

Errata To Final EIR UC Merced Long Range Development Plan

After completion of the Final EIR for the UC Merced Long Range Development Plan, the University discovered the following inadvertent errors:

Biological Resources

Page 4.8-41

The distances between the proposed stadium and the closest boundary of the Natural Reserve and pool known to be occupied by Conservancy fairy shrimp are greater than stated on Final EIR, Page 4.18-41. The text is revised as follows:

Typical street lights (low-pressure sodium or high-pressure sodium) have luminous outputs of between 1,800 and 36,000 lumens, which based on Table 4.8-6 would produce light intensities ranging from 38.749 to 1.937 lux at 100 feet. Campus landscaping at the edge of the Campus Land Reserve would block lighting from the Main Campus. However, street lights immediately adjacent to the Campus Land Reserve would be selected that minimize illumination of the adjacent lands. Playing fields are typically illuminated with metal halide lamps that produce 2,500 to 36,000 lumens. However, the proposed athletic stadium is approximately 3,000 feet from the Main Campus-Campus Land Reserve boundary. At this boundary the light intensity will be less than the intensity from adjacent streetlights (Table 4.8-6), lessening the impact of the lights to wildlife in the area. The distance between the stadium and the Natural Reserve is about 3,710 feet and the (including the pool known to be occupied by Conservancy fairy shrimp is even farther away (about 4,200 feet from the stadium).would be greater than 1,180 feet.

Page 4.8-82 - Mitigation for Seasonal Wetland and Breeding Habitat

The first full paragraph after the second bullet on page 4.8-82 in the Final EIR is revised to clarify the conclusion in a manner consistent with the discussion on Final EIR pages 4.8-80 and 4.8-81 as follows:

Implementation of revised Mitigation Measure 4.4-3 would minimize the potential for impacts to individual CTS during construction. Pre-construction surveys would be performed to assure that individual CTS would not be impacted during construction. Therefore, the distance for the surveys is considered reasonable in light of the location of construction activities in relation to known CTS habitat. Installing drift fences to guide CTS adults to breeding and estivation areas outside of the Main Campus, and using the drift fences to exclude them from returning to the Main Campus site after they finish breeding in the ponds would further avoid the potential loss of individual CTS. These measures are considered the best available measures to address impacts to this species and are being implemented at other locations with known CTS populations such as Stanford University. Additionally, although development of the LRDP would not result in minimal impacts to breeding habitat, mitigation is included to address the loss of such habitat, in the event construction activities affect known breeding ponds. Moreover, by improving breeding habitat on preserved lands, Mitigation Measure 4.4-3(b) would improve the carrying capacity and wetland breeding habitat on mitigation lands.

Page 4.8-82 - Upland Habitat Mitigation

The first full paragraph under the heading entitled "Upland Habitat Mitigation" on page 4.8-82 in the Final EIR is revised to clarify the conclusion in a manner consistent with revised Mitigation Measure 4.4-3(c):

For loss of upland habitat for CTS, implementation of Mitigation Measures 4.4-1 and 4.4-4 would assure sufficient grassland habitats would be provided to mitigate for the loss of aestivation and upland dispersal habitat. As discussed in Section 4.8.D.2, more than 22,100 acres of grassland habits have been preserved or committed to preservation since publication of the Draft EIR. The remaining \$18.5 million in mitigation money appropriated to the WCB likely will be used to acquire additional habitat. Consequently, more than sufficient lands will be preserved that will provide upland habitat for estivating CTS. Additionally, to orient salamanders from the Main Campus to preserved upland habitat, Mitigation Measure 4.4-3(c) is added to require ~~installation of artificial burrows~~ management of ground squirrel activity within preserved grassland habitats as follows:

The University shall improve upland habitat for CTS by managing ground squirrel activity on the Campus Natural Reserve and the remaining VST lands under conservation easement. (Applicability—program level)

Mitigation Measure 4.4-1(b)

In Table 6-1 at page 6-12, and on page 7-12 of Volume 2 of the Final EIR, the words “such habitat on” were inadvertently omitted from Mitigation Measure 4.4-1(b). In addition, all of Mitigation Measure 4.4-1(b) appeared underlined text in the Final EIR. That measure is revised to remove the underlining where appropriate (but not the actual text) and to read as follows:

~~4.4-1(b) Preservation. The preservation component of the RMP shall require the preservation of existing wetlands of comparable functions and values at a minimum ratio of a minimum of 10 acres of wetlands vernal pool dominated grasslands preserved for every 1 acre of wetlands filled due to vernal pool dominated grasslands developed on the proposed campus (2 10:1). For example, assuming that 800 acres of such habitat on the Main Campus are fully developed, a total of 8,000 acres of comparable habitat will be preserved under this measure. Although preserved vernal pool habitat shall should generally include vernal pool densities within grassland areas that are roughly comparable to those existing within the Main Campus area, maintenance of existing hydrology and otherwise protect the integrity of the preserved wetlands area. It is expected that at least 18 acres of vernal pool dominated grasslands will be preserved for every acre of vernal pool filled. This expectation is based upon the 9:1 ratio of annual grasslands to wetlands in the Main Campus area. Vernal pool densities within particular preservation areas may vary from those on the Main Campus provided the overall mitigation program (including creation, restoration and enhancement components) results in satisfaction of the no net loss standard articulated above. (Applicability -- program level).~~

Mitigation Measure 4.4-1(d)

In Table 6-1 at page 6-13 of the Final EIR, the first paragraph of Mitigation Measure 4.4-1(d) should have been deleted. On page 7-12 of Volume 2 of the Final EIR, the same paragraph should have been presented with strikeout rather than underlining, as follows:

~~4.4-1(d) Restoration and Creation. The Resource Mitigation Program shall require the creation of new wetlands at a minimum ratio of 1 acre of new wetlands created for every 1 acre of seasonal freshwater marsh wetlands filled under the LRDP (a 1:1 acreage ratio). Created wetlands are generally anticipated to be seasonal freshwater marsh or other seasonal wetland habitats to compensate for impacts to these types of wetland habitats. It is not anticipated that significant vernal pools and swales or clay playa wetlands will be created because of the limited availability of suitable sites and the uncertainties associated with creation of these wetland types. The Resource Mitigation Program will include creation of vernal pools and swales or clay playas as mitigation for impacts to such habitats only if this approach is determined to be feasible and acceptable to the USACE.~~

In Table 6-1 at page 6-16 and on page 7-13 of Volume 2 of the Final EIR, the parenthetical “(pursuant to Mitigation Measure 4.4-1(c) above)” in the last paragraph of Mitigation Measure 4.4-1(d) should have been deleted to reflect the previous text changes to

Mitigation Measure 4.4-1. That paragraph is revised to read:

Any proposal for wetland restoration or creation (~~pursuant to Mitigation Measure 4.4-1(c) above~~), including the final configuration of proposed wetlands (size, shape, depth, etc.), will be based upon the completion of soils, hydrologic and other studies confirming the feasibility of the restoration or creation proposal and shall include USACE-approved measures intended to facilitate occupancy by special status and other wetland-dependent species (e.g., plantings, collection of topsoil and inoculation of target area). Created or restored wetlands will be located in areas that have been preserved under the RMP, and will be evaluated for a period of at least 5 years to ensure conformance with success criteria (e.g., target habitat characteristics, success of plantings, etc.) to be developed in conjunction with USACE and other agencies.

Impact 4.4-2

In Table 6-1 at page 6-16 and on page 7-13 of the Final EIR, the summary description of Impact 4.4-2 is revised as follows in order to reflect the revisions to the habitat acreages contained in Table 4.4-3 in the Final EIR, on page 7-18:

4.4-2 Development under the LRDP would result in substantial adverse effects on special status species dependent on vernal pool and clay playa habitat due to the loss of ~~64~~ 61 acres of this habitat type. This is considered to be a *potentially significant* impact.

