



## Memo

**To:** Mr. Konrad Thaler  
Manager, Smilin Dogs/Wagly Inc.  
251 Old County Road  
San Carlos, California 94070

**Project No.:** 16061

**From:** Taylor Peterson

**Date:** January 30, 2017

**SUBJECT: Update to January 12, 2016 Biological Evaluation, Smilin Dogs Hiking Operation, Pescadero, California**

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Smilin Dogs, a licensed dog daycare business, leases a portion of the subject property for a dog hiking service. San Mateo County is currently processing a permit application, including California Environmental Quality Act documentation for the project. MIG|TRA Environmental Sciences (MIG) previously prepared a biological evaluation for the project (January 12, 2016). In response to the IS/MND, the County received a letter from the California Coastal Commission recommending that the property be resurveyed during a wet year to verify the extent of habitat for the California red-legged frog (CRF) and the San Francisco garter snake (SFGS), since the prior survey was completed during a dry year, and to verify that no additional mitigation measures are recommended.

I visited the project site on January 25, 2017, after higher than normal precipitation for the current rainy season, and within the breeding period of CRF (November-March). Both ponds were full, and it was anticipated that breeding activity would be observable. In addition to hiking the site, I walked the perimeter of each pond and examined vegetation at the edge, where egg masses would be attached, and made observations regarding species present. I detected chorus frogs, but did not observe any larger frogs or find any egg masses. While the upper pond was dry during the initial site visit, it was full during this site visit, and the perimeter of the pond remains inside the fence that prevents dogs from entering the pond.

The habitat assessment and findings regarding potential impacts to CRF and SFGS provided in the January 2016 biological evaluation are still accurate, and no additional mitigation measures are recommended at this time. The ponds are currently fenced from both dog and cattle use, and the fences appeared to be maintained. The biological resources evaluation recommends that the fences continue to be maintained to prevent dog access to the ponds.

Please see the attached photographs of the pond conditions on January 25, 2017. I have also attached my resume for your reference.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if there are any questions. I can be reached at (650) 400-5767.



Upper Pond January 25, 2017



Lower Pond January 25, 2017

# Taylor Peterson

DIRECTOR OF BIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

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## AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Biology / Endangered Species / Wetlands  
Habitat Conservation / Permits / CEQA / NEPA

## QUALIFICATIONS

Since joining in 1980, Taylor Peterson has applied her technical expertise to assess the impacts of a wide range of projects including storm water management, trails, sanitary landfills, materials recovery and transfer stations, quarries, commercial or housing development, wastewater treatment plant expansion, water well development, habitat conservation plans and high-voltage transmission line alignments.

Ms. Peterson is currently the Director of Biological Analysis at MIG | TRA and oversees the work of several biologists. She provides technical expertise, quality control, and guidance on a variety of work products, including constraints analyses, biological assessments, wetland delineations, Initial Studies, EAs, EIRs/EISs, mitigation monitoring plans, natural environment studies, revegetation plans and applications for US Army Corps of Engineers, California Department of Fish and Game, California Coastal Commission and Regional Water Quality Control Board permits.

Ms. Peterson has a background in biology and has been a long-time observer of California's natural history. She is experienced in plant and animal identification, vegetation mapping, wetland delineation, and in survey methods for several endangered species. She has worked on projects in sensitive habitats such as vernal pools, serpentine grassland, bay wetlands and riparian zones.

## REGISTRATIONS/CERTIFICATIONS

- Wetland Training Institute Wetland Delineation Certificate

## EDUCATION

- Bachelor of Arts, Human Biology, Stanford University

## RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Oversight of all work products associated with:

- Storm Drain Repair and Replacement Biological Resources Reports and CEQA Documentation, *Hillsborough, California*
- Byxbee Park Interim Park Plan Coordination and Burrowing Owl Management Plan, *Palo Alto, California*
- Routine Storm Channel Maintenance JARPA, permits, monitoring, *San Carlos, California*
- Palo Alto Landfill Phase IIC Final Closure Plan Initial Study, *Palo Alto, California*
- Highway 1 Bridge Over San Pedro Creek Replacement Technical Documents and Permits, including USACE, USFWS, NOAA Fisheries, CDFW, RWQCB, Caltrans *Pacifica, California*
- Carnegie State Vehicle Recreation Area Corral Hollow Wetlands Delineation Project, *Livermore and Tracy, California*
- Hacienda Deep Gulch Mercury Remediation Project Biological Assessment (Steelhead and California Red-Legged Frog) and Wetland Delineation, *Santa Clara County, California*
- Biological services at the Kirby Canyon Landfill, including wetland mitigation monitoring, California red-legged frog monitoring, projects under the Kirby Canyon Bay *Checkerspot Butterfly Trust. Morgan Hill, California*
- Assisted with rare plant surveys and wetland delineation on *the Eastern Kern Acquisition Project in the northwestern Mojave Desert (Jawbone Recreation Area)*