

**From:** Poling, Jeanie (CPC) <jeanie.poling@sfgov.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 22, 2019 9:53 AM  
**To:** Susan Yogi <SYogi@esassoc.com>  
**Cc:** Balboa Reservoir Compliance (ECN) <balboareservoircompliance.ecn@sfgov.org>  
**Subject:** FW: Public comment: Balboa Reservoir Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report

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FYI.

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**From:** Robert Hall <bilgepump100@sbcglobal.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 21, 2019 10:32 PM  
**To:** CPC.BalboaReservoir <CPC.BalboaReservoir@sfgov.org>  
**Subject:** Public comment: Balboa Reservoir Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report

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I'm greatly disappointed to learn that the Balboa Reservoir Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report fails to take into consideration San Francisco's vanishing biodiversity.

Although the reservoir was meant to be a hard surface where plants shouldn't grow, over the years native coyote brush (*Baccharis pilularis*), yellow bush lupine (*Lupinus arboreus*) and various non-native shrubs have colonized the area. The result is a patchy habitat that has attracted a thriving flock of Coastal Nuttall's white-crowned sparrows. I saw breeding evidence this Spring. About 60 of the birds were counted. A local resident, Greg Gaar, assures me that they've been breeding there since, at least, the 1970s. The attraction is the native coyote brush, an amazing plant that offers cover for our local birds and sustenance for over 54 insect species ([https://plants.usda.gov/plantguide/pdf/pg\\_bapi.pdf](https://plants.usda.gov/plantguide/pdf/pg_bapi.pdf)). Also present are house finch, red tail hawk, California scrub jay, Anna's hummingbird, West Coast lady butterfly, bumblebee, grasshopper and various lichens.

A recent World Wildlife fund study points out that the world has lost 52% of its biodiversity since the 1970s (<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/world-wildlife-fund-wwf-half-the-worlds-biodiversity-gone-over-last-40-years/>). This means that, in San Francisco, where habitat for biodiversity is at a premium, we need to be careful where we trod. City and state officials agree, with each entity rolling out biodiversity resolutions that have the goal of protecting flora and fauna.

(<https://sfenvironment.org/policy/resolution-adopting-citywide-biodiversity-goals>)

(<http://opr.ca.gov/docs/20180907-CaliforniaBiodiversityActionPlan.pdf>)

I urge you to hire an ecologist and make plans to mitigate by building new local native habitat in the immediate proximity of your development so biodiversity can adapt to the stark changes you're proposing. Most of the creatures on this property are non-migratory and have no where else to go. Please include biodiversity mitigation in your report.

Bob Hall  
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