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**From:** Robert Hall <bilgepump100@sbcglobal.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 10, 2018 2:25 PM  
**To:** Poling, Jeanie (CPC)  
**Subject:** Balboa Reservoir EIR Scoping Comments  
**Attachments:** Balboa Reservoir EIR Scoping Comments.docx

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### Balboa Reservoir EIR Scoping Comments:

Please account for the biodiversity loss and offer mitigating solutions in the Balboa Reservoir EIR Scoping document.

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. 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 tread. 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.

Bob Hall

1946 Grove St. Apt. 6

San Francisco, CA 94117