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Norm Pedersen  
City of San Marcos Planning Division  
1 Civic Center Drive  
San Marcos, CA 92069

**HIGHLANDS PROJECT - OFFSITE FIRE ROAD CONNECTION**

Dear Norm,

I have been requested to examine an area offsite from the north end of the Highlands Project site where a fire access road will be graded and surfaced with decomposed granite. Below please see a satellite image showing the location of this improvement. The area in question will be 24 feet wide by approximately 60 feet in length. There is an approximately 16 foot wide existing dirt road through the area to be graded. The improvement will connect the site with the existing paved Robinhood Lane. The area in question is part of an existing easement in favor of the Vista Irrigation District (VID) and the property owner. The purpose of my investigation is to determine what, if any, impacts to sensitive biological resources will result from creation of this access.

The existing dirt road is mostly disturbed bare mineral earth. On either side of the proposed access road there are palm trees, eucalyptus trees, non-native shrubs (such as Castor Bean) and other weedy non-native plant species. This area has no value to wildlife due to its highly disturbed nature. In addition, all non-native plant species on both sides of the access road will be removed as part of the project Habitat Monitoring and Mitigation Plan (HMMP).

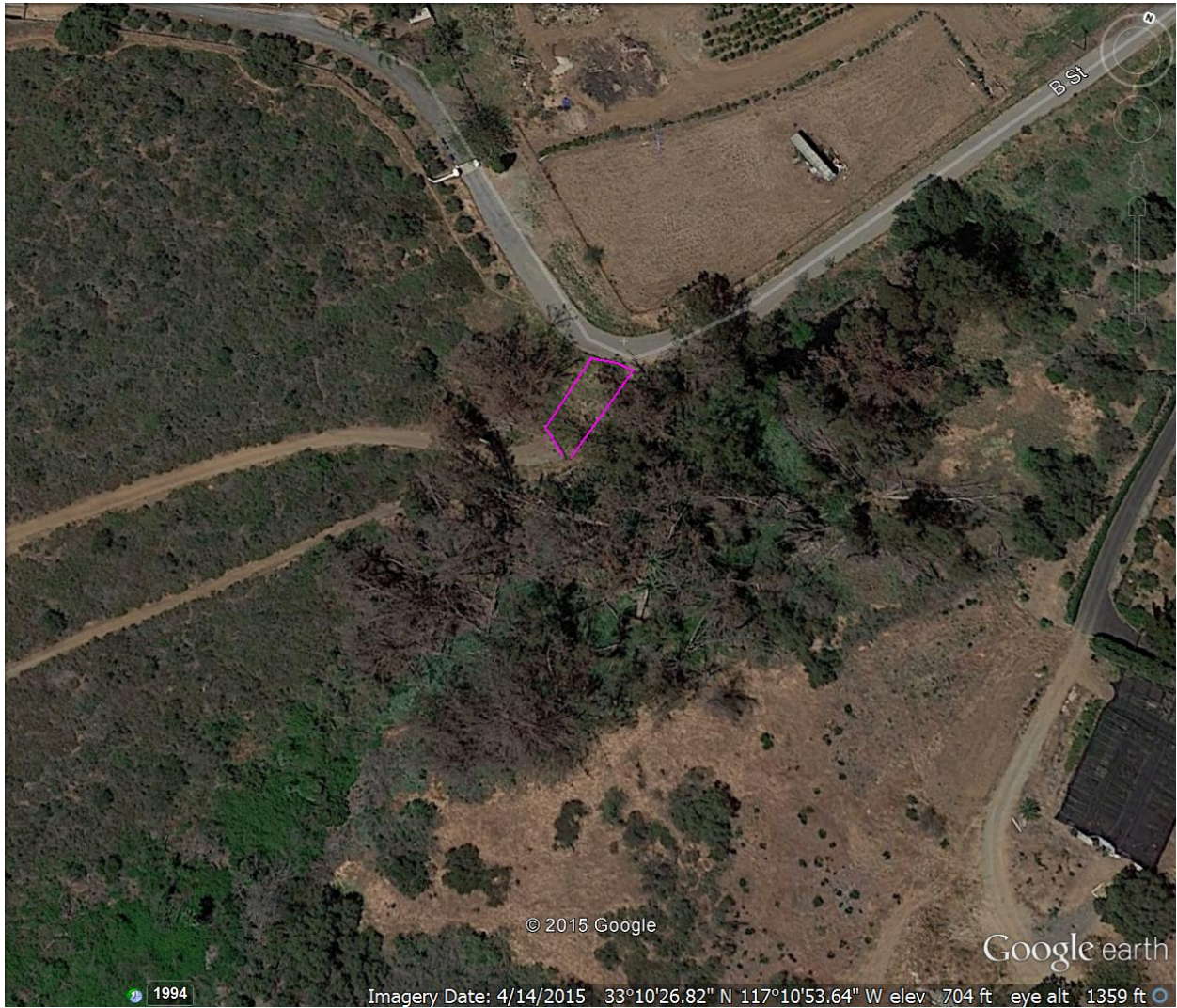
Based on these factors I conclude that creation of this access road will have no significant impacts to sensitive biological resources.

