

INTERAGENCY STATE  
BURNED AREA EMERGENCY RESPONSE  
(BAER) REPORT-Team 10  
**SMALL FIRES**

**By: Richard G. Eliot-Team Leader**



Affecting watersheds in the Counties of  
Los Angeles, Santa Barbara,  
San Diego and Ventura  
CALIFORNIA

**NON CONFIDENTIAL**  
**DRAFT**

November 11, 2007

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INTERAGENCY STATE  
BURNED AREA EMERGENCY RESPONSE  
(BAER) REPORT

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Small FIRE(S) BAER Team 10

Affecting watersheds in the Counties of Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, San  
Diego and Ventura

CALIFORNIA

November 11, 2007

### Summary

On November 5, 2007 Team 10 was assembled and consisted of Rich Eliot (CAL FIRE)-Team Captain-Forester, Jeff Calvert (CAL FIRE)-Forester, Adam Deen (CAL FIRE)-Forester, Mike Rosan (CAL FIRE)-Forester, Jeff Brandt (DFG)-Wildlife, Magdalena Rodriguez (DFG)-Wildlife, Martin Potter (DFG)-Wildlife, Steve Cain (WQCB)-Hydrology, Alex Alimohammadi (WQCB)-Engineering, Mohammed Musazay (DWR)-Engineering, Andrea Lobato (DWR)-Hydrology, Van Crisostomo (Army Corp of Engineers)-Engineering, Tom Spittler & Jeremy Lancaster (CGS part time advisor)-Geology, Jill Butler (CAL FIRE part time working with Tom Spittler)-Forester and Herb Dallas (CAL FIRE part time advisor)-Archaeologist.

Sub teams of Team 10 were then set up to cover all the Small incidents Magic-2,824 acres, Sedgewick-710 acres, Nightsky-30 acres, October-25 acres, Cajon-250 acres, Rosa-411 acres, Roca-270 acres, Coronado Hill-250 acres, Walker-not mapped, Martin Ranch-100 acres and McCoy-353 acres for a total of 11 fire incidents and 5,223 acres burned. These team were set up to evaluate these incidents for the potential of their causing further post fire damages which would result from threats to Life, Property and Resources at risk.

Of the incidents identified the Cajon and Martin Ranch were pre-evaluated on the ground on October 28, 2007 by Tom Spittler and Jill Butler and found not to contain any risks identified for the values stated in the goals for these teams. (See Splittler Report Attachment #1)

The Magic was pre-evaluated on November 5, 2007 by Tom Spittler as also having no risks and the McCoy was found to have joined with the Witch and thus would be evaluated by Team 9 assigned to this incident. (See Spittler Report Attachment #2)

Team 10A was assigned to the Sedgewick, October and Nightsky; Team 10B was assigned to the Rosa and the Roca; and Team 10C was assigned to the Coronado Hills and the Walker.

Team 10A consisted of Steve Cain, Martin Potter, Adam Deen and Mohammed Musazay.

- For the Sedgewick Incident, evaluated on November 7<sup>th</sup>, they found that although some risk was present to natural and biological resources, burn severity was moderate and there was no immediate threat to life or property. The main concern was for a total of 6 miles of open dozer fire line that had been constructed where suppression repair had not yet been completed on this incident, which is combined with the Zaca fire line. Special consideration needs were found to be necessary for rehabilitation efforts due to the sensitivity of research projects on site. (See individual Team Report, Attachment #3)
- For the October Incident, evaluated on November 6<sup>th</sup>, they found that improvements in the form of oil well piping and shipping containers and resources such as intermittent streams and certain plant species may be at risk from existing shallow seated slides on a steep hillslope above these items of concern. They proposed no mitigations, but did propose further evaluations by a Fisheries Expert, Geologist, and a botanist. The Geology Report for this incident reiterated the need for further geologic review, with this to be completed by the Oil Company and LADWP who jointly either occupy or own this land where the incident occurred. (See individuals Team Report, Attachment #4)
- For the Nightsky Incident, evaluated on November 6<sup>th</sup>, they found two catch basins below steep burned hillsides where there was a potential for these basins to clog and damage at least 4 homes near these basins. They recommended removal of debris from specific canyons to protect culverts from plugging

and damaging adjacent homes along with the need for further evaluations by a Fisheries Expert, Geologist, and a botanist. The Geology Report for this incident reiterated the need for further geologic review too as well as the need for the existing road drainage system to be evaluated by the agency that controls the road system to evaluate potential impacts from debris flows, flooding, and landsliding that may be triggered by heavy winter rains. (See individuals Team Report, Attachment #5)

Team 10B consisted of Rich Eliot, Jeff Brandt, Jeff Calvert and Van Crisostomo.

- For the Rosa Incident, evaluated on November 6<sup>th</sup> the main concerns were for slurry and vegetative debris to move down-slope in a heavy rain event with the potential to block culverts and cause degradation of watercourse. Except in the case where a landowner could become isolated due to his culvert blocking and the driveway washing away there did not appear to be any potential for serious risk to life or property as a result of the fire. Additionally, plastic culverts were used by one of the orchard operations within the burned areas both for road as well as orchard drainage. In the orchard it appears plastic culverts were connected down the natural watercourses and then the watercourses filled with dirt. Many of these culverts were melted in the fire and the drainages now have their overburden unsupported and thus deposited in the channel. This will flow downstream during periods of heavy precipitation and have a potential to block culverts, flood roads and cause degradation to downstream riparian habitat values.
- The team recommended the following and contacts have already been made with one private owner of a culvert crossing at risk with their planning repairs, the De Luz Community Service District in charge of maintaining road with their inspection completed and repairs or maintenance planned and Riverside NRCS who has also made an inspection and will be working with the private landowners to effect repairs (See individuals Team Report, Attachment #6):

1. Install silt fences or other site appropriate erosion control measures to control ash and sediment flow to stream and floodplain.
  2. Clean culverts and remove debris from stream and floodplain at burn area.
  3. Clean culverts and basins downstream of burn area to confluence with Santa Margarita River.
  4. Monitor site through April, 2008.
  5. Seed burn area with native CA seed.
- For the Roca Incident, evaluated on November 7<sup>th</sup>, soil deposited in the drainage during suppression activities could block the channel downstream and cause flooding to one home located immediately adjacent to the drainage. There is a fence across the drainage to the east of the home that is contributing to the problem. The teams only recommendation was to complete the Suppression Repairs to the dozer line within and adjacent to this drainage. (See individuals Team Report, Attachment #7)

Team 10C consisted of Andrea Lobato, Magdalena Rodriguez, Mike Rosan and Alex Alimohammadi.

- For both the Coronado Hills Incident evaluated on November 6<sup>th</sup>, and the Walker Incident, evaluated on November 7<sup>th</sup>, no risks or hazards were identified and no mitigation prescribed. (See individuals Team Report, Attachments #8 & #9)

## **Baer Team Member and Contacts Team 10**

1.	Rich Eliot – Team Leader - Forester	CAL FIRE
2.	Jeff Calvert – Forester	CAL FIRE
3.	Mike Rosan – Forester	CAL FIRE
4.	Adam Deen – Forester	CAL FIRE
5.	Jeff Brandt – Wildlife	DF&G
6.	Magdalena Rodriguez – Wildlife	DF&G
7.	Martin Potter – Wildlife	DF&G
8.	Steve Cain – Hydrology	WQCB
9.	Alex Alimohammadi – Engineering	WQCB
10.	Mohammed Musazay – Engineering	DWR
11.	Andrea Lobato – Hydrology	DWR
12.	Tom Spittler – Geology	CGS
13.	Jeremy Lancaster – Geology	CGS
14.	Herb Dalas – Archaeologist	CAL FIRE

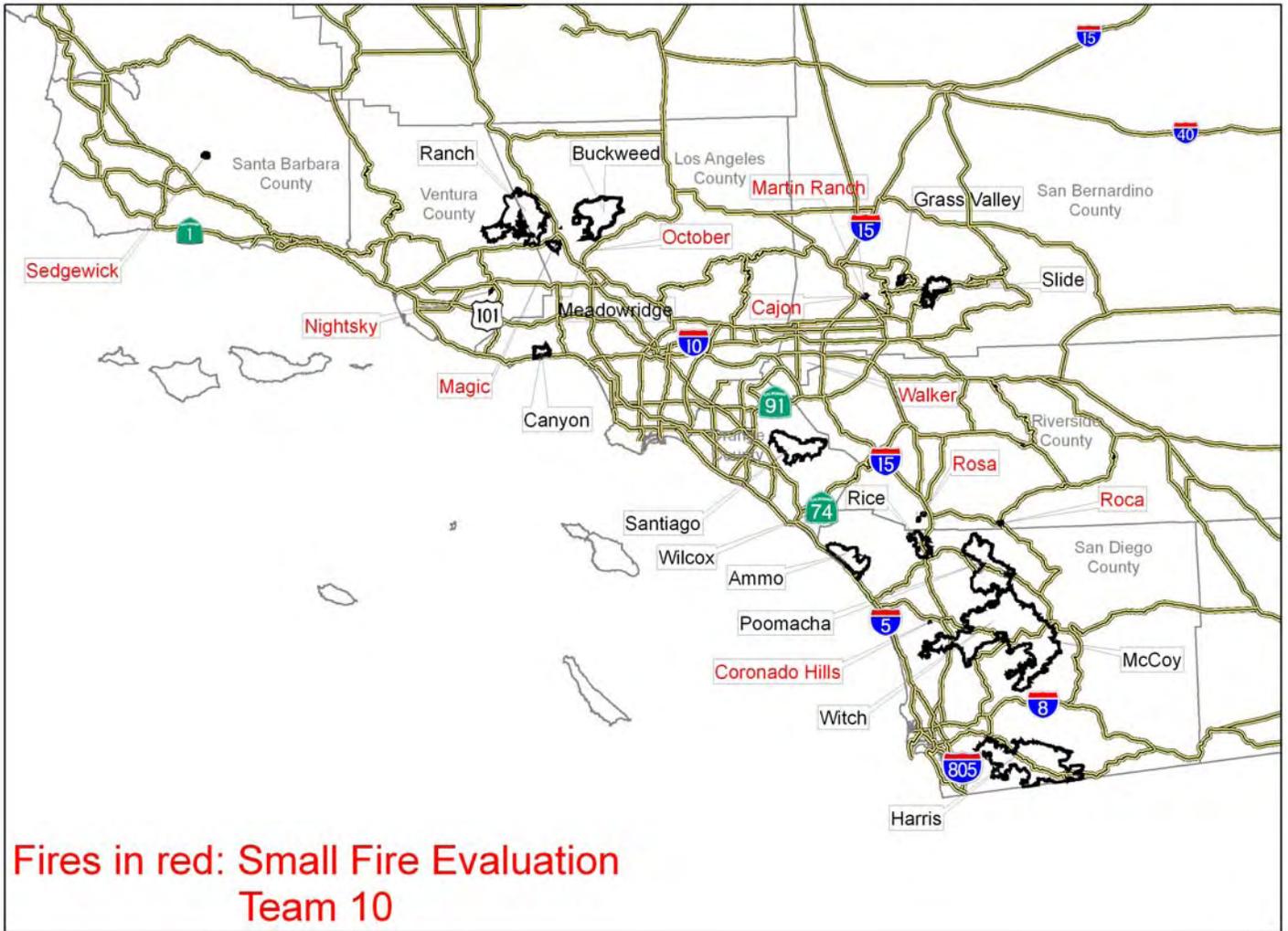
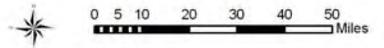
### **Contacts**

1. Robert Hewitt – Agricultural Landowners Contacts, Rosa Incident, NRCS –Riverside (951) 654-7139 cell (951) 961-8131.
2. McMillian Orchard – Landowner, Rosa Incident (951) 676-2045.
3. Rob Holms or Keith Caddy – Roads, De Luz Community Service District, Rosa Incident (951) 296-3176, Rob 204, Keith 206.
4. Sequvia Roll Off Incorporated, October Incident.
5. Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LA DWP), October Incident.
6. Kate McMurdy (Reserve Director) and Rick Skilling University of CA Reserve, Sedgewick Incident.
7. Fred Steck – Property Owner Sedgewick Incident (805-693-1007 or 805-693-1012)
8. Chief Rick Todd (805-350-3166) from Santa Barbara County Fire, Sedgewick Incident.

## **Native American Contact Riverside Fires**

1. Soboba Band of Luisefio Indians, Bennae Calac, Cultural Resource Director and Robert J. Salgado, Chairperson, PO Box 487 San Jacinto, CA. 92581 (951) 663-8332.
2. Pechanga Band of Mission Indians, Mark Macarro, Chairperson, Harold Arres, Cultural Resource Manager and Paul Macarro, Cultural Resource Center, PO Box 1477, Temecula, CA. 92593, (951) 676-2768.

# Southern California Wildfires Watershed Assessment



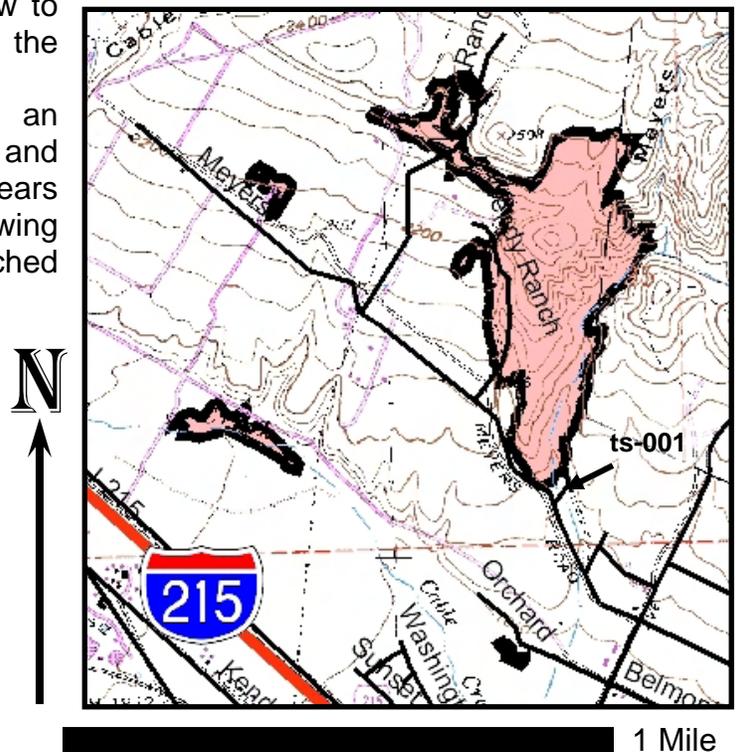
Fires in red: Small Fire Evaluation Team 10

## Attachment #1

### Post-Fire Geologic Hazard Inspection – Cajon Fire and Martin Ranch Fire

On October 28, 2007, Tom Spittler of the California Geological Survey and Jill Butler of CAL FIRE inspected the roughly 250 acre Cajon fire and 100-acre Martin Ranch fire in the vicinity of Devore, California. The Devore fire exhibited generally low soil burn severity and is principally on relatively gentle ground. No structures or other high-value sites were observed to be at risk from post fire consequences of the Devore Fire.

The Martin Ranch fire exhibited low to moderate soil burn intensity on the steeply-sloping canyon walls of Meyers Canyon. One structure, an office building for a fireplace and bar-b-que island company, appears to have an increased risk following toe fire. Please refer to the attached CGS Burn Site Evaluation.



Site Number <u>ts- 001</u>	Reviewer <u>Tom Spittler</u>	Date <u>October 28, 2007</u>
Address <u>Meyers Canyon Road</u>		Quad <u>San Bernardino North</u>
Watershed/Drainage <u>Meyers Canyon</u>		
GPS location <u>N 34.21003, W 117.36972</u>		Sec. _____, T. _____, R. _____ W, _____ BL&M
Photos <input type="checkbox"/> Roll, frames _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Digital, frames <u>100-1395 to 1398</u> <input type="checkbox"/>		
Camcorder, date-time _____		
<u>Characterization</u>		
1. Structure(s) infrastructural element at risk: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> house <input type="checkbox"/> business <input type="checkbox"/> major road <input type="checkbox"/> local road <input type="checkbox"/> trailer <input type="checkbox"/> tank <input type="checkbox"/> culvert <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other <u>office</u>		
2. Watershed / hillslope feature characteristics: a. <input type="checkbox"/> small watershed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> large watershed <input type="checkbox"/> colluvial hollow <input type="checkbox"/> steep slope <input type="checkbox"/> cut slope <input type="checkbox"/> other _____ b. size _____ ac. c. slope (average and range) <u>30% to 90%</u> d. channel presence <u>yes</u> , channel grade <u>2%</u> e. riparian vegetation condition: <u>Intact vegetation, mostly willow</u>		
<u>Observations</u>		
1. Percent of watershed burned <u>30%</u>		
2. Geology: Formation or unit name (if available) <u>Old alluvial fan deposits with alluvial wash gravels</u> lithology: <u>Poorly sorted, clast supported boulder, gravel fanglomerate fabric massive</u> penetrative structures: <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no, type _____ orientations _____ regolith/soil: texture – <u>sandy gravel</u> thickness: <u>soil consistent with underlying material</u> other _____		
3. Dry ravel presence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no volume <u>total estimated about 50 cubic yards</u> characteristics <u>along bends in washes</u>		
4. Evidence of past debris flow activity? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> estimated reGENCY <u>2003</u> Fan <input type="checkbox"/> alluvial wash <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other <input type="checkbox"/> comments _____		

