### **Brookside**

The Brookside study area is located on the northwestern end of the San Gorgonio Pass in the City of Cherry Valley.

# **Existing Conditions**

#### **General Site Conditions**

The study area is located at a recently graded County maintenance facility that is used as a storage area for paving materials and heavy equipment. The study area has a shallow, downward slope to the north into a large, east-west drainage feature on the northern extent of the study area. The soils present consist of Ramona sandy loam and Terrace escarpments, based on the USDA soil survey. Land use in the vicinity consists of open pastures to the north, a maintenance yard and associated facilities to the west and south, and rural residences and pastures beyond a paved road to the east. The study area is subject to daily disturbance from heavy equipment use and materials storage.

#### Vegetation

The study area is void of vegetation, and ongoing activities at the maintenance facility make the establishment of vegetation within the study area unlikely. A row of closely planted ornamental oleander (*Nerium oleander*) shrubs occur along the adjacent paved roadway on the eastern portion of the study area.

#### Wildlife

Wildlife activity was high during the survey. Wildlife species observed include lesser goldfinch (*Carduelis psaltria*), Anna's hummingbird (*Calypte anna*), mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*), desert cottontail (*Sylvilagus audubonii*), and common raven (*Corvus corax*).

## Sensitive Biological Resources

## Sensitive Species

Federally and State Listed Species

No habitat for any State- or federally-listed threatened or endangered species occurs within the study area. Therefore, the development of the study area is not anticipated to impact any plant or animal species protected under the CESA or FESA.

## WRMSHCP

The study area is located within an area identified by the WRMSCHP as requiring a habitat assessment for burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*), a CSC covered by the WRMSHCP, Yucaipa onion (*Allium marvini*) and many-stemmed dudleya (*Dudleya multicaulis*), both CNPS listed species covered by the WRMSHCP. However, no suitable habitat for any of these species was observed on the study area and no impacts to the species are anticipated.

#### Other Sensitive Species

No suitable habitat for sensitive species not specifically protected under any other policy occurs on the study area.

#### Critical Habitat

The study area is not located within any USFWS-designated Critical Habitat.

#### **Nesting Birds**

The study area is subject to regular, heavy disturbances, such as storage of heavy equipment and large quantities of paving materials. No suitable habitat for nesting birds occurs on the study area as a result of these disturbances.

#### California Desert Native Plant Act

No plant species protected under the CDNPA were observed within the study area and no impacts associated with the development of the study area are anticipated to occur.

#### Jurisdictional Waters

The study area sheet flows into a large, potentially jurisdictional, east-west drainage feature, located approximately 300 feet north of the study area. No potentially jurisdictional drainage features, vernal pools, drainage features, or wetlands occur on the study area and there is no suitable habitat for sensitive fairy shrimp. However, impacts associated with runoff from the project must be avoided.

#### Wildlife Corridors and Movement

Given the limited size and minimal disturbance associated with the development of the study area, no impacts to any wildlife corridors or wildlife movement patterns are anticipated.

## Applicable HCP or Land Use Management Plan

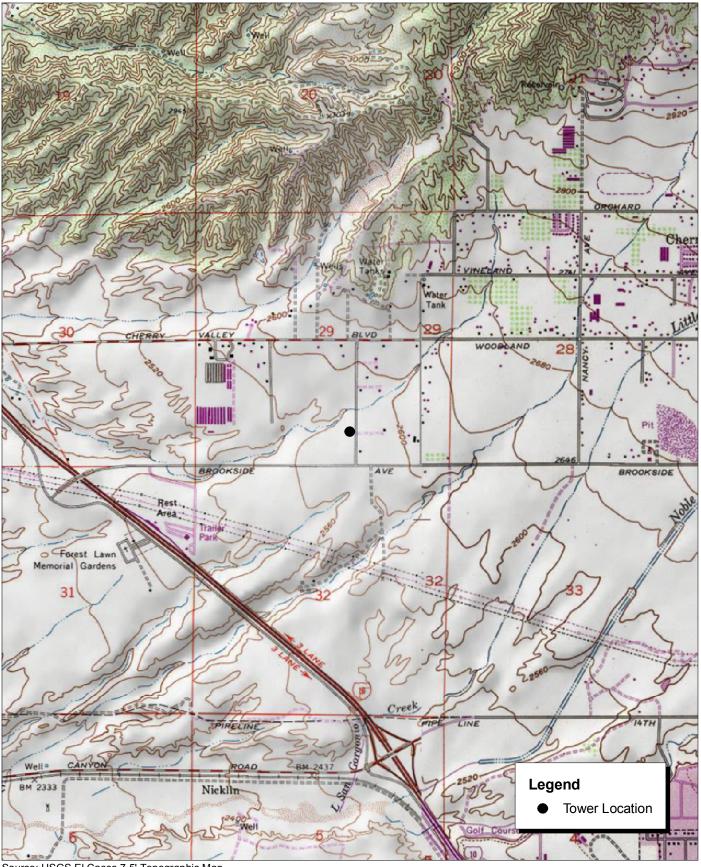
The study area is located on land owned by the County of Riverside and is subject to the WRMSHCP. The study area is located within "The Pass" Area Plan of the WRMSHCP, but does not fall within a Criteria Cell.



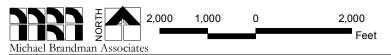
Source: Riverside County NAIP, 2005.



Brookside Communication Site Local Vicinity Aerial Map



Source: USGS El Casco 7.5' Topographic Map.



Brookside Communication Site Local Vicinity Topographic Map



Source: USDA Soils Data (NRCS).



Brookside Communication Site USDA Soils Map



Photograph 1: View toward Brookside candidate location, facing east.



Photograph 3: View toward Brookside candidate location, facing northwest.



Photograph 2: View toward Brookside candidate location, facing west.



Photograph 4: View toward Brookside candidate location, facing south.

Source: Michael Brandman Associates, 2008.





Photograph 5: View from Brookside candidate location, facing northeast.



Photograph 7: View from Brookside candidate location, facing southwest.



Photograph 6: View from Brookside candidate location, facing northwest.



Photograph 8: View from Brookside candidate location, facing southeast.

Source: Michael Brandman Associates, 2008.





# Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP)

APN	Cell	Cell Group	Acres	Area Plan	Sub Unit
407170010	Not A Part	Independent	14.65	The Pass	Not a Part

#### **HABITAT ASSESSMENTS**

Habitat assessment shall be required and should address at a minimum potential habitat for the following species:

APN	Amphibia	Burrowing	Criteria Area	Mammalian	Narrow Endemic	Special Linkage
	Species	Owl	Species	Species	Plant Species	Area
407170010	NO	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO

## **Burrowing Owl**

Burrowing owl.

## **Narrow Endemic Plant Species**

8) Marvin's Onion, Many-stemmed dudleya

If potential habitat for these species is determined to be located on the property, focused surveys may be required during the appropriate season.

## **Background**

The final MSHCP was approved by the County Board of Supervisors on June 17, 2003. The federal and state permits were issued on June 22, 2004 and implementation of the MSHCP began on June 23, 2004.

For more information concerning the MSHCP, contact your local city or the County of Riverside for the unincorporated areas. Additionally, the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority (RCA), which oversees all the cities and County implementation of the MSHCP, can be reached at:

Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority 4080 Lemon Street, 12th Floor Riverside, CA 92502-1604

Phone: 951-955-9700 Fax: 951-955-8873

www.wrc-rca.org