



February 17, 2009

Raney Planning and Management  
Attn: Nick Pappani  
1401 Halyard Drive, Suite 120  
West Sacramento, CA 95691

**Re: Timberline Project, Auburn Recreation District Property Wetland Area Tree Inventory and Canopy Assessment (GCI # 2008-052)**

Dear Mr. Pappani,

As requested, Gallaway Consulting (GC) conducted a tree assessment and inventory within the delineated wetlands and conceptual wetland creation areas located in the western portion of the Auburn Recreation District (ARD) property (Property), Placer County, CA.

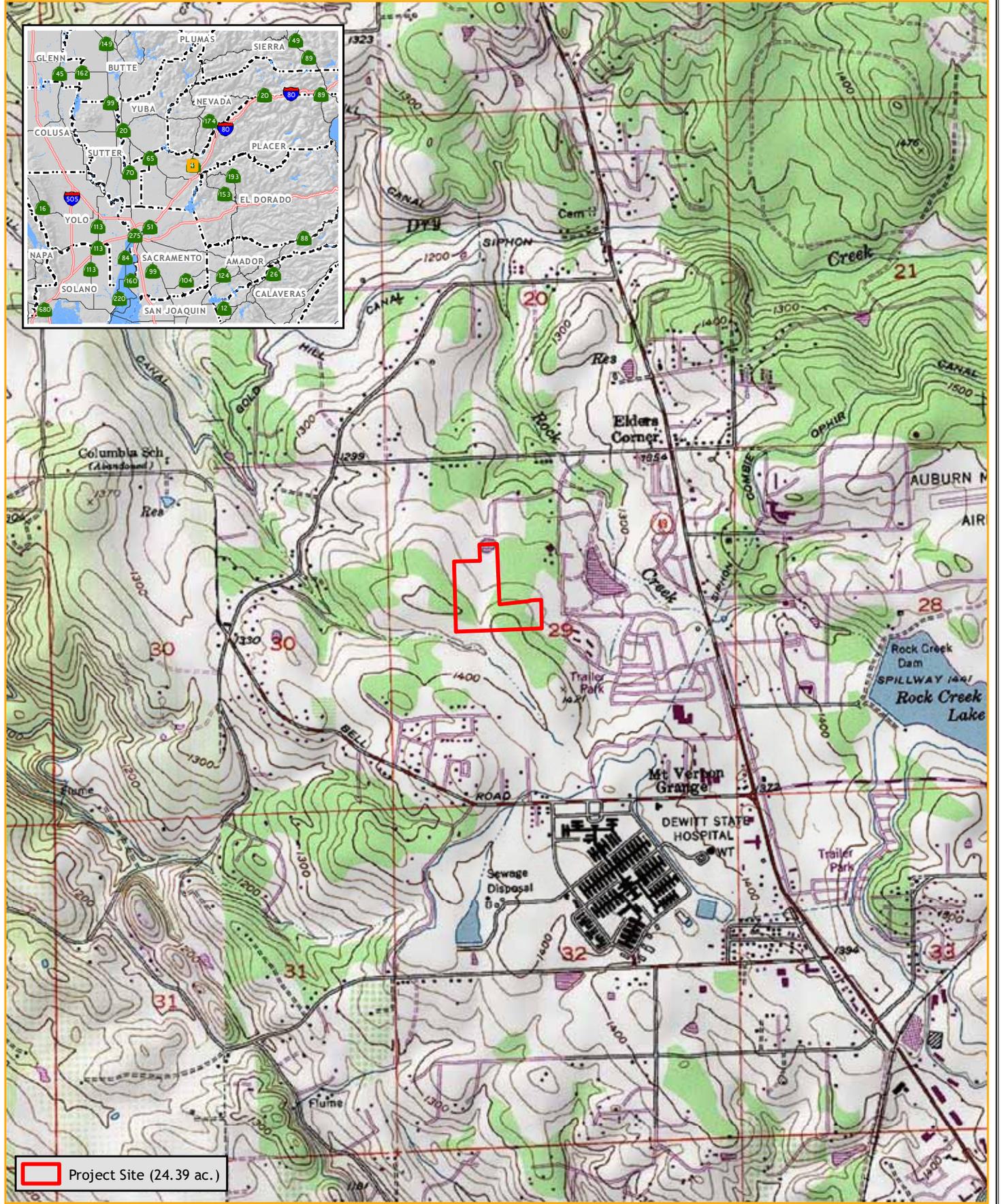
**Biological Setting**

The approximately 24-acre Property is located within the Auburn U.S Geological Survey 7.5 minute quadrangle in Section 29, T13N, R8E (**Figure 1**). The wetlands occur only along the western boundary of the Property, and include a small drainage and seasonal wetlands. The conceptual wetland creation areas abut the delineated wetlands on the Property and contain very few trees (**Attachment A**). Sparse trees occur along the banks of the drainage and within the seasonal wetland along the northern most portion of the drainage. The majority of trees in the wetlands were being choked by Himalayan blackberry (see pictures presented in **Attachment B**). Tree species observed within the wetlands include valley oak, blue oak, live oak, and Goodding's willow.

**Methodology**

The survey was conducted on foot by certified arborist Elena Gregg (WE-8033A) to identify trees that were 5 inches or greater in dbh. The County Code states that "breast height" is 54-inches (4.5 feet) above the ground. This standard is consistent with the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) guidelines. All evaluated trees within the survey areas were:

- Measured to determine dbh
- Individually numbered
- Evaluated for health rating
- Measured to determine approximate canopy radius
- Cataloged spatially in a Geographic Information Systems for map generation.



Project Site (24.39 ac.)



Project Site derived from Land Architectute AutoCAD  
In Section 29 of T13N & R8E of  
Auburn USGS 7.5' Quad.  
Map shows Auburn & Gold Hill USGS 7.5' Quads.  
Map Date: October 21, 2008

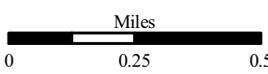


Figure 1

## **Results**

A total of 12 trees and approximately 0.11 acre of canopy cover occurs within the delineated wetlands and the conceptual wetland creation areas on the Property (**Attachment A**). Of the 12 trees identified, 5 are blue oaks, 5 are Goodding's willows, and 2 are live oaks.

The drainage on the Property is considered a riparian zone by the County as defined in Article 12.16 of the Placer County Code. According to the Placer County *Interim Guidelines for Evaluating Development Impacts on Oak Woodland*, mitigation for loss of oak woodland must be achieved off-site either through the preservation of land equivalent to twice the acreage of oak woodland lost, or through payment into an in-lieu fee fund set up by the County (currently \$24,000 for each acre of oak woodland lost). In addition, for every significant tree (24 inch dbh or greater) lost, the County requires a fee of \$100 per inch of dbh. A total of 0.11 acres of oak woodland canopy would need to be mitigated should the entire wetland area be considered impacted during wetland creation activities. Additionally, one significant tree, a large Goodding's willow, occurs within the survey area (**Attachment A**).

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (530) 343-8327.

Sincerely,

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Elena Gregg,  
Botanist/Arborist

Encl: **Attachments A & B**

## **References**

California Department of Fish and Game. 2001. Oak Guidelines 2001. Sacramento, CA.

Placer County. 1987. Tree Ordinance. Placer County, CA.

Placer County. 1994. Placer County General Plan: Article 12.16. Placer County, CA.

Placer County. 1999. Auburn Bowman Community Plan. Adopted 1994, updated 1999. Placer County, CA.

Placer County. 2005. Draft Placer County Conservation Plan. Placer County, CA.

Mayer, K.E. and W.F. Laudenslayer. 1988. A Guide to Wildlife Habitats of California. California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. Sacramento, CA.

Sawyer, J.O. and T. Keeler-Wolf. 1995. A Manual of California Vegetation. California Native Plant Society. Sacramento, CA.

## **Personal Communication**

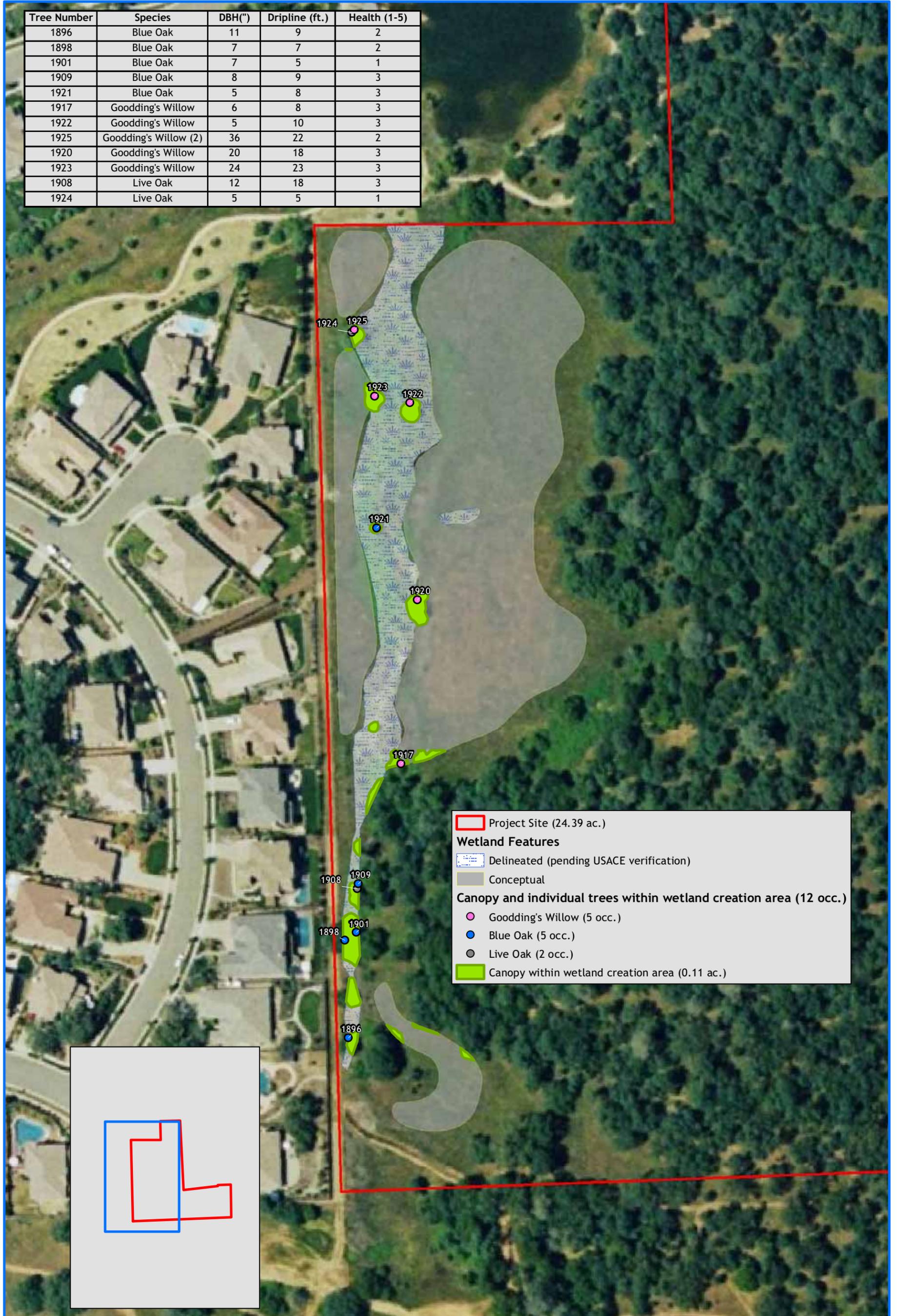
Wells, Mike. Placer County Planner. October 29, 2008. Phone call with GCI Planner Jim McKay regarding the Placer County tree ordinances and requirements to gain a tree removal permit. (530) 745-3024.

**ATTACHMENT A**

**TREE INVENTORY AND CANOPY ASSESSMENT MAP**

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Tree Number	Species	DBH(")	Dripline (ft.)	Health (1-5)
1896	Blue Oak	11	9	2
1898	Blue Oak	7	7	2
1901	Blue Oak	7	5	1
1909	Blue Oak	8	9	3
1921	Blue Oak	5	8	3
1917	Goodding's Willow	6	8	3
1922	Goodding's Willow	5	10	3
1925	Goodding's Willow (2)	36	22	2
1920	Goodding's Willow	20	18	3
1923	Goodding's Willow	24	23	3
1908	Live Oak	12	18	3
1924	Live Oak	5	5	1



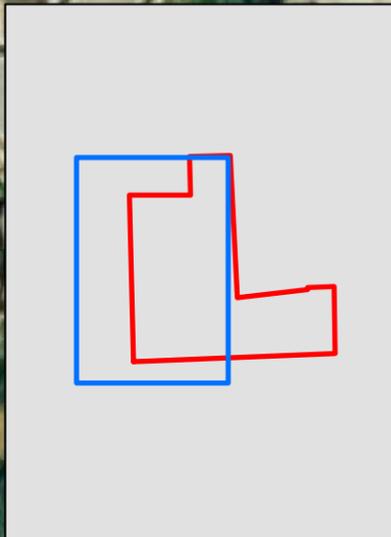
**Project Site (24.39 ac.)**

**Wetland Features**

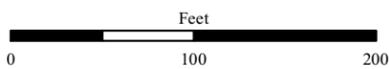
- Delineated (pending USACE verification)
- Conceptual

**Canopy and individual trees within wetland creation area (12 occ.)**

- Goodding's Willow (5 occ.)
- Blue Oak (5 occ.)
- Live Oak (2 occ.)
- Canopy within wetland creation area (0.11 ac.)



Project Site outline and Site Plan provided by Land Architecture  
 Arborist survey by EA (01/27/2009)  
 Canopy calculated by remote sensing.  
 Aerial: 2005 (NAIP), Microsoft Virtual Earth  
 Map date: February 13, 2009



**ATTACHMENT B**  
**SITE PHOTOGRAPHS**

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## **Pictures of the Wetland Areas on the Property**



**Southern wetland area; looking west**



**Southern wetland area; looking north/up-gradient**



**Continuing north/up-gradient**



**Largest conceptual wetland creation area; looking east**



**Largest conceptual wetland creation area; looking south**



**Largest conceptual wetland creation area; looking north**



**Largest conceptual wetland creation area; looking north**