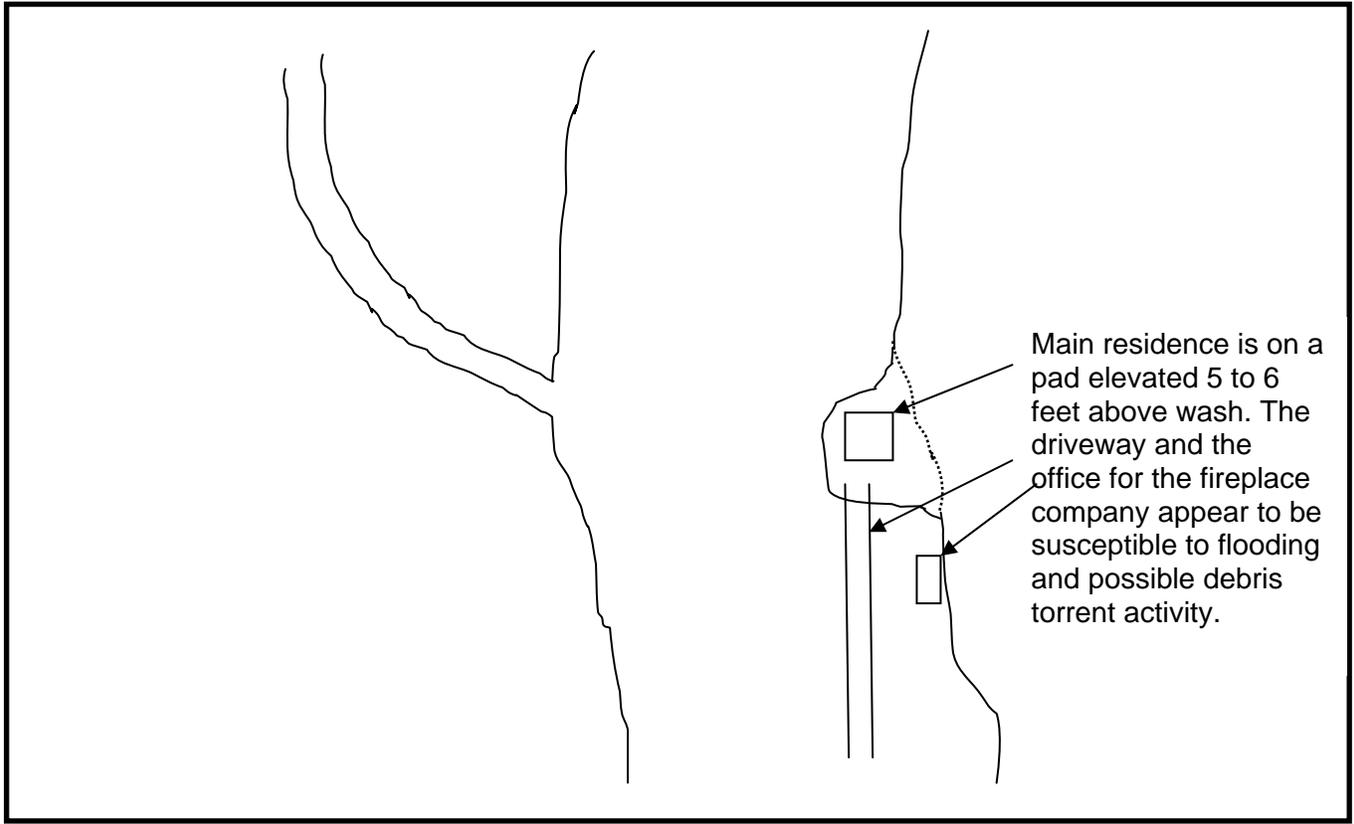
5. Pre-fire vegetation  grass  chaparral  trees  hardwood grass woodland  other \_\_\_\_\_
6. Soil burn severity (Parsons, 2003): high 5% moderate 30% low 65% of the burn area
7. Post fire ground cover: vegetation/litter/leaf fall 30% surface rock 25% total cover 55%
8. Hydrophobic soil development:  high  moderate  slight  
 continuity of hydrophobic layer:  high  moderate  low  
 thickness of wettable layer above hydrophobic layer \_\_\_\_\_  
 post-fire bioturbation  None  Moderate (5-20%)  High (>20)  
 type  gopher  ant  hoof print  Other \_\_\_\_\_
9. Potential post-fire hazards:  
 flood  sediment concentrated flood  debris torrent  future landslide potential from slope  
 other \_\_\_\_\_

**Risks**

10. Likelihood of that an event occurring that could pose a risk:  High  Moderate  Low
11. Consequences of potential risk to life:  High  Moderate  Low
12. Consequences of potential risk to property:  High  Moderate  Low
13. Was contact made with resident?  yes  no  
 If contact made, name of resident Tiffany Roykbos, employee of owner

14. Treatment options  yes  no
- surficial erosion control
  - channel clearance/improvements
  - structures (describe conditions and goals)
- other: **Staff forYe Olde Brit Fireplaces & BBQ Islands should not occupy the office building during storms.**

**Sketch**

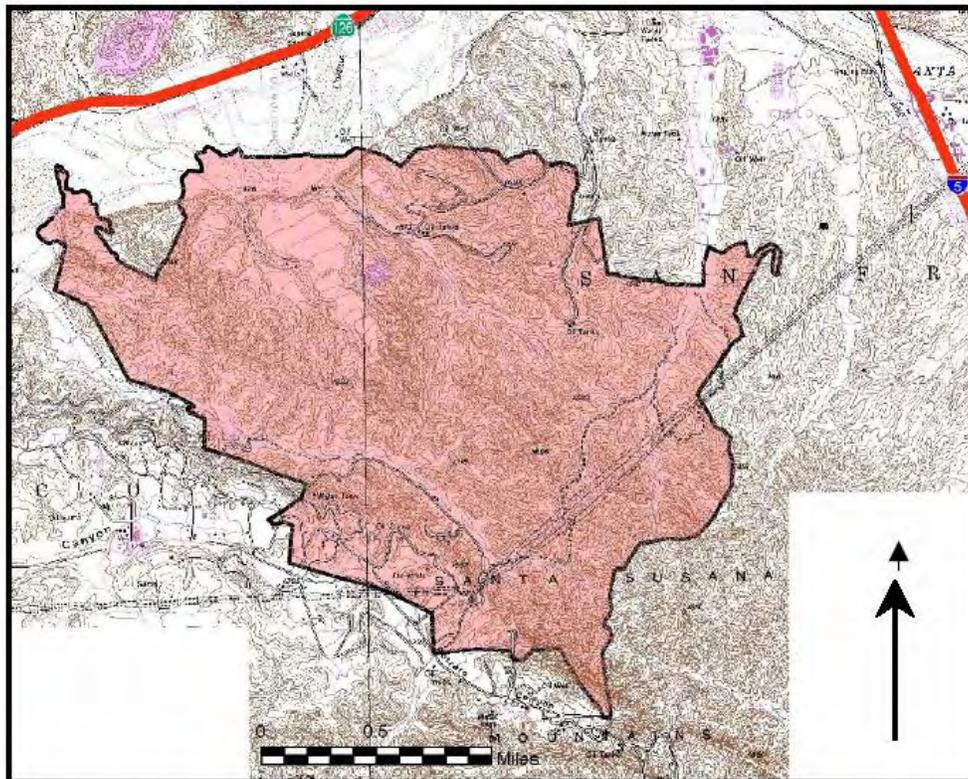


The main wash along Meyers Canyon is roughly 150 to 200 feet wide. The main residence does not appear to be at risk, but it appears that additional protection could be provided to the access drive and the older residential structure by grading along the wash.

## Attachment #2 Magic

### Post-Fire Geologic Hazard Inspection -- Magic Fire

On November 5, 2007, Tom Spittler of the California Geological Survey inspected the 2824-acre Magic fire near the town of Santa Clarita in Los Angeles County California. The Magic fire exhibited generally low soil burn severity and is principally on relatively gentle to moderately-sloping ground. No structures or other high-value sites were observed to be present along most of the perimeter of the fire. The Stevens Ranch subdivision lies adjacent to the southeast margin of the fire, but the grade design of the subdivision is such that is no visible risk from post-fire geologic hazards associated with the Magic Fire.



## Attachment #3

### Sedgwick Fire Team Report

Resource Specialties:     Water Quality  
                                  Wildlife  
                                  Engineering  
                                  Forestry

Location:                   University of California Santa Barbara Sedgwick Ranch  
                                  34.7054N, 120.0357W, HUC 6<sup>th</sup> Watershed-Santa Agueda  
                                  Creek, UTM's-772824E-3845597N.

Month and Year:           November, 2007

Authors:                   Steve Cain, Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control  
Board

                                  Mohammed Musazay, Dept. Water Resources  
                                  Martin Potter, Fish and Game, Adam Deem, CAL FIRE

#### Narrative

Field visit was conducted with Kate McMurdy (Reserve Director) and Rick Skillin who pointed out areas of concern within the Sedgwick Ranch Reserve. About half of the fire burned on to the lands of Fred Steck. All observations were made from the Sedgwick property. Although some risk was present to natural and biological resources, burn severity was moderate and there was no immediate threat to life or property. McMurdy reported that between the Sedgwick and Zaca fires, a total of 6 miles of dozer line had been constructed that had not been repaired to her knowledge. Special consideration needs to be made for rehabilitation efforts due to the sensitivity of research projects on site. Reference was made to Chief Rick Todd from Santa Barbara County Fire, who had visited the site previously to look at suppression damage. According to records, a rehabilitation plan has been prepared but was not available at the time of this report. Further an Archaeological review was not conducted due to no other ground disturbing mitigation being proposed on this incident other than Suppression Repair to the tractor firelines.

#### Potential Values at Risk

- Natural habitat/plant reserve
- NSF and other ag. research projects
- Native oak savanna habitat
- Serpentine soil plant species
- Fence line
- Latigo and Figueroa Creeks
- Archaeological

### Resource Condition Assessment

- Remote location, mostly open space; the few structures present outside immediate fire area. University of CA Reserve, used for research and habitat preservation; adjacent property currently a ranch. Various soil types
- Complete to moderate burn of oak savanna habitat and coastal sage scrub on variety of slopes ranging from steep to flat.
- Irrigation line broken
- Potential for long-term impacts to serpentine soil obligate plant species and other plant species resulting from fire suppression activity (bulldozer lines).
- Potential for short-term displacement of nesting bird species.
- Potential for short-term displacement of mammal and reptile species.
- Soil erosion from dozer fire lines
- Potential sedimentation into Latigo and Figueroa Creeks

### Recommendations

- Recommend measures for erosion control (e.g., water bars) and possibly hydroseeding with locally native plant seed mix (note: Sedgwick representative requested that plant seeds only come from on-site)
- Recommend additional assessment by fisheries expert for potential for impacts to aquatic resources.
- Recommended repair of broken irrigation pipe
- Because bird and animal species are adapted to fire, no mitigation recommended.
- Removal of abandoned PG&E power line over duck pond, figure 2 (pond used as water source for aerial fire suppression activities)
- Recommend that prior to completion of suppression repairs being completed that a archaeological records check be made to determine the need for a visit to this site by an Archaeologist prior to causing further disturbance to any sites that may be found. Per discussions with CAL FIRE Archaeologist, Herb Dallas, he felt that if Suppression repairs were confined to the area already disturbed that the lack of further ground disturbing measures identified in this report, that a visit at this time by him was not necessary.

Treatment Costs: As the majority of the treatment in this report is confined to Suppression Repair covered by the incident, the team did not make estimates of costs.

### References

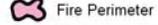
- CA Natural Diversity Database

### Appendices

- Appendix #1 **Sedgwick Fire Area Map**

- Appendix #2 **Arial of Fire**
- Appendix # 3 **Soils Map**
- Appendix #4 **Vegetation Map**

**Legend**

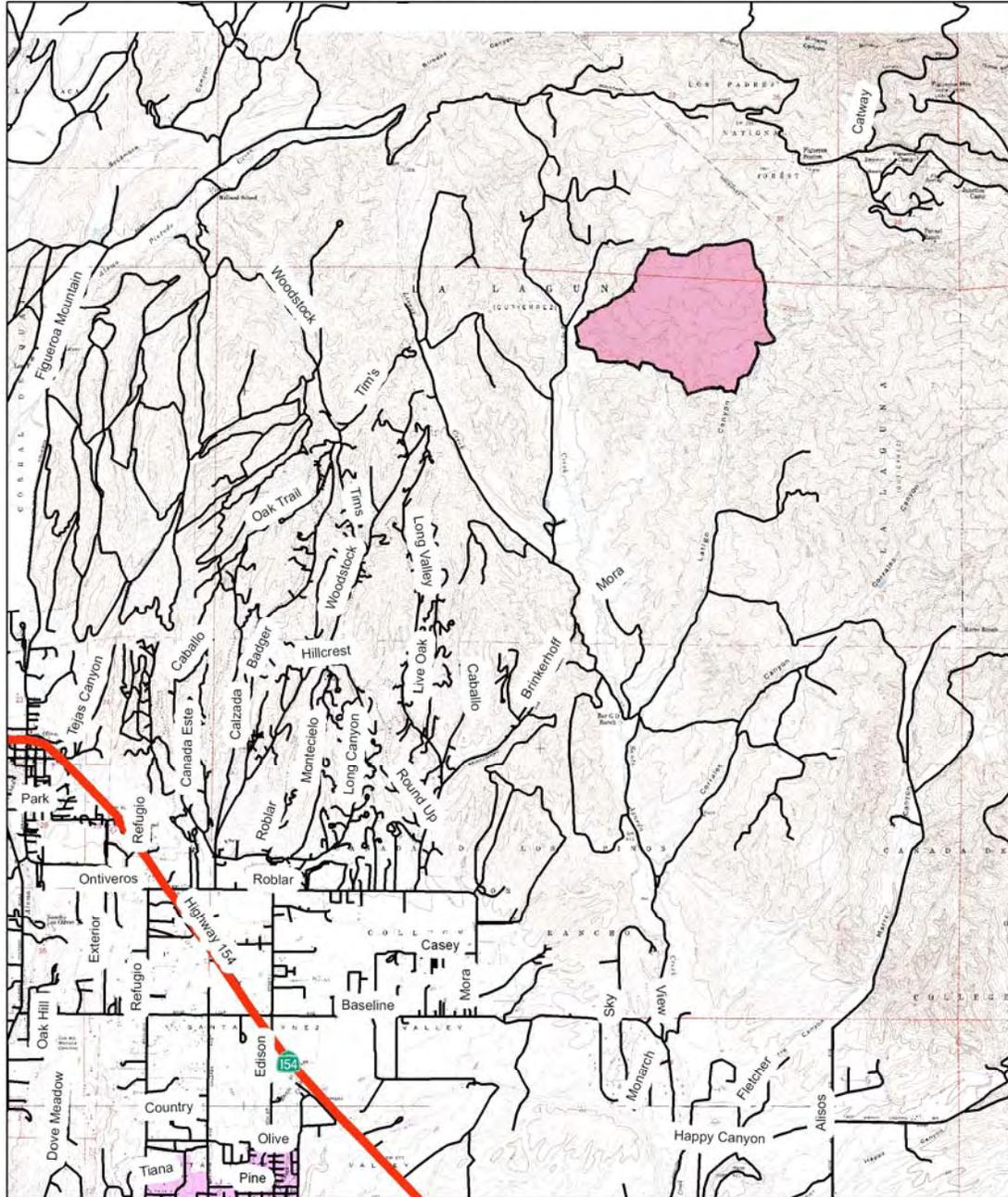
-  Highway
-  Road
-  Fire Perimeter



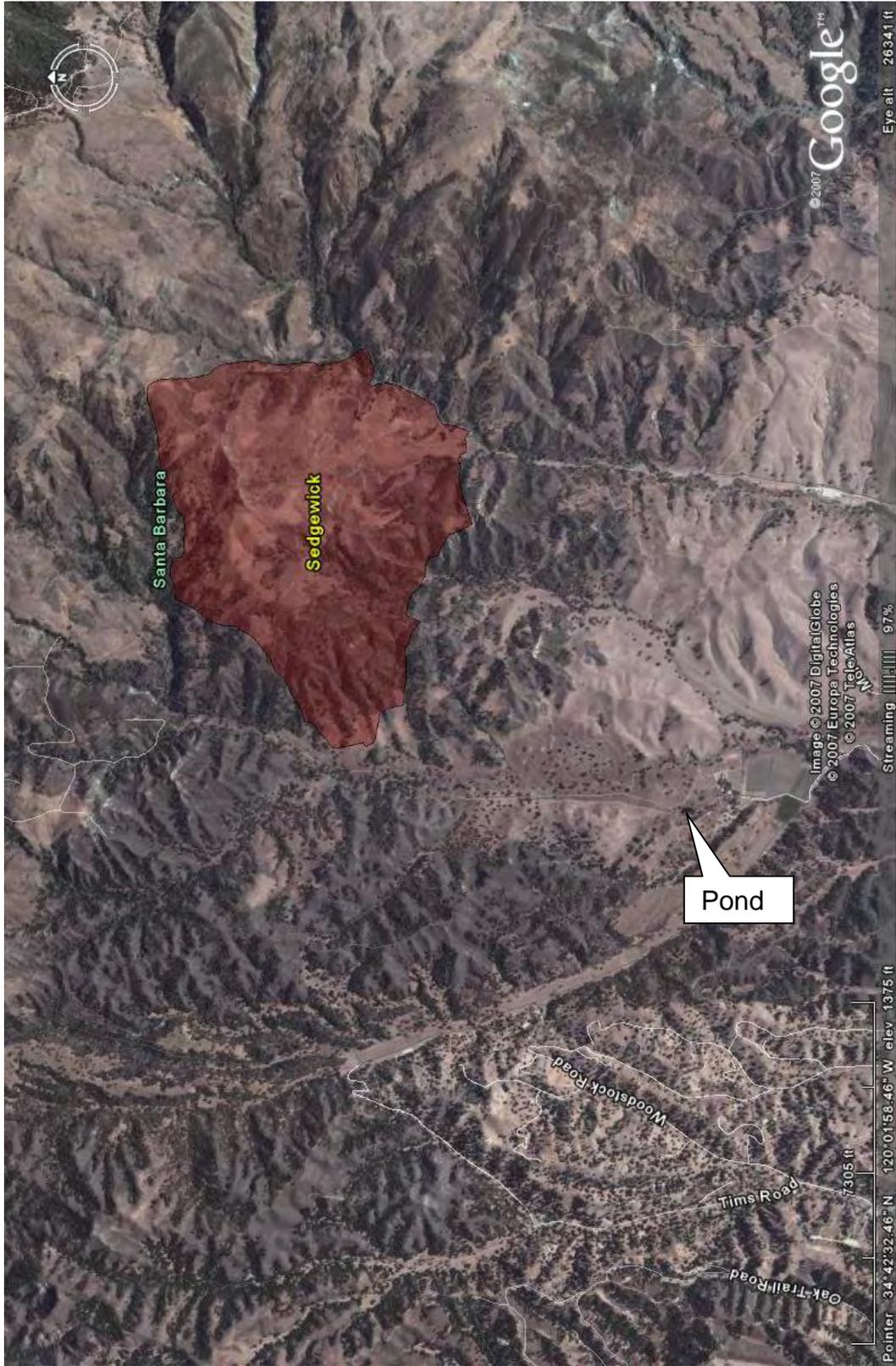
Jonathan Pangburn  
November 08, 2007  
0945 Hours  
Teale Abers NAD 1927



