

*Proposal to Prepare*

# Oster (Las Pilitas Quarry) Conditional Use Permit and Reclamation Plan Project Environmental Impact Report



*Submitted to:*  
San Luis Obispo County  
Department of Planning and Building

*Submitted by:*  
Rincon Consultants, Inc.

May 20, 2011



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May 20, 2011  
Proposal Number 11-68140

John Nall, Principal Environmental Specialist  
Department of Planning and Building  
976 Osos Street, Suite 300  
San Luis Obispo, California 93408-2040

**Subject: Proposal to Prepare the Oster (Las Pilitas Quarry) Conditional Use Permit and Reclamation Plan Project Environmental Impact Report**

Dear Mr. Nall:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. is pleased to submit this proposal to prepare the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the **Oster (Las Pilitas Quarry) Conditional Use Permit and Reclamation Plan Project**. We recognize the importance of this project and have carefully tailored our project team and work program to address this project's unique characteristics. We have assembled a team of highly skilled environmental sciences, planning, and engineering professionals with considerable experience with municipal environmental review of mining projects to conduct a CEQA analysis that will serve County decision-makers. We are confident that you will find our team highly qualified in all of the technical and planning issues that are required for this project.

Rincon Consultants is especially qualified to perform this assignment and brings a proven track record in executing similar studies for projects with a high level of public review and involvement. Rincon's approach is to provide independent, well-reasoned technical evidence to support impact determinations and use the CEQA process as a forum for a meaningful discussion regarding project impacts, with a focus on reasonable and objective solutions to environmental issues. Rincon's management team for this assignment, consisting of Michael Giaketsis, as principal-in-charge, Richard Daulton as project manager, and Rob Mullane as assistant project manager, have successfully completed numerous EIRs and other environmental studies for mining and industrial projects, as well as projects in rural settings in the County of San Luis Obispo. For this assignment, the Rincon team will apply our extensive experience addressing the environmental issues typically associated with such projects, including impacts related to aesthetics, air quality, noise, biological resources, exposure to geologic and operational hazards, and water quality and supply. We are also thoroughly familiar with the County Land Use Ordinance land use and environmental review standards. This experience will allow us to efficiently focus the EIR on the issues most likely to be of concern to the community and decision-makers.

To augment our in-house resources, we have assembled a team of experts with substantial experience with technical issues related to mining projects and operations. Hawks & Associates to conduct the EIR hydrology, water quality, and water supply analyses, Cotton, Shires and Associates, Inc., to peer review the existing geotechnical study and blasting plan, Wood Rodgers, Inc. to peer review the traffic study and sight distance evaluation prepared for the project, and Robert Carr to conduct the aesthetics analysis, including preparation of visual simulations for the project. Each of these firms has substantial experience conducting technical environmental analysis in support of municipal review of mining projects. With our team's wealth of experience on mining projects and development projects in rural settings of San Luis Obispo County, we believe Rincon Consultants is uniquely positioned to provide excellent results to the County. This same expertise enables the



Rincon team to objectively and efficiently analyze the extensive technical information that has already been generated in support of the project.

The project will be managed by Richard Daulton, MURP, Principal and Operations Manager of our San Luis Obispo office, ensuring close coordination with County staff. Our problem-solving approach to the CEQA process will focus on fulfilling legal requirements and serving as a useful planning tool for both decision makers and the community.

We welcome the opportunity to work with County staff and the community, and look forward to discussing this proposal with you further. If you have questions, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,  
RINCON CONSULTANTS, INC.

Richard Daulton, MURP  
Principal-in-Charge

Michael P. Gialketsis  
President

Proposal to Prepare

**Oster (Las Pilitas Quarry)  
Conditional Use Permit and Reclamation Plan  
Environmental Impact Report**

**County of San Luis Obispo**

Table of Contents

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	Page
Cover Letter	
1.0 Introduction .....	1
1.1 Rincon Consultants, Inc. ....	2
1.2 General Approach/Study Methodology .....	4
2.0 Team Personnel and qualifications.....	4
2.1 Project Team.....	4
2.2 Project Experience .....	10
3.0 Coordination.....	16
4.0 Scope of Work.....	18
4.1 Study Approach .....	18
4.2 Technical Approach to Environmental Issues .....	22
5.0 Cost and Schedule.....	37
5.1 Fee Estimate .....	37
5.2 Schedule and Deliverables.....	37
6.0 References .....	40
7.0 Certification of Objectivity.....	40

*Attachments:*

Cost Estimate

*Appendices:*

Resumes

Fee Schedule



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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

Rincon Consultants, Inc. is pleased to submit this proposal to the County of San Luis Obispo to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Oster (Las Pilitas Quarry) Conditional Use Permit (CUP) and Reclamation Plan Project. It is our understanding that the project is a request by Las Pilitas Resources LLC for a Conditional Use Permit/ Development Plan and Reclamation Plan to allow for an aggregate quarry, and asphalt and concrete recycling facility. The applicant is requesting a 30-year timeframe for the mining operation and eventual reclamation of the site, with a maximum annual extraction of 500,000 tons. The project would result in the disturbance of approximately 60 acres on two parcels totaling approximately 203 acres in size.

The project consists of two phases, the first of which would occur over a period of 5 years. This first phase would include installation of a truck scale, portable office, access road construction and landscaping. Aggregate material production would be initiated with the removal and stockpile of overburden for future reclamation use, and excavating, processing and stockpiling of decomposed granite (DG) and granite rock. This first phase of extraction would occur towards the center of the site, extending towards the north and northeast. Portable crushing and screening equipment would be used to process excavated material. This phase is estimated to yield up to 500,000 tons of material annually and last approximately 5 years. The second, follow-up phase would consist of continued excavation, processing and stockpiling of DG and granitic rock at the same annual rate. In addition, this stage of operations would include the recycling of concrete and asphalt. Rock and recycled material would be processed by portable and/or fixed plant equipment. Reclamation would begin in this phase as the upper benches of the mine are excavated and established.

The proposed mining operation would commence with clearing of vegetation and topsoil overburden from the area of excavation for later use. The aggregate material would be removed by a wheel loader, hydraulic excavator and/or bulldozer for sorting by size and stockpiled for sale. Material would be loaded by a front end loader for the smaller material while large rocks would be loaded with a hydraulic excavator. Trucks would proceed to a scale for weighing and ticketing before leaving the site. It is anticipated that 80% of truck trips would travel between the site and Highway 101 via SR 58. In the event that the source material becomes too consolidated to be ripped by heavy equipment, the aggregate material will be loosened by blasting. Blasting activities would include drilling into the source material and adding explosives into the holes for detonation.

Asphalt and concrete debris from construction sites would be brought to the site for recycling. Material would be inspected and scaled, then dumped in appropriate stockpiles for processing. The material would be processed by the same portable crushing and screening equipment that is used in the processing of the mined materials. The recycled material would be stockpiled for public sale and reused.

Reclamation of the site would consist of slope preparation and revegetation. As the mining of designated areas is completed and operations have moved on from one bench to the next, the



slope of the completed areas will be contoured as appropriate for continued future use as ranching and grazing land.

Based on public input received to date, it is our understanding that the public has requested that the EIR include comprehensive discussions of impacts associated with project operations, including noise, safety, and air quality impacts from blasting, rock crushing, and on-site equipment, and traffic, noise, air quality, and safety impacts associated with vehicle trips generated by the project, especially truck trips on narrow and curving Highway 58 roadway segments, and through the community of Santa Margarita. Other community concerns include project impacts on biological resources and water quality, water supply, visual impacts, and cumulative impacts with respect to other mines and development on the Santa Margarita Ranch property. We have carefully tailored our scope of work to address these concerns.

We have assembled a team that brings together expertise in CEQA and each of the environmental technical areas necessary to provide an impartial third-party technical review of existing documentation, develop an independent analysis of the proposed project, and thoroughly address all project-related issues.

Rincon's in-house expertise in aesthetics, agricultural resources, air quality, biology, geology, hazardous materials, noise, and land use planning make us well-suited to expertly manage this assignment for the County. Rincon's principal-in-charge Michael Gialketsis, and project manager, Richard Daulton, MURP, have extensive experience conducting environmental analysis of aggregate projects, as well as projects in rural portions of San Luis Obispo County. We propose to use the same project manager that successfully completed the Santa Margarita Ranch Agricultural Cluster Subdivision EIR, and is currently completing the Shandon Community Plan EIR. In addition, we have supplemented our in-house expertise with the following subconsultants:

- **Hawks & Associates** - Hydrology, Water Quality, and Water Supply
- **Cotton, Shires and Associates** - Geotechnical and Blasting Plan Review
- **Robert Carr** - Aesthetics
- **Wood Rodgers** - Transportation/Circulation

The following sections of this proposal describe our personnel and management qualifications; firm qualifications; our proposed methodology for each issue area; and our proposed cost and schedule. We believe that you will find the Rincon approach highly effective in addressing the County's requirements and the specific needs of this project.

Rincon Consultants maintains the professional capacity to satisfactorily complete the tasks described in the Request for Proposals (RFP) scope of work (Section 2).

## **1.1 RINCON CONSULTANTS, INC.**

Rincon Consultants is a multi-disciplinary environmental sciences, planning, and engineering consulting firm that provides quality professional services to government and industry. Our highly trained professionals have many years of experience in urban, land use, and



environmental planning; regulatory compliance; biological resource evaluation and habitat enhancement; soil evaluation and remediation; and related studies including problem-solving services in geology, hydrology, and waste management. Our approach to projects is focused on well-designed solutions that respond to our clients' specific needs in a cost-effective manner.

Rincon was established in 1994 and has grown to a firm of over 55 professionals located in four offices throughout California (San Luis Obispo, Ventura, Carlsbad, and Monterey). Our staff has extensive formal training and on the job experience related to project management skills. These skills, coupled with our technical knowledge, allow us to meet the budgetary and scheduling constraints inherent to each project. We take pride in our profession, our work products, and ensuring that each client is satisfied with the selection of Rincon to serve their environmental consulting needs.

During Rincon's 16-year history, we have received multiple awards for excellence from environmental planning industry organizations, including the American Planning Association and the Association of Environmental Professionals. Our financial strength was recognized in 2004 and again in 2009 by ZwiegWhite, when the nationally recognized A/E/P industry tracking group named us to its Hot 100 Firm list, recognizing revenue growth over time. In both 2007 and 2009, Rincon was named to the Inc. 5000 list of the fastest growing companies nationwide. Most recently, Rincon was recognized when our report, the City of Calabasas 2030 General Plan, received the Compass Blueprint Achievement for Visionary Planning for Sustainability from the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG). Rincon has also achieved an A+ rating through Southern California Gas Company's "report card" system.

Rincon Consultants provides land use and environmental planning services that we have categorized into four core areas: Environmental Planning, Biological Resources Assessment and Regulatory Compliance, Environmental Site Assessment and Remediation, and Sustainability Services. We also have a GIS and Graphics group to enhance our documents and support our data analyses for projects addressing issues in the three aforementioned areas of expertise. The following is a summary of the services that Rincon provides:

- *CEQA Compliance (EIRs, Initial Studies, Mitigation Programs);*
- *NEPA Compliance (Environmental Assessments, EISs);*
- *General Plans and Elements;*
- *Geological and Seismic studies;*
- *Biological Resource Services (Rare and Endangered Species surveys, Wetland Delineations, Renegotiation);*
- *Climate Action Planning and GHG Verification Services;*
- *Sustainability Consulting and LEED Assessment;*
- *Regional Transportation Planning;*
- *Alternative Transportation and Trails Planning (Equestrian/Pedestrian/Bicycle planning);*
- *Phase I and II Environmental Site Assessments;*
- *Hazardous Waste characterization and remediation;*
- *Construction and Mitigation Monitoring;*
- *Specific Plans, Site Planning, Community Design; and*
- *Regulatory Compliance as it pertains to these areas of expertise.*



## **1.2 GENERAL APPROACH/STUDY METHODOLOGY**

Rincon employs a creative and problem-solving approach to the CEQA process. Rincon proposes to use highly qualified professionals to evaluate on-site conditions and review technical information that is currently available for the project area. By assigning highly qualified professionals who are skilled at isolating relevant issues and preparing clear, concise analyses, we will quickly focus the analysis on issues of concern relative to the EIR.

Our general approach is to closely coordinate with County staff during EIR preparation and to integrate steps into the process that minimize repetition and promote the efficient use of staff time, particularly during internal review. The specific tasks to achieve this are fully described in *4.0 Scope of Work* starting on page 16.

## **2.0 TEAM PERSONNEL AND EXPERIENCE**

Rincon has assembled a team of highly qualified professionals who are knowledgeable of environmental issues and regulatory compliance needs in San Luis Obispo County. Rincon will manage this EIR and will be responsible for successful completion of all work assignments. Most of these assignments will be completed in-house, as Rincon has a diverse set of expertise among our staff including municipal and environmental planners, biologists, registered geologists, paleontologists, and environmental assessors. We also have an outstanding support staff, including GIS specialists, graphics staff, and production assistants.

We have also supplemented our team with Hawks & Associates, led by William O'Brien, PE, to conduct the EIR hydrology, water quality, and water supply analyses, Cotton, Shires and Associates, Inc., led by Michael Phipps, PG, CEG, to peer review the existing geotechnical study and blasting plan, Wood Rodgers, Inc., led by Ravi Narayanan, to peer review the traffic study and sight distance evaluation prepared for the project, and Robert Carr to conduct the aesthetics analysis, including preparation of visual simulations for the project. Brief descriptions of our proposed team follow and the chart on the following page depicts the roles of each staff member. Relevant project experience can be found on page 10.

### **2.1 PROJECT TEAM**

**Michael P. Gialketsis**, Principal and Senior Environmental Planner with Rincon Consultants, Inc. will be the Principal in Charge for this project. In this capacity Mike will manage the contract, provide technical review, and direct preparation of the EIR. Mike has over 28 years of experience as a project manager and environmental analyst for CEQA and NEPA projects. Mike has a strong multidisciplinary background and has been responsible for preparation of several hundred environmental studies within southern California. Mike has been involved in the preparation of many CEQA analyses in the tri-counties area including, the Diani Asphalt Facility EIR, Sully Miller Asphalt Facility EIR, and Ventura County Rock Conditional Use Permit IS/MND projects for the City of Santa Paula. He also has extensive experience directing and preparing EIRs for the County of Santa Barbara, including most recently the San Marcos Golf Course SEIR in the Santa Ynez Valley. Other relevant experience included oversight of the



Chevron Estero Marine Terminal CDP/DP EIR, which involved a comprehensive remediation project (excavation) in the Coastal Zone adjacent to a sensitive creek habitat in San Luis Obispo County.

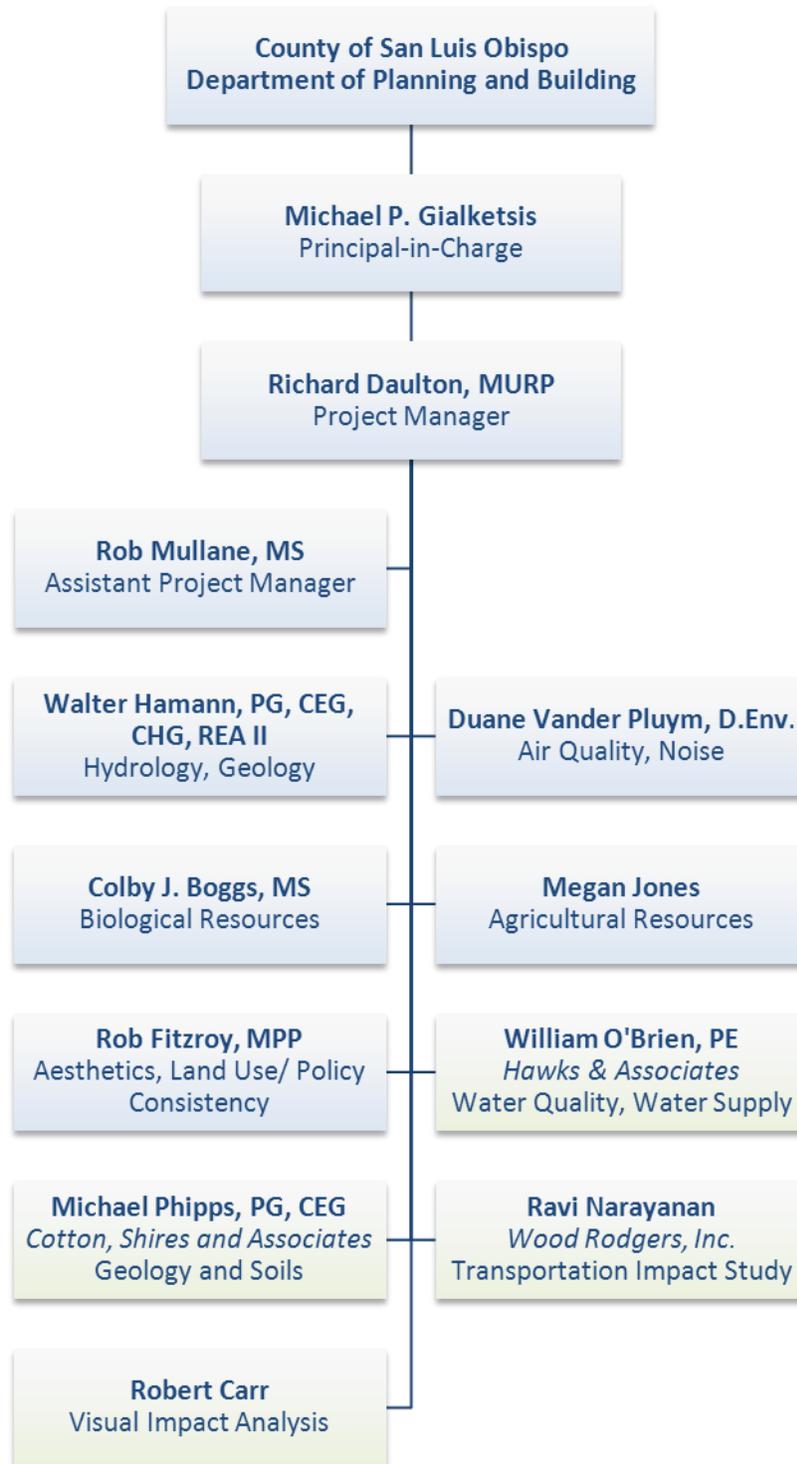
**Richard Daulton, MURP**, Principal and Operations Manager of Rincon's San Luis Obispo office, will serve as the Project Manager for this project. Richard has over 15 years of experience preparing CEQA and NEPA environmental documents for projects located throughout California. He is currently overseeing preparation of the Granite Construction Mining and Processing Facility SEIR for the County of Santa Barbara. He has successfully managed a number of complex and controversial projects for the County, including the Santa Margarita Ranch Agricultural Residential Cluster Subdivision EIR, Biddle Ranch Agricultural Residential Cluster Subdivision EIR, and Paso Robles Agricultural Residential Cluster Subdivision EIR. His is currently managing preparation of the Shandon Community Plan Update EIR for the County. He also recently collaborated with the County to prepare impact sections and peer review the County's Agricultural Cluster Subdivision Ordinance EIR. He has managed EIRs for other high-profile projects and programs on the Central Coast, including the Dalidio/San Luis Marketplace Annexation and Development Project EIR for the City of San Luis Obispo, the Union Valley Parkway Extension EIR/EA for the City of Santa Maria, and the Lompoc General Plan Update and EIR for the City of Lompoc. He is currently the program manager for on-call planning and environmental services contracts with the Cities of Buellton Grover Beach, Guadalupe, and Lompoc.

**Rob Mullane, MS**, a Senior Environmental Planner in Rincon's San Luis Obispo office, will serve as the Assistant Project Manager for this project and will assist with the visual resources analysis. Rob has over 14 years of experience in planning, municipal services, and environmental impact analyses for public and private development projects. Rob's academic training is in geology and geophysics, which provides an excellent understanding of mining processes and its effects on the environment. Rob has managed several CEQA and NEPA projects in the Central Coast area. He is currently managing preparation of an EIR for the Granite Construction Gardner Ranch Mining and Processing Facility for the County of Santa Barbara. He has also managed the Santa Barbara County Housing Element Focused Rezone Program EIR, the Santa Ynez Valley Community Plan EIR, the Santa Barbara County New County Jail EIR, and the Peck/Foothill Tract Specific Plan and EIR for the City of Santa Paula. Rob manages the firm's contract planning services line, and has served as the contract City Planner for Rincon's full-service contract planning services to the City of Guadalupe since 2007.

**Walter Hamann, PG, CEG, CHG, REA II**, Principal and Senior Engineering Geologist will conduct investigations of hydrology, drainage, water quality, and geology issues. As a California Certified Engineering Geologist, Walt has prepared numerous geological and water resources studies, and has provided expert review of third-party reports. Walt is also a California Certified Hydrogeologist and is knowledgeable of soil and ground water issues throughout the San Luis Obispo area. In addition to his experience as an engineering geologist, Walt is a recognized expert in the area of hazards assessment. He has completed over 400 site investigations in coastal California and has served as an expert witness on numerous environmental site characterization and remediation studies in southern California. He a Professional Geologist (#4742), Certified Engineering Geologist (#1635), Certified



### Team Organization Chart



Hydrogeologist (#208) and Registered Environmental Assessor II (#20063) with the State of California. Through this experience he has overseen numerous water quality sampling and reporting programs administered by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board.



**Duane Vander Pluym, D. Env.**, Principal and Senior Environmental Scientist will oversee the air quality and noise analysis for the EIR. Duane has nearly 30 years of environmental consulting experience, during which time he has conducted numerous environmental studies for public agencies and private clients. Duane's project experience includes a wide range of technical and environmental studies for plans, specific development plans, major planned residential communities, commercial and industrial facilities, energy and pipeline projects, and infrastructure projects. His areas of technical expertise include noise, air quality, aesthetics, biology, ecosystem analysis, hydrology, water quality, and public services. He is familiar with CEQA and NEPA regulations, California Coastal Act regulations, state and federal Endangered Species Acts requirements, Army Corps of Engineers 404 jurisdictional wetlands analysis, California Fish and Game regulations, and the preparation and implementation of compliance documents under the Federal Endangered Species Act Sections 7 and 10, and the California Fish and Game Code Section 2080, et. seq. and programmatic permitting under Clean Water Act Sections 404 and 401, and Fish and Game Code Section 1600, et. seq. He has also served as an expert witness, providing court testimony with respect to biological issues.

