



In 2008, the Tejon Ranch Corporation struck a deal with five environmental organizations. As part of this deal, these organizations agreed not to oppose future proposed development in exchange for the conservation of 240,000 acres (88.8 %) on Tejon Ranch. At that time, CNPS and a number of other organizations chose not to sign on the conservation deal. This option preserves our ability comment on, and propose more-suitable development on the portion of the Ranch (11.2%, 30,000 acres) that is not conserved. **CNPS opposes the Centennial Specific Plan development.**

**The Centennial Specific Plan proposes the creation of a new city (19,323 residences-home to 55,000+ people) in a currently-uninhabited portion of northwestern Los Angeles County-far from jobs and existing infrastructure.**

**For pictures of the habitats that we stand to lose please visit: [Centennial Photos](#)**

**CNPS opposes this project** for the following reasons:

**Impacts to sensitive and unique habitats:** The project site would impact some of the finest native perennial grassland and wildflower habitats that remain in California. These habitats are an important part of our natural heritage, and the Centennial Specific Plan is in conflict with their conservation.

**Impacts to Rare Plants:** Centennial is home to six CNPS-ranked plants that are indicative of intact grassland habitats. Proposed mitigation measures for the loss of these habitats are inadequate.

**Impacts to Oak woodlands:** No fewer than 10 species of oak are present on the Project site, making it a living laboratory of oak evolution. Proposed mitigation measures do not reflect the significance of oak diversity on the site.

**Ecoregional Setting:** This is one of the most dynamic areas of ecoregional transitions in California, in which ecological and evolutionary processes are of statewide importance. This is the wrong place to build a new city.

**Loss of Biological Corridors:** Given the reality of climate change, transitional areas between ecoregions, such as Centennial, are of utmost importance for conservation. Development in this area is antithetical to preserving biodiversity in LA County and beyond.

**Loss of Wildlife Habitat:** Tejon Ranch is home to California condors, is the last place where pronghorn “antelope” still exist in Antelope Valley, and is habitat for numerous other special-status wildlife species. Impacts to wildlife habitat in this region should be avoided.

**Increased Traffic:** The location of Centennial will require future residents to endure long commutes to the nearest cities: Los Angeles (60 miles to the south), and Lancaster (40 miles to

the east). Future development in LA County should be sited close to where jobs and transportation infrastructure are located.

**Inappropriate Mitigation:** Centennial proposes a mitigation ratio of only 1.8:1 (conserved to developed ratio) for habitats impacted. Sensitive and unique habitats of Tejon Ranch should be mitigated for at a much higher rate, at a minimum 3:1.

**Centennial is Dangerous Place:** The Project location has high fire danger and is sited on top of the San Andreas Fault. Development in La County should be sited in places with less earthquake risk and outside of the wildland-urban interface.

**Other Issues:** Water availability, greenhouse gas emissions, edge effects on the conserved portions of Tejon Ranch, air pollution, and many more.