

Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044
County Clerk - County of Marin
Marin Civic Center
3501 Civic Center Dr., Suite 234,
San Rafael, CA 94903

From (Public Agency): Southern Marin Fire District
28 Liberty Ship Way, Suite 2800
Sausalito, CA 94960

Project Title: Southern Marin Zone L.R.A.D. Emergency Notification Network – Southern Marin Fire District

Project Applicant: Southern Marin Fire District

Project Location – Specific: Installation of emergency notification sirens on Rodeo Avenue in the City of Sausalito (refer to Figure 1), at Fire Station # 4 309 Poplar St., Mill Valley (refer to Figure 2), at Fire Station # 9 308 Reed Blvd., Mill Valley (refer to Figure 3), at 277 Karen Way, Tiburon (refer to Figure 4), and between 305-315 Montford Ave, Mill Valley (refer to Figure 5).

Project Location – City:

Sausalito and Tiburon

Project Location – County:

Marin County

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project: The purpose of the project is to install long-range acoustic devises (LRADs), which are emergency alerting sirens, in the cities of Mill Valley and Sausalito to provide evacuation and disaster notification. Many of the communities and neighborhoods served by this project are registered Firewise communities (FIRE Safe Marin, 2021). Creating fire adaptive communities is not only about reducing fire threat from fire growth but also improving the safety of the residents. Evacuation and disaster notification is a critical component to long term fire adaptive strategy. The project includes both the installation and monthly testing of the devices.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Southern Marin Fire District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Southern Marin Fire District

Exempt Status (check one):

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Common Sense Exemption (Sec. 15061(b)(3));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: 15301(f). Addition of safety devices requiring minor alterations of existing structures and 15303. Construction of new, small structures and minor alterations for the construction of a new pole for emergency alerting sirens.
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project is categorically exempt under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15301, Class 1, for Existing Facilities and Section 15303, Class 3, for New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures. A Class 1 exempt project consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use. Subsection (f) includes the addition of safety or health protection devices for use during construction of or in conjunction with existing structures, facilities, or mechanical equipment, or topographical features including navigational devices. A Class 3 exempt project consists of construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures; installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures; and the conversion of existing small structures from one use to another where only minor modifications are made in the exterior of the structure.

The SMFD Fire station sites and the Homestead Valley site of the project would involve installation of emergency notification 3 horns on existing structures. The scope of the fire department station sites would be consistent with addition of safety protection devices in conjunction with existing structures, as described in subsection (f) of the Class 1 exemption. The Tiburon, and Sausalito sites of the project would involve installation of emergency notification horns on two (2) new poles. The scope of the Tiburon and Sausalito site is consistent with the construction of new, small structures and minor alterations to the location of the new pole for the horns, as described in the Class 3 exemption. There are no facts or circumstances specific to this project that would support a finding that any of the potential exceptions to categorical exemptions listed under Section 15300.2 apply. It should be noted that the operation of the LRAD during an emergency is statutorily exempt under Public Resources Code 21080(b)(4): actions necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency.

Lead Agency Contact Person:
Marshall Nau

Area Code/Telephone/Extension:
415.906.4470

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project?
Yes No

Signature: _____ Date: _____ Title: _____

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR:

Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Figure 1 MMWD Sausalito L.R.A.D. Site

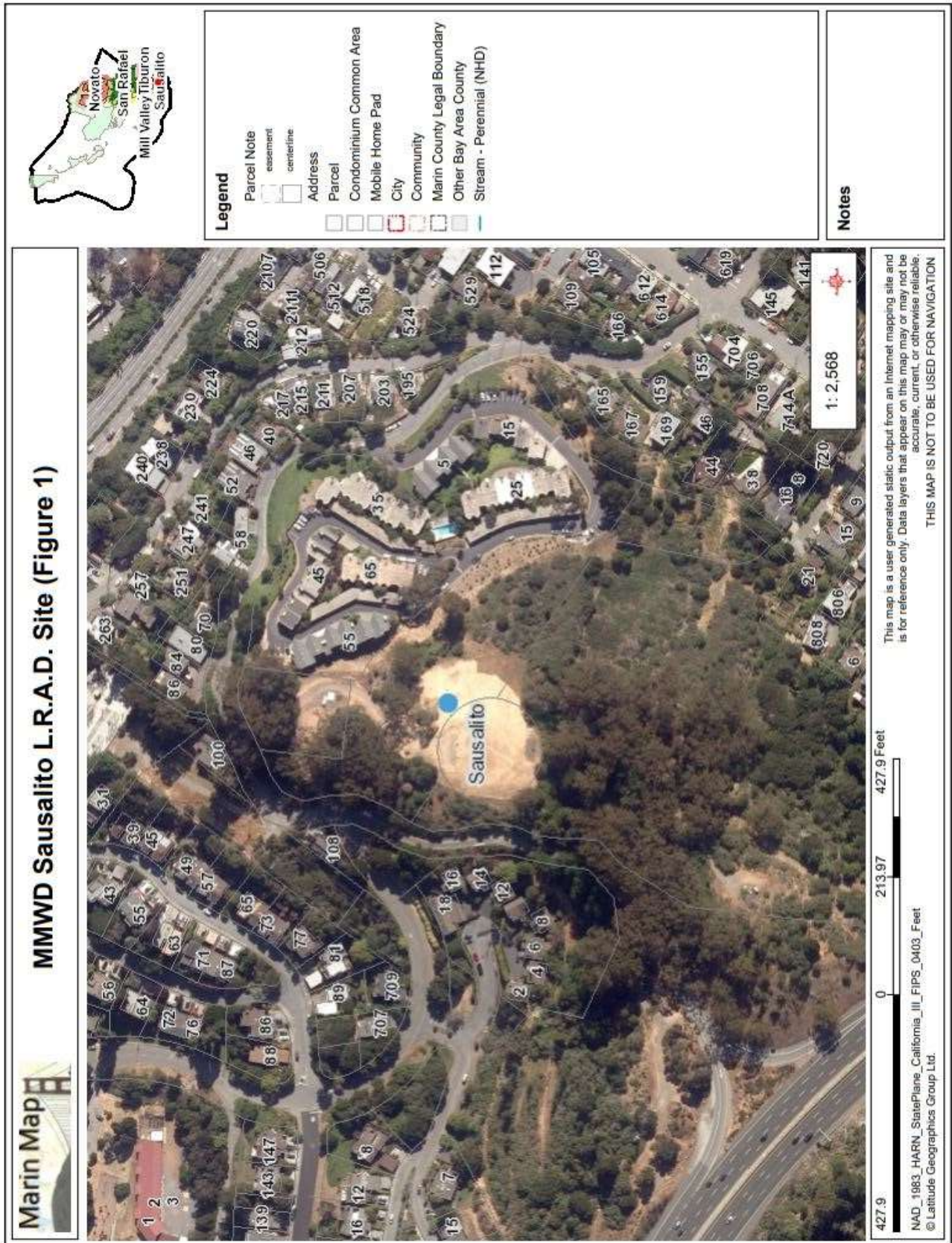


Figure 2 SMFD Station 4 L.R.A.D. Site

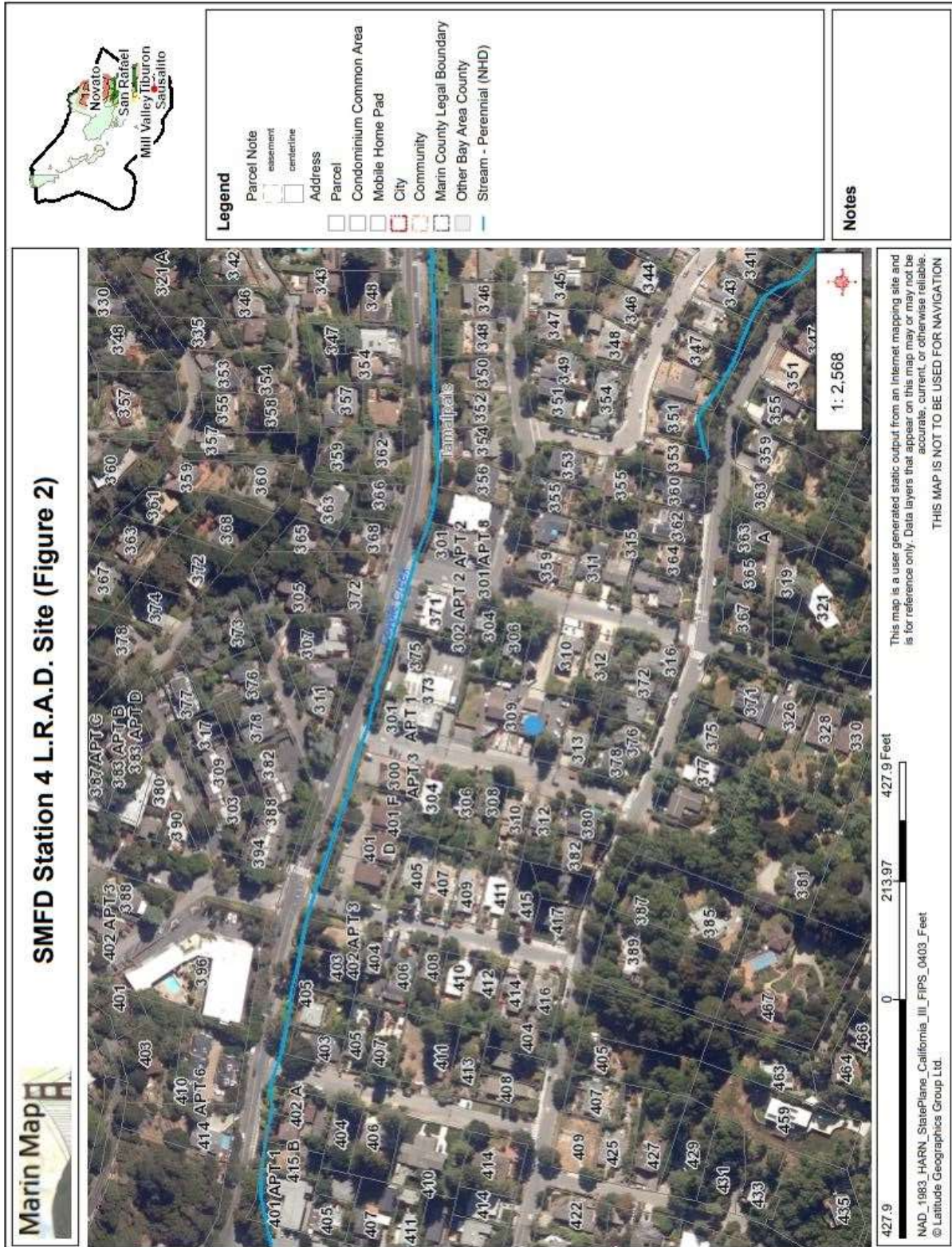


Figure 3 MMWD Sausalito L.R.A.D. Site

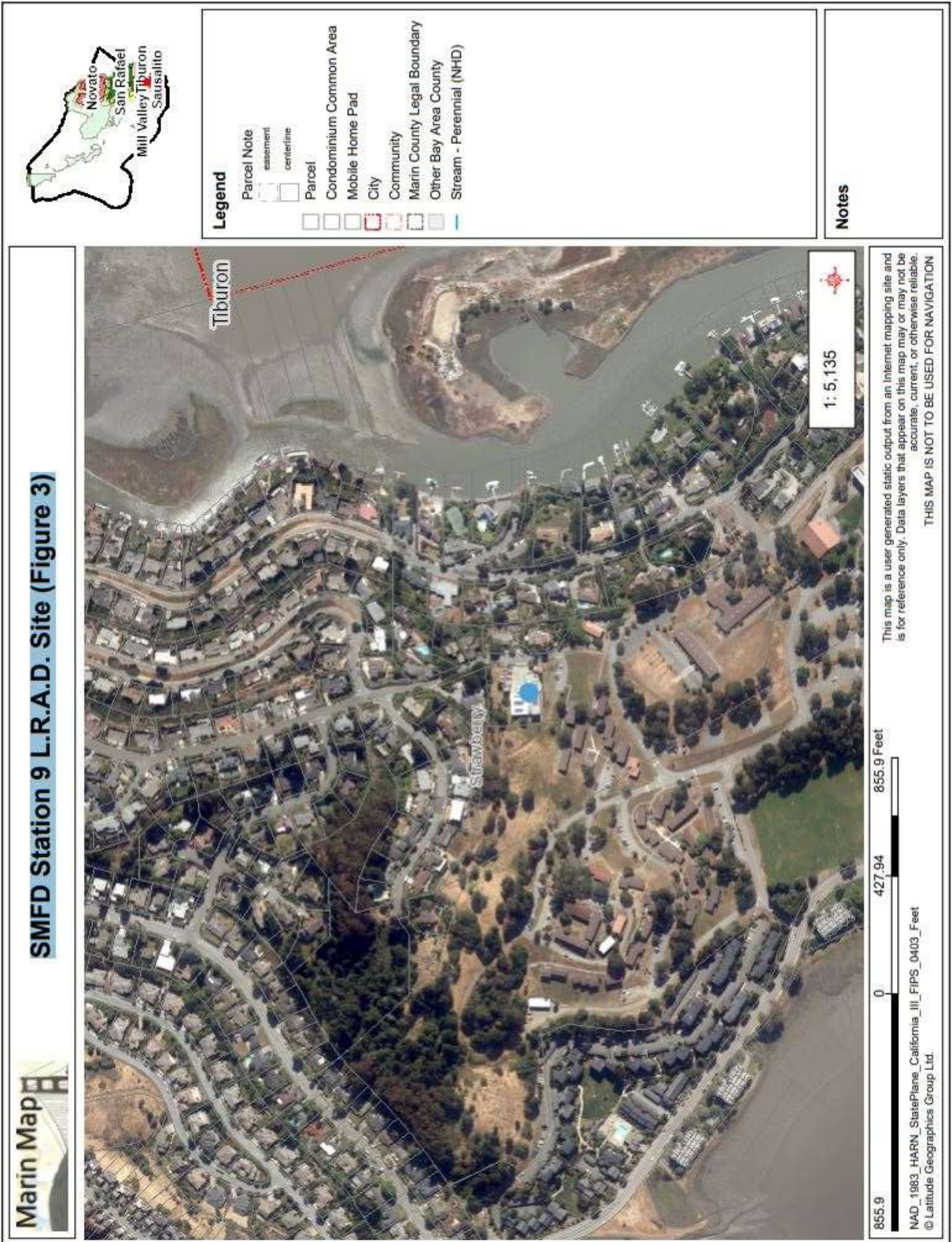


Figure 4 MMWD Sausalito L.R.A.D. Site

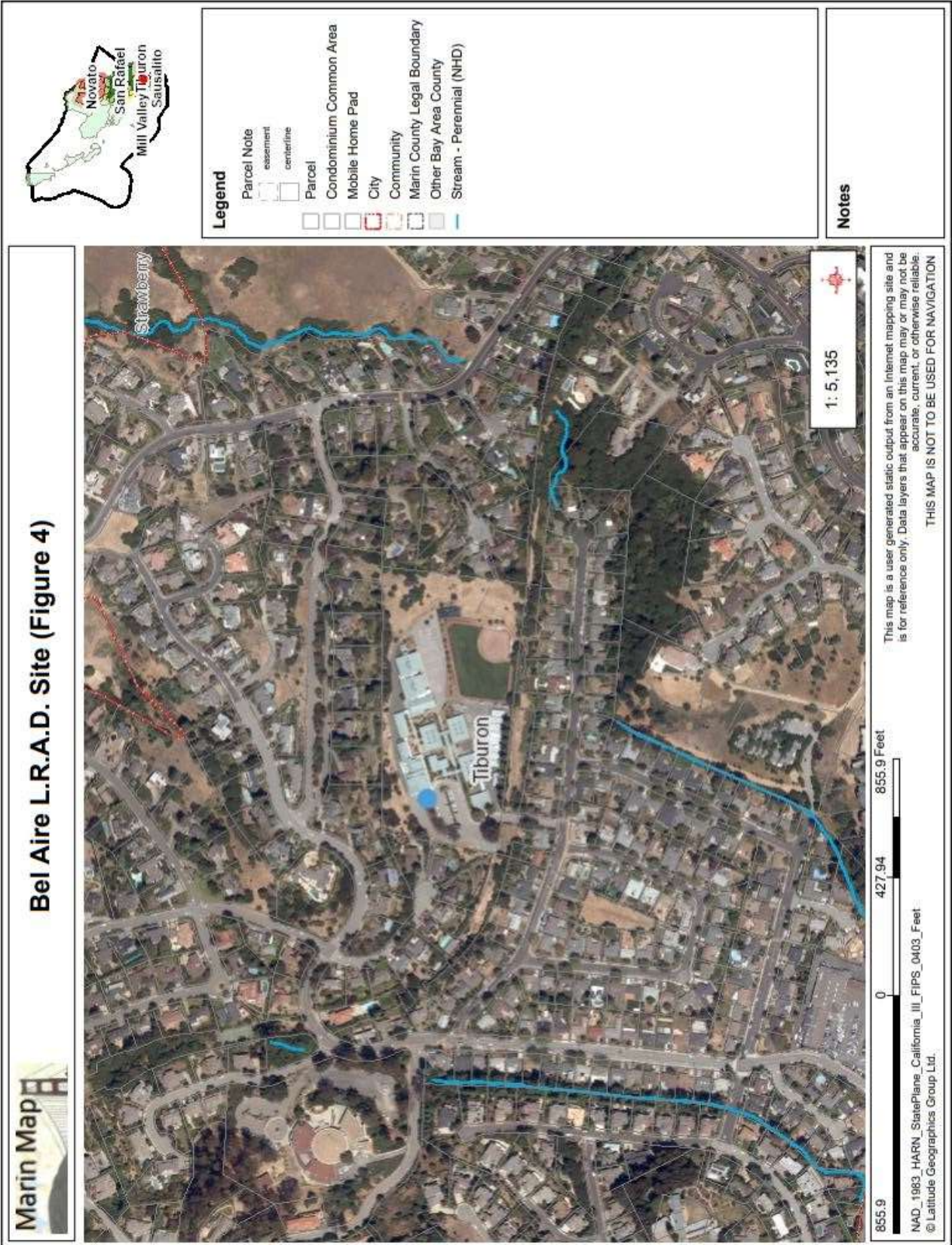


Figure 5 MMWD Sausalito L.R.A.D. Site