**Colby J. Boggs** serves as a Senior Plant Ecologist and Biological Program Manager in Rincon's San Luis Obispo office and will oversee the biological impact evaluation for the project. Colby has over ten years of experience in environmental consulting with an emphasis on plant taxonomy, assessments of botanical and wetlands resources, plant and wetland ecology, botanical survey design, ecological restoration, vegetation monitoring, and invasive plant biology. He has been authorized by the CDFG to collect voucher specimens of state-listed plants (Voucher Permit #09046). Colby has contributed to the preparation of Biological Assessments (BAs), Biological Evaluations (BEs), Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs), and numerous biological sections of CEQA and NEPA documents. He has also successfully acquired authorizations from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for CWA Section 404 Department of the Army permits, Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCBs) for CWA Section 401 Water Quality Certifications and Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act Waste Discharge Requirements permits, and California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) for Fish and Game Code 1600 et seq. Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreements. He is also well-versed in the requirements set forth in Section 10(a)1(B) of the FESA for the authorization of incidental take permits, as administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), and in the USFWS guidelines for the preparation of HCPs. He recently assisted with the preparation of the Shandon Community Plan HCP and EIR.

**Megan Jones** will serve as an Environmental Planner for the EIR and will oversee the agricultural resources analysis. Megan is a Project Manager within Rincon's Environmental Science and Planning group, specializing in environmental impact analysis. Megan holds a Bachelor of Arts in geography and environmental studies from the University of Oregon, with expertise in the areas of urban planning, CEQA, and NEPA. She has acted as assistant project manager and prepared agricultural resources evaluations for major recent projects in rural settings in the County, including the Santa Margarita Ranch Agricultural Residential Cluster Subdivision EIR and the Shandon Community Plan Update EIR. She also acted as assistant project manager for the peer review the County's Agricultural Cluster Subdivision Ordinance EIR.



**Rob Fitzroy, MPP**, serves as an Environmental Planner and will work on several environmental issues for the EIR, including aesthetics, air quality, noise, and land use/policy consistency. Rob brings expertise in CEQA compliance, impact analysis, environmental regulation and city planning. He has experience preparing the geology and soils, hydrology and water quality, public services, and utilities and service systems sections of numerous EIRs. Rob holds a Master of Public Policy from California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo, where he specialized in Natural Resource Management and Environmental Planning. He also holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Environmental Studies, also from Cal Poly. He has been integrally involved in several EIRs, including the Shandon Community Plan Update EIR, Santa Ynez Valley Community Plan EIR, Santa Barbara County Housing Element Action Plan EIR, Marina High School and Joint Use Recreational Facilities EIR, Santa Maria Downtown Specific Plan EIR, and City of Marina Downtown Specific Plan EIR.

**William O'Brien, PE** serves as Senior Engineer/Manager for Hawks & Associates, and will oversee preparation of the hydrology, water quality, and water supply analyses. Bill has 23 years of experience in water resources and related civil infrastructure projects, enhanced groundwater recharge including recharge of treated wastewater, construction inspection of embankments and hydraulic structures, water quality monitoring, arid zone hydrology and flood plain management studies, scour, drainage projects, water resource monitoring networks, water rights, NPDES stormwater and other water quality investigations, and irrigation projects. Bill is experienced in river and groundwater basin water resources assessments, site selection for water supply analysis, and is knowledgeable of water resource issues in San Luis Obispo County. He is also highly familiar with CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation requirements. Glenn Hawks and other Hawks & Associates staff have worked in San Luis Obispo County as an expert witness for flooding damages near Sycamore Canyon Creek and for drainage and flooding issues in Avila Beach. Bill provided hydraulic and geomorphology analysis for the restoration of Rice Canyon near Ojai, and for the Diamond Rock quarry mine in the Cuyama River Valley (North of Ventura). Specifically, Hawks & Associates has completed hydrology and water quality studies for the following mining projects:

- *Vulcan Quarry and Asphalt Material Yard Hydrology Study – City of Oxnard*
- *Gillbrand Quarry Hydrology and Drainage Review – City of Simi Valley*
- *Diamond Rock Mine Quarry Hydrology Review and Erosion Monitoring Plan - Cuyama Valley, Ventura and Santa Barbara County*
- *AJ Sanders/Mary Howard Quarry Topographic Mapping and Agency Coordination – County of Ventura County)*
- *Getty Copper Mine GIS Mapping and Roads Design - Canada*

**Michael Phipps, PG, CEG** serves as a Principal Engineering Geologist for Cotton, Shires and Associates (CSA), and will oversee preparation of the geology and soils analysis and blasting study peer review. Mike has over 25 years of diverse technical, project management, operations management and executive experience in the geotechnical industry. His technical expertise includes engineering geological site characterization studies, technical/peer review for municipalities, geotechnical construction observation and monitoring, litigation support and



expert witness testimony, and geotechnical evaluation and remediation of landslides and other geologic hazards. CSA recently prepared the Loperena MUP/CDP EIR Peer Review, Brett Seawall Project geotechnical investigation and slope stability analysis in the community of Cayucos, and the Pismo Beach Seacliff Stability Hazard Investigation. CSA staff assisted with reviewing draft versions of the current San Luis Obispo County Geologic Report Guidelines. CSA has extensive experience with geologic review for mining projects, including: peer review and independent investigations of quarry operations and reclamation plans and assisting County compliance with SMARA regulations and gaining SMARA approvals; peer review for EIR preparation for redevelopment of an inactive quarry for residential development; geotechnical investigations for stabilization of quarry faces for future residential development; geotechnical investigations for proposed aggregate quarry design; and geotechnical investigation, instrumentation, and long-term monitoring of slope instability (landslides, rockslides) within both active and abandoned quarries. Specifically, CSA has completed geotechnical studies and peer view for the following mining projects:

- *SMARA Multiple Quarries Geotechnical Investigations and Peer Review – County of Santa Clara*
- *Saddleback Quarry Rockslide Geologic Mapping and Rock Slope Stability Analysis – City of San Francisco*
- *Alta Street Quarry Redevelopment Rock Mechanic Analysis and Mitigation Design – City of San Francisco*
- *Eliot Quarry Geologic Mapping and Engineering Design – City of Livermore*
- *Brisbane Quarry Geotechnical Peer Review– City of Brisbane*
- *Hanson-Permanente Quarry Geotechnical Peer Review and Mitigation Design – City of Cupertino*
- *Knockash Hill Quarry Rockslide Mitigation – City of San Francisco*

**Ravi Narayanan** serves as a Senior Transportation Planner for Wood Rodgers, Inc., and will oversee preparation of the transportation impact study. Ravi has over 15 years of collective experience in the areas of transportation planning, travel demand modeling and traffic engineering. He prepared the transportation impact studies for the Topaz Solar Farm and Shandon Community Plan Update in San Luis Obispo County. He is an accomplished transportation modeler who has created travel demand models for several communities in the Central Coast and Central Valley regions of California. Ravi brings extensive experience and expertise in completing/managing all phases of small- to large-scale traffic impact studies and multi-modal Transportation Impact studies, prepared in support of environmental (CEQA) documents for all types of land development and transportation infrastructure engineering/design projects. He has served as the Project Manager and Lead Transportation Planner on several City/Community General Plan Circulation Updates, Specific Plan/Master Plan Traffic Circulation Studies, and Transportation Impact Fee Program Updates. Mr. Narayanan brings comprehensive Traffic Engineering experience with preparation of comprehensive Traffic Operations Analysis reports in support of Caltrans' PSR and PR documents, operational evaluation of interchanges, intersections and roundabouts, and the use of variety of traffic analysis software including micro-simulation applications. Wood Rodgers has prepared traffic studies for several mining projects, including the Teichart Aggregate Quarry Project in Sacramento County.



**Robert Carr** is a licensed Landscape Architect specializing in visual impact analysis. He has over 22 years of professional landscape architectural experience, both as a private consultant and in the public sector. Robert has been responsible for analyzing the potential aesthetic effects of a variety of proposed major developments. He has prepared visual impact assessments and reports for inclusion in more than 250 environmental impact reports, negative declarations and other environmental documents in accordance with NEPA and/ or CEQA guidelines. He has extensive experience in preparing aesthetic studies for controversial projects involving high quality visual resources and sensitive viewer groups throughout the state. His work has included analysis of numerous mining projects, including:

- *Hildreth Creek Quarry - Madera County*
- *Union Asphalt Sisquoc River Mining and Reclamation – Santa Barbara County*
- *Huerhuero Creek/ Creston Pit Material Stockpiles – San Luis Obispo County*

## **2.2 PROJECT EXPERIENCE**

Rincon offers a number of advantages to the County for this project. Our project team understands the community, technical, and political issues in the area having worked on a number of projects for the County and many cities within the County. We have earned our reputation in the community as a fair and reasonable, impartial third-party evaluator of project proposals. Our project manager and key team members are highly qualified, having completed studies on projects in similar settings throughout San Luis Obispo County. The following projects best represent our team experience in relation to the Oster (Las Pilitas Quarry) Conditional Use Permit and Reclamation Plan Project.

### **2.2.1 Pertinent Experience on Mining, Reclamation, and Similar Industrial Projects**

#### **Granite Construction Gardner Ranch Wet Mining Project SEIR** *County of Santa Barbara*

Rincon Consultants is preparing a Subsequent EIR for revisions to the permits that govern Granite Construction Company's (Granite) existing aggregate mining and asphalt production facility at the Gardner Ranch Facility just south of Buellton and along the Santa Ynez River. The proposed operational changes would allow extraction of additional aggregate, import of additional limestone materials, and inclusion of recycled materials in the asphalt mixing process as well as for road base materials. The project proposes extraction of aggregate below the water table (known as "wet" mining) and an increase in truck trips associated with import of materials used for asphalt mixing and to meet reclamation plan fill requirements. These operational changes would extend the life of the facility up to 100 years. The environmental analysis included the following key issues: aesthetics, biology, agricultural resources, air quality, traffic, greenhouse gas emissions, and land use compatibility with nearby residential development.



**Buellflat Rock Company Amended Reclamation Plan EIR**

*County of Santa Barbara*

Rincon prepared an EIR for an amended mining reclamation plan for an approximately 138-acre site located immediately west of the City of Solvang in the Santa Ynez Valley. The property included the northern portion of the Santa Ynez River bed, extended along the north bank of the Santa Ynez River, and was located south of State Highway 246. Key issues addressed included agricultural resources, biological resources, flood hazards, and water quality/water resources.

**Santa Maria River Mining Biological Assessment**

*City of Santa Maria*

Rincon conducted general biological surveys of the proposed mining envelope, prepared biological assessment documenting existing conditions and findings of surveys, prepared a California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) Section 1600 Streambed Alteration Agreement, and then conducted annual pre-mining surveys for special-status animal species, such as the coast horned lizard and silvery legless lizard. Additional monitoring activities included mining contractor education training, regular weekly monitoring inspections of mining operation, and annual preparation of an end of the year compliance report submitted to the DFG and State Department of Conservation, Office of Mining Reclamation.



**Ventura County Rock CUP IS/MND**

*City of Santa Paula*

Rincon prepared an IS/MND on the renewal of a conditional use permit to allow for the continuation of rock crushing operations on a site adjacent to the Santa Clara River in Santa Paula, California. The proposed project involved expansion of onsite processing facilities and increasing the maximum daily allowable truck usage to 226 truck trips per day. Key issues involved visual resources associated with the site's visibility from SR 126, traffic and circulation impacts, effects on the Santa Clara River, noise, air quality, and water resources.

**Charnock Well Field Restoration Project EIR**

*City of Santa Monica*

Rincon prepared an EIR for the Charnock Well Field Restoration Project. This project involved implementation of a water treatment system and other improvements that would help to remove groundwater contamination from the Charnock groundwater sub-basin and restore this resource as a water supply for the City of Santa Monica. As part of the project upgrades, improvements will be required at two existing City-operated water service facilities; the Charnock well field site and the Santa Monica Water Treatment Plant (SMWTP). These sites are located in the western portion of Los Angeles County, in the City of Los Angeles.



### **Sully-Miller Hot Mix Asphalt Batch Plant EIR**

*City of Santa Paula*

Rincon prepared an EIR for a proposed hot mix asphalt (HMA) manufacturing and construction material recycling facility within the Industrial area of the City of Santa Paula. Plant components included a drum mixer, which heats and coats aggregate with oil, a baghouse for the control of PM10 and larger size particulates, a “blue smoke” tunnel for emissions control, two asphalt storage tanks with secondary containment, a front end loader to “feed” the plant with aggregate, three finished-product storage silos (under which trucks are loaded by gravity dump), and an aggregate storage area, consisting of piles of various sized crushed rock and sand. In addition to establishing an HMA plant on the site, the applicant sought approval for a construction materials recycling business.

### **A.J. Diani Construction and Granite Construction – Asphalt Mixing Facility EIR**

*City of Santa Paula*



Rincon prepared an EIR for the installation and operation of an asphalt mixing plant within a 14.48-acre site in and adjacent to the industrial area of the City of Santa Paula. The project site also included the occasional operation of a lime treatment facility and rubberized asphalt mixer. Of the 14.48 acres, 4.05 acres were currently within the City and zoned for industrial use and 10.43 acres of unincorporated land under the jurisdiction of Ventura County was proposed to be annexed into the City. Additionally, the project included an extension to Hallock Drive, leading to the project site through an adjacent parcel within the City and zoned for industrial use.

### **Mine Overburden Disposal Area Noise Study**

*Kern County*

One of Rincon’s principals, Dr. Vander Pluym, oversaw preparation of a noise study regarding the annual disposal of 10 million tons of overburden from open pit mining. The assessment involved the monitoring of existing onsite operations and acquisition of sound data for 170-ton haul trucks. The equipment noise levels, the location of new disposal areas, and the timing of night-shift work were used to generate contours for an Ldn and the maximum possible sound impact, including topographic effects.

### **Richards Rock Crushing EIR**

*County of Santa Barbara*

Dr. Vander Pluym was the project manager and principal investigator for the preparation of an environmental impact report for a sand and gravel operation in northern Santa Barbara County. Primary issues of importance considered was the sound of two large rock crushers on neighboring land uses and the impact of local truck operations.

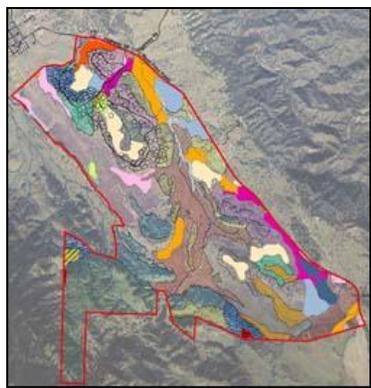


## 2.2.2 San Luis Obispo County Experience

### **Shandon Community Plan Update EIR**

*County of San Luis Obispo*

Rincon is providing environmental support to the County of San Luis Obispo for preparation of an EIR for a proposed comprehensive update of the Community Plan for the Shandon Urban Area of the Shandon-Carrizo Area Plan. The Community Plan update would expand the existing Urban Reserve Line (URL, a 20-year growth boundary) and amend land use categories within the existing and expanded URL, thereby creating a framework for the community of approximately 1,200 residents to grow to a maximum population of approximately 9,400. The proposed Community Plan update would also accommodate substantial commercial and industrial growth, schools and parks, which are summarized below. The proposed project consists of two primary components: 1) known development applications, some of which may ultimately be framed within Specific Plans; and 2) buildout of the entire Shandon Community Plan area. There are three major development applications outside the existing URL that have driven the need for the Community Plan update. Together, these areas comprise 1,258 acres. When combined with the area within the existing URL, the entire study area includes 2,072 acres. Key issues evaluated in the EIR included traffic, especially in relation to the SR 46 corridor, water supply, conversion of agricultural lands, and biological resources. The EIR biological resources analysis was prepared in coordination with a Habitat Conservation Plan that covered San Joaquin kit fox.



### **Santa Margarita Ranch Agricultural Cluster Subdivision EIR**

*County of San Luis Obispo*

Rincon completed an EIR for a proposed 112-unit agricultural residential cluster subdivision on the 14,000-acre Santa Margarita Ranch in San Luis Obispo County. The project area consisted of agricultural land and the development of the proposed housing units would have changed the character of the site. Our EIR approach on this project was a unique hybrid of programmatic and project-specific elements, to address both the specific impacts of the proposed development, and the long-term impacts of buildout within the entire Ranch. Rincon

worked closely with County staff to develop creative solutions to the EIR approach that satisfied the complex legal requirements while remaining easy to read and useable for County staff. The EIR included a detailed analysis of the following environmental issue areas: agricultural resources, air quality, biological and cultural resources, drainage, geologic stability, land use, noise, public safety, public services, recreation, transportation and circulation, visual resources, water and wastewater, and growth inducing impacts.

Rincon also programmatically evaluated the environmental impacts of the Future Development Program for the project, which was a conceptual future buildout scenario for the entire 14,000-acre Santa Margarita Ranch, including 550 additional homes, and several commercial uses.

### **Chevron Estero Marine Terminal Source Removal EIR**

*County of San Luis Obispo*

Rincon prepared an EIR addressing the removal of hydrocarbon contaminated soil at the Chevron/Estero Marine Terminal, immediately north of the City of Morro Bay. The purpose of the project was to improve ground water quality by removing separate-phase petroleum hydrocarbons from three designated plume areas at the facility. The proposed project implemented the requirements of the Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region (RWQCB), and is intended to comply with State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Order No. 2002-0002. Specifically, the project involved excavation and on-site treatment of soil petroleum contaminated hydrocarbons, along with site preparation to accomplish the project objectives. Due to the project's location, immediately adjacent to Toro Creek, installation of a sheetpile wall was needed to protect sensitive biological resources.



### **San Luis Obispo County Agricultural Cluster Subdivision Ordinance EIR**

*County of San Luis Obispo*

Rincon assisted County staff with preparation of an EIR for revisions to the County's Agricultural Cluster Subdivision Ordinance. The EIR was prepared collaboratively, with Rincon preparing the Agricultural Resources, Air Quality, and Greenhouse Gas Emissions impact sections of the EIR, and County staff incorporating the sections into the EIR. Rincon also worked with County staff to define the analytical assumptions for the EIR, and peer reviewed the portions of the EIR prepared by County staff. The EIR evaluates several potential ordinance revisions, including the elimination of "minor" agricultural clusters, exclusion of agricultural clusters from Rural Lands areas, a reduction in the distance between urban reserve lines and lands eligible for agricultural clustering, and increased minimum cluster parcel sizes.

### **Biddle Ranch Agricultural Cluster Subdivision Project**

*County of San Luis Obispo*

Rincon prepared an EIR for a cluster subdivision with 87 units on a 4,700-acre ranch between the cities of San Luis Obispo and Arroyo Grande. Key environmental issues included agricultural land conversion, biology, cultural resources, and traffic. The EIR was used to help determine alternative clustering configurations that would minimize impacts while maintaining viable agricultural operations.

### **Paso Robles Agricultural Cluster Subdivision EIR**

*County of San Luis Obispo*

Rincon prepared an EIR for a proposed agricultural cluster residential subdivision on an 851-acre site just east of the City of Paso Robles. The proposed project included 42 one-acre residential homesites, eight open space lots for neighborhood parks, six caretaker/farm worker units, wildlife areas and hiking trails, one or two water storage tanks, a new road from Linne



Road to Union Road and two residential loop roads; and an equestrian center. Based on analysis performed in the EIR, an environmentally preferred alternative was designed to minimize key project environmental effects.

### **San Luis Obispo Affordable Housing Overlay EIR**

*County of San Luis Obispo*

Rincon prepared an EIR that examined three ordinances from the County of San Luis Obispo's 2004 Housing Element. These ordinances were being analyzed because of the discovery of a countywide shortage of affordable housing, particularly in the very low to low income categories. Specifically, they addressed the following issues: Residential Development Standards, Inclusionary Housing, and Minimum Density Requirements for Residential Multi-Family Zoned Land. The EIR examined how development of the required types of housing would affect the surrounding environment and landscape. Issues addressed included: agricultural resources, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, drainage, erosion, and sedimentation, noise, public safety, public service utilities, traffic, water and wastewater resources, consistency with locally adopted plans and polices, growth inducement, and cumulative impacts.

### **Templeton-Atascadero Bikeway Constraints Study**

*County of San Luis Obispo*

Rincon prepared a detailed constraints study to help the County of San Luis Obispo determine the best route to link the communities of Atascadero and Templeton with a bikeway. The study considered environmental issues, land acquisition concerns, costs, safety, and engineering constraints in developing its conclusions. Ultimately, the study concluded that there were superior and more cost-effective routes than an active rail right-of-way, which had been presumed to be the preferred option before the study. The study has been used by the County to help secure funding for the project's next phase, which will be to acquire right-of-way and design the trail itself. The study won a statewide award for the County from the *Association of Environmental Professionals, AEP*.



### **Chandler Ranch Area Specific Plan and EIR**

*City of Paso Robles*



Rincon prepared a Specific Plan and Program EIR that examined the proposed future development of an 837-acre area in the Chandler Ranch area of the City of Paso Robles. The Specific Plan combined zoning regulations, capital improvement programs, detailed development standards, and other regulatory schemes into one document that were tailored to meet the needs of the specific area. The Draft EIR examined land use, transportation, air quality, noise, safety

and geologic hazards, cultural and historic resources, aesthetics and community design, flooding and drainage, public services and infrastructure and biological resources. The project included an extensive public involvement program.