# Sedgewick Fire Area Map



Appendix #2 Arial of Fire





Fire Perimeter

PHYSIOGNOMIC\_ORDER

Group of no dominant life form and non-vegetated orders

Herbaceous/non-vascular dominated order

No dominant life form order

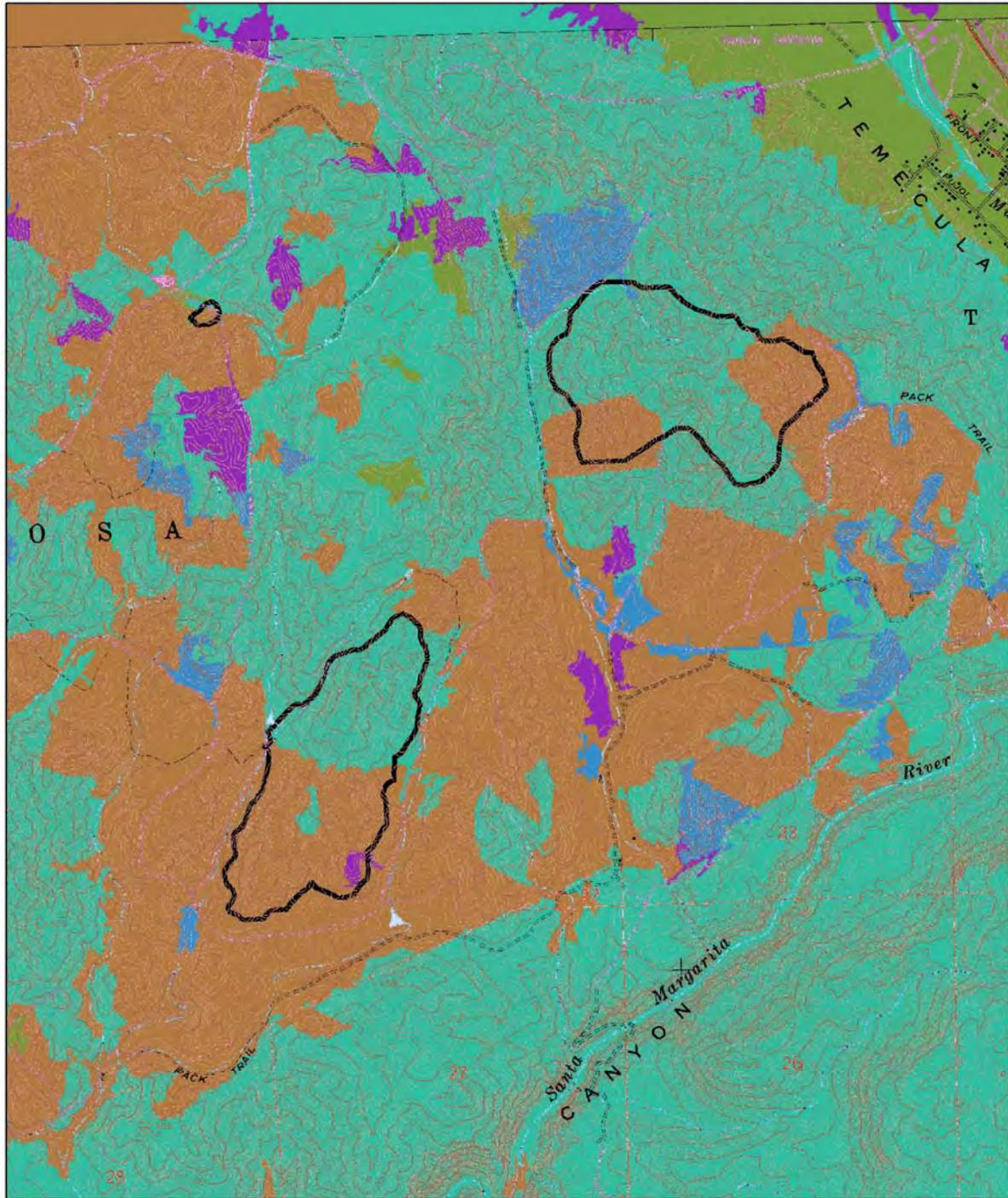
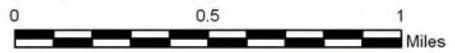
Non-vegetated order

Shrub dominated order

Tree dominated order



Rosa Fire Vegetation Map



Appendix #4 Vegetation

## Attachment #4

### October Fire Team Report

Resource Specialties:     Water Quality  
                                  Wildlife  
                                  Engineering  
                                  Forestry

Location:                   20609 Placerita Canyon Road, Santa Clarity, CA (34.3820N,  
                                  118.4955W) HUC 6<sup>th</sup> Watersheds-Placerita Creek and  
                                  Upper Santa Clara River, UTM's 362752E-3806130N

Month and Year:         November, 2007

Authors:                 Steve Cain, Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control  
Board

                                  Mohammed Musazay, Dept. Water Resources  
                                  Martin Potter, Fish and Game, Adam Deem, CAL FIRE

#### Narrative

The fire was contained to a hillside between the Sierra Highway and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LA DWP) aqueduct (figure 1). Contact was made with employees of the Sequia Roll Off Incorporated who gave permission to access the property. Terrain within the fire area is steep (70% slopes) with full bench roads that run in a switchback pattern in order to access a series of oil drilling rigs. A series of pipes (5" in diameter) also run down the slope where they are redirected to a processing plant to the west. Soils on the site are granular similar to decomposed granite. Active rilling (figure 2) and shallow seated slides (figure 3) are present and appear to have existed previous to the fire. There are several shipping containers and outbuildings at the base of the hill, along with an intermittent stream which runs only during high rainfall events (according to a LA DWP employee on site). Fire severity on the site appears to be moderate.

#### Potential Values at Risk

- Oil drilling rigs
- Oil pipe lines
- Storage tanks (water or oil)
- Power transmission lines (adjacent to aqueduct)
- LA DWP aqueduct pipe
- Building structure associated with oil extraction operations
- Streambed at base of hill; possible contributor to Santa Clara River
- Listed plants

### Resource Condition Assessment

- Near complete burn of non-native landscape and scrub habitat on very steep south facing slope above Placerita Canyon Creek; Low to moderate burn-level (brush and branches less than ½ inch burned; trees scarred; drip irrigation lines melted); burn from base to top of ridge
- Two small swales on side of hill
- Lose granular soil
- Numerous full bench roads to oil drilling equipment
- Rehabilitation/mitigation measures have potential for impacts to Federal and State Endangered California Orcutt grass and slender-horned spineflower.

### Recommendations

- Recommend additional assessment by fisheries expert for potential for impacts to aquatic resources.
- Recommended additional assessment by licensed geologist for potential landslides/creek sedimentation.
- Recommend additional assessment by botanical expert for potential for impacts to listed plants

Follow-up: Per the recommendation for a geological review the following summary and recommendations were provided by a licensed Geologist:

- Summary: The October Fire burned an approximately 30 acre are in Santa Clarita, which encompasses an area that appears to be devoid of residential housing. From the site photos there appears to be oil wells, oil pipelines, storage tanks, and associated oil company resources. Additionally, I noted an LADWP aqueduct pipeline.
- Recommendations: Based on the this information and the recommendations provided in the referenced report, a licensed geologist from the oil company and LADWP should assess the potential for post fire geological hazard impacts to their individual resources at the site. (See Appendix #5 Geologist Review)

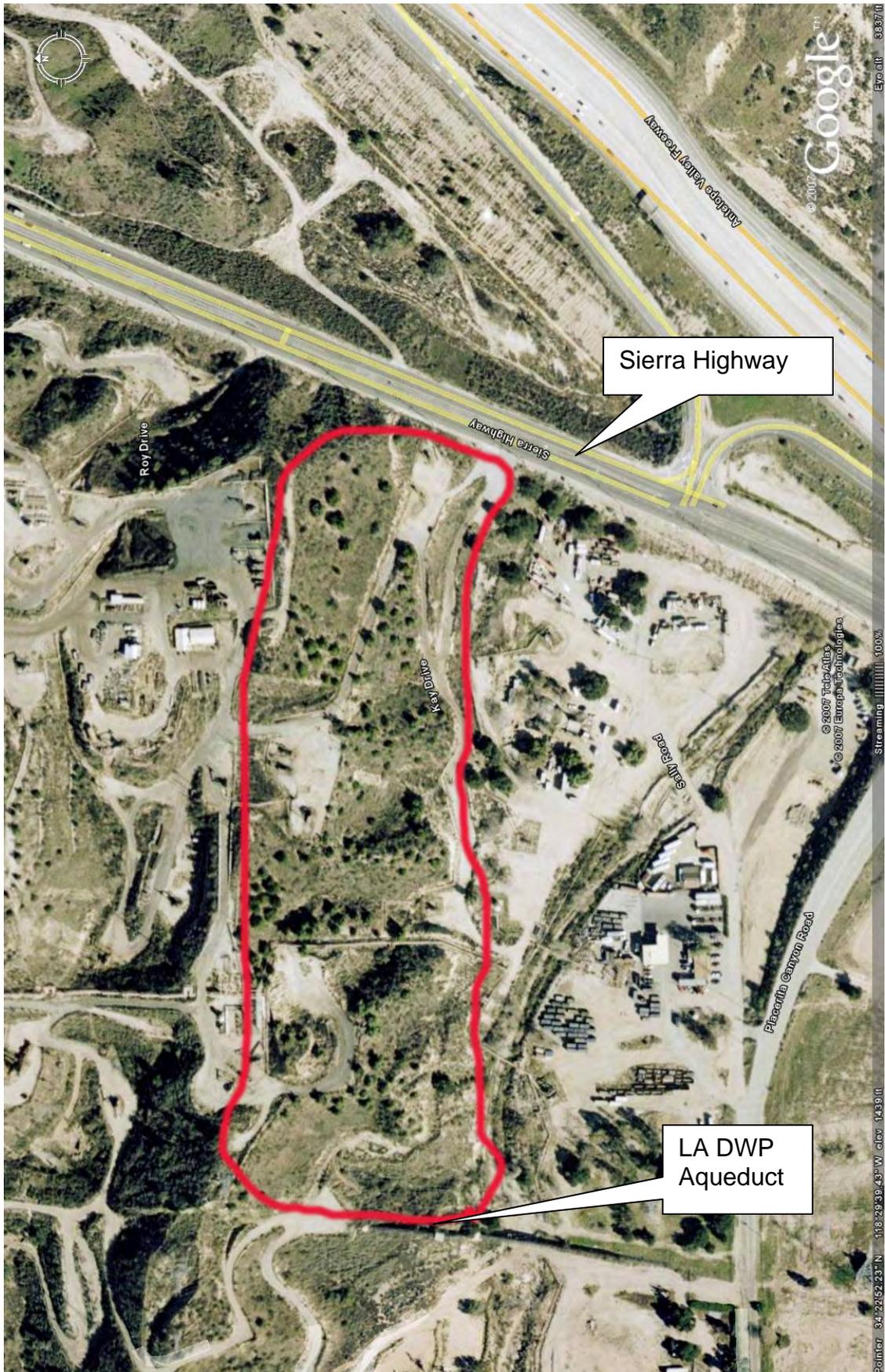
### References

- CA Natural Diversity Database

### Appendices

- Appendix #1 **Arial of Incident**
- Appendix # 2 **Photos**
- Appendix # 3 **Soils Map**
- Appendix #4 **Vegetation Map**
- Appendix # 5 **Geologist Review**

Appendix #1



## Appendix #2 Photos

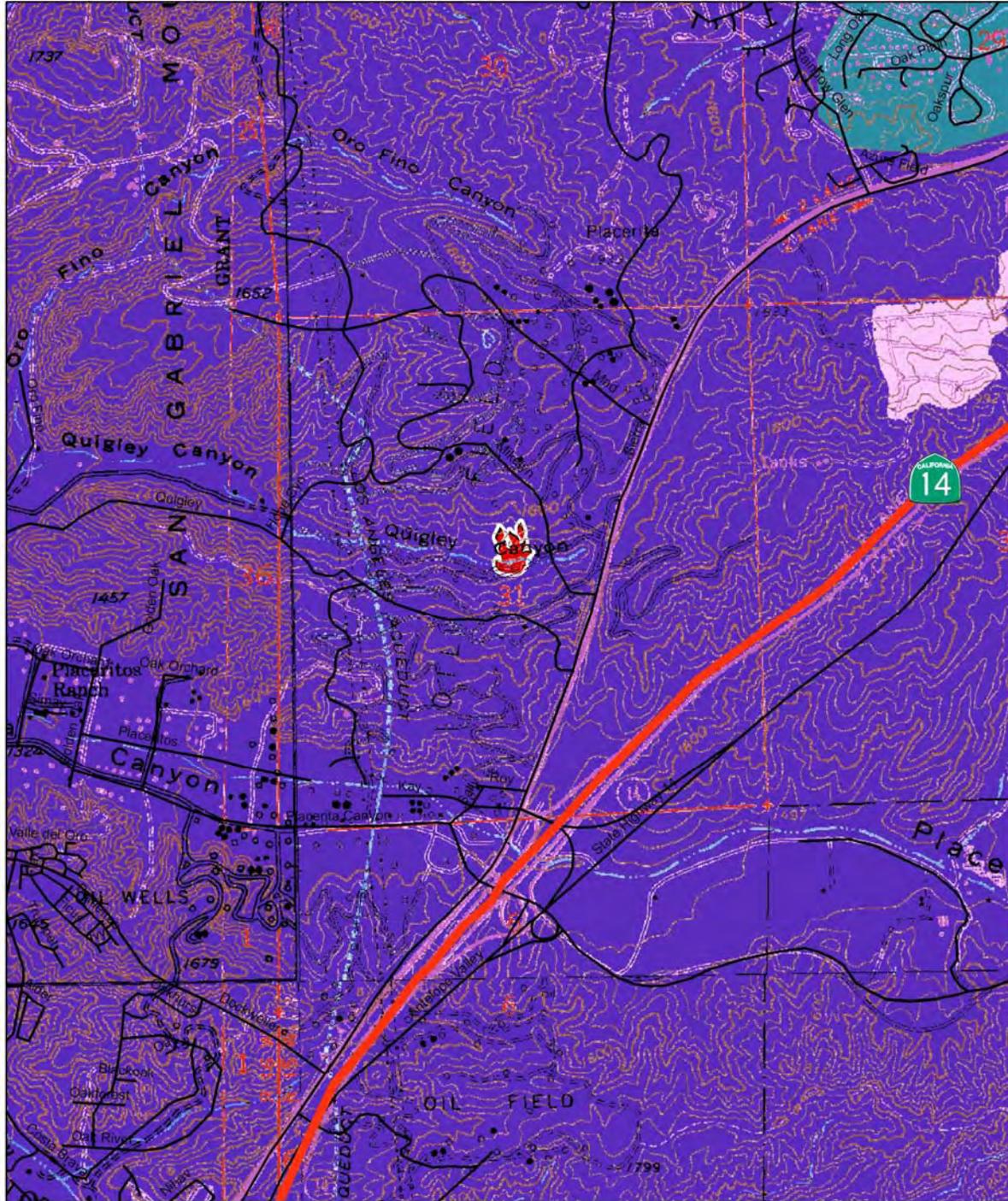
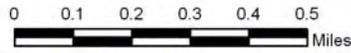




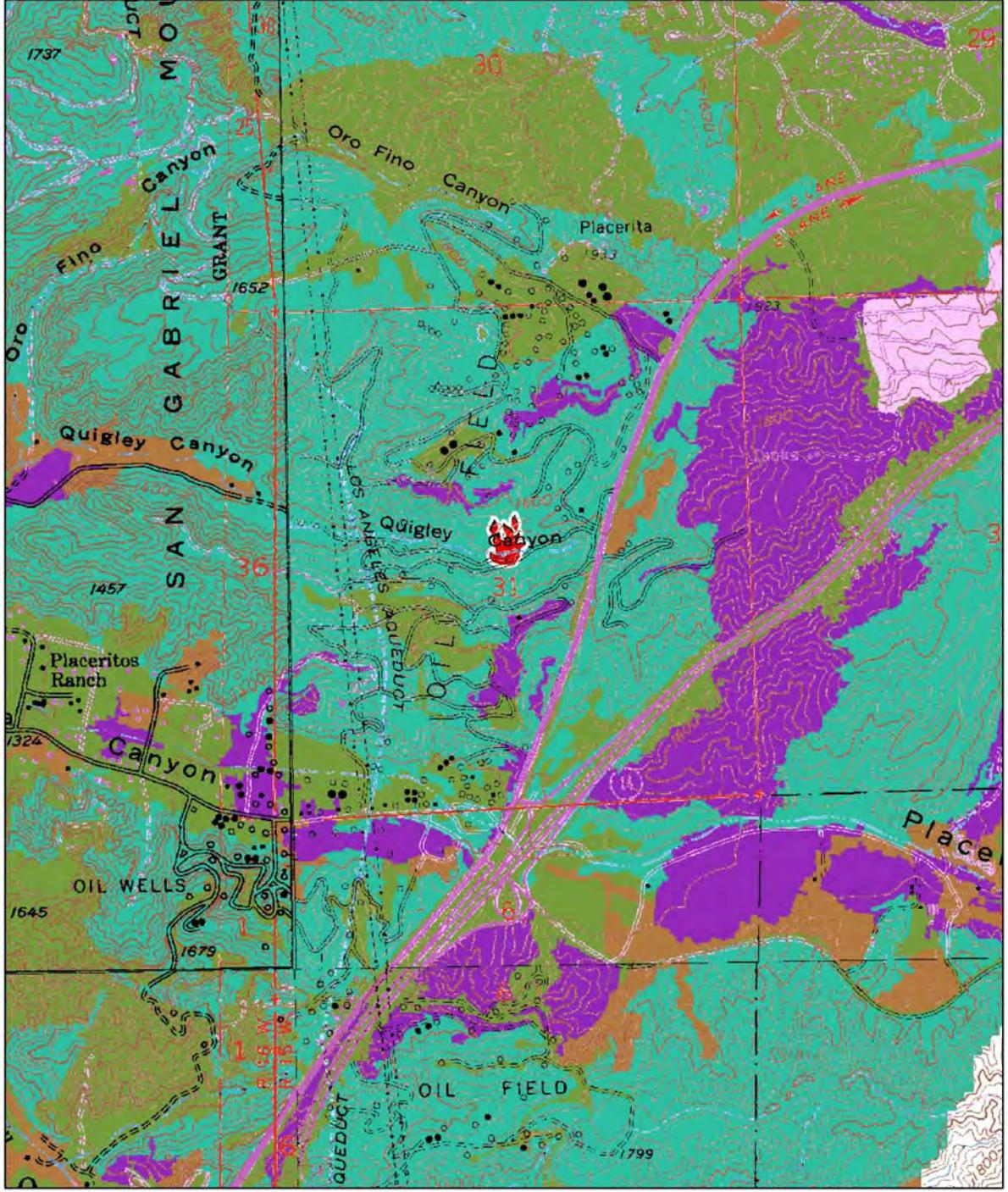
Legend

- Highway
- Road
- Fire Location

# October Fire Soil Map



Appendix #3 Soils



**Appendix #4 Vegetation**

## **Appendix # 5 Geology Report**

Based on review of the referenced October Fire report and site photos provided by you, I have the following comments:

### Summary

The October Fire burned an approximately 20 acre area in Santa Clarita, which encompasses an area that appears to be devoid of residential housing. From the site photos there appears to be oil wells, oil pipelines, storage tanks, and associated oil company resources. Additionally, I noted an LADWP aqueduct pipeline.

### Recommendations

Based on this information and the recommendations provided in the referenced report, a licensed geologist from the oil company and LADWP should assess the potential for post fire geological hazard impacts to their individual resources at the site.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Lancaster  
Engineering Geologist  
California Geological Survey

## Attachment #5

### Nightsky Fire Team Report

Resource Specialties: Water Quality  
Wildlife  
Engineering  
Forestry

Location: 2 Miles south of Moorpark (43.2589N, 118.8872W), Cal Watersheds v2.2.1-4408.22, 4408.23 & 4408.25, UTM-327232E-3792547N.

Month and Year: November, 2007

Authors: Steve Cain, Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

Mohammed Musazay, Dept. Water Resources  
Martin Potter, Fish and Game, Adam Deem, CAL FIRE

#### Narrative

Fire burned between residential developments on a major ridgetop and within two small catchments that drain into a subdivision (figure 1). The fire burned with moderate severity within the two small basins, leaving the sandy loam soil with an average residual ground cover of 20%. Vegetation consists of brush 4-8 feet tall with small diameter limbs (2" diameter and less). The basin to the west is approximately 10 acres and the basin to the east is approximately 8 (figures 2-3). Each of these basins drain to the north and into 36 inch culverts with concrete abutments (figures 5-6). Slopes within the basins are generally steep (>70%) and the ridge tops are gentle (10-20%). There is concern that a heavy rain event could produce excessive sediment possibly clogging the drain culverts. If this situation arose, water could flow into the subdivision possibly damaging 4 structures. In addition to these 4 structures the Geology Report completed on November 11, 2007 identified 4 additional houses at risk. (See attached Geology Report, Appendix # )

#### Potential Values at Risk

- Homes (potentially four)
- Culverts (two)
- Fences
- Orchards

#### Resource Condition Assessment

- Near complete burn of coastal sage scrub on steep slopes surrounding un-named tributary to Arroyo Santa Rosa, within the Lexington Hills Estates.

- Upper ridgeline/canyon moderate burn
- Soil appears to be various types of loam
- Full bench roads and bike/horse trails in burn area
- Power lines cross burn area
- Rehabilitation/mitigation measures have potential for impacts to Federal and State Endangered California Orcutt grass and Lyon's pentachaeta.

### Recommendations

- Recommend additional assessment by fisheries expert for potential for impacts to aquatic resources.
- Recommend additional assessment by botanical expert for potential for impacts to listed plants
- Recommended additional assessment by licensed geologist for potential sediment movement. In addition to the teams recommendation, the Geologist report reiterated this need, but included the following additions:
  1. The sites listed in Appendix 2 should be evaluated by Professional Geologists or Professional Engineers with experience in slope stability and debris flow hazard identification and mitigation to fully document the scope of the problems at each site.
  2. The existing road drainage system should be evaluated by the agency that controls the road system to evaluate potential impacts from debris flows, flooding, and landsliding that may be triggered by heavy winter rains.
- Recommended removal of debris from canyon to protect culvert and adjacent homes

Treatment Costs: The Team did not estimate cost on this incident and with further evaluations still reiterated by the Geologist Report and the potential for further mitigations proposed it would be premature to estimate the total costs at this time.

### References

- CA Natural Diversity Database

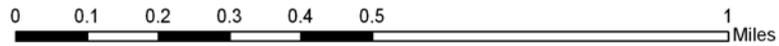
### Appendices

- Appendix #1 **Nightsky Map**
- Appendix #2 **Aerials of Incident**
- Appendix # 3 **Photos**
- Appendix #4 **Soils Map**
- Appendix #5 **Vegetation Map**
- Appendix #6 **Geologist Report**

### **Appendix 1 Nightsky Map**

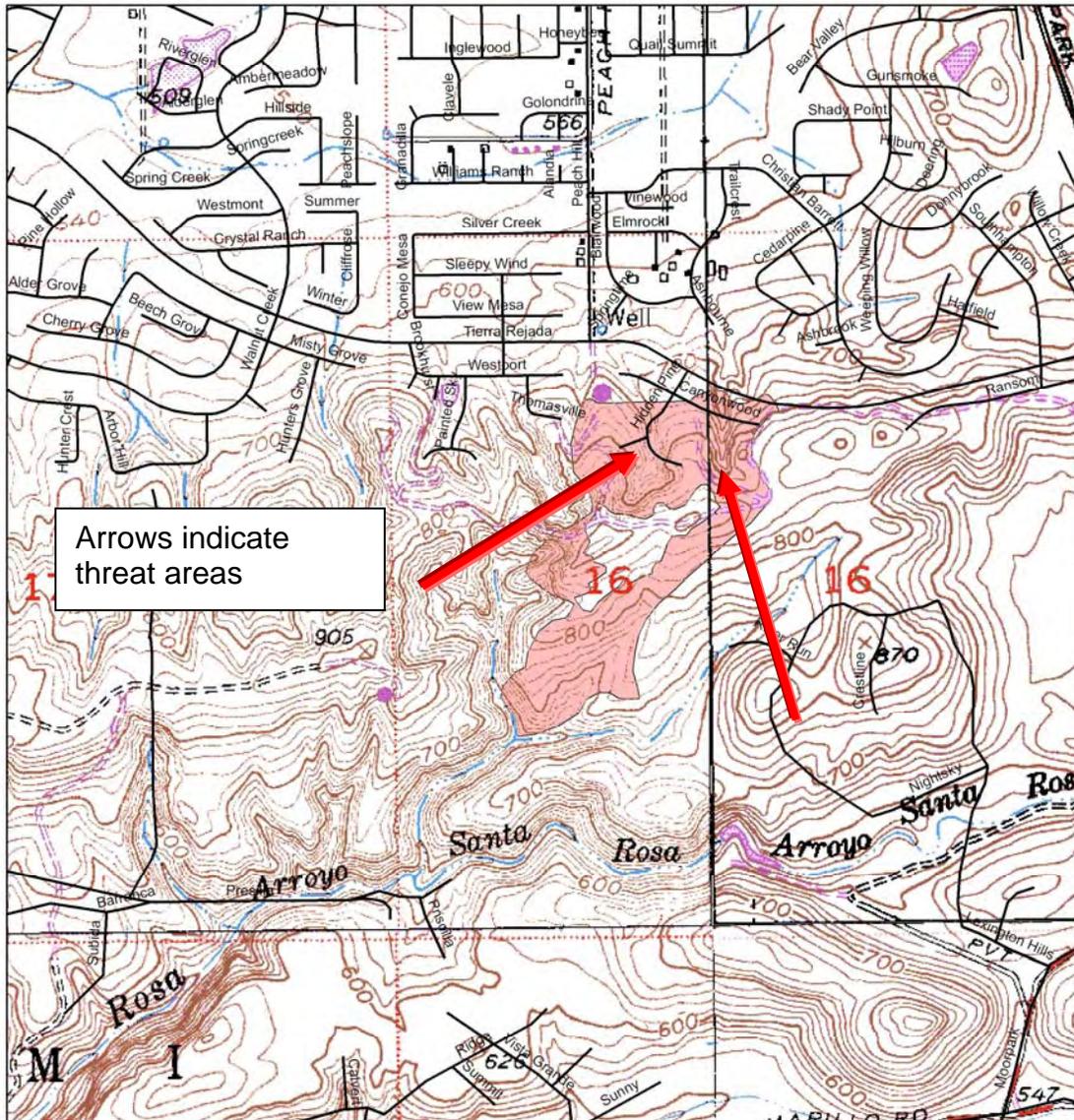
**Legend**

- Roads
- Highway
- 🔴 Nightsky Fire



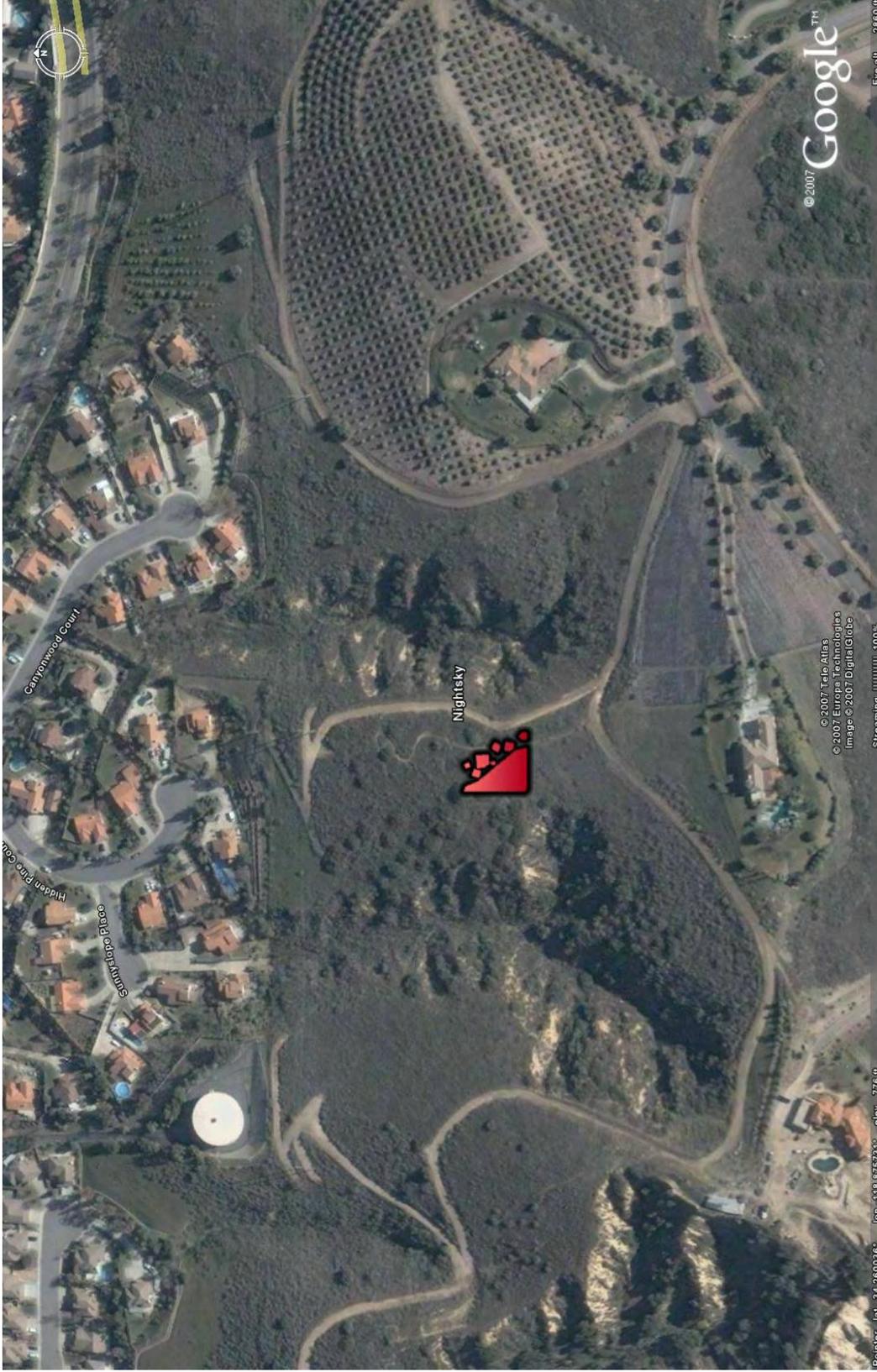
# Nightsky Fire Area Map

Jonathan Pangburn  
November 05, 2007  
1127 Hours  
Teale Albers NAD 1927



Arrows indicate threat areas

**Appendix 2 Aerials of Incident**



© 2007 Google™

© 2007 TeleAtlas  
© 2007 Europa Technologies  
Image © 2007 DigitalGlobe

Streaming 100%

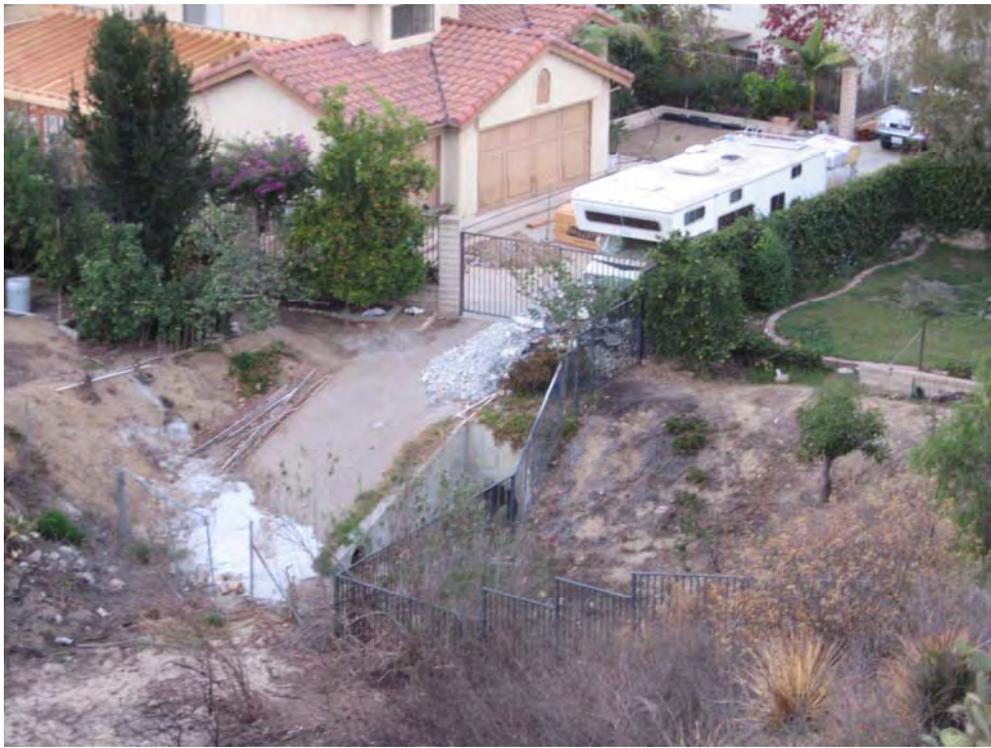
Pointer lat: 34.260036° lon: -118.875731° elev: 776 ft

Eye alt: 2860 ft



### Appendix #3 Photos

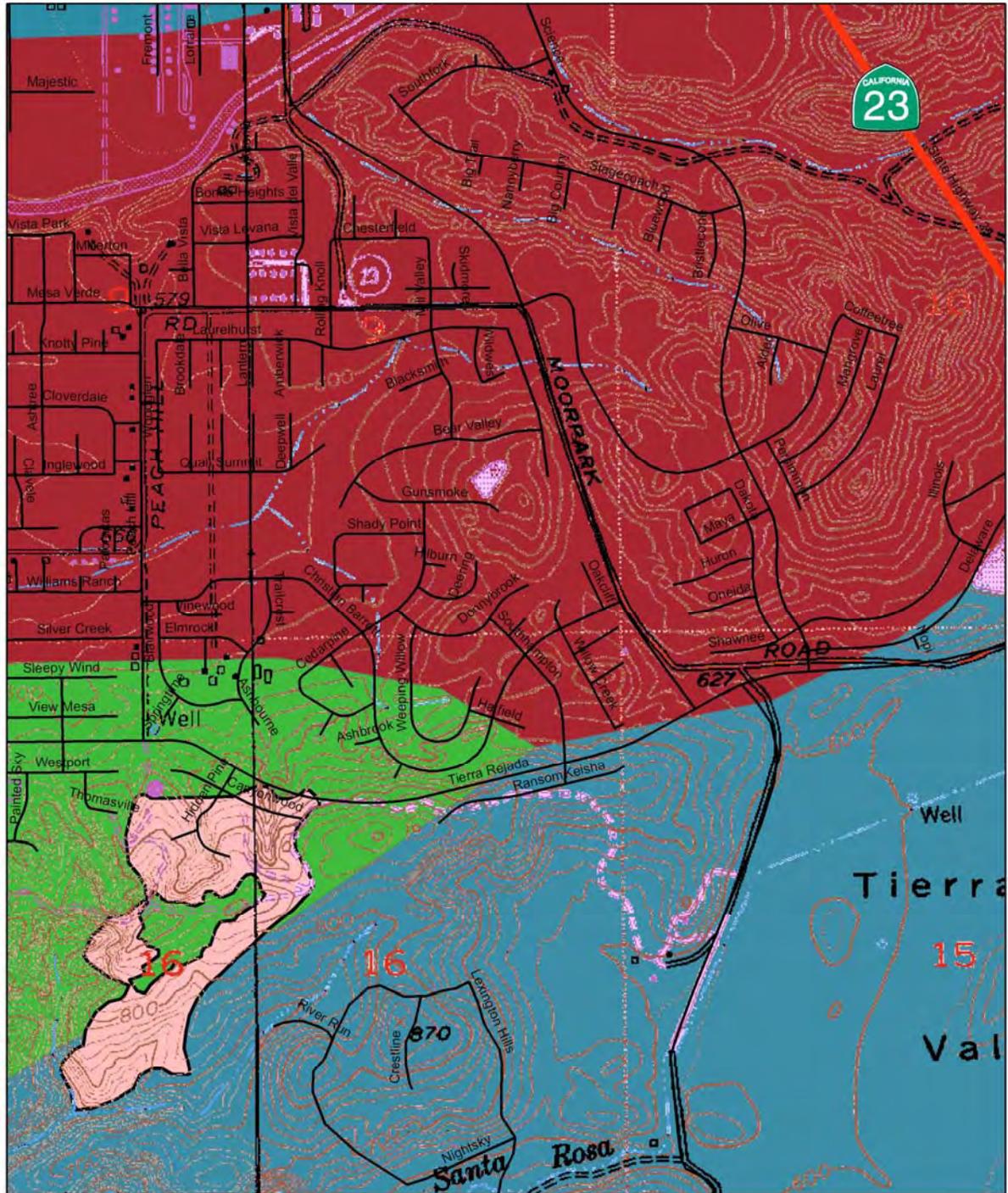
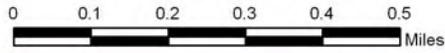




