LSA

BERKELEY
CARLSBAD
FRESNO
IRVINE
LOS ANGELES
PALM SPRINGS
POINT RICHMOND
RIVERSIDE
ROSEVILLE
SAN LUIS OBISPO

MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 21, 2017

TO: Joe Ambrose, Beach Maintenance Supervisor, Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine

FROM: Lonnie Rodriguez, Biologist, LSA

SUBJECT: Nesting Bird Survey for Basin 4 per Coastal Development Permit 5-08-187

On November 10, 2017, LSA Biologist Lonnie Rodriguez conducted a survey consistent with the terms of Coastal Development Permit (CDP) 5-08-187 (Tree Trimming and Removal Policy), Section A: During Non-Breeding and Non-Nesting Season (October through December) which states:

1. Prior to tree trimming or removal, a qualified biologist or ornithologist shall survey the trees to be trimmed or removed to detect nests and submit a survey report to the City of Long Beach Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine, a representative of the Audubon Society, and the Executive Director of the Coastal Commission. The survey report shall include identification of all trees with nests. The Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine shall maintain a database of survey reports that includes a record of nesting trees that is available as public information and to be used for future tree trimming and removal decisions.

2. Any trimming of trees with nests shall be supervised by a qualified biologist or ornithologist and a qualified arborist to ensure that adequate nest support and foliage coverage is maintained in the tree, to the maximum extent feasible, in order to preserve the nesting habitat. Trimming of any nesting trees shall occur in such a way that the support structure of existing nests will not be trimmed and existing nests will be preserved, unless the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine in consultation with a qualified arborist, determines that such trimming is necessary to protect the health and safety of the public. The amount of trimming at any one time shall be limited to preserve the suitability of the nesting tree for breeding and/or nesting habitat.

   Trees or branches with a nest that has been active anytime within the last five years shall not be removed or disturbed unless a health and safety danger exists.

3. Trimming may not proceed if a nest is found and evidence of a courtship or nesting behavior is observed at the site. In the event that any birds continue to occupy the trees during the non-nesting season, trimming shall not take place until a qualified biologist or ornithologist has assessed the site, determined that courtship behavior has ceased, and given approval to proceed within 300 feet of any occupied tree.

The City of Long Beach has communicated that palm trees within Basin 4 along East Appian Way need to be trimmed (Figure 1; all figures attached). All palm trees surveyed are referenced by number for identification, see Figure 2.

The survey was conducted between 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. during conditions that were conducive to observing potential nesting bird behavior (66 degrees Fahrenheit, calm, and overcast). Mr. Rodriguez surveyed 165 palm trees within Basin 4; see Figure 2. These palms are ornamental species and include queen palms (*Syagrus romanzoffiana*), king palms (*Archontophoenix cunninghamiana*), Canary Island palms (*Phoenix canariensis*), and Mexican fan palms (*Washingtonia robusta*). Only 1 palm (No. 153) was identified with an inactive house sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) nest. Also seen among the palms is a *Ficus* sp. with multiple nests, located in the "island" between East Appian Way and the on ramp to East 2nd Street; caution should be taken when maintenance activities are occurring to the palms adjacent to the *Ficus* sp.

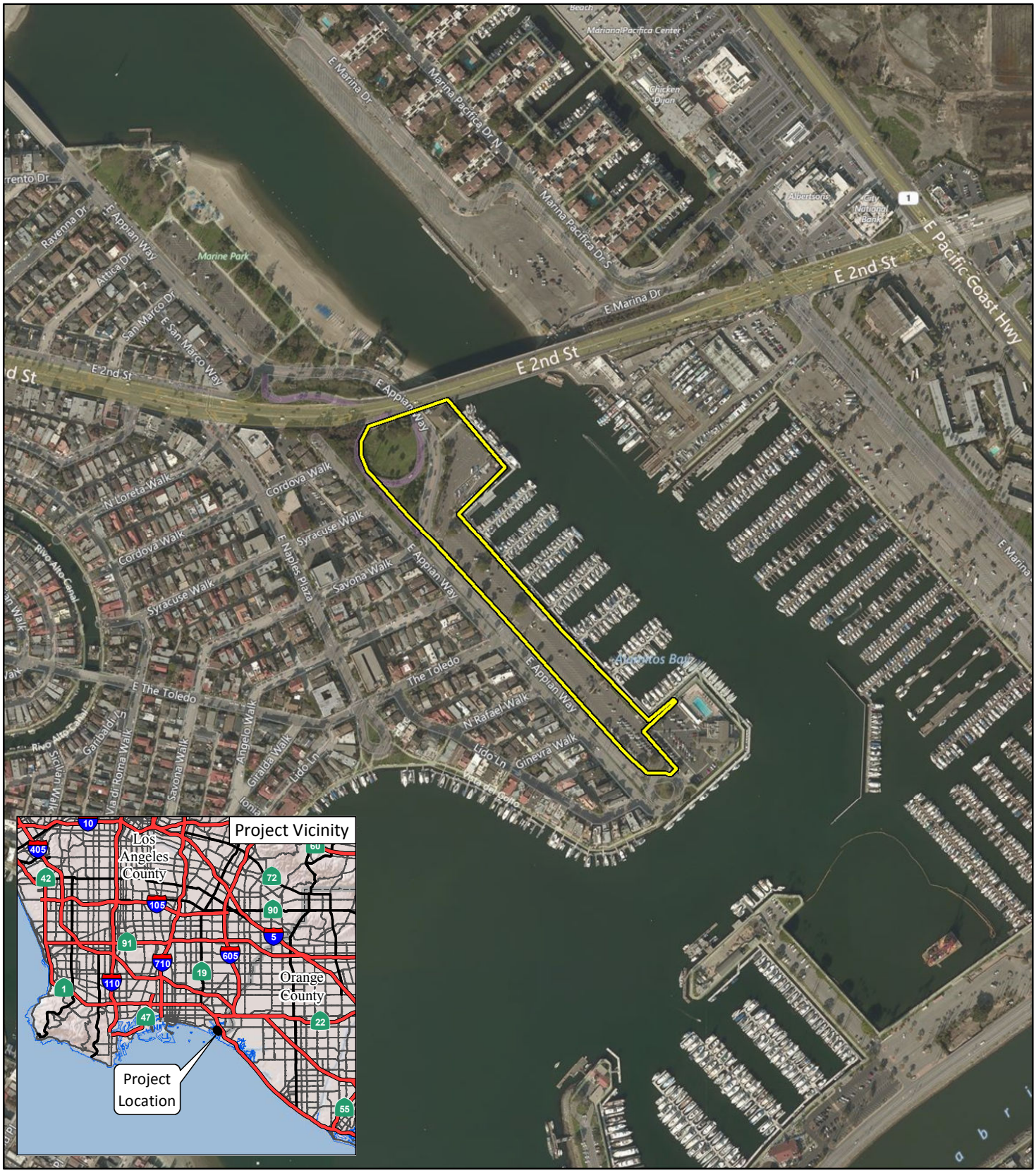
CDP 5-08-187 would not prevent any of the palms from being trimmed. However, maintenance activities occurring to palm Nos. 107, 108, 109, 123, 125, 126, and 127 adjacent to the *Ficus* sp. should be conducted, so that nests and/or the branches supporting the nests are avoided and not damaged during trimming activities.

Bird species observed during the survey included western gull (*Larus occidentalis*), California gull (*Larus californicus*), snowy egret (*Egretta thula*), California brown pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis californicus*), great blue heron (*Ardea herodias*), yellow warbler (*Setophaga petechia*), mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*), house finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*) black phoebe (*Sayornis nigricans*), Anna's hummingbird (*Calypte anna*), , American crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*), European starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*)[1], rock pigeon (*Columba livia*)[1], and house sparrow (*Passer domesticus*)[1].

Please contact Lonnie Rodriguez or Blake Selna at (949) 553-0666 if you have any questions regarding the results of this survey.

Attachments: Figures 1 and 2

[1] These are nonnative species.



LSA

LEGEND

Project Location - Basin 4

FIGURE 1

N

0 250 500

FEET

SOURCE: Bing Maps (2014)

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City of Long Beach
Coastal Tree Survey

Basin 4 Project Location

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- Palm Tree
- Ficus sp. (with Nests)

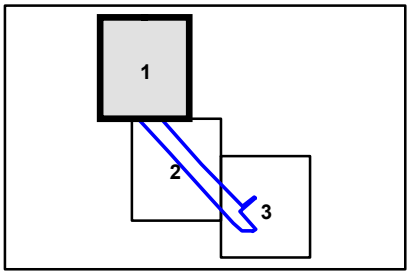

FIGURE 2
Sheet 1 of 3

City of Long Beach
Coastal Tree Survey
Basin 4 Tree Survey

N

0 50 100
FEET

SOURCE: Bing Maps (2014)

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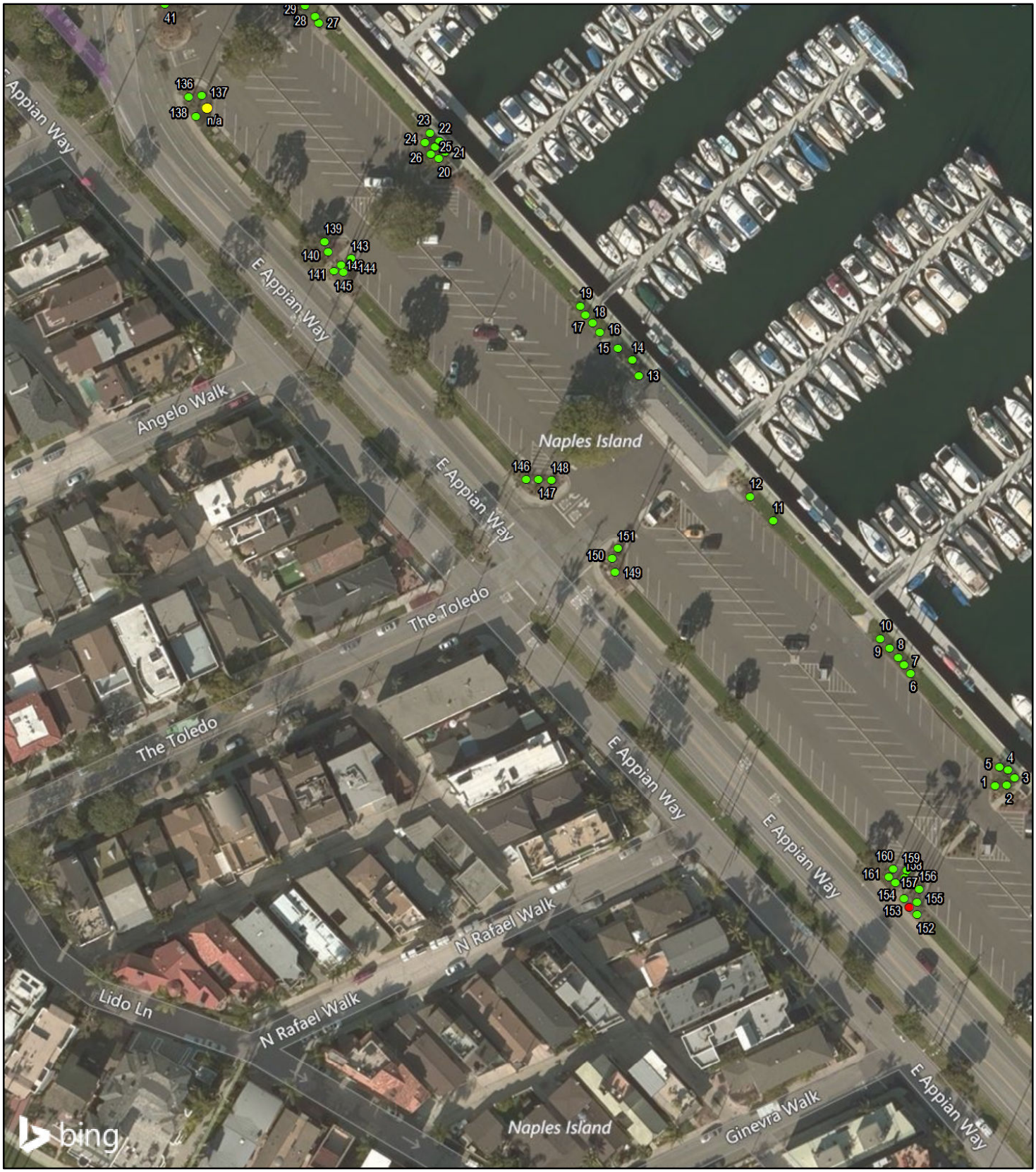

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- Palm Tree
- Palm Tree (with Nest)
- Beehive

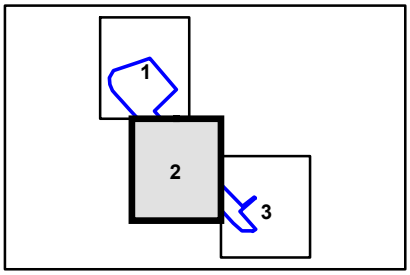

FIGURE 2
Sheet 2 of 3

City of Long Beach
Coastal Tree Survey
Basin 4 Tree Survey

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SOURCE: Bing Maps (2014)

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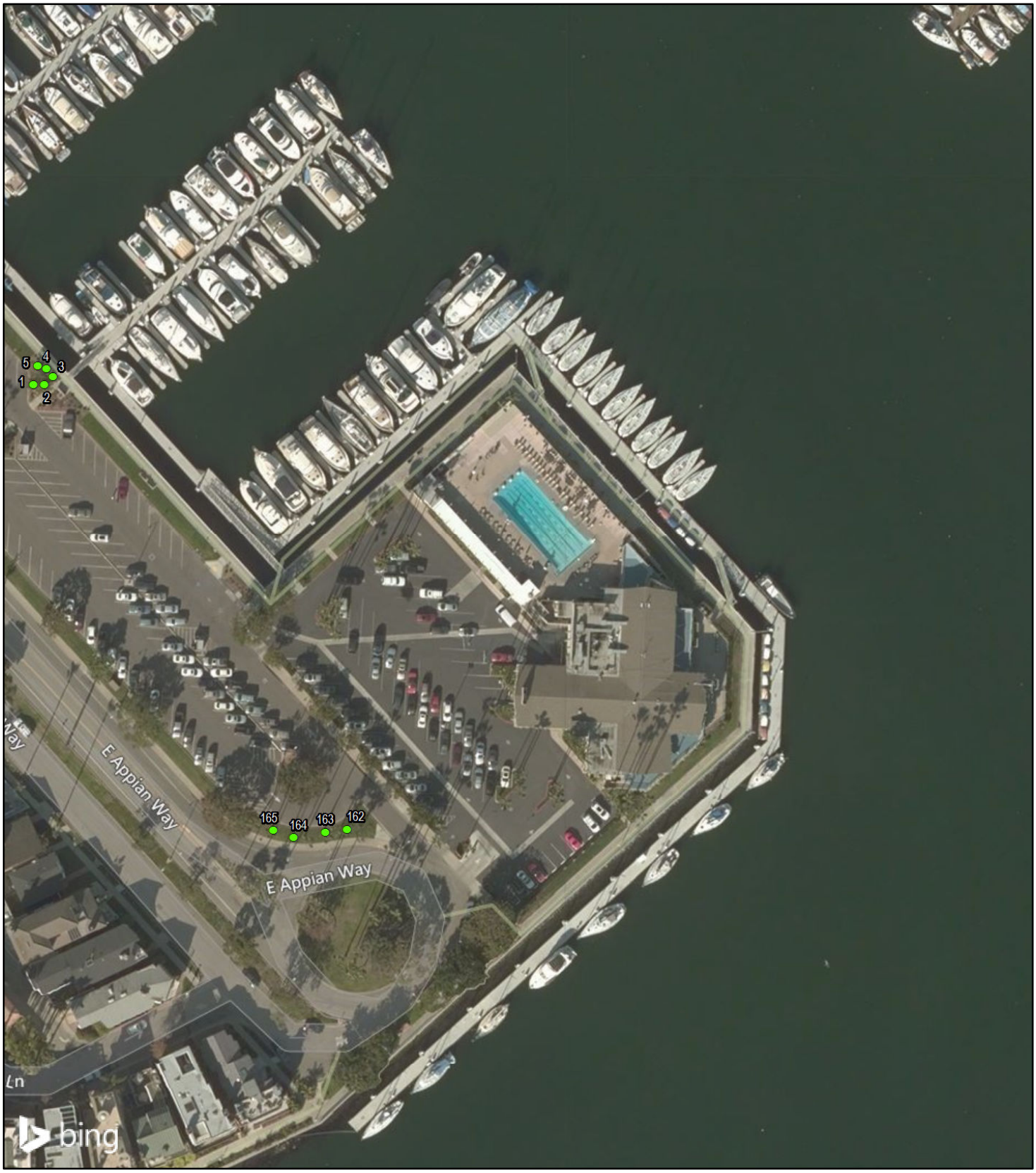

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Palm Tree

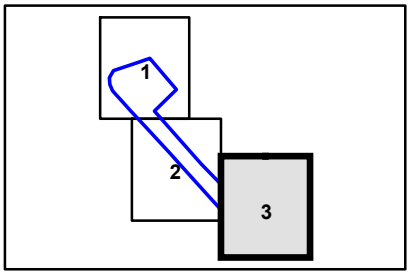

FIGURE 2

Sheet 3 of 3

City of Long Beach
Coastal Tree Survey

Basin 4 Tree Survey

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FEET

SOURCE: Bing Maps (2014)

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