

*Berryman Ecological, LLC
Ellen Berryman, Principal
985 Meadow Gate Road
Meadow Vista, CA 95722
(530) 852-4834*

Resume

Ellen Berryman, Principal

Ellen Berryman, founder and principal of the newly formed company Berryman Ecological, has worked on conservation issues in California for 20 years. Prior to starting Berryman Ecological, Ms. Berryman ran the regulatory department for Foothill Associates, a Rocklin-based environmental firm. While at Foothill Associates, Ms. Berryman managed multiple complex environmental permitting projects including The Parkway project in Merced County, Turn of the Century in Yolo County, six projects within the Sunrise Douglas Community Planning Area in the City of Rancho Cordova, California, and many others. Ms. Berryman was instrumental in the mitigation planning for these projects, and was a primary contact with the US Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) and US Army Corps of Engineers, seeking agency approval of mitigation plans.

Ms. Berryman was instrumental in successful Clean Water Act and Endangered Species Act permitting for The Parkway project, an urban development project which impacted habitat for the federally listed San Joaquin kit fox. Ms. Berryman coordinated closely with the Service in development of a mitigation strategy which involved preservation of corridors on the project site and off-site preservation of approximately 1,500 acres on the Quinto Ranch property. Ms. Berryman prepared a management plan and conservation easement deeds for the on-site and off-site mitigation lands. The management plan and easement deeds, which received approval from the Service, outlined measures to be implemented on the mitigation properties to manage habitat for the San Joaquin kit fox.

While with EIP Associates, another environmental consulting firm, Ms. Berryman Ecological prepared the section 7 Biological Assessment to support the Endangered Species Act permitting process for the highly complex and controversial University of California, Merced project. This assessment addressed 13 federally listed species including the San Joaquin kit fox, mountain plover, bald eagle, vernal pool fairy shrimp, vernal pool tadpole shrimp, Conservancy fairy shrimp, valley elderberry longhorn beetle, succulent owl's clover, Hoover's spurge, Colusa grass, San Joaquin Orcutt grass, hairy Orcutt grass, and Hartweg's golden sunburst. The Biological Assessment included detailed accounts of each species, an in-depth analysis of project-related effects to each species, and a description of the mitigation strategy and how this strategy would provide adequate conservation for offsetting project-related impacts. This document was the primary source of information used by the Service for the purpose of completing a Biological Opinion which provided the necessary incidental take authorizations for the project from the Service. The preparation of this document

involved coordination with the University of California, the County of Merced, US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Army Corps of Engineers, California Department of Fish and Game, and attorneys and land use planners to design the University in a manner that would minimize environmental impacts and to develop conservation measures for offsetting project related impacts.

Ms. Berryman worked for the US Fish and Wildlife Service for ten years, in the Sacramento and Carlsbad, California, field offices. In Sacramento, she was the Service lead for several large scale regional conservation planning efforts including the Placer County, Yolo County, and Solano County Habitat Conservation Plans. She collaborated with state, federal, and local agencies, land owners, developers, and ranchers to assist in the preparation of regional conservation plans in these counties. She also prepared a programmatic Biological Opinion for listed vernal pool plant species on the Santa Rosa Plain. This Biological Opinion outlined a regional conservation strategy for the listed vernal pool plant species in Sonoma County, California.

While working in the Carlsbad field office for the Service, Ms. Berryman was involved in the preparation of San Diego County Multiple Species Conservation Plan (MSCP). The MSCP is a Natural Community Conservation Plan/Habitat Conservation Plans for San Diego County and various incorporated cities within San Diego County. She collaborated with local municipalities, California Department of Fish and Game, landowners and developers to design regional conservation strategies for southern coastal San Diego County and the cities of Carlsbad, El Cajon, La Mesa, Oceanside, and Santee. She analyzed the MSCP conservation strategies in terms of its adequacy at protecting 85 listed and unlisted special status species. She was the lead biologist in preparation of a Biological Opinion for MSCP, which included an evaluation of each of 85 species to determine whether the plan would adequately protect these species.

Ms. Berryman was also the lead biologist for the Service who reviewed, provided guidance on, and approved the first uplands habitat mitigation bank in southern California, the Carlsbad Highlands mitigation bank. This 260- acre mitigation bank provides habitat for the federally threatened California gnatcatcher and several special status plant and animal species. Ms. Berryman was also the Service lead who was instrumental in establishment of the approximately 2,200-acre Crestridge Conservation Bank, another multiple-species conservation bank in San Diego County.

Ms. Berryman has a Bachelor of Science degree in zoology for the University of California, Santa Barbara, and a Master of Arts degree in biology from San Diego State University.