**Legend**

- Highway
- Road
- Fire Perimeter

# Nightsky Fire Soil Map



**Appendix #4 Soils Map**

Fire Perimeter

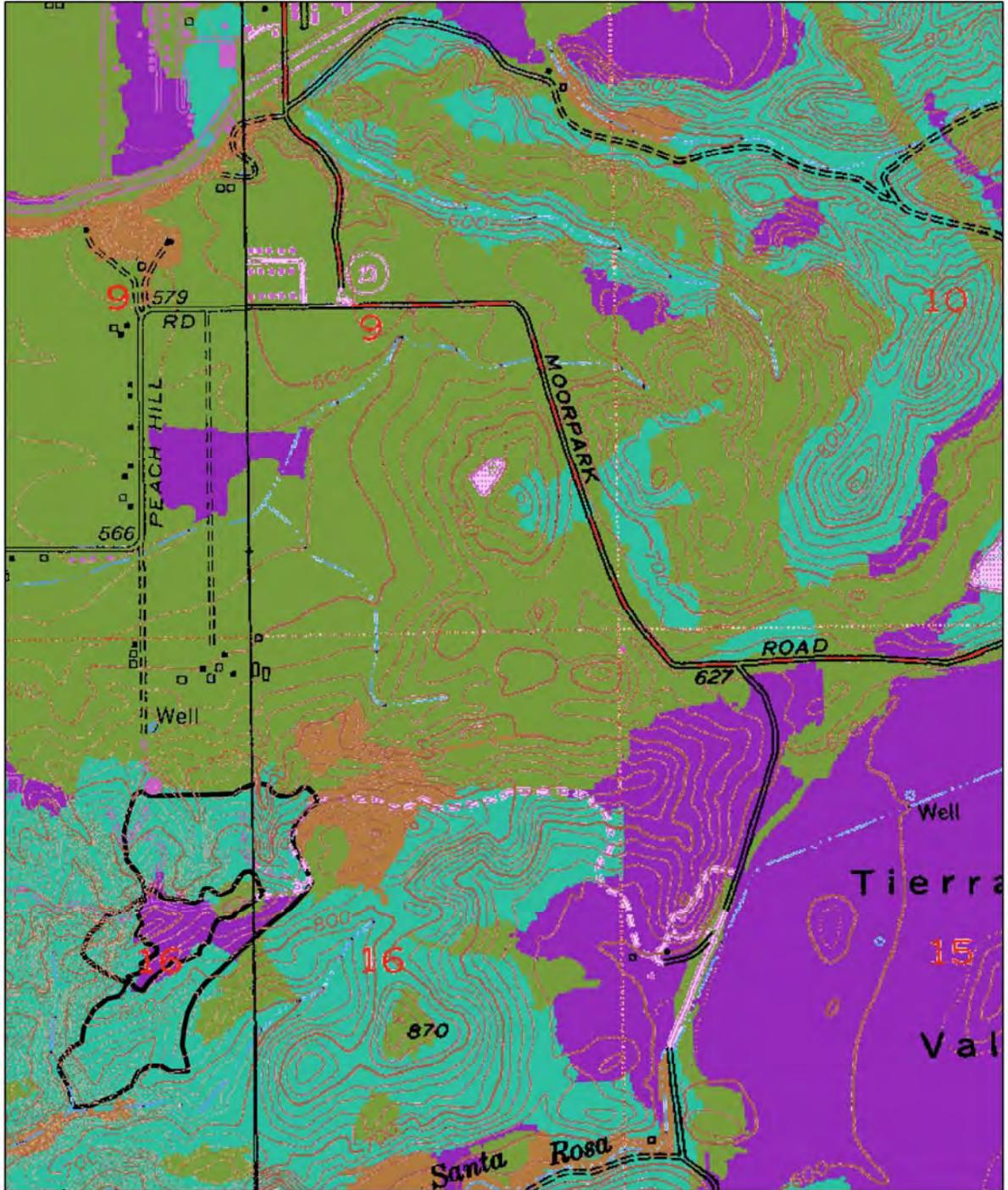
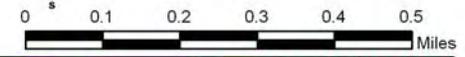
PHYSIOGNOMIC\_ORDER

- Group of no dominant life form and non-vegetated orders
- Herbaceous/non-vascular dominated order

- No dominant life form order
- Non-vegetated order
- Shrub dominated order
- Tree dominated order



Nightsky Fire Vegetation Map



Appendix#5 Vegetation

**Appendix #6**  
**Burned Area Emergency Report**  
**Resource: Geology**  
**DRAFT FINAL TECHNICAL SPECIALIST'S REPORT**  
Burned Area Emergency Report  
**Resource: Geology**

**Fire Name:** Nightsky Fire

**Month/Year:** November 2007

**Author Name:**

Jeremy Lancaster, Engineering Geologist  
California Geological Survey,  
888 South Figueroa Street, Suite 475  
Los Angeles, CA 90017  
Office (213) 239-0882 Cell (310) 780-5268

The California Geological Survey (CGS) Burn Site Evaluation Summaries present the results of our reconnaissance of sites that may be at risk to life and property from geologic hazards such as landslides, debris flows, rock falls, and localized debris torrents, floods, and hyperconcentrated floods. These summaries do not include an assessment of potential risks from increased surface runoff along the major stream channels, and must be used in combination with hydrologists' assessments of those areas to grasp the magnitude of risks to high-value sites. CGS's expedited reconnaissance evaluations were part of the post-fire emergency response activities. As such, there are likely to be areas within the burn perimeter and other locations of potential values at risk that were not observed or assessed, and other areas where the potential risks are either higher or lower than our initial reconnaissance-level reviews.

## **1. Resource Condition Assessment**

### **A. Resource Setting**

The Nightsky fire burn area is underlain by non-marine Miocene and Oligocene sedimentary rocks of the Sespe Formation and volcanic rocks of the Conejo Volcanics, with unconsolidated alluvium along stream channels (see Appendix 1). The moderately to well consolidated Sespe Formation consists of interbedded shale, sandstone, and conglomerate, and is reddish-brown owing to iron oxides. The Conejo Volcanics are a sequence of volcanic breccias, tuff breccias, pillow lavas and massive andesitic and Basaltic flows that are intruded by dikes, sills, and hypabyssal intrusives.

Topography within the burn area is generally moderately steep, and lies between about 700 and 900 feet of elevation, below the rain-on-snow range.

For all the rock types exposed in the burn area, fire can increase dry ravel, surface erosion, and channel downcutting, which can heighten the potential for in-channel debris flows, debris torrents, and hyper-

concentrated floods. The primary mechanisms for these processes are the loss of mechanical support of hillslope materials that was provided by vegetation and the increase in runoff resulting from reductions in infiltration and interception loss. Where soil burn severity is high, the reduction in infiltration often results from the development of hydrophobic soils.

## B. Survey Methods

To evaluate the risk to life and property, road and foot reconnaissance inspections were conducted on November 11, 2007.

Houses located along Sunny Slope Place, and Canyon Wood were surveyed for geologic hazards. Road-related features, such as culverts and bridges, were not surveyed.

The survey was rapid, limited to easily accessible areas, and based on incomplete and preliminary information. We estimated risk to prioritize sites and to expedite the implementation of preventative measures. Closer inspection at some sites may reveal conditions different from our initial estimates. The sites identified as having potential risks to lives or property are listed and briefly described below and summarized in Appendix 2 to this report. Other sites with similar concerns probably exist but may have been missed through this rapid and limited survey. The south facing slopes in this area were not reviewed due access limitations. **Follow-up efforts to identify issues and to implement remedies are essential to protect the public.**

## 2. Emergency Determination

The values at risk considered in this assessment include the possible loss of life and property due to landsliding, debris flow, debris torrents, and flooding from increased surface water runoff. In general, the risk from landslides, debris flows and rock falls are possible where roads, residences or other development are located on alluvial fans, colluvial footslopes and debris cones. As such these locations can be pre-identified and mapped prior to emergencies such as wild fire. Flooding and in-stream debris torrent activity adjacent to canyon stream channels may also pose a risk to high-value features that are near to those channels. As such, the information provided in the attached summary sheets must be used in combination with the hydrologists' assessments to understand more completely the magnitude of risks to high-value sites in the area. It should be noted that these hazards are part of the natural processes in this environment, and that these risks were present under pre-fire conditions. Many existing structures in the burn area have been and will continue to be at risk from these hazards. The potential for these processes to be exacerbated by fire is primarily dependent upon burn severity and slope steepness, both of which are variable in the Night Sky fire area. Risks to cultural, soils and biologic assets are covered in other

specialist reports. Areas with moderate to high potential risks to life and property from slope instabilities exist elsewhere in the vicinity of the Night Sky fire, but the assessment of sites that were not affected by the fire is beyond the scope of this evaluation.

#### Observations

- Slopes vary between 2:1 and greater than 1:1 (horizontal:vertical).
- Main channel gradient is approximately 1.5 percent.
- Numerous natural swales filled with 6-12 inches of granular sediment.
- Several pre-existing debris flow scars.
- Bedrock consists of poorly to moderately indurated sandstone and conglomerate.
- Sespe Formation is the dominant rock type.

#### Recommendations

1. The sites listed in Appendix 2 should be evaluated by Professional Geologists or Professional Engineers with experience in slope stability and debris flow hazard identification and mitigation to fully document the scope of the problems at each site.
2. The existing road drainage system should be evaluated by the agency that controls the road system to evaluate potential impacts from debris flows, flooding, and landsliding that may be triggered by heavy winter rains.

#### References

Division of Mines and Geology, 2000, GIS data for the Geologic Map of California



## Appendix 1: Legend to Geologic Index Map, NightSky Fire

Qya	Young alluvial deposits	Unconsolidated sediments contained within major stream courses; of Holocene age.
M	Sedimentary rocks	Miocene aged sandstone, shale, and conglomerate, mostly well consolidated. Upper part of the Sespe Formation
Oc	Sedimentary rocks	Oligocene aged sandstone, shale, and conglomerate, moderately to well consolidated. Lower part of the Sespe Formation
Tv	Volcanic flow rocks	Tertiary aged volcanic flow rocks, includes the Conejo Volcanics

## Appendix 2

### California Geological Survey Burn Site Evaluation Summary Fire Name: Night Sky

Site Number	At-risk Feature	Street Address	GPS Location Datum: WGS84		Hazard	Likelihood	Risk to Lives		Risk to Property	
			Latitude	Longitude			Fire	Pre-existing	Fire	Pre-existing
NS 101	House		N34.2612	W118.8775	Debris Flow	High	High	Mod	High	Mod
NS 102	House		N34.2612	W118.8775	Debris Flow	High	High	Mod	High	Mod
NS 103	House		N34.2615	W118.8776	Debris Flow	High	High	Mod	High	Mod
NS 104	House		N34.2618	W118.8773	Debris Flow	Moderate	Mod	Low	Mod	Low
NS 105	House		N34.2618	W118.8773	Debris Flow	Moderate	Mod	Low	Mod	Low
NS 106	House		N34.2617	W118.8752	Debris Flow	High	High	Mod	High	Mod
NS 107	House		N34.2620	W118.8757	Debris Flow	High	High	Mod	High	Mod
NS 108	House		N34.2621	W118.8760	Debris Flow	Moderate	Mod	Low	Mod	Low

## Attachment #6

### Team 10 BAER Report

*Note: these reports are a compilation of comments and conclusions from members of each team as shown below.*

Fire Name: **Rosa**  
Month and Year: **November 2007**  
Located:

**1½ miles west of Temecula, Riverside County, CA., HUC 6<sup>th</sup>  
Watersheds-Santa Margarita River/Sandia Canyon & Lower  
Murrieta Creek, UTM 482776E-3705220N.**

Resource Specialty: **CAL FIRE Forestry**  
Author(s) Name and Home unit Name: **Richard Eliot, RPF  
Magalia Nursery, BTU**

**CAL FIRE Forestry  
Jeff Calvert, RPF  
Sacramento Headquarters**

**DF&G Wildlife  
Jeff Brandt, Environmental Scientist  
Inlands Desert Region**

### **Engineering**

**Army Corps of Engineers,**

**Van Crisostomo, P. E.  
Los Angeles District**

### Report

#### I. Potential Values at Risk (identified prior to the on-the-ground survey)

**Life and Property:** Early analysis of aerial views of the Rosa fire area via Google-Earth showed that homes were present within, adjacent and/or downstream of the reported burn boundaries. Our immediate concerns would be to determine if there was any threat to those homes downstream of the burned areas.

**Infrastructure:** Aerial views showed numerous roads and driveways within and adjacent to the burned area. From topography and vegetative type as well as past experience one could reasonably assume that there might be culverts and/or bridges present to access homes, building sites and orchards in the area. A determination of culvert integrity and capacity would be necessary within and/or downstream of the burn area.

**Vegetation/wildlife habitat:** Aerial views showed the area was mainly chaparral with some smaller areas with less than 40 acres, of hardwoods.

Hardwoods were mostly concentrated in or within close proximity to the riparian areas. Additionally, there were small orchards of unidentifiable species present. We assumed that these were probably avocados or oranges.

## II. Resource Condition Assessment

### A. Resource Setting

The Rosa Fire is composed of three small burns the first of which is located approximately 1½ miles west of Temecula, Riverside County, CA. The area has been developed into Residential/Agricultural parcels of approximately 5 acres or more. Large homes are perched throughout the area. Some of the parcels also contain Avocado and Orange groves. The groves range in age and development from those that include fairly large trees bearing fruit to groves that have only recently been planted with saplings. The areas natural vegetation ranges from riparian habitat in the lower portions of drainages, to hardwoods types in the lower uplands to chaparral of various densities. Topography is mainly ridges and valleys with steep to moderate slopes with narrow drainages. Soil types are generally a very sandy loam with low clay content.

Roads and driveways to homes are paved. Many of the roads have paved ditches approximately 1 foot deep. Roads to house pads are mostly unpaved with no drainages or erosion control features. Some parcels where only orchards are present have some roads paved. House pad and orchard development has exposed large areas of bare ground. Numerous crossings with culverts exist in the watercourses. Many of these culverts appear to be undersized, partially impacted from sediments and/or partially restricted from vegetative growth. Watercourses were dry at this time of year but are upper tributaries to the Santa Margarita River over a mile away.

### B. Findings of the On-The-Ground Survey

#### 1. Resource condition resulting from the fire

A combination of lack of dry fuel density and irrigated orchards resulted in only a low to moderate burn intensity with no significant soil chemistry alteration. The area did not appear to have heavy amounts of dead ground fuel before the fire. However, there was a layer of fine ash and fine burned matter that could be dislodged and transported downstream in a heavy precipitation event. The resultant “slurry” could have adverse impacts

#### 2. Consequences of the fire on values at risk

As stated above there was the potential for slurry to move down-slope in a heavy rain event with the potential to block culverts and cause degradation of watercourse. Except in the case where a landowner could become isolated due to his culvert blocking and the driveway washing away there did

not appear to be any potential for serious risk to life or property as a result of the fire.

Additionally, plastic culverts were used by one of the orchard operations within the burned areas both for road as well as orchard drainage. In the orchard it appears plastic culverts were connected down the natural watercourses and then the watercourses filled with dirt. Many of these culverts were melted in the fire and the drainages now have their overburden unsupported and thus deposited in the channel. This will flow downstream during periods of heavy precipitation and have a potential to block culverts, flood roads and cause degradation to downstream riparian habitat values.

Further, as found in the Archaeological report (Appendix #6) there were not arch sites identified, but during the on the ground inspection, an additional site needing treating was identified. This was a 100 ft. long tractor fire line heading east above a pond area located at the end of Called La Paz, which requires suppression repairs be completed. This line was not the control line but an abandoned line that was burned over.

## II. Emergency Determination – Describe the emergency to your resource caused by the fire.

In a heavy precipitation event, there is a high likelihood that culverts could be blocked resulting in fill failures and degradation to the watercourse, road damage and in some cases potential for isolation to landowners with driveways that cross drainages.

## III. Treatments to Mitigate the Emergency

### A. Treatment Type (including monitoring if applicable)

- Install silt fences or other site appropriate erosion control measures to control ash and sediment flow to stream and floodplain.
- Clean culverts and remove debris from stream and floodplain at burn area.
- Clean culverts and basins downstream of burn area to confluence with Santa Margarita River. (Note: we did not inspect all of these crossings and going beyond the immediate area of the fire incident may exceed the capabilities or scope of the intent of this report, but this concern has been noted here as potentially necessary by DF&G.)
- Monitor site through April, 2008.
- Seed burn area with native CA seed.
- Complete all Suppression Repairs prior to winter storms.

### B. Treatment Objective

Reduce potential for culvert failure

Reduce potential for degradation of riparian habitat values  
Protect existing roads and driveways.

#### C. Treatment Description

- Install silt fences or other site appropriate erosion control measures to control ash and sediment flow to stream and floodplain.
- Clean culverts and remove debris from stream and floodplain at burn area.
- Clean culverts and basins downstream of burn area to confluence with Santa Margarita River.
- Monitor site through April, 2008.
- Seed burn area with native California seed source.

#### D. Treatment Cost

IV. Discussion/Summary/Recommendations – Cost have not been determined, due to the teams not having the capabilities to determine all of these and the fact that suppression repairs should be covered by the incident. Through the process of identifying site, the McMillian Orchard – Landowner, Rosa Incident (951) 676-2045 was contacted and will be repairing site #4. Robert Hewitt – Agricultural Landowners Contacts, Rosa Incident, NRCS –Riverside (951) 654-7139 cell (951) 961-8131 will be working with other private landowners to repair this same site and sites 8&9 and Rob Holms or Keith Caddy – Roads, De Luz Community Service District, Rosa Incident (951) 296-3176, Rob 204, Keith 206 have already assessed all the roads within the fire area for repairs needed due to these falling under the districts control.

V. References – Document references used in your analysis: Refer to individual Appendices

VI. Appendices –

Appendix 1- **Wildlife Biologist Summary**

Appendix 2- **CGS Burn Evaluation Summary Sheet for Rosa Fire**

Appendix 3- **Soils Map**

Appendix 4- **Vegetation Map**

Appendix 5- **Photos**

Appendix 6 **Archaeological Report**

## Rosa Appendix #1

### Rosa Fire Temecula/Murrieta Area

For the Temecula USGS Quad Map, 35 sensitive species are listed in California Native Database (CNDDDB). Although direct impacts have occurred to the habitats supporting sensitive species in upland and upland/riparian transitional habitats, this report will focus on the species most at risk in riparian habitats. The recommendations are focused on minimizing impacts to the following species and their associated riparian habitats.

Amphibians--western spadefoot (*Spea hammondi*),

Fish--arroyo chub (*Gila orcuttii*)

Reptiles--southwestern pond turtle (*Actinemys marmorata pallida*), two-striped garter snake (*Thamnophis hammondi*)

Birds--black-crowned night heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*), western yellow-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus occidentalis*)

A complete list of sensitive species at risk in the downstream areas of the Santa Margarita River watershed is not the focus of this report. Please note: significant impacts to sensitive species are anticipated if no actions are taken to address the impending ash, sediment, and debris flows associated with the fires. If unchecked the ash, sediment and debris associated with the burn areas may have the following impacts to the downstream areas of the Santa Margarita watershed:

Alter water chemistry;  
Smother macro-invertebrates;  
Cover fish and amphibians breeding areas;  
Reduce macro-invertebrates as a food source for fish, amphibians, and birds;

Standard Comments to reduce impacts to sensitive species:

1. Install silt fences or other site appropriate erosion control measures to control ash and sediment flow to stream and floodplain.
2. Clean culverts and remove debris from stream and floodplain at burn area.
3. Clean culverts and basins downstream of burn area to confluence with Santa Margarita River.
4. Monitor site through April, 2008.
5. Seed burn area with native CA seed.

California Geological Survey Burn Site Evaluation Summary

Fire Name :Rosa Appendix #2

**Bold where risks are high**

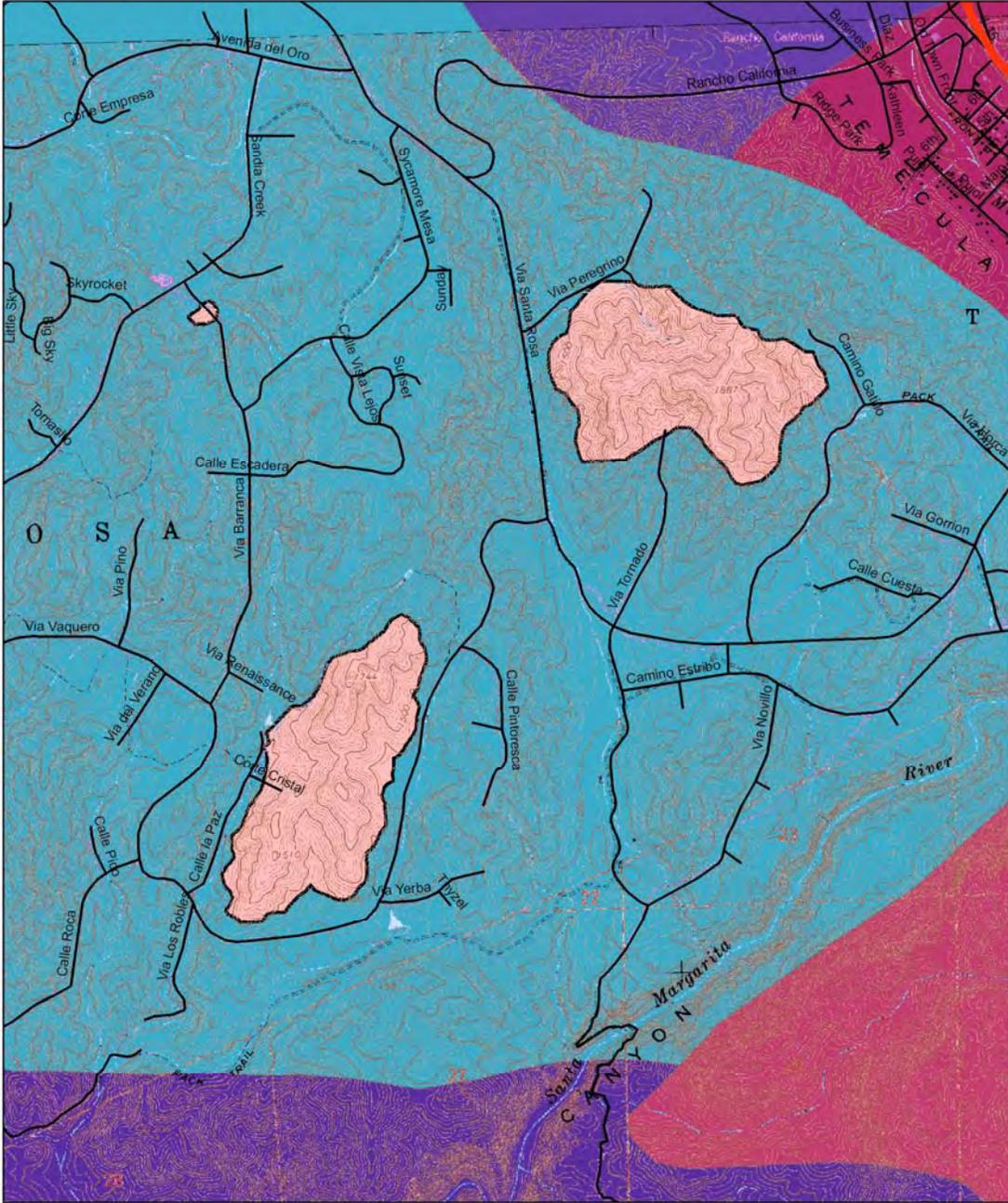
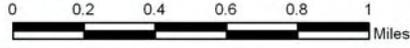
Site number	At-risk Feature	Street address	GPS location		Hazard	Likelihood	Risk to lives		Risk to property		Recommendations for Infrastructure and Safety	Recommendations for Habitat Restoration and Sensitive Species
			Latitude N	Longitude W			fire	pre-exist	fire	pre-exist		
1	culvert	Via Perrigrino off Via Santa Rosa. Light to moderate burn intensity. Hydrophobic test negative. See photos 1 to 3.	N33.48800	W117.1717	Sed-concentrated flood, debris torrent	low	low	low	low	low	Assign work crew to clear culvert and place erosion controls prior to rain	
2	drainage	small slide sloping towards drainage--in between sites 1 and 3. See photos 3 and 4			Possible 50 to 100 CY of soil could slide into drainage and work its way downstream	moderate	low	low	low	low	<b>Assign work crew to clean culverts downstream of slide area. Erosion control and hydroseeding at slide area.</b>	
3	36 inch CMP culvert	Via Torre off Via Perrigrino. Debris and ash in drainage. Light to moderate burn intensity. See photos 5 and 6.	N33.48808	W117.16806	Cut brush from fire fighting activities could be carried 500 feet downstream to cause culvert failure.	moderate	low	low	low	low	<b>Assign work crew to remove cut brush piles upstream of culverts.</b>	
4	culverts on Via Santa Rosa	Via Santa Rosa. Half-filled and under sized culverts will not carry storm flows. See photos 7 to 11 and realty flyer for property sale.			Flooding from undersized culverts.	low	low	low	low	low	Assign work crew to clear culverts and place erosion controls prior to rain. Clear culverts at 27810 Via Santa Rosa -- possibly increase to 3 barrels to carry flow.	
5	All culverts along Via Tornado	half filled and under sized culverts will not carry storm flows.			Flooding.	low	low	low	low	low	Assign work crew to clear culverts and place erosion controls prior to rain	

6	culverts on Via Torre, Via Peregrino, and Via Santa Rosa	half filled and under sized culverts will not carry storm flows. See photos 12-15.			Flooding.	low	low	low	low	low	Assign work crew to clear culverts and place erosion controls prior to rain	
7	Culverts on Via Vaquero Road	Existing culverts will not carry storm flows. See photo 16.	N33.46799	W117.18056	Flooding.	low	low	low	low	low	Assign work crew to clear culverts and place erosion controls prior to rain	
8	Privately owned culverts in avocado orchard	Stage Ranch. PVC culverts burned. Moderate to high burn intensity. Hydrophobic test negative. See photos 17-21.			Flooding since existing PVC drainage pipes on hillside burned.	low	low	low	low	low	Assign work crew to clear culverts and place erosion controls prior to rain	
9	Private culverts along Calle la Paz	60" culvert upstream of 36" culvert. Low to moderate burn intensity. Log pile at corner of Calle la Paz & Via Vaquero. See photos 22-27.			Flooding.						Assign work crew to clear culverts and place erosion controls prior to rain. Replace existing 36" culvert with larger or additional culverts. Clear log pile at corner of Calle la Paz & Via Vaquero.	Existing riparian vegetation, willows, oaks
10	Riparian area on Via Barranca	Burned riparian area. Mature trees 50' high scorched along roadside. See photos 28, 29.			Road hazard. Burned trees may fall on roadway.						Selected chopping. Some vegetative removal may be necessary.	Existing oaks, willows, sycamore.

**Legend**

- Highway
- Road
- Fire Perimeter

# Rosa Fire Soil Map



 Fire Perimeter

**PHYSIOGNOMIC\_ORDER**

 Group of no dominant life form and non-vegetated orders

 Herbaceous/non-vascular dominated order

 No dominant life form order

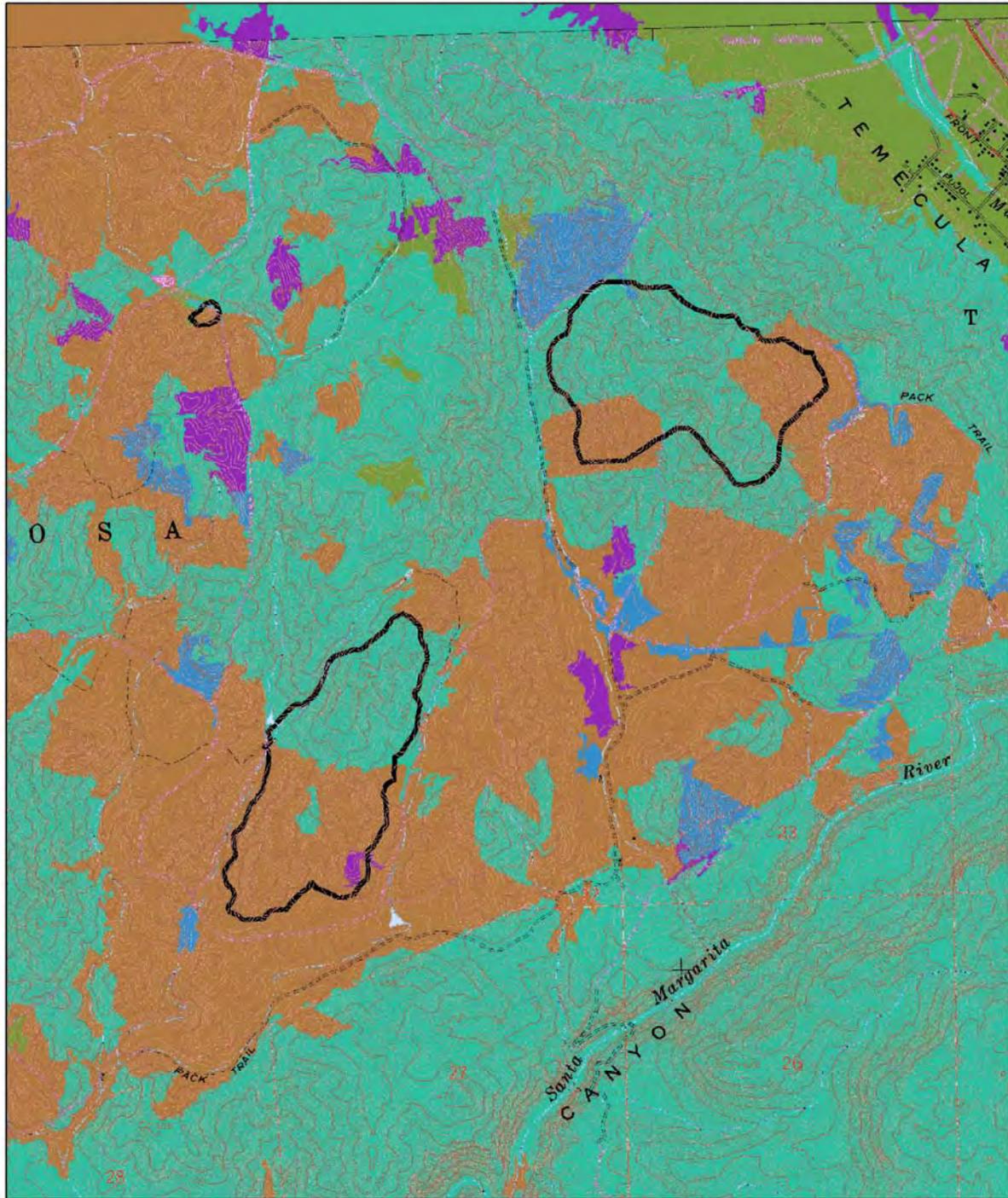
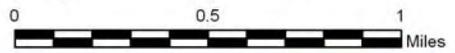
 Non-vegetated order

 Shrub dominated order

 Tree dominated order



**Rosa Fire Vegetation Map**



**Appendix #4 Vegetation**

## Rosa Appendix #5 Photos



Site 1 Rosa



Site 2 Rosa



Site 3 Rosa



Site 4 Rosa



Site 4 Rosa



Site 7 Rosa



Site 8 Rosa



Site 9 Rosa

## Rosa Appendix #6 Arch

### **Burned Area Emergency Report**

**Resources:** Cultural Resources

Technical Specialist Report

**Fire Name:** Rosa Fire, Riverside County: Approximate Size 411 acres

**Author Name:** Herb Dallas, Associate State Archeologist, Cal Fire

2249 Jamacha Rd. El Cajon, CA. 92019

Office Phone (619) 590-3113

#### A: Resource Setting.

The 411 acre Rosa Fire is in the foothills west of the City of Temecula. It is a modified landscape that now includes many orchards of avocado trees in a mixed chaparral, riparian community. There were 3 small segments of this fire. The first was off Via Santa Road and Via Tornado roads, west of I-15. The second segment was off of Via Vaquero rd. and Calle la Paz. The third tiny segment is off Via Barranca rd.

These areas are all located within Riverside County. It is State Responsibility Area (SRA). A records check was conducted at the Eastern Information Center at U.C. Riverside. Several small surveys had been conducted on these lands for purposes of private development. No sites had been found.

#### B. Survey methods:

These areas were spot checked only. I checked the areas of dozer lines. I attempted to locate the areas where three watercourse crossing points will be repaired. This will involve ground disturbing work. Further archeological field work will be required. No artifacts or sites were noted in the areas for dozer line suppression work. Exact locations for all the watercourse crossing could not be verified.

#### C: Observations/Findings

Erosion due to the fire is the single greatest threat to resources in this area. As no archeological resources have been found in this area, no specific recommendations are noted. In one area of segment 2 for this fire, dozer suppression line does require repair work and could lead to increased erosion. It is recommended that water bars be placed at periodic intervals in this area off of Calle La Paz.

#### D: Team Recommendations:

- 1) Hand crew to remove burned vegetation from a drainage. No ground disturbance anticipated. No archeological concerns.
- 2) Routine culvert maintenance in several areas with no ground disturbance. No archeological concerns.

- 3) Remove and replace melted plastic culverts at 3 watercourse crossing points. Will involve ground disturbance. Evaluation: archeological review and/or filed investigation recommended.

E: Specific Observations/recommendations

No specific recommendations other than the one review and field check for the culvert replacements, as no artifacts or sites were found in the Rosa fire areas.

Native American Affiliation: Luiseño.

References:

Site Records check on file at Cal Fire at 2249 Jamacha Rd., El Cajon, CA. 92019

Native American Heritage Commission, 915 Capitol Mall, Room 364,  
Sacramento, Ca .95814. Attn: Dave Singleton (916) 653-6251.

Burned Area Emergency Report

**Resources:** Cultural Resources

Technical Specialist Report

**Fire Name:** Sedgwick Fire, Santa Barbara County: Approximate Size 700 acres

**Author Name:** Herb Dallas, Associate State Archeologist, Cal Fire

2249 Jamacha Rd., EL Cajon., Ca. 92019

Office Phone: (619) 590-3113

**Note** These appendices contain confidential information regarding archeological site locations, so have been removed from public copies of this report in accordance with the policy of the Office of Historic Preservation as adopted by the State Historical Resources Commission under the authority of Public Resources Code 5020.4.

A: Resource Setting

The approximate 700 acre Sedgwick fire is located in Santa Barbara County off of Highway 154. All the area is in SRA land. A records check was conducted with S.C. Santa Barbara, but the results are not available at the writing of this report.

B; Survey methods

No survey was conducted.

C: Team recommendations

No BAER team recommendations. Approximately 6 miles of dozer line repair is needed. This might require and necessitate archeological concerns, but that is unknown at this time (11/10/07). Recommendations will be forwarded to the repair team in Santa Barbara.

D: Archeological Recommendations

As no BAER team work is planned, no recommendations are needed. Repair team recommendations will be forwarded to the team when archeological data is received. If archeological sites are found to be recorded within the dozer lines, a qualified archeologist will need to be part of the suppression repair team efforts.

Native American affiliation: Chumash.

## **Burned Area Emergency Report**

**Resources:** Cultural Resources

Technical Specialist Report

**Fire Name:** Rosa Fire, Riverside County: Approximate Size 411 acres

**Author Name:** Herb Dallas, Associate State Archeologist, Cal Fire

2249 Jamacha Rd. El Cajon, CA. 92019

Office Phone (619) 590-3113

### A: Resource Setting.

The 411 acre Rosa Fire is in the foothills west of the City of Temecula. It is a modified landscape that now includes many orchards of avocado trees in a mixed chaparral, riparian community. There were 3 small segments of this fire. The first was off Via Santa Road and Via Tornado roads, west of I-15. The second segment was off of Via Vaquero rd. and Calle la Paz. The third tiny segment is off Via Barranca rd.

These areas are all located within Riverside County. It is State Responsibility Area (SRA). A records check was conducted at the Eastern Information Center at U.C. Riverside. Several small surveys had been conducted on these lands for purposes of private development. No sites had been found.

### B. Survey methods:

These areas were spot checked only. I checked the areas of dozer lines. I attempted to locate the areas where three watercourse crossing points will be repaired. This will involve ground disturbing work. Further archeological field work will be required. No artifacts or sites were noted in the areas for dozer line suppression work. Exact locations for all the watercourse crossing could not be verified.

### C: Observations/Findings

Erosion due to the fire is the single greatest threat to resources in this area. As no archeological resources have been found in this area, no specific recommendations are noted. In one area of segment 2 for this fire, dozer suppression line does require repair work and could lead to increased erosion. It is recommended that water bars be placed at periodic intervals in this area off of Calle La Paz.

### D: Team Recommendations:

- 4) Hand crew to remove burned vegetation from a drainage. No ground disturbance anticipated. No archeological concerns.
- 5) Routine culvert maintenance in several areas with no ground disturbance. No archeological concerns.
- 6) Remove and replace melted plastic culverts at 3 watercourse crossing points. Will involve ground disturbance. Evaluation: archeological review and/or filed investigation recommended.

E: Specific Observations/recommendations

No specific recommendations other than the one review and field check for the culvert replacements, as no artifacts or sites were found in the Rosa fire areas.

Native American Affiliation: Luiseño.

References:

Site Records check on file at Cal Fire at 2249 Jamacha Rd., El Cajon, CA. 92019

Native American Heritage Commission, 915 Capitol Mall, Room 364, Sacramento, Ca .95814. Attn: Dave Singleton (916) 653-6251.

Burned Area Emergency Report

**Resources:** Cultural Resources

Technical Specialist Report

**Fire Name:** Sedgwick Fire, Santa Barbara County: Approximate Size 700 acres

**Author Name:** Herb Dallas, Associate State Archeologist, Cal Fire

2249 Jamacha Rd., EL Cajon., Ca. 92019

Office Phone: (619) 590-3113

A: Resource Setting

The approximate 700 acre Sedgwick fire is located in Santa Barbara County off of Highway 154. All the area is in SRA land. A records check was conducted with S.C. Santa Barbara, but the results are not available at the writing of this report.

B; Survey methods

No survey was conducted.

C: Team recommendations

No BAER team recommendations. Approximately 6 miles of dozer line repair is needed. This might require and necessitate archeological concerns, but that is unknown at this time (11/10/07). Recommendations will be forwarded to the repair team in Santa Barbara.

D: Archeological Recommendations

As no BAER team work is planned, no recommendations are needed. Repair team recommendations will be forwarded to the team when archeological data is received. If archeological sites are found to be recorded within the dozer lines, a qualified archeologist will need to be part of the suppression repair team efforts.

Native American affiliation: Chumash.

## Attachment #7

### Team 10 BAER Report

*Note: these reports are a compilation of comments and conclusions from members of each team as shown below.*

Fire Name: **Roca**  
Month and Year: **November 2007**  
Located:

**Mostly due north of the intersection of Highway 79 and 371 approximately 18 miles east of Temecula, Riverside County, CA., HUC 6<sup>th</sup> Watersheds- Temecula Creek/Long Canyon & Tule Creek, UTM512160E-3700636N.**

Resource Specialty: **CAL FIRE Forestry**  
Author(s) Name and Home unit Name: **Richard Eliot, RPF**  
**Magalia Nursery, BTU**

**CAL FIRE Forestry**  
**Jeff Calvert, RPF**  
**Sacramento Headquarters**

**DF&G Wildlife**  
**Jeff Brandt, Environmental Scientist**  
**Inlands Desert Region**

**Army Corps of Engineers,**

### **Engineering**

**Van Crisostomo, P. E.**  
**Los Angeles District**

### Report

#### I. Potential Values at Risk (identified prior to the on-the-ground survey)

**Life and Property:** Early analysis of aerial views of the Roca fire area via Google-Earth showed that homes were present within, adjacent and/or downstream of the reported burn boundaries. Our immediate concerns would be to determine if there was any threat to those homes downstream of the burned areas.

**Infrastructure:** Aerial views showed numerous roads and driveways within and adjacent to the burned area. From topography and vegetative type as well as past experience one could reasonably assume that there might be culverts and/or bridges present to access homes, building sites and agriculture in the area. A determination of culvert integrity and capacity would be necessary within and/or downstream of the burn area.

**Vegetation/wildlife habitat:** Aerial views showed the area was mainly very sparse chaparral with some smaller areas, less than 5 acres, of hardwoods.

Hardwoods were mostly concentrated in or within close proximity to a perennial riparian area in the south east portion of the burned area.

## II. Resource Condition Assessment

### A. Resource Setting

The Roca Fire is composed of small burn of approximately 270 acres adjacent and mostly due north of the intersection of Highway 79 and 371 approximately 18 miles east of Temecula, Riverside County, CA. The area has a few small homes in the area as well as what appears to be a whole sale nursery. The area's natural vegetation is composed mostly of very light densities of chaparral with much of the eastern area of the burn being mostly rocky hillsides. There is a small natural wetland in the southeastern portion of the burn. Topography is mainly hills and gentle slopes with fairly wide drainages to the east and moderately drainages of 20 to 30 feet in the west. Soil types are generally a very sandy loam with low clay content.

Roads and driveways to homes are mostly natural dirt, although a newer development for RVs exists in the west out of the burn area that has some paved roads. There are only a few crossings with culverts. The watercourse drains toward Temecula Creek less than a mile away.

### B. Findings of the On-The-Ground Survey

#### 1. Resource condition resulting from the fire

A lack of dry fuel density resulted in only a low burn intensity with no significant soil chemistry alteration in all but the upper portion of the riparian area.

Due to substantial fuel in that area the burn severity would be termed moderate with some evidence of hydrophobic soils. However this area is so flat that there is little likelihood of significant soil movement and there is already re-sprouting of vegetation evident. In the western portion of the burned area where slopes are steeper there has been some areas of soil deposited in the main stem of the drainage from "dozers" building fire lines.

#### 2. Consequences of the fire on values at risk

Soil deposited in the drainage could block the channel downstream and cause flooding to one home located immediately adjacent to the drainage. There is a fence across the drainage to the east of the home that is contributing to the problem.

## II. Emergency Determination – Describe the emergency to your resource caused by the fire.

In a heavy precipitation event, there is a likelihood the drainage could fill with sediment at the fence, breach the natural banks and flood around the west side of the home.

### III. Treatments to Mitigate the Emergency

#### A. Treatment Type (including monitoring if applicable)

- Clean culverts and remove debris from stream and floodplain at the confluence of Tule Creek and SR 79 at Temecula Creek.
- Monitor the burn site through April, 2008.
- Assign a Suppression Repair team to the trailer park at the western edge of the fire to restore flow capacity to the drainage adjacent to a residence.

#### B. Treatment Objective

Protect existing roads and driveways.

#### C. Treatment Description

- Clean culverts and remove debris from stream and floodplain at the confluence of Tule Creek and SR 79 at Temecula Creek
- Monitor the burn site through April, 2008.
- Assign a Suppression Repair team to the trailer park at the western edge of the fire to restore flow capacity to the drainage adjacent to a residence.

#### D. Treatment Cost

IV. Discussion/Summary/Recommendations – Discuss or summarize as desired.  
These were not determined due to the only Recommended Repairs being those involving Suppression Repairs

V. References – Document references used in your analysis: Refer to individual Appendices.

#### VI. Appendices –

- Appendix 1- **Wildlife Biologist Summary**
- Appendix 2- **CGS Burn Evaluation Summary Sheet for Roca Fire**
- Appendix 3 **Soil Map**
- Appendix 4 **Vegetation Map**
- Appendix 5 **Photos**
- Appendix 6 **Archaeological Report**

## Appendix #1 Wildlife

### Roca Fire Aguanga Area

For the Aguanga USGS Quad Map, 31 sensitive species are listed in California Native Database (CNDDDB). Although direct impacts have occurred to the habitats supporting sensitive species in upland and upland/riparian transitional habitats, this report will focus on the species most at risk in riparian habitats. The recommendations are focused on minimizing impacts to the following species and their associated riparian habitats.

Amphibians--Arroyo Toad, (*Bufo californicus*) not yet updated in CNDDDB reported by Caltrans bio-staff downstream of burn area.

Reptiles--southwestern pond turtle (*Actinemys marmorata pallida*) not yet updated in CNDDDB reported by Caltrans bio-staff downstream of burn area.

Birds—least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*), yellow warbler (*Dendroica petechia brewsteri*), summer tanager (*Piranga rubra*)

A complete list of sensitive species at risk in the downstream areas of Temecula Creek and the Santa Margarita River watershed is not the focus of this report. Please note: other than the temporal loss on the habitat areas already burned, impacts to sensitive species due to ash/debris flows are not anticipated at this burn area.

Recommendations to reduce the impacts of the fire include:

1. Clean culverts and remove debris from stream and floodplain at the confluence of Tule Creek and SR 79 at Temecula Creek, and monitor the burn site through April, 2008.
2. Assign a Suppression Repair team to the trailer park at the western edge of the fire to restore flow capacity to the drainage adjacent to a residence.

California Geological Survey Burn Site Evaluation Summary

Fire Name : Roca Appendix #2

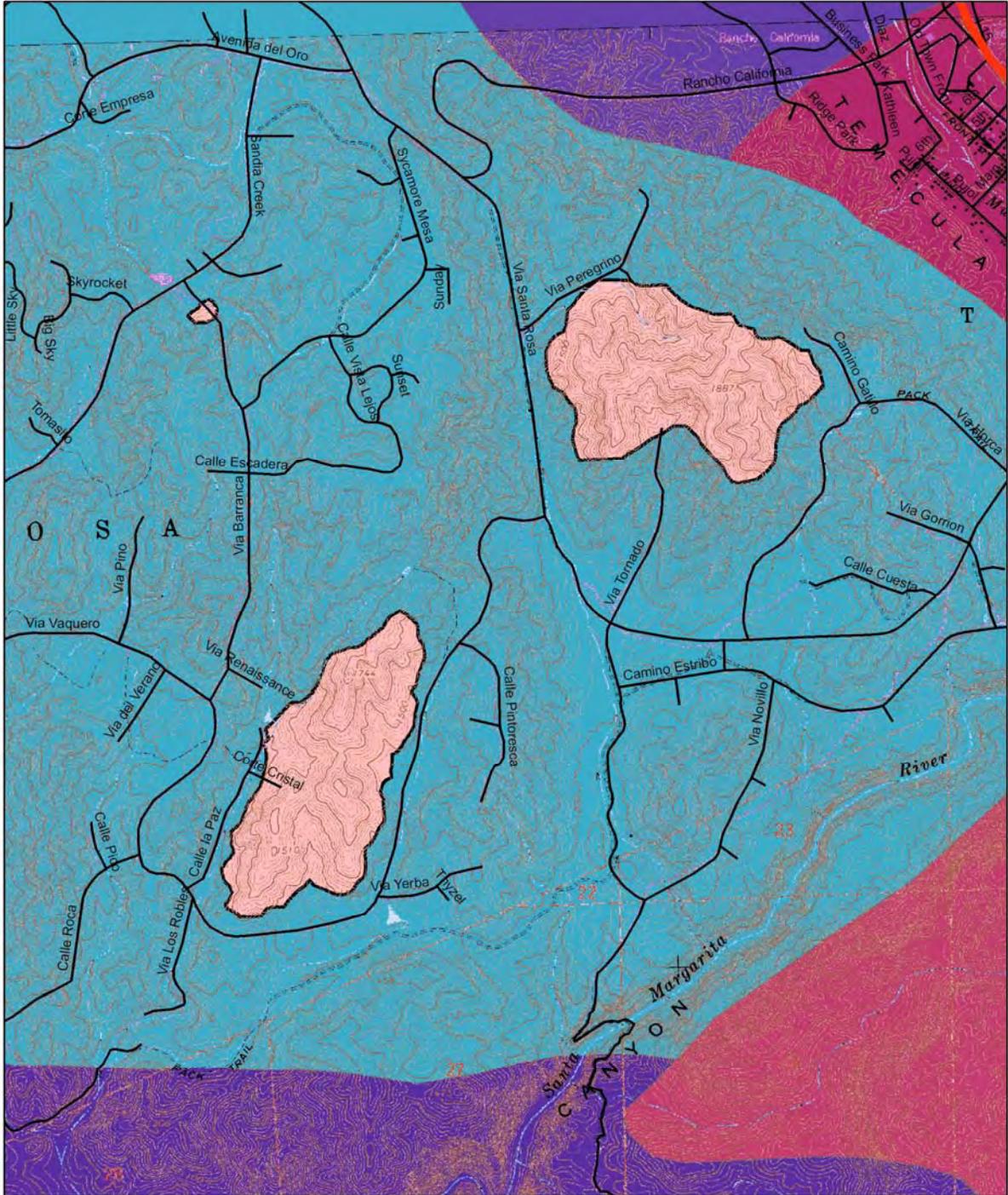
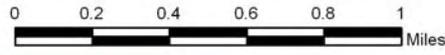
**Bold where risks are high**

Site number	At-risk Feature	Street address	GPS location		Hazard	Likelihood	Risk to lives		Risk to property		Recommendations for Infrastructure and Safety	Recommendations for Habitat Restoration and Sensitive Species
			Latitude N	Longitude W			fire	pre-exist	fire	pre-exist		
1	drainage	Light burn intensity. See photos 30-33.			Flooding.	low	low	low	low	low	Assign work crew to clear culvert and place erosion controls prior to rain	
2	drainage	Tule Creek riparian area. Moderate burn intensity. Hydrophobic testing -- 2.5" to 3" mildly hydrophobic. See photos 34 to 47.										
3	archeological site	Tule Creek riparian area. Moderate burn intensity. See photos 48 to 65.										
4	trailer home	Highway 79. See photos 66-69.	N33.44680	W116.86917	Flooding due to potential debris blockage of existing drainage ditch.	moderate	moderate	moderate	moderate	moderate	Suppression repair to remove debris placed in drainage ditch. Remove fence in ditch.	

**Legend**

- Highway
- Road
- Fire Perimeter

# Rosa Fire Soil Map



**Appendix #3 Soils**

Fire Perimeter

PHYSIOGNOMIC\_ORDER

Group of no dominant life form and non-vegetated orders

Herbaceous/non-vascular dominated order

No dominant life form order

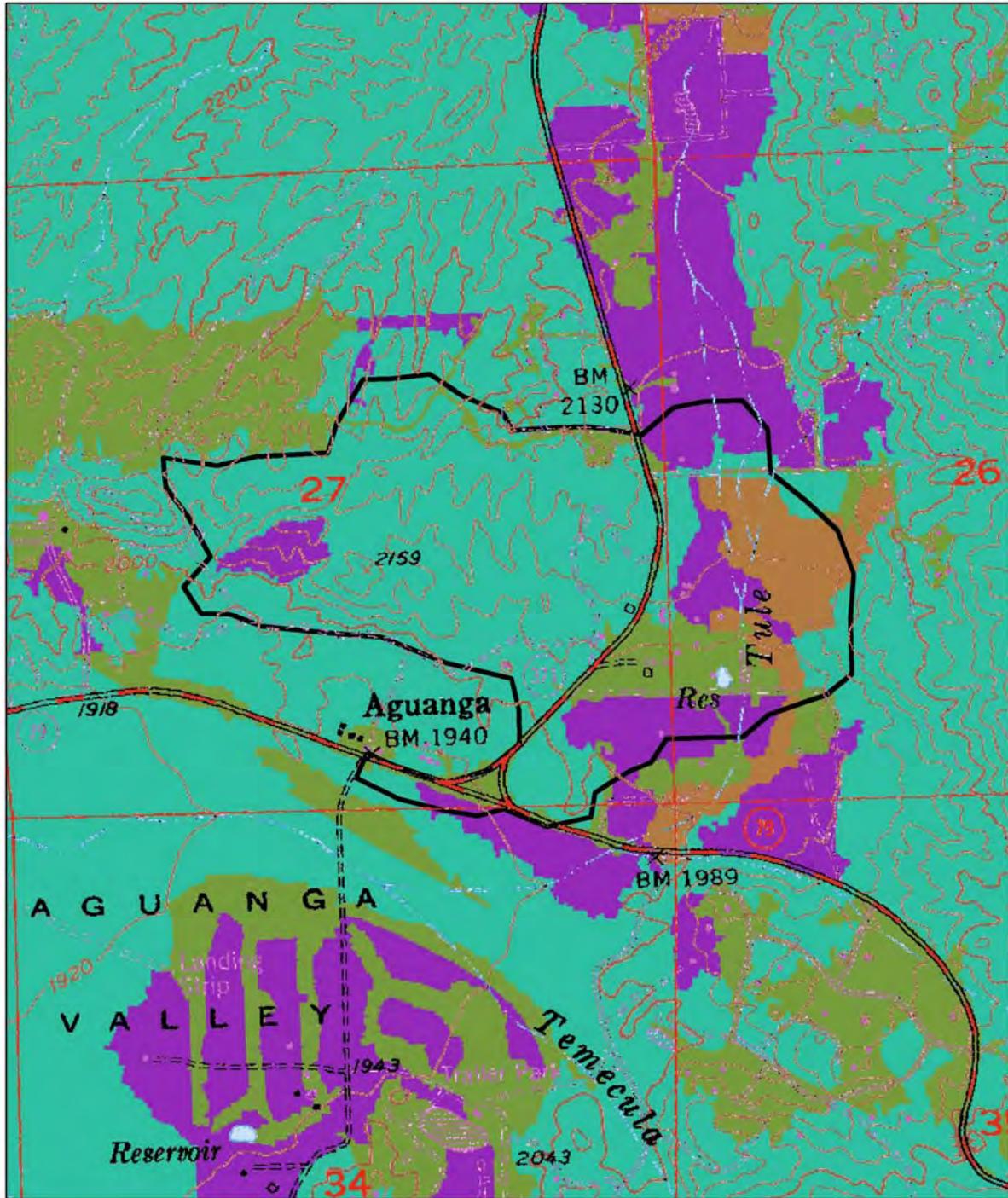
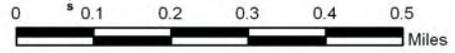
Non-vegetated order

Shrub dominated order

Tree dominated order



Roca Fire Vegetation Map



Appendix #4 Vegetation

## Roca Appendix #5 Photos



Tractor Fire Line in Steam above Residence at Risk



Residence at Risk



Stream Leading to Residence



Stream Hitting Fence Line at Residence

Burned Area Emergency Report

**Resources:** Cultural Resources

Technical Specialist Report

**Fire Name:** Sedgwick Fire, Santa Barbara County: Approximate Size 700 acres

**Author Name:** Herb Dallas, Associate State Archeologist, Cal Fire

2249 Jamacha Rd., EL Cajon., Ca. 92019

Office Phone: (619) 590-3113

A: Resource Setting

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B; Survey methods

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C: Team recommendations

No BAER team recommendations. Approximately 6 miles of dozer line repair is needed. This might require and necessitate archeological concerns, but that is unknown at this time (11/10/07). Recommendations will be forwarded to the repair team in Santa Barbara.

