

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

Central Coast District Office
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CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

*For the
May Meeting of the California Coastal Commission*

MEMORANDUM

Date: May 12, 2015

TO: Commissioners and Interested Parties
FROM: Dan Carl, Central Coast District Deputy Director
SUBJECT: *Deputy Director's Report*

Following is a listing for the waivers, emergency permits, immaterial amendments and extensions issued by the Central Coast District Office for the May 2015 Coastal Commission hearing. Copies of the applicable items are attached for your review. Each item includes a listing of the applicants involved, a description of the proposed development, and a project location.

Pursuant to the Commission's direction and adopted procedures, appropriate notice materials were sent to all applicants for posting at the project site. Additionally, these items have been posted at the District office and are available for public review and comment.

This report may also contain additional correspondence and/or any additional staff memorandum concerning the items to be heard on today's agenda for the Central Coast District.

REPORT OF DE MINIMIS WAIVERS

The Executive Director has determined that the following developments do not require a coastal development permit pursuant to Section 30624.7 of the California Coastal Act of 1976.

<i>Applicant</i>	<i>Project Description</i>	<i>Project Location</i>
<p>3-15-0139-W City of Pacific Grove Department of Public Works</p>	<p>Construction of a new satellite recycled water treatment plant, including 2,800 linear feet of 8-inch diameter pipeline, diversion from the sewer collection system on Asilomar Avenue and connection back to sewer system adjacent to Sunset Drive, and related site improvements that would provide 125 acre-feet per year of recycled water to replace the potable water supply used for the existing irrigation systems at the Pacific Grove Golf Links and El Carmelo Cemetery near the Point Pinos Lighthouse Reservation, Pacific Grove, Monterey County.</p>	
<p>3-15-0227-W California State Parks</p>	<p>Five year permit to install "no-climb" wire mesh fencing and educational signs to discourage creation of volunteer trails and off-trail use, prevent wind erosion, and to protect the fragile dune ecosystem along three beach access trails at Fort Ord Dunes State Park, Monterey County.</p>	
<p>3-15-0321-W Caltrans, District 5</p>	<p>Installation of a hybrid rock-fall attenuator in each of two chutes adjacent to the existing Alder Creek slide. The new rock-fall drapery system will span from the lower portion of the Alder Creek slide to approximately 310 feet south. In addition, the inlet to the drainage system located below chute 2 will be modified to prevent frequent plugging at Alder Creek, in southern Big Sur, Monterey County.</p>	<p>Hwy 1 at post mile 7.75, Big Sur, Monterey County</p>

CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT CONTINUED

3-15-0416-W

San Luis Obispo County
Flood Control and Water
Conservation District

Vegetation management within Arroyo Grande Creek flood control channel, including the surrounding levee, consisting of minor hand trimming of willow root sprouts to preserve channel capacity and encourage canopy growth to provide shade for the creek; minor thinning of woody vegetation, removal of invasive exotic plant species and vegetation along the levee tops for access and maintenance purposes, and trash and debris removal, located in Oceano and Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo County.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED PERMIT WAIVER
CDP Waiver 3-15-0139-W (Pacific Grove Local Water Project)
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significance occur within the Area of Potential Effect of the project, but no significant cultural resources were discovered during an initial survey. The proposed project requires an extended archeological survey for all impacted recorded sites, an archeological monitor during excavation activities, and mandatory work stoppages if any middens or remains are discovered. No special status plant species are located in the areas that will be disturbed during construction, and all nonnative plants within the project area will be removed prior to construction and these areas replanted with appropriate native plant species after construction. The proposed project retains the Monterey Cypress trees that surround the proposed treatment plant site and several new trees will be planted. Although no special status wildlife species or nesting birds have been found, the project requires a seasonal restriction on construction activity during nesting season or a preconstruction survey by a qualified biologist in areas within 300 feet of construction. If any nesting birds are discovered, further mitigation measures will be required.

The existing Monterey Cypress trees provide a visual barrier between the development site and Sunset Drive. All proposed development is limited in height to at or below the height of the existing storage tanks. The existing storage tanks will be repainted to blend into the dune aesthetic and provide further visual camouflage. Security fencing will be placed inside the tree line to block the fence from public view. All other fencing on the project site will be removed. Sunset Drive will remain open during all phases of construction and a Temporary Traffic Handling Plan will ensure that pedestrian and motor traffic will not be substantially disrupted. No coastal access points or recreation areas will be impacted by the development or disrupted during construction.

The proposed project includes other mitigation measures and Best Management Practices (BMPs) to address possible impacts to coastal resources. Erosion and drainage BMPs and Good Housekeeping BMPs are included to protect water quality in the Monterey Bay. No new significant impervious surfaces are included that would impact stormwater runoff at the project site. A site-specific plan for the removal and disposal of any lead will be developed if any lead is discovered during a risk-assessment of the existing storage tanks. Hazardous wastes will not be stored onsite and hazardous material BMPs will be implemented to avoid site contamination.

The proposed project was reviewed and received discretionary approval by the City of Pacific Grove's City Council to ensure conformance with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act and certified Land Use Plan. The project has no potential for adverse effects on coastal resources, including public access to the shoreline, and is consistent with Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act.

Coastal Commission Review Procedure

This waiver is not valid until the waiver has been reported to the Coastal Commission. This waiver is proposed to be reported to the Commission on May 14, 2015 in Santa Barbara. If four Commissioners object to this waiver at that time, then the application shall be processed as a regular CDP application.

If you have any questions about the proposal or wish to register an objection, please contact Brian O'Neill in the Central Coast District office.

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NOTICE OF PROPOSED PERMIT WAIVER

Date: April 30, 2015
To: All Interested Parties
From: Susan Craig, Central Coast District Manager
Mike Watson, Coastal Planner
Subject: Coastal Development Permit (CDP) Waiver 3-15-0227-W
Applicant: California State Parks

Proposed Development

Five year permit to install “no-climb” wire mesh fencing and educational signs to discourage creation of volunteer trails and off-trail use, prevent wind erosion, and to protect the fragile dune ecosystem along three beach access trails at Fort Ord Dunes State Park, Monterey County.

Executive Director’s Waiver Determination

Pursuant to Title 14, Section 13238 of the California Code of Regulations, and based on project plans and information submitted by the Applicant regarding the proposed development, the Executive Director of the California Coastal Commission hereby waives the requirement for a CDP for the following reasons:

Fort Ord Dunes State Park (Park) is home to several rare and endangered species, such as Smith’s blue butterfly, Western snowy plover, Monterey spineflower, sand gilia, coast wallflower, and sandmat manzanita. Since opening in 2009, a steady increase in visitation at the Park has led to the creation of volunteer trails and greater dune disturbance and degradation of habitat values. Existing signage and symbolic fencing (low post and cable) have been unsuccessful in discouraging repeated incidences of trespass through sensitive habitat areas, and such trespass is rapidly destabilizing and damaging these areas of the park. The requested fencing and educational signing is necessary to manage access and educate the public on the rare and sensitive nature of the surrounding sand dune habitat and its plant and animal inhabitants. The four-foot-tall wire mesh fencing (2” x 4” squares) will not block public views and will be mounted on wooden poles placed directly into the sand. No concrete is proposed. Poles will be placed to avoid sensitive plant species. An eight-to-twelve-inch gap along the bottom of the fencing will be provided to allow wildlife to pass under the fencing. In sum, the proposed project will safeguard rare and endangered species and their habitat and will not adversely impact coastal resources, consistent with the Coastal Act.

Coastal Commission Review Procedure

This waiver is not valid until the waiver has been reported to the Coastal Commission. This waiver is proposed to be reported to the Commission on Thursday, May 14, 2015, in Santa Barbara. If four Commissioners object to this waiver at that time, then the application shall be processed as a regular CDP application.

If you have any questions about the proposal or wish to register an objection, please contact Mike Watson in the Central Coast District office.

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NOTICE OF PROPOSED PERMIT WAIVER

Date: April 30, 2015
To: All Interested Parties
From: Susan Craig, Central Coast District Manager
Mike Watson, Coastal Planner
Subject: Coastal Development Permit (CDP) Waiver 3-15-0321-W
Applicant: Caltrans

Proposed Development

Installation of a hybrid rock-fall attenuator in each of two chutes adjacent to the existing Alder Creek slide. The new rock-fall drapery system will span from the lower portion of the Alder Creek slide to approximately 310 feet south. In addition, the inlet to the drainage system located below chute 2 will be modified to prevent frequent plugging at Alder Creek, in southern Big Sur, Monterey County.

Executive Director's Waiver Determination

Pursuant to Title 14, Section 13238 of the California Code of Regulations, and based on project plans and information submitted by the Applicant regarding the proposed development, the Executive Director of the California Coastal Commission hereby waives the requirement for a CDP for the following reasons:

Access to the work area will be via foot trails and aerial lift; no access roads will be constructed. Caltrans estimates that it will take one day to place the drapery onto the newly installed anchoring. The majority of the work will be performed using rope access. The system will incorporate the existing steel cables used in the lower Alder Creek slide system, which will be connected via a new top support cable with new ground anchors established into rock. The attenuators will consist of black PVC-coated double-twisted cable backed with black PVC-coated drapery. The black netting will blend in with the black and grey shale rock in the vicinity of the slide. Existing vegetation will be trimmed and the proposed system will be installed over the top of the trimmed vegetation. The vegetation is expected to rapidly re-grow through the drapery netting and provide additional screening of the rock-fall netting. A redundant inlet in the northbound shoulder will be added to the drainage system to prevent water ponding on the highway. This work will not affect the existing down-drain located west of Highway One. In sum, the proposed project will safeguard motorists and maintain vehicular access along the southern Big Sur coast, and will not adversely impact coastal resources consistent with the Coastal Act.

Coastal Commission Review Procedure

This waiver is not valid until the waiver has been reported to the Coastal Commission. This waiver is proposed to be reported to the Commission on Thursday, May 14, 2015, in Santa Barbara. If four Commissioners object to this waiver at that time, then the application shall be processed as a regular CDP application.

If you have any questions about the proposal or wish to register an objection, please contact Mike Watson in the Central Coast District office.

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NOTICE OF PROPOSED PERMIT WAIVER

Date: April 30, 2014

To: All Interested Parties

From: Susan Craig, Central Coast District Manager
Daniel Robinson, Coastal Planner

Subject: **Coastal Development Permit (CDP) Waiver 3-15-0416-W**
Applicant: San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District

Proposed Development

Vegetation management within Arroyo Grande Creek flood control channel, including the surrounding levee, consisting of minor hand trimming of willow root sprouts to preserve channel capacity and encourage canopy growth to provide shade for the creek; minor thinning of woody vegetation, removal of invasive exotic plant species and vegetation along the levee tops for access and maintenance purposes, and trash and debris removal, located in Oceano and Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo County.

Executive Director's Waiver Determination

Pursuant to Title 14, Section 13238 of the California Code of Regulations, and based on project plans and information submitted by the Applicant regarding the proposed development, the Executive Director of the California Coastal Commission hereby waives the requirement for a CDP for the following reasons:

The proposed project will continue efforts to enhance habitat within the creek and riparian corridor while providing for increased channel capacity for water flows and flood control purposes. The project has been designed to avoid adverse impacts to coastal resources by limiting the extent of trimming and vegetation thinning, and limiting such activities to crews using hand tools only. In addition, the project is designed to maintain shade for improved water quality and habitat within the managed channel. Large woody material within the creek channel will be cut or notched and left in the channel to provide woody habitat; only fallen and low overhanging willow branches will be cut and all root balls will be left intact. No heavy machinery will be used within the creek channel and no herbicides will be used. Crews will remove invasive exotic species, particularly castor bean, to improve riparian habitat. Biological monitors will be in place for the duration of the project to ensure project activities do not disrupt any habitat areas.

Coastal Commission Review Procedure

This waiver is not valid until the waiver has been reported to the Coastal Commission. This waiver is proposed to be reported to the Commission on Thursday, May 14, 2015 in Santa Barbara. If four Commissioners object to this waiver at that time, then the application shall be processed as a regular CDP application.

If you have any questions about the proposal or wish to register an objection, please contact Daniel Robinson in the Central Coast District office.