grading area of the project.

In addition to the Holly Leaf Cherry mentioned in the DEIR, there are smooth-leafed Mainland Wild Cherry species abundant throughout the project site. Mainland Cherry Forest is a habitat of particular concern for the City of Los Angeles (S1 - the most threatened of habitats). No surveys of the mainland cherry forests existing within the project boundaries have been conducted whatsoever!.

182-8

Therefore, the DEIR is deficient.

Rick Grubb

