



3 August 2015

Charity Wagner
City Ventures
444 Spear Street, Suite 200
San Francisco, CA 94105

Subject: Scotts Valley Project - California Red-legged Frog Survey Report (HTH #3679-02)

Dear Ms. Wagner:

Per the request of City Ventures, H. T. Harvey & Associates is pleased to provide this report summarizing the results of protocol-level surveys conducted in June and July 2015 to document presence or a negative finding for the federally threatened California red-legged frog (CRLF; *Rana draytonii*) at the proposed Scotts Valley Project site.

Site Description

The approximately 6.8-acre Scotts Valley Project site is located southeast of Highway 17 and Santa's Village Road, west of Orchard Run, and northeast of Granite Creek Road in Scotts Valley, California (Figure 1). Carbonera Creek is adjacent to the eastern and southeastern border of the site. This creek represents the only aquatic habitat that was present on or near the site during the protocol-level surveys in June and July 2015. The reach of Carbonera Creek adjacent to the site contains deep pools and several shallow runs which support potential foraging and dispersal habitat for CRLF. The upland habitat on the Project site, consisting mostly of nonnative grassland and riparian/riparian scrub, is consistent with upland habitat adjacent to occupied aquatic habitat in other parts of the species' range, and presents no barriers to dispersal onto the site from Carbonera Creek by CRLF (Figure 2).

Methods

Eight site visits were conducted in accordance with the protocol outlined in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's 2005 *Revised Guidelines on Site Assessments and Field Surveys for the California Red-legged Frog* to determine whether this species is currently present on the Project site or within the reach of creek adjacent to the Project site. The survey effort included two diurnal and four nocturnal site visits during the CRLF breeding season (January 1 – June 30), and one day and one night survey in July, during the non-breeding season. Per the protocol, consecutive daytime or nighttime visits were conducted at least 7 days apart. H. T. Harvey & Associates biologists Jeff Wilkinson or Steven Carpenter, who are both listed as qualified biologists for CRLF under H. T. Harvey & Associates 10(a)(1)(A) Federal Recovery Permit, conducted the surveys on 8, 9, 15, 22, and 29 June 2015, and 16 July 2015. Wilkinson or Carpenter were accompanied by H. T. Harvey & Associates biologists Amy Patten, Stephen Peterson, and/or Bridget Sousa during the nocturnal surveys. All H. T. Harvey biologists are

familiar with the distinguishing physical characteristics of all life stages of the CRLF, as well as other amphibian species of California.

During each survey, the time, air temperature, water temperature, humidity, percent cloud cover, and wind speed were recorded. Then aquatic habitats within the reach of Carbonera Creek along the southeastern border of the Project area were surveyed. The biologists visually searched for adults and tadpoles of the CRLF while walking along Carbonera Creek. The biologists then walked transects through the upland habitat within the boundary of the Project site to search for CRLF dispersing through the uplands. Steven Carpenter conducted diurnal visual encounter surveys on 9 and 29 June 2015, and 16 July 2015. Dr. Jeff Wilkinson, accompanied by Stephen Peterson and Bridget Sousa conducted a nocturnal visual encounter survey on 8 June 2015, and Steven Carpenter, accompanied by Amy Patten, conducted nocturnal visual encounter surveys on 15, 22, and 29 June 2015, and 16 July 2015. These surveys were conducted using Service-approved flashlights and binoculars to detect eyeshine of adult and juvenile CRLF in upland and aquatic habitat. All nocturnal surveys began at least one hour after sunset in accordance with USFWS guidelines. In order to maximize detection of amphibians, all site visits were conducted during weather conditions with high visibility and temperatures over 55 °F.

Results

No CRLF of any life history stage were observed during any of the site visits. This survey effort was sufficient to detect CRLF if they had been present on or adjacent to the Project site. The only amphibian detected during the surveys was one juvenile American bullfrog (*Lithobates catesbeianus*) observed in Carbonera Creek on 8 June 2015. Datasheets detailing the results of the surveys are attached.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (408)458-3228 or jwilkinson@harveyecology.com if you have any questions regarding this survey. Thank you very much for contacting us regarding this survey.