If you have any questions please contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,



William T. Everett



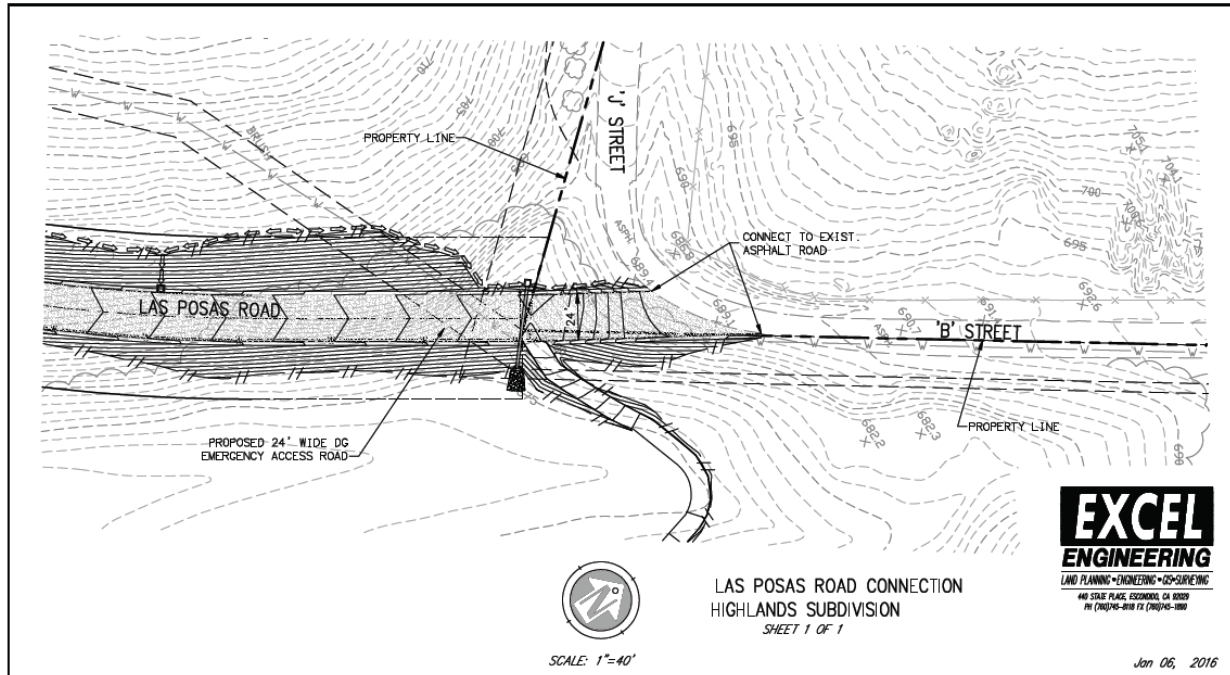
Satellite image showing location of proposed fire access road.



Site of fire access road - between fenced gate on the right and pavement on the left.



Dirt road between pavement and gated entrance to the Highlands site.



Engineering Plan for fire road access.