### **3.0 COORDINATION**

This section discusses Rincon Consultants' project management program, which will be used to address the requirements of the Scope of Work. In every project Rincon Consultants conducts, we endeavor to provide our client with a high quality product that meets or exceeds expectations, and for which all applicable professional standards and regulatory requirements are met. To meet this quality standard, Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC) procedures are developed for each project at the planning stage, outlining the management techniques to be used. Project management will provide the necessary interface among the County, other responsible agencies, and the consultant project team. The major components of our management program are:

- *Technical direction and control*
- *Communication and Documentation Procedures*
- *Cost and schedule control*
- *Project reporting and editorial review*
- *Management of subcontractors*

Rincon Consultants takes pride in our structured management of complex, multidisciplinary environmental review projects. We will apply the techniques described herein to the Oster (Las Pilitas Quarry) EIR assignment. These techniques result in high quality outcomes that meet study objectives, budget provisions and scheduling requirements.

**Technical Direction and Control.** We believe that Project Management is an integral part of a project's success. We will use our proven project management techniques to provide the technical direction to our internal staff as well as to subconsultants. We will communicate with County staff as needed throughout the course of the project and provide any technical assistance as needed. This will provide us consistent control of program costs, schedule, staffing, technical performance, deliverables, and subcontractors. Our program management and control systems will ensure that the quality of the work will meet or exceed the County's contract requirements. The individual program control methods and systems that comprise our approach are further described below.

**Communication and Documentation Procedures.** Communication is a critical component in the analysis of a large, complex, and information-intensive project. Given the large number of issue areas typically covered by environmental review projects, cross-discipline communication is also extremely important. Rincon Consultants' project management communication procedures are designed to accomplish the following objectives:

- Specify the formal communication and documentation procedures to be used by all the team members;
- Institute a uniform method of recording actions and maintaining reference files;
- Assure that appropriate data flow to and between team members; and



- Control the flow of data from the field to the Issue Area Coordinators

The Project Manager will be responsible for coordinating communication with the County, and between the in-house project team and subconsultants. To facilitate coordination of the assessments and communication among staff members, we have established a program of weekly planning and coordination e-mail status updates. The Project Manager will provide this correspondence to review work in progress, plans, and schedules and to ensure effective communication among the project team and with the County.

As an example of our proposed communication procedures, formal letters will be drafted to document matters such as significant project milestones, changes in the schedule or cost, and other major issues of concern. Emails and notes from telephone communications will also be kept in a designated project-specific folder.

Rincon Consultants has a formal process for tracking and disseminating information and data for large projects. We employ an electronic, centralized recordkeeping system for all data relevant to the project. The database is maintained by housing all the information in the central file dedicated to the project, with data back-up and security methods in place. Our method of organization allows team members to easily scan the information database and access the most up-to-date versions of project information.

**Cost and Schedule Control.** Rincon Consultants achieves cost, schedule, and resource control pursuant to a three-step process. First, cost and schedule baselines are established, against which actual cost and schedule performance can subsequently be compared. Second, cost and schedule data are collected and reported on a weekly basis to the Project Manager. Third, deviations in cost or schedule performance are discussed internally, and if necessary, with County staff and corrective actions are taken.

**Project Reporting and Editorial Review.** We recommend weekly e-mail project status updates and monthly meetings with the County to review progress and discuss issues. We also recognize that there will be times when more frequent meetings will be required. We will work closely with the County for the duration of the project to ensure that progress is carefully tracked, attention is drawn to any problems or difficulties encountered, and the project is conducted in a highly professional manner.

In-house, Rincon will hold monthly status review meetings in which Issue Area Coordinators will meet with the Project Manager for a technical, schedule, and budgetary assessment of progress. Monthly status reviews provide a continuing forum for mutual discussion and peer review of the quality of our work, often leading to important improvements in performance that results from the widest possible sharing of information. In addition to discussion of project issues, Issue Area Coordinators will conduct editorial reviews of the work produced to ensure concise and effective delivery of information.

**Management of Subcontractors.** Rincon has a long history of using subcontractors on assignments to enhance our own in-house capabilities. We have developed a comprehensive system for managing our subcontractors. Our subcontractors will be issued a subcontract



agreement that states the scope of their work, the deliverables and due dates, and the associated cost estimate. The agreement also contains the required billing and progress reporting instructions.

## **4.0 SCOPE OF WORK**

This section details Rincon’s approach to tasks necessary to complete the EIR, including details relative to the research and evaluation techniques to be employed. Rincon proposes a scope of work designed to refine project objectives and prepare an EIR that will allow the County to take action on the proposed project.

### **4.1 STUDY APPROACH**

#### **Task 1 - Kickoff Meeting and Data Collection.**

The kickoff meeting will provide an opportunity to review the County’s study objectives, confirm details of our approach to completing all necessary tasks, and set preliminary goals for the initial phases of the project. An important function of this meeting will be to finalize an understanding on the scope of the study. We will also confirm that our library of County-related data is still relevant to the proposed project. If necessary, we will gather any additional materials available at this meeting, including relevant planning documents, any technical analyses prepared by the applicant team or retail industry representatives, and recent EIRs prepared for projects located in the County.

#### **Task 2 - Administrative Draft EIR.**

This project phase includes all of the steps necessary to complete a Draft EIR for the proposed project. The Draft EIR would contain all sections required pursuant to the County’s Initial Study for the project. The issues to be examined in detail in this EIR would include:

- *Aesthetics*
- *Agricultural Resources*
- *Air Quality*
- *Biological Resources*
- *Geology and Soils*
- *Hazards/Hazardous Materials*
- *Noise*
- *Population and Housing (Energy)*
- *Recreation*
- *Transportation/Circulation*
- *Water Supply and Water Quality*



A discussion of additional issue areas, including Cultural Resources, Land Use, and Wastewater, would be provided in the *Effects Found Not to Be Significant* section of the EIR.

The EIR will be produced in an “EIR Summary” format with the primary printed document consisting of an expanded Executive Summary, with the bulk of the setting, methodology, analysis and technical data in the form of a CD accompanying the printed summary document.

Specific tasks and analysis that would be completed to prepare the DEIR are described below, and in *Section 4.2, EIR Technical Approach*.

**Task 2.1 Draft Project Description and EIR Outline.** Rincon will prepare a detailed *Project Description* for review by the County. This review is critical, since it forms the basis for environmental evaluation under CEQA. The project description will provide a detailed summary of the proposed project application and entitlement request. Textual, tabular, and graphic presentation will be used as necessary to facilitate a thorough understanding of the proposed project. The project description will include:

- *A thorough explanation of proposed entitlement requests;*
- *A description of the project’s operational characteristics;*
- *A discussion of proposed project phasing;*
- *A discussion of proposed infrastructural improvements, including “off-site” improvements;*
- *Features that have been incorporated into the project to minimize potential environmental or land use conflicts; and*
- *Supporting tables and graphics*

A complete outline of all EIR sections and subsections will be provided for County review with the project description.

We will provide the County with up to four (4) hard copies and one (1) electronic version of the Draft Project Description and Outline for review.

**Task 2.2 - Development of Project Alternatives.** CEQA requires an examination of project alternatives that could reduce environmental impacts. For this project, we would examine up to 4 alternatives including a “No Project” alternative. Rincon would work with County staff to conceptualize the alternatives. The alternatives could include an alternative area of site disturbance to avoid or minimize impacts related to site constraints, or a reduced project size that reduces the operational impacts of the project. Since the project alternatives may be defined as a result of technical analysis to be completed as part of the ADEIR, it may be most appropriate to develop project alternatives following completion of the technical analysis.

**Task 2.3 - Administrative Draft EIR Analysis.** Upon County approval of the Project Description, we will begin preparation of the Administrative Draft EIR. This task includes all components necessary to complete the environmental impact analysis.

Four (4) hard copies and one (1) electronic copy (on CD in Word) of the ADEIR will be delivered to the County's project manager for review and comment. Each major section of the ADEIR is described below. Our proposed scope of work for assessing potential environmental impacts of the proposed project is detailed in section 4.2 of this proposal.



**Subtask 2.3.1 – Executive Summary.** The Executive Summary will include an introduction and purpose, a brief description of the proposed project, project alternatives, and a table summarizing the environmental effects and mitigation measures associated with the proposed project. The table will be organized by level of environmental impact, including significant unavoidable adverse impacts (Class I), significant impacts that can be mitigated to a less than significant level (Class II), less than significant impacts (Class III), and beneficial impacts (Class IV). The Summary will be provided at a level of detail that allows the section to function as a stand-alone printed document, with supporting information provided on compact disc.

**Subtask 2.3.2 – Introduction, Project Description, and Environmental Setting.** The Introduction section will include a narrative on the background of the project. It will include a summary of the environmental review process anticipated for the CUP/development plan and reclamation plan approval process. In addition, lead, responsible, and trustee agencies will be identified and the scope, content, and purpose of the EIR will be described. The Project Description section will consist of the project description that was prepared in conjunction with Task 2.1. The Environmental Setting section will provide a description of the existing environmental conditions in the project region and in the project area.

**Subtask 2.3.3 – Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures.** The main body of the EIR will consist of the assessment of potential environmental impact analysis of the proposed project. For each issue area the analysis will include a project specific examination. The project specific analysis will have four main subsections: setting, impact analysis, mitigation measures, and level of significance after mitigation.

The setting section will describe the applicable environmental conditions of the project area, and will reference recent technical studies for the project site whenever possible.

The impact analysis section will include a statement of the significance thresholds that were used to determine if an impact would have the potential to result in a significant environmental effect. Thresholds will consist of the criteria of CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines, as well as thresholds or criteria used by the County. Impacts of the proposed project when compared to existing conditions in the project area would be identified, as would cumulative impacts resulting from regional growth.

All mitigation measures will be presented so that they can be directly applied as conditions of approval and will include monitoring requirements. Conditions where the proposed mitigation measures would not reduce the identified impacts to a less than significant level will be clearly identified. Secondary impacts of mitigation measures will also be discussed.

The final section will describe the level of significance after mitigation. This will be a brief statement noting where any significant impacts would remain after mitigation measures are applied. This section will also note whether impacts related to each issue are significant and unmitigable (Class I), significant but mitigable (Class II), less than significant (Class III), or beneficial (Class IV).



**Subtask 2.3.4 - Alternatives.** This section will be prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *CEQA Guidelines*, Section 15126(d) and recent court decisions. The purpose of this section will be to promote informed decision-making and to evaluate a reasonable range of project alternatives. The alternatives studied will be those developed in Task 2.2. The analysis will identify the level of impact and mitigation needs for each alternative. This section will also identify the "environmentally superior alternative." If the No Project Alternative is determined to be environmentally superior, the EIR will identify the environmentally superior alternative among the remaining scenarios.

**Subtask 2.3.5 - Other Required Sections.** Also included in the EIR will be other sections required by CEQA, such as table of contents, references, persons contacted, list of preparers, and summary of significant irreversible effects.

**Task 2.4 - Draft Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program.** This task will involve the preparation of an MMRP prepared in a format that complies with County requirements, consistent with *CEQA Guidelines* requirements. The MMRP will include a table that lists each mitigation measure, agency responsible for each condition, when monitoring must occur, the frequency of monitoring, and criteria to determine compliance with the condition. Where necessary, the MMRP will include post-construction monitoring to confirm the effectiveness of the proposed measures. The MMRP will be structured in such a way to differentiate monitoring requirements for each phase of the project.

### **Task 3 - Draft EIR Preparation and Publication.**

After receiving County comments regarding the Administrative Draft EIR and meeting with County Staff to review the comments, Rincon will produce a document containing the public Draft EIR. Rincon will respond to one round of County staff comments. Upon receiving clearance from the County, Rincon will prepare and deliver hard copies and digital copies of the Draft EIR. Rincon will provide five (5) hard copies of the DEIR with appendices in 3-ring binders, fifteen (15) bound hard copies with appendices included as a CD in an envelope; twenty-five (25) CD copies in searchable PDF format; ten (10) separately bound copies of the appendices; and one (1) CD with original files.

### **Task 4 - Final EIR Preparation.**

The final formal stages of the EIR process involve responding to comments, holding public hearings and final editorial tasks. At this point, all of the discretionary permit applications and the EIR will be brought together for final public and decision-maker scrutiny in order to render official decisions regarding the application. Through this process, final changes and policy decisions concerning the project are made. Our work effort regarding this task is delineated below.

**Task 4.1 - Response to Comments/Administrative Final EIR.** Rincon staff, in conjunction with County staff will respond to public and agency review comments on the Draft EIR, including the draft mitigation monitoring program, in accordance with Section 15088 of the *CEQA Guidelines*. Responses shall be prepared in a format approved by the County staff. The Responses to Comments document, together with the Draft EIR, will comprise the Final EIR. We will deliver two (2) bound hard copies, two (2) hard copies in three-ring binders, and one (1)



electronic copy of this AFEIR document. For the purposes of this proposal and consistent with the RFP, we have assumed that up to 100 hours of professional time will be needed to address comments submitted on the DEIR.

**Task 4.2 - Final Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program.** Concurrent with delivery of the Final EIR, and in accordance with Public Resources Code Section 21081.6, Rincon will finalize the mitigation monitoring and reporting program described above.

**Task 4.3 - Publication of the Final EIR.** Rincon will respond to one round of County staff comments on the Administrative Final EIR. Subsequent to certification of the EIR, Rincon will deliver five (5) hard copies of the FEIR with appendices in 3-ring binders, twenty-five (25) bound hard copies with appendices included as a CD in an envelope; twenty-five (25) CD copies in searchable PDF format; fifteen (15) separately bound copies of the appendices; and one (1) CD with original files. Upon certification of the Final EIR and project approval, we understand that the County would be responsible for filing a Notice of Determination with the County Clerk's office.

**Task 5 - CEQA Findings (Optional Task).**

If requested by the County, we will prepare a certification resolution with all required findings, including (if necessary) any statements of overriding consideration. This resolution would comply with Section 15091 and 15093 of the *State CEQA Guidelines* and would be submitted in County approved hard-copy and electronic formats. The findings will be prepared in a format approved by the Environmental Division. This scope of work assumes that the CEQA Findings would require 50 professional hours to complete.

**Task 6 - Staff Meetings.**

During the course of EIR preparation, we anticipate needing to attend several meetings. Per the request for proposal, we anticipate attendance at a project kickoff meeting, and five (5) additional meetings with staff. These meetings would be scheduled at the discretion of the County and billed on a time and materials basis.

**Task 7 - Public Hearings.**

Per the request for proposal, we anticipate attendance at four (4) public hearings. Rincon's Principal-in-Charge and/or Project Manager will be prepared to respond to questions, make presentations, and/or participate in an advisory capacity during hearings. These hearings would be scheduled at the discretion of the County and billed on a time and materials basis. Any additional hearings would be billed separately on a cost per hearing basis as outlined in Section 5.0 of this proposal.



## **4.2 TECHNICAL APPROACH TO ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

This section describes the suggested work program identified in the County's request for proposals and Initial Study. Based on the County's requirements in the request for proposal,



the following describes our approach to the analysis of the environmental issue areas.

**a. Aesthetics.**

The project site is located in the Highway 58 corridor in a rural area located about 2.25 miles southeast of the town of Santa Margarita and less than one half mile east of the Salinas River. The site is surrounded by predominantly agricultural land, undeveloped open space, and low density residential uses, with the exception of the Hanson Aggregate granite quarry located one half mile northwest of the site. A residence and associated structures are located immediately southwest of the proposed quarry area, and one residence is located along Goldie Lane.

The aesthetics analysis will be prepared by Bob Carr, visual resources specialist, and incorporated into the EIR by Rincon Consultants. The aesthetics analysis will characterize the existing visual resources on the site that establish aesthetic value, identify the specific thresholds of significance applied to the analysis, describe the policy background, evaluate the project-level and cumulative visual impacts of the proposed project features, and recommend mitigation measures to reduce the magnitude of identified visual impacts. The visual impact assessment will provide a photographic and written inventory of existing site conditions and establish the baseline visual character. The overall extent and quality of proposed project visibility will be documented. The visual resources analysis will specifically identify the visual resources on-site and any related landforms and other features which are of significance from key viewing areas along Highway 58. Critical viewing areas and durations will be identified, and photographs will be taken from each of the key viewing areas and used as the basis for further analyzing the potential effects of the project.

The primary visual effects of the project are anticipated to be due to excavation slopes and stockpiles, structures and operational equipment, trucks, access road improvements, signage and landscaping, and night lighting.

Through the use of computer modeling, cross-sections and reference pylon placement as needed, the aesthetic evaluation will compare the existing visual condition with the project features as proposed and will identify any potential impacts to views and visual character. The aesthetics section will make recommendations and present alternatives if necessary to preserve visual resources.

Potential visual changes will be identified in terms of long-term operational effects and short-term impacts as well as phasing. Construction activities and disturbance will be addressed. The aesthetic section will discuss the visual changes over the expected lifespan of the quarry operation. Proposed revegetation and reclamation efforts will also be analyzed.

Photo-simulations from three viewpoints will document the project, evaluate the appearance of the proposed changes throughout its phases and will show the effectiveness of any recommended mitigation measures. The photo-simulations will thoroughly identify alterations to the site and to the area's visual character as a result of the project. The photo-simulations will provide a valuable method of public disclosure as well as a tool for project approval discussion.



The aesthetics section will focus on the potential for lighting impacts and glare, including direct source visibility, reflective characteristics, atmospheric variables and ambient affects. This section will analyze the proposed lighting plan for consistency with applicable local policy. Effects of the lighting as well as possible mitigation measures will consider current “dark sky” practices.

The analysis methodology will also evaluate the cumulative impact that the project may have on the visual character of the surrounding landscape. The analysis will differentiate between views from public roadways and private residences. If project proposals or mitigation measures include planting, plant growth rates and size potential will be considered.

Specific project impacts will be determined by evaluating the physical changes proposed by the project in the context of the existing and surrounding landscape, as seen from important and representative viewing locations on Highway 58. Project impact determinations will be consistent with community scenic values as identified in the San Luis Obispo County planning policy, ordinances and goals. Expected viewer sensitivity will be assessed and considered as part of the analysis. This analysis will include the following specific tasks:

- *Initiate analysis through consultation with San Luis Obispo County staff to understand the project's design, phasing and other critical issues. This consultation will also determine critical factors including county guidelines, visual policies, and previous studies applicable to the site.*
- *Determine and document overall visibility of the project from along Highway 58 and the surrounding area.*
- *Identify key viewing areas based on visual access to the site, viewer-group expectations and sensitivity, along with applicable county policies. Key views will be selected based on field analysis including view exposure and duration.*
- *Establish on-site locations of critical project features and proposed landforms. Project features will be established by a combination of computer modeling and the placement of on-site reference pylons and flagging. The specific locations of critical site-development components will be based on the project plans and additional information provided by county staff or project representative.*
- *Develop graphic cross-sections as necessary by use of scaled topographic information of the surrounding view corridors, the existing site conditions, and the proposed grading plan. Cross-sections will identify critical sight-line information and will be used to analyze the existing visibility and the proposed landform changes over time.*
- *Develop baseline photographs taken from key viewing areas.*
- *Evaluate project impacts by superimposing the proposed project onto the baseline images. In conjunction with field studies, three computer generated photo-simulations showing “before and after” conditions will be used as the basis for the analysis. The analysis will evaluate the*



*project's impacts relative to the overall landscape context including surrounding land use, visual harmony with the existing landform and landcover, consistency with existing landscape character, and seasonal variation. These physical attributes will be considered along with the viewer's expected response to the proposed changes. In addition, the proposed project will be analyzed for consistency with applicable planning policies and guidelines.*

- *Identify and quantify general and specific visual impacts including the potential cumulative affects caused by the proposed project, based on the above analysis and per CEQA guidelines.*
- *Provide mitigation measures which directly relate to identified impacts. Mitigation measures may include stockpile height limitations, location of stockpiles, landscaping, and lighting restrictions including shielding of night lighting away from sensitive light receptors should lighting be proposed.*
- *Prepare photo-simulations of the project from each key viewing area showing applied mitigation measures and illustrating potential effectiveness.*

#### **b. Agricultural Resources.**

The analysis will expand on the information included in the County's Initial Study for the project relative to impacts to agricultural resources and land use compatibility. It is understood that the study area is in a predominantly agricultural area, and is located within the Rural Lands land use category. The project site does not contain prime soils and is not under Williamson Act contract. However, the site and nearby properties currently support livestock grazing and ranching activities. Although the proposed reclamation plan would ultimately return the site to grazing use, the proposed project would convert the grazing use to a mining operation over a period of approximately 30 years. This section will focus on the conversion of grazing lands, and urban/rural land use compatibility, and will cross reference to water supply issues discussed in the Water Supply and Water Quality impact section. Our scope of work will consist of the following specific tasks:

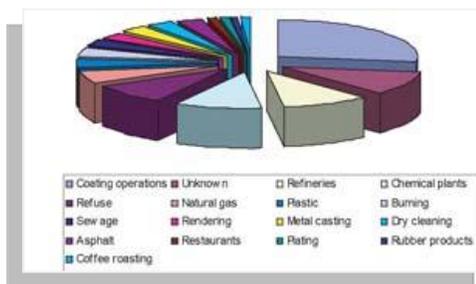
- *Consult with representatives from the San Luis Obispo County Agricultural Commissioner's Office and the San Luis Obispo County Department of Planning and Building, and review published documentation, to gather information on the history of agricultural production on the site, and surrounding agricultural sites.*
- *Prepare existing condition information on soil productivity, historical agricultural uses, and agricultural resources.*
- *Quantify temporary and permanent impacts to farmland from the development of the project. This will include an evaluation of project impacts on surrounding agricultural lands, including from blasting activities and dust from mining operations.*
- *Identify adequate, feasible, and enforceable mitigation measures with a goal of ensuring that the agricultural resources are adequately protected. Mitigation will consider agricultural dust and noise minimization, residential and roadway runoff controls, road dust suppression, fencing and other measures that limit trespass on agricultural lands.*



### c. Air Quality.

The air quality analysis will be prepared in accordance with the methodologies outlined in the San Luis Obispo Air Pollution Control District (APCD) guidelines. The EIR will include a discussion of the current air quality setting within the local airshed along with local climatic and air pollution data from local air monitoring stations. The setting discussion will include a brief summary of prevailing wind conditions in the area, as well as a summary of applicable regulations, policies, and guidelines. Significance criteria will be based on APCD thresholds.