Sincerely,



Jeff Wilkinson
Project Manager, Senior Herpetologist

Attachments: Figures 1 and 2, Protocol-level Survey Datasheets



N:\Projects\3679-02\Reports\CRLF_Survey_Report\Fig 1 Vicinity Map.mxd



H. T. HARVEY & ASSOCIATES
Ecological Consultants

Figure 1: Vicinity Map

The Scotts Valley Hotel California Red-legged Frog Survey Report (3679-02)
August 2015



Figure 2. The Scotts Valley Hotel Project Site

Scotts Valley Hotel Project Site

California Red-legged Frog Survey Data Sheet

Survey results reviewed by _____
(FWS Field Office) (date) (biologist)

Date of Survey: 06/08/2015 Survey Biologist: Wilkinson Jeff
(mm/dd/yyyy) (Last name) (first name)
Survey Biologist: Peterson Stephen
(Last name) (first name)
Survey Biologist: Sousa Bridget
(Last name) (first name)

Site Location: Scotts Valley Hotel Project site (see Vicinity Map) and adjacent Carbonera Creek, Santa Cruz County, California , 10S 589089mE 4102595mN
(County, General location name, UTM Coordinates or Lat./Long. or T-R-S).

****ATTACH A MAP (include habitat types, important features, and species locations)****

Proposed project name: Scotts Valley Hotel
Brief description of proposed action: Construction of a hotel on this site.

Type of Survey (circle one): DAY NIGHT BREEDING NON-BREEDING

Survey number (circle one): 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Begin Time: 2030 End Time: 2200

Cloud cover: 0% Precipitation: No

Air Temperature: 70 F Water Temperature: 60 F

Wind Speed: Beaufort scale: 1 Visibility Conditions: Clear

Moon phase: Waning gibbous Humidity: 40%

Description of weather conditions: Clear, no wind.

Brand name and model of light used to conduct surveys: Maglite 3D LED

Were binoculars used for the surveys (circle one)? YES NO

Brand, model, and power of binoculars: Eagle Optics and Ranger ED, both 8x42

California Red-legged Frog Survey Data Sheet

AMPHIBIAN OBSERVATIONS

Species	# of indiv.	Observed (O) Heard (H)	Life Stages	Size Class	Certainty of Identification
<i>Lithobates catesbeianus</i>	1	O	juvenile	juv	95%

Describe potential threats to California red-legged frogs observed, including non-native and native predators such as fish, bullfrogs, and raccoons: One juvenile bullfrog observed.

Other notes, observations, comments, *etc.*

One juvenile bullfrog observed in Carbonera Creek at 10S 589189mE, 4102555mN.

Photographs



Photo 1. Pool where juvenile bullfrog was observed.



Photo 2. Juvenile bullfrog observed (circled in red).

Scotts Valley Hotel Project Site

California Red-legged Frog Survey Data Sheet

Survey results reviewed by _____
(FWS Field Office) (date) (biologist)

Date of Survey: 06/09/2015 Survey Biologist: Carpenter Steven
(mm/dd/yyyy) (Last name) (first name)

Survey Biologist: _____
(Last name) (first name)

Site Location: Scotts Valley Hotel Project site (see Vicinity Map) and adjacent Carbonera Creek, Santa Cruz County, California , 10S 589089mE 4102595mN

(County, General location name, UTM Coordinates or Lat./Long. or T-R-S).

****ATTACH A MAP** (include habitat types, important features, and species locations)**

Proposed project name: Scotts Valley Hotel
Brief description of proposed action: Construction of a hotel on this site.

