

ERIN HAYES

Director | Biological Services



ABOUT

Erin Hayes joined the VCS Environmental (VCS) Biology Department in 2005. Erin consults on project biological considerations and all aspects of native habitat mitigation/restoration implementation including design, installation, maintenance, and compliance with regulatory permit guidelines. Her field work includes monitoring mitigation sites, and conducting biological surveys and assessments of on-site resources. Erin also prepares habitat mitigation and monitoring plans (HMMPs), mitigation monitoring reports (MMRs), California Rapid Assessment Method (CRAM) analysis reports, biological assessment reports, species survey reports, and habitat conservation plan compliance documents.

SELECT EXPERIENCE

HABITAT MITIGATION, RESTORATION, HMMPs – Erin is responsible for the oversight and implementation of numerous mitigation and restoration projects across Southern California. She has extensive experience drafting, implementing, and meeting the monitoring requirements of restoration plans and HMMPs to meet success criteria and fulfill regulatory agency conditions and obligations.

CALIFORNIA RAPID ASSESSMENT METHOD (CRAM) – Erin has conducted several CRAM analyses in the past 12 months, including for the I-15/I-215 Devore Interchange Project, Peyton Drive Widening (English Channel) Project, the Mill Creek Wetlands Project, and the Baker Ranch Planned Community Project. The Devore and English Channel analyses and CRAM reports were conducted in coordination with Veronica Chan at the United States Army Corps of Engineers (Corps).

JURISDICTIONAL DELINEATION (JD) – Erin has assisted in multiple large scale jurisdictional delineation assessments with particularly unique delineation considerations including the Greenspot property and the Wilson Creek Business Park Project. The Greenspot property in particular, presented uncommon land alterations tied to historic uses of agricultural and irrigation, and large-scale "borrow" for a nearby dam. Erin's work in mitigation/restoration implementation is tied to establishing jurisdictional habitats.

SELECT PROJECTS

VILA BORBA DEVELOPMENT | CALATLANTIC HOMES | CHINO HILLS, CA

Erin conducted pre-construction and focused surveys for burrowing owl, and nesting bird surveys. She assists in preparing quarterly reports for RWQCB and annual reports for USACE and USFWS. Erin also monitored construction activities to ensure no unauthorized biological resources were impacted.

I-15 EXPRESS LANES PROJECT | RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CA

Erin conducted nesting bird surveys and Burrowing Owl surveys for the roadway project.

CUCAMONGA CREEK WATERSHED REGIONAL WATER QUALITY PROJECT (MILL CREEK WETLANDS) | ONTARIO, CA

Mill Creek Wetlands is a 52-acre natural wetland system that provides water quality, recreation, and habitat restoration benefits, located in the Prado Basin. Erin assisted with development of the Bioassessment Methodology to monitor Mill Creek, and led

EDUCATION

B.S. in Biology with a minor in Geology, and a specialization in Computer Science
University of California,
Los Angeles, 2002

VCS TEAM MEMBER SINCE 2005

CERTIFICATIONS

WMG Certified Water
Harvesting Practitioner (Water
Management Group)
CRAM certified, 2009

California Rapid Assessment
Method (CRAM) for Wetlands,
Riverine Training Module; May
2009

SPECIALIZED TRAINING

Wetland Delineation, Wetland
Training Institute; August 2012

California Natural Diversity
Database (CNDDDB), Rarefind 4,
and the Biogeographic
Information & Observation
System (BIOS) Training Course;
California Department of Fish
and Game, October 2009

Plant Identification for Coastal
Southern California; Wetland
Training Institute, June 2006

VCS' baseline assessment field data collection and reporting efforts, including CRAM and vegetation monitoring.

BAKER RANCH PLANNED COMMUNITY PROJECT | SHEA BAKER RANCH ASSOCIATES, LLC | LAKE FOREST, CA

The Shea/Baker Ranch project includes drainage improvements to Borrego Channel Wash, approximately 2,000 single-family and multi-family dwelling units, retail and commercial uses, parks, trails, streets, and landscaped areas. Erin continues to provide coordination in Project management, including coordination and finalization of a Perpetual Management Plan and Biological Assessment for long-term monitoring of water and habitat on-site, and general compliance with regulatory conditions requiring coordination with all regulatory agencies. Erin acts as a project biological monitor and led VCS' CRAM field data collection and data analysis efforts.

SPECIALIZED TRAINING (CONT.)

Identifying and Appreciating the Native and Naturalized Grasses of California; California Native Grasslands Association, spring 2006

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Lab Manager/Researcher: Invasive species, environmental change, and habitat restoration; UCI, 2004

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

The Association of State Wetland Managers, Inc.

MURRIETA MARKETPLACE | REGENCY CENTERS | MURRIETA, CA

The Commons at French Valley Commercial Development encompasses approximately 54-acres with proposed uses of buildings, roads, parking, landscaping, and open space. VCS assisted the Regency planning team in designing a site plan which would preserve the more significant wetland resources. Erin assisted with the preparation of a Habitat Mitigation and Monitoring Plan, which included a hybrid functional assessment of the pre and post project resources. She continues to work with the Regency Team in maintaining compliance on the issued regulatory permits and implementing the compensatory mitigation program.

OAK SPRINGS RANCH | GLJ PARTNERS | WILDOMAR, CA

Oak Springs Ranch encompasses approximately 51.5 acres, comprised of apartment buildings, single-family residential and open space. VCS was challenged with determining a project design that would limit the extent of environmental regulatory permitting required. Erin provided biological support for the successful processing of the regulatory permits, as well as functional assessment field work and drafting of the Habitat Mitigation and Monitoring Plan. She also assisted the client with the implementation of their mitigation plan providing biological monitoring and reporting.

PEYTON DRIVE, EUCALYPTUS AVENUE, AND ENGLISH CHANNEL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT | CHINO HILLS, CA

This project consisted of a 1.5-mile road widening for the City of Chino Hills. Erin led VCS' CRAM field data collection, data analysis and reporting efforts. Erin also assisted with development of a Habitat Mitigation and Monitoring Plan for the project.

ON-CALL ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES | MVUSD | MURRIETA, CA

VCS has worked with the Murrieta Valley Unified School District on various projects and has been instrumental in assisting the school district in selecting and planning several school sites in an effort to minimize regulatory permitting constraints. Erin provided key biological support for several projects and was instrumental in the drafting of Habitat Mitigation and Monitoring Plans.

I-15/I-215 DEVORE INTERCHANGE | SANBAG | DEVORE, CA

The I-15/I-215 Interchange Improvements Project was designed to eliminate the existing lane reductions on I-15, reduce problems caused by weaving trucks, reduce operational deficiencies at the interchange including non-standard design features, and improve local circulation. VCS was challenged with determining a method to efficiently assess the

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VCS Environmental

baseline conditions of over 90 drainages on-site using the CRAM. In coordination with the Corps, Erin devised the methodology to measure baseline conditions of the project drainages, and led VCS' CRAM field data collection, data analysis and reporting efforts.