

## Introduction

AMEC Environment & Infrastructure (AMEC) is a multi-disciplinary environmental consulting firm with six offices in the southern California area, including Palm Desert. **We have been in business for over 35 years as a corporation and have served the Coachella Valley consistently for over 15 years.** Our Southern California Natural Resource Group consists of a full-time professional staff with expertise in the fields of environmental permitting, rare and endangered species surveys, wetland and aquatic biology, vernal pool surveys, monitoring and restoration, botany, ornithology, mammalogy, herpetology, conservation biology, vegetation mapping, and habitat restoration. Our biologists work with state and federal resource agencies and local jurisdictions to achieve a consensus of opinion on acceptable project implementation strategies. With this knowledge, AMEC biologists routinely guide clients through critical natural resource planning processes to facilitate state and federal Endangered Species Act and wetlands permitting.

## Statement of Experience

AMEC's Natural Resource Group has the capability to perform small and large-scale biological resource studies, ranging from comprehensive inventories of endangered, threatened, and rare species to obtaining mitigation bank approvals from the resources agencies. Staff members provide biological technical support and prepare impact evaluations and mitigation plans for all of the firm's resource management studies. AMEC biologists regularly conduct surveys for sensitive plant and animal species, analyze potential impacts to these species, and develop effective biological mitigation programs through interaction with resource and regulatory agencies. Our staff biologists are extremely skilled in working with state and federal resource agencies and local jurisdictions and have a clear understanding of laws and regulations pertaining to environmental impacts. AMEC routinely works with clients in designing plans to minimize project-related impacts, maximize biologically viable open space, enhance native environments, and restore disturbed habitats. Work performed by AMEC will be pursuant to the National Environmental Policy (NEPA), California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and other applicable statutes, regulations and policies.

Our local team of natural resources specialists is specifically skilled in meeting the needs of businesses and government agencies in southern California. For the Coachella and Imperial Valleys, AMEC offers a locally experienced group of ecologists, biologists, environmental scientists, and other natural-resource specialists that provide capabilities for the most challenging assignments. From our regional offices in Palm Desert, Riverside, Corona, Newport Beach, Santa Barbara, and San Diego, we are prepared to provide natural resources and environmental planning services in support of projects in Southern California.

### **Wes J. Speake**

#### **Principal**

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