

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

SOUTH CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT OFFICE
89 SOUTH CALIFORNIA STREET, SUITE 200
VENTURA, CA 93001-2801
VOICE (805) 585-1800



F12a

4-23-0905 (Ellwood Monarchs)

May 10, 2024

CORRESPONDENCE

From: Andrew Arizmendi <aarizmendi@rusnakgroup.com>
Sent: Monday, April 29, 2024 4:42 PM
To: SouthCentralCoast@Coastal <SouthCentralCoast@coastal.ca.gov>
Cc: Andrew Arizmendi <aarizmendi@rusnakgroup.com>; Andrew Arizmendi (Sr.)
(andrewarizmendi@yahoo.com) <andrewarizmendi@yahoo.com>
Subject: Ellwood Mesa Bluffs refurbishment project

Steve Hudson
District Director
California Coastal Commission
South Central Coast District Office
89 South California Street, Suite 200
Ventura, CA 93001-02801

Re: Public Access Improvement Program at the Ellwood Mesa/Sperling Preserve, Goleta Application #: 4-23-0905

Mr. Hudson

I am writing to you in support of the permit application of the City of Goleta for implementation of the Monarch Butterfly Habitat-reestablishment and public access improvement program at the Ellwood Preserve. I live at the Bluffs, which is located directly within the preserve, and have lived there since July, 2020. My family access and enjoy the beauty of Ellwood Preserve by hiking, biking, running and walking the dogs. The last two years of the unusual heavy rains have damaged the Preserve badly. The paths reaching down to the beach have really eroded from the heavy rain burrowing deep crevices. I know at times we have to constantly search for the safe path in order to access the beach. That being said, this means all the other folks who visit these paths are at danger based on the current conditions.

I strongly approve the quick approval and granting of the permit to the City of Goleta so that the improvement work can be started immediately. I am happy to see the plans for path improvements, the locating of new stairs down to the beach, footbridges that will allow us to walk over drainage areas and new access avenues into the Butterfly Grove. Many of these improvements will also provide safe access to many of our elderly or handicapped homeowners who have had limited access to many of the areas to enjoy the daily beauty of the preserve where they live.

Thank you for taking this critical step in making our Ellwood Mesa a safer and more resilient place for the future.

Best

Andrew Arizmendi
Bluffs Owner
andrewarizmendi@yahoo.com/aarizmendi@rusnakgroup.com
818.606.5511



Andrew Arizmendi

VP of PRM

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 *Please don't print this e-mail unless you really need to.*

From: Carolyn Grenier <carolyn.grenier1@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 29, 2024 6:09 PM
To: Hudson, Steve@Coastal <Steve.Hudson@coastal.ca.gov>
Cc: George Thomson <gthomson@cityofgoleta.org>
Subject: Letter in support of application 4-23-0905

Good afternoon Steve,

Attached is my letter in support of the City of Goleta application #4-23-0905 for a permit to implement the Butterfly Habitat implementation plan and improvements to public access within the Ellwood preserve. Please share this with any other commissioners or staff members requiring this information. I am also available to answer any questions or to provide more detailed information where required.

Thank you for reviewing my comments. I look forward to an approval of this much needed permit.

Carolyn

Carolyn Grenier
(650) 888.6271 (cell)
(805) 845.8582 (home)

April 28, 2024

Steve Hudson
District Director
California Coastal Commission
South Central Coast District Office
89 South California Street, Suite 200
Ventura, CA 93001-02801
SouthCentralCoast@Coastal.ca.gov

RE: Public Access Improvement Program at the Ellwood Mesa/Sperling Preserve, Goleta
Application #: 4-23-0905

Dear Mr. Hudson and fellow commissioners:

I am writing to you in support of the permit application of the City of Goleta for implementation of the Monarch Butterfly Habitat-reestablishment and public access improvement program at the Ellwood Preserve. I live at The Bluffs, which is located directly within the preserve, and have lived here for over 12 years. We access and enjoy the beauty of the Ellwood preserve frequently so are very much aware of the continuously degrading conditions of trails, creeks, footbridges, and groves. In addition, eroding paths and trails along the bluffs, mostly down to the beach as well as where rainwater drains to lower grounds and creeks, have made many of the trails extremely treacherous if not impassable over the years. I truly believe that most of these have become a public safety risk to both pedestrians and the bicyclists who frequent the area.