This section will evaluate construction, operational, and vehicle use criteria pollutant emissions relative to adopted thresholds. Rincon will quantify project operational emissions using the CalEEMod air quality model and discuss the project's operational criteria pollutant impacts. In addition, Rincon will qualitatively discuss the short-term construction emissions of the project. Since the project would result in more than 4 acres of disturbance, the analysis will document required dust control measures. The vehicle emissions analysis will account for the volume of truck trips projected to be generated by the project. Operational emissions, including dust generation from stockpiles, will be evaluated with respect to adjacent sensitive receptors. The analysis will recommend applicable dust control measures, which may include reductions in the amount of disturbed area, use of water trucks, and/or daily spraying of stockpile areas.



The analysis will also address project issues related to consistency with the Clean Air Plan. Due to the location of the project in a rural area, the project may increase the rate of vehicle miles travelled more than the rate of population growth, which would indicate inconsistency with the Clean Air Plan. Adopted APCD off-site measures to reduce vehicle emissions would be identified to reduce impacts to the extent feasible.

The section will include a qualitative evaluation of odor impacts from the proposed asphalt recycling facility, and will recommend odor abatement measures for any identified impacts.

In addition, this section would include an evaluation of potential impacts related to naturally-occurring asbestos and valley fever, consistent with APCD and County standards. Mitigation measures will be identified to reduce impacts to the extent feasible.

### **Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

Although Rincon recommends that the Greenhouse Gas Emissions analysis be contained in a separate impact section independent from the Air Quality section, our scope of work for this issue is provided within the Air Quality scope of work for consistency with the Initial Study.

Addressing project impacts related to global climate change (GCC) has been recognized by the State of California as a CEQA requirement. The project's potential impacts on global climate

change will be evaluated in accordance with the following CEQA thresholds:

- *Would the project generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?*
- *Would the project conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?*

This analysis will be based on direction from the APCD, and will be based on the project's potential contribution to CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, which will be estimated using the Urbemis 2007 (version 9.2.4) or CalEEMod software model. The EIR will discuss this issue, and the extent to which the project as designed includes features consistent with the concept of minimizing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions on a cumulative basis.

Our analysis will respond to AB 32, which addresses the issue from a greenhouse gas reduction perspective. In general, the Act calls for a greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions cap for 2020, to reduce such emissions to 1990 levels (essentially a 25% reduction below 2005 emission levels).

Project compliance with the emission reduction strategies contained in the California Climate Action Team's (CCAT) Report to the Governor will be assessed. This report proposes a path to achieve the Governor's greenhouse gas reduction targets. Projects can ensure compliance with strategies incorporating the following design features: vehicle trip reduction strategies; providing multi-modal transportation options; increasing energy efficiency beyond Title 24 requirements; increased recycling; and incorporating green building technology.

If the proposed project complies with the State's strategies to reduce greenhouse gases to the levels proposed by the governor, it follows that the project would have a less than significant cumulative impact to global climate change.

Our scope of work for the Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas analysis will consist of the following specific tasks:

- *Consultation with SLOAPCD staff.*
- *Discussion of federal and state nonattainment ambient air quality standards for criteria air pollutants. Discussion of County air quality policies relative to development, using thresholds of significance derived from the Clean Air Plan.*
- *Provide summary of the thresholds and air quality constraints for proposed development, as applicable.*
- *Conduct air modeling utilizing CalEEMod, or another model as recommended by SLOAPCD, to generate emissions impacts for criteria pollutants and greenhouse gases. The greenhouse gas emissions analysis will apply the APCD CEQA Handbook methodology, or an alternative methodology recommended by SLOAPCD.*
- *Provide recommendations and discussion of adequate and feasible mitigation measures, as applicable, to address significant air quality impacts.*



#### **d. Biological Resources.**

The biological resources analysis will consist of three components: (1) a review of the most current proposed site plans, aerial imagery, and literature and database information available for the vicinity of the project; (2) a peer review of the *Sensitive Species and Habitat Survey* prepared by LFR (2009) for the subject site; (3) and a reconnaissance field visit to assess the current conditions on-site and compare conditions to those described in the LFR report. Upon completion of the peer review and reconnaissance field visit, a brief memorandum outlining which additional survey work, if any, should be conducted will be prepared and submitted to the County.

The proposed project site is located east of the Community of Santa Margarita in an area with a diverse array of flora and fauna. While the site was vegetated predominantly by chaparral, the LFR (2009) report identified four sensitive natural communities including vernal marsh, foothill woodland, coast live oak woodland, and central coast live oak riparian forest. Additionally, the LFR report identified five special status plant species on-site, including shinning navarretia (*Navarretia nigelliformis* ssp. *radians*), La Panza mariposa lily (*Calochortus simulans*), straight-awned spineflower (*Chorizanthe rectispina*), Brewer's red maids (*Calandrinia breweri*), and trumpet-throated gilia (*Gilia tenuiflora* ssp. *amplifaucalis*), and one special status animal species, the coast horned lizard (*Phrynosoma blainvillii*). Furthermore, several native tree species present on-site are considered locally important and include coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*), blue oak (*Quercus douglasii*), valley oak (*Quercus lobata*), and gray pine (*Pinus sabiniana*). The site also contains native habitat that could potentially support other special status species, such as the American badger (*Taxidea taxus*) and nesting raptors.

Rincon biologists will conduct the biological resources analysis with the express purpose of: confirming the accuracy of existing data on biological resources; and supplementing the existing data with independent and original biological field observations and impacts analyses. Based on our preliminary review of the *Sensitive Species and Habitat Survey* report (LFR 2009), Rincon assumes that additional field studies to determine the extent of waters of the U.S., waters of the State of California, and other jurisdictional areas may be required (these studies are presented as optional tasks), but that additional surveys for special status plant and animal species will not be necessary. Our scope of work will consist of the following tasks:



- *Identification of the biological resources environmental baseline for the project to determine if the site contains any special status plants or animals, peer review of the submitted Sensitive Species and Habitat Survey report prepared by LFR (2009), and review of the goals and policies set forth in the County's 2010 Conservation and Open Space Element.*
- *Review of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Ventura Office website for federally listed species occurring in San Luis Obispo County, review the USFWS Critical Habitat Portal to evaluate the extent of designated critical habitat occurring in the vicinity of the proposed project, query and review the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) for special status plant and animal taxa occurrence records within the U.S. Geological Survey*

*(USGS) quadrangles including and surrounding the proposed project, and query and review the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) online Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants of California for special status plant taxa occurrence records within the nine USGS quadrangles including and surrounding the proposed project. Rincon will reevaluate those species addressed within the LFR (2009) document and address any other species that occur in the vicinity of the project site for their potential to occur on-site.*

- *Review of technical reports provided by the applicant and reports prepared for other projects within the vicinity of proposed project.*
- *Coordination with state and federal agencies, including the USACE, USFWS, RWQCB, and CDFG, as well as conservation organizations such as CNPS and Audubon Society as appropriate.*
- *Conducting reconnaissance-level biological field surveys to confirm the accuracy of previous studies. It is assumed that the County and/or LFR will provide the biological resources spatial data in a digital, reproducible format (e.g., ArcGIS) to be used in the impact assessment; however, we have developed a budget such that the field and graphics time will be adequate to prepare maps depicting the previously documented and Rincon-verified biological resources that occur on the proposed project site. Rincon will initially focus field efforts on ground-truthing existing data and assessing the suitability of habitat on-site to support special status taxa that were identified in the Sensitive Species and Habitat Survey (LFR 2009).*
- *Analyses of potential direct and indirect impacts to common and special status biological resources, including terrestrial natural communities, wetlands, and wildlife corridors identified on-site and immediately off-site resulting from the proposed project (impacts may include changes in hydrological and water quality conditions, vegetation clearance and management including fire safety, increased use of water resources, and erosion and sedimentation within the drainages on and in the vicinity of the site including impacts to the Salinas River). This section will be closely coordinated with the water resources and drainage evaluation components of the EIR that will review the effects of the proposed onsite detention facilities. The Applicant's reclamation plan will also be considered when evaluating impacts and developing mitigation measures.*
- *Analyses of cumulative impacts to biological resources resulting from the proposed project that takes other existing and proposed projects in the vicinity into consideration to describe the subject project's cumulative contribution to biological impacts.*
- *Identification of feasible avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures with the intent of reducing impacts to biological resources on- and off-site resulting from project development to less than significant levels.*



Rincon will also determine the potential need for species-specific surveys upon completion of the reconnaissance-level biological field surveys. Rincon will provide a cost proposal for these specific tasks if it is determined that they are required.

This scope of work assumes that the conditions currently on-site are accurately reflected within the LFR (2009) report, and that LFR will provide all information from their figures (including vegetation mapping and species occurrences) to Rincon in a compatible ArcGIS format. No additional surveys are anticipated for habitat mapping or special status species surveys aside from the field reconnaissance site visit.

### **Jurisdictional Delineation of Waters and Wetlands of the U.S. and State of California (Optional Task)**

Aerial photos and topographic maps of the project site, as well as the LFR (2009) report, indicate the presence of a mapped blue-line drainage. While LFR has determined that this drainage is likely not subject to USACE jurisdiction, the 2009 report determined that all or portions of this drainage likely fall under the jurisdiction of the CDFG. However, no formal jurisdictional delineation was completed. As an optional task, Rincon will formally delineate this drainage and consult with the USACE, RWQCB, and CDFG to determine whether this drainage is jurisdictional. The delineation methods and results, including associated spatial data pertaining to jurisdictional waters of the U.S. and state of California, will be presented in a stand-alone report sufficient for submittal to the agencies for verification and incorporated into the Biological Resources section of the EIR. Rincon's wetland specialists will ensure that data reflects the extent, types, and jurisdictional status of waters on the proposed project site. Correspondence with the appropriate agencies will also occur to assess their review of the submitted report, and determine if they concur with the findings presented therein.

#### **e. Geology and Soils.**

Cotton, Shires and Associates (CSA) will provide the geology and soils analysis, which will be incorporated into the EIR by Rincon. The Initial Study for the project identified potential impacts predominantly related to ground disturbance, including soil erosion, sedimentation, and drainage issues from project grading, as well as potential slope instability concerns due to steep slopes anticipated within the quarry. The IS considered potential impacts from unstable earth conditions, including those resulting from landslides and earthquakes, to be insignificant, although the project is in a seismically active area and in close proximity to a possible active fault zone. CSA will review the consultant engineering geology report to determine whether potential geologic hazards have been adequately addressed for EIR purposes. Based on that review, CSA will recommend revisions, additional information or supplemental studies that may be necessary to address deficiencies in the applicant-submitted materials, in order to ensure a complete and proper analysis in the EIR document.

Our work scope will consist of the following specific tasks:

- *CSA will perform comprehensive peer review of the applicant's engineering geology investigation. Any deficiencies in this document will be identified and discussed in a technical memorandum.*



- *To supplement the peer review, CSA will procure and review appropriate stereo-pair sets of aerial photographs covering the site and surrounding area.*
- *Published geologic data covering the site area, including geologic maps and reports, fault hazard reports and maps, safety element information from the County, and other documents, will be reviewed as necessary to confirm conditions noted in the reports.*
- *Following completion of the document review, the site will be visited and reconnaissance-level engineering geological field mapping will be performed as necessary to confirm/verify conditions identified in the reviewed documents and bring other conditions to light as may be warranted based on our review. Reconnaissance mapping will include confirmation of pertinent drainage patterns, sedimentation patterns, and erosion characteristics of the site and surrounding area that impact, or are potentially impacted by, the proposed project.*
- *CSA will conduct independent analyses as necessary to evaluate findings in the reviewed reports, including, but not limited to, checks of slope stability calculations and deterministic and probabilistic seismic hazard assessments.*
- *CSA will attend one project meeting near the completion of the geology and soils work to review and discuss findings.*
- *Rincon will prepare the Geology and Soils section of the EIR based on the peer review and supplemental information prepared by CSA. Walt Hamann, PG, CEG, CHG, REA II, a Rincon Principal and California Certified Engineering Geologist, will oversee the geology and soils analysis.*
- *The EIR section will: discuss existing geologic and drainage conditions based on existing literature sources and field review (e.g., underlying formations, faulting, slope stability, potential landslide hazards, flooding and drainage hazards, etc.); identify and map potential geologic hazards (e.g., landslide, shrink-swell, erosion, etc.) and seismic characteristics in the study area; summarize existing federal, state and local regulations applicable to the project, which would reduce potential impacts; evaluate geologic hazards impacts; and identify and discuss feasible mitigation measures beyond existing regulations, if any, which could be included in the project to minimize potential impacts related to geologic hazards or topographic alteration.*

#### **f. Hazards/Hazardous Materials.**

This section of the EIR will evaluate project hazards related to use and storage of hazardous materials, location of the site within a fire hazard area, location of the site within a dam inundation zone, exposure of workers to steep slopes, and blasting activities. Impacts related to water quality will be addressed in the Water Supply and Water Quality section (see item I below). The Initial Study notes that the project site is not located in an area of known hazardous material contamination.

The proposed mine operation would use hazardous chemicals such as vehicle fuels, mineral and lubricating oils, cleaning detergents, and welding gasses, which would be stored in small quantities. This section will describe existing regulatory controls on the use and storage of hazardous materials, and will describe any additional hazards impacts that may result. Similarly, existing OSHA requirements for worker safety near steep slope faces will be



described and any residential impacts will be discussed. Mitigation measures will be recommended for all identified impacts.

This section will establish the existing fire hazard and emergency service setting for the study area. Fire protection officials will be contacted to evaluate site design requirements, emergency response times, adequacy of emergency services, fire flow, road width/grade, ingress/egress requirements, and other issues that may have an adverse effect on fire protection capabilities. Where necessary, mitigation measures will be developed for all identified impacts. Law enforcement officials will also be contacted to identify any special requirements associated expanding service into the Community Plan area.

The analysis will provide quantification of existing and projected demands as well as a comparison of these demands to the service capabilities. Where service deficiencies are identified, mitigation programs will be developed to avoid or minimize potentially adverse impacts.

This section will not quantify fiscal effects of the Community Plan update on public services, unless such analysis is available from affected service agencies. The mitigation discussions will describe existing fee programs that are in place to offset public services impacts. The impact analysis will examine both project specific and cumulative project impacts.

Cotton, Shires and Associates (CSA) will review the blast plan to determine whether potential impacts from blasting have been adequately addressed for EIR purposes. Based on that review, CSA will recommend revisions, additional information or supplemental studies that may be necessary to address deficiencies in the applicant-submitted materials, in order to ensure a complete and proper analysis in the EIR document. Potential blasting hazard mitigation strategies will be reviewed and additional or alternative measures will be recommended as necessary. This analysis will cross reference the blasting evaluations in the Air Quality and Noise impact sections.

#### **g. Noise.**

Although portions of the project site are influenced by noise from the adjacent aggregate quarry and vehicles traveling on Highway 58, background noise levels at the site and in the project vicinity are generally quiet, consistent with the rural setting. Rincon will peer review the existing noise study for the project (Dublink, 2010), verify and discuss the existing noise setting, compare existing and cumulative noise levels generated by project construction and operations (including vehicle noise, blasting, rock crushing, and other equipment noise) to adopted noise thresholds and standards, identify impacts on sensitive receptors, and recommend feasible mitigation measures to reduce any identified impacts.

Rincon will discuss existing noise sources in the project area and will conduct noise monitoring at up to three locations on the project site to verify existing noise levels. The existing regulatory setting will be described, including federal, state, and local noise requirements. The Dublink (2010) noise study for the project will be peer reviewed. The impact analysis will address noise levels and noise level increases related to site preparation/construction, project generated truck



and other vehicle trips, and mining operations (including blasting, rock crushing, and other on-site equipment operation) at sensitive receptors. These noise levels and increases will be evaluated relative to the County's Ldn or CNEL standard as well as periodic Lmax daytime noise standard. Periodic blasting noise will be evaluated using blasting standards from the Caltrans 2004 manual on transportation construction noise. The analysis will also discuss vibration impacts from mining activities, including blasting.

Rincon will verify the existing noise study evaluation of traffic noise impacts on segments of Highway 58 through the community of Santa Margarita to Highway 101 using Federal Highway Administration Traffic Noise Model (TNM) Version 2.5 "Look-up" tables.

Mitigation measures will be recommended to reduce construction and operational noise impacts as necessary. Mitigation for quarry activity noise generation may include siting of noise producing equipment such as crushers near the southwest face of the quarry to take advantage of noise reduction from existing ridgelines, and siting of stored materials as noise barriers around noise producing equipment, to reduce offsite noise impacts. A noise management plan that addresses noise impacts from mining activities, including blasting, truck backup signals, and other noise sources, may be recommended.

#### **h. Population and Housing (Energy).**

The proposed project would not result in a need for a significant amount of new housing, and would not displace existing housing. However, the Initial Study identifies potential project impacts related to energy use, which is categorized under the heading of Population and Housing in the County's CEQA checklist. To address the energy impacts of the proposed project, Rincon will conduct the following tasks:

- *Review CEQA Appendix F to determine the project's energy consumption and the proposed measures to conserve energy, such as energy efficient buildings, the use of alternative modes of travel, and the incorporation of recycling.*
- *Review and discuss project consistency with existing regulations, including the Uniform Building Code, Title 21, and County Conservation and Open Space Element, which are intended to reduce energy demands.*
- *Compare the project's energy consumption to the ability of the energy provider to be able to deliver power.*
- *Identify and discuss feasible mitigation measures which would reduce energy consumption and promote energy conservation to the extent feasible.*

#### **i. Recreation.**

As described in the Initial Study for the project, although the project would not create a significant need for additional parkland or recreational resources, the project could conflict with the Salinas River Trail which is depicted on the County Trails Map as traversing through the southwest corner of the project site. This section will discuss potential project impacts on the



trail alignment, based on review of the County Trails Map and consultation with the County Parks Department. Mitigation measures, which may involve relocation of project features to avoid the trail, will be recommended as necessary.

**j. Transportation/Circulation.**

Rincon Consultants will prepare the Transportation/Circulation impact section based on a Transportation Impact Study (TIS) to be prepared by Wood Rodgers, Inc. The TIS will comprehensively review and update the evaluation of existing, near-term and long-term future traffic operational and safety impacts under conditions both with and without the proposed project, as disclosed in the traffic study and sight distance evaluation completed for the project (TPG Consulting, Inc., May 2009). The TIS evaluation and documentation will be consistent with policies and standards specified in the San Luis Obispo County and Caltrans' Traffic Impact Analysis guidelines, and will consist of the following subtasks.

**Initial Meetings, Data Collection and Project Management.** Wood Rodgers will conduct a tele-conference/kick-off meeting with agencies (County, applicant and project stakeholders) and communication/meeting with agency staff as necessary to discuss/resolve key issues. A field review (windshield survey) of existing travel/traffic conditions will be performed by Wood Rodgers staff. Safety/sight distance issues, and roadway/pavement condition (wear) within the immediate vicinity of the project site will be performed. Wood Rodgers will review project documents, including the project description, project site plans, access points, and May 2009 traffic study report. The prior *Sight Distance Evaluation* (TPG Consulting, January 2010) document will also be peer reviewed. Wood Rodgers will review project operational characteristics (generation of employee trips and truck trips, type/size of trucks, annual, monthly, anticipated daily and hourly truck/auto trip generation data based on historical data or data from other sites, review of origin, demand and supply destinations, truck trip routes, schedules, truck loading logs, etc.). Wood Rodgers will review traffic safety (accident data) on critical study facilities, using data receivable from County/Caltrans. No new traffic count data collection (either peak hour or daily) is generally envisioned or proposed as part of this scope. As necessary, Wood Rodgers will review and update 2008-09 traffic counts (published in the 2009 traffic study) to reflect current year (2010-11) traffic conditions. Available data will be supplemented with relevant traffic count data from recently completed traffic studies, and Caltrans and County traffic count programs.

**Existing and Short-term Conditions Analysis.** Wood Rodgers will review/complete HCM-2000 based planning-level capacity analysis for existing study intersections (four intersections identified and evaluated in the 2009 traffic study) under weekday AM and PM peak hour periods, and roadway segments under Annual ADT conditions. This proposal assumes that no more than four additional intersections/roadway segments will be included with the updated TIS, and that recent/prior traffic counts are available for these additional locations. The Level of Service results and Traffic Safety evaluation will be reviewed and summarized. Wood Rodgers will also review/complete the peak hour signal warrant analysis for unsignalized intersections, and qualitatively review background truck traffic flows, the public transit system, and bikeway/pedestrian circulation within the project vicinity. Project site traffic generation (maximum/critical generation under weekday daily, AM peak hour, PM peak hour conditions)



will be reviewed and estimated using specific current operational data obtainable from prior traffic studies. Wood Rodgers will estimate/review proposed haul routes and project trip distribution patterns based on use/review of information from available local/regional traffic models. The evaluation may include a discussion of up to two (2) alternative truck routes. It is understood that the County has explored truck route alternatives (such as utilizing a route through the nearby Hansen Aggregate mine). Wood Rodgers will review this alternative in order to present an assessment of its feasibility. Due to the limited number of routes serving the project area, the evaluations will only be qualitative narratives of the advantages and disadvantages of using alternative routes. Wood Rodgers will superimpose project traffic on top of short-term traffic base, and summarize Level of Service results. Critical site access intersection(s) with SR 58 will be evaluated for geometric and control improvements. The Caltrans processes/procedures that may need to be initiated in order to construct the necessary off-site improvements that impact State right-of-way will be discussed. The project's potential impacts to the UPRR crossing will also be evaluated (to address the PUC's NOP comment letter, dated August 9, 2010).

**Cumulative Conditions Analysis.** Wood Rodgers will review cumulative traffic growth forecasts on study facilities from the cumulative regional/local traffic models, and/or prior County-approved traffic studies for a 20-year planning horizon (year 2030). "Cumulative Base (No Project)" scenario traffic volumes will be reviewed/developed. Wood Rodgers will also review/develop future project site traffic generation estimates anticipated through year 2030, and review/complete a year 2030 capacity analysis for study intersections and roadway segments. The year 2030 Level of Service results will be reviewed/summarized for scenarios with and without project conditions.

