# Exhibit B

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Monterey County Housing and Community Development Department

# THOMPSON <u>WILDLAND MANAGEMENT</u>

Environmental Management & Conservation Services International Society of Arboriculture Certified Arborist # WE-7468A Department of Pesticide Regulation Qualified Applicator Lic. #QL50949 B Environmental & Arborist Assessments, Protection, Restoration, Monitoring & Reporting Wildland Fire Property Protection, Fuel Reduction & Vegetation Management Invasive Weed Control, and Habitat Restoration & Management Soil Erosion & Sedimentation Control Resource Ecologist

August 4, 2022

Maxwell Residence 21 Pronghorn Run Carmel, CA. 93923 APN: 239-091-044-000

Subject: 21 Pronghorn Run Pre-construction Tree Impact Assessment

An arborist-conducted tree evaluation and pre-construction tree impact assessment was recently performed for the undeveloped lot located at 21 Pronghorn Run (Lot 119, APN: 239-091-044) on the *Santa Lucia Preserve* in Carmel. This pre-construction assessment involved performing a ground level visual inspection of trees located on the subject property to assess general physiological health and structural condition, determine suitability for incorporating specific trees into the developed landscape, and provide recommendations for retaining trees and protecting trees from property development activities to comply with *Monterey County RMA-Planning Department* permit conditions and to assist in preserving and sustaining tree health and woodland habitat and character. It should be noted that no trees are proposed for removal and retained trees will be adequately protected during property development activities.

The location of trees to be retained and protected are identified in the *Exhibit A: Tree Location Map* and project plans, and trees assessed and recorded during the field assessment are identified in the corresponding *Exhibit B: Tree Impact Assessment Spreadsheet*. Photographs depicting property features and trees addressed in this document are located at the end of the report (refer to attached photos, *Figures 1-14*). Findings and recommendations are provided herein.

## I. PROPERTY DESCRIPTION & CHARACTERISTICS

This undeveloped lot located at 21 Pronghorn Run (Lot 119) is a total of 23 acres in size with the Homeland being 2.3 acres. The Homeland area is a previously disturbed, and moderate to relatively steep sloped site consisting of oak savanna habitat that is dominated by mature and well-spaced deciduous valley oak (*Quercus lobata*) trees and grasslands that are primarily composed of non-native annual grasses (refer to attached photos, *Figures 1-14*), which is

characteristic of an oak savanna type habitat. Low growing understory vegetation in the Homeland is dominated by recently mowed exotic annual grasses, non-native invasive broadleaf weeds, some native broadleaf forbs, as well as a few areas where native perennial grasses are present. More densely vegetated mixed oak woodland habitat primarily consisting of coast live oaks (*Quercus agrifolia*) and valley oaks (*Quercus lobata*) is occurring in the surrounding Openlands (refer to *Figures 6 & 14*).

This wildland-urban interface (WUI) property is located in a region that is characterized by cool and wet winters and hot and dry summers. As previously mentioned, this lot primarily consist of oak savanna and annual grassland clearings in the Homeland (refer to *Figures 1-14*), with denser and steeper mixed oak woodlands and some coastal scrub type vegetation occurring in the surrounding Openlands.

In regards to proposed property development, construction activities do not appear to be occurring on slopes greater than 30% grade. The building footprint is located in previously disturbed and impacted annual grasslands and oak savanna that has been affected by past mowing and cattle grazing operations. The primary vegetation type that will be removed and impacted during construction activities are non-native annual grasses.

The crown class of oaks on the Homeland ranges from intermediate to co-dominant, with a majority of the large valley oaks having a co-dominant crown class. Mature and overly mature or senescing valley oaks are the only tree specie and age class of trees located in this oak savanna Homeland, with mature and senescing coast live oaks and valley oaks also present and abundant in the surrounding Openlands. Younger and immature trees (e.g., seedlings and saplings) are located in some areas of the surrounding Openlands and will not be affected by property development activities. In regards to woodland health, harmful biotic disorders (e.g., pathogens, disease and/or insect pests) appear to be absent in levels that are detrimental to the health and viability of trees and woodland habitat.

