

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

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**RECORD PACKET COPY**

Filed: March 20, 2000
49th Day: May 8, 2000
180th Day: September 16, 2000
Staff: ALK-LB *ALK*
Staff Report: May 25, 2000
Hearing Date: June 13-16, 2000
Commission Action:

STAFF REPORT: REGULAR CALENDAR

APPLICATION NUMBER: 5-00-103

APPLICANT: City of San Clemente

AGENT: Ben Parker, City of San Clemente Engineering Division

PROJECT LOCATION: Bonita Canyon Park, City of San Clemente (Orange County)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Relocation and replacement of a deteriorated, under-capacity storm drain that runs through Bonita Canyon Park. Project involves the installation/replacement of eight (8) catch basins and approximately 1250 feet of reinforced concrete pipe ranging in size from 8 inches to 48 inches in diameter. The project also involves the construction of a 148-foot long retaining wall that will reach a maximum height of eight (8) feet in the center.

LOCAL APPROVALS RECEIVED: Adoption of *Mitigated Negative Declaration for Bonita Canyon Storm Drain, Project No. 10807 (SCH# 2000011056)* by the San Clemente City Council on March 15, 2000.

SUBSTANTIVE FILE DOCUMENTS: City of San Clemente Certified Land Use Plan; Coastal Development Permits 5-99-288 (City of Newport Beach) and 5-98-515-W (City of San Clemente); Letter from the Governor's Office of Planning and Research State Clearinghouse to the City of San Clemente dated February 22, 2000 titled *Bonita Canyon Storm Drain, Project No. 10807 (SCH# 2000011056)*; Mitigated Negative Declaration (SCH#: 2000011056) prepared by the City of San Clemente and adopted by the San Clemente City Council on March 15, 2000; *Management Guidelines for Use of Fertilizers and Pesticides* prepared by County of Orange dated March 12, 1993; and *Report on Soil Borings and Tests for Construction of Bonita Canyon Park/Calle Valle Storm Drain and Calle Valle, Calle de los Molinas and Calle Bonito Street Improvements, San Clemente, California* prepared by Harrington Geotechnical Engineering, Inc. dated May 8, 1998.

SUMMARY OF STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

The applicant proposes to improve runoff collection and conveyance within Bonita Canyon Park through the installation/replacement of eight (8) catch basins and approximately 1250 feet of reinforced concrete pipe. The major issue of this staff report is water quality.

Staff recommends **APPROVAL** of the proposed development subject to three special conditions which 1) require use of construction best management practices (BMPs); 2) require debris disposal site to be located outside of coastal zone; and 3) require implementation of structural and non-structural best management practices (BMPs).

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Commission **APPROVE** the permit application with special conditions.

MOTION:

I move that the Commission approve CDP #5-00-103 pursuant to the staff recommendation.

Staff recommends a **YES** vote. This will result in adoption of the following resolution and findings. The motion passes only by affirmative vote of a majority of the Commissioners present.

RESOLUTION:

I. APPROVAL WITH CONDITIONS

The Commission hereby **GRANTS** a permit, subject to the conditions below, for the proposed development on the grounds that the development will be in conformity with the provisions of Chapter 3 of the California Coastal Act of 1976, is in conformity with the public access and public recreation policies of the Coastal Act, will not prejudice the ability of the local government having jurisdiction over the area to prepare a Local Coastal Program conforming to the provisions of Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act, and will not have any significant adverse effects on the environment within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act.

II. STANDARD CONDITIONS

1. **Notice of Receipt and Acknowledgment.** The permit is not valid and development shall not commence until a copy of the permit, signed by the permittee or authorized agent, acknowledging receipt of the permit and acceptance of the terms and conditions, is returned to the Commission office.
2. **Expiration.** If development has not commenced, the permit will expire two years from the date this permit is reported to the Commission. Development shall be pursued in a diligent manner and completed in a reasonable period of time. Application for extension of the permit must be made prior to the expiration date.
3. **Compliance.** All development must occur in strict compliance with the proposal as set forth in the application for permit, subject to any special conditions set forth below. Any deviation from the approved plans must be reviewed and approved by the staff and may require Commission approval.
4. **Interpretation.** Any questions of intent or interpretation of any condition will be resolved by the Executive Director or the Commission.
5. **Inspections.** The Commission staff shall be allowed to inspect the site and the project during its development, subject to 24-hour advance notice.
6. **Assignment.** The permit may be assigned to any qualified person, provided assignee files with the Commission an affidavit accepting all terms and conditions of the permit.
7. **Terms and Conditions Run with the Land.** These terms and conditions shall be perpetual, and it is the intention of the Commission and the permittee to bind all future owners and possessors of the subject property to the terms and conditions.

