

# BIOLOGIST'S STATEMENT OF BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) directs public agencies to assess and disclose the environmental effects of the projects it approves. In determining whether a proposed project is subject to CEQA, the City of Los Angeles is required to consider any potentially adverse impacts the project may have on biological resources. Failure by a project applicant to disclose known biological resources on the project site may result in a violation of CEQA.

Date of Site Visit:

Project Address or APN(s)<sup>1</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

Does the project site contain certain known biological resources, and if so, will the project require biological analysis by a qualified biologist? (Follow the instructions for each respective answer.)

- □ **Yes.** The project site contains one or more of the following biological resources: (Check all that apply)
  - □ Water Resources, including but not limited to, streams, wetlands, or other permanent / seasonal water bodies
  - □ Protected Trees and/or Shrubs (See Appendix A)
    - For projects that contain protected trees and shrubs that may be impacted or removed as the result of a project, a Tree Disclosure Statement (<u>CP-4067</u>) and/or a Tree Report (<u>CP-4068</u>) will need to be filed.
  - □ Falls within the Monarch Butterfly Potential area as indicated in ZIMAS
    - For projects that fall within this area, a Habitat Integrity Analysis form will need to be filed.
  - □ California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) records of sensitive and special status species within the appropriate United States Geological Survey (USGS) quadrangle and/or within a 0.25-mile radius of the project site
  - □ Other: (Describe below)
- □ **No.** The project site does not contain any of the above biological resources.

If **No**, sign and return the form (plus Appendix B attachments) to the appropriate department within the City of Los Angeles at the time of filing for permits/entitlements.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Include the entire site, not just the development footprint.

If **Yes**, will the project remove or possibly create a substantial effect on any of the above marked biological resources?

□ **Yes.** The project will require biological resources analysis (Biological Resources Report by a Qualified Biologist. (See Appendix A)

Please describe which of the above biological resources may be affected by the project:

□ **No.** The project site will not remove or possibly create a substantial effect on any of the above biological resources.

Please describe how the project will not remove or possibly create a substantial effect on the biological resources:

If **No**, sign and return the form (plus Appendix B attachments) to the appropriate department within the City of Los Angeles at the time of filing for permits/entitlements.

## **Qualified Biologist Credentials** (only to be completed by the Qualified Biologist of hire)

I attest that I am a Qualified Biologist who meets the following criteria:

**Qualified Biologist.** A person with the appropriate education, training, and experience to conduct biological surveys, monitor Project activities that have the potential to affect biological resources, provide construction worker education programs related to the protection of biological resources, and supervise or perform other tasks related to biological resources; possesses a Bachelor of Science degree or Bachelor of Arts degree in biology, ecology, or a related environmental science; has at least five years of professional experience that requires knowledge of natural history, habitat affinities, and identification of flora and fauna species, and relevant local, state and federal laws and regulations governing the protection of biological resources; and meets the <u>CDFW</u> <u>qualifications</u> for botanical field surveyors.

I attest to the accuracy, to the best of my professional qualifications, of the habitat determination made above and the analysis supporting that determination.

#### Name of Qualified Biologist:

Signed Attestation of Qualifications and Accuracy:

Date Signed:

Names of Additional Biologists:

**Company Name & Contact Information:** 

#### **APPENDIX A - REFERENCES**

**Qualified Biologist.** A person with the appropriate education, training, and experience to conduct biological surveys, monitor Project activities that have the potential to affect biological resources, provide construction worker education programs related to the protection of biological resources, and supervise or perform other tasks related to biological resources; possesses a Bachelor of Science degree or Bachelor of Arts degree in biology, ecology, or a related environmental science; has at least five years of professional experience that requires knowledge of natural history, habitat affinities, and identification of flora and fauna species, and relevant local, state and federal laws and regulations governing the protection of biological resources; and meets the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) qualifications for botanical field surveyors.

#### **Protected Trees & Shrubs**

As defined in the Protected Tree Ordinance (Ord. No. 186,873), the minimum size requirement for a protected tree is four inches or more in cumulative diameter, four and one-half feet above the ground level at the base of the tree. The minimum size requirement for a protected shrub is four inches or more in cumulative diameter, four and one-half feet above the ground level at the base of the shrub.

For reference purposes only, additional guidance and species identification information can be found in the Photographic Guide to the City of Los Angeles Protected Trees and Shrubs: <u>https://streetsla.lacity.org/files/los-angeles-protected-trees-photo-guide-2024-septpdf</u>

- Oak, including valley oak (Quercus lobota) and coast live oak (Quercus agrifolia), or any other tree of the oak genus indigenous to California but excluding the California scrub oak (Quercus berberidifolia)
- Southern California black walnut (Juglans californica)
- Western sycamore (*Platanus racemosa*)
- California bay (Umbellularia californica)
- Mexican elderberry (Sambucus mexicana)
- Toyon (Heteromeles arbutifolia)

### **APPENDIX B - REQUIRED DOCUMENTS**

- Site Plan
- Tree Disclosure Statement
- Biologist Proof of Qualifications
- Applicant's Declaration of Biological Resources