In the Homeland area tree density and canopy cover ranges from low throughout most of the Homeland to moderate in the center portion of the Homeland. As previously noted, most of the Homeland area (including the proposed building site) is dominated by open annual grasslands and well spaced individual oaks with little to no canopy cover or oak groupings (e.g., the 3 large valley oaks near the center of the lot [identified as *Tree#s 273-275*] that have canopies in contact or in close proximity to one another can be considered a grouping), which is characteristic of an oak savanna type vegetation community (refer to *Figures 1-14*). In the surrounding Openlands, mixed oak woodland habitat with greater tree density and canopy cover is primarily consisting of coast live oak trees (refer to *Figures 6 & 14*). As previously noted, valley oak is the only oak specie inhabiting the Homeland, with understory vegetation dominated by non-native annual grasses and a few patches of woody perennial scrub type species (some of which has been recently mowed), such as coyote brush (*Baccharis pilularis*) and poison oak (*Toxicodendron diversilobum*).

Native plant species observed in the grassland clearings of the Homeland and along woodland edges or in the woodland understory of the adjacent Openlands primarily include poison oak (*Toxicodendron diversilobum*), coyote brush (*Baccharis pilularis*) and a few species of native perennial grasses (e.g., blue wildrye [*Elymus glaucus*]). Several other native plant species not listed above are also present on the subject parcel. Native perennial grasses and native forbs are less common and abundant compared to the ubiquitous and pervasive non-native annual grasses and invasive broadleaf weed species.

Habitat degrading non-native invasive broadleaf weeds (e.g., thistles) and less invasive naturalized species are fairly abundant on the Homeland and surrounding Openland areas, but were observed in limited quantities due to seasonal factors (i.e., the assessment was done in early August after most annual weed species have flowered and gone to seed [i.e., senesced] so were more difficult to detect) and recent mowing activities that have reduced fuel loads and fire hazard concerns. The most common non-native species observed primarily consist of exotic annual grasses, such as wild oat grass (*Avena fatua*), ripgut brome (*Bromus diandrus*), soft chess brome (*Bromus hordeaceus*), foxtail brome (*Bromus rubens*) and Italian ryegrass (*Lolium multiflorum*), among others, as well as invasive broadleaf weeds, such as Italian thistle (*Carduus pycnocephalus*), milk thistle (*Silybum marianum*), bull thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*) and tocalote/ Maltese star-thistle (*Centaurea melitensis*), among others. Non-native invasive plant species such as these should be controlled, managed and, where possible, eradicated due to the fact that they are degrading to habitat, displace native plant species and can significantly increase combustible fuel loads and wildland fire hazards.

The presence of young oak trees and the successful natural recruitment of oak seedlings and saplings appears to be lacking on the Homeland. Consequently, at the appropriate time, some oak planting is advised to assist in sustaining the health and character of this oak savanna and woodland environment.

At the time of the property assessment, special status plant and animal species, sensitive habitat and actively nesting birds that have protection status were not observed in or around the Homeland and are not known to occur on the site. In regards to nesting birds, an additional nesting bird assessment should be conducted if any tree work (e.g., pruning operations) occurs during the nesting season, which in Monterey County may begin as early as February and continue through August.

As previously noted, no trees are proposed for removal in preparation for property development activities and the oaks on the lot will be protected with the necessary tree preservation measures for the duration of the home construction project (refer to tree protection measures provided in this report, as well as the corresponding *Exhibit A: Tree Location Map* and the *Exhibit B: Tree Impact Assessment Spreadsheet*). Additionally, the surrounding Openlands primarily consisting of oak woodland habitat will not be impacted by planned property development activities.

## **II. METHODOLOGY**

For this report, a ground level visual assessment was recently conducted for several oak trees located within or in close proximity to the proposed construction site. In regards to inspecting trees, no aerial (climbing) inspections, woody tissue testing and/or root excavations were performed or requested as part of this evaluation.