III. SPECIAL CONDITIONS

1. STORAGE OF CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS, MECHANIZED EQUIPMENT AND REMOVAL OF CONSTRUCTION DEBRIS

The permittee shall comply with the following construction-related requirements:

- (a) No construction materials, debris, or waste shall be placed or stored where it may enter the storm drain system, which eventually empties into coastal waters;
- (b) Any and all debris resulting from construction activities shall be removed from the project site within 24 hours of completion of construction;
- (c) Erosion control/sedimentation Best Management Practices (BMP's) shall be used to control sedimentation impacts to coastal waters during construction, as the storm drain system eventually drains into the ocean. BMPs shall include, but are not limited to: placement of sand bags around drainage inlets to prevent runoff/sediment transport into the storm drain system, a pre-construction meeting to review procedural and BMP guidelines and revegetation of the disturbed area following construction;
- (d) Construction debris and sediment shall be removed from construction areas each day that construction occurs to prevent the accumulation of sediment and other debris which may be discharged into the storm drain system which eventually empties into coastal waters. Debris shall be disposed of at a debris disposal site outside the coastal zone, pursuant to Special Condition No. 2.

2. LOCATION OF DEBRIS DISPOSAL SITE

The applicant shall dispose of all demolition and construction debris resulting from the proposed project at an appropriate location outside the coastal zone. If the disposal site is located within the coastal zone, a coastal development permit or an amendment to this permit shall be required before disposal can take place.

3. STRUCTURAL AND NON-STRUCTURAL BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

- (a) The applicant shall implement structural and non-structural Best Management Practices (BMP's) which will serve to minimize pollutant loads contained in runoff prior to entering the storm water conveyance system. The BMPs shall include, but are not limited to:
 - (i) Installation of non-clogging side inlet catch basins effective at trapping large debris and plant material as proposed by the applicant.
 - (ii) Routine maintenance, including inspection and regular cleaning of catch basins, to ensure their effectiveness prior to, and during, each rainy season from November 1st through April 31st of each year. Debris and other material collected in catch basins will be disposed of in a proper manner on a regular basis. All catch basins must be cleaned prior to the start of the winter storm season, no later than October 15th each year.
 - (iii) Compliance with Orange County Drainage Area Management Plan (OC DAMP) *Management Guidelines for Use of Fertilizers and Pesticides*.

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- (b) **PRIOR TO ISSUANCE OF THE COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT**, the applicant shall submit, for the review and approval of the Executive Director, a plan indicating the type(s) of BMPs to be installed/implemented and the locations where the BMPs will be installed.
 - (c) The permittee shall undertake development in accordance with the approved final plan. Any proposed changes to the approved final plan shall be reported to the Executive Director. No changes to the approved final plan shall occur without a Commission amendment to this coastal development permit unless the Executive Director determines that no amendment is necessary.

IV. FINDINGS AND DECLARATIONS

The Commission hereby finds and declares:

A. PROJECT DESCRIPTION, LOCATION AND BACKGROUND

The City of San Clemente Engineering Department is proposing to improve the storm drain system within Bonita Canyon Park in the City of San Clemente, Orange County (Exhibits 1 and 2). Bonita Canyon Park is an approximately 10-acre municipal recreation area located within a fully built-out portion of the City, adjacent to both residential and industrial development. The proposed project includes the installation/replacement of eight (8) catch basins and approximately 1250 feet of reinforced concrete pipe ranging in size from 8 to 48 inches in diameter. The project also involves the construction of a 148-foot long retaining wall with a maximum height of eight (8) feet (Exhibit 3).