**Report Preparation and Meetings.** Wood Rodgers will discuss project impact significance and "fair-share" for critical off-site improvements. Short-term and long-term off-site improvements and mitigation measures will be identified for conditions with the proposed project. The Administrative Draft TIS report will be prepared using appropriate text, tables, graphics and appendices for County staff review. Wood Rodgers will circulate the draft report to the County, and address/resolve County staff comments. Wood Rodgers' project manager will attend one (1) meeting/presentation with County staff as necessary.

#### **k. Water Supply and Water Quality.**

Hawks & Associates (Hawks) will prepare the hydrology, water quality, and water supply assessments, which Rincon will incorporate into the EIR. Hawks will use creative ideas and experience with estimating impacts of geomorphology and channel modifications on water levels, scour and erosion, head cutting, depths of flow or inundation, and frequency of inundated areas. Hawks will peer review previous studies, and consider new analysis. No new modeling is included at this stage of the process, but may be recommended if justified based on peer review. The Water Supply and Water Quality section will include descriptions of existing regulatory requirements, including County and RWQCB standards, as well as SMARA and Clean Water Act requirements that are designed to protect water and affected resources. This section will describe project consistency with these requirements and identify any additional impacts if these requirements would not be met by the project. The methods for evaluating



impacts will be described. The water environment will be described, including the flow and duration of stormwater, and the subsequent groundwater recharge. The staged development of the mine and mining operations will be evaluated for impacts to aquatic life, flora and fauna, depth and duration of surface water flows, water quality and temperature, and impacts to groundwater recharge (timing, amounts, and water quality). The surface and groundwater interface will be described from a recharge and water budget perspective. Impacts to the water budgets will be quantified.

The water quality evaluation will qualitatively describe impacts on water courses, including the Salinas River, related to erosion and sedimentation, as well as impacts related to release of contaminants related to mining operations, including lubricants, petroleum products, and explosives chemicals.

Feasible mitigation measures to reduce identified impacts related to hydrology, water quality, and water supply will be recommended.

### **1. Effects Found Not to Be Significant**

The EIR will provide an evaluation of all environmental issue areas contained in the County's CEQA Checklist. This evaluation will consist of review and summary of information contained in the Initial Study for the project, supplemented by original research and analysis. This scope of work presumes that environmental impacts for the issue areas identified below do not exceed thresholds, either with or without the application of standard conditions of approval or other existing regulatory requirements.

**Cultural Resources.** As documented in the Initial Study, the project site is not located in an area historically occupied by the Obispeno Chumash and Salinan groups. No historic structures are present on the site and no paleontological resources are known to exist in the area. Although no significant cultural resources impacts are expected to occur, Rincon will peer review existing cultural resources information, including the Phase I survey prepared for the site (Conway, 2009), and incorporate the analysis into the EIR.

**Land Use.** According to the Initial Study, the project was reviewed by County staff for consistency with policies and regulatory documents related to the environment and appropriate land use, and determined to be consistent with applicable policies and documents. This subsection of the Effects Found Not to Be Significant section will summarize the County's land use and policy consistency evaluation.

**Wastewater.** The project proposes to use septic systems for project-generated wastewater. On-site soil has been tested for percolation rates. Based on review by the County Environmental Health Division, there is adequate evidence that demonstrates that on-site septic systems can be designed to meet the Central Coast Basin Plan Requirements. This scope of work assumes that acceptable conditions exist for on-site septic systems. This analysis will include a brief summary of existing conditions and available data, potential impacts, evaluation of consistency with the Basin Plan based on input from the County Environmental Health Division, identification of existing regulations regarding wastewater treatment and disposal, and additional protective measures if necessary.



## **5.0 COST AND SCHEDULE**

### **5.1 FEE ESTIMATE**

Rincon Consultants will prepare the Oster (Las Pilitas Quarry) Conditional Use Permit and Reclamation Plan EIR for the County of San Luis Obispo, in accordance with our proposed scope of services, for an estimated base fee of **\$158,452**. With time and materials tasks, which are estimated in the amount of **\$15,840**, our total estimated fee is **\$174,292**. The table found at the end of this proposal provides a breakdown of costs by major work item. Rincon is available to attend additional meetings or hearings on a time-and-materials basis, for a fee of \$1,000/professional/hearing.

It is our understanding that the County has requested that certain items be separated from the base fee, and included as time-and-materials tasks. These tasks would be exercised upon authorization by County staff. Such items include

- *Attendance at Meetings and Public Hearings*
- *Document printing*

Consequently, in our cost proposal these items are identified as time-and-materials expenses. Only the base fee would be subject to the milestone billing schedule, while the time and materials costs would be billed accordingly. The total project fee is the sum of the base fee and the time and materials costs. The optional tasks shown in the following table are not part of the overall fee.

Up to 5 working meetings with County staff and a kickoff meeting are included in this proposal as time and materials tasks. We have assumed that the consultant team will meet with County staff prior to each milestone and upon conclusion of County review of administrative draft products.

In addition, the following optional tasks, which are not included in the base fee, would be completed with written authorization from County staff: preparation of CEQA Findings, and preparation of a jurisdictional delineation.

All aspects of this proposed scope of services and associated costs are fully negotiable to meet the needs of the County of San Luis Obispo. Additional work not included within our proposed work program will be completed only upon written County authorization on a time-and-materials basis in accordance with our standard fee schedule, included as an appendix to this proposal.

### **5.2 SCHEDULE**

Rincon proposes to adhere to a schedule that allows the Draft EIR to be circulated within about 21 weeks of the Kickoff Meeting, and the EIR process to be concluded within approximately 9 months (see Project Schedule Estimate following this section).



**Kickoff Meeting:** Rincon will arrange and manage a project kickoff meeting within one week of the notice of contract award. This meeting will likely include County staff, possibly members of the applicant team (if determined appropriate by the County), and key members of the consultant team.

**Project Description and EIR Outline:** Within two weeks of the kickoff meeting, Rincon will submit the draft project description and EIR outline for staff review. The project description will contain information required by *CEQA Guidelines* Section 15124 and will form the basis for all technical analysis. Rincon assumes a one-week review period by the County, and one week to allow for Rincon's revisions to the project description. Thus, we assume that the project description will be approved by the County five weeks after the Kickoff Meeting.

**Administrative Draft EIR:** The Administrative Draft EIR will be completed within 10 weeks of County approval of the EIR project description, assuming that all technical information has been provided to allow us to complete our analysis in a timely fashion. This schedule assumes delivery of the ADEIR about 15 weeks after the kickoff meeting.

**Draft EIR:** Assuming that the County will deliver comments on the Administrative DEIR within three weeks, Rincon will produce the Draft EIR within three weeks of receipt of staff comments. This schedule also assumes that County comments are coordinated into a single consistent set of comments and that no new substantial analysis will be needed as a result. This schedule would allow for publication and initiation of public review approximately 21 weeks after the kickoff meeting. (Please note that additional time may be needed if the County staff needs more than three weeks to review the ADEIR.)

**Response to Comments/Administrative Final EIR:** Within three weeks of the close of the Draft EIR circulation period and receipt of all written and oral comments, Rincon will deliver a Draft Response to Comments report. Together with any changes that might be required to the Draft EIR, this will constitute the Administrative Final EIR for County staff review. Oral comments received during the public hearing held prior to this time will also be addressed. This milestone is expected to be reached 30 weeks after the kickoff meeting, assuming a 45-day public review period for the Draft EIR.

**Final EIR:** Within two weeks of receipt of County comments on the Response to Comments/Administrative Final EIR, Rincon will deliver the Final EIR (printed on recycled paper). Assuming a two-week review period for the County, the Final EIR would be delivered 34 weeks, or about 9 months, after the kickoff meeting.

Adhering to this schedule, the EIR will be prepared, reviewed by the public and decision-makers, and could be certified within about 9 to 10 months. The ability to meet this schedule depends on the level of public comment, the number of public hearings needed, timely receipt of technical information, and staff's direction on addressing unanticipated issues that may arise during the process.



County of San Luis Obispo  
**Oster (Las Pilitas Quarry) CUP and Reclamation Plan Project EIR**  
*Proposed Schedule*

Task	Month 1	Month 2	Month 3	Month 4	Month 5	Month 6	Month 7	Month 8	Month 9
Kickoff Meeting	●								
Project Description and EIR Outline	→	→							
Administrative Draft EIR		→	→	→	→				
Draft EIR					→	→	→		
Responses to Comments/Administrative Final EIR							→	→	
Final EIR									→



- Work in Progress
- Meeting
- County Review
- Public Review



## 6.0 REFERENCES

Rincon Consultants, Inc. is proud of its reputation as a leader in the environmental consulting industry. Below is an excerpt from a client reference letter for our work on the Lompoc General Plan and EIR.

*“We are very pleased with the performance of Rincon Consultants in preparing the City of Lompoc Comprehensive General Plan Update. Staff has been responsive to all requests and has done an excellent job of coordinating the work of sub consultants during the process. The work that has been presented has been professional and on-time...We look forward to completing this project and continuing the working relationship.”*

*~ Lucille T. Breese, AICP, Planning Manager – City of Lompoc*

The following additional references can also attest to our performance on past projects. At your request, we would be pleased to provide you with other references or additional work samples.

### **Rincon Consultants Company References**

Gary Kaiser  
Supervising Planner  
County of Santa Barbara  
805-934-6250  
gkaiser@co.santa-barbara.ca.us

Lucille Breese  
Planning Manager  
City of Lompoc  
805-875-8273  
l\_breese@ci.lompoc.ca.us

Pam Ricci  
Senior Planner  
City of San Luis Obispo  
805-7817168  
pricci@slocity.org

Marc Bierdzinski  
Planning Director  
City of Buellton  
805-688-7474  
marcb@cityofbuellton.com

Brian Smith  
Advance Planner  
City of Santa Maria  
805-925-0951 x244  
brsmith@ci.santa-maria.ca.us

Tom Bartlett  
Community Development Director  
City of Calabasas  
818-878-4225  
tbartlett@ci.calabasas.ca.us

## 7.0 CERTIFICATION OF OBJECTIVITY

Rincon Consultants, Inc. hereby acknowledges and certifies that it understands that the EIR is to present an independent, objective and unbiased work product and that the consultant team, including but not limited to the firm’s principals and subconsultants, have the capacity to submit a neutral and unbiased environmental document.





## Resumes

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## **MICHAEL P. GIALKETSIS**

President

Rincon Consultants, Inc.

Mr. Gialketsis is one of the founding principals of Rincon Consultants and currently serves as the President of operations. He has over 30 years of professional experience managing, directing, and performing environmental and planning studies throughout California. These studies have included environmental impact reports and/or land use planning documents for Local Coastal Programs, Specific Plans, General Plans, Redevelopment Plans, as well as specific developments such as residential, commercial, industrial, recreational and solid waste management facilities. Many of these projects have involved large scale public participation programs that were used to balance environmental, community, political, and economic issues. Prior to founding Rincon Consultants, Mr. Gialketsis was Vice President in charge of environmental and geoscience services for an international consulting firm, where he was responsible for managing the west coast environmental operations.

### **TECHNICAL CAPABILITIES**

- Mr. Gialketsis has a broad technical background in environmental and planning issues. He has prepared and directed traffic, noise, land use and policy analyses, air quality, visual resources, infrastructure, agricultural resources, and alternative analyses and has considerable expertise working with and implementing the State CEQA Guidelines.
- Mr. Gialketsis has over ten years of experience conducting and directing environmental facility audits and performing Phase I and II site investigations. These studies have involved detailed historical and site record reviews to determine the potential presence of onsite environmental liabilities. Where literature review identified potentially serious environmental issues, Mr. Gialketsis developed Phase II sampling programs to define onsite conditions.
- Mr. Gialketsis has considerable experience effectively working with many land use and environmental permitting agencies and has managed permit processing for a variety of project types.
- Mr. Gialketsis has authored technical papers and lectured on management and environmental planning issues. Mr. Gialketsis presented a paper to the Inter-American Bar Association on the use of environmental documentation in the planning and operation of facilities in Latin America. He has also been published in the American Society of Civil Engineers Journal of Engineering Management.

### **EDUCATION, REGISTRATIONS AND AFFILIATIONS**

B.A., Environmental Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara

California Lutheran University (MBA course work)

Continuing Education ASFE Institute of Professional Practice

### **EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (1994 through present)

Fugro West, Inc. (1983 through 1994)

Envicom Corporation (1979 through 1983)

County of Ventura Resource Management Agency (1979)

## **PROJECT EXPERIENCE**

### *General Plans, Specific Plans, Redevelopment Projects*

- City of Agoura Hills Agoura Village Specific Plan EIR
- Oxnard Revised Redevelopment Project EIR
- City of Buellton General Plan and EIR
- County of Los Angeles Malibu Local Coastal Program
- John Laing Homes LCP Amendment EIR
- City of Oxnard, Oxnard Village Specific Plan EIR

### *Environmental Impact Reports*

- Charnock Wellfield Restoration EIR, City of Santa Monica
- Diani Asphalt Plant EIR, City of Santa Paula
- Creekwood Coastal Residential Project EIR, City of Carpinteria
- Buellflat Annexation EIR, City of Solvang
- Lantana Studios Expansion EIR, City of Santa Monica
- Chevron Estero Facility Removal and Restoration EIR, County of San Luis Obispo
- De Anza Off-Road Vehicle Park EIR, County of Riverside
- Goleta Valley Areawide Agricultural Study
- Southern California Pipeline System Permit Application
- UNOCAL Cojo Platform and Pipeline Development Plan
- Bolsa Chica Wetlands Restoration Pipeline Replacement Program Permitting and CEQA Documentation

### *Environmental Assessments/Audits*

- Regulatory Compliance Program for Sempra Utilities Distribution and Transmission Facilities, (2003-present)
- Ventura County Transportation Commission Santa Paula Branch Line Phase I & II, Environmental Site Assessment
- Sprint PCS Cell Tower Environmental Assessment of over 400 sites in southern California
- Army Fort Irwin Waste Management Plan, Environmental Baseline Report for Barstow-Daggett Airport: AB 2588 Air Toxics Inventory
- Environmental Audit, Environmental Damage Assessment and Management Plan for Oilfield Facilities, Ecuador, South America
- Oxnard Housing Department, Phase I Environmental Assessment
- Over 100 Phase I studies for individual property transfers

### *Phase II Assessment and Remediation Projects*

- Los Angeles County Temple City Sheriffs Station Soil Vapor Extraction Project
- Santa Barbara County Phillips Tajiguas Oil and Gas Plant Abandonment
- City of Oxnard Corporation Yard Bioremediation Project
- County of Ventura Sheriff and Fire Stations



## **RICHARD C. DAULTON, MURP**

Principal

Rincon Consultants, Inc.

As a Principal in Rincon's Environmental Sciences and Planning Group and Operations Manager of Rincon's San Luis Obispo office, Mr. Daulton oversees planning and environmental projects in the California Central Coast region. Mr. Daulton has over 14 years of experience in the planning profession, with an emphasis on environmental planning. His planning skills are supported by a strong background in technical environmental and economic analysis. He manages a range of CEQA and NEPA documents, and has successfully combined environmental analysis and planning techniques to guide agencies through complex studies and controversial programs, entitlement and planning projects.

### **TECHNICAL CAPABILITIES**

- Mr. Daulton manages the preparation of CEQA and NEPA documents, with an emphasis on project-level analysis for development and public works projects. He is skilled at balancing the goals of conveying complex environmental issues to the general public and preparing legally defensible and highly technical CEQA and NEPA documents.
- Mr. Daulton has educational background in economics and conducts economic analyses, including land demand market analyses.
- Mr. Daulton has considerable experience managing the preparation of permit applications and coordinating with regulatory agencies for wetlands and streambed alterations. He is qualified to prepare jurisdictional wetlands delineations.
- Mr. Daulton has prepared numerous Phase I Environmental Site Assessments (ESAs) and Initial Site Assessments (ISAs), with an emphasis on exceeding due diligence requirements and incorporating feasible, effective, and legally defensible recommendations to address environmental conditions.

### **EDUCATION, REGISTRATIONS AND AFFILIATIONS**

M.U.R.P., Urban and Regional Planning, University of California, Irvine

B.S., Economics, University of California, San Diego

38-Hour U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation and Management Training Program

Architecture Foundation Award, University of California, Irvine Social Ecology Associates, 1997

Association of Environmental Professionals

### **EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (2000 through present)

RBF Consulting (1997 through 2000)

Michael Brandman Associates (1995 through 1997)

### **PROJECT EXPERIENCE**

#### *Project-Level CEQA Documentation*

- Santa Margarita Ranch Project EIR, County of San Luis Obispo
- Dalidio Marketplace Commercial Annexation Project EIR, City of San Luis Obispo
- Union Valley Parkway Extension/Interchange Project EIR/EA, City of Santa Maria
- Biddle Ranch Agricultural Cluster Subdivision EIR, County of San Luis Obispo

- Paso Robles Vineyards Agricultural Cluster Subdivision EIR, County of San Luis Obispo
- Skytt Mesa Residential Subdivision EIR, City of Solvang
- Flying Flags Residential Project EIR, City of Buellton
- Seabreeze Estates Residential Subdivision EIR, City of Lompoc
- San Juan Oaks Golf Course Project EIR, County of San Benito
- Lavagnino Industrial Development Project EIR, County of San Benito
- Providence Landing Project EIR, County of Santa Barbara
- Orcutt Key Site 3 EIR, County of Santa Barbara
- Santa Maria Los Flores Landfill Project EIR, City of Santa Maria
- Santa Maria Landfill Expansion Project EIR, City of Santa Maria
- Regional Landfills Project EIR, Salinas Valley Solid Waste Authority

*Urban Planning Analysis and Documentation*

- General Plan Update and EIR, City of Lompoc
- General Plan Update and EIR, City of Buellton
- General Plan Update and EIR, City of Paso Robles
- Land Demand Market Analysis, City of Paso Robles
- Shandon Community Plan EIR, County of San Luis Obispo
- Santa Ynez Valley Community Plan EIR, County of Santa Barbara
- Housing Element Rezone Program EIR, County of Santa Barbara
- Regional Transportation Plan EIRs, San Luis Obispo Council of Governments, Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission, Council of San Benito County Governments, Santa Barbara County Association of Governments
- Santa Margarita Ranch Future Development Program EIR, County of San Luis Obispo
- Bailey Avenue Specific Plan EIR, City of Lompoc
- Area 9 Specific Plan EIR, City of Santa Maria
- Oaks Springs Village Specific Plan EIR, City of Buellton
- Hamilton Army Air Field Base Reuse Plan EIR, City of Novato

*Wetlands Regulatory Permitting*

- Disaster Repair Projects, County of San Benito
- Graham Hill Estates Residential Project, County of Santa Cruz
- Williams Ranch Subdivision Project, City of Salinas



## **ROBERT A. MULLANE, M.S.**

Planning Manager  
Rincon Consultants, Inc.

As planning manager of Rincon's Environmental Sciences and Planning Group in San Luis Obispo, Mr. Mullane manages and directs staffing for planning and environmental projects throughout California. Mr. Mullane possesses a wealth of experience in City, County, and regional planning. Prior to joining Rincon, Mr. Mullane worked a total of seven years at the senior planner level for the County of Santa Barbara and the City of Goleta. His responsibilities in that capacity included managing or conducting environmental review of projects as well as preparing and presenting these projects to decision-makers.

At Rincon, Mr. Mullane has managed or is managing a number of EIRs and major planning documents, including: the City of Malibu 2008-2014 Housing Element Update EIR, the Santa Barbara County New County Jail Subsequent EIR, the Santa Ynez Valley Community Plan EIR, and the general plan portion of the Lompoc General Plan Update and EIR. He also manages the contract planning services with the City of Guadalupe, and provides oversight for the entire contract planning services line.

### **TECHNICAL CAPABILITIES**

- Mr. Mullane manages the preparation of CEQA and NEPA documents, with an emphasis on project-level analysis for development projects. His background in natural sciences as well as his strong analytical abilities allows him to understand complex technical aspects of environmental review. His extensive experience in local government allows him to convey complex or complicated issues clearly and concisely, both in writing and orally. He is skilled at preparing legally defensible and highly technical CEQA and NEPA documents.
- Mr. Mullane is well versed in Planning and Zoning law and has had the opportunity to work in, or with, several local, state, and federal government agencies. He has direct experience preparing a wide variety of planning reports products including General Plans, Specific Plans, Ordinance Amendments, Local Coastal Program Amendments, Tract Maps, Development Plans, and Design Review Guidelines and Bylaws. He is skilled at writing Resolutions and Ordinances for various decision-making bodies.
- Mr. Mullane has worked extensively in coastal communities, and has processed and reviewed Coastal Development Permits and Local Coastal Plan Amendments. He has worked closely with staff from the California Coastal Commission and California State Lands Commission and is well versed in the California Coastal Act and the administrative procedures of the Coastal Commission and State Lands Commission.
- Mr. Mullane has overseen or managed numerous habitat restoration projects. He has both reviewed and implemented a variety of mitigation plans, and has worked with various trustee agencies to ensure the successful implementation of such projects including ongoing monitoring and reporting requirements.