During the Lot 119 pre-construction field assessment 8 valley oak trees were recorded and documented and assigned numbered tags 270-277. These trees have the potential of being affected by construction activities and are identified as *Tree#s 270-277* in the report and in the corresponding *Exhibit A: Tree Location Map* and *Exhibit B: Tree Impact Assessment Spreadsheet*. These oak trees will be retained and protected during project operations and significant construction related impacts are not expected to occur. No trees are proposed for removal in preparation for this property development project.

Recommendations are based on the overall general health, vigor and condition of trees and habitat; the impact that property development activities may have on trees and natural resources; the hazard level trees present to proposed occupied structures and/or areas with human traffic; and the impacts that tree management and/or removal activities may have on natural resources, habitat and nearby healthy trees.

In regards to exhibits and attachments included in this report, *Exhibit A* is a property map and project site plan that shows the location of trees on the property in relation to proposed structures and other property features, and the *Exhibit B: Tree Impact Assessment Spreadsheet* identifies trees that have the potential of being affected by proposed construction activities. Photographs depicting property features and trees addressed in this document are located at the end of the report (refer to attached photos, *Figures 1-14*).

## **III. PROJECT IMPACTS & RECOMMENDATIONS**

Per the field assessment, eight (8) large and aging valley oak (*Quercus lobata*) trees were documented and evaluated (i.e., assigned tag numbers 270-277) as part of a pre-construction tree impact assessment. Four of these oaks (identified as *Tree#s 272-275*) are located in the Homeland (refer to *Figures 2, 3 & 5-13*) and the remaining 4 oaks (identified as *Tree#s 270, 271, 276 & 277*) are located in the Openlands (refer to *Figures 2, 5, 6, 8, 9, 13 & 14*), just outside the Homeland boundary. Per the project design plans, no trees are proposed for removal in preparation for property development activities.

These 8 trees are located in the vicinity of proposed property development activities (particularly the oaks identified as *Tree#s 272-275*) and have the potential of being affected by construction operations. However, per the site assessment and project design plans, significant construction related impacts that have the potential of adversely affecting tree health are not expected to occur due to no or limited grading taking place within the canopy dripline (i.e., critical root zone

[CRZ] area) of the subject trees (refer to the *Exhibit A: Tree Location Map* and the *Exhibit B: Tree Impact Assessment Spreadsheet*). Given the proper communication and involvement of the project arborist, as well as the proper execution of grading activities and tree protection measures (refer to the tree protection BMP's and guidelines provided in this report) impacts to oak trees is not expected to be significant and is not likely to have adverse impacts to the health of the trees. The tree protection and preservation measures provided in this report will assist in preventing and minimizing harmful impacts to trees, and, if necessary, the project arborist will be available to assist in addressing any tree care and management concerns (e.g., mitigation action that should be taken if large and substantial roots are encountered during grading operations). Additionally, the oaks on the property should be regularly inspected and monitored for the duration of the property development project and periodically evaluated following the completion of construction and landscaping activities.

These 8 valley oaks range from being in poor to good overall health and condition, with a majority of these aging oaks being in fair physiological health and structural condition. It should be noted that the oak identified as *Tree*#277 is nearly dead and not considered a viable tree (refer to *Figure 14*) due to it only having one living limb as well as severe deadwood, decay and structural degradation. This deteriorating oak can be characterized as a snag and will be retained for habitat value.

Per the project design plans, a majority of the proposed building footprint is located in a open annual grassland area and grading activities associated with property development operations are primarily going to be occurring outside of the canopy dripline (i.e., the critical root zone [CRZ] area) of nearby oak trees, which should have minimal and insignificant impacts to the health and well-being of these trees. Grading and construction related disturbance will be avoided within a radius that is a **minimum** of three times (3X) the diameter (DBH) of the subject trees, which is the most sensitive portion of a tree's critical root zone (CRZ) area. The CRZ is generally defined as the area within the canopy dripline (i.e., the outer most portion of the canopy dripline 360 degrees around the tree) that contains the most sensitive and important roots for supporting and sustaining the health and structural integrity of trees. Trees with a DBH of approximately 12 inches should have a minimum **CRZ area that must be protected and, where possible, root zone disturbance should be avoided within the entire canopy dripline** and even expanded to the area beyond the canopy dripline.