For these reasons, I strongly support the quick approval and granting of the permit to the City of Goleta so that the improvement work can be immediately started. I am happy to see plans for path improvements, the locating of new stairs down to the beach, footbridges that will allow us to walk over drainage areas (that often flood and are unsafe) and new access avenues into the butterfly grove. Many of these improvements will also provide safe access to many of our elderly or handicapped homeowners who have had limited access to many of the areas to enjoy the daily beauty of the preserve where they live.

Thank you for taking this critical step in making our Ellwood Mesa a safer and more resilient place for the future.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Grenier
Concerned The Bluffs community member
Carolyn.grenier1@gmail.com
805-845-8582

From: tracgeology@aol.com <tracgeology@aol.com>

Sent: Friday, May 3, 2024 3:44 PM

To: SouthCentralCoast@Coastal <SouthCentralCoast@coastal.ca.gov>

Subject: Submittal of Comments Hearing Notice 4-23-0905, Item F12a, City of Goleta

May 2, 2024
California Coastal Commission
South Central Coast District Office
89 South California Street, Suite 200
Ventura CA 93001-2801

Subject: Concern Regarding Public Hearing Notice 4-23-0905, Item F12a, City of Goleta, Implementation of a Monarch Butterfly Habitat-Re-establishment, and Public Access Improvements, Ellwood Mesa/Sperling Preserve, Goleta, California

Introduction

I field inspected the City of Goleta’s subject submittal to the Coastal Commission. The area inspected was the drainage area shown as streambed Non-Wetland Waters on Exhibit L1.5. A portion of this exhibit is shown below in Figure 1-Modification of Exhibit L1.5.

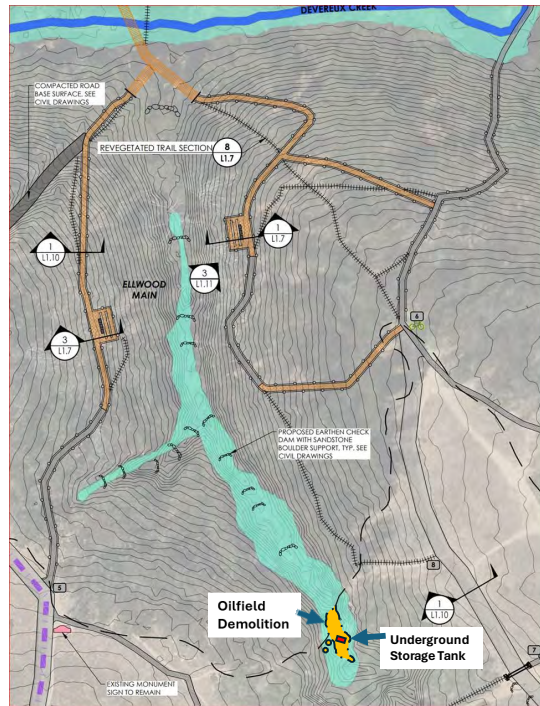
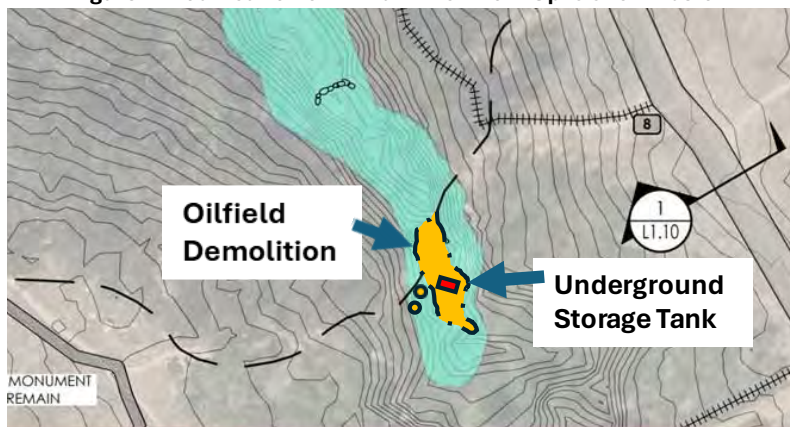


Figure 1-Modification of Exhibit L1.5. Blow-Up is shown below.



Also contained within the non-wetland water designation is an abundance of oilfield demolition materials, as shown in Figures 2 and 3-concrete footings and underground storage tank. These materials include 25+/- concrete pillars, other rebar containing concrete pieces, and pieces of sheet metal. The GPS coordinates of the demolition are N34.422018 degrees, W119.890678. These materials are only 270-feet from the planned butterfly viewing area seating that is stipulated in this project.



Figures 2 and 3- concrete footings (25+) and fill port for the underground storage tank. These conditions are hazardous to children playing nearby.

Regulatory Framework

California Environmental Reporting System

Underground storage tanks need to be permanently closed pursuant to CCR Title 23, Div 3 Ch 16 section 2672.

Abandoned UST's must be recorded within 30 days of discovery of the tank. Failure to notify the abandoned UST and provide a proposal for its removal may result in enforcement of up to \$5,000. per day fine per CCR Title 23, section 2670(F).

The concern having the UST in the non-wetland streambed is that it might contain a fuel product. Release of a fuel product can contaminate surrounding soil, groundwater, or surface water. Consider that the UST is upstream from Ellwood Main Butterfly Preserve. A release of fluid would migrate through Ellwood Main. The UST is shown in Figures 4 and 5-Discarded Underground storage tank. The UST is also a confined space that could trap a child once the hatch shown in Figure 5 is opened. The UST is also in violation of California Proposition 65.

Ellwood Oil Field

The project is located within the old Ellwood Oil Field, as shown in Figure 6-Ellwood oil field.



Figures 4 and 5-Discarded Underground storage tank. Note fill port and graffiti marked access hatch on the UST.