Mitigation Measure 4.4-2

In Table 6-1 at page 6-17, and on page 7-14 of Volume 2, the word “which” was inadvertently omitted in the fourth bullet point under Mitigation Measure 4.4-2. That bullet point is revised to read:

- As described in Mitigation Measure 4.4-1, the University will ensure availability of funding for development and management of the preserved plant populations. The RMP includes preparation of the Campus Land Reserve and Campus Natural Reserve Management Plan which will specify monitoring requirements, adaptive management strategies, grazing strategies, fencing, and invasive species control on the Campus Land Reserve and Campus Natural Reserve. The University, NRS, VST or other third party also will implement management and monitoring activities on the remaining VST lands under conservation easements.

Impact 4.4-3

In Table 6-1 at page 6-18 and on page 7-13 of the Final EIR, the summary description of Impact 4.4-3 is revised as follows in order to reflect the revisions to the habitat acreages contained in Table 4.4-3 in the Final EIR, on page 7-18:

4.4-3 Development under the LRDP would result in the loss of approximately ~~14~~ 28 acres of seasonal freshwater marsh habitat used by special status species, including California tiger salamander (CTS). In addition, the loss of grassland habitat adjacent to seasonal freshwater marsh areas could potentially impact upland refugia/habitat for CTS. With implementation of mitigation measures identified elsewhere, this is considered to be a *less-than-significant* impact.

Mitigation Measure 4.4-3

Since publication of the Final EIR, clarifications have been made to the second, third, fourth and fifth bullets in Mitigation Measure 4.4-3(a) regarding the California tiger

salamander mitigation measures as described in Table 6-1 at pages 6-18, 6-19 and 6-20, and on pages 4.8-81 and 4.8-82, and page 7-15 of the Final EIR, as follows:

- Construction vehicles will be limited to a speed of 10 miles per hour in the vicinity of identified breeding ponds during the CTS movement period. This speed limit will be stipulated in all construction contracts, included in environmental, health, and safety training for construction personnel, and enforced through regular monitoring of construction sites subject to this restriction. Any fuel on these sites will be double contained and excess asphalt will be removed from the site upon completion of construction.
- Construction activities within 0.25 mile of breeding ponds: drift fences (e.g., silt fences or other effective salamander barriers) will be erected around the construction area ~~at the beginning of the CTS breeding season (before November 15)~~ before February 1st in the winter prior to the start of construction to allow CTS access to breeding ponds but to exclude breeding CTS from returning to the construction site. Fencing will be maintained for the duration of construction. The date for constructing fences will be confirmed with CDFG.
- Construction activities that are ~~more than 0.25 to 0.6~~ mile from breeding ponds: drift fences (e.g., silt fences or other effective salamander barriers) will be erected around the construction area ~~at the beginning of the CTS breeding season (before November 15)~~ before February 1st in the winter prior to the start of construction to allow CTS access to breeding ponds but to exclude breeding CTS from returning to the construction site. Fencing will be maintained for the duration of construction. The date for constructing fences will be confirmed with CDFG.
- If approved by the USFWS and CDFG, drift fences would be installed to redirect CTS toward preserved habitat areas within the Campus Natural Reserve and surrounding VST property that do not already support existing healthy CTS populations under existing conditions or where habitat that has been created pursuant to the RMP (see Mitigation Measure 4.4-1) may be specifically designed to provide proper conditions for CTS.

Impact 4.4-4

In Table 6-1 at page 6-20 and on page 7-13 of the Final EIR, the summary description of Impact 4.4-4 is revised as follows in order to reflect the revisions to the habitat acreages contained in Table 4.4-3 in the Final EIR, on page 7-18:

4.4-4 Development under the LRDP would result in the loss of approximately ~~684~~ 671 acres of grazed annual grassland habitat used by special status species. With the implementation of mitigation measures identified elsewhere, this is considered to be a *less-than-significant* impact.