Type of Survey (circle one): DAY NIGHT BREEDING NON-BREEDING

Survey number (circle one): 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Begin Time: 1000 End Time: 1400

Cloud cover: 0% Precipitation: No

Air Temperature: 74 F Water Temperature: 61 F

Wind Speed: Beaufort scale: 0 Visibility Conditions: Clear

Moon phase: N/A Humidity: 32%

Description of weather conditions: Clear, no wind

Brand name and model of light used to conduct surveys: N/A

Were binoculars used for the surveys (circle one)? YES NO

Brand, model, and power of binoculars: Warbler 829 8x42

California Red-legged Frog Survey Data Sheet

AMPHIBIAN OBSERVATIONS

Species	# of indiv.	Observed (O) Heard (H)	Life Stages	Size Class	Certainty of Identification
N/A					

Describe potential threats to California red-legged frogs observed, including non-native and native predators such as fish, bullfrogs, and raccoons: One juvenile bullfrog observed.

Other notes, observations, comments, *etc.*

Two rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) observed within Carbonera Creek.

Scotts Valley Hotel Project Site

California Red-legged Frog Survey Data Sheet

Survey results reviewed by _____
(FWS Field Office) (date) (biologist)

Date of Survey: 06/15/2015 Survey Biologist: Carpenter Steven
(mm/dd/yyyy) (Last name) (first name)

Survey Biologist: Patten Amy
(Last name) (first name)

Site Location: Scotts Valley Hotel Project site (see Vicinity Map) and adjacent Carbonera Creek, Santa Cruz County, California , 10S 589089mE 4102595mN

(County, General location name, UTM Coordinates or Lat./Long. or T-R-S).

****ATTACH A MAP** (include habitat types, important features, and species locations)**

Proposed project name: Scotts Valley Hotel
Brief description of proposed action: Construction of a hotel on this site.

Type of Survey (circle one): DAY NIGHT BREEDING NON-BREEDING

Survey number (circle one): 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Begin Time: 2130 End Time: 2330

Cloud cover: 0% Precipitation: No

Air Temperature: 66 F Water Temperature: 60 F

Wind Speed: Beaufort scale: 0 Visibility Conditions: Clear

Moon phase: Waning gibbous, 30% of full Humidity: 32%

Description of weather conditions: Clear, no wind

Brand name and model of light used to conduct surveys: Maglite 3D LED

Were binoculars used for the surveys (circle one)? YES NO

Brand, model, and power of binoculars: Zeiss Conquest HD 8x24

California Red-legged Frog Survey Data Sheet

AMPHIBIAN OBSERVATIONS

Species	# of indiv.	Observed (O) Heard (H)	Life Stages	Size Class	Certainty of Identification
N/A					

Describe potential threats to California red-legged frogs observed, including non-native and native predators such as fish, bullfrogs, and raccoons: Adjacent development, human activity.

Other notes, observations, comments, *etc.*

Twenty one rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) observed within Carbonera Creek.

Scotts Valley Hotel Project Site

California Red-legged Frog Survey Data Sheet

Survey results reviewed by _____
(FWS Field Office) (date) (biologist)

Date of Survey: 06/22/2015 Survey Biologist: Carpenter Steven
(mm/dd/yyyy) (Last name) (first name)

Survey Biologist: Patten Amy
(Last name) (first name)

Site Location: Scotts Valley Hotel Project site (see Vicinity Map) and adjacent Carbonera Creek, Santa Cruz County, California , 10S 589089mE 4102595mN

(County, General location name, UTM Coordinates or Lat./Long. or T-R-S).

****ATTACH A MAP** (include habitat types, important features, and species locations)**

Proposed project name: Scotts Valley Hotel
Brief description of proposed action: Construction of a hotel on this site.

Type of Survey (circle one): DAY NIGHT BREEDING NON-BREEDING

Survey number (circle one): 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Begin Time: 2130 End Time: 2245

Cloud cover: 0% Precipitation: No

Air Temperature: 56 F Water Temperature: 55 F

Wind Speed: Beaufort scale: 0 Visibility Conditions: Clear

Moon phase: Waning gibbous, 20% of full Humidity: 82%

Description of weather conditions: Clear, no wind

Brand name and model of light used to conduct surveys: Maglite 3D LED

Were binoculars used for the surveys (circle one)? YES NO

Brand, model, and power of binoculars: Zeiss Conquest HD 8x24

California Red-legged Frog Survey Data Sheet

AMPHIBIAN OBSERVATIONS

Species	# of indiv.	Observed (O) Heard (H)	Life Stages	Size Class	Certainty of Identification
N/A					

Describe potential threats to California red-legged frogs observed, including non-native and native predators such as fish, bullfrogs, and raccoons: Adjacent development, human activity.

Other notes, observations, comments, *etc.*

Twenty two rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) observed within Carbonera Creek.

Scotts Valley Hotel Project Site

California Red-legged Frog Survey Data Sheet

Survey results reviewed by _____
(FWS Field Office) (date) (biologist)

Date of Survey: 06/29/2015 Survey Biologist: Carpenter Steven
(mm/dd/yyyy) (Last name) (first name)

Survey Biologist: _____
(Last name) (first name)

Site Location: Scotts Valley Hotel Project site (see Vicinity Map) and adjacent Carbonera Creek, Santa Cruz County, California , 10S 589089mE 4102595mN

(County, General location name, UTM Coordinates or Lat./Long. or T-R-S).

****ATTACH A MAP** (include habitat types, important features, and species locations)**

Proposed project name: Scotts Valley Hotel
Brief description of proposed action: Construction of a hotel on this site.

Type of Survey (circle one): DAY NIGHT BREEDING NON-BREEDING

Survey number (circle one): 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Begin Time: 1500 End Time: 1600

Cloud cover: 0% Precipitation: No

Air Temperature: 93 F Water Temperature: 63 F

Wind Speed: Beaufort scale: 0 Visibility Conditions: Clear

Moon phase: N/A Humidity: 82%

Description of weather conditions: Clear, no wind

Brand name and model of light used to conduct surveys: N/A

Were binoculars used for the surveys (circle one)? YES NO

Brand, model, and power of binoculars: Warbler 829 8x24

California Red-legged Frog Survey Data Sheet

AMPHIBIAN OBSERVATIONS

Species	# of indiv.	Observed (O) Heard (H)	Life Stages	Size Class	Certainty of Identification
N/A					

Describe potential threats to California red-legged frogs observed, including non-native and native predators such as fish, bullfrogs, and raccoons: Adjacent development, human activity.

Other notes, observations, comments, *etc.*

Thirteen rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) observed within Carbonera Creek.

Scotts Valley Hotel Project Site

California Red-legged Frog Survey Data Sheet

Survey results reviewed by _____
(FWS Field Office) (date) (biologist)

Date of Survey: 06/29/2015 Survey Biologist: Carpenter Steven
(mm/dd/yyyy) (Last name) (first name)

Survey Biologist: _____
(Last name) (first name)

Site Location: Scotts Valley Hotel Project site (see Vicinity Map) and adjacent Carbonera Creek, Santa Cruz County, California, 10S 589089mE 4102595mN

(County, General location name, UTM Coordinates or Lat./Long. or T-R-S).

****ATTACH A MAP** (include habitat types, important features, and species locations)**

Proposed project name: Scotts Valley Hotel
Brief description of proposed action: Construction of a hotel on this site.

Type of Survey (circle one): DAY NIGHT BREEDING NON-BREEDING

Survey number (circle one): 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Begin Time: 2130 End Time: 2245

Cloud cover: 0% Precipitation: No

Air Temperature: 63 F Water Temperature: 57 F

Wind Speed: Beaufort scale: 1 Visibility Conditions: Clear

Moon phase: Waxing gibbous, 95% of full Humidity: 82%

Description of weather conditions: Clear, slight wind

Brand name and model of light used to conduct surveys: Maglite 3D LED

Were binoculars used for the surveys (circle one)? YES NO

Brand, model, and power of binoculars: Warbler 829 8x24

California Red-legged Frog Survey Data Sheet

AMPHIBIAN OBSERVATIONS

Species	# of indiv.	Observed (O) Heard (H)	Life Stages	Size Class	Certainty of Identification
N/A					

Describe potential threats to California red-legged frogs observed, including non-native and native predators such as fish, bullfrogs, and raccoons: Adjacent development, human activity.