As previously noted, the trees that have the greatest potential of being affected by proposed construction activities due to their proximity to project operations are the 4 oaks identified as *Tree#s 272-275* (refer to the *Exhibit A: Tree Location Map* and the *Exhibit B: Tree Impact Assessment Spreadsheet*), but overall concerns related to root system impacts are relatively minor and insignificant due to no or limited grading and disturbance that is expected to occur within the critical root zone area of these trees (refer to *Figures 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13*).

Consequently, significant root system impacts or root loss should be avoided and is not expected to occur in levels that is detrimental to the health and welfare of retained and protected trees.

During project operations the oak trees on the lot will be routinely monitored and adequately protected. Where possible, tree protection fencing will be installed along the outer portion of the canopy dripline and critical root zones (CRZ) of the trees or preferably beyond the canopy dripline to avoid impacting and damaging critical roots of oaks located near the project site. In the event that large primary roots are encountered the project arborist will be notified and consulted to assist in providing guidance and recommendations that will serve to minimize and mitigate harmful impacts to protected trees. If trees exhibit any signs or symptoms of stress and decline due to possible construction related impacts or any other factors (e.g., biotic and/or abiotic disorders) specific treatments can be performed (e.g., supplemental deep watering, radial or vertical mulching, growth regulator treatments, among others) to assist in mitigating adverse impacts and to aid in the recovery of impacted trees, but none of these treatments are expected to be necessary.

It should be noted that large and mature oaks can generally be fairly tolerant of low levels of root system impacts; however they are typically less tolerant to increases (i.e., introduction of fill material) or decreases (i.e., cut slopes) in natural grade. Obviously, where possible, root loss and root system impacts should be avoided and minimized to the greatest extent possible, and this important factor should be strongly considered when developing a construction design plan. Per the site assessment and project design plans, no trees are proposed for removal and it appears that retained trees in the vicinity of proposed construction activities will likely tolerate the impacts of construction activities with minimal adverse affect.

Landscaping activities associated with property development will be designed and implemented in manner that will avoid or minimize impacts to nearby trees. For example, landscaping should be avoided or limited within the critical root zone area (i.e., canopy dripline) of trees, with minimal soil disturbance, grading, irrigation, planting and introduction of soil or other landscaping materials. Landscaping plants should be drought tolerant and lower combustibility vegetation that is appropriate to oak woodland habitat.

Per *Monterey County RMA-Planning Department* tree preservation ordinances and resource protection best management practices (BMP's), the trees on the property will be retained and protected from construction activities for the duration of the property development project (refer to tree protection BMP's provided in this report). Tree and resource protection measures will assist in preserving and protecting habitat, ecological resources and minimizing impacts to trees and woodland habitat.

Several oak trees located in the Homeland that are in relatively close proximity to the proposed project site will be pruned to maintain and preserve tree health, improve aesthetics, provide adequate clearance around proposed structures, reduce combustible fuel loads (i.e., ladder fuels) and improve defensible space for wildland fire protection. Pruning operations should occur

during the proper time of year (preferably fall through early winter) and will utilize proper pruning best management practices (BMP's) to minimize impacts to trees.

Pruning or any other tree work should be avoided during the bird nesting season, which in Monterey County may begin as early as February and continue through August. If pruning is necessary during this time period a nesting assessment is advised to determine if any nesting birds are present. A recent tree assessment and site inspection determined that actively nesting birds are presently not occurring within or directly adjacent to the property development site; however depending on when construction activities begin (i.e., February-August) it may be necessary to perform an additional assessment.

As previously noted, natural recruitment of oak seedlings and saplings appears to be lacking on the subject lot. Consequently, at the appropriate time, some oak planting is advised to assist in sustaining the health and character of this oak savanna and woodland environment. If healthy oak seedlings or saplings are observed in the Homeland prior to construction activities beginning they should ideally be protected from construction activities or, alternatively, saved and relocated to a safe and suitable area on the property and cared for until they are properly established.

#### A. Construction Tree Protection Measures:

Per *Monterey County RMA-Planning Department* requirements and resource preservation BMP's, the following tree and resource protection measures shall be implemented for this home development project located at 21 Pronghorn Run (Lot 119). Not all of these tree protection measures may be applicable to this specific project, but may come in useful at some point during property development operations. Proper implementation of tree and resource preservation BMP's and regular construction site monitoring will assist in protecting and preserving the health and welfare of trees, habitat and surrounding resources. The location of tree protection measures will be determined on-site by the project arborist and project design team, and tree and resource preservation measures will be regularly inspected and properly maintained for the duration of the project to ensure they are functioning effectively:

1) Prior to commencing with grading and construction activities install high visibility exclusionary fencing that clearly defines the work area, limits unnecessary disturbance to surrounding areas, and protects the critical root zone (i.e., area defined by the outermost portion of the canopy dripline, 360 degrees around the tree) of individual trees and tree groupings. Where possible, tree protection fencing will be installed along the outer portion of the canopy dripline (CRZ) or beyond the canopy dripline of trees located within and adjacent to the project site to avoid impacting critical roots. Perform necessary repairs, modifications and maintenance on a as needed basis.

2) Install appropriate sedimentation control measures (e.g., silt fence) along downslope perimeter of construction site, and if necessary apply soil stabilization and source control measures (e.g., rice straw mulch, erosion control blankets, all-weather surfaces) to exposed soil surfaces to

prevent erosion problems and sediment runoff during rain events. Perform routine monitoring as well as necessary maintenance and improvements to ensure that erosion & sedimentation control measures are functioning effectively. It should be noted, that erosion problems and sediment deposition around trees can adversely affect tree health and stability.

3) If it's necessary to perform grading activities within the canopy dripline and critical root zone (CRZ) area of trees try to maintain natural grade as much as possible, where possible use permeable surface materials at final grade, and avoid cut (i.e., lowering grade) and fill (i.e., raising grade with fill material) operations (particularly lowering grade) within the CRZ that could result in significant impacts to large primary roots that are important to supporting and sustaining tree health and stability.

4) If it is necessary to perform grading and construction activities within 5 feet of trees install trunk and stem protection measures (e.g., 2x4 lumber forming protective barrier around circumference of trunk and lower stem of tree). Tree protection measures should be securely installed to trees with rope and high visibility exclusionary fencing. If it is necessary to perform any pruning use proper tree pruning practices to minimize impacts and maximize wound healing.

5) If it is necessary to temporarily store construction materials or equipment within the canopy dripline (i.e., CRZ) of nearby oak trees (which will be avoided and should not be necessary), apply 2 to 4 inches of clean and properly sourced woodchip mulch to limit soil disturbance and prevent soil compaction within the critical root zone area.

6) Where possible, avoid damaging or cuting roots located within the critical root zone (i.e., canopy dripline) of trees, especially roots that are 2 inches diameter or larger, and to the extent possible avoid grading or significant soil disturbance within a radius that is a minimum three times (3X) the diameter (DBH) of a subject tree, which is the most sensitive portion of a tree's critical root zone (CRZ) area. Trees with a DBH of approximately 12 inches should have a minimum protective radius of 4 feet, but preferably a greater area within the CRZ should be protected with limited soil disturbance. It should be noted that 3X the trunk diameter is the minimum CRZ area that must be protected and, where possible, root zone disturbance should ideally be avoided within the entire canopy dripline (i.e., the outer most portion of the canopy dripline 360 degrees around the tree) and even expanded to the area beyond the canopy dripline and primary root zone. Construction footings should be designed and excavation activities performed in a manner to minimize impacts to primary roots, or alternative foundation designs (e.g., pier and grade beam) that are less impactful to critical root systems should be considered. If significant roots are encountered efforts should be made to carefully excavate (e.g., tunnel or dig) under or around primary lateral roots. Grading or trenching operations that may occur within the critical root zone of retained trees should be performed under the guidance and monitoring of the project arborist; however, no such activities are planned or anticipated for this project. Tree roots severed or significantly damaged during grading and excavating operations should be cleanly cut and promptly covered with moist burlap fabric or equivalent until roots are permanently covered with backfill material or until the exposed grading cut and soil profile is