### **EDUCATION, REGISTRATIONS AND AFFILIATIONS**

M.S., Geology and Geophysics, University of Hawaii, Manoa  
B.S., Geology, Duke University  
American Planning Association  
Planning Commission, City of Buellton (2005-2007)

### **EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (2007 to present)  
City of Goleta, Department of Planning and Environmental Services (2003 to 2007)

County of Santa Barbara, Planning and Development Department Energy Division (2000 to 2003)  
University of Hawaii Sea Grant Extension Service (1996 to 2000)

## **PROJECT EXPERIENCE**

### *Project-Level CEQA and NEPA Documentation*

- 2008-2014 Housing Element Update EIR, City of Malibu
- Calle Real Jail Photo-Voltaic Installation Project MND, County of Santa Barbara
- Key Site 3 Subsequent EIR, County of Santa Barbara
- 2003-2008 Housing Element Focused Rezone Program EIR, County of Santa Barbara
- City of Lompoc General Plan Update EIR, City of Lompoc
- Santa Ynez Valley Community Plan EIR, County of Santa Barbara
- Uniform Rules Update EIR, Cumulative Projects Analysis, County of Santa Barbara
- City of Turlock/Caltrans State Route 99/Fulkerth Road Interchange Improvements Preliminary Environmental Analysis Report and MND/Categorical Exclusion
- City of Guadalupe CE/CE for Highway 1 Improvements
- Tentative Tract 5475 Specific Plan EIR, City of Santa Paula
- 2009 Redevelopment Plan Amendment MND, City of Guadalupe
- Costco Gasoline Station Supplemental EIR, City of Goleta
- Islamic Center for Santa Barbara Project MND, City of Goleta
- Venoco State Lease 421 Recommissioning Project EIR, Joint Review Panel, City of Goleta Representative
- Venoco Full Field Development Project EIR, Joint Review Panel, City of Goleta Representative
- Comstock Homes and Ellwood Mesa Open Space Plan EIR, City of Goleta
- Line 96 Oil Pipeline Leak Detection System Project MND, County of Santa Barbara

### *Long Range Planning*

- Santa Ynez Valley Community Plan EIR, County of Santa Barbara
- Lompoc General Plan Update and EIR, City of Lompoc
- Development of City of Goleta General Plan, City of Goleta
- Oil and Gas Pipeline Abandonment Policies and Program EIR, County of Santa Barbara
- Maui Beach Management Plan, County of Maui
- Kaanapali Beach Management Plan, County of Maui
- Revisions to Shoreline Setback and Special Management Area Rules, County of Maui

### *Zoning Ordinance Amendments*

- Planned Residential Development Ordinance, City of Guadalupe
- Design Review Process (Zoning Ordinance Amendment), City of Guadalupe
- Revision to Design Review Board Guidelines and Bylaws, City of Goleta
- Ordinance Amendment to Improve Planning Permit Processes, City of Goleta

### *Other Planning Documents and Coastal Projects*

- Southwest Elementary School Local Coastal Program Analysis, City of Oxnard and Oxnard School District
- Comstock Homes and Ellwood Mesa Open Space Plan CDP, City of Goleta
- Ellwood Marine Terminal Road Repair MND and CDP, County of Santa Barbara
- Safety Audits for Venoco Ellwood Onshore Oil and Gas Processing Facility and Ellwood Marine Terminal
- Venoco Ellwood Facilities Amortization Study, County of Santa Barbara
- Ellwood-Devereux Coast Open Space and Habitat Management Plan, City of Goleta



## **DUANE VANDER PLUYM, D. Env.**

Vice President

Rincon Consultants, Inc.

Dr. Vander Pluym is a Principal of Rincon and serves as the Senior Environmental Professional, providing technical review and oversight of projects, and training and management of environmental professionals. He is also the Principal Biologist with over 30 years of experience in the biological and environmental service lines.

### **TECHNICAL CAPABILITIES**

- Dr. Vander Pluym has served as a project manager and primary technical investigator for over 500 reports performed for public and private agencies. His primary expertise is in general environmental analysis, biology, and ecosystem analysis. He is also an expert in the fields of noise, air quality, health risk analysis, hydrology, and water quality. He is familiar with both CEQA and NEPA regulations, state and federal Endangered Species Acts requirements, Army Corps of Engineers 404 jurisdictional wetlands analysis, California Fish and Game regulations, and DTSC and EPA risk assessment methods.
- Dr. Vander Pluym performs and directs the use of computer simulation biological, air quality, and noise models to aid in the determination of environmental effects. Models used include the Federal Highway Administration Traffic Noise Model®, Risk Based Corrective Action (RBCA) spreadsheet system, CARB Hotspots Analysis and Reporting Program (HARP), ALOHA, and VORTEX population simulation. He has also developed multiple in-house spreadsheet programs to aid in environmental analysis, including health risk associated with toxic materials, railroad and highway traffic noise, construction noise, highway intersection capacity utilization, shadow analysis, air pollutant emissions, and small watershed hydrology, among others. He also has considerable experience using GIS.
- Dr. Vander Pluym has considerable experience working with many public agencies, providing public testimony, and leading public hearings and meetings. He has also served as an expert witness during litigation.

### **EDUCATION, REGISTRATIONS AND AFFILIATIONS**

Doctorate, Environmental Science and Engineering, University of California, Los Angeles

M.A., Biology, University of California, Riverside

B.Sc., Biology, University of California, Riverside

California Community College Instructor, biological sciences and ecology

Chair of Citizens Advisory Committee - Ventura County APCD

### **EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (1995 through present)

Fugro West, Inc./McClelland Engineers, Inc. (1983 through 1994)

Envicom Corporation (1976 through 1980)

### **PROJECT EXPERIENCE**

#### *CEQA and NEPA Experience*

- California State University, Channel Islands Master Plan EIR
- California State University, San Bernardino Revised Master Plan EIR
- City of Santa Monica Multi-Family Earthquake Repair Loan (MERL) Program NEPA/CEQA

- Navy WESTDIV: Marine Corps Twenty-Nine Palms Housing EA, Los Alamitos Navy Family Housing EA, El Toro Marine Corps Base Family Housing EA
- Ahmanson Ranch General Plan Amendment and Specific Plan EIRs

#### *Industrial and Infrastructure Facilities*

- Alternative Site Analysis, Tessera Solar II, Imperial County
- Air Quality Impact Assessment, Huasna Oil Field Exploration, San Luis Obispo County
- Haley Bridge Replacement Construction Monitoring, Santa Barbara County
- Westmont College Environmental Quality Assurance Program Monitoring
- EIRs for two Hot Mix Asphalt Manufacturing Facilities, Ventura County
- Environmental Assessment QA/QRT Pipeline System, Saudi ARAMCO
- Southern California Pipeline System Preliminary Development Plan and Environmental Review Supplement; Four Corners Pipe Line Company

#### *Biological Resources*

- Biological Due Diligence – 18 Solar Sites in Kern, Los Angeles, and San Bernardino Counties
- Multiple NES/BAs for Caltrans infrastructure projects
- More Mesa Biological Resources Study, Santa Barbara County
- Cold Springs Creek Biological Assessment (steelhead trout and California red-legged frog)
- Multiple Biological Assessments (BAs) in Los Padres and Angeles National Forests
- Southwestern Pond Turtle Mitigation Program for the Conejo Creek Diversion Project
- Breeding Bird Surveys, including Least Tern and Belding's Savanna Sparrow (multiple clients)
- Jurisdictional Waters and Wetlands Permit Application Packages (Army Corps Section 404 permit, Regional Water Quality Control Board Section 401 Certification, Fish and Game Streambed Alteration Agreement—multiple private and public clients)

#### *Technical Studies*

- Multiple Human Health Risk Assessments for private clients in Santa Barbara, Ventura, Los Angeles, and San Diego Counties
- Multiple Risk-Based Corrective Action (RBCA) analyses in southern California
- Caltrans TNM® noise assessment studies: Reyes Adobe Road Interchange, Union Valley Parkway, Lewis Road, Fulton Road Extension
- Multiple TNM® Noise Studies: Ventura Thille Community, Thousand Oaks Mall, Ventura Groves Housing Development, Lemoore Walmart, Encinitas Manchester Condominiums
- City of Pasadena Noise Element
- Multiple noise analyses for various private clients in Ventura, Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo Counties.
- Nevada County Landfill Noise Study; Nevada County Public Works Department

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

“Environmental Pipeline Risk Assessment Using GIS”, with D. Scott, 1994. *Third Annual Conference on Geographic Information Systems for the Pipeline Industry, Houston, Texas.*

Environmental Decision-Making: The Role of Science, 1988. Doctoral Thesis, UCLA.

“Development of a Wetland Restoration and Management Program,” 1986. *Proceedings of the Third Water Quality and Wetlands Management Conference: Lakes, Rivers, and Streams; New Orleans, Louisiana.* pg. 155 - 177.

“An Ecotoxicological Model for Energy Development and the Salton Sea, California”, with W. Dritschilo, 1984. *J. of Environmental Management* 19:15-30

“Cross-Comparison of Energy Rates of Return”, with R. L. Perrine, et al, 1984. *The Environmental Professional* 6:137-152.



## **WALTER HAMANN, PG, CEG, CHG, REA II**

Vice President, Environmental and Geological Services  
Rincon Consultants, Inc.

Mr. Hamann is a founding partner and the principal environmental geologist at Rincon. In this capacity, he is responsible for all aspects of project management, including proposal preparation, client contact, supervising staff, final report preparation or review, and budget. His extensive experience includes assessment and remediation of contaminated sites, chlorinated solvent remediation design and implementation, all aspects of underground storage tank assessment and remediation, modeling for seismic risk and ground shaking, fault rupture potential, Phase I site assessments, and as an expert witness for hazardous waste sites.

### **TECHNICAL CAPABILITIES**

- Mr. Hamann has extensive experience with underground tank sites. This underground tank experience ranges from being onsite for over 500 tank removals, assessing hundreds of tank sites, remediating numerous tank sites, post remediation monitoring, and meeting with regulators on behalf of the responsible parties. His tank experience includes gasoline, diesel, waste oil, unused motor oil, and solvent tank storage systems.
- Mr. Hamann has designed and implemented soil and groundwater remediation programs. These projects have included air sparging/soil vapor extraction, enhanced bioremediation, and soil vapor extraction.
- Mr. Hamann has been designated as an expert in matters of underground fuel storage tank and chlorinated solvent related contaminants. He has provided in-court testimony for both plaintiffs and defendants related to underground tank related issues.
- Mr. Hamann has completed seismic ground acceleration modeling for sites worldwide, including: California, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, New Zealand, Trinidad, China, and Croatia.
- Mr. Hamann has extensive experience in the characterization and remediation of oilfield contaminated sites. He has completed oil field audits for sites in California, Venezuela, Ecuador, and Mexico.
- Mr. Hamann has experience in the preparation of geology, seismic, and contamination related sections of EIRs.

### **EDUCATION, REGISTRATIONS AND AFFILIATIONS**

B.A., Geological Sciences, University of California, Santa Barbara  
M.S., Geology, University of California, Los Angeles  
Professional Geologist, California (#4742)  
Certified Engineering Geologist, California (#1635)  
Certified Hydrogeologist, California (#208)  
Registered Environmental Assessor, California (REA I- #02285; REA II- #20063)  
American Institute of Professional Geologists, Registered Professional Geologist  
Registered Geologist in Alaska, Arizona, Idaho, and Oregon

### **EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (1994 to present)  
Fugro West, Inc. (1987 through 1994)  
Enviropro, Inc. (1986 through 1987)

ESSO Exploration, an Exxon Company (1985 through 1986)

US Borax (1984)

## PROJECT EXPERIENCE

### *Remediation Projects*

- EPA Superfund site, chlorinated solvents in soil and groundwater, soil vapor extraction
- Dry cleaners, air sparging and soil vapor extraction for chlorinated solvents, multiple sites
- Gasoline service stations, soil excavation, soil vapor extraction, free phase recovery, multiple sites
- Military installation, Santa Cruz Island, enhanced bioremediation of fuel hydrocarbons
- Excavation and offsite disposal of fuel, pesticides, and heavy metals, multiple sites
- Free-phase cutting oil recovery, manufacturing site

### *Underground Fuel Storage Tanks*

- Shell Oil Company and Exxon USA account manager, sites throughout California
- Individual sites throughout Los Angeles, Ventura, Santa Barbara, and Orange Counties
- Experience in gasoline, diesel, waste oil, fresh oil, and solvent tanks

### *Oil Field Assessments*

- Texaco, Oriente Province, Ecuador; Maxus Energy, Quiriquire Field, Venezuela; Amoco, La Brea Field, Trinidad
- Nuevo Energy/Torch Operating Company, Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties
- Seneca Resources, Kern County
- Unocal, multiple sites, Santa Barbara County
- Stocker Resources, Los Angeles, Santa Barbara offshore, and San Luis Obispo Counties

### *Environmental Impact Reports*

- Ahmanson Ranch, Ventura County
- Santa Monica Civic Center, Santa Monica
- CSU Channel Islands, Ventura County
- Playa Vista, Los Angeles

### *Site Assessments*

- Former US Air Force base, Camarillo, California
- 80-acre downtown Los Angeles property, Los Angeles, California

### *School Sites*

- School Assessments or PEAs for Irvine, Santa Ana, Ventura, Ceres, and Saugus school districts

### *Expert Witness/Litigation Support*

- Charnock MTBE Superfund site responsible party, Culver City, California
- Burbank-Glendale US EPA Superfund area designated expert
- Solvent and nickel contaminated property, Torrance
- Contamination in a municipal water supply well, Norwalk

## PUBLICATIONS

Hamann, W.E., 1996, Minimizing Liability through Environmental Audits- Latin America Case Studies, American Association of Petroleum Geologists, Volume 5



## **COLBY J. BOGGS**

Senior Ecologist/Biological Program Manager  
Rincon Consultants, Inc.

Colby J. Boggs is a Senior Ecologist with Rincon Consultants, Inc. He has over fourteen years of professional experience as a botanist, ecologist, wetlands specialist, and biological sciences educator and researcher. His duties at Rincon include biological field surveys for special status species, habitat and plant community mapping, wetlands assessments, biological resources analyses, construction and mitigation monitoring, conservation planning, regulatory compliance, and the preparation of biological reports, environmental documents and permit applications in support of the California Environmental Quality Act, National Environmental Policy Act, Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, Fish and Game Code 1600 et seq., Clean Water Act, and state and federal Endangered Species Acts.

### **TECHNICAL CAPABILITIES**

- Mr. Boggs is skilled in plant, wildlife and wetland ecology, biological and wetlands resources assessments, biological survey methods, ecological restoration, vegetation monitoring, and invasive plant biology; other technical skills include knowledge and use of dissecting, compound and scanning electron microscopes, statistics, global positioning systems, and ecological sampling equipment.
- Mr. Boggs has managed, conducted, and/or assisted reconnaissance and/or protocol level botanical and wildlife survey efforts for federally listed, state-listed, and other special status species as well as invasive and noxious weed species.
- Mr. Boggs has designed creation, restoration, enhancement, reclamation and monitoring plans for terrestrial and wetland habitats; mapped plant communities and habitat types through field surveys and interpretation of aerial imagery; conducted delineations of wetlands and other waters; completed several assessments of habitat suitability for special status plant and wildlife species, and performed post-treatment and other programmatic vegetation monitoring.

### **EDUCATION, REGISTRATIONS AND AFFILIATIONS**

M.S., Botany, 2001, California State University, Chico

B.S., Ecology and Evolution, 1996, University of California, Santa Barbara

A Manual of California Vegetation, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition – Santa Barbara Botanic Garden, 2011

California Rapid Assessment Method – U.C. Davis Extension and Moss Landing Marine Laboratories, 2010

Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Plant Voucher Collecting Permit No. 2081(a)-10-52-V – California Department of Fish and Game, 2010

Certified Ecologist – Ecological Society of America, 2007

California Rapid Assessment Method – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, San Francisco Estuary Institute and Moss Landing Marine Laboratories, 2007

Habitat Assessment and Modeling Training – U.S. Geological Survey, 2007

Hydric Soil Indicators – Wetland Training Institute, 2007

Introduction to Botanical Biological Evaluations, Botany Reports, and Noxious Weed Risk Assessments – Friends of the Biological Sciences Herbarium, CSU, Chico, 2005

Wetlands Delineation and Management – Richard Chinn Environmental Training, 2003

Introduction to CEQA/NEPA for Botanists – Friends of the Biological Sciences Herbarium, CSU, Chico, 2002

Society of Wetland Scientists – Member  
Ecological Society of America – Member  
California Botanical Society – Member  
California Native Plant Society – Member  
California Native Grasslands Association – Member  
California Invasive Plant Council – Member  
California Society for Ecological Restoration – Member  
Northern California Botanists – Founding Member and Past Vice President  
Friends of the Biological Sciences Herbarium at CSU, Chico – Member and Past Board Member

### **PROFESSIONAL HISTORY**

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (2008 to present)  
North State Resources, Inc. (2000 to 2008)  
California State University, Chico (1999 to 2001)  
Independent Consultant (1998 to 2000)  
Santa Barbara School District (1997 to 1999)  
California State University, Chico (1996 to 1997)  
Fullerton College (1995 to 1996)  
Santa Barbara Botanic Garden (1995)  
University of California, Santa Barbara (1993 to 1995)

### **RECENT PROJECT EXPERIENCE**

- Biological Impact Analysis for the Pacifica Bluff Stabilization Project – RJR Engineering, San Mateo County
- Habitat Suitability Assessment and BA/BE for the Pine Mtn Learning Center Telecommunications Cable Project – AT&T (U.S. Forest Service, Los Padres National Forest), Kern County
- Biological Pre-construction Surveys and Construction Monitoring for the Lines 2000 & 4000 Pipeline Repair Project – Southern California Gas Company, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino Counties
- Botanical and Wildlife Surveys for the Panoche Valley Solar Farm Project – Live Oak Associates, San Benito County
- Botanical Surveys for Potential Solar Projects – Recurrent Energy, Kern, Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties
- Clean Water Act Section 404(b)(1) Alternatives Analysis for the Solar Two Project – Ecosphere Environmental, Imperial County
- Jurisdictional Delineation, Biological Studies, and IS/MND for the Walter Colton School Storm Drain Improvement Project – Monterey Peninsula Unified School District, Monterey County
- Marine and Terrestrial Biological Studies and IS/MND for the Morro Bay Boatyard Project – City of Morro Bay, San Luis Obispo County
- Biological Investigations for the California Valley Solar Ranch Project – URS, San Luis Obispo County
- Biological Resources Analyses for the Shandon Community Plan EIR & HCP – San Luis Obispo County & ICF, San Luis Obispo County
- Steelhead and Riparian Vegetation Assessment for the River Oaks Project – Estrella Associates, San Luis Obispo County
- Biological Resources Assessment, Botanical Survey, and Wetland Delineation for the Coastal Christian School Project – Coastal Christian School, San Luis Obispo County
- Biological Resources Assessment and Wetland Delineation for the Fairbanks Ranch Gate and Roadway Improvement Project – Real Estate Consultants, San Diego County
- Annual Plants, Invertebrates, Fishes, Amphibians, and Reptiles Impacts Analyses for the GAP HCP – Sempra Energy Utilities, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura, Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino and Riverside Counties



## MEGAN JONES

Senior Planner

Rincon Consultants, Inc.

As a Senior Planner in Rincon's Environmental Sciences and Planning Group in Monterey, Ms. Jones works on planning and environmental projects in the California Central Coast region. Ms. Jones also manages operation of Rincon's Monterey Office. Ms. Jones is responsible for general plan and specific plan preparation and environmental analysis and review, particularly California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance documentation. Ms. Jones has education and experience in environmental studies, geography, and environmental economics and policy.

### TECHNICAL CAPABILITIES

- Ms. Jones manages the preparation of CEQA and NEPA documents, with an emphasis on project-level analysis for development projects. She is skilled at balancing the goals of conveying complex environmental issues to the general public and preparing legally defensible and highly technical CEQA and NEPA documents.
- Ms. Jones has a thorough familiarity with California planning law and CEQA/NEPA compliance. She is proficient in formatting environmental documents that communicate effectively to decision-makers and the public, and assist in achieving identified planning objectives.
- Ms. Jones is knowledgeable in technical modeling and research, with experience preparing studies related to noise and air quality.
- Ms. Jones combines her planning and policy analysis knowledge with her understanding of geography and natural resources management to develop comprehensive resource conservation, mitigation, and monitoring programs.

### EDUCATION, REGISTRATIONS AND AFFILIATIONS

M.P.P., Master of Public Policy, California State University Monterey Bay (underway)

B.A., Environmental Studies, University of Oregon, Eugene

B.A., Geography, University of Oregon, Eugene

Monterey Bay Chapter Board Member and CEQA Workshop Coordinator, Association of Environmental Professionals

Member, American Public Works Association

### EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (2005 through present)

### SELECTED PROJECT EXPERIENCE

#### *Project- and Program-Level CEQA Documentation*

- Marina Downtown Vitalization Specific Plan EIR, City of Marina
- Shandon Community Plan Update EIR, County of San Luis Obispo
- Santa Margarita Ranch EIR, County of San Luis Obispo
- Marina High School EIR, Monterey Peninsula Unified School District
- Santa Maria Landfill Expansion Project EIR, City of Santa Maria
- Santa Barbara County New County Jail Subsequent EIR, County of Santa Barbara

- Lompoc General Plan Update EIR, City of Lompoc
- Chandler Ranch Area Specific Plan EIR, City of Paso Robles
- Housing Element Focused Rezone Program EIR, County of Santa Barbara
- Santa Ynez Valley Community Plan EIR, County of Santa Barbara

*HUD and NEPA Documentation*

- On-Call NEPA Environmental Review Services, City and County of San Francisco Mayor's Office of Housing
- Multiple Projects NEPA Compliance Documentation, Housing Authority of the County of Santa Cruz
- NEPA Compliance Documentation, County of Santa Barbara Housing Authority
- Casa de Familia EA for HUD Funded Projects, City of Santa Maria
- Oak Park Boulevard Barrier Removal/Sidewalk Infill CE for HUD Funded Projects, City of Grover Beach
- Mentone Avenue Storm Drain Extension Project, EA for HUD Funded Projects, City of Grover Beach
- South 5<sup>th</sup> Street Storm Drain Improvement Project, EA for HUD Funded Projects, City of Grover Beach
- Union Valley Parkway Extension/Interchange Project EIR/EA, City of Santa Maria

*Community Planning*

- Marina Downtown Vitalization Specific Plan, City of Marina
- Marina Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan, City of Marina
- Lompoc General Plan Update, City of Lompoc
- Chandler Ranch Area Specific Plan, City of Paso Robles

*Contract Planning*

- On-call CEQA consulting, County of Monterey
- On-call CEQA consulting, City of Buellton



## **ROB FITZROY**

Project Manager, Environmental Planner  
Environmental Sciences & Planning Services  
Rincon Consultants, Inc.

As a Project Manager in Rincon's Environmental Sciences and Planning Group in Monterey, Rob Fitzroy works on planning and environmental projects in the California Central Coast region. Mr. Fitzroy is responsible for environmental analysis and review, particularly California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance documentation, and contract city planning. Mr. Fitzroy is educated and experienced in natural resource management, environmental planning, city and regional planning and environmental policy analysis.