Presently, the storm water drainage system within Bonita Canyon Park is deteriorated and under-capacity. The area is served by a 36-inch pipe, which was been determined to be undersized by a 1990 drainage study prepared by the City. Although the capacity of the storm drain will be increased by the current project, there will be no change to the quantity of storm water discharges. In addition, the proposed storm drain improvements will not accommodate additional development or increase development intensity in the service area. The area is already fully developed. Instead, the proposed storm drain improvement is necessary to upgrade the capacity of the existing storm drain system in order to accommodate a 100-year frequency storm event. The increase in capacity of the existing storm drain will relieve storm-related flooding of the park that occurs under present conditions.

The upgrades proposed for the Bonita Canyon Park area extend from the east side of the Boys and Girls Club to the Segunda Deshecha Canada Flood Control Channel. Because the project is considered a relatively complicated undertaking, the City has broken the work into two phases. The first phase, which improved the downstream segment of the system west of Calle Bonita, was completed in fall of 1999. This first phase was approved by the Commission on March 9, 1999 as De Minimus Waiver 5-98-515-W (City of San Clemente).

The new storm drain main will start near the intersection of Calle Valle and Calle Bonita and proceed upstream in an easterly direction across the baseball field and along the north end of the Boys and Girls Club. The storm drain pipe will join the existing storm drain at the northeast end of the Boys and Girls Club. There will also be a lateral pipeline to the storm drain that will branch off at the northwest end of the ball field and proceed approximately 450 feet in an easterly/northeasterly direction to the tennis courts adjacent to Calle Redondel. With the exception of where the storm drain crosses Calle Bonita, all of the proposed improvements will be installed

beneath irrigated turf, a dirt access road, or slopes covered with eucalyptus trees. The entire project will be constructed within City property or public right-of way.

The new storm drain improvements will require trenching, excavation and disposal of approximately 270 cubic yards of soil. Approximately 5700 cubic yards of grading (2986 c.y. of cut and 2716 c.y. of fill) will be required for replacement of the pipeline and construction of the retaining wall and concrete "v" ditch structure. The retaining wall is proposed along a 148-foot long stretch of the project to allow maintenance vehicle passage along the northern portion of the site. At present, the toe of the adjacent slope prohibits safe access around the existing basketball courts. Therefore, the City proposes to cut back the toe of the slope approximately 10 feet in order to accommodate safe passage. The applicant has not identified the location of soil disposal, but has indicated that it will be outside of the coastal zone. Once the storm drain is placed in the trench, the trench will be backfilled with engineered material and resurfaced with asphalt.

No construction impacts to coastal access will result, as the contractor will not store vehicles, materials or equipment in the public right-of-way. In addition, the site is located approximately one mile from the coastline and is not typically used for beach parking. No post-construction impacts to coastal access will result from the proposed project. Public access to the coastline is available at the North Beach access point, located approximately one mile southwest of the subject site.

B. WATER QUALITY

Section 30230 of the Coastal Act states, in pertinent part:

Marine resources shall be maintained, enhanced, and where feasible, restored.

Section 30231 of the Coastal Act states:

The biological productivity and the quality of coastal waters, streams, wetlands, estuaries, and lakes appropriate to maintain optimum populations of marine organisms and for the protection of human health shall be maintained and, where feasible, restored through, among other means, minimizing adverse effects of waste water discharges and entrainment, controlling runoff, preventing depletion of ground water supplies and substantial interference with surface water flow, encouraging waste water reclamation, maintaining natural vegetation buffer areas that protect riparian habitats, and minimizing alteration of natural streams.

Section 30232 of the Coastal Act states, in pertinent part:

Protection against the spillage of crude oil, gas, petroleum products, or hazardous substances shall be provided in relation to any development or transportation of such materials.

The City of San Clemente storm drain system ultimately drains to the Pacific Ocean. The portion currently under consideration drains to an outlet point north of the Avenida Pico/El Camino Real intersection, approximately one mile southwest of the subject site. Recent beach closures occurring throughout Orange County, including those in Huntington Beach and Laguna Beach, have been attributed to polluted urban runoff discharging into the ocean through outfalls (Exhibit 4). As illustrated by these beach closures, polluted runoff negatively affects both marine resources and the public's ability to access coastal resources. Therefore, to lessen the potential for pollutants to enter the storm drain system at the Bonita Canyon Park site, the Commission imposes three (3) special conditions related to water quality.