permanently stabilized and protected. If burlap covered cut roots are exposed to the outside environment for an extended period of time a project attendant shall be assigned the task of regularly wetting burlap covered roots to prevent root desiccation. Additionally, in the absence of rain during the wet season it may be necessary to perform supplemental watering (i.e., regular deep irrigating throughout the remaining portions of the critical root zone) to construction impacted trees. Frequency, quantity and duration of supplemental watering should be determined by the project arborist.

7) As previously noted, large and mature oaks can be fairly tolerant of low levels of root system impacts; however they are typically less tolerant to increases (i.e., introduction of fill material) or decreases (i.e., cut slopes) in natural grade. Where possible, avoid altering the natural grade within the critical root zone of trees to reduce the likelihood of causing stress, decline or mortality. Lowering natural grade can result in significant root damage and raising the grade (i.e., introducing fill material, particularly around the lower trunk and root crown) can lead to trunk and root decay disorders that are detrimental to the health and structural integrity of trees. Obviously, where possible, root loss and root system impacts should be avoided and minimized to the greatest extent possible, and this important factor should be considered when developing a construction design plan. Per the site assessment and analysis of the construction plans, it appears that retained trees will likely tolerate construction impacts with minimal adverse affects.

8) Avoid storing construction tools, materials and equipment within the critical root zone (i.e., canopy dripline) of trees, and do not wash out or dispose of excess materials (e.g., paint, plaster, concrete, or other potentially harmful substances) within critical root zone areas. As previously noted, if it is unavoidable and necessary to temporarily store or stockpile materials and equipment within the CRZ of trees, apply 2 to 4 inches of clean and properly sourced woodchip mulch to prevent soil compaction and root zone disturbance.

9) If tree pruning is necessary it is important to utilize proper pruning BMP's that will assist in minimizing harmful impacts to trees. In most cases, tree pruning should ideally be performed during the fall through early winter months. A general principle to follow is that it is important to make proper pruning cuts, keeping them as small as possible while removing as few living branches as necessary to achieve the objective. Large pruning wounds often do not completely heal over with wound wood callus tissue, which creates a permanently exposed entry point for decay, disease and insect pests. Excessive pruning can stress, injure and harm trees by depleting energy reserves and reducing food making processes (i.e., photosynthesis), which can compromise a trees ability to perform essential physiological functions and to recover and replenish essential reserves during periods of stress (e.g. root disturbance and drought conditions). Additionally, it creates an abundance of exposed wounds providing entry points for potentially harmful biotic disorders (e.g., disease, decay and/or insect pests) that can adversely affect the health and structural integrity of trees. It should be noted that pruning involving the removal of 30% or more of living canopy material requires a County permit. Additional pruning BMP's and guidelines are available upon request.

10) The primary objective of pruning operations should be as follows: To remove dead and unhealthy limbs and branches (i.e., deadwood removal); improve canopy balance and symmetry and maintain natural form; thin out overly dense and heavy portions of the canopy; and, if necessary, perform targeted and selective weight reduction pruning of the canopy and large limbs (i.e., end weight reduction pruning) to assist in preventing significant structural failures that can be detrimental to tree health and potentially hazardous to property and areas with human activity. As suggested in the previous sentence, perform necessary pruning to reduce and mitigate hazard concerns to occupied structures and areas with human activity; and perform necessary pruning to reduce wildland fire hazards and combustible fuel loads, and improve property protection and defensible space around structures.

11) Perform regular construction site inspections for the duration of the project to monitor the condition of tree and resource protection measures, and to determine if any repairs, adjustments or modifications are necessary. Additionally, trees impacted by site development should be periodically monitored and assessed during and following the project to determine if any tree care and management actions are necessary, and to make certain trees do not present a hazard to property and/or nearby structures.

