



# San Diego Canyonlands

◆ 3552 Bancroft Street San Diego, CA 92104 ◆ 619-284-9399 ◆  
◆ [www.sdcanyonlands.org](http://www.sdcanyonlands.org) ◆

May 29, 2019

Re: Damage to Lemonade-berry bushes due to palm tree removal project

Dear Tierrasanta Open Space Advisory Committee,

Last December and January San Diego Canyonlands (SDCL) removed over 400 mature palm trees from the stream corridor in North and South Rueda Canyons, via helicopter. This was part of our work to restore habitats, decrease fuel, and increase safety in the canyons. Debris cleanup is on-going for this project.

While minor damages were anticipated during the tree cutting process, there were some significant collateral damages in North Rueda due to a palm tree that landed on a mature stand of native lemonade berry bushes. The palms were cut to fall away from a nearby stream to avoid possible disruption of flows during rain storm events prior to the palm tree removal.

On May 17<sup>th</sup>, I visited the canyon with Loren Boerboom, Grounds Maintenance Manager for Tierrasanta Open Space Maintenance Assessment District to assess the impacts. We found the lemonade berry tree that had been damaged.

The debris has been moved by SDCL staff to a palm frond pile for later removal. We also found the broken branches of a large lemonade berry that had fallen some ago, likely due to the wind. SDCL staff has also cut up, and moved this debris to the pile.

SDCL will continue to stay in close communication with the Tierrasanta Grounds Maintenance staff to monitor and mitigate the impacts in the damaged area as needed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eric Bowlby". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Eric Bowlby  
Executive Director  
[eric@sdcanyonlands.org](mailto:eric@sdcanyonlands.org)

cc

- Deanna Spehn, Tierrasanta Open Space Committee
- Ray Garcia
- Loren Boerboom, Grounds Maintenance Manager, City of San Diego-Parks & Recreation Dept., Tierrasanta MAD/Open Space
- Maria Sanders, Friends of Tierrasanta Canyons