D: Archeological Recommendations

As no BAER team work is planned, no recommendations are needed. Repair team recommendations will be forwarded to the team when archeological data is received. If archeological sites are found to be recorded within the dozer lines, a qualified archeologist will need to be part of the suppression repair team efforts.

Native American affiliation: Chumash.

## **Attachment #8**

On 11/6/07 BAER Team 10, Group C ( Magdalena Rodriguez, Andrea Lobato and Alex Alimohammadi, Mike Rosan) inspected the Coronado Hills Fire located at N30degrees06.689; W117degrees09.300, HUC 6<sup>th</sup> Watershed-Escondido Creek. The burn area appeared to be approximately 40 acres in size and was characterized by low to moderate burn severity. Coronado Hills is a subdivision with scattered houses on steep to moderately steep slopes vegetated by dense chaparral species. The team conducted a thorough inspection of the area. Several unaffected houses were located inside the burn area, but there did not appear to be any structures at risk from potential flooding, slope failure, debris flows, etc.

Review by Tom Splitter CGS Senior Engineering Geologist:

The observations included in this email from Mike Rosan indicate that an engineering geologic field review is not necessary. Thomas E. Spittler, Senior Engineering Geologist, California Geological Survey

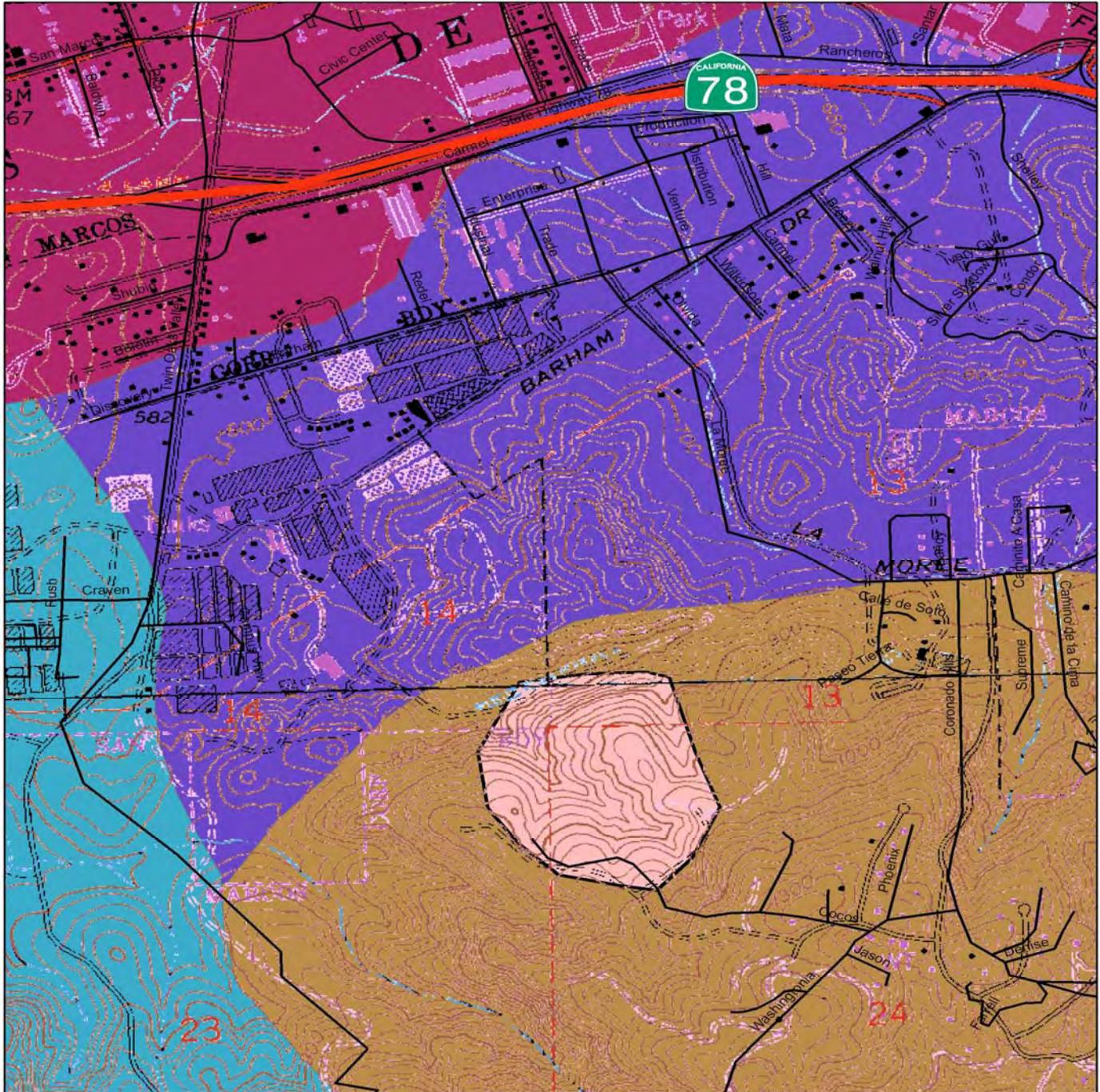
Appendix #1 **Soils Map**

Appendix #2 **Vegetation Map**

**Legend**

- Highway
- Road
- Fire Perimeter

# Coronado Hills Fire Soil Map



**Appendix #1 Soils**

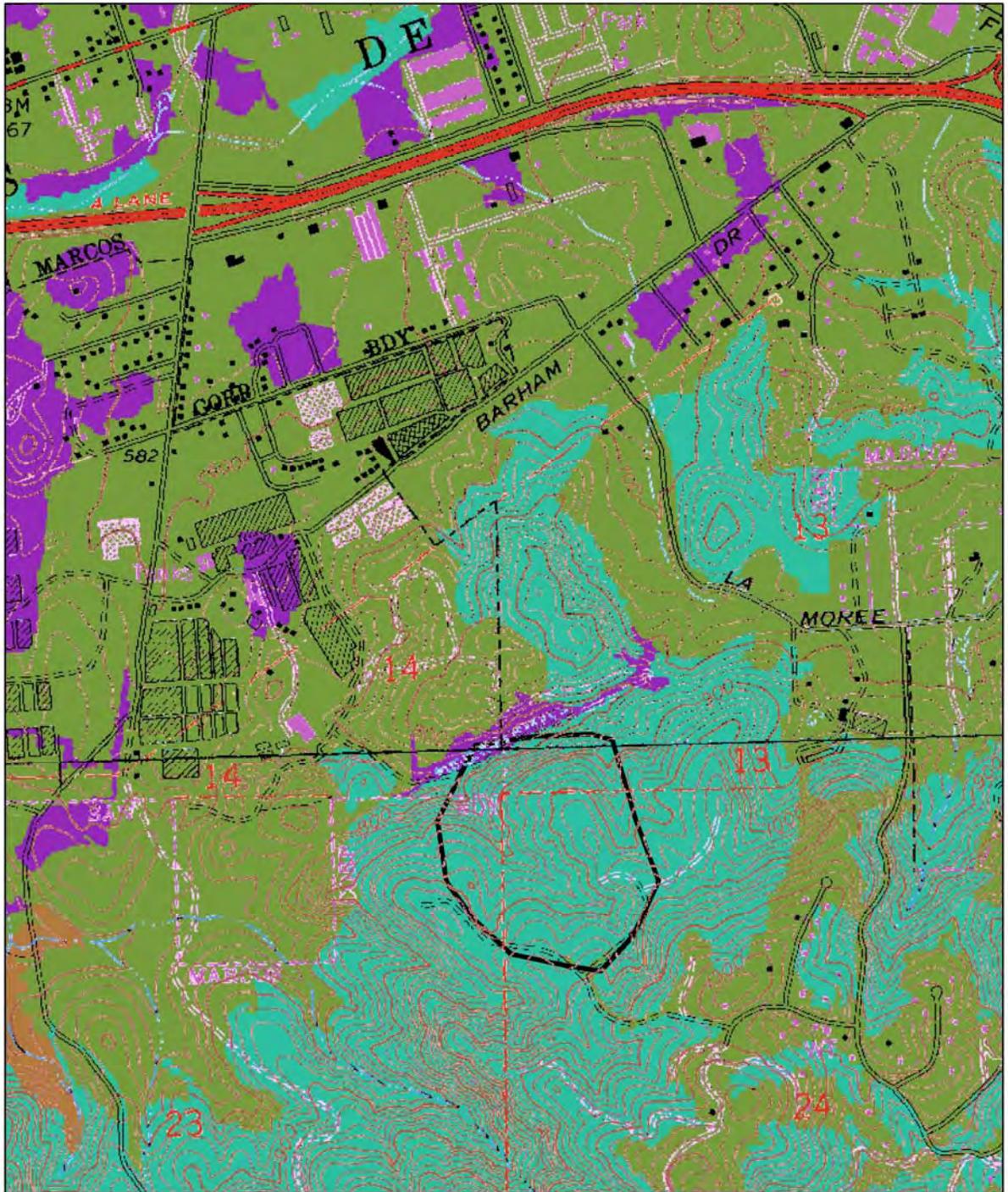
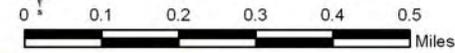
 Fire Perimeter

**PHYSIOGNOMIC\_ORDER**

-  Group of no dominant life form and non-vegetated orders
-  Herbaceous/non-vascular dominated order

-  No dominant life form order
-  Non-vegetated order
-  Shrub dominated order
-  Tree dominated order

**Coronado Hills Fire Vegetation Map**



**Appendix #2 Vegetation**

## **Attachment #9**

On 11/7/07 BAER Team 10, Group C (Magdalena Rodriguez, Andrea Lobato and Alex Alimohammadi, Mike Rosan) inspected the Walker Fire located at N34degrees00.108; W117degrees36.908, HUC 6<sup>th</sup> Watershed-Lower Chino Creek. Area was characterized by agricultural lands consisting mainly of dairy farms located on flat topography. The fire started in a large manure pile located at the Kellog Manure Plant. High winds spread the flames to two nearby hay barns located on an adjacent property (California Dairies) and from there to a nearby hay stack. According to the landowner, several tons of hay, two hay barns and 100 dairy cows were lost as a result of the fire. Fire also spread to a nearby pasture but did not damage any structures or create any potential risk from flooding, slope failure, debris flows, etc.

Review by Tom Splitter CGS Senior Engineering Geologist:

The observations included in this email from Mike Rosan indicate that an engineering geologic field review is not necessary. Thomas E. Spittler, Senior Engineering Geologist, California Geological Survey.

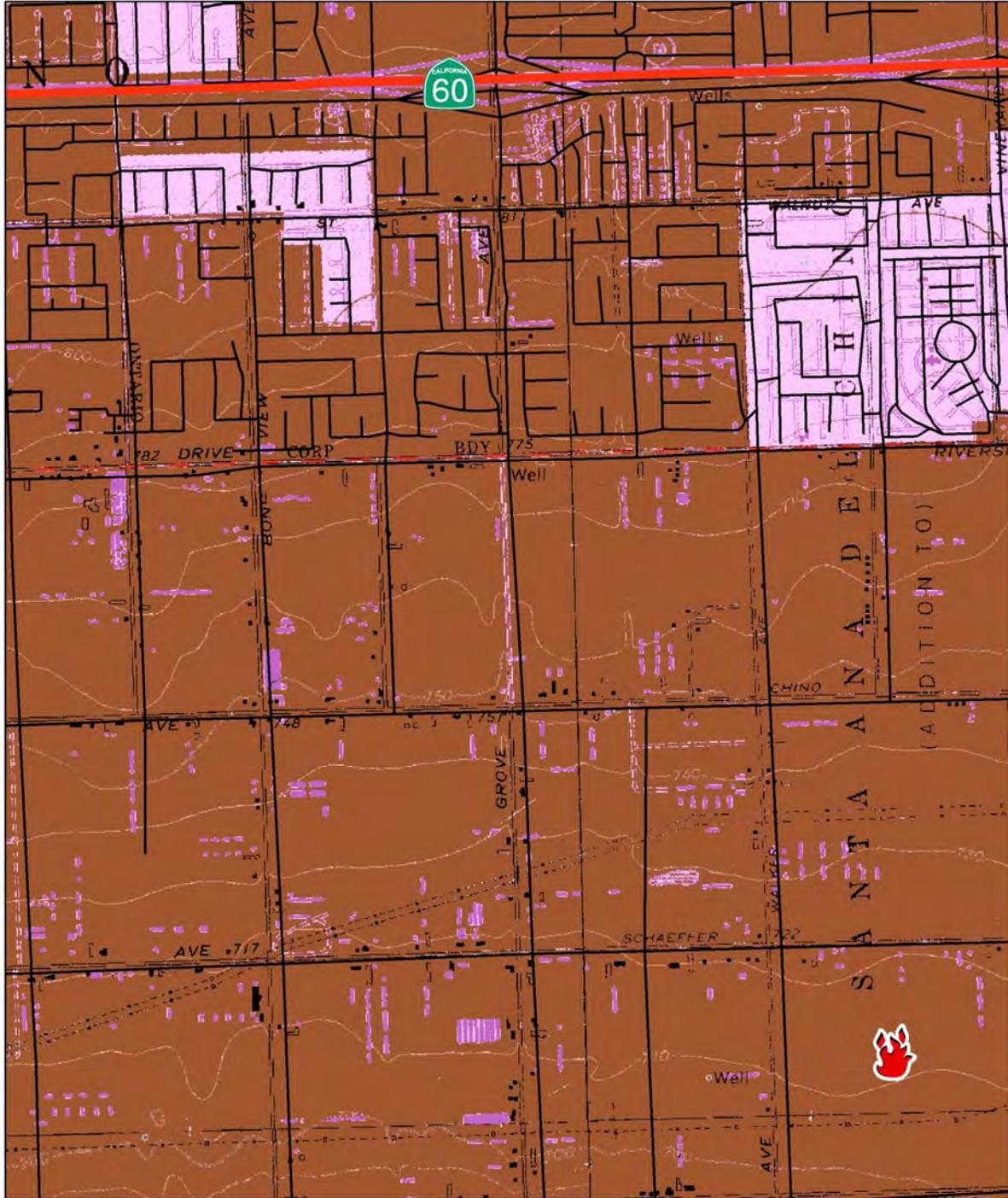
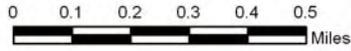
Appendix #1 **Soils Map**

Appendix #2 **Vegetation Map**

**Legend**

- Highway
- Road
- Fire Location

# Walker Fire Soil Map



**Appendix #1 Soils**



Fire Location

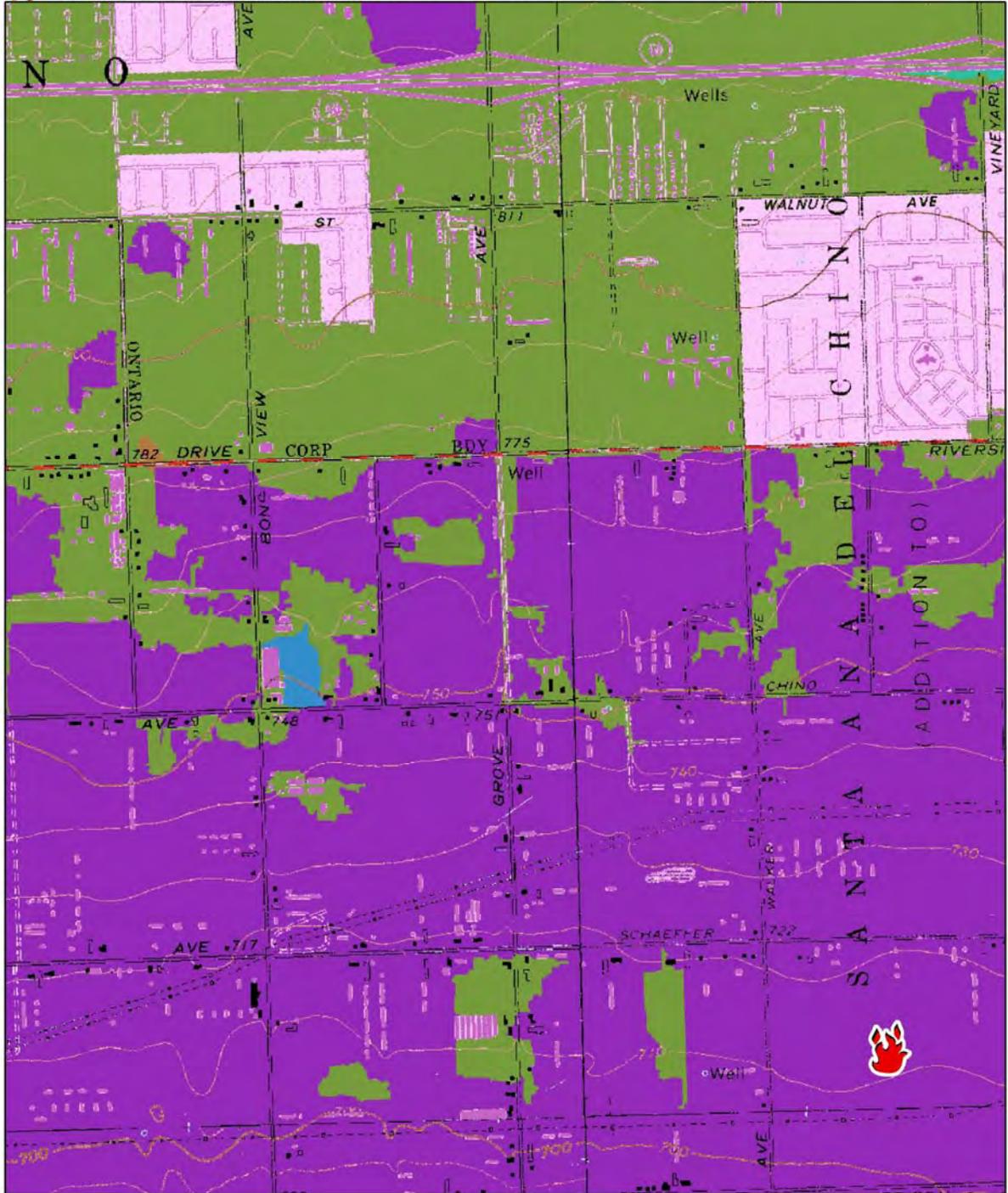
PHYSIOGNOMIC\_ORDER

Group of no dominant life form and non-vegetated orders

- Herbaceous/non-vascular dominated order
- No dominant life form order
- Non-vegetated order
- Shrub dominated order
- Tree dominated order



### Walker Fire Vegetation Map



## Appendix #2 Vegetation