

Amy Ow

From: Camille Leung
Sent: Tuesday, September 24, 2019 1:54 PM
To: Amy Ow
Subject: FW: Highland Estates Lot 9

From: Kristen Outten [mailto:koutten@swca.com]
Sent: Tuesday, September 24, 2019 1:51 PM
To: Jessica Henderson-McBean <JHenderson-McBean@swca.com>; Camille Leung <cleung@smcgov.org>
Subject: RE: Highland Estates Lot 9

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Hey Jessie (and Camille),

See Tay's email below. Can you take a look at the woodrat middens tomorrow and let me know what you think? If they do appear inactive, I think it would be a good time of year to dismantle and relocate. MM BIO-a states: "If woodrats are observed within the disturbance footprint outside of the breeding period, individuals shall be relocated to a suitable location within the open space by a qualified biologist in possession of a scientific collecting permit. This will be accomplished by dismantling woodrat nests (outside of the breeding period), to allow individuals to relocate to suitable habitat within the adjacent open space."

I know the breeding period is a bit ambiguous for woodrats, but the literature generally states February to July (although some sources suggest it extends as long as December to September). Anyway, I think relocating the middens right now would be in compliance with the MMRP and COA. Let me know what you think.

Thanks,
Kristen

From: Taylor Peterson <tpeterson@migcom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 24, 2019 1:27 PM
To: Kristen Outten <koutten@swca.com>
Subject: Highland Estates Lot 9

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Hi Kristen,

I understand that you will be inspecting Lot 9 at Highland Estates tomorrow. I have been observing the woodrat houses that are under the oaks on the west side of the lot. They don't seem to be in active use for nesting; no fresh leaf cuttings, no obvious latrine, no new packrat style decorations, no tail slapping when I step nearby or imitate the sound. If they are not active I think the conditions of approval would allow us to move these houses. I would propose to either dismantle and move them just a few feet, to be clearly out of the grading area but still provide cover for a wandering woodrat, or to move the materials to the open space easement to get them entirely away from potential incidental

construction damage. I would appreciate it if you/SWCA could evaluate them when you are on site and see what you think of these ideas.

Thanks,
Tay

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