### **TECHNICAL CAPABILITIES**

- Mr. Fitzroy manages the preparation of CEQA and NEPA documents, with an emphasis on project-level analysis for development projects. He is skilled at balancing the goals of conveying complex environmental issues to the general public and preparing legally defensible and highly technical CEQA and NEPA documents.
- Mr. Fitzroy serves as contributing environmental planner for a range of technical environmental and planning studies involving land and infrastructure development, urban redevelopment, specific plans, general plans.
- Mr. Fitzroy serves as Rincon's water quality specialist; with expertise is Low Impact Development technologies and stormwater management.
- Mr. Fitzroy has a thorough familiarity with California planning law, environmental policy and CEQA/NEPA compliance.
- Mr. Fitzroy's unique background in natural resource management, environmental planning and policy analysis allows him to proficiently write technical environmental documents that effectively communicate to decision-makers and the public, and assist in achieving identified objectives.

### **EDUCATION, REGISTRATIONS, AND AFFILIATIONS**

M.P.P., Master of Public Policy in Natural Resource Management and Environmental Planning; California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA.

B.A., Political Science - Environmental Policy & International Relations. Minor Environmental Studies; California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA.

Member, California Association of Environmental Professionals

### **EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (2007 through present)

Institute for Policy Research (2005-2006)

### **SELECTED PROJECT EXPERIENCE**

#### *CEQA Compliance*

City of Santa Maria Area 9 Specific Plan EIR, City of Santa Maria

Kings County General Plan EIR, County of Kings

City of Marina Downtown Specific Plan EIR, City of Marina

City of Lompoc General Plan EIR, City of Lompoc

Santa Ynez Valley Community Plan EIR, Santa Barbara County  
Marina High School and Joint Use Community Recreation Facilities IS/EIR, City of Marina  
Key Site 3 Residential Development EIR, County of Santa Barbara

*Community Planning*

Guadalupe Contract Planning, City of Guadalupe

# WILLIAM O'BRIEN

## Senior Engineer/Manager



**Education** B.S., Civil Engineering, Washington State University (1978)  
M.S., Irrigation, American University of Beirut, Lebanon (1983)

**Registrations** Registered Civil Engineer, State of California, #42711  
Registered Agricultural Engineer, State of California #491  
Certified Floodplain Manager, CFM #26317  
QSD/QSP trained for General Construction Permit

**Professional Affiliations** American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), Member.  
Association of Water Agencies of Ventura County, Member  
Association of State Floodplain Managers, Member  
Groundwater Resources Association - Central Coast (California) Branch,  
Past Vice President  
Toastmasters International – Ojai Chapter Vice President  
Director Ojai Valley Sanitary District (Elected Nov. 2010 - to date)

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### Experience

Joined Hawks in January 2007 as a Senior Engineer/Manager after 23-years of experience in water resources and related civil infrastructure projects, enhanced groundwater recharge including recharge of treated wastewater, construction inspection of embankments and hydraulic structures, water quality monitoring, arid zone hydrology and flood plain management studies, scour, drainage projects, water resource monitoring networks, water rights, NPDES stormwater and other water quality investigations, and irrigation projects. Bill is experienced in river and groundwater basin Watermaster services, site selection for water supply projects, and in water resource aspects of Ventura County, CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation. His professional experience includes work in California, Washington State, Arizona, and the Middle East.

### Hawks & Associates

**2007 to Date**

Ojai Valley Land Conservancy - surveying, hydrology and hydraulic analysis for restoring historical channel of Rice Canyon (Ventura River watershed). Project manager for design of diversion, erosion protection, fair-weather crossing, and construction support (2010-date)

City of Ventura – floodplain manager services to support City Department of Building and Safety. 2010-to date. Olivas Park Drive extension Project manager for floodway and floodplain analysis for LOMR application and Hydraulics and Hydrology appendix to EIR (2007-date)

City of Oxnard review of Santa Clara River hydrology and support for FEMA flood insurance studies. 2010-to date

Ojai Valley Sanitary District. Preliminary design and environmental considerations of embankment protection along the Ventura River for due diligence analysis of land use options. Project Manager. Completed February 2010.

City of Ojai – Assist the Director of Public Works in NPDES permit revisions, represent Ojai on Permittee Management Committee, on TMDL committee, floodplain managers, and Ventura River Watershed Council. Provide technical advice for FEMA floodplain studies and



Hawks & Associates

map revisions. Prepared case studies for evaluating effects of stormwater permit and implementation plan. Provided NPDES training for City staff.

Santa Clara River Restoration near South Mountain Road for Land Conservancy. Design of erosion protection for aging and damaged revetment, coordination with Californian Fish and Game and Stipulated Court order. Obtained County Watercourse Permit. Was inspector for rip-rap, AJACKs placement, and earthwork. Was contract administrator and completed as-builts.

Granite Construction – Project manager for grading plan, hydrology and hydraulics, road resurfacing and drainage analysis for new Asphalt Plant near Santa Paula.

Ventura River Embankment Restoration and Protection for City of Ventura. Project manager. Contracted for LiDAR flight and field survey, supervised initial design and selection of LEDPA alternative, permit support, and construction management. Coordination with Federal and State regulators on steelhead designated stream. Supervised hydraulic modeling and design.

Restoration of Arroyo Los Posas, near Somis California. Project manager for removal of fill and restoration of channel and habitat corridor, coordination with EPA and client.

City of Fillmore – Project manager for construction design drawings, cost estimate, and bid documents for PALASADES permeable weirs to protect a levee. Responsible for cost estimates and specifications. Coordination with City inspector, preparation of As-Builts. Project manager.

Ventura County Airports – Drainage of Oxnard Airport – Project coordinator for design and drafting of 16'x8' box culvert, and provided engineering information or requests for information for inspector.

City of Santa Paula – FEMA floodplain map change (CLOMR) application for levee at Water Recycling Facility, County floodplain permits.

Vulcan Construction, Palmdale – Project manager for road widening and truck turning locations.

Oxnard Airport West Side Drainage – Assistant Project manager for design, permit, bid and construction support for 880-foot RCB and other drainage improvements.

Mission Rock Road, Santa Paula – Revision of drainage and resurfacing plan for 2 mile street upgrade, drainage for site development including treatment of storm runoff. Project Manager

City of Ventura – Flood plain mapping for possible extension of Olivas Park Drive, including HEC-RAS modeling. Completed FEMA map change application.

Ventura Regional Sanitary District – Hydrology and hydraulics analysis of drainage to bypass Biosolids Treatment Facility, and preliminary design.

**Kennedy Jenks**

**2005-2007**

Carpinteria Valley Water District – Long term water supply options and potential sale of SWP Supply. Evaluated alternatives for impacts to water supplies and costs. Project Manager.

Calleguas MWD - Flood scour analysis for 60-inch diameter Honby-2 Pipeline crossing of the Santa Clara River near Santa Clarita, California. Included use of recent flood studies, Hydraulic Engineering Circular (HEC) No. 18 Federal Highway Administration methods, and Los Angeles County Hydrology/Sedimentation Manual. Task manager. (2006).

Calleguas MWD- Estimated scour for brine line crossing of Calleguas Creek, Task Manager (2006).



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Foothill Municipal Water District (2005-6) Pump station upgrade and aquifer storage and recovery (ASR) well completion. Coordinated hydraulic and electrical review of existing pump station, pump selection and purchase, design of improvements needed for ASR wells and bid packages. Project manager.

**Science Applications International****1999-2005**

Surface water hydrology and technical/modeling analysis for water right issues in the Santa Ana River by application to State Water Resource Control Board. Coordinated engineering and technical analysis for preparation of an EIR, including demonstrating beneficial use of diversions, making projections of water demand, groundwater pumping, and analyzing operations of Seven Oaks Dam for habitat releases. Coordinated surface water modeling by SAIC staff with groundwater modeling performed by GEOSCIENCE. Project manager.

Groundwater banking and exchange program between Metropolitan Water District and Mojave Water Agency. Analyzed how local water agency recharge, wells, and conveyance facilities could be used in the exchange, and developed mechanisms for the exchange to occur. Bookman Edmonston Engineers was the Prime Consultant. Project manager for SAIC.

Managed staff analyses and benefit/cost estimate of large scale (1 Billion Gallons per Day) desalting facility along the Colorado River Aqueduct in Southern California, and related penstock and hydropower generation facilities. This conceptual level analysis also identified institutional, environmental and permitting issues, and included a separable cost - remaining benefit estimate. Supervised a cost-benefit analysis for use of the flows under the Quantification Settlement Agreement (QSA).

Analyzed on-farm irrigation system and water conveyance costs for the Lummi Indian reservation Practicably Irrigable Area (PIA) litigation in the State of Washington.

Managed staff hydrologic analysis of rainfall, runoff (HEC-HMS model), recharge, and water demands for ungaged watersheds in the southern San Joaquin Valley. The analysis will be used to support CEQA documentation and an appeal for water rights to the California State Water Resources Control Board.

Study of an exchange of water supplies between Friant Water Users Authority/Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) based on water quality of the supplies. Managed or participated in analysis of existing facilities for conveyance or exchange of water, hydrology of flood flows, member district facilities and water management plans, water quality of irrigation supplies and use of irrigation amendments.

Managed hydrologic analysis for the Nipomo Community Services District as part of the Santa Maria Groundwater Water Rights adjudication. Reported and analyzed water budgets (hydrologic inventories), identified groundwater basin boundaries, and developed a landownership database that identifies the water users for potential allocation of groundwater rights.

**Cansult Limited Muscat, Oman****1991-1999**

Ministry of Water Resources (MWR), Sultanate of Oman, Advisor. Advisor to Monitoring Network (Surface Water) Department. Main responsibilities were for review/rationalization of monitoring network stations and network design; design of civil works, tender preparation, evaluation and contract preparation for \$630,000 monitoring equipment supply (dataloggers



and pilot telemetry stations); writing reports, surface water input for upgrade of database, checking stream (wadi) rating curves using HEC-RAS, computation of streamflow records using Western Hydrologic System software, and on-the-job training of national staff.

Project Manager for studies of proposed recharge dams in Oman. Wrote requests for proposals and evaluated consultant tenders for recharge dam planning studies at screening, preliminary and feasibility level. Coordinated MWR comments and report completion. Coordinated associated drilling, surveying, geophysics contracts and other MWR input to the studies, as well as liaison with other Omani agencies.

Directly managed consultant contracts for watershed, wadi (stream) assessment and development studies, dam feasibility and site studies, and surveys valued at over \$1.5 million.

As a senior engineer/hydrologist for MWR's Surface Water Department, managed HEC-2 routing for flood studies, delineation of flood zones on maps, and writing and supervising surveying contracts. Also assisted in writing flood management reports, including making recommendations on building codes.

**Bookman – Edmonston Engineers****1984-1991**

Coordinated staff hydrologic analyses for the San Gabriel River Watermaster (an annual water rights balance), and operations of the Los Angeles groundwater basin. This included recharge of local storm water, reclaimed wastewater, and imported water; by spreading basins, injection wells, and in-lieu methods.

Developed operation models to simulate hydrologic conditions of Lake Arrowhead;

Developed flood hydrology of arid watershed for flood damage litigation in Imperial County, using HEC-2 and TR-20 models.

As design engineer, performed canal alignment, earthwork, and engineering design and quantities for irrigation distribution systems in Arizona. Designed canals including site plans, plan-profile sheets and right-of-way for Central Arizona canal projects. Estimated earthwork and supervised related drafting.

## ***MICHAEL B. PHIPPS***

Principal Engineering Geologist

### **Current Address**

COTTON, SHIRES AND ASSOCIATES, INC.  
550 St. Charles Drive, Suite 108  
Thousand Oaks, California 91360-3995  
Phone: (805) 497-7999; Fax: (805) 497-7933  
Web site: [www.cottonshires.com](http://www.cottonshires.com); Email: [mphipps@cottonshires.com](mailto:mphipps@cottonshires.com)

### **Registration**

Professional Geologist in California, PG 5748  
Certified Engineering Geologist in California, CEG 1832

### **Education**

B.S. Geological Sciences: University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California, 1987  
Graduate-level coursework in Hydrogeology, California State University, Northridge, 1988-1989, 1992

### **Professional History**

Principal Engineering Geologist and Manager, Southern California Office, October, 2008-Present;  
Cotton, Shires & Associates, Inc., Thousand Oaks, California.

Principal Geologist, 2004-2008; Geolabs-Westlake Village, Westlake Village, California.

Principal Geologist to Vice President of Operations and Branch Manager, 1998-2004; Bing Yen & Associates, Inc. (subsidiary of ATC Group Services Inc.), Camarillo and Irvine Offices, California.

Senior Project Geologist, 1996-1997; Leighton and Associates, Inc., Westlake Village, California.

Senior Project Geologist and Manager of Geological Services, 1993-1996; Bing Yen & Associates, Inc., Irvine, California.

Staff to Project Geologist, 1986-1993; Slosson & Associates, Van Nuys, California.

### **Professional Experience**

Mr. Phipps has over 25 years of diverse technical, project management, operations management and executive experience in the geotechnical industry in southern California. His technical expertise includes engineering geological site characterization studies, technical/peer review for municipalities, geotechnical construction observation and monitoring, litigation support and expert witness testimony, and geotechnical evaluation and remediation of landslides and other geologic hazards.

Mr. Phipps' representative technical experience includes geotechnical investigation and construction monitoring of earthfill dams; investigation of tunnel outfall alignments, pipelines, and water storage facilities; geologic mapping, assessment and grading/construction observation for mass-graded residential, commercial and industrial developments in Ventura, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and San Diego Counties; fault hazard investigations; landslide and embankment failure investigation, instrumentation, and remediation; geotechnical investigations for numerous types of

**MICHAEL B. PHIPPS (cont.)**

structures involving both shallow and deep foundations; geotechnical distress evaluations and litigation-related forensic studies, including expert witness testimony; geotechnical due-diligence, development siting and feasibility studies; groundwater development studies; water quality evaluations; Phase I and II Environmental Site Assessments; oil well abandonment; and preparation of geotechnical sections of Environmental Impact Reports. He has successfully managed projects with budgets exceeding \$500,000.

Mr. Phipps has performed as City Geologist or Engineering Geological Reviewer for a large number of southern California cities, primarily in Ventura and Los Angeles Counties. He is well-versed in excavation, grading, and building code practices, principles and regulations, especially as they relate to engineering geology, hillside and coastal development. He has assisted in the development and review of geotechnical guidelines and proposed code changes for several municipalities, and has also assisted several cities with obtaining disaster-related FEMA funding.

In 1998 Mr. Phipps opened the Camarillo (Ventura County) Office of Bing Yen & Associates, Inc., a subsidiary of ATC Group Services Inc., with 3 employees and a handful of existing clients. Through implementation of strategic marketing and business development, growth of niche service sectors, and selective hiring, the operation steadily grew under his leadership to its peak level of approximately \$2 million/year in revenue in 2003, with approximately 20 employees and a full-service geotechnical laboratory. He expanded the company's municipal/public works services to approximately 75% of revenues, with the remainder coming from a variety of private sector clients and expert witness work. As Branch Manager, he was responsible for operational profit/loss, productivity, and business development, while maintaining his own chargeability with technical work at approximately 20%. At the executive level he has overseen operations at multiple branch offices, inclusive of fiscal, business development, and technical oversight responsibilities.

**Professional Affiliations**

American Society of Civil Engineers  
Association of Engineering and Environmental Geologists  
American Public Works Association  
Coast Geological Society

**Selected Publications**

INVERSE CONDEMNATION: HOW TO WIN; HOW TO KEEP THE DAMAGES DOWN, co-presented with G. Fisher, C. Schweikhard, and L. Sommer, Public Agency Risk Managers Association Annual Meeting, Monterey, California, 2001, and six other venues.

THE CITY OF AGOURA HILLS REVIEW PROCESS: A CASE HISTORY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF GUIDELINES TO EXPEDITE THE PREPARATION AND REVIEW PROCESS OF ENGINEERING GEOLOGY REPORTS, co-authored with T.L. Slosson in Proceedings of the Association of Engineering Geologists 35th Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, California, 1992.

AN EXAMPLE OF SEQUENTIAL LAND USE NECESSITATING MITIGATION: WELL ABANDONMENT IN THE KRAEMER OIL FIELD, YORBA LINDA, CALIFORNIA, co-authored with J. E. Slosson and E.C. Sprotte, in Proceedings of the Association of Engineering Geologists 34th Annual Meeting, Chicago, Illinois, 1991.

# RAVI NARAYANAN, PE, TE

## PROJECT ROLE

Lead Transportation Planner

## TITLE

Associate, Engineer III

## EDUCATION

MS, Civil/Transportation Engineering, University of California, Davis, 1998

B.Tech, Civil Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology, Chennai (Madras), India, 1994

## REGISTRATIONS/ CERTIFICATIONS

Registered Professional Engineer, California No. 64326, 2003

Registered Professional Traffic Engineer, California No. 2401, 2007

Registered Professional Engineer, Nevada No. 016920, 2005

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE)

## AWARDS

Post-Graduate Research Assistantship at UC Davis, Institute of Transportation Studies, 1994-1996

Having worked in the academic, research, and consulting environments, Mr. Narayanan has over 15 years of collective experience in the realm of Transportation Planning, Travel Demand Modeling and Traffic Engineering. Mr. Narayanan is a “true” transportation modeler who has created travel demand models from “scratch” for several communities in the Central Coast and Central Valley regions of California. Mr. Narayanan brings over 13 years of extensive experience and expertise in completing/managing all phases of small- to large-scale traffic impact studies and multi-modal Transportation Impact studies, prepared in support of environmental (CEQA) documents for all types of land development and transportation infrastructure engineering/design projects. Mr. Narayanan has served as the Project Manager and Lead Transportation Planner on several City/Community General Plan Circulation Updates, Specific Plan/Master Plan Traffic Circulation Studies, and Transportation Impact Fee Program Updates. Mr. Narayanan brings comprehensive Traffic Engineering experience with preparation of comprehensive Traffic Operations Analysis reports in support of Caltrans’ PSR and PR documents, operational evaluation of interchanges, intersections and roundabouts, and the use of variety of traffic analysis software including micro-simulation applications. Mr. Narayanan, in all, is a multi-talented professional who is also known for his excellent writing skills. Mr. Narayanan manages the Wood Rodgers Transportation Planning discipline group.

## EXPERIENCE

### TRAVEL DEMAND MODELING PROJECTS

**Delhi Community Plan Traffic Model Development and Transportation Update, Merced County, California.** – Mr. Narayanan was the Project Manager for transportation analysis update for this major Community development plan for the unincorporated community of Delhi in Merced County, project involved creation of a community-wide traffic model nested within the larger Merced County regional traffic model.

**City of Greenfield General Plan Traffic Model Update, City of Greenfield, California** – Mr. Narayanan led the Transportation Planning team that was retained by the City of Greenfield to complete a Citywide traffic model update. The new traffic model was created using the *Cube/Voyager* transportation Planning software and is being used to develop updated design traffic forecasts for the US 101/Walnut Avenue interchange modifications project within the City.

**Tuolumne County Regional Traffic Model Update, Tuolumne County, California** – Mr. Narayanan led the Transportation Planning project team that assisted Tuolumne County with the update of their Regional Travel Demand Forecast model as part of their upcoming future Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Update. The *TransCAD*-based model update involves incorporation of land use projections from *UPlan* land use forecasting tool for a number of future years, creation of a mode-choice model subcomponent, and update of peak hour model forecasts. Mr. Narayanan is currently assisting Tuolumne County Transportation Council (TCTC) with traffic modeling for their long-range alternative land use growth scenarios.

**Shandon Community Plan Traffic Model Development, San Luis Obispo County, California.** As part of an EIR consultant team, Mr. Narayanan served as the Transportation Planning Project Manager leading the creation of an independent traffic model and completion of an associated EIR traffic study for the proposed Shandon Community Plan development project. Mr. Narayanan is leading cost estimates preparation for the community’s traffic improvement program involving over \$60 million worth of off-site transportation improvements.

**Price Canyon Master Plan Traffic Model Development, City of Pismo Beach, California.** As part of a preliminary feasibility and constraints analysis phase, Mr. Narayanan developed a traffic model for Price Canyon Master Plan in the City of Pismo Beach, as a nested model within the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG) regional traffic model, using *TransCAD* software.

**“On-call” Traffic Modeling/Engineering/Design Services – Counties of Tuolumne and Amador, and Cities of Oakland, Sacramento, Paso Robles, Galt, and Turlock, California.** Mr. Narayanan is/was the lead transportation planner and traffic modeler for providing on-call transportation planning/modeling/design support for these agencies.

### CALTRANS PROJECTS

**ADDITIONAL TRAINING**

Management Training obtained includes:

Franklin Covey's *FOCUS* Time Management Seminar (September 2006)

XL Insurance's Design Professional Liability Education Program

- *Contract Management: Risk Allocation by Design*, 2006
- *Negotiation Strategies for Better Client Agreement*, 2008
- *Managing Construction Phase Risks*, 2009

Has both taken and given specialized technical software training seminars. Technical Training obtained includes:

*VISSIM* (microscopic traffic simulation) Software Training Course Certification (June 2002) by the North Dakota State University Division of Continuing Education.

*Synchro-SimTraffic* Software Training Course Certification (Sept. 2002) by UC Extension Program.

*TransCAD* Software Course Training from Caliper Corporation (August 2003).

**WOOD RODGERS, INC. START DATE**

February 27, 2004

**SR 89 - Fanny Bridge PA/ED – Tahoe City, California.** Mr. Narayanan is the Project Transportation Planner for this project to re-align SR 89 and construct a new structure over the Truckee River to replace the iconic Fanny Bridge. Alternatives include installation of roundabouts and realignment of SR 89 through State Parks property to provide a connection to the new Placer County Transportation Center. The PA/ED is anticipated to be completed in 2012.

