

Habitat Management and Enhancement Measures

Examples of recommended habitat mitigation at the Landfill are:

Vegetation management plan:

- Continue to manage vegetation height at less than 6 inches for active burrows.
- Manage vegetation height at less than 6 inches for historically occupied burrows.
- Explore the option of mowing some of the vegetation adjacent to burrows with mechanical mowing in lieu of goats/sheep.
- Trim vegetation within 10 feet of active burrows with weed trimmers.
- Conduct biologist survey for burrowing owls prior to mowing.

Habitat enhancement plan:

- Install additional artificial burrow mounds.
- Create rock/brush piles, maintain additional areas of taller vegetation and seed areas with native perennials and grasses for thicker thatch to increase prey shelter.
- Continue to enforce dog leash laws.
- Install anti-predator perches on lampposts near owl nesting habitat.
- Maintain 250 foot non disturbance area around active nests and enhancement areas.

Examples of recommended habitat mitigation at the Baylands preserve are:

Vegetation management plan:

- Continue to manage vegetation height to less than 6 inches at active burrows.
- Manage vegetation height at less than 6 inches for historically occupied burrows.
- Trim vegetation within 10 feet of active burrows with weed trimmers.
- Conduct biologist survey for burrowing owls prior to mowing.

Habitat Enhancement:

- Install additional artificial burrow mounds in areas at least 250 feet from public areas.
- Deter burrowing owl predators through the use of trash receptacles that keep ravens, cats and raccoons out.
- Install anti-predator perches on lampposts near owl nesting habitat.