

# **GENERAL BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT**

## **PHELAN PINON HILLS COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT APN 3066-264-10**

**SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**  
(USGS Phelan, CA Quad.; Township 4 North, Range 7 West, Section 24)

*Prepared for:*

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The project proponent is proposing to construct an administration building, service building, gymnasium, retention basin, treatment plant, and parking areas on a 5-acre site located in Phelan, California (Section 24, Township 4 North, Range 7 West) in San Bernardino County. The site has been extensively disturbed due to past clearing/human activities and the site supports very minimal vegetation. The site is bordered on the north and south by commercial businesses and the Phelan Chamber of Commerce buildings, and on the east and west by vacant lands. Very little native vegetation currently exists on the site due to past and on-going human activities. Russian thistle (*Salsola tragus*), erodium (*Erodium cicutarium*), buckwheat (*Eriogonum* sp.), schismus (*Schismus barbatus*) were the primary plant species noted.

The property is located within the known distribution of the desert tortoise; therefore, focused surveys were performed for the species on October 25, 2012 from approximately 0700 to 0930 hours. The result of the tortoise survey is discussed in a separate report and is presented in Appendix . The site supports very marginal habitat for any sensitive species including the desert tortoise, due to the level of disturbance which has occurred on the site over the last several years and the absence of any extensive native plant communities. In addition, no sensitive species were observed in the vacant lot to the east.

## 1.0 PROJECT AND PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

The property consists of very disturbed land which has been previously cleared and was occupied by several buildings and sheds which have been removed. The 5 acre property is located along Sheep Creek Road in Phelan, California about 0.1 miles south of the intersection of Phelan Road and Sheep Creek Road (Township 4 North, Range 7 West, Section 24) at an elevation of approximately 4140 feet (MSL). Soils have been significantly disturbed due to past human activities; however, they appear to be primarily sandy loam. No water resources were observed on the site and the USGS Phelan Quadrangle (1996) does not show any blue-line channels on the site.

No sensitive wildlife habitats, sensitive wildlife species, or wildlife corridors were associated with the site. Weather conditions during the October 25, 2012 survey consisted of winds of 0 to 5 mph, temperatures in the low 60's to high 70's (AM, °F) with clear skies. The site is bordered on the north and south by existing commercial businesses and on the east and west by vacant lots. The site supports very little vegetation including primarily Russian thistle, erodium, buckwheat, and schismus. Section 4.0 provides a more detailed discussion of the biological resources. The project map is provided below (Figure 1), and the USGS quadrangle map is provided in Figure 2. Figure 3 provides photographs of the site.

The proponent is proposing to construct an administration building, service building, gymnasium, and parking lots for the Phelan Pinon Hills Community Services District. Figure 1 depicts the proposed layout for the site.