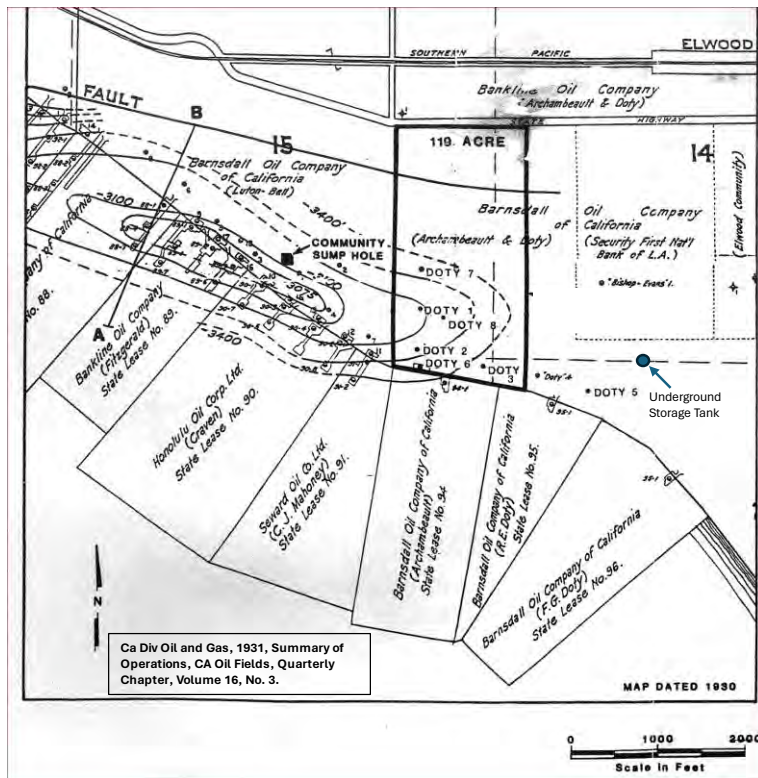


Figure 6-Ellwood oil field. The location of the UST is shown on the right-central part of this map. The location is 913 feet north of the beach and 1,368 feet east of the east edge of the old County Santa Barbara Shores Park.

The oil field operated between the 1920's and 1940's. By 1929, it is reported that wells located near each other were flowing unrestricted at flow rates of 12,000 barrels of oil (660,000 gallons) per day. Competition between various operators facilitated the high flow rates, according to Tompkins (1964, p.75). Reservoir pressure quickly dropped due to the competing oil production rates resulting in the reservoir pressure dropping and water flooding the field and prematurely terminated the life of the field (Jones, 1972, p. 51).

The UST as described here was used at an oil and gas processing plant previously located in the southwest corner of the area (Ellwood Mesa Park) adjacent to the Sandpiper Golf Course, based on the available information. According to the California Division of Oil and Gas (1931 p. 11) the produced gas was treated for its gasoline content by Barnsdall Oil Company and Pacific Western Oil Company at this processing plant.

Conclusions

It is concluded that an abandoned underground storage tank and related concrete debris are positioned along the edge, and within, Ellwood Main preserve. Failure to notify the regulatory agencies (either State Water Quality Control Board or County Environmental Health Department can result in a daily fine of \$5,000.

These demolition materials should be included in this project as a separate item to remove it. These materials should not remain with the Ellwood Mesa/Sperling Preserve, Goleta.

References

Jones, C. S. 1972, From the Rio Grande to the Artic. The story of the Richfield Oil Corporation, University of Oklahoma Press.

State of California, Division of Oil and Gas, 1931, Summary of Operations, California Oil Fields, Quarterly Chapter, Sixteenth Annual Report of the State Oil and Gas Supervisor, volume 16, No. 3.

Tompkins, W. A. 1964, Little giant of Signal Hill: An adventure in American enterprise, Prentice-Hall, Inc. Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey.

May 8, 2024

Steve Hudson
District Director
California Coastal Commission
South Central Coast District Office
89 South California Street, Suite 200
Ventura, CA 93001-02801
SouthCentralCoast@Coastal.ca.gov

RE: Public Access Improvement Program at the Ellwood Mesa/Sperling Preserve, Goleta
Application #: 4-23-0905

Dear Mr. Hudson and fellow commissioners:

I recently wrote to you in support of the permit application of the City of Goleta for implementation of the Monarch Butterfly Habitat-reestablishment and public access improvement program at the Ellwood Preserve. I recently became aware that the stair access, down to the beach, was not part of this improvement program but is part of a separate permitting application made by the City of Goleta. My apologies if this caused you any confusion. I want to make sure that you understand that the rest of my letter still stands as my valid support for approval of this application. Since I live at The Bluffs, I had also mentioned to others, who live here (and were going to write in support of the application) that I believed the stairs were part of this process. You may see additional comments from them that also include the stairs within their letters. You may ignore those comments as non-applicable but please consider the rest of their letters to be valid.

I apologize for any confusion that this may have caused you and want to make sure that you still recognize the rest of this proposal as a valid and very important step in improving both access and safety within The Ellwood Preserve.

Thank you for taking this critical step in making our Ellwood Mesa a safer and more resilient place for the future.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Grenier
Concerned The Bluffs community member
Carolyn.grenier1@gmail.com
805-845-8582