

Draft Environmental Impact Report Appendix 3.8-A: NHM Records Search

C LINE (GREEN) EXTENSION TO TORRANCE



Draft Environmental Impact Report

Appendix 3.8-A: NHM Records Search

January 2023

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9 June 2020

AECOM
300 South Grand Avenue, Suite 200
Los Angeles, CA 90071

Attn: Marc A. Beherec, Ph.D., Archaeologist

re: Paleontological resources for the proposed Los Angeles Metropolitan Transit Authority Green Line Extension Project, AECOM Project # 60626028, from Los Angeles to Torrance, Los Angeles County, project area

Dear Marc:

I have conducted a thorough search of our paleontology collection records for the locality and specimen data for the proposed Los Angeles Metropolitan Transit Authority Green Line Extension Project, AECOM Project # 60626028, from Los Angeles to Torrance, Los Angeles County, project area as outlined on the portions of the Inglewood and Torrance USGS topographic quadrangle maps that you sent to me via e-mail on 26 May 2020. We do not have any vertebrate fossil localities that lie directly within the proposed project area boundaries, but we do have localities nearby from the same sedimentary deposits that occur in the proposed project area, either at the surface or at depth.

In much of the western portion of the proposed project area, primarily along the ROW Overcrossing Alternative, the surface deposits consist of older Quaternary dune sands. These types of deposits typically do not contain significant vertebrate fossils in the uppermost layers, but in older sedimentary deposits at depth there may well be significant fossil vertebrate remains. Otherwise, surface deposits in the proposed project area, particularly along the Hawthorne to 190th Alternative, consist of older Quaternary Alluvium, derived primarily as alluvial fan deposits from the Windsor Hills to the north and the Rosecrans Hills to the east. In this vicinity these deposits typically do not contain significant vertebrate fossils in the very uppermost layers, but at modest depth they may well contain significant fossil vertebrate remains.

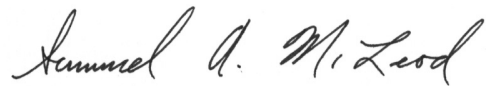
Immediately west of Prairie Avenue on 139th Street, northeast of the northern-most portion of the proposed project area, our older Quaternary locality LACM 2035 produced a fossil specimen of mammoth, *Mammuthus*, at unknown depth. Just west of due north of the northern-most portion of the proposed project area, west of Bellanca Avenue just south of West 98th Street, our older Quaternary locality LACM 7332 produced a fossil baby mammoth, *Mammuthus*, at a depth of 40 feet below street grade. A little further west, in the middle of the Los Angeles International Airport near what is now the Tom Bradley International Terminal, our older Quaternary locality LACM 3264 produced a fossil specimen of an elephant, Proboscidea, at a depth of 25 feet below the surface. Further north of locality LACM 7332, at 8734 Bellanca Avenue south of Manchester Avenue, our older Quaternary locality LACM 3789 produced fossil mammoth, *Mammuthus*, rodent, Rodentia, and even a speckled sanddab, *Citharichthys stigmaeus*, at a depth of 14 feet below the surface. Immediately northwest of locality LACM 3789, on the northeast and southeast sides respectively of Airport Boulevard at the intersection with Manchester Avenue, our older Quaternary localities LACM 1180 and LACM 4942 produced fossil specimens of horse, *Equus*, mammoth, *Mammuthus*, bison, *Bison*, and rabbit, *Lepus*, at depths of 13 to 16 feet below the surface.

Just north and east of the southern-most portion of the proposed project area, at the Mobil Oil Refinery property just west of Crenshaw Boulevard and just south of 190th Street, our older Quaternary locality LACM 4444 produced fossil specimens of both terrestrial horse, *Equus*, and marine whale, Cetacea, at a depth of 15 feet below the surface. Our next closest vertebrate fossil locality from these older Quaternary deposits is LACM 1839, almost due south of the southern terminus of the proposed project area near the intersection of Crenshaw Boulevard and 236th Street, that produced a fossil specimen of horse, *Equus*, at a depth of about 35 feet below the surface. Our next closest vertebrate fossil locality from these older Quaternary deposits is probably LACM 1643, east of the southern portion of the proposed project area near the intersection of 190th Street and Annalee Avenue, that produced a fossil specimen of mammoth, *Mammuthus*, at a depth of 8-10 feet below the surface. Slightly further but to the southeast of the proposed project area, east of the Harbor Freeway (I-110) and south of Sepulveda Boulevard near the intersection with Figueroa Street, our locality LACM 3823 from these older Quaternary deposits produced a specimen of fossil camel, *Camelops*, at 12 to 14 feet below street level.

Shallow excavations in the older Quaternary deposits exposed throughout the proposed project area probably will not encounter significant fossil vertebrate remains. Deeper excavations in the proposed project area, however, may well uncover significant vertebrate fossils. Any substantial excavations in the proposed project area, therefore, should be monitored closely to quickly and professionally recover any fossil remains discovered while not impeding development. Also, sediment samples should be collected and processed to determine the small fossil potential in the proposed project area. Any fossils recovered during mitigation should be deposited in an accredited and permanent scientific institution for the benefit of current and future generations.

This records search covers only the vertebrate paleontology records of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. It is not intended to be a thorough paleontological survey of the proposed project area covering other institutional records, a literature survey, or any potential on-site survey.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Samuel A. McLeod". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Samuel A. McLeod, Ph.D.
Vertebrate Paleontology

enclosure: invoice