1. Construction Impacts to Water Quality

Storage or placement of construction materials, debris, or waste in a location which may be discharged into coastal waters via the storm drain system would result in adverse impacts upon the marine environment that would reduce the biological productivity of coastal waters. For instance, construction debris entering coastal waters may cover and displace soft bottom habitat. In addition, sediment discharged to coastal waters may cause turbidity which can shade and reduce the productivity of eelgrass beds and foraging avian and marine species ability to see food in the water column. In order to avoid adverse construction-related impacts upon marine resources, Special Condition No. 1 outlines construction-related requirements to provide for the safe storage of construction materials and the safe disposal of construction debris.

In addition, since the applicant has indicated that the contractor will have the discretion of selecting a disposal site at the time of construction, Special Condition No. 2 requires that the applicant dispose of all demolition and construction debris at an appropriate location outside of the coastal zone and informs the applicant that use of a disposal site within the coastal zone will require an amendment or new coastal development permit.

Only as conditioned for appropriate storage of construction materials and equipment, and for location of an appropriate debris disposal site, does the Commission find that the proposed development is consistent with Sections 30230, 30231 and 30232 of the Coastal Act.

2. Post-Construction Impacts to Water Quality

The proposed development will increase the capacity of the existing storm water system to accommodate current drainage needs within Bonita Canyon Park. Pollutants such as sediments or toxic substances such as grease, motor oil, heavy metals, pesticides and fertilizers are often contained within urban runoff entering the storm water system. In this case, the site is located within an existing park and does not drain a roadway, parking lot or other paved area. Therefore, the primary post-construction water quality concerns associated with the proposed project are pesticides and fertilizer, rather than grease, motor oil, and heavy metals.

The Negative Declaration states that the proposed development would not result in a net increase in the quantity of storm water discharged. The storm waters that will be discharged through the new storm drain are of the same type and quantity as that presently discharged through the existing pipeline. Therefore, while the capacity of the storm drain system is increasing, the area drained is not increasing. Also, the amount of pollutants carried through the system is not increasing. Rather, the proposed storm drain improvements and additions will collect existing storm water within the existing system in order to allow Bonita Canyon Park to clear storm water more rapidly after storm events. The Commission finds that the proposed development will not result in additional pollutants entering the system, since the total amount of runoff will not be increased by the proposed storm drain improvement.

While the proposed pipe would only collect and convey existing runoff and not increase it, pollutants carried in the existing runoff affect the water quality of the coastal waters in San Clemente. The proposed pipe is new development, which affords an opportunity to improve water quality. Much of the pollutants entering the ocean come from inland developed areas outside the coastal zone, or from other sources within the coastal zone besides the proposed or existing pipes. Therefore, the Commission finds that it is necessary to minimize to the extent feasible within its jurisdiction the cumulative adverse impacts on water quality resulting from continued entry of existing pollutants into the offshore water. Reductions in the amount of pollutants in the existing runoff would be one step to begin to reduce cumulative adverse impacts to coastal water quality.

Implementation of both structural and non-structural BMP's would reduce pollutants of high concern at this location, including pesticides and fertilizers, that are normally carried into coastal waters via storm drains. By reducing the amount of pesticides and fertilizers entering the storm drains, BMP's would reduce pollutant levels in runoff entering coastal waters through the proposed pipeline, thus minimizing to the extent feasible, cumulative adverse impacts upon water quality.

The County of Orange has established "*Management Guidelines for Use of Fertilizers and Pesticides*" in order to fulfill a requirement of the Orange County Drainage Area Management Plan (DAMP). The Orange County DAMP requires co-permittees of the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit to prepare such guidelines to "*minimize any threat to human health and environmental resources from improper use of fertilizers and pesticides.*" The City of San Clemente is a co-permittee with the County in this permit.

According to the City's Associate Civil Engineer for the current project, the City has a policy which has been in effect for over ten years that limits use of fertilizers to only organic-based nitrogen fertilizers. Also, the City uses very little, if any, pesticides or herbicides at this park. If used, the treatments are applied by licensed professionals. As stated by the applicant in a letter dated April 25, 2000, "*the City currently follows and will continue to follow State Guidelines, O.C. Drainage Area Management Plan (DAMP) and O.C. E.M.A. Management Guidