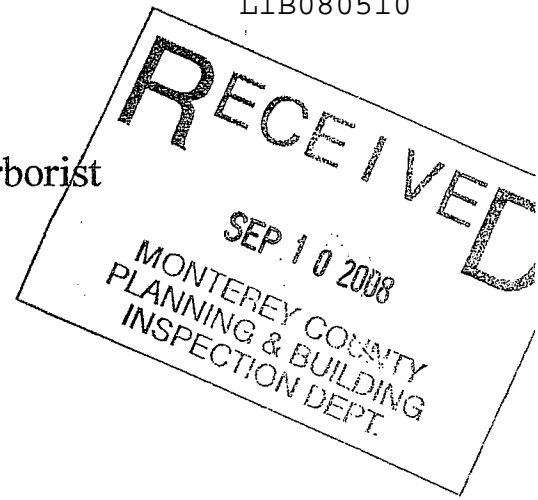


Supplement to Report of Certified Arborist

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Jeff Taylor Property
 Carmel Valley, CA
 Rancho El Potrero
 A Proposed Subdivision

August 26, 2008

FILE COPY

This Supplement should be read in conjunction with the original Report of Certified Arborist dated October 27, 2007.

Here I will address the Planning Department letter of February 15, 2008 from Paula Bradley, Associate Planner, to Joel Panzer of Maureen Wruck, Planning Consultants, which detailed the "incomplete" status of the application for this project. I will condense and address each comment in Ms. Bradley's letter as it was numbered under her heading **Arborist's Report, dated 10/27/07.**

Comments:

12. The maps referred to in the original report, which include building envelopes, were not provided with the application.

My understanding is that Maureen Wruck, Planning Consultants, will provide those maps.

13. In the absence of an inventory of the individual trees on each lot, identify a building envelope on each lot and survey the trees within each envelope.

Please see **Lots & Driveways**, pages 4 through 7 of the original report. Each lot has a specific building envelope and all the trees within those envelopes were discussed.

14. Are there oak woodlands present on the site? If so, will there be a potential significant impact? What Mitigations are required? Is a conservation easement needed?

Although the term *woodland* was used generically in the original report to describe extant conditions, the stand of trees on the project site would more appropriately be termed a *forest* (or part of a forest), structurally, both montane and riparian in nature. (Oak woodland is, structurally, what is seen along the Highway 68 Corridor between Monterey and Salinas, where the oak is clearly dominant and closely spaced, mixed with oak savanna where oak also dominates but is spaced well apart. A clear explanation of this found in Oaks of California, Pavlik, Muick, Johnson and Popper. 1995)

The ravine area above the agricultural buildings hosts an oak stand, but the canopy of this stand alone does not cover 10 percent of the site, and therefore does not meet the criteria for oak woodland under applicable California code sections cited as guidelines by the Planning Department. Mitigation measures or prospective conservation easements regarding oak woodlands would not be applicable. In any event, the July 29, 2008 Revision of the Rancho El Potrero Vesting Tentative Map by Whitson Engineers indicates this stand of oaks is to be left unaltered.

15. What protected trees would be removed for a 100 foot fire buffer zone.

No protected trees would be removed.

16. The arborist should review the biologist's report.

The biologist's report concludes that the Monterey pine is a rare, threatened, endangered, or other special status species, on the basis of a California Native Plant Society designation. The report also states, however, that the Monterey pine is not so listed by either the California Department of Fish and Game or the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

To clear the confusion it should be recalled that back in about the winter of 2000, the CDFG held hearings to determine the status of this species. Participants included representatives of the California Native Plant Society, and such notables as Tom Gordon of Davis, Dave Wood of Berkeley, and Mike Zander of Zander and Associates. The overwhelming preponderance of the substantive testimony was that Monterey pine (*Pinus radiata*) is neither rare nor endangered, but rather invasive and hard to eradicate. At that point, the hearings were terminated, and CDFG left its departmental designation of this species unchanged.

To change the status of the Monterey pine just for the 103 acres of the Rancho El Potrero project would be usurpive of county, state and federal levels of government and would result in a confusing patchwork of unauthorized rules applied on a case by case basis virtually from parcel to parcel.

I would recommend that the unprotected-species status of the Monterey pine now current in the Carmel Valley Master Plan be maintained and applied to this project. No special status should be designated for the Monterey pine and no permit required for removals.

The case for retaining as habitat of any single tree specimen, or any specific set of tree specimens should be made now on a tree-by-tree basis, those trees tagged and documented for identity and location and a decision rendered at this stage of planning so the issue is settled for all future stages of development.

17. Which mitigation measures of the Santa Lucia Preserve Comprehensive Plan should apply to the removal of landmark oaks on this site?

The July 29, 2008 Revision of the Rancho El Potrero Vesting Tentative Map by Whitson Engineers indicates no landmark oak tree removal is contemplated in the current development plan.

18. Clarify the arborist's reference to "building envelopes".

See Comment 12 answer above.

19. Is there a potential adverse impact to the trees on this site due to the proposed development plan? What measures of mitigation should apply?

The July 29, 2008 Revision of the Rancho El Potrero Vesting Tentative Map by Whitson Engineers shows Lots 6, 7, 8, 9 and Road B of the Plan have been eliminated from the forested slopes of the site, and Lots 6, 7, 8 and 9 have been repositioned to a riparian area, formerly in Lot 10, which has no trees. Development of these lots would have no impact on the trees on this site. Road A and Lots 1 through 5, including impacts and mitigations, have been discussed individually in the original report. Please see **Lots & Driveways**, pages 4 through 7. Overall, this revised plan would have no significant impact on the trees located on the project site.

Endorsement

Bryan E. Bradford

August 26, 2008

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bryan E. Bradford". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the printed name.