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

MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 11, 2019

TO: Jeffrey King, Contract Monitor, Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine

FROM: Heather Monteleone, Assistant Biologist

SUBJECT: Nesting Bird Survey for South Shores Launch Ramp per Coastal Development Permit 5-08-187

On November 4, 2019, LSA Biologist Heather Monteleone 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 is continuing its annual tree maintenance activity and has requested that all trees to be trimmed within the South Shores Launch Ramp be surveyed prior to maintenance (Figure 1; all figures attached). All palm, ficus, and coral trees surveyed are referenced by number for identification (see Figure 2).

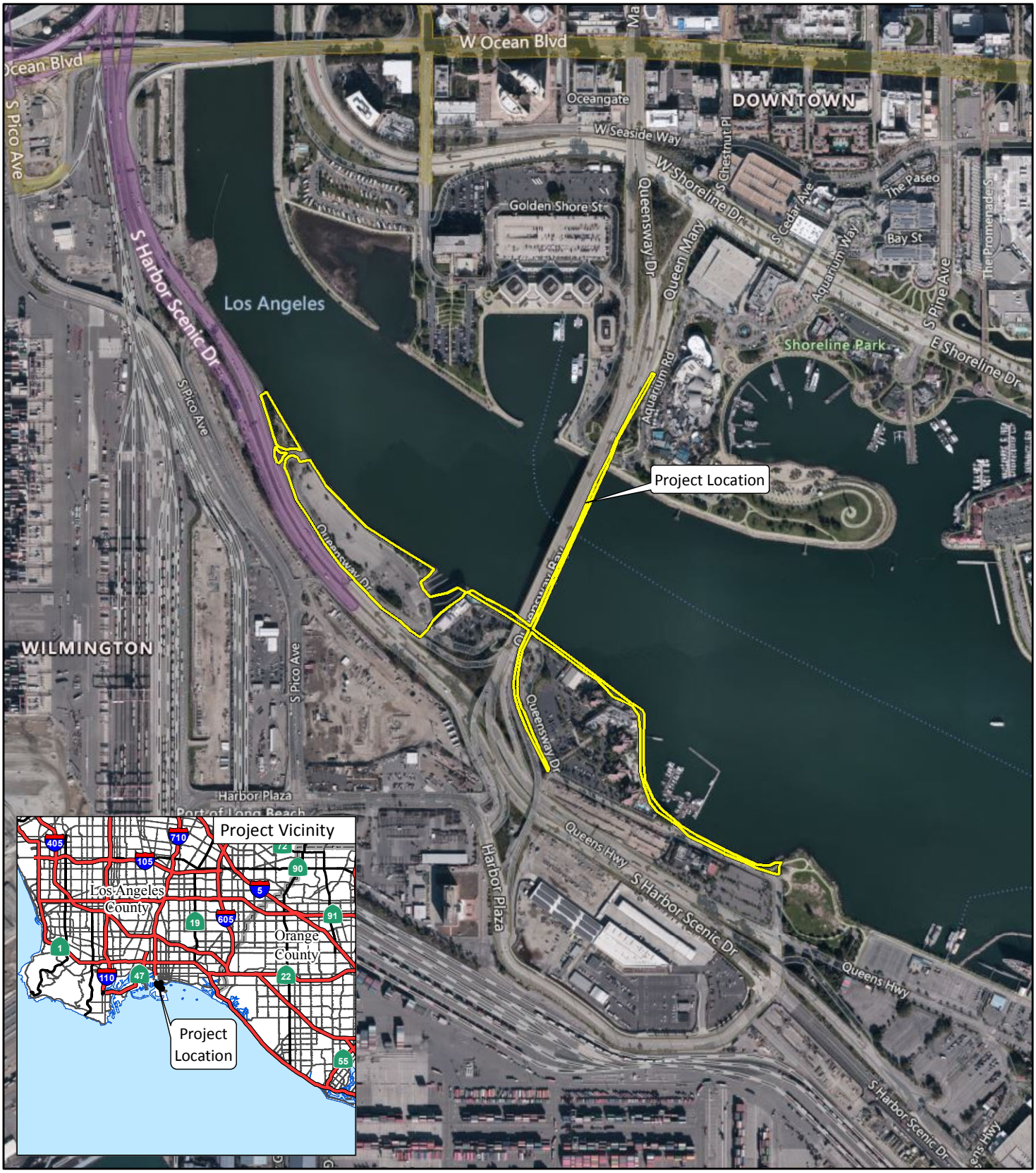
The survey was conducted between 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Weather conditions were 79 degrees Fahrenheit (°F), clear, and windy. Ms. Monteleone surveyed 138 palm trees within the South Shores Launch Ramp Maintenance Area (Figure 2). The palms surveyed are an ornamental species, the Mexican fan palm (*Washingtonia robusta*). The palm trees within the survey area to be maintained were absent of nests at the time of the survey. Additionally, in palm tree No. 45, a black-crowned night heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) was observed roosting within the tree canopy. Rusty-leaf fig (*Ficus rubiginosa*) No. 138 had six black-crowned night-herons roosting in the tree along with an extensive amount of whitewash (bird excrement) at the base of the tree. Since 2017, no nests have been identified within this survey area.

CDP 5-08-187 would not prevent any of the palm trees from being trimmed within the survey area.

Bird species observed during the survey included western gull (*Larus occidentalis*), California gull (*Larus californicus*), osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*), American white pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*), California brown pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis californicus*), double-crested cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*), great blue heron (*Ardea herodias*), snowy egret (*Egretta thula*), western grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*), surf scoter (*Melanitta perspicillata*), Cassin's kingbird (*Tyrannus vociferans*), northern mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*), white-crowned sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*), spotted sandpiper (*Actitis macularius*), yellow-rumped warbler (*Setophaga coronata*), house finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*), black phoebe (*Sayornis nigricans*), Anna's hummingbird (*Calypte anna*), and American crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*). Nonnative species observed included European starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*), rock pigeon (*Columba livia*), and house sparrow (*Passer domesticus*).

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

Attachments: Figure 1 – South Shores Launch Ramp Project Location
Figure 2 – South Shores Launch Ramp Tree Survey



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Project Location - South Shores Launch Ramp

FIGURE 1

N

0 375 750

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SOURCE: Bing (2018)

City of Long Beach
Coastal Tree Survey

South Shores Launch Ramp Project Location

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- Trees Surveyed within Project Area

0 50 100
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SOURCE: Bing Maps (2014)

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FIGURE 2
Sheet 1 of 7

City of Long Beach
Coastal Tree Survey

South Shores Launch Ramp Tree Survey

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Trees Surveyed within Project Area

0 50 100
FEET

SOURCE: Bing Maps (2014)

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FIGURE 2
Sheet 2 of 7

City of Long Beach
Coastal Tree Survey

South Shores Launch Ramp Tree Survey

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- Trees Surveyed within Project Area

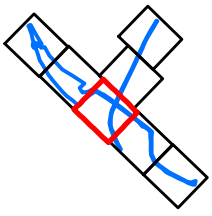

FIGURE 2
Sheet 3 of 7

City of Long Beach
Coastal Tree Survey
South Shores Launch Ramp Tree Survey

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SOURCE: Bing Maps (2014)

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- Trees Surveyed within Project Area

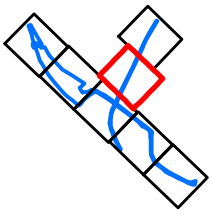

FIGURE 2
Sheet 4 of 7

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SOURCE: Bing Maps (2014)

City of Long Beach
Coastal Tree Survey

South Shores Launch Ramp Tree Survey

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- Trees Surveyed within Project Area

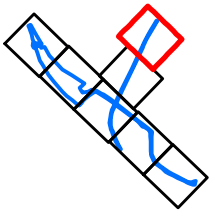

FIGURE 2
Sheet 5 of 7

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SOURCE: Bing Maps (2014)

City of Long Beach
Coastal Tree Survey

South Shores Launch Ramp Tree Survey

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- Trees Surveyed within Project Area

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SOURCE: Bing Maps (2014)

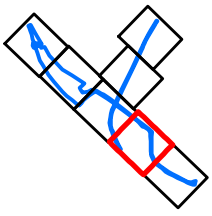

FIGURE 2
Sheet 6 of 7

City of Long Beach
Coastal Tree Survey

South Shores Launch Ramp Tree Survey

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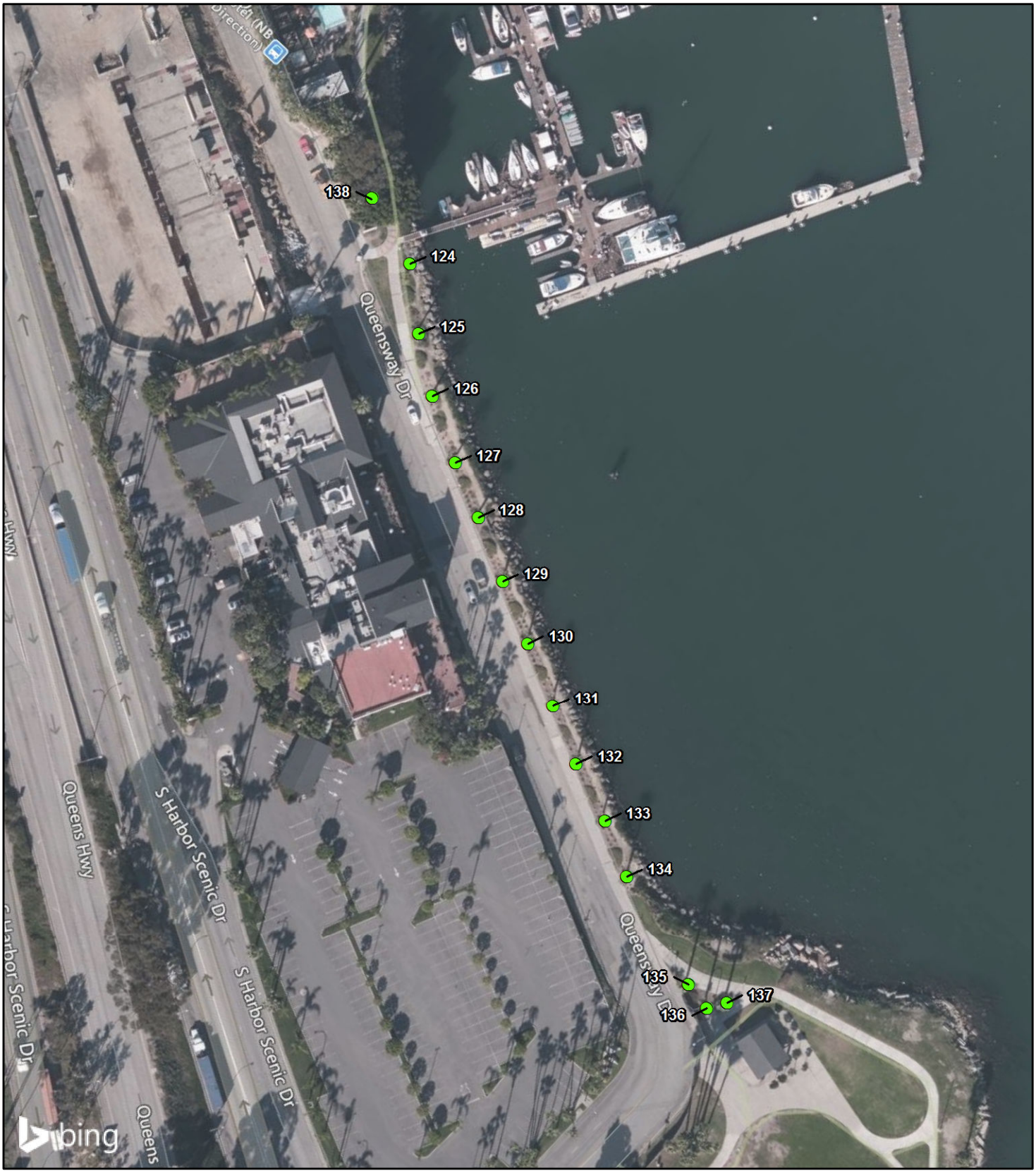

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Trees Surveyed within Project Area

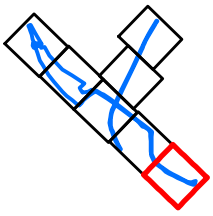

FIGURE 2
Sheet 7 of 7

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SOURCE: Bing Maps (2014)

City of Long Beach
Coastal Tree Survey

South Shores Launch Ramp Tree Survey

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