**Caltrans Central Region On-Call for Districts 5, 6, and 10, Fresno, California.** Mr. Narayanan is Task Order Manager for a variety of traffic planning services for the Caltrans Central Region. Projects have included safety projects, rehabilitation projects, and operational improvement projects. The first project was for the development of a Project Report and a PS&E for a safety project located in Monterey County. This project will upgrade or lengthen metal beam guardrail and install crash cushions or end treatments at over 50 separate locations. The second project is for the development of PS&E for a project that will upgrade 12 at-grade intersections to lengthen and/or construct left-turn channelization lanes along State Route 101 in Monterey County.

**SR-1 PSR Improvements from Rio Road to Carmel Valley Road, Monterey County, California.** Mr. Narayanan was the Project Traffic Engineer responsible for Traffic Operations Analysis prepared in support of the PSR, analyzed two-lane highway operations with and without truck climbing lanes, using Synchro.

**SR-99 Interchanges at Eight-Mile Road and Morada Lane PSR, City of Stockton, California.** Mr. Narayanan was the Project Transportation Planner responsible for Traffic Forecasting and Operations Analysis prepared in support of the PSR. He also completed interchange traffic forecasts, evaluated two "build" alternatives and evaluated traffic operations for all types of facilities including intersections, roadway/freeway segments, ramp junctions, and ramp metering.

**SR-108/Ladd-Patterson Road Intersection Improvements PSR/PR, Stanislaus County, California.** Mr. Narayanan was the Project Traffic Engineer responsible for Traffic Forecasting and Operations Analysis, analyzed intersection operations and accident data to identify operational improvements for project opening day.

**SR-68/Corral De Tierra Road Intersection Improvements PSR, Monterey County, California.** Mr. Narayanan was the Project Traffic Engineer responsible for Traffic Operations Analysis prepared in support of Caltrans PSR.

**US 101/Brisco-Halcyon Road Interchange Modifications PA&ED, City of Arroyo Grande, California.** Mr. Narayanan was the Project Transportation Planner responsible for Traffic Operations Analysis prepared in support of the PA&ED, evaluated three "build" alternatives for all types of facilities including intersections, roadway/freeway segments, ramp junctions and freeway mainline weaving sections.

**US 101/Walnut Avenue Interchange Modifications PSR, City of Greenfield, California.** Mr. Narayanan was the Project Transportation Planner responsible for PSR Traffic Operations Analysis, evaluated three alternatives for all types of facilities including intersections, roadway/freeway segments, ramp junctions and freeway mainline weaving sections.

**SR 1/Halcyon Road Intersection Improvements EIR, San Luis Obispo County, California.** Mr. Narayanan was the Project Transportation Planner responsible for EIR Traffic Operations Analysis, evaluated two "build" alternatives for study intersection, for traffic forecasting and operations.

**SR 99/Elverta Road Interchange Modifications PR, Sacramento County, California.** Mr. Narayanan was the lead Project Transportation Planner who led the preparation of the PR Traffic Operations Analysis report. The analysis involved evaluation of opening day, 10 year and 20-year design alternatives/scenarios for all types of interchange-related facilities including intersections, roadway/freeway segments, ramp junctions and freeway mainline weaving sections.

**US 50 Stateline Improvements PSR, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, California.** Mr. Narayanan was the lead Project Transportation Planner who led the preparation of the PSR Traffic Operations Analysis report that involved evaluation of up to five alternatives intended to improve regional and local circulation within and through the Stateline area. The project involved over 12 public agency stakeholders involved in the Project Development Team and PSR process.

**SR 99/Queens Avenue Operations Improvements PEER, City of Yuba City, California -** Mr. Narayanan is currently serving as the Lead Project Transportation Planner responsible for

preparation of Traffic Forecasting and Operations Analysis in support of the Caltrans PEER document in support of the proposed operational improvements to the ramp terminals at this interchange.

#### PLANNING STUDIES

**Oro Bay Specific Plan EIR Traffic Circulation Study, City of Oroville, California.** Mr. Narayanan was the Transportation Planning Manager leading the preparation of traffic circulation analysis in support of the EIR for this 2,400 residential unit, major annexation project.

**Yosemite Grand National Resort EIR Traffic Impact Study, Tuolumne County, California.** Mr. Narayanan was the Transportation Planning Manager leading the preparation of traffic impact and circulation analysis in support of the EIR for this unique vacation resort development and wetland preserve project in the Sierra foothills region.

**Lathrop Gateway Industrial/Business Park Specific Plan EIR, City of Lathrop, California.** Mr. Narayanan is the Transportation Planning Manager currently leading the preparation of traffic circulation analysis in support of the EIR for this major planned 384-acre, over 5 million square feet floor space, industrial Specific Plan development project in South Lathrop.

**Riverbank Specific Plan Traffic Circulation Study, Stanislaus County, California.** Mr. Narayanan was the Project Transportation Planning Manager providing comprehensive traffic circulation analysis as part of the pre-EIR feasibility analysis for this 700+ acre mixed-use project.

**Salmon Falls Preserve EIR Traffic Circulation Study, El Dorado County, California.** Mr. Narayanan was the Transportation Planning Manager leading the preparation of traffic circulation analysis in support of the EIR for this 380-lot upscale residential community near El Dorado Hills.

**Del Webb Community Traffic Circulation Study, City of Hollister, California.** Mr. Narayanan was the Project Transportation Planner who provided comprehensive traffic circulation analysis as part of the constraints analysis and feasibility evaluation phase for this 3,500-unit active-adult residential development project near City of Hollister in San Benito County.

**Topaz Solar Farm EIR Traffic Study, San Luis Obispo County, California.** Mr. Narayanan is the lead Transportation Planner currently providing comprehensive traffic impact study and circulation analysis support as part of the EIR for this major solar power generation (550 MW) plant proposed on over 4,000 acres of lands in unincorporated San Luis Obispo County.

**Al Tahoe Erosion Control Project Traffic Circulation Study, City of South Lake Tahoe, California.** Mr. Narayanan was the Transportation Planning Manager leading the preparation of traffic circulation analysis in support of the proposed Erosion Control project in the City of South Lake Tahoe. Up to three circulation alternatives, that impacted one-way/two-way access for streets throughout the City of South Lake Tahoe, were evaluated for traffic operational impacts at up to 12 critical intersections and 8 roadway segments.

**Regional Development Impact Fee (RDIF) Implementation Guidelines, Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC), California.** Mr. Narayanan was the Project Transportation Planner assisting TAMC staff and the RDIF Board in the preparation of a fee implementation guideline handbook intended for impact fee calculation reference purposes by thirteen participating local jurisdictions in the TAMC's regional traffic impact fee program. Mr. Narayanan also assisted TAMC with development of a technical methodology to compute applicable trip generation (and impact fee) discounts for infill and redevelopment areas throughout Monterey County. Mr. Narayanan is also assisting TAMC with the development of a GIS-based infill areas exhibit to pre-identify parcels throughout the County that are designated as infill parcels.

**Salinas Traffic Fee Ordinance (TFO) Update, City of Salinas, California.** Mr. Narayanan assisted City staff in the preparation of an update to the City's Traffic Impact Fee program originally adopted in 2005. The update process involved developing updated improvement cost opinions for over 20 improvements, developing updated nexus statements and impact fee schedules.

#### TRAFFIC IMPACT STUDY PROJECTS

Mr. Narayanan has completed, managed, and/or reviewed over 200 small and large-scale traffic impact studies for 50+ Client Agencies located all over Northern and Central California, including:

- City of Sacramento – Commerce Station, Point West, Natomas Crossing, 15+ North Natomas

area Intersection Signal Design Concept Reports (DCRs).

- City of Stockton – Moss Garden Subdivision, SYSA Soccer Complex, D Street MDA, Montage Condominiums, Legacy Park, Oakview subdivision, Hammer Lane Toyota, Renaissance North subdivision, Pacific Charter School, Stagg and Edison High Schools
- City of Rancho Cordova – Fite Subdivision
- City of Woodland / Yolo County – Orchard Highway Commercial
- City of Manteca – Tesoro Elementary School, Centerpoint Intermodal Center
- City of Citrus Heights – Stock Ranch Phase 3 Subdivision
- City of Manteca – CenterPoint Intermodal Center Logistics facility
- Stanislaus County – Salida Hulling Association Facility, River Bluff Industrial Park, Central Valley Agricultural Grinding Facility
- El Dorado County – Sun Stone Business Park, Durock Road Condominiums, Farren subdivision
- Amador County – Pine Grove Commercial, Pine Acres North, Pine Acres Mobile Home Park, Arkansas Creek (CrossPointe) Quarry
- Yuba County – Ross Ranch Subdivision, Plumas-57 Shopping Center
- Butte County – Versie’s Place subdivision
- City of Oakland – Speed Survey Studies for over 25 segments throughout the City
- City of Rocklin – Monterey Terrace Park Condominiums
- City of Sparks, Nevada – Miramonte Subdivision
- Nevada County – Teichert Quarry (I-80/Hinton Ave. improvements)
- Technical Peer Review of 100+ Traffic Impact Study reports and memorandums

#### ROADWAY DESIGN PROJECTS

Mr. Narayanan was the Project Traffic Engineer responsible for Traffic Operations Analysis prepared in support of roadway improvement projects such as:

- Franklin Blvd. Widening, City of Elk Grove, California
- Auburn Blvd./Van Maren Lane Intersection Improvements, City of Citrus Heights, California
- Sierra College Boulevard widening improvements, Placer County, California

#### TRAFFIC SIMULATION/ANIMATION PROJECTS

Mr. Narayanan was the Project Traffic Engineer and Modeler in the preparation of “micro-simulation” based traffic operations analysis as part of several larger engineering/planning studies. Projects include:

- *VISSIM* simulation of Ramp metering operations, SR 99/Eight Mile Road interchange, Stockton, CA
- *Synchro/Simtraffic* simulation of Kiernan Ave (SR 219) intersections, Stanislaus County, CA

#### NON-WOOD RODGERS, INC. EXPERIENCE

##### CALTRANS PROJECTS

**Interstate 80/Sierra College Boulevard I/C Modifications PSR/PA&ED/PS&E - City of Rocklin, California.** Mr. Narayanan was the Project Traffic Engineer responsible for Traffic Operations Analysis, analyzed all types of facilities including intersections, roadway/freeway segments, and ramp junctions, used Transyt-7F methods for optimization.

**Central Galt Interchange Modifications PSR/PA&ED - City of Galt, California.** Mr. Narayanan was the Project Transportation Planner responsible for Traffic Forecasting and Operations Analysis for 13+ alternatives, analyzed and demonstrated all types of facilities including intersections, roadway/freeway segments, ramp junctions and freeway weaving sections.

**Interstate 5/Knighton Road Interchange PSR, City of Redding, Shasta County, California.** Mr. Narayanan was the Project Transportation Planner responsible for Traffic Operations Analysis, analyzed all types of facilities including intersections, roadway/freeway segments, ramp junctions and freeway weaving sections.

##### TRAVEL DEMAND MODELING PROJECTS

**Citywide Traffic Model Development for Cities of Turlock, Galt, Paso Robles, Atascadero,**

**Red Bluff, Grover Beach, and Ukiah, California.** Mr. Narayanan was the Lead transportation modeler for the “from the scratch” creation of travel/traffic demand forecast (TDF) models for several communities, utilized a variety of transportation planning software including TP+/Viper, MINUTP and TransCAD software.

**Communitywide Traffic Models for Templeton and Los Osos (San Luis Obispo County) and Flores Area, Tehama County, California.** Mr. Narayanan was the Lead transportation modeler for the “from the scratch” creation of travel/traffic demand forecast (TDF) models for unincorporated communities, using a variety of transportation planning software including TP+/Viper, MINUTP and TransCAD software.

**Stillwater Business Park EIR Traffic Circulation Study, City of Redding, California.** Mr. Narayanan was the Project Transportation Planner providing comprehensive traffic circulation analysis as part of the EIR for this 700+ acre mixed-use project.

**Southwest Anderson Redevelopment EIR Traffic Study, City of Anderson, California.** Mr. Narayanan was the Project Transportation Planner providing comprehensive traffic circulation analysis as part of the EIR for this urban revitalization project.

**Turn-of-the-Century Specific Plan/Master Plan Traffic Analysis, City of Woodland, California.** Mr. Narayanan was the Project Transportation Planner providing comprehensive traffic modeling and analysis as part of the EIR process for this mixed-use project.

**North-West Triangle Specific Plan/Financing Plan, Westside Industrial and Southeast Specific Plans, City of Turlock, California.** Mr. Narayanan was the Project Transportation Planner providing comprehensive traffic circulation and traffic modeling analysis in support of the EIR and AB-1600 nexus studies.

**Mariposa County Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Update, Mariposa County, California.** Project Transportation Planner providing comprehensive countywide circulation analysis and traffic modeling as part of RTP update.

#### TRAFFIC IMPACT STUDY PROJECTS

Mr. Narayanan has completed, managed, and/or reviewed over 200 small and large-scale traffic impact studies for 50+ Client Agencies located all over Northern and Central California, including:

- City of Sacramento – UCDCM Emergency Services Pavilion, Education Building.
- Sacramento County – Laguna Gateway, Laguna West and Sheldon Park Subdivisions
- City of Roseville – Roseville Galleria Expansion, Downtown Civic Plaza
- City of Rocklin – Blue Oaks Town Center, Sunset West Lot 19, Lot 42, Monterey Terrace Park Condominiums
- El Dorado County – Forni Road Shopping Center
- San Joaquin County – Lockeford Oaks Subdivision
- City of Turlock – West Tuolumne Road Traffic Calming Study
- City of Tracy – LDS Church, 11<sup>th</sup> Street Special Purpose Plan
- San Joaquin County – Vernalis Granite Quarry (SR 132/Bird Rd Improvements)

#### TRAFFIC SIMULATION/ANIMATION PROJECTS

Mr. Narayanan was the Project Traffic Engineer and Modeler in the preparation of “micro-simulation” based traffic operations analysis as part of several larger engineering/planning studies. Projects include: VISSIM simulation of Single-Point interchange operations, Goshen, Tulare County, CA

#### ITS PROJECTS

Served on the UC Davis’ ITS Evaluation team on:

- TransCal Evaluation (FHWA-sponsored ITS Field Operational Test), Interstate-80 and US 50 Corridors
- Yosemite Area Traveler Information (YATI) Project (An ITS-Advanced Traveler Information System Evaluation Project).

#### TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH PROJECTS

Served as Research Analyst at UC Davis on:

- Activity-Mobility Simulator (AMOS) – Design/Development of System Components
- Daily Activity and Multimodal Travel Itinerary Planner Project (California-PATH Program Project) – Algorithm Design and Preparation of PATH Quarterly Reports.

**COMPUTER SKILLS**

- Travel/Traffic Demand Modeling Software: Cube/Voyager, TP+/Viper, TransCAD, VISUM, MINUTP
- Traffic Capacity Analysis Software: Traffix, Synchro, Transyt-7F, HCM Methods with HCS
- Traffic Simulation/Animation Software: VISSIM, SimTraffic, TRAF-NETSIM/CORSIM.
- Database Software: Oracle, MS-Access, ArcGIS, FoxPro
- Statistics Software: SPSS, SAS, MINITAB, LIMDEP

**PUBLICATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

- “The Effects of Time of Day, Activity Duration and Home Location on Traveler’s Destination Choice Behavior”, by Ryuichi Kitamura, Cynthia Chen & Ravi Narayanan, Transportation Research Board (TRB) Research Paper, 1998.
- “Simulation/Animation Software Applications in Planning-Level Transportation Decision-Making” – Co-author of Technical Presentation at ITE Annual Conference, Las Vegas, NV, August, 1999.
- Master’s Thesis – “A Deterministic and Probabilistic Solution Methodology to the Activity-Based Traveling Salesman Problem.”
- Represented Wood Rodgers at the ITE Annual Meeting and Exhibit, Anaheim, 2008.

**Robert G. Carr**

Visual Resource Specialist

California Landscape Architect No. 3473

B.S.L.A., Landscape Architecture, California Polytechnic State University San Luis Obispo.

Robert Carr is a licensed Landscape Architect specializing in visual impact analysis. He has over 22 years of professional landscape architectural experience, both as a private consultant and in the public sector. Robert has been responsible for analyzing the potential aesthetic effects of a variety of proposed major developments. He has prepared visual impact assessments and reports for inclusion in more than 250 environmental impact reports, negative declarations and other environmental documents in accordance with NEPA and/ or CEQA guidelines.

Mr. Carr has extensive experience in preparing aesthetic studies for controversial projects involving high quality visual resources and sensitive viewer groups in the Coastal Zone, on the Central Coast and throughout the state. His work has included analysis of planned developments, large-scale controversial mixed-use commercial projects, residential subdivisions, multi-story apartment buildings, golf course development, wineries, state-wide fiber-optic cable installation projects, wireless communication towers, mines and quarries, landfills, wastewater treatment plants, and public parks. Mr. Carr's work includes programmatic analysis of city general plans, University of California long-range development plans, and county watershed zone management plans.

As a visual resource specialist, his responsibilities have included comprehensive visual impact studies for public works projects throughout the state, including highway corridor impact studies for Santa Barbara/Montecito, Monterey/Carmel, Santa Cruz, Mariposa, and other communities, and the historic arch bridges of the Big Sur Coast.

Robert has considerable expertise with several visual analysis methods, including those developed by the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Forest Service, the Federal Highway Administration, and methods preferred by the various cities and counties of the central coast, the State Coastal Commission, and also regional hybridized approaches. Mr. Carr's knowledge of established visual assessment methodology results in legally defensible, understandable technical documents.

Mr. Carr has personally prepared hundreds of visual simulations illustrating the potential visual character of proposed projects and as public disclosure information. Mr. Carr's simulations are high-quality computer-enhanced photographs showing a high degree of realism and accuracy. Robert's photo-simulations and other graphic illustrations are used to support the findings of environmental documents, as prime exhibits at public hearings and informational meetings, as promotional displays, and on the internet. Mr. Carr also is formally trained and has experience in the development of 3-D real-time computer modeling. As an Associate Member of the National Association of Photoshop Professionals, Mr. Carr continues to enhance his skills in the area of visual- simulation.

Mr. Carr also has a variety of other experience relating to analysis of the visual environment. This experience includes guest lecturer for the Cal Poly San Luis Obispo Landscape Architecture Department, and development and instructing of statewide CEQA and NEPA visual assessment training for the California Department of Transportation.

## Fee Schedule

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# RINCON CONSULTANTS, INC.

## Standard Fee Schedule for Environmental, Geoenvironmental, and Planning Services

Rincon Consultants' fee schedule is based on the time that is charged to projects by our professionals and support staff. Direct costs associated with completing a project are also billed to the project as outlined under Reimbursable Expenses below. The following sets forth the billing rates for our personnel.

<u>Professional and Technical Personnel</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>
Senior Principal .....	\$ 155-190/hour
Principal .....	\$ 125-150/hour
Supervising Environmental Scientist/Planner/Biologist .....	\$ 120-140/hour
Senior Environmental Scientist/Planner/Biologist .....	\$ 110-130/hour
Environmental Scientist/Planner/Biologist .....	\$ 85-105/hour
Environmental Technician.....	\$ 75-85/hour
Environmental Field Aide .....	\$ 55-65/hour
AutoCAD, GIS Technician.....	\$ 85-95/hour
Graphic Designer .....	\$ 75/hour
Clerical/ Administrative Assistant/Production Tech.....	\$ 55/hour

Expert witness services consisting of depositions and in-court testimony are charged at a rate of \$295/hour.

<u>Equipment</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Equipment</u>	<u>Rate</u>
Photo-Ionization Detector	\$ 120/day	Submersible Pump	\$ 160/day
Flame Ionization Detector	\$ 200/day	Vacuum Gas Chamber Sampler	\$ 25/day
Four Gas Monitor	\$ 120/day	Decontamination Equipment	\$ 25/day
Soil Vapor Extraction	\$ 140/day	Sound Level Meter	\$ 125/day
Oil-Water Interface Probe	\$ 85/day	Field GPS	\$ 25/job
Water Level Indicator	\$ 35/day	Laser Rangefinder/Altitude	\$ 40/day
DC Purge Pump	\$ 35/day	Field Computer Equipment	\$ 45/day
Temp-pH- Conductivity	\$ 50/day	Digital Projector/Computer	\$ 60/day
Bailer	\$ 25/day	Infrared Sensor Digital Camera	\$ 75/day
Disposable Bailer	\$ 20/each	Anemometer	\$ 30/day
Hand Auger Sampler	\$ 55/day	General Bio. Field Equipment	\$ 45-\$90/day
Brass Sample Sleeves	\$ 10/each	Advanced Bio. Equipment (Trimble GPS)	\$ 295/day
Dissolved Oxygen Meter	\$ 45/day	Specialized Bio. Field Eqmnt. (Anabat,	\$ 400-
Level C Health and Safety	\$ 60/person/day	fiberoptic scopes, spot lights, etc.)	\$600/day

### Photocopying and Printing

Photocopies will be charged at a rate of \$0.08/copy for single-sided copies and \$0.16 for double-sided copies. Colored copies will be charged at a rate of \$1.00/copy for single-sided and \$2.00/copy for double-sided or 11" x 17" copies. Oversized maps or display graphics will be charged at a rate of \$8.00/square foot.

### Reimbursable Expenses

Expenses associated with completing a project are termed Reimbursable Expenses. These expenses do not include the hourly billing rates described above. Reimbursable expenses include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. *Direct costs associated with the execution of a project are billed at cost plus 15% to cover General and Administrative services. Direct costs include, but are not limited to, laboratory and drilling services charges, subcontractor services, authorized travel expenses, permit charges and filing fees, printing and graphic charges, mailings and postage, performance bonds, sample handling and shipment, equipment rental other than covered by the above charges, etc. Communications charges and miscellaneous office expenses (including PDAs, cell phones, phone, fax, and electronic data transmittals, digital cameras, photo processing, etc.) are billed at 2% of total labor.*
2. *Vehicle use in company-owned vehicles will be billed at a day rate of \$85/day for regular terrain vehicle use and \$135 per day for 4-WD off-road vehicle use, plus \$0.85/mile for mileage over 50 miles per day. For transportation in employee-owned automobiles, a rate of \$0.85/mile will be charged. Rental vehicles will be billed at cost plus 15%.*