

sent out to Jimmy
1/23/14



February 11, 2014

BIOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

For: Stewart Abercrombie, Landowner
2125 Refugio Road Goleta, Ca. 93117

By: Vince Semonsen, Wildlife Biologist

Re: Proposed Barn on the Abercrombie Property

Introduction

On January 23, 2014 I surveyed the location of a proposed barn on Mr. Stewart Abercrombie's property. The property is located at 2125 Refugio Road, approximately 12 miles up the coast from Goleta, CA. The barn site is located near the top of the Tajiguas Creek drainage, 3.6 miles away from and 1,315 feet above the ocean. The survey was conducted in the morning hours under sunny skies, warm temperatures and a slight breeze. Mr. Abercrombie is proposing to build a 36 by 24 foot barn within a cleared and fairly level area on his property. No grading will be required and no trees will be removed during the construction effort.



Figure 1. Site location

1810 Sunset Avenue
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
Cell 805•452•8085

Existing Conditions

The proposed barn location is within a nearly level, cleared portion of the property, an access road currently exists to the site – see photo #1.

Photo #1

Oak woodlands and coastal sage scrub are the two main habitat types around the proposed barn site. Coast live oaks surround the barn site and they are the predominant tree in the area with the exception of a large eucalyptus grove to the east of barn site near the main residence. Mr. Abercrombie stated that no trees will be removed during the construction effort. This was confirmed during the site evaluation.



The coastal sage scrub includes a variety of common shrubs such as toyon, chamise, black sage, hollyleaf cherry and several species of ceanothus. A very small area of this coastal sage scrub vegetation will be removed for installation of the barn.



The property sits within the upper watershed of Tajiguas creek with the existing stream channel located within the eucalyptus grove approximately 550 feet east of the barn site. The channel can be seen in the adjacent photograph (photo #2); it is an extremely steep ephemeral drainage that according to Mr. Abercrombie only carries water during storm events. The channel is lined with fairly large rock and there were no pools or riparian vegetation within the examined portion of the creek.

Mr. Abercrombie also described a spring located within the eucalyptus grove, about 30 feet from the stream channel. The spring supported a small pond estimated to be 5 feet in diameter and several feet deep. Upon approaching the pond a number of adult California red-legged frogs (*Rana draytonii*) were observed jumping into the water.

Photo #2. Tajiguas Creek on the Abercrombie property

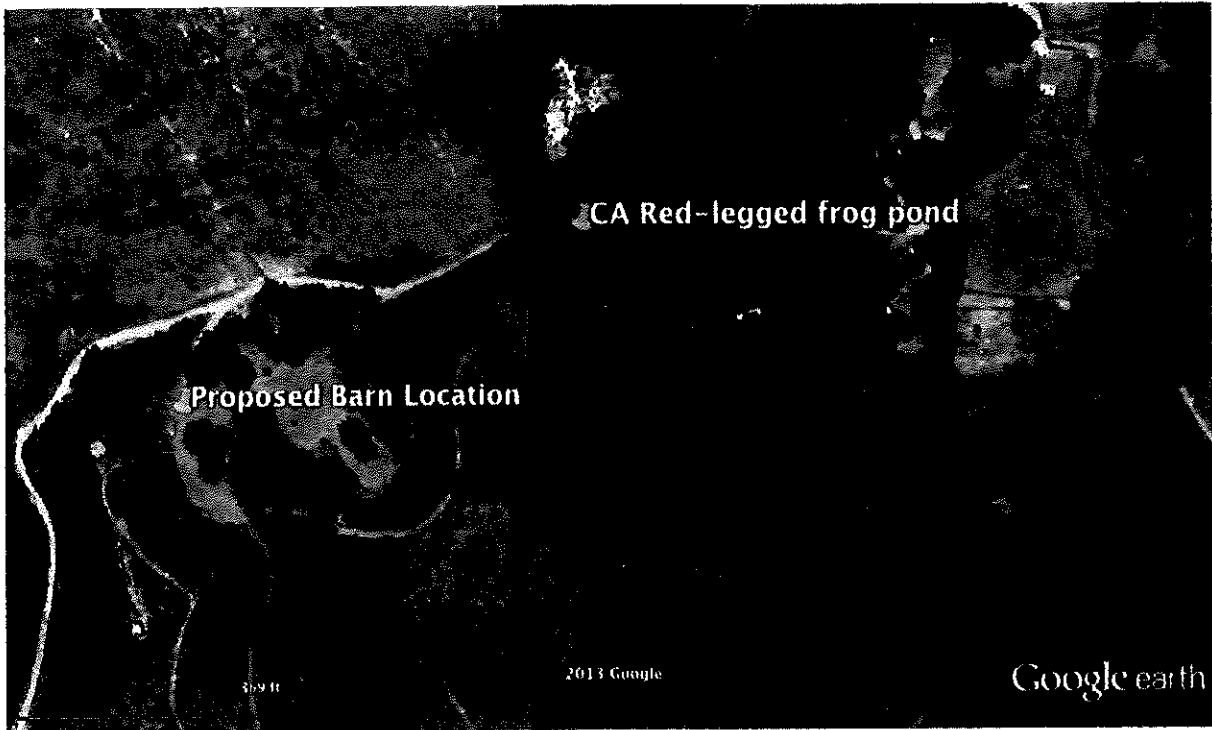


Figure 2. Google earth image showing the barn site and the approximate location of the spring.