

Appendix C-3

Rare Plant Survey



Rincon Consultants, Inc.

180 North Ashwood Avenue
Ventura, California 93003

805 644 4455

FAX 644 4240

info@rinconconsultants.com
www.rinconconsultants.com

June 5, 2015

Rincon Project Number: 14-00929

Glassell Park, LLC

Attn: Nancy Johns

23622 Calabasas Road, Suite 220

Calabasas, California 91302

Via Email: wildflowerdevelopment@yahoo.com

Subject: Update to Rare Plant Survey Report for the Haverhill-Glassell Park Project, Los Angeles, California

Dear Ms. Johns,

This report documents the findings of the rare plant surveys conducted by Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) for the Haverhill-Glassell Park Project (project) located in the City of Los Angeles (City), California. The findings of the first rare plant survey conducted on March 17, 2015 were previously documented in the Biological Resource Assessment (Rincon, 2015). The purpose of this report is to document the findings of rare plant surveys.

PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The approximate 5-acre project site occurs within Northeast Los Angeles, which is bordered to the north by the cities of Glendale and Pasadena, to the south by downtown Los Angeles, to the west by the Los Angeles River, and to the east by several cities of the San Gabriel Valley. Specifically, the project site is located in the neighborhood of Glassell Park east and north of Division Street at the southern terminus of Haverhill Drive, Sundown Drive, and Brilliant Drive. The site is depicted in Sections 2 and 3, Township 1 South, Range 13 West of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) *Los Angeles, California* 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle.

The proposed project site encompasses 32 vacant parcels proposed for single-family residential development. Adjacent land uses include residential development on all sides. The site is currently undeveloped.

REGULATORY BACKGROUND

Local, state, and federal agencies regulate special-status species and require an assessment of their presence or potential presence to be conducted on-site prior to the



approval of any proposed development on a property. Assessments for the potential occurrence of special-status species are based upon known ranges, habitat preferences for the species, species occurrence records from the CNDDDB; species occurrence records from other sites in the vicinity of the study area, and previous reports for the project site.

A review of the Conservation Element for the City of Los Angeles General Plan did not identify any habitat for any threatened or rare species as listed in Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations. Based on a query of CNDDDB RareFind 5, there are 11 special-status plant species documented within a 5-mile radius of the project site.

The surveys were conducted according to the recommendations established by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW, 2009) and California Native Plant Society (2001).

METHODOLOGY

Although it has been determined, based on previously conducted field surveys, that suitable habitat is not present onsite for most special status plant species, Rincon used existing site condition information to conduct seasonally timed special status plant surveys within the project site to confirm the presence/absence of all listed species. The intent of these surveys was to document the presence and number(s) of any special status plant species, including listed and locally important species that occur within the Survey Area. The surveys coincided with the appropriate blooming periods for each special status plant species with potential to occur within the project site. The rare plant surveys focused on special-status species that had low potential to occur on site based on previous site surveys conducted in October and December 2014. These species include round-leaved filaree (*California macrophylla*), many-stemmed dudleya (*Dudleya multicaulis*), mesa horkelia (*Horkelia cuneata* var. *puberula*), Greata's aster (*Symphotrichum greatae*), and white rabbit-tobacco (*Pseudognaphalium leucocephalus*).

The first rare plant survey for the blooming season was conducted Rincon Biologist, Daniel Rosie, on March 17, 2015. The second rare plant survey for the blooming season was conducted by Rincon Biologist, Lindsay Griffin, on May 29, 2015, between the hours of 1030 and 1230. Weather conditions included an average temperature of 78 °F, winds between 3 and 5 mph, and sunny skies.

EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS

The survey area primarily consists of California walnut woodland, which is described as an open-canopied woodland community dominated by California walnut (*Juglans californica*). The understory consists of non-native annual grasses and forbs. California walnut woodlands are typically found on relatively moist fine-textured soils of valley slopes and bottoms, as well in rocky outcrops. On drier, rockier sites this habitat is often surrounded by coastal sage scrub; on more mesic sites it intergrades with coast live oak communities (Holland 1986). Within the survey area, this habitat type is specifically dominated by southern California black walnut (*Juglans californica* var.



californica) intermixed with several coast live oaks (*Quercus agrifolia*) and various ornamental trees. The understory and adjacent vegetation is relatively open, consisting of castor bean (*Ricinus communis*), mallow (*Malva* sp.), black mustard (*Brassica nigra*) and annual non-native grasses. The understory vegetation appears to undergo regular maintenance (i.e. trimming/ mowing). Table 1 provides a summary of plant species observed onsite.

Table 1. Plant Species Observed Onsite

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Native or Introduced
GYMNOSPERMS			
Pinaceae: Pine Family			
<i>Pinus halapensis</i>	Aleppo pine	None	Introduced
DICOTS			
Adoxaceae: Muskroot Family			
<i>Sambucus nigra</i> ssp. <i>caerulea</i>	blue elderberry	None	Native
Aizoaceae: Iceplant Family			
<i>Drosanthemum floribundum</i>	rosy ice plant	None	Introduced
Anacardiaceae: Sumac Family			
<i>Schinus molle</i>	Peruvian pepper tree	None	Introduced
<i>Schinus terebinthifolius</i>	Brazilian pepper tree	None	Introduced
<i>Toxicodendron diversilobum</i>	poison oak	None	Native
Apiaceae: Carrot Family			
<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	fennel	None	Introduced
Arecaceae: Palm Family			
<i>Washingtonia robusta</i>	Washington fan palm	None	Introduced
Asteraceae: Sunflower Family			
<i>Helianthus annuus</i> (cultivar)	common sunflower	None	Native
<i>Lactuca serriola</i>	prickly lettuce	None	Introduced
<i>Malacothrix saxitalis</i>	cliff aster	None	Native
<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	common sow thistle	None	Introduced
Boraginaceae: Borage Family			
<i>Phacelia parryi</i>	Parry's phacelia	None	Native
Brassicaceae: Mustard Family			
<i>Brassica nigra</i>	black mustard	None	Introduced
Cactaceae: Cactus Family			
<i>Opuntia ficus-indica</i>	mission cactus	None	Introduced
Caryophyllaceae: Pink Family			
<i>Stellaria media</i>	common chickweed	None	Introduced
Chenopodiaceae: Goosefoot Family			
<i>Chenopodium album</i>	lamb's quarters	None	Introduced
Cucurbitaceae: Gourd Family			
<i>Marah macrocarpa</i>	Chilicothe (wild cucumber)	None	Native



Table 1. Plant Species Observed Onsite

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Native or Introduced
Euphorbiaceae: Spurge Family			
<i>Ricinus communis</i>	castor bean	None	Introduced
Fabaceae: Legume Family			
<i>Lupinus succulentus</i>	arroyo lupine	None	Native
<i>Medicago polymorpha</i>	burclover	None	Introduced
<i>Melilotus indicus</i>	yellow sweetclover	None	Introduced
Fagaceae: Oak Family			
<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	coast live oak	None	Native
Geraniaceae: Geranium Family			
<i>Erodium moschatum</i>	whitestem filaree	None	Introduced
Juglandaceae: Walnut Family			
<i>Juglans californica</i>	Southern California black walnut	CRPR 4.2	Native
Malvaceae: Mallow Family			
<i>Dombeya</i> sp.	pear	None	Introduced
<i>Malva parviflora</i>	cheeseweed	None	Introduced
Moraceae: Mulberry Family			
<i>Ficus microcarpa</i>	Chinese banyan	None	Introduced
<i>Morus alba</i>	white mulberry	None	Introduced
Myrsinaceae: Myrsine Family			
<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	scarlet pimpernel	None	Introduced
Myrtaceae: Myrtle Family			
<i>Eucalyptus globulus</i>	blue gum	None	Introduced
<i>Eucalyptus polyanthemos</i>	silver dollar gum	None	Introduced
Nyctaginaceae: Four O'Clock Family			
<i>Mirabilis jalapa</i>	marvel of Peru	None	Introduced
Oleaceae: Olive Family			
<i>Fraxinus uhdei</i>	shamel ash	None	Introduced
Oxalidaceae: Oxalis Family			
<i>Oxalis pes-caprae</i>	Bermuda buttercup	None	Introduced
Plantaginaceae: Plantain Family			
<i>Plantago major</i>	common plantain	None	Introduced
Polygonaceae: Buchwheat Family			
<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>	prostrate knotweed	None	Introduced
Rosaceae: Rose Family			
<i>Eriobotrya japonica</i>	loquat	None	Introduced
<i>Heteromeles arbutifolia</i>	toyon	None	Native
<i>Prunus ilicifolia</i>	holly leaf cherry	None	Native
Rubiaceae: Madder Family			
<i>Galium aparine</i>	common bedstraw	None	Native
Simaroubaceae: Quassia Family			
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	tree of heaven	None	Introduced
Solanaceae: Nightshade Family			



Table 1. Plant Species Observed Onsite

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Native or Introduced
<i>Nicotiana glauca</i>	tree tobacco	None	Introduced
MONOCOTS			
Poaceae: Grass Family			
<i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	colonial bent	None	Introduced
<i>Avena fatua</i>	wild oats	None	Introduced
<i>Bromus diandrus</i>	ripgut grass	None	Introduced
<i>Festuca perennis</i>	Italian rye grass	None	Introduced
<i>Hordeum murinum</i>	foxtail barley	None	Introduced
<i>Pennisetum setaceum</i>	fountain grass	None	Introduced
<i>Triticum aestivum</i>	wheat	None	Introduced

CONCLUSIONS

No special-status plant species were detected during the field reconnaissance or rare plant surveys conducted at the site. Although elements of suitable habitat for some species are present (e.g. round-leaved filaree, many-stemmed dudleya, and mesa horkelia), each species is limited to specific biotypes or soil types (e.g., volcanic, alkaline, and/or clay soils; salt marshes; upland scrub; etc.), which do not occur on site.

Thank you for selecting Rincon to provide you with this biological technical study. Please call if you have questions, or if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,
RINCON CONSULTANTS, INC.

Lindsay D. Griffin
 Biologist/Project Manager

Steven J. Hongola
 Senior Biological Program Manager