Other notes, observations, comments, *etc.*

Seventeen rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) observed within Carbonera Creek.

Scotts Valley Hotel Project Site

California Red-legged Frog Survey Data Sheet

Survey results reviewed by _____
(FWS Field Office) (date) (biologist)

Date of Survey: 07/16/2015 Survey Biologist: Carpenter Steven
(mm/dd/yyyy) (Last name) (first name)

Survey Biologist: _____
(Last name) (first name)

Site Location: Scotts Valley Hotel Project site (see Vicinity Map) and adjacent Carbonera Creek, Santa Cruz County, California , 10S 589089mE 4102595mN

(County, General location name, UTM Coordinates or Lat./Long. or T-R-S).

****ATTACH A MAP (include habitat types, important features, and species locations)****

Proposed project name: Scotts Valley Hotel
Brief description of proposed action: Construction of a hotel on this site.

Type of Survey (circle one): DAY NIGHT BREEDING NON-BREEDING

Survey number (circle one): 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Begin Time: 1600 End Time: 1800

Cloud cover: 0% Precipitation: No

Air Temperature: 75 F Water Temperature: 62 F

Wind Speed: Beaufort scale: 0 Visibility Conditions: Clear

Moon phase: N/A Humidity: 82%

Description of weather conditions: Clear, no wind

Brand name and model of light used to conduct surveys: N/A

Were binoculars used for the surveys (circle one)? YES NO

Brand, model, and power of binoculars: Warbler 829 8x24

California Red-legged Frog Survey Data Sheet

AMPHIBIAN OBSERVATIONS

Species	# of indiv.	Observed (O) Heard (H)	Life Stages	Size Class	Certainty of Identification
N/A					

Describe potential threats to California red-legged frogs observed, including non-native and native predators such as fish, bullfrogs, and raccoons: Adjacent development, human activity.

Other notes, observations, comments, *etc.*

Nineteen rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) observed within Carbonera Creek. The upland habitat on the proposed Project site had been recently mowed and disked.

Scotts Valley Hotel Project Site

California Red-legged Frog Survey Data Sheet

Survey results reviewed by _____
(FWS Field Office) (date) (biologist)

Date of Survey: 07/16/2015 Survey Biologist: Carpenter Steven
(mm/dd/yyyy) (Last name) (first name)

Survey Biologist: Patten Amy
(Last name) (first name)

Site Location: Scotts Valley Hotel Project site (see Vicinity Map) and adjacent Carbonera Creek, Santa Cruz County, California , 10S 589089mE 4102595mN

(County, General location name, UTM Coordinates or Lat./Long. or T-R-S).

****ATTACH A MAP** (include habitat types, important features, and species locations)**

Proposed project name: Scotts Valley Hotel
Brief description of proposed action: Construction of a hotel on this site.

Type of Survey (circle one): DAY NIGHT BREEDING NON-BREEDING

Survey number (circle one): 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Begin Time: 2135 End Time: 2300

Cloud cover: 0% Precipitation: No

Air Temperature: 57 F Water Temperature: 51 F

Wind Speed: Beaufort scale: 1 Visibility Conditions: Clear

Moon phase: New moon Humidity: 81%

Description of weather conditions: Clear, no wind

Brand name and model of light used to conduct surveys: Maglite 3D LED

Were binoculars used for the surveys (circle one)? YES NO

Brand, model, and power of binoculars: Ziess Conquest HD 8x24

California Red-legged Frog Survey Data Sheet

AMPHIBIAN OBSERVATIONS

Species	# of indiv.	Observed (O) Heard (H)	Life Stages	Size Class	Certainty of Identification
N/A					

Describe potential threats to California red-legged frogs observed, including non-native and native predators such as fish, bullfrogs, and raccoons: Adjacent development, human activity.

Other notes, observations, comments, *etc.*

Thirty three rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) observed within Carbonera Creek.