



145 South State College Boulevard, Brea, California 92821

Wednesday, February 18, 2009

Dear Mrs. Shanfield:

Your recent *Fullerton Observer* article is the latest example of how the Friends of Coyote Hills misrepresents our planned West Coyote Hills community. In fact, the article repeats many of the false claims we corrected in our 2006 letter to you.

While our 2006 letter corrected the inaccuracies that now have been recycled in this latest article, we would like to respond to your new misrepresentation that our plan will destroy the property's habitat for protected species.

The U.S. Fish Wildlife Service concluded just the opposite in its 2004 Biological Opinion for West Coyote Hills. It found the restoration and preservation program for the project would actually create more quality habitat than currently exists on the site because invasive non-native plants would be removed and the degraded oil field would be restored with native coastal sage scrub.

All of this coastal sage scrub habitat, which would provide quality habitat for the California gnatcatcher, would be protected – and would not include any “yards of homeowners” as your article suggested. We're unsure how you arrived at this conclusion given the clear descriptions in the Biological Opinion and Specific Plan.

We respectfully request that you review this response and our previous correction letters as you prepare future Friends of Coyote Hills materials, so that they can be accurate.

Throughout our planning process, we've enjoyed a positive collaborative relationship with many Fullerton community groups, including trails users, educators and neighboring homeowners. Our invitation to meet with the Friends of Coyote Hills remains open.

Sincerely,

Jim Pugliese  
Project Manager  
Pacific Coast Homes