# John T. Gray, Ph.D. URS Corporation, Manager of Environmental Planning and Permitting Services Santa Barbara

#### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Project management permitting
- CEQA/NEPA compliance
- Wetlands and endangered species
- Water resource planning
- Environmental impact assessment

## EDUCATION

University of California, Santa Barbara, Ph.D., Ecology, 1981

University of California, Davis, B.A., Botany, 1977

# **PROFESSIONAL HISTORY**

URS Corporation (formerly Woodward Clyde), Manager, Environmental Planning and Permitting, 1992 to present

Dames and Moore, Manager of Permitting and Environmental Services, 1981-1992

University of California, Santa Barbara, Research Associate, Department of Biological Sciences, 1977-1981

**AFFILIATIONS** 

## REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

Dr. Gray's education and professional background provide a broad base of experience in the environmental sciences, ecology, regulatory issues, and project management. He has a strong knowledge of federal, state, and local environmental regulations and policies, and a detailed understanding of the roles and responsibilities of governmental agencies at all levels. Dr. Gray specializes in environmental impact assessment, wetlands, water quality, and endangered species, mostly related to water resource projects.

Dr. Gray is a Manager of Environmental Planning and Permitting Services for URS Corporation's Santa Barbara office. Selected examples of Dr. Gray's 22 years of experience in management of environmental studies and projects are presented below.

# EXAMPLES OF RECENT PROJECT EXPERIENCE

## **Environmental Impact Assessment Experience**

*Water Projects:* Project manager for the Corps of Engineers' EIS for Pamo Reservoir project. EIR project manager for the Kern County Water Agency Local Facilities Groundwater Storage Project at the Kern Fan Element. Prepared the EIR for the West Valley Conveyance Project for Metropolitan Water District, the EIR for the Port Hueneme Regional Treatment Plant, and the EIS/EIR for the Cachuma Project for the Bureau of Reclamation. Prepared the programmatic EIR for Santa Barbara County's Groundwater Management Plan. Prepared the Cachuma Water Rights EIR for the State Water Resources Control Board, Cachuma Fish Management Plan EIS/EIR for Bureau of Reclamation, San Juan Creek SAMP EIR/EIS, and the EIR for the Sheffield Reservoir water quality project.

*Flood Control & Drainage Projects:* Prepared numerous EIRs and EISs for flood control projects, including the following projects: Atascadero Creek Project (Santa Barbara County), Oso Creek Flood Control Project (Orange County), Santa Ynez River and Atascadero Creek Flood Control Projects (Santa Barbara County), Arroyo Las Posas and Arroyo Simi Sediment Control Projects (Ventura County), Ventura River Flood Hazard Study (Ventura County), Santa Clara River/Valencia Master Plan (Los Angeles County), and the Port Hueneme Navy Base Drainage Improvement Project (Ventura County). Recently completed a program EIR for the Santa Barbara County Flood Control District's county-wide maintenance program. Currently preparing the EIR/EIS for the 60-mile long restoration project along the Lower Owens River for Los Angeles Dept. of Water and Power. Prepared the EIS/EIR for the Natural River Management Plan (Santa Clara River, LA County) for the Corps of Engineers and CDFG.



Association of Environmental Professionals

California Chapter of American Planning Association

Ecological Society of America

California Botanical Society

California Native Plant Society

Wildlife Society

Society of Wetland Scientists

Association of State Wetland Managers

## Wetland Experience

*Wetland Studies:* Conducted wetland studies and 404 permitting for 4 major water pipeline projects, including the Department of Water Resources Coastal Branch (Kern, San Luis Obispo, and Santa Barbara counties), MWD West Valley Pipeline (Ventura County), MWD Central Pool Augmentation Pipeline (Orange County), and MWD San Diego #6 Pipeline (Riverside and San Diego counties). Conducted the wetland studies for the Eastside (now Diamond Lake) Reservoir and Pamo Dam. Prepared 404 permit applications and/or wetland delineations for the Santa Barbara Airport Safety Project (Santa Barbara County), San Pasqual Creek Sediment Control Project (San Diego County), Salt Creek Project (Riverside County), and Mojave River Flood Control Project (San Bernardino County). Currently assisting the Santa Barbara Airport with permitting and mitigation planning for their runway extension project.

*Wetland and Oak Restoration Plans:* Prepared numerous wetland restoration plans, ranging from conceptual designs to final construction plans and specifications. Implemented several wetland restoration plans, providing construction management services. Recent examples include the \$3M Santa Barbara Airport wetland restoration project, the \$500,000 Casitas Dam wetland and oak restoration programs, Cachuma Lake oak restoration plan, Foster Park riparian restoration project, Bohnett Park restoration plan, Arroyo Burro restoration plan, and the El Estero wetland restoration plan.

#### Watershed Experience

*Watershed Planning:* Preparing watershed and recreational management plans for Lake Casitas and for Cachuma Lake, over a three-year period and budget of \$1.5M. Completed a natural resource inventory and management plan for 60 miles of creeks within the City of Santa Barbara, and developed preliminary list of restoration projects

*Water Quality Assessments:* Completed an assessment of watershed and water quality conditions in four major watersheds on the South Coastal of Santa Barbara, including two additional studies on beach water quality and stormwater treatment options. Currently assisting the County of Santa Barbara with permitting stormwater best management practices on several local creeks, including preliminary and final designs on artificial wetland and bioswale projects. Prepared a water quality assessment of the Mission Creek and Arroyo Burro watersheds. Prepared conceptual and preliminary stormwater treatment plans for five projects in these watersheds.

#### **Threatened and Endangered Species Experience**

**Project Management:** Project manager for the Kern County Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), the largest HCP in the United States, which included 3500 square miles and over 30 species. Managed the Orange County Natural Resource GIS Project, involving habitat and sensitive species mapping for the entire county. Currently preparing the wildife section of the Ventura River. HCP Currently preparing a lagoon management plan for the mouth of Mission Creek for the City of Santa Barbara for water quality, recreation, and T&E species issues.

	<b>Biological Assessments:</b> Prepared Biological Assessments for Section 7 consultations for the following species: red-legged frog, arroyo toad, least tern, Brown pelican, tidewater goby, unarmored threespine stickleback, southern steelhead, least Bell's vireo, bald eagle, blunt-nosed leopard lizard, giant kangaroo rat, Mohave ground squirrel, San Joaquin kit fox, desert tortoise, and many rare plants.
PUBLICATIONS	Dr. Gray is the author of over 20 articles and book reviews in professional journals and technical books on vegetation analysis, plant productivity, ecosystem nutrient cycling, atmospheric nutrient deposition, environmental impact assessment, planning, and revegetation.
	Scientific Publications:
	Gray, John T. 1978. The vegetation of two California mountain slopes. <i>Madrono</i> 25:177-185.
	Gray, John T. and W.H. Schlesinger. 1981. Biomass, production, and litterfall in the coastal sage scrub of southern California. <i>American Journal of Botany</i> 68:24-33.
	Gray, John T. and W.H. Schlesinger. 1981. Nutrient cycling in Mediterranean-type ecosystems. In P.C. Miller (ed.), <i>Resource_Use in Chaparral and Matorral</i> . Springer-Verlag, New York. pp. 259-285.
	Gray, John T. 1982. Comparative nutrient relations in adjacent stands of chaparral and coastal sage scrub. In C.E. Conrad and W.C. Oechel (eds.), <i>Dynamics and Management of Mediterranean-Type Ecosystems: An International Symposium</i> . U.S. Forest Service Pacific Southwest Range & Exp. Station. Berkeley, California. pp. 306-312.
	Gray, John T. 1982. Community structure and productivity in <i>Ceanothus</i> chaparral and coastal sage scrub of southern California. Ecological Monographs 52:415-435.
	Schlesinger, W.H., J.T. Gray, D.S. Gill, and B.E. Mahall. 1982. <i>Ceanothus megacarpus</i> chaparral: A synthesis of ecosystem processes during development and annual growth. <i>Botanical Review</i> 43:1-70.
	Schlesinger, W.H., J.T. Gray, and F.S. Gilliam. 1982. Atmospheric precipitation as a source of nutrients in chaparral ecosystems. <i>Water Resources Research</i> 18:623-629.
	Gray, John T. 1983. Nutrient use by evergreen and deciduous shrubs of southern California. I. Community nutrient cycling and nutrient-use efficiency. <i>Journal of Ecology</i> 71:21-41.
	Gray, John T. and W.H. Schlesinger. 1983. Nutrient use by evergreen and deciduous shrubs of southern California. II. Experimental investigation of the relationship between growth, nitrogen uptake, and nitrogen availability. <i>Journal of Ecology</i> 71:43-56.
	Gray, John T. 1983. Competition for light and a dynamic boundary between chaparral and coastal sage scrub. <i>Madrono</i> 30: 43-49.
	Gray, John T. 1983. Community structure and productivity in Ceanothus

chaparral and coastal sage scrub. BioScience 33:195-196.

Miscellaneous Publications

Gray, John T. 1982. Review of the *Restoration of Land: The Ecology and Reclamation of Derelict and Degraded Land* by A.D. Bradshaw and M.V. Chadwick (1981). *Ecology* 63:75-876.

Gray, John T. 1982. Review of *Components of Productivity of Mediterranean-Climate Regions: Basic and Applied Aspects* by N.S. Margaris and H.A. Mooney (eds., 1981). *Ecology* 63:1609.

Gray, John T. 1982. Ecological uncertainty and environmental impact assessment. *Applied Ecology Newsletter* 11:3-4.

Gray, John T. 1982. Review of *Environmental Studies: The Earth as a Living Planet* by D.B. Botkin and E.A. Keller (eds., 1982). *Environmental Management* 6:556-557.

Gray, John T. 1983. Review of *San Francisco Bay: Use and Protection* by W.J. Kockelman, T.J. Conomos, and A.E. Leviton (eds., 1982). *Environmental Management* 7:293.

Gray, John T. 1983. Review of Environmental Strategy and Action: the Challenge of the World Conservation Strategy with Reference to Environmental Planning and Human Settlement in Canada by P. Jacobs. Environmental Management 7:386-387.

Gray, John T. 1984. Review of *Siting of Major Facilities* by E.A. Williams and A.K. Massa (1983). *Environmental Management* 8:276-277.

Gray, John T. 1984. Review of *Facility Siting and Public Opposition* by M. O'Hare (1983). *Environmental Management* 8:499-450.

Gray, John T. 1985. Review of *Planning and Ecology* by R.D. Roberts and T.M. Roberts (eds.) (1984). *Ecology* 66:319-320.