

# MORE MESA PRESERVATION COALITION



## MMPC e-Update

September 2013

### You Can Help ...

Although we are not currently in an intense fund-raising mode, we sincerely welcome any donations that can help support the day-to-day operations of our coalition. For example, a \$100 donation funds our web site for a whole year. It's easy to donate. Go to our home page at [www.moremesa.org](http://www.moremesa.org) and click on the donate button in the middle of the page.

Many thanks!



*It is the mission of  
the More Mesa*

### What's Happening About Potential Development On More Mesa?

*There is no news.*

How do we know? We are constantly monitoring the situation. Specifically, each month we review the County site that reports all permits submitted for both planning and building. As soon as we know anything, you will know it too.

### Ask the President:

**Q. Can the development area for More Mesa be changed?**

**A. YES ...** but it is a lengthy, multi-phased process: one that is mandated by our area's major governing plans. The map below shows (in red) the 40-acre development area that is currently legally allowable on More Mesa. Changing this area would start with an Updated Biological Resources Study. And, since the original Biological Resources Study done in 1981-1982, took a year to complete, any new study must take place during a similar year-long period and treat the same biological issues. Further, it must be undertaken and funded by the owner, and carried out in collaboration with Santa Barbara County, California Fish and Wildlife and the California Coastal Commission. In next month's issue, we will report on just such a recent study by the previous owner, as well as discuss the next step of the process. If you are anxious to find out about the whole process now, [click here](#) and look at Appendix C.

### This Month on More Mesa:

In our last update we talked about the importance of

**Preservation Coalition to preserve More Mesa, in its entirety, for all times. We've been at it since 2000.**

"Citizen Science." For MMPC, this "science" is done by both professionals, and avid non-professionals: folks who visit More Mesa and report sightings of rare birds, plants and animals. Their reports are crucial in helping us understand how the entire More Mesa ecosystem is functioning. This month we share a most exciting and unique sighting; that of a California Long-tailed Weasel. For more details and an additional photo, visit our web site at:



Photo by Eric Jacob

[www.moremesa.org](http://www.moremesa.org)

and click on "Monthly News".



Deerweed Still Blooming.

**The Past:**

Daniel Hill secured his grant for La Goleta Rancho, which contained More Mesa, in June 1846. Then he spent six very anxious months, as possession of Santa Barbara flip-flopped back and forth between the armies of his adopted country, Mexico, and his native country, America. Finally, shortly after Christmas while almost all of the men of Santa Barbara were off defending Los Angeles from the Americans, Lt.-Col. John Fremont, using a surprise short-cut over San Marcos Pass, took Santa Barbara, and the whole Goleta Valley, without a single shot being fired. The Mexican War in California was over and the owner of More Mesa was, once again, an American citizen.



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