#### B. Tree Repair & Replacement:

Per tree care and preservation BMP's, if any trees are damaged during construction operations they should be promptly repaired and/or treated per arborist specifications. Remedial or mitigation treatments may vary and will depend largely on the damage or injury sustained, as well as the condition of a specific tree at the time of injury. As previously noted, trees impacted by project operations should be periodically monitored and assessed by the project arborist during and following the project to determine if any tree care and management actions are necessary that will assist in preserving and improving tree health and preventing tree hazards.

## **IV. CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, based on the current project design plans for the property located at 21 Pronghorn Run (Lot 119) on the *Santa Lucia Preserve* and given the proper implementation and maintenance of the tree protection measures provided in this report, the 8 valley oak trees addressed in this report (identified as *Tree#s 270-277* on the attached *Exhibit A: Tree Location Map*) are not expected to be significantly impacted or adversely affected by property development activities.

Per *Santa Lucia Preserve DRB* requirements and *Monterey County RMA-Planning Department* permit conditions, tree and resource protection measures shall be installed prior to construction activities commencing and properly monitored and maintained for the duration of the project. The proper implementation of tree protection and preservation BMP's provided in this report will assist in minimizing impacts to tree health, and it appears that construction related impacts will be insignificant. Additionally, no trees are proposed for removal so no tree related mitigation

measures or actions (e.g., the planting of replacement trees) are necessary or required for this project.

Best regards,

*Rob Thompson* ISA Certified Arborist # WE-7468A Resource Ecologist *August 4, 2022* Date

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THIS REPORT IS BASED ON A LIMITED VISUAL INSPECTION FOR OBVIOUS DEFECTS AND OF TREE CONDITION FROM GROUND LEVEL. IT IS NOT A COMPLETE HEALTH AND HAZARD EVALUATION, AS SOME HEALTH AND HAZARD CONDITIONS ARE NOT VISIBLE AND CANNOT BE CONFIRMED BY SUCH LIMITED INSPECTION. A COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH AND HAZARD ASSESSMENT WOULD INCLUDE OTHER INVESTIGATION MEASURES INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, CORE SAMPLES, TISSUE ANALYSIS, ROOT COLLAR EXCAVATION, SOIL ANALYSIS, AND VISUAL INSPECTION OF THE ENTIRE TREE VIA CLIMBING. ESTIMATES FOR THIS WORK ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.

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Figure 1. Entrance to Lot 119 located in oak savanna habitat. No trees are planned for removal.



Figure 2. View of oak savanna Homeland from entrance to lot. Valley oak identified as *Tree#270* is at right edge of photo. Oaks identified as *Tree#s 271-273* are also visible in background of photo. All oaks will be retained and protected.



Figure 3. Another view of Homeland from entrance looking up towards proposed homesite. Valley oaks identified as *Tree#s 272-275* are visible in photo.



Figure 4. Another view of Homeland from entrance looking up towards homesite area. 14



Figure 5. Valley oak identified as *Tree#271* is at right edge of photo and valley oak identified as *Tree#272* is to the left.



Figure 6. *Tree#272* is in center foreground and *Tree#271* is in left background of photo. Fairly dense mixed oak woodland is occurring in background just outside of Homeland. 15



Figure 7. Large and senescing valley oaks identified as *Tree#s 273-275* (going left to right) will be retained and protected.



Figure 8. Valley oaks identified as *Tree#s 275* (left of center) & 276 (background right of center) are visible in photo.



Figure 9. Another view of *Tree#s 275* (right edge of photo) & 276 (left edge of photo).



Figure 10. View of *Tree*#274 is located in center of photo and *Tree*#275 is left of center. 17



Figure 11. View of *Tree#273* (background left of center), *Tree#274* (right of center) and *Tree#275* (foreground left).



Figure 12. View of valley oak identified as *Tree*#274 next to proposed homesite. All oaks will be retained and protected.



Figure 13. Tree#s 274-276 (right to left) viewed from proposed homesite located in oak savanna environment.



Figure 14. Nearly dead valley oak identified as *Tree#277* does not pose a hazard concern and will be retained for habitat. Fairly dense mixed oak woodland is occurring just outside of Homeland. 19

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