### **EASEMENT MONITORING REPORT**

### **Mahon Property**

Sacramento County, California



June 2012



Prepared by: Summer Pardo City of Elk Grove 8401 Laguna Palms Elk Grove, CA 95758

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### 1. Introduction

### 1.1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide an accurate representation of the present condition of the Mahon Property (property). The property is currently managed in accordance with the conservation easement (CE) language and restrictions as recorded on September 4, 2009 (**Appendix A**). The information and photographs provided herein represent the condition of the property as of May 24, 2012.

### 1.2 LOCATION

The property is located in south-central Sacramento County, south of the city limits of Elk Grove, near the intersection of Grant Line Road and Waterman Road (**Figure 1**). The property is bordered by Deer Creek to the northwest and the Cosumnes River to the southeast. The property covered under the CE represents 62.35 acres of agricultural lands and is contained within a portion of assessor's parcel number (APN) 134-0190-003.

### 2. METHODS

A review of the property was conducted on May 24, 2012, by City of Elk Grove biologist Summer Pardo, to note features relevant to the CE and to take reference photographs at predesignated locations. On the day of the site review, the sky was clear, with a WNW wind averaging 16.1 mph and an ambient temperature of approximately 64.4°F.

US Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP) 2010 imagery files and Sacramento County 2012 parcel data were utilized as base layers for field maps and the enclosed figures. Maps were created using ArcView software.

Photographs of the property were taken with a 10 megapixel Nikon Coolpix S550 digital camera, 5 feet above the ground. The photopoint locations were revised during this monitoring period to eliminate duplicate photopoints and provide a more accurate depiction of their locations. Please refer to **Figure 2** for updated photopoint locations. Representative site photos from each photopoint can be found in **Appendix B**. Photos are referenced by photopoint number and directionality. For example, photo 1-N was taken at photopoint P1 facing north. The latitude and longitude for each photostation and a brief description of its locality can be found in **Appendix C**.

### 3. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY AND EASEMENT

The property's legal description is contained in Exhibit A of the CE, which is provided in **Appendix A** of this report. The property is composed of approximately 62 acres of forage crops and consists of an irregularly shaped area between Deer Creek and the Cosumnes River. Additional details regarding site characteristics can be found in sections 3.5, Infrastructure and Buildings, and 3.6, Conservation Features, of this report.

### 3.1. Purpose of the Conservation Easement

The multiple natural resource conservation purposes of the CE are to preserve and protect in perpetuity (a) the availability of the property for agricultural use by protecting the property from development pressure; (b) the conservation and habitat values of the property as foraging and/or nesting habitat for Swainson's hawks (Buteo swainsoni) and for other wildlife essential for maintaining Swainson's hawk habitat, including the processes which sustain that habitat; and (c) the open space character of the property, which is an important public benefit and is consistent with the availability of the property for wildlife habitat and agricultural uses.

### 3.2. Surrounding Properties

As mentioned previously, the property is bordered by Deer Creek along the northwestern boundary and the Cosumnes River along the southeastern boundary. Irrigated pasture located to the northwest of Deer Creek is owned and operated by the Mahon family. Forage crops are located adjacent to the property to the west and east, as well as south of the Cosumnes River.

### 3.3 HISTORIC AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES

The property has been continuously farmed since 1875 when the Cantrell family purchased the property. The Mahon family rented the acreage from the Cantrells in 1882 and purchased the property in 1884. Alfalfa was planted in the CE in 2007 and continues to be in production. Historically, other crops grown in the easement area included strawberries, asparagus, onions, tomatoes, beans, melons, hops, peppers, lettuce, beets, carrots, potatoes, cabbage, and radishes (Little 2009).

### 3.4 Current Agricultural Practices

Nearly all of the lands within the property have been converted to agricultural uses. At the time of the May 24, 2012, site visit, the fields within the CE were planted with alfalfa. Approximately every 6 to 10 years, the easement area is disked, ripped, re-planed, and replanted with alfalfa or another rotational crop. Rotation crops planted include corn, oats, wheat, cereal grains, forage crops, safflower, and sunflower (Little 2009).

### 3.5. CURRENT WATER USES

Water for flood irrigation is obtained from the Cosumnes River via the Omochumne-Hartnell Water District retention dam, Deer Creek, and groundwater. For alfalfa, flood irrigation typically occurs once every three to four weeks from May to October (pers. comm., Tom Mahon). The irrigation schedule for other row or pasture crops varies, but typically occurs once a week from May to October (Little 2009).

### 3.6. Infrastructure and Buildings

### Residences and Other Buildings

There are no existing buildings within the CE. Since the property is prone to seasonal flooding due to its location within the Deer Creek and Consumnes River floodplains, the CE does not allow for any residences or human-occupied buildings. The CE does allow for the maintenance, repair, replacement, or rebuilding of existing structures and improvements, provided that such replacement structures and improvements shall be of the same square footage as the original

and are rebuilt in the same general location and in a manner consistent with the purposes of the CE. Currently, there are no plans to construct any new buildings on the property; therefore, the property is consistent with the requirements of the CE.

### **Fences and Roads**

As of the May 24, 2012, site visit, no fences are located within the CE. An unimproved dirt road runs around the perimeter and through the center, perpendicular to Deer Creek. The signature of the dirt roads is visible on aerial photography (**Figure 2**). A low-water creek crossing over Deer Creek is located approximately 650 feet southwest of photopoint P1. The type, location, and size of the roads observed within the property are similar to what has been reported previously (City of Elk Grove 2011; Little 2009). The property is consistent with the requirements of the CE for fences and roads.

### **Ditches and Canals**

One shallow drainage ditch is located on the southeastern property boundary. The southeastern portion of the property contains the highest elevation; therefore, surface water generally flows north and west. The location and size of the on-site drainage ditch observed are similar to what has been reported previously (City of Elk Grove 2011; Little 2009). The property is consistent with the requirements of the CE for ditches and canals.

### 3.7. Conservation Features

### **Riparian Habitats**

The east and west portions of the property are bordered by riparian corridors associated with Deer Creek and the Cosumnes River (**Figure 2**). The overstory is dominated by mature valley oak (Quercus lobata), Oregon ash (Fraxinus latifolia), Fremont's cottonwood (Populus fremontii), boxelder (Acer negundo), and California black walnut (Juglans californica var. hindsii). The dominant understory species consist of poison-oak (Toxicodendron diversilobrum), wild grape (Vitis californica), Himalayan blackberry (Rubus discolor), California rose (Rosa californica), and poison hemlock (Conium maculatum).

The Deer Creek and Cosumnes River riparian corridors provide suitable nesting habitat for Swainson's hawks due to the availability of the large trees and the proximity of suitable foraging habitat. Generally, Swainson's hawks utilize nesting sites in large trees bordering open fields due to the availability of foraging opportunities and prey items in proximity to their nesting sites. These riparian habitats also provide suitable foraging and cover habitat for a variety of wildlife species including prey items for Swainson's hawks. One California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) record for nesting Swainson's hawk is located on the northeast corner of the CE (occurrence #761; CDFG 2012). No potential nest sites were documented on or adjacent to the property during the 2012 site review.

### **Uplands**

Nearly all of the land on the property has been converted to forage and/or row crops. As of the May 24, 2012, site visit, the fields were planted with alfalfa. Alfalfa, a low-growing crop, is optimal foraging habitat for Swainson's hawks due to the high visibility and accessibility of prey items.

### 4. CONCLUSIONS

### 4.1. ADHERENCE TO EASEMENT REQUIREMENTS

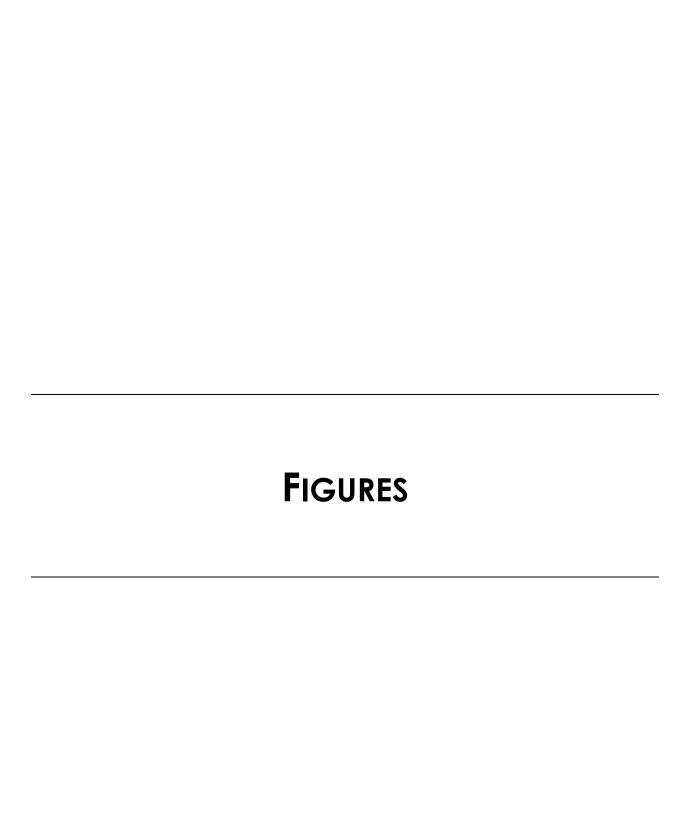
Review of the CE for the property revealed that the activities and practices observed during the site visit were permitted uses. The requirements set forth in the CE state that no residences or human-occupied buildings are permitted within the property because the property is prone to seasonal flooding due to its location within the floodplains of Deer Creek and the Cosumnes River. Currently, there are no plans to construct any buildings on the property, and the current farming practices are allowed under the requirements of the CE; therefore, the property is in compliance with the requirements of the CE.

### 4.2. Quality of Swainson's Hawk Foraging Habitat within the Easement Property

The farming practices observed provide excellent foraging habitat for Swainson's hawks, because they allow for clear visibility and accessibility of prey items within the fields. In addition, according to the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) CNDDB records, there are 84 previously recorded occurrences of Swainson's hawks within a 10-mile radius of the property (CDFG 2012). Since numerous Swainson's hawk nests have been recorded in the surrounding area, it is reasonable to presume that Swainson's hawks nest in the vicinity of the property and could use the property as foraging habitat. In addition, the large trees around the perimeter of the property represent suitable nesting habitat for Swainson's hawk.

### **REFERENCES**

- CDFG (California Department of Fish and Game). 2012. RareFind 4. Sacramento: California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB). Accessed June 2012. http://www.dfg.ca.gov/biogeodata/cnddb/mapsanddata.asp.
- City of Elk Grove. 2011. Easement Documentation Report for the Mahon Property, Sacramento County, California. City of Elk Grove, Elk Grove, CA.
- Little, Jeffery. 2009. Swainson's Hawk Site Assessment for the Mahon Family Partnership Swainson's Hawk Habitat Conservation Easement, Sacramento County, CA. Sycamore Environmental Consultants, Sacramento, CA.



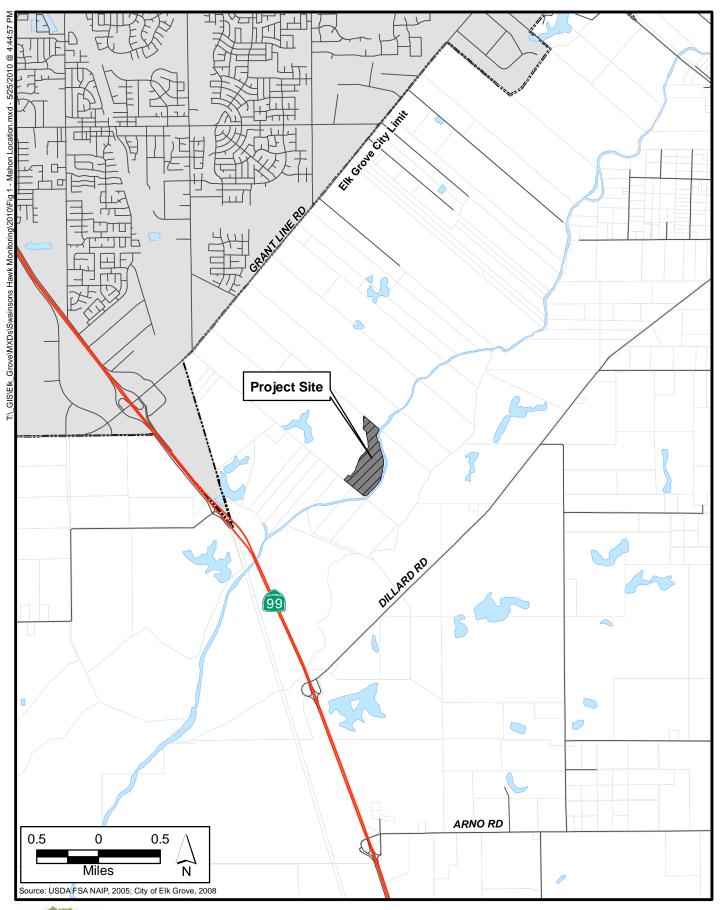


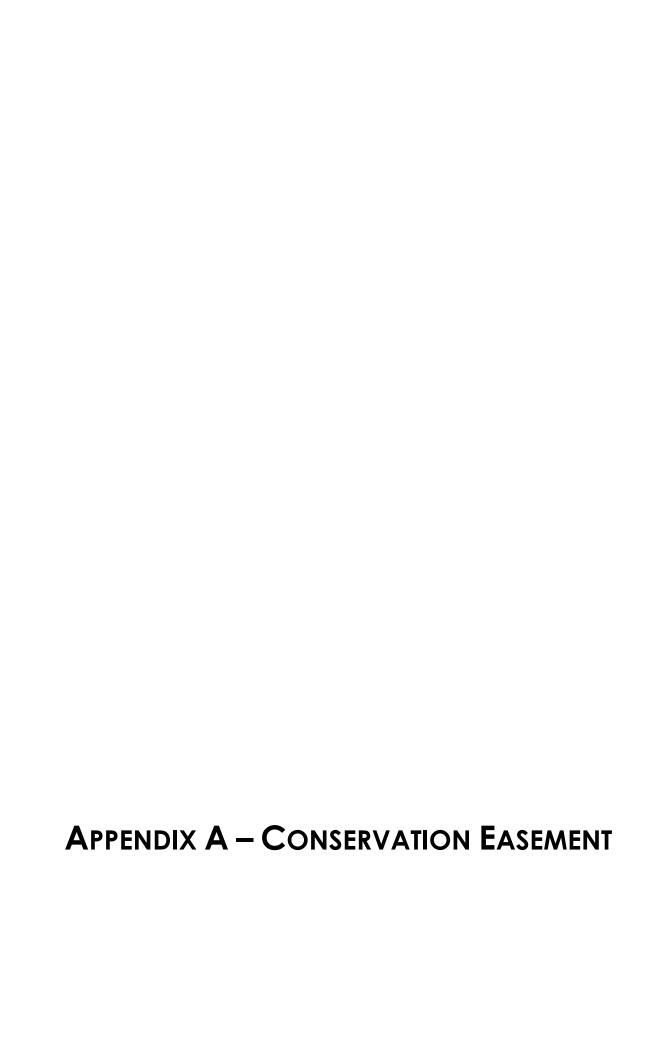






Figure 2
Photopoint Locations

# **APPENDICES**



D-09-024

Sacramento County Recorder
Craig A. Kramer, Clerk/Recorder
BOOK 20090904 PAGE 1594

Friday, SEP 04, 2009 Ttl Pd \$0.00

4:02:26 PM Nbr-0006036810

INK/87/1-29

Recording requested, and when recorded, return to:

City of Elk Grove Attn: City Clerk 8380 Laguna Palms Way Elk Grove, California 95758

with a conformed copy to:

Tom Mahon Mahon Family Partnership 10171 Grant Line Road Elk Grove, California 95624

No Transfer Tax Due as this conveyance is for the benefit of the City of Elk Grove

**R&T Code Section 11922** 

No Recording Fees Needed per Government Code §6103

(space above this line reserved for recorder's use)

### GRANT DEED OF SWAINSON'S HAWK HABITAT CONSERVATION EASEMENT

THIS GRANT DEED OF SWAINSON'S HAWK HABITAT CONSERVATION EASEMENT ("Deed") is made as of August 26, 2009 by and between **Mahon Family Partnership**, a California General Partnership as "Grantor" and the City of Elk Grove ("City"), a municipal corporation, as "Grantee."

### **RECITALS**

- A. Grantor owns real property consisting of approximately 62.35 acres, in Sacramento County, California, as described in Exhibit A and shown more particularly on the map attached as Exhibit B, attached hereto and incorporated herein, together with all appurtenances thereto, including without limitation all minerals and mineral rights, if any, and all water and water rights appurtenant to such land (collectively, the "Property").
- B. The Property is comprised of open space land, appropriate to use for agriculture, and also essential to providing foraging and/or nesting habitat for Swainson's hawks, and other significant relatively natural habitat and buffer for many species of wildlife including, but not limited to, raptors, migratory birds, and others.
- C. Protection and preservation of the Property, including its wildlife habitat, will assure that this area and its existing features will continue to be available for agriculture, to provide foraging and or nesting habitat for Swainson's hawks and other natural habitat values and buffer for wildlife, a significant public benefit by preserving open space against development pressure, and scenic qualities unique to the Cosumnes River Watershed.
- D. As fee owner, Grantor owns the affirmative rights to identify, preserve, and protect forever the existing features and values of the Property.
- E. The State of California recognizes the public importance and validity of conservation easements by enactment of Section 815 et seq of the Civil Code, and the City is an entity qualified under such Civil Code provisions to hold a conservation easement.
- F. The City is a local government agency in the State of California, and is a "qualified organization" within the provisions of Section 170(h) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, qualified to acquire and hold conservation easements.

- G. To accomplish all of the aforementioned purposes, Grantor intends to convey to the City and the City intends to obtain a nonexclusive easement restricting the use which may be made of the Property, to preserve and protect forever the agricultural uses, open-space, foraging and/or nesting habitat for Swainson's hawks and scenic values of the Property.
- NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the above and the mutual covenants, terms, conditions, and restrictions contained herein, and for the good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, and pursuant to the laws of the State of California and in particular California Civil Code section 815 et seq., Grantor hereby voluntarily grants and conveys to the City, its successors and assigns, a nonexclusive Easement in gross, forever in, on, over, and across the Property (the "Easement"), subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein, restricting forever the uses which may be made of the Property, and the parties agree as follows:
- 1. <u>PURPOSES</u>: The multiple natural resource conservation purposes of the Easement are to preserve and protect in perpetuity (a) the availability of the Property for agriculture by protecting the Property from development pressure; and (b) the conservation and habitat values of the Property as foraging and/or nesting habitat for Swainson's hawks and for other wildlife essential for maintaining Swainson's hawk habitat including the processes which sustain that habitat; which are important public benefits and are consistent with the availability of the Property for wildlife habitat and agriculture. The preservation and protection of these two uses in perpetuity is hereinafter referred to as the "Natural Resource Conservation Purposes" of this Easement.

It is intended that this Easement shall foster agricultural practices on the Property in harmony with the protection and preservation of conservation and habitat values of the Property as foraging and/or nesting habitat for Swainson's hawks and the processes that sustain that habitat. It is intended that each such purpose shall be conducted in a manner consistent with the other. This Easement prohibits use of the Property for any purpose, other than as otherwise allowed in this Easement that would significantly impair, degrade or interfere with the "Natural Resource Conservation Purposes" stated above.

- 2. <u>EASEMENT DOCUMENTATION REPORT</u>: The parties acknowledge that an Easement Documentation Report (the "Report") of the Property ("Swainson's Hawk Site Assessment for the Mahon Ranch Family Partnership Swainson's Hawk Habitat Conservation Easement, Sacramento County, CA. Prepared by Sycamore Environmental Consultants, Inc. Dated May 14, 2009") has been prepared by a competent biologist familiar with the environs and approved by the City and Grantor in writing, a copy of which is on file with the Grantor and the City at their respective addresses for notices, set forth below. The parties agree that the Report contains an accurate representation of the biological and physical condition of the Property at the time of this grant, and of the historical uses of the Property, including historical water uses. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if a controversy arises with respect to the nature and extent of the physical and biological condition of the Property or the permitted historical uses of the Property, the parties shall not be foreclosed from utilizing any and all other relevant documents, surveys or other evidence or information to assist in the resolution of the controversy.
- 3. <u>EASEMENT ENDOWMENT</u>: The parties acknowledge that Grantor or Grantor's designee shall, as set forth in <u>Exhibit C</u>, deposit funds in to the City Mitigation Endowment Fund for the maintenance of this Easement.
- 4. <u>CITY'S RIGHTS</u>: To accomplish the purpose of this Easement, the rights and interests which are conveyed to the City by this Easement include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - A. <u>Preserve and Protect</u>. The City may preserve and protect forever the Natural Resource Conservation Purposes of the Property.
  - B. Entry and Access Rights. The City is hereby granted rights of access to enter upon the Property, using appurtenant easements and rights of way, if required for access by City, at reasonable times in order to monitor compliance with and to otherwise enforce the terms of this Easement and to determine whether Grantor's activities are in compliance with the terms hereof. Except in cases where the City determines that immediate entry is required to prevent, terminate, or mitigate a violation of the Easement, such entry shall be upon prior reasonable notice to Grantor and will not in any case unreasonably interfere with Grantor's use and quiet enjoyment of the Property. Notice

Dated: August 4, 2009

Grant Deed Conservation Easement
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- shall be provided by the City at least ten (10) days prior to entry. This provision is subject to section 7c herein regarding emergency enforcement.
- C. <u>Enforcement</u>. The City may prevent any activity on, or use of, the Property that is inconsistent with the terms of this Easement, may enforce the restoration of such areas or features of the Property that may be damaged by any inconsistent activity or use and, subject to Section 7(A) below, may enter the Property to take corrective action, including, but not limited to, incurring costs and expenses to restore any areas or features of the Property that may be damaged by any inconsistent activity or use.
- D. <u>Signs.</u> The City may erect a sign or other appropriate marker, no greater than four by eight feet, in a prominent location on the Property, visible from a public road, bearing information indicating that the environmental resources of the Property are protected by the City. The wording of the information on the sign shall be jointly determined by the City and the Grantor, but shall clearly indicate that the Property is privately owned and not open to the public. The City shall be responsible for the costs of erecting and maintaining its sign or marker.
- E. <u>Scientific Studies</u>. Subject to Grantor's approval, which approval shall not be unreasonably withheld or denied, the City shall have the right to conduct Swainson's Hawk wildlife studies and associated habitat research on the 62.35-acre Easement Property, as well as monitoring Swainson's Hawk habitat on the 62.35-acre Easement Property, provided that such studies, research, and monitoring shall be carried out in a manner that shall not interfere unreasonably with the permitted use(s) or enjoyment of the Property by Grantor, its successors in interest, or any legally recognized occupant(s) or user(s) of the Property.
- 5. <u>RESERVED RIGHTS</u>. Grantor reserves all rights accruing from their ownership of the Property, including the right to engage in, or permit others to engage in, all uses of the Property that are not expressly prohibited herein and are not inconsistent with the Natural Resource Conservation Purposes of this Easement. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, except as prohibited or otherwise limited in Paragraph 6 below and <u>Exhibit E</u> attached hereto, Grantor reserves the right to use and enjoy the Property in any manner which is consistent with the Natural Resource Conservation Purposes of this Easement. In that regard, except as provided in Paragraph 5 below and <u>Exhibit E</u> attached hereto, the uses set forth in the Report as well as the permitted uses stated in <u>Exhibit D</u> attached hereto, though not an exhaustive list of consistent permitted uses, are consistent with this Easement, and shall not be precluded, prevented or limited by this Easement, except for the requirement of prior approval by the City where such approval is required herein.
- 6. <u>PROHIBITED USES OF THE PROPERTY</u>. Unless undertaken for the purpose of carrying out one of the two Natural Resource Conservation Purposes of this Easement or unless permitted by <u>Exhibit D</u>, any activity on or use of the Property which significantly degrades or interferes with the ability to use the Property for the Natural Resource Conservation Purposes is prohibited. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, none of the uses described in <u>Exhibit E</u> attached hereto shall be made of the Property. Grantor may not cultivate any of the plants listed in <u>Exhibit F</u> on the Property.

### 7. REMEDIES.

A. Notice of Violation: Corrective Action. If the City becomes aware that as the result of Grantor's use of the Property or Grantor's failure to exercise reasonable care, a violation of the terms of this Easement has occurred or is threatened to occur, the City shall give written notice to the Grantor of such violation and demand corrective action sufficient to cure the violation and, where the violation involves injury to the Property resulting from any use or activity inconsistent with the purpose of this Easement, to restore the portion of the Property so injured. If Grantor fails to cure the violation within thirty (30) days after receipt of notice from the City, or under circumstances where the violation cannot reasonably be cured within a thirty (30) day period, fails to begin curing such violation within the thirty (30) day period and fails to continue diligently to cure such violation until finally cured, the City shall have all remedies available at law or in equity to enforce the terms of this Easement, including, without limitation, (i) the right to seek a temporary

or permanent injunction with respect to such activity, (ii) to cause the restoration of that portion of the Property affected by such activity to the condition that existed prior to the undertaking of such prohibited activity, (iii) to recover any damages arising from the violation, to the extent that such damages include monetary amounts paid by the City which, if not paid, could result in the extinguishment, modification, non-enforcement or impairment of the Easement, and (iv) to recover all reasonable costs and expenses incurred by the City to effect the restoration of the Property. In the event that the nature of any violation is such that the Property cannot be restored, or a court of competent jurisdiction determines that a material violation of the terms of this Easement occurred but nonetheless refuses to order such restoration, the City shall have the right to seek money damages for the diminution in value of this Easement (determined in accordance with Section 15) caused by such violation. The remedies described in this paragraph shall be cumulative and shall be in addition to all remedies hereafter existing at law or in equity. Notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, in no event shall a monetary recovery by Grantee against Grantor exceed the value of this Easement, determined in accordance with Section 15.

- B. Cost of Enforcement. In any action, suit or other proceeding undertaken to enforce the provisions of this Easement, the prevailing party shall be entitled to recover from the non-prevailing all reasonable costs and expenses including attorneys' fees, and if such prevailing party shall recover judgment in any action or proceeding, such costs and expenses shall be included as part of the judgment. In addition, any costs of restoration shall be borne by the Grantor.
- C. Emergency Enforcement. If the City, in its sole discretion, determines that circumstances require immediate action to prevent or mitigate significant damage to the protected values of the Property, the City may pursue its remedies under this paragraph without prior notice to Grantor or without waiting for the period to cure to expire.
- D. Non-Waiver. Enforcement of the terms and provisions of this Easement shall be at the discretion of the City, and the failure of the City to discover a violation or to take action under this paragraph shall not be deemed or construed to be a waiver of the City's rights hereunder with respect to such violation in the event of any subsequent breach.
- E. Acts Beyond Grantor's Control. Nothing contained in this Easement shall be construed to entitle the City to bring any action against Grantor for any injury to or change in the Property resulting from causes beyond Grantor's control, including fire, flood, storm, and earth movement, or from any prudent action taken by Grantor under emergency conditions to prevent, abate, or mitigate significant injury to the property resulting from such causes.
- F. Third-Party Beneficiary Enforcement. It is understood by the Grantor that all rights and remedies conveyed under this Conservation Easement shall extend to and are enforceable against Grantor by Department of Fish and Game ("DFG") as a third-party beneficiary, provided, however, that such status as a third-party beneficiary is personal to DFG and may not be assigned or conveyed to any other entity.
- G. Agent for Enforcement. Without the prior consent of the Grantor, the City may appoint any person or entity as the City's agent for enforcing the terms of this Easement, and the Grantor shall be entitled to treat any such person or entity as the City's agent for enforcement, provided such person or entity presents written proof of such authority signed by the City.
- TRANSFER. The City may transfer all or any of its interests in this Easement with Grantor's prior written consent, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld, provided that (1) the City or any successor holder of this Easement obtains the prior written consent of the California Department of Fish and Game; and (2) any transfer shall be made only to an organization qualified at the time of the transfer as an eligible donee under Internal Revenue Code Section 170(h)(3) or its successor, or any regulation issued thereunder, and such organization shall be an entity qualified pursuant to Civil Code Section 815 et seq. or any subsequent state law governing the creation, transfer and enforcement of conservation easements. Grantor may reasonably withhold consent to transfer: if the

Dated: August 4, 2009 Page 4 of 32 proposed transferee is not subject to the jurisdiction of the Courts of the State of California; or if the organizational mission and purposes of the proposed transferee might cause the proposed transferee to emphasize the protection of one of the Natural Resource Protection Purposes of this Easement over the other.

9. RUNNING WITH THE LAND. The Easement created by this Grant Deed shall burden and run with the Property forever. Every provision of this Easement that applies to the Grantor or the City shall also apply forever to and shall burden or benefit, as applicable, their respective agents, heirs, devisees, administrators, employees, personal representatives, lessees, and assigns, and all other successors as their interest may appear. The Grantor and the City agree that transfer by Grantor of any interest in the Property shall be in accordance with the terms of Paragraph 9 of Exhibit D hereto.

### 10. REPRESENTATION AND WARRANTIES.

- A. Hazardous Materials. Grantor discloses to City that the Property has historically been used for agricultural purposes and will continue to be so used and, accordingly, fertilizers, pesticides and other substances historically used in such practices and typically used in such practices, have been, and may be, on the Property. Subject to the foregoing, Grantor represents and warrants that to the best of Grantor's knowledge, the Property (including, without limitation, any associated air, soil, groundwater, and surface water) is free of any conditions that individually or in aggregate (1) pose a significant risk to human health or the environment; (2) violate any Environmental Law, as that term is defined below in Section 16; or (3) could reasonably be expected to cause any person to incur environmental investigation, removal, remediation, or other cleanup costs. There are no known underground tanks located on the Property. Grantor represents and warrants that Grantor shall comply with all Environmental Laws in using the Property and that Grantor shall keep the Property free of any material environmental defect, including, without limitation, contamination from Hazardous Materials, as that term is defined below in Section 16.
- B. State of Title. Subject to matters of record disclosed in that certain Preliminary Title Report dated September 17, 2008, issued by First American Title Company regarding the Property, Grantor warrants that as of the date that title to the Easement transfers it has good and sufficient title to the Property and that all mortgages, liens, and encumbrances are subordinated to this Easement.
- C. Compliance with Laws. Grantor has not received notice of and has no knowledge of any material violation of any federal, state, county or other governmental or quasi-governmental statute, ordinance, regulation, law or administrative or judicial order with respect to the Property.
- D. No Litigation. There is no action, suit or proceeding which is pending or threatened against the Property or any portion thereof relating to or arising out of the ownership or use of the Property, or any portion thereof, in any court or in any federal, state, county, or municipal department, commission, board, bureau, agency or other governmental instrumentality.
- E. Authority To Execute Easement. The person executing this Easement on behalf of the City represents that execution of this Easement has been duly authorized by the City. The person(s) executing this Easement on behalf of the Grantor represents that the execution of this Easement has been duly authorized by the Grantor.
- COSTS, LEGAL REQUIREMENTS, AND LIABILITIES. Grantor retains all responsibilities and shall 11. bear all costs and liabilities of any kind related to the ownership, operation, upkeep and maintenance of all interests in the Property retained by Grantor and agrees that the City shall have no duty or responsibility for the operation or maintenance of the Property, the monitoring of hazardous conditions thereon, or the protection of Grantor, the public, or any third parties from risks relating to conditions on the Property. Nothing in this Section shall obligate Grantor for any costs of monitoring this Easement. Grantor agrees to pay any and all real property taxes and assessments levied by competent authority on the interest in the Property retained by Grantor before delinquency and that Grantor shall keep the City's interest in the Property free of any liens arising out of any work performed for, materials furnished to or obligations incurred by or on behalf of Grantor. Grantor shall be solely responsible for any costs related to the maintenance of general liability insurance covering acts on the Property. Grantor remains solely

Dated: August 4, 2009 Page 5 of 32 responsible for obtaining any applicable governmental permits and approvals for any activity or use permitted by this Easement, and any activity or use shall be undertaken in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and requirements.

- 12. <u>INDEMNIFICATION BY GRANTOR</u>. Notwithstanding any other provision herein to the contrary, Grantor hereby agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the City, its members, directors, officers, employees, agents, and contractors and their heirs and assigns (the "Indemnified Parties") from and against any costs, liabilities, penalties, damages, claims or expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees) which the Indemnified Parties may suffer or incur as a result of or arising out of the activities of the Grantor on the Property, except as such claim, liability, damage, or expense is the result of the City's gross negligence or intentional misconduct. Without limiting the foregoing, Grantor shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Indemnified Parties for all of the following:
  - A. <u>Third Party Claims.</u> Any claim, liability, damage, or expense suffered or incurred by or threatened against Grantor by any other person or entity, except as such claim, liability, damage, or expense is the result of the City's gross negligence or intentional misconduct.
  - B. <u>Taxes</u>. Any real property taxes, insurance, utilities or assessments that are levied against the interest in the Property retained by Grantor, including those for which exemption cannot be obtained, or any other costs in maintaining the Property.
  - C. <u>Hazardous Materials</u>. Other than as disclosed by Grantor in Section 10(A) regarding the historic uses of the Property, any Hazardous Material, as that term is defined in Section 16(D), present, alleged to be present, or otherwise connected in any way to the Property, whether by or after the date of this Easement.

### 13. NOTICE; APPROVAL.

- A. <u>Notice for Entry</u>. Except in the event of emergency, where notice to Grantor of the City's entry upon Property is required herein, the City shall notify any of the persons constituting Grantor or their authorized agents by telephone notice in the manner described below in Section C, prior to such entry.
- B. Other Notice. Except as provided in Section A above, whenever express approval, agreement or consent is required by this document, the initiating party shall give written notice, in the manner described below in Section C, and detailed information to the other party. The receiving party shall review the proposed activity and notify the initiating party, within five (5) working-days after receipt of notice of any objections to such activity. Any objections by a party shall be based upon its opinion that the proposed activity is inconsistent with the terms of this Easement.
- C. Written Notices. Except as set forth in Subsection A above, any written notice called for in this Easement may be delivered (1) in person; (2) by certified mail, return receipt requested, postage paid; (3) by facsimile with the original deposited with the United States Post office, postage prepaid on the same date as sent by facsimile; (4) by electronic mail; or (5) by a reputable overnight courier that guarantees next day delivery and provided a receipt, and addressed as follows:

To the Grantor: Tom Mahon

To City:

Mahon Family Partnership 10171 Grant Line Road Elk Grove, CA 95624 Telephone: (916) 685-7195 Fax: (916) 685-4001 tom@mahonranch.com

Environmental Planning Manager

Dated: August 4, 2009

Grant Deed Conservation Easement
Page 6 of 32

City of Elk Grove 8401 Laguna Palms Way Elk Grove, CA 95758 Fax: (916) 691-3175

with a copy to: Regional Manager

Region 2

California Department of Fish and Game

1701 Nimbus Road, Suite A Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Either party may, from time to time, by written notice to the other, designate a different address which shall be substituted for the one above specified. Notice is deemed to be given upon receipt or refusal.

- D. <u>Deemed Consent.</u> Notwithstanding any other provision herein, the failure of the City to object in writing to any notice or request from or by Grantor within sixty (60) days after receipt thereof shall be deemed consent by the City to the subject of such notice and/or such request.
- E. <u>Subsequent Activities</u>. Permission to carry out, or failure to object to, any proposed use or activity shall not constitute consent to any subsequent use or activity of the same or any different nature. Notwithstanding any other provision herein, the failure of the City to object in writing to any notice or request from or by Grantor within sixty (60) days after receipt thereof shall be deemed consent by the City to the subject of such notice and/or such request.
- 14. <u>SEVERABILITY AND ENFORCEABILITY</u>. The terms and purposes of this Easement are intended to be perpetual. If any provision or purpose of this Easement or the application hereof to any person or circumstance is found to be invalid, the remainder of the provisions and purposes of this Easement, and the application of such provision or purpose to persons or circumstances other than those as to which it is found to be invalid, shall not be affected thereby.
- 15. <u>VALUATION</u>. Grantor and the City agree that this grant of a perpetual Easement gives rise to a property right, immediately vested in the City, which for purposes of this Paragraph, the parties stipulate to have a fair market value of the greater of:
  - A. Five hundred sixty-one thousand and one hundred fifty dollars (\$561,150) which is the product obtained when the per acre value paid to the Grantor of this Easement for the purchase of this Easement is multiplied by 62.35, the total number of protected acres of the Property; or
  - B. The number obtained by multiplying (1) the fair market value of the Property unencumbered by this Easement (minus any increase in value after the date of this grant attributable to improvements) by (2) [x/y, which is] the ratio of the value of the Easement at the time of this grant to the value of the Property, without the deduction for the value of the Easement. The values at the time of this grant are those values used to calculate the deduction for federal income tax purposes allowable by reason of this grant, pursuant to Section 170(h) of the Internal Revenue Code. For purposes of this Paragraph, the ratio of the value of the Easement to the value of the Property unencumbered by the Easement shall remain constant.

If for any reason there is an extinguishment of the restrictions of this Easement other than a voluntary surrender or extinguishment by the City, the City, on subsequent sale, exchange, or taking of the Property, shall be entitled to a portion of the proceeds at least equal to the amount determined in accordance with this Paragraph. If such extinguishment occurs with respect to fewer than all acres of the Property, the amounts described above shall be calculated based on the actual number of acres subject to extinguishment.

### 16. <u>INTERPRETATION</u>

- Liberally Construed. It is the intent of this Easement to preserve the condition of the Property and A. each of the Natural Resource Conservation Purposes protected herein, notwithstanding economic or other hardship or changes in surrounding conditions. The provisions of this Easement shall be liberally construed to effectuate the perpetual purposes of preserving and protecting the agricultural and Swainson's hawk habitat purposes described above, and allowing Grantor's use and enjoyment of the Property to the extent consistent with those purposes. Liberal construction is expressly required for purposes of effectuating this Easement in perpetuity, notwithstanding changed conditions of any kind. The Natural Resource Conservation Purposes herein are the intended best and most productive use of the Property. Subject to the limitations set forth in this Easement on the City's right to seek monetary damages, no remedy or election given by any provision in this Easement shall be deemed exclusive unless so indicated, but it shall, wherever possible, be cumulative with all other remedies at law or in equity. The parties acknowledge that each party and its counsel have reviewed and revised this Easement and that no rule of construction that ambiguities are to be resolved against the drafting party shall be employed in the interpretation of this Easement. In the event of any conflict between the provisions of this Easement and the provisions of any use and zoning restrictions of the State of California, the City in which the Property is located, or any other governmental entity with jurisdiction, the more restrictive provisions shall apply.
- B. Governing Law. This Easement shall be interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of California, and shall be subject to the provisions of Civil Code section 815 et seq. or any subsequent State law governing the creation, transfer and enforcement of conservation easements.
- C. <u>Captions</u>. The captions have been inserted solely for convenience of reference and are not part of the Easement and shall have no effect upon construction or interpretation.
- D. <u>No Hazardous Materials Liability</u>. Notwithstanding any other provision herein to the contrary, the parties do not intend this Easement to be construed such that it creates in or gives to the City:
  - (a) the obligations or liabilities of an "owner" or "operator" as those words are defined and used in environmental laws, as defined below, including, without limitation, the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, as amended (42 USC § 9601 et seq. and hereinafter "CERCLA");
  - (b) the obligations or liabilities of a person described in 42 USC § 9607(a)(3);
  - (c) the obligations of a responsible person under any applicable Environmental Laws, as defined below:
  - (d) the right to investigate and remediate any Hazardous Materials, as defined below, associated with the Property; or
  - (e) any control over Grantor's ability to investigate, remove, remediate or otherwise cleanup any hazardous material associated with the Property.

### E. Definitions.

(a) The terms "Grantor" and "City", wherever used in this Easement and any pronouns used in place thereof, shall mean and include, respectively, the above-named Grantor, its personal

Dated: August 4, 2009

Grant Deed Conservation Easement
Page 8 of 32

representatives, heirs, devisee, and assigns, and all other successors as their interest may appear and the City and its successors and assigns.

- The term "Hazardous Materials" includes, without limitation, (a) material that is flammable, explosive, or radioactive; (b) petroleum products; and (c) hazardous wastes, hazardous or toxic substances, or related materials defined in the CERCLA (42 USC § 9601 et seq.), the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act (49 USC § 6901 et seq.), the Hazardous Waste Control Law (Cal. Health & Safety Code § 25100 et seq.), the Hazardous Substance Account Act (Cal. Health & Safety Code § 25300 et seq.), and in the regulations adopted and publications promulgated pursuant to them, or any other applicable federal, state, or local laws, ordinances, rules, or regulations now in effect or enacted after this date.
- The term "Environmental Laws" includes, without limitation, any federal, state, local, or administrative agency statute, regulation, rule, ordinance, order or requirement relating to pollution, protection of human health, the environment or Hazardous Materials.
- CONDEMNATION. If all or part of the property is taken in exercise of eminent domain by public, 17. corporate, or other authority so as to abrogate the restrictions imposed by this Easement, the Grantor and the City shall join in appropriate actions at the time of such taking to recover the full value of the taking and all incidental or direct damages resulting from the taking, which proceeds shall be divided in accordance with the value of City's and Grantor's interests as determined in accordance with the provisions of Section 15 above, it being expressly agreed that this Easement constitutes a compensable property right. All expenses incurred by the Grantor and the City in such action shall be paid out of the recovered proceeds.
- 18. SUBSEQUENT LIENS ON PROPERTY. No provision of the Easement should be construed as impairing the ability of Grantor to use this Property as collateral for subsequent borrowing, provided that any mortgage, lien, or encumbrance arising from such a borrowing shall be subordinated to the Easement.
- INDEMNIFICATION BY CITY. Notwithstanding any other provision herein to the contrary, the City will indemnify, defend and hold harmless Grantor, its employees, agents, contractors, successors, and their heirs and assigns (the "Indemnified Parties") from and against any costs, liabilities, penalties, damages, claims or expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees) which the Indemnified Parties may suffer or incur as a result of or arising out of the activities of the City on the Property, except as such claim, liability, damage, or expense is the result of the Grantor's gross negligence or intentional misconduct.
- 20. ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS. The administration of this Easement and the financial obligations relating thereto are described further in the Letter of Acceptance and Funding Instrument.
- 21. AMENDMENT OF EASEMENT. This Agreement may be amended only with the written consent of Grantee and Grantor (or Grantee's or Grantor's successor in interest, if any) and the concurrence of DFG. Any such amendment shall be consistent with the purposes of this Agreement and shall comply with California Civil Code, sections 815 through 816, and any regulations promulgated in accordance with those sections. Any such amendment shall also be consistent with other California laws governing conservation easements.
- 22. RE-RECORDING. Grantor agrees to execute all documents and instruments reasonably necessary and requested by the City to assure the perpetual enforceability of this Easement.
- 23. ACCESS. Nothing contained in this Easement shall give or grant to the public a right to enter upon or use the Property or any portion thereof where no such right existed in the public immediately prior to the execution of this Easement.

Dated: August 4, 2009 Page 9 of 32

- 24. <u>ENTIRE AGREEMENT</u>. This Easement, together with the attached exhibits and schedules, and any documents incorporated herein by reference, constitutes the entire agreement of the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof, and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings of the parties.
- 25. <u>COUNTERPARTS.</u> The parties may execute this Agreement in two or more counterparts, which shall be signed in the aggregate, by both parties; each counterpart shall be deemed an original instrument as against any party who has signed it.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Easement as of the date first above written.

**GRANTOR:** 

Mahon Family Partnership, a California General Partnership	
By Thomas Makon Thomas Mahon	8//8/09 Date/
Its: Managing Partner	
CITY:	
City of Elk Grove, a municipal corporation	
By: Laura A. Hel	9/2/09
ITS: City Manager Laura Gill	Date
APPROVED AS TO FORM:	
Denniger Oliver	
City Attorney Jennifer Alves Assistant City At	<b></b>
Assistant City M	100 ares

Attest

FOR

Susan J. Blackston, City Clerk

July 1, 2000

STATE OF

CALIFORNIA

ALL-PURPOSE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
On 87809, before me, Gorg Higley Mikary Public
(insert name and title of the officer)
On 87809, before me, Gara Haley Makeny Relicitions (insert name and title of the officer)  personally appeared, who proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person(s) whose name and is lare subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me
that (he) she/they executed the same in his/her/their authorized capacity(ies), and that by his/her/their signature(s) on the
instrument the person(s), or entity upon behalf of which the person(s) acted, executed the instrument.
I certify under PENALTY OF PERJURY under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing paragraph is true and correct.
WITNESS my hand and official seal:  WITNESS my hand and official seal:  WITNESS my hand and official seal:
NOTARY PUBLIC - CALIFORNIA W
SACRAMENTO COUNTY ()
Signature COMM. EXPIRES SEPT. 12, 2012
ALL-PURPOSE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO

t,

### EXHIBIT A and A-1

# (Recital "A") PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

Swainson's Hawk Mitigation Area Job No. 1589-00-0910 Waterman Park 75 Page 1 of 2



### **EXHIBIT "A"**

All that certain real property situated in the County of Sacramento, State of California, more particularly described as follows:

A Portion of land described in grant deed recorded on December 18, 2000 in book 20001218 at page 0833, official records of Sacramento County. Also being a portion of Lot 10 of Lower Daylor Estate, as shown on the "Map of the Rancho de lo Omochumnes" filed in the office of the Recorder of Sacramento County, State of California, on February 18, 1856, in Book 1 of Maps, at page 32.

More Particularly described as follows:

Commencing at a ½" iron bar at the Northeast Corner of said grant deed and shown on the record of survey filed in the office of said Recorder on February 9, 1955, in Book 11 of Surveys, at page 11, thence along the North line of said grant deed N 49°51'20" W, a distance of 2747.16 feet to the Point of Beginning; thence continuing along said North line N49°51'20"W, a distance of 1006.47 feet; thence leaving said North line S01°02'32"E, a distance of 580.47 feet to the beginning of a tangent curve to the left having a radius of 100 feet and a central angle of 50°29'28", thence Southeasterly along said curve a distance of 88.12 feet to the beginning of a reverse curve to the right having a radius of 200 feet and a central angle of 62°14'32", thence Southeasterly along said curve a distance of 217.27 feet to the beginning of a reverse curve to the left having a radius of 100 feet and a central angle of 37°53'14", thence Southeasterly along said curve a distance of 66.13 feet to the beginning of a reverse curve to the right having a radius of 650 feet and a central angle of 71°23'01", thence Southeasterly along said curve a distance of 809.82 to the beginning of a reverse curve to the left having a radius of 1,300 feet and a central angle of 26°33'20", thence Southerly along said curve a distance of 602.53 feet; thence S17°38'58"W, a distance of 208.30 feet; thence S40°08'58"W, a distance of 167 feet; thence N49°51'02"W, a distance of 99 feet; thence S40°08'58"W, a distance of 425 feet to the South line of said grant deed; thence along said South line the following two (2) courses: 1) N49°51'02"W, a distance of 1125 feet; 2) N49°47'25"W, a distance of 13.36' to the beginning of a non-tangent curve to the left, of which the radius point lies N17°21'10"W, a radial distance of 460 feet; thence Northerly along said curve through a central angle of 31°43'38", a distance of 254.72 feet; thence N40°55'12" E, a distance of 607.52 feet to the beginning of a tangent curve to the left having a radius of 500 feet and a central angle of 32°18'24", thence Northerly along said curve a distance of 281.93 feet; thence N08°36'48"E, a distance of 488.15 feet to the beginning of a tangent curve to the left having a radius of 1,000 feet and a central angle of 24°38'48", thence Northwesterly along said curve a distance of 430.17 feet; thence N16°02'00"W, a distance of 796.40 feet to the beginning of a tangent curve to the right having a radius of 200 feet and a central angle of 56°08'56", thence Northwesterly along said curve a distance of 196 feet; thence N40°06'55"E, a distance of 185.58 feet to the Point of Beginning.

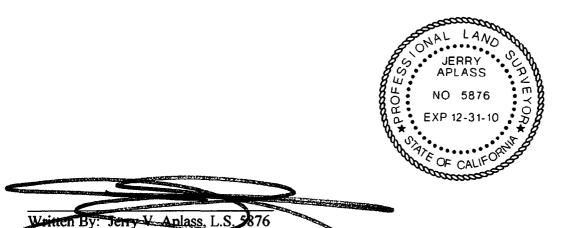
Area Contains: (62.35 Acres) More or Less.

Swainson's Hawk Mitigation Area Job No. 1589-00-0910 Waterman Park 75 Page 2 of 2

THE ATTACHED PLAT ENTITLED "EXHIBIT A-1" IS MADE PART OF THIS LEGAL DESCRIPTION.

### **END OF DESCRIPTION**

This Description was prepared by me or under my direction pursuant to the requirements of the Professional Land Surveyor's Act.

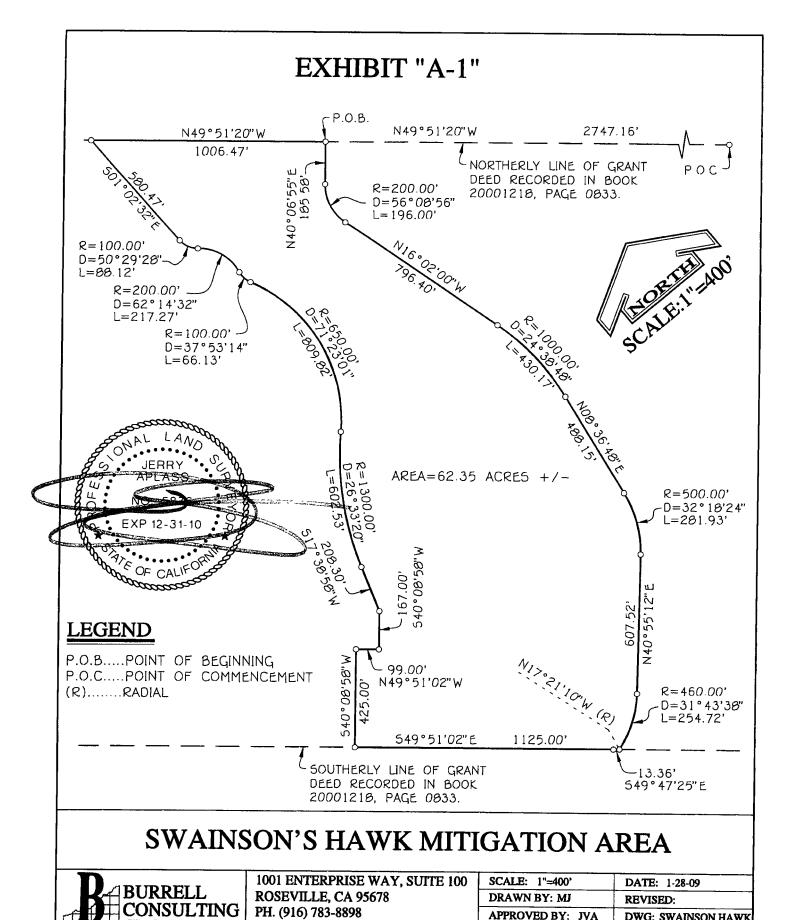


Exp. Date: December 31, 2010

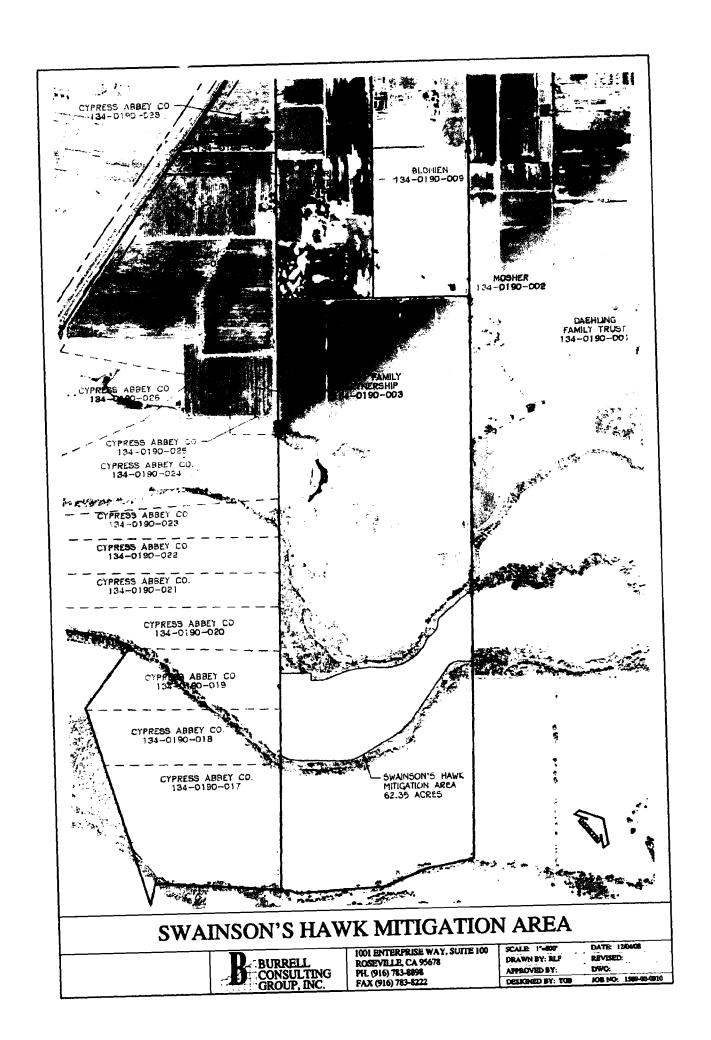
Date Prepared: January 28, 2009

S:\Proj\\1589\Survey\Mapping\Legals+Plats\Swainson's Hawk\\1589-Swainson's Hawk Mitigation - LDE wpd





# GROUP, INC. PH. (916) 783-8898 APPROVED BY: JVA DWG: SWAINSON HAWK DESIGNED BY: TB JOB NO: 1589 S: \Proj\1589\Survey\Mapping\Legals+Plats\Swainson's Hawk\1589 Swainson's Hawk Mitigation Area.dwg, 01/28/09 03: 39: 41pm, Manrique



### Exhibit C

(Paragraph 3)

### **Easement Endowment Funding**

The maintenance of the Easement shall be insured by the Endowment Principal which shall total ten percent (10%) of the Easement purchase price, as defined in Section 15 "VALUATION" of this document. As of the date of Easement recordation, the required Endowment Principal shall total \$56,115 (fifty-six thousand one hundred fifteen dollars). The Endowment Principal shall be deposited into the City Mitigation Endowment fund according to the schedule below:

Fifteen percent (15%) of the Endowment Principal shall be funded at the time of recordation of the Easement, with additional deposits every two (2) years from the date of the initial deposit as in the following example:

Year	Percentage	Payment	Running Total
Year 1 (at Recordation)	Initial Deposit of 15%	\$ 8,418	\$ 8,418
Year 3	Next Deposit of 15%	\$ 8,418	\$ 16,836
Year 5	Next Deposit of 15%	\$ 8,418	\$ 25,254
Year 7	Next Deposit of 15%	\$ 8,418	\$ 33,672
Year 9	Next Deposit of 15%	\$ 8,418	\$ 42,090
Year 11	Next Deposit of 15%	\$ 8,418	\$ 50,508
Year 13	Final Deposit	\$ 5,607	\$ 56,115

Easement Endowment Funding shall occur as follows:

- 1) In accordance with the schedule outlined above; or
- 2) The balance of the Endowment Principal may be paid in full at any time, but in no event on a schedule that is longer than that outlined above; and
- 3) Upon recordation of this Easement, 62.35 acres of Habitat Mitigation Credits have been created by the City. The Habitat Mitigation Credits will be available upon fully funding the Endowment, and will be assignable at that time by the property owner; and
- 4) In no event shall any grading permit be issued for a project utilizing the Habitat Mitigation Credits created pursuant to this Easement unless the Endowment Principal is paid in full; and
- 5) After payment of the initial endowment deposit and prior to accepting payment for each regularly scheduled subsequent endowment deposit per the schedule above, the City shall review the amount to be paid to ensure that it is sufficient to cover the monitoring costs for the next two-year period. If it is reasonably determined to not be sufficient, the current deposit may be adjusted by the City Manager or his or her designee in an amount necessary to cover the reasonably determined shortfall in the monitoring costs, but in no event shall the payment increase in excess of 50% of the scheduled payment due. Should the Grantor dispute the increase proposed by the City Manager or his or her designee, then the City Council shall determine any adjustment, up to the limit described above; and

6) If the Endowment Principal of fifty-six thousand one hundred fifteen dollars (\$56,115) has been fully funded in accordance with the schedule set forth above or sooner, and Habitat Mitigation Credits remain for assignment, no additional endowment funding is needed regardless of the fair market value of those Habitat Mitigation Credits.

## EXHIBIT D (Paragraph 5)

### PERMITTED USES OF THE PROPERTY

The following are set forth both to list specific permitted activities, and to provide guidance in determining the consistency of other activities with the Natural Resource Conservation Purposes of this Easement:

- 1. <u>Historical Agricultural Practices</u>. Except as prohibited or restricted in Paragraph 5 or <u>Exhibit E</u> of the Easement, Grantor is permitted to continue historical agricultural practices in the manner and location as set forth in the Report, to the extent that such practices are consistent with the Natural Resource Conservation Purposes of this Easement. The term "historical agricultural practices" includes the continued historic use of fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, and other biocides, provided that such use, including, but not limited to, the amount, frequency, and manner of application, shall be in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations, and such use does not injure or destroy the habitat for Swainson's hawk.
- 2. New Practices. Except as prohibited or restricted in Paragraph 5 of this Easement or Exhibit E, and subject to obtaining the City's prior approval in accordance with the notice and approval provisions contained therein, Grantor is permitted to carry on agricultural practices, and other practices or activities, that differ from historical agricultural practices, so long as such practices do not result in significant soil degradation, or significant pollution or degradation of any surface or subsurface waters, and such practices are consistent with and do not adversely affect the Natural Resource Conservation Purposes of this Easement, which purposes are to preserve and protect in perpetuity (a) the availability of the Property for agriculture by protecting the Property from development pressure; and (b) the conservation and habitat values of the Property as foraging and/or nesting habitat for Swainson's hawks and for other wildlife essential for maintaining Swainson's hawk habitat including the processes which sustain that habitat or other compatible mitigation opportunities; which are important public benefits and are consistent with the availability of the Property for wildlife, habitat and agriculture.

The following new practices are hereby found to be consistent with this Easement and do not require the notice and approval described above so long as such new practices will not result in significant soil degradation, or significant pollution or degradation of any surface or subsurface waters and such new practices are consistent with and do not adversely affect the Natural Resource Conservation Purposes of this Easement:

- (a) grazing;
- (b) cultivation of row and field crops; and
- (c) substitution of new fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides for those Grantor presently uses, provided that such use, including, but not limited to, the amount, frequency, and manner of application shall be in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations, and such use does not injure or destroy the Swainson's hawk habitat.
- 3. Maintenance, Repair and Replacement. To maintain, repair, replace and rebuild existing structures and improvements, including, by way of illustration and not limitation, fences and irrigation systems, provided that such replacement improvements, structures and improvements shall be of approximately the same square footage as the improvements that they replaced, shall be rebuilt in the same general location, and in a manner consistent with the purposes of this Easement, and the agricultural productivity and natural habitat values for the Swainson's hawk, provided, however, that Grantor shall have the right to replace existing structures and improvements in different locations, with the City's prior approval. The City shall review and respond to any such request within thirty (30) days after receipt of the request and the failure by the City to respond within such thirty (30) day period shall be deemed consent by the City to such request. Additional fencing deemed by Grantor to be reasonably necessary to agricultural activities may be constructed without the City's consent.
- 4. <u>Roads</u>. To maintain and repair existing roads at currently existing levels of improvement, and to construct and maintain such new, unpaved and otherwise unimproved roads as shall be reasonably necessary for agricultural purposes and will not substantially diminish or impair the agricultural productivity of the Property, or Swainson's hawk habitat qualities on the Property and shall be consistent with this Easement, provided that no new roads shall be constructed unless prior written consent has been obtained from the City which consent shall not be

unreasonably withheld. The City shall review and respond to any such request within thirty (30) days after receipt of the request and the failure by the City to respond within such thirty (30) day period shall be deemed consent by the City to such request.

- 5. <u>Fishing and Hunting</u>. To fish or to hunt or trap wildlife not afforded protection under applicable laws or regulations, in compliance with applicable laws and regulations, and in a manner that does not significantly deplete the wildlife resources; provided, however, that while commercial hunting and fishing are permitted, commercial fish farms are prohibited. In addition, control of predatory and problem animals shall use selective control techniques, which shall be limited in their effectiveness to specific animals which have caused damage to livestock and other property. Grantor may construct duck blinds.
- 6. <u>Water Resources</u>. To develop and maintain such water resources on the Property as are necessary or convenient for agricultural and Swainson's hawk habitat uses, in a manner consistent with this Easement.
- 7. <u>Passive Recreational Uses</u>. To conduct passive recreational uses, including, but not limited to, bird watching, hiking, nature walks, horseback riding, and picnicking, provided that these uses require no surface alteration or other development of land.
- 8. <u>Signs</u>. To erect a sign or other appropriate marker in a prominent location on the Property, visible from a public road, which state that no trespassing or no hunting is allowed on the Property.
- 9. <u>Transfer of Property</u>. To transfer the Property provided that the transfer is not prohibited in <u>Exhibit E</u>, and provided that the transferee is subject to the jurisdiction of the Courts of the State of California. Grantor shall notify the City before the transfer of the Property, and the document of conveyance shall expressly incorporate by reference this Easement. The City shall have the right to prevent transfers in which prospective transferees are not given notice of the covenants, terms, conditions and restrictions of this Easement. The failure of Grantor to perform any act required by this paragraph shall not impair the validity of this Easement or limit its enforceability in any way.
- 10. <u>Residual Rights; Prior Approval</u>. Except as expressly limited herein, to exercise and enjoy all rights as owner of the Property, including the right to use the Property for any purpose which does not significantly impair or degrade the ability to accomplish the Natural Resource Conservation Purposes of the Easement.

If any question exists regarding whether historic or new practices or activities are permitted or would have an adverse impact on the Natural Resource Conservation Purposes protected herein, Grantor shall notify the City pursuant to Paragraph 12 of the Easement and obtain the City's approval prior to engaging in such practices or activities. Notwithstanding any other provision herein, the failure of the City to object in writing to any request by Grantor to engage in such practices or activities within sixty (60) days after receipt of such request shall be deemed consent by the City to such request.

In the event that Grantor and the City disagree regarding any practice or activity and whether such activity is not consistent with or would adversely affect the conservation or habitat values of the Property as foraging and/or nesting habitat for Swainson's hawks, the matter shall be submitted to the California Department of Fish and Game ("DFG") for advice. If after submitting the matter to DFG for advice, Grantor and the City still disagree regarding the practice or activity, Grantor agrees that DFG may intervene in any legal action commenced by the City regarding the dispute.

# EXHIBIT E (Paragraph 6)

### PROHIBITED USES OF THE PROPERTY

The following are set forth both to list specific prohibited activities, and to provide guidance in determining whether other activities are not consistent with the Natural Resource Conservation Purposes of this Easement:

- 1. <u>No Subdivision</u>. The legal or <u>de facto</u> division, subdivision, or partitioning of the area comprising the 62.35-acre Easement Property.
- 2. <u>No Non-Agricultural Commercial Uses</u>. The establishment of any commercial or industrial uses other than the continuation of agriculture, except those commercial practices allowed under Paragraph 7 of <u>Exhibit D</u>. Examples of prohibited commercial or industrial uses include, but are not limited to the establishment or maintenance of any commercial feedlots, which are defined as any open or enclosed area where domestic livestock owned by an individual or entity other than Grantor are grouped together for intensive feeding purposes.
- 3. No Use or Transfer of Development Rights. Except as expressly permitted by the terms of Exhibit D of the Easement, the exercise of any development rights associated with the Property, including, without limitation, the construction or placement of any residential or other buildings, camping accommodations, boat ramps, bridges, mobile homes, house trailers, permanent tent facilities, Quonset huts or similar structures, underground tanks, or billboards, signs, or other advertising, and/or other structures or improvements, street lights, utility structures or lines, sewer systems or lines, except as specifically permitted herein.

Except as expressly permitted by the terms of Exhibit D of the Easement, the exercise of all development rights that are now or hereafter allocated to, implied, reserved or inherent in the Property as it now or hereafter may be bounded or described, or to any other property adjacent or otherwise, or used for the purpose of calculating permissible lot yield of the Property or any other property, provided, however, that with prior written permission of the City, this subparagraph shall not preclude such transfer of development rights resulting from the destruction or demolition of any existing residential building on the Property.

- 4. <u>Natural Resource Development</u>. Except soils, sands and other material as appropriate for the conduct of the agricultural and other activities permitted herein, the exploration for or extraction of minerals, gas, hydrocarbons, soils, sands, gravel or rock or any other material on or below the surface of the Property, except in accordance with and as permitted by the terms, conditions and restrictions contained in <u>Schedule 1</u> attached hereto and incorporated herein.
- 5. <u>No Orchards, Vineyards or Rice</u>. The planting and cultivation of commercial orchards, vineyards or rice.
- 6. <u>No Dumping</u>. The dumping, storage, or other disposal of non-compostable refuse, trash, sewer sludge or unsightly or toxic or Hazardous Materials or agrichemicals, except that fertilizers, pesticides, biocides, and herbicides permitted under Paragraphs 1 and 2 of <u>Exhibit D</u> may be stored on the Property, provided that such storage is in compliance with applicable health, safety and Environmental Laws and regulations.
- 7. No New Roads. The construction, reconstruction or replacement of any roadways, except as expressly provided in this Easement, without the consent of the City. The City shall review and respond to any request for roadway construction, reconstruction or replacement within thirty (30) days after receipt of such request. Notwithstanding any other provision herein, the failure of the City to object in writing to any such request within thirty (30) days after receipt of such request shall be deemed consent by the City to such request.
- 8. <u>No Destruction of Native Trees</u>. The removal, cutting or destruction of native trees on the 62.35-acre Easement Property, except for disease or insect control or to prevent property damage or personal injury.

- 9. <u>No Biocides</u>. The use of fertilizers, pesticides, biocides, and herbicides or other agricultural chemicals, except as expressly permitted in accordance with Paragraphs 1 "Historic Agricultural Practices" and 2 "New Practices" of Exhibit D.
- 10. No Hunting. The use of the property for hunting, trapping, or fishing, except as expressly permitted in accordance with Paragraph 5 of Exhibit D, "Fishing and Hunting".
- 11. <u>No Alteration of Natural Water Courses; Degradation of Water Quality.</u> Except with the prior consent of the City, the manipulation or alteration of natural water courses, wetland, streambank, shoreline, or body of water encumbered by the 62.35-acre Easement Area. Except as otherwise permitted in this Easement, activities or uses detrimental to water quality, including but not limited to degradation, pollution of any surface or subsurface waters.
- 12. <u>No Impairment of Water Rights</u>. Severance, conveyance, or encumbrance of water or water rights appurtenant to the Property, separately from the underlying title to the Property, or other action which diminishes or extinguishes such water rights.

Nothing in this provision shall restrict the right of the Grantor to sell rights to use water, or to use water on the Property, or on lands other than the Property on a temporary basis (maximum five-year increments), provided that such sale or use does not permanently impair the riparian or other water rights appurtenant to the Property.

This Easement shall not sever or impair any riparian water rights appurtenant to the Property.

13. <u>Inconsistent or Adverse Actions</u>. Any action or practice which is, or becomes not consistent with, or which adversely affects any of the Natural Resource Conservation Purposes of this Easement.

#### Schedule 1 to Exhibit E

The following terms and restrictions shall apply to any exploration for or extraction of minerals, hydrocarbons, soils, sands, gravel or rock, or any other material on or below the surface of the Property:

- 1. Except soils, sands and other material as appropriate for the conduct of the agricultural and habitat conservation activities permitted under the Easement, Grantor shall not enter upon or use, or permit entry or use of, the surface of the Property or any part thereof or the subsurface to a depth of five hundred feet (500') for the exploration for or extraction of minerals, hydrocarbons, soils, sands, gravel or rock or any other material on or below the surface of the Property except as herein specifically provided.
- 2. Grantor shall have the right to drill from the surface of lands other than the Property, in, into and through that portion of the subsurface of the Property lying below a depth of five hundred feet (500') measured vertically from the surface thereof, for the purposes of exploring for, extracting and removing any and all oil, gas and hydrocarbon substances; provided, however, that no drill site surface location shall be located within one hundred feet (100') of the Property's boundary.
- 3. Grantor or Grantor's oil and gas lessees shall have the right to use of one (1) drill and well site of not more than one and one-half (1-1/2) acres in size and in reasonably compact shape, for exploration and development of the reserved mineral estate; provided, however that, except for routine operation or maintenance of facilities in place or in the event of an emergency, all use of the surface of the Property by Grantor or Grantor's oil and gas lessees shall occur only during the period commencing May 15 and ending September 30. Upon completion of drilling at any such drillsite, the sump shall be filled, the drilling pad removed, and the surface of the land restored as nearly as reasonably practicable to its natural contours, as directed by the City. In the event a well is completed as capable of commercial production of oil or gas, the well site shall be reduced to a size not to exceed 100 feet by 100 feet and shall be fenced and locked with a gate, all reasonably designed so as to blend into the surrounding landscape. Upon abandonment of a well site, the area so occupied shall be restored as nearly as reasonably practicable to its natural contours, as directed by grantee herein. All pipelines shall be buried at least 48 inches below the surface of the ground, adjacent and parallel to then-existing roads.
- 4. Grantor shall indemnify, release and hold the City harmless from any and all claims, loss, expense, damage or other liability due to any damage to property or any injury to, or the death of any person arising out of any activities relating to the exploration for or development of the minerals, hydrocarbons, soils, sands, gravel or rock or any other material on or below the surface of the Property.
- 5. It is expressly acknowledged that if any activity is undertaken in violation of these terms and restrictions, the City shall be entitled to restoration of the lands affected by such activity, and any damages shall include, without limitation, the cost of restoring such lands to the condition that existed prior to the undertaking of such activity.
- 6. Grantor agrees that Grantor shall not enter into any lease for the purposes of exploration or extraction of minerals, soils, sands, gravel or rock, or any other material on or below the surface of the Property unless such lease includes each and every term and restriction set forth in the Easement and the lessee agrees not to carry out any exploration or development activity except in accordance with such terms and restrictions. Grantor further agrees to deliver in form satisfactory to the City and concurrent with execution and delivery of the Easement, a written agreement to be bound by the terms of this Easement executed by all holders of any existing ownership or rights to explore for or develop the minerals, hydrocarbons, soils, sands, gravel or rock, or any other material on or below the surface of the Property.
- 7. These terms and restrictions shall run with the land described in and covered by the Easement, and shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the heirs, devisee, personal representatives, successors and assigns of the City and the Grantor.

- 8. Grantor shall not conduct or permit any surface mining on the Property whatsoever.
- 9. Grantor shall have the right to drill additional wells within the drill and well site only for water and shall be limited to the reasonable use of water so obtained in the exploration for and development of the mineral estate. All such drilling for and use of water shall be performed in accordance with applicable laws and ordinances. Grantor shall not pollute or interfere with the surface or subsurface water in or under the Property. Any waste water resulting from Grantor's activities shall be treated so that its quality is at least equal to that in other wells in the general area or removed from the Property.
- 10. As soon as Grantor ceases to use any portion of the 62.35-acre Easement Property for the uses permitted by this Schedule 1, Grantor shall immediately remove therefrom all foundation and foreign substances placed there in the course of exploration or development activities by Grantor or Grantor's oil and gas lessees, including, but not limited to, residues from drilling muds and any oil used to surface roads, abandon all wells as required by law, and restore such portions of the Property to their original contours, as reasonably specified by the City.
- 11. The 62.35-acre Easement Property shall not be used by Grantor for any activity which is inconsistent with the terms and restrictions of the Easement. Grantor shall give the City written notice pursuant to terms of the Easement at least forty-five (45) days prior to commencement of any operations by Grantor pursuant to this Schedule 1, Grantor's oil and gas lessees or by others on the Property, describing the proposed location and nature of such operations.
- 12. Grantor shall indemnify and defend the City, its agents, employees and officers (the "City") and hold the City harmless from and against, and waive and release the City from any and all claims, liability, losses, damage, costs, and expenses (including, without limitation, reasonable attorneys' fees) asserted against or suffered by the City resulting from damage to property or injury to or the death of any person arising out of the acts or omissions of Grantor or Grantor's agents, employees, lessees, successors or assigns with respect to the exercise of any rights reserved by Grantor in this Schedule.
- 13. The parties hereto shall have the option and right to enforce, by any proceedings at law or in equity, all of the terms and restrictions confirmed in the Easement. Failure by either party to enforce any terms or restrictions herein and in the Easement shall in no event be deemed a waiver of the right to do so thereafter. Should any lawsuit or other legal proceedings be instituted by either party, the prevailing party shall be entitled to its costs of such proceedings, including reasonable attorneys' fees.
- 14. Invalidation of any one of the terms and restrictions herein by judgment or court order shall in no way affect any other provisions, which shall remain in full force and effect.

### **EXHIBIT F**

#### **PROHIBITED PLANT LIST**

## None of the following plant, tree or weed species shall be planted on the Property:

Alligatorweed	Alternanthera philoxeroides
Ambulia	Limnophila indica
Arundo or Giant Weed	Arundo donax
Baby's breath	Gypsophila panticulata
Beancaper, Syrian	Zygophyllum fabago
Bearded creeper	Crupina vulgaris
Bermudagrass	Cynodon spp. and hybrids
Biddy biddy	Acaena novae-zelandiae
Biddy biddy, pale	Acaena pallida
Birdweed, field	Convolvulus arvensis
Black locust	Robinia pseudoacacia
Bladderflower	Araujia sericifera
Blueweed	Helianthus ciliaris
Broom, French	Genista monspessulana
Broom, Scotch	Cytisus scoparius
Broomrape, branched	Orobanche ramosa
Broomrape, Cooper's	Orobanche cooperi
Broomrape, Desert	Orobanche cooperi
Camelthorn	Alhagi maurorum
Capeweed	Arctotheca calendula
Chinese pistachio	Pistacia altantica or P. chinensis
Chinese tallow tree	Sapium sebiferum
Chinese or scarlet wisteria	Sesbania punicea
Comfrey, rough	Symphytum asperum
Crupina, common	Crupina vulgaris
Distaff thistle, smooth	Carthamus baeticus
Distaff thistle, whitestern	Carthamus leucocaulos
Distaff thistle, woolly	Carthamus lanatus
<u>Dodder</u> , all species except giant dodder	Cuscuta spp.
Dodder, giant	Cuscuta reflexa
Diver's woad	Isatis tinctoria
Edible fig	Ficus carica
English Ivy	<u>Hedera helix</u>
Eucalyptus	Eucalyptus spp.
Fanwort, Carolina	<u>Cabomba caroliniana</u>
Field cress, Austrian	Rorippa autriaca
Field cress, creeping yellow	Rorippa sylvestris
Flag, western blue	<u>Iris missouriensis</u>
Foxtail, giant	<u>Setaria faberi</u>
Garlic, false	Nothoscordum inodorum
Garlic, wild	Allium vineale
Gaura, scarlet	Gaura coccinea
Gaura, Drummond's	Gaura drummondii
Gaura, wavy-leaved	Gaura sinuata
Goatgrass, barb	Aegilops triuncialis
Goatgrass, jointed	Aegilops cylindrica

Goatgrass, oyate	Aegilops ovata	
Gorse Gorse	Ulex europaeus	
Groundcherry, grape	Physalis viscosa	
Groundcherry, long-leaf	Physalis longifolia	
Halogeton	Halogeton glomeratus	
Hermal	Pegamon harmala	
Henbane, black	Hyoscyamus niger	
Himalayan Blackberry	Rubus discolor.	
Hoarycress, globe-podded		
Hoarycress, heart-podded	<u>Cardaria pubescens</u> <u>Cardaria draba</u>	
Hoarycress, lens-podded		
	Cardaria chalepensis	
Horsenettle, Carolina	Solanum carolinense	
Horsenettle, white	Solanum elaeagnifolium	
Hydrilla Tria Danalas	Hydrilla verticillata	
Iris, Douglas	Iris douglasiana	
Iris, western blue flag	Iris missouriensis	
Johnsongrass Lainteach manak	Sorghum halepense	
Jointvetch, rough	Aeschynomene rudis	
Kangaroothorn	Acacia paradoxa	
Kelp	Polygonum amphibium var. emersum	
Kikuyugrass	Pennisetum clandestinum	
Klamathweed	Hypericum perforatum	
Knapweed, diffuse	Centaurea diffusa	
Knapweed, Russian	Acroptilon repens	
Knapweed, spotted	Centaurea maculosa	
Knapweed, squarrose	Centaurea squarrosa	
Knotweed, giant	Polygonum sachalinense	
Knotweed, Himalayan	Polygonum polystachyum	
Knotweed, Japanese	Polygonum cuspidatum	
Loosestrife, purple	<u>Lythrum salicaria</u>	
Lettuce, water	Pistia stratiotes	
Mallow, alkali	<u>Malvella leprosa</u>	
Marigold, wild	Tagetes minuta	
<u>Medusahead</u>	Taeniatherum caput-medusae	
Melon, dedaim	Cucumis melo var. Dudaim	
Melon, paddy	Cucumis myriocarous	
Mesquite, creeping	Prosopis strombulifera	
Mistletoe, European	Viscum album	
Mustard, purple	Chorispora tenella	
Nightshade, heartleaf	Solanum cardiophyllum	
Nightshade lanceleaf	Solanum lanceolatum	
Nightshade, Torrey's	Solanum dimidiatum	
Nightshade, white-margined	Solanum arginatum	
<u>Nimblewill</u>	Muhlenbergia schreberi	
Nutsedge, purple	Cyperus rotundus	
Nutsedge, yellow	Cyperus esculentus	
Onion, panicled	Allium paniculatum	
Osage orange	Maclura pomifera	
Pampas Grass	Cortaderia jabata or C. selloana	
Peaweed, Austrian	Sphaerophysa salsula	
Peppercress, perennial	Lepidium latifolium	
<u>Periwinkle</u>	<u>Vinca major</u>	

Povertyweed	Iva axillaris
Punagrass	Achnatherum brachychaetum
Puncturevine	Tribulus terrestris
Quackgrass	Elytrigia repens
Ragweed, giant	Ambrosia trifida
Ragwort, Oxford	Senecio squalidus
Ragwort, tansy	Senecio jacobaea
Restharrow, foxtail	Ononis alopecuroides
Rice, red	Oryza rufipogon
Russianthistle, barbwire	Salsola paulsenii
Russionthistle, common	Salsola tragus
Russianthistle, spineless	Salsola collina
St. Johnswort	as Hypericum perforatum
	(see Klamathweed)
Sage, meadow	Salvia virgata
Sage, Mediterranean	Salvia aethiopis
Salsola, wormleaf	Salsola vermiculata
Salt cedar (Tamarisk)	Tamarix spp.
Salttree, Russian	Halimodendron halodendron
Salvinia	Salvinia auriculata complex
Sandbur, coast	Cenchrus incertus
Sandbur, mat	Cenchrus longispinus
Sandbur, southern	Cenchrus echinatus
Satintail	Imperata brevifolia
Sicilian starthistle	Centaurea sulphurea
Skeletonweed	Chondrilla juncea
Sowthistle, perennial	Sonchus arvensis
Smooth-leaved elm	Ulmus minor
Spongeplant (S. American & N. American)	Limnobium spongia sensu lato
Spurge, leafy	Euphorbia esula
Spurge, oblong	Euphorbia oblongata
Spurge serrate	Euphorbia serrata
Spurge, Geraldton carnation	Euphorbia terracina
Starthistle, Iberian	Centaurea iberica
Starthistle, purple	Centaurea calcitrapa
Starthistle, Sicilian	Centaurea sulphurea
Starthistle, yellow	Centaurea solstitialis
Swinecress	Coronopus squamatus
Tanglehead	Heteropogon contortus
Thistle, artichoke	Cynara cardunculus
Thistle, Canada	Cirsium arvense
Thistle, distaff, smooth	Carthamus baeticus
Thistle, distaff, whitestern	Carthamus leucocaulos
Thistle, distaff, woolly	Carthamus lanatus
Thistle, golden	Scolymus hispanicus
Thistle, Illyrian	Onopordum illyricum
Thistle, Itaslian	Arduus pycnocephalus
(see also "Thistle, slenderflowered")	··· anno premocephanas
Thistle, Japanese	Cirsium japonicum
Thistle, musk	Carduus nutans
Thistle, plumeless	Carduus acanthoides
Thistle, Scotch	Onopordum acanthium
I IIIDOIN OUTUI	Onopolumni utummulli

Thistle, slenderflowered	Carduus tenuiflorus	
Thistle, Taurian	Onopordum tauricum	
Thistle, wavyleaf	Cirsium undulatum	
Thistle yellowspine	Cirsium ochrocentrum	
Toadflax, Dalmatian	Linaria genistifolia subsp. Dalmatica	
Tree of Heaven or Ailanthus	Ailanthus altissima	
Waterlily, banana	Nymphaea mexicana	
Witchweed	Striga asiatica	

8380 LAGUNA PALMS WAY • ELK GROVE, CALIFORNIA 95758
TEL: 916.683.7111 • FAX: 916.691.2001 • www.elkgrovecity.org

#### OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

September 17, 2009

Mahon Family Partnership Attn: Tom Mahon 10171 Grant Line Road Elk Grove, CA 95624

RE: Deed (D-09-024) - Grant Deed of Swainson's hawk Habitat

Conservation Easement

Enclosed is a signed original grant deed of the above mentioned subject as approved by the City Manager, executed on September 2, 2009.

Included is a copy of the recordation page of the original document recorded by the City of Elk Grove with the Sacramento County Clerk-Recorder.

Should you have any questions regarding this filing, please call me at 916-478-2202.

Blackt

Sincerely,

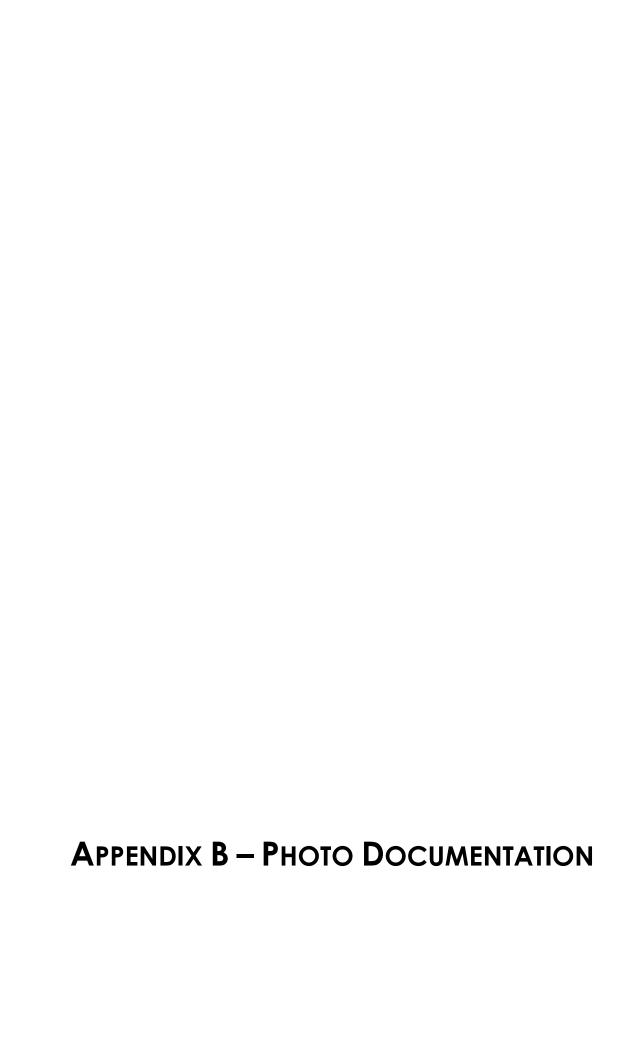
Susan J. Blackston

City Clerk

SJB/irl

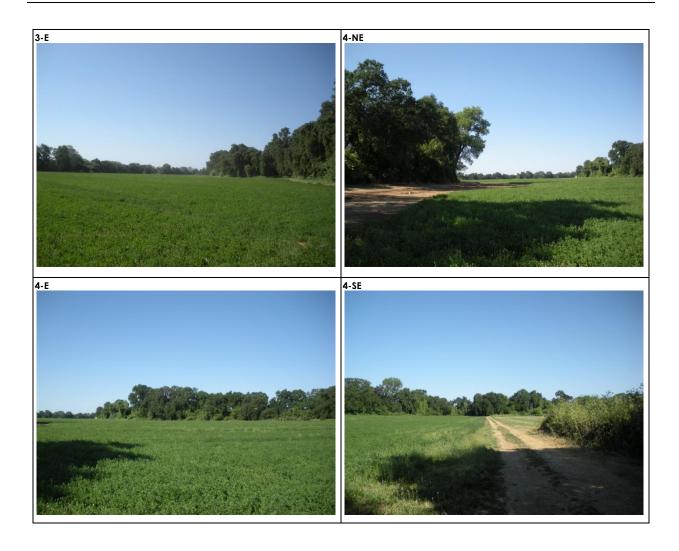
Cc: Echiburú/PLAN

Enclosure



# Appendix B – Photo Documentation





# APPENDIX C – PHOTOPOINT COORDINATES AND LOCALITY NOTES

# Appendix C – Photopoint Coordinates and Locality Notes

Photopoint	Longitude	Latitude	Description
P1	121° 19' 37.623" W	38° 22' 28.545" N	The northern corner of the property adjacent to Deer Creek and the northeastern boundary
P2	121° 19' 30.215" W	38° 22' 23.454" N	The eastern corner of the property adjacent to Cosumnes River and the northeastern boundary
Р3	121° 19' 38.382" W	38° 21' 55.444" N	The southern border of the property adjacent to the Cosumnes River and the southwestern boundary
P4	121° 19' 47.568" W	38° 22' 1.661" N	The western corner of the property adjacent to the Deer Creek and the southwestern boundary