



Land Development  
Review Division  
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## Addendum to a Subsequent Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment

Project No. 31245  
Addendum to SEIR/EA No. 31245  
SCH No. 2004031041

**SUBJECT: Brush Management Revisions to the Land Development Code and Federal Grant from the Office of Emergency Services (OES), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) COUNCIL APPROVAL** to allow for revisions to the Municipal Code Chapter 12, Article 2, Division 4 to modify the requirements of brush management and revisions to the Municipal Code Chapter 4, Article 4, Division 3, Section 44.0307. et seq, to allow goats for thinning in zone two brush management areas, pursuant to the recommendations of the Fire Chief as a result of the 2003 Cedar fire. The project proposes a City wide 100 foot brush management zone consisting of 35' of Zone One and 65' of Zone Two. Project implementation on City property is proposed to be initially funded by a grant from the Office of Emergency Services (OES), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), which is being applied for by the City of San Diego Park and Recreation Department. The project is located within the City of San Diego, public and private lands and includes the City of San Diego Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA). Applicant: City of San Diego, Fire-Rescue Department.

### I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Subsequent to distribution of the Final Subsequent Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment (SEIR/EA), the proposed ordinance was revised to reflect the specific conditions when proposed brush management thinning would be allowed to occur. Previous ordinance language stated that brush management activities would be prohibited during the California Gnatcatcher breeding season of March 1 through August 15. The revised ordinance reflects new language stating that brush management activities are restricted within coastal sage scrub, maritime succulent scrub, and coastal sage-chaparral habitats from March 1 through August 15, except where documented to the satisfaction of the City Manager that the area of proposed thinning would be consistent with conditions of species coverage described in the City of San Diego's MSCP Subarea Plan. (See SEIR/EA)

II. ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING: See SEIR/EA

III. PROJECT BACKGROUND: See SEIR/EA

#### IV. ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS: See SEIR/EA

##### Biological Resources

The proposed revisions to the municipal code regarding brush management regulations did not differentiate between habitat and occupied habitat. The proposed ordinance states "No brush management Zone Two thinning or pruning shall be performed in the coastal sage scrub habitat between March 1 through August 15."

Coastal sage scrub, maritime succulent scrub, and coastal sage-chaparral are various names for coastal sage scrub habitats. The US Fish and Wildlife Service requested that the ordinance identify specific habitat types since these are the coastal sage scrub habitats that were mapped under the MSCP. The MSCP Subarea plan identifies "conditions of species coverage" as occupied habitat. Occupied habitat consists of the various habitat types mentioned above that contain nesting bird species.

The proposed revised brush management ordinance is the same as that evaluated in the Final SEIR/EA with the clarification of the various types of coastal sage scrub habitats and the provision that if it can be documented to the satisfaction of the City Manager that the thinning would be consistent with conditions of species coverage described in the City of San Diego's MSCP Subarea Plan.

There are no changes needed to the impact analysis provided in the Final SEIR/EA. The ordinance evaluated in the Final SEIR/EA determined that impacts to certain species during the breeding/flowering season would be precluded during the time of year restriction. The revised ordinance allows thinning during this time of year in the areas of concern only if the species are not present. Therefore, impacts would still be precluded.

#### V. DETERMINATION

The City of San Diego previously prepared an Environmental Impact Report for the project described in the subject block of the attached EIR conclusions.

Based upon a review of the current project, it has been determined that:

- a. There are no new significant environmental impacts not considered in the previous EIR;
- b. No substantial changes have occurred with respect to the circumstances under which the project is undertaken; and
- c. There is no new information of substantial importance to the project.

Therefore, in accordance with Section 15164 of the State CEQA Guidelines this addendum has been prepared. No public review of this addendum is required.

VI. MITIGATION, MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM INCORPORATED INTO THE PROJECT:

There are no proposed mitigation measures for the project.

VII. SIGNIFICANT UNMITIGATED IMPACTS:

There are no new significant impacts identified for the current project. The revised brush management ordinance language does not change the original determination associated with the final SEIR/EA.

The significant impacts identified in the SEIR/EA would be mitigated to below a level of significance through mitigation measures outlined in Section V.B of the SEIR/EA. Except for impacts associated with land use and biological resources, related to non-covered species located outside the MHPA, would remain significant and unmitigated.

Because there were significant unmitigated impacts, associated with the original project approval required the decision maker to make specific and substantiated CEQA Findings which stated that: a) specific economic, social or other considerations make infeasible the mitigation measures or project alternatives identified in the final EIR, and b) these impacts have been found acceptable because of specific overriding considerations. No new CEQA Findings are required with this project.



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Development Services Department

November 18, 2004  
Date of Addendum

Analyst: Black

## DISTRIBUTION:

This Addendum was distributed as a courtesy to the following groups and individuals:

### Federal Government

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (23)  
Federal Emergency Management Agency, Office of Emergency Services

### State of California

California Department of Fish and Game (32)  
California Coastal Commission (47)

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Councilmember Zucchet, District 2  
Councilmember Atkins, District 3  
Councilmember Lewis, District 4  
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California Native Plant Society (170)  
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San Diego Audubon Society (167)  
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