Mitigation Measure 4.4-4(a)

In Table 6-1 at page 6-20, and on page 7-15 of Volume 2, the revisions to the first paragraph of Mitigation Measure 4.4-4(a), as described on page 4.8-84 in 4.8.D.5 of the Final EIR, were inadvertently omitted. The text of the first paragraph in Mitigation Measure 4.4-4(a) is revised to read:

4.4-1 (a) Grassland Management Strategies. The University shall develop ~~site specific management plans for the a Campus Land Reserve and other properties~~ and Campus Natural Reserve Management Plan. The University, NRS, VST or other third party will provide for management of the remaining VST lands, which will be secured under conservation easements and preserved, enhanced, or restored as mitigation for the LRDP. These management plans The Campus Land Reserve and Campus Natural Reserve Management Plan and management measures implemented

pursuant to the conservation easement on the remaining VST lands shall include strategies to promote the following goals:

Impact 4.4-6

In Table 6-1 at page 6-24 and on page 7-14 of the Final EIR, the summary description of 4.4-6 is revised as follows in order to reflect the revisions to the habitat acreages contained in Table 4.4-3 in the Final EIR, on page 7-18:

4.4-6 Development under the LRDP would result in the loss of approximately ~~762~~ 760 acres of habitat that may be used for movement of special status mammal species. This is considered to be a *less-than-significant* impact.

Mitigation Measure 4.4-7(a)

In Table 6-1 at page 6-26, and on page 7-16 of Volume 2 of the Final EIR, the reference to “Campus maintenance crews” in the first paragraph of Mitigation Measure 4.4-7(a) should have been deleted and other minor text changes made consistent with the discussion contained in 4.8.D.7 of the Final EIR. The paragraph is revised to read:

4.4-7(a) Potential adverse indirect impacts to areas outside of the Campus site would be mitigated by ~~incorporation of a 250-foot-wide monitoring area at the interface between the Main Campus and the adjacent Campus Land Reserve and Campus Natural Reserve.~~ These areas would be periodically monitored and maintained ~~by Campus maintenance crews~~ to verify that the monitoring area is meeting the following performance criteria:

Mitigation Measure 4.4-7(h)

In Table 6-1 at page 6-29, and on page 7-16 of Volume 2 of the Final EIR, Mitigation Measure 4.4-7(h) is revised to be consistent with the discussion contained in 4.8.D.7 of the Final EIR as follows:

4.4-7(h) To reduce the potential for increased wildfires in areas adjacent to the Campus, the Campus Land Reserve would be grazed in a manner that would reduce excessive vegetation adjacent to the Campus while providing protection for sensitive biological resources (e.g., wetlands and special status species). In addition, the vegetation ~~within the 250-foot monitoring area~~ at the interface of the Main Campus and Campus Land Reserve would be maintained to reduce fuel loading. Landscaping between the perimeter road and the Main Campus fence line should consist of fire-resistant plant species and shall be maintained to provide a firebreak between the Main Campus and the adjacent Campus Land Reserve. (Applicability -- program/project level)

Impact 4.4-11

On pages 3-2 and 4.8-95, the Final EIR states that the cumulative total of wetland acreage affected by the campus, University Community and Campus Parkway has been revised from 114.5 to 125.6 acres. On page 7-18, the Final EIR states that the new acreages reflected in Table 4.4-3 in the Final EIR replace all references to acreages of annual grasslands, irrigation canals, vernal pools and swales, clay playas, and seasonal freshwater marsh. Consistent with those revisions to the Final EIR as well as the revisions to mitigation measures for impacts to biological resources, the discussion of cumulative impacts to biological resources (Impact 4.4-11) in the Draft EIR at pages 4.4-68 through 4.4-71 and the discussion under the heading “Compliance with Regulatory Process” on pages 4.4-71 through 4.4-74 of the Draft EIR are

modified to reflect the revised acreages identified in the Final EIR and revised Mitigation Measure 4.4-1(a) through (d).

Traffic, Circulation and Parking

Impact 4.14-4

In Table 6-1 on page 6-50 (and in Table ES-1 on page ES-46 of the Draft EIR), the summary of Impact 4.14-6 is revised to state that the level of significance following mitigation is significant and unavoidable (“SU”). This revision reflects the text of the Draft EIR on pages 4.14-36 and 4.14-37.

Mitigation Measure 3.11-2

On page 7-26, the Final EIR should have stated that the changes to Mitigation Measure 4.14-2 on page 4.14-31 of the Draft EIR also have been made to Mitigation Measure 3.11-2 on page 3-43 of the Draft EIR. The text is revised to read:

In response to comment LA9-1, the following changes have been made to Mitigation Measures 4.14-2 on page 4.14-31 and 3.11-2 on page 3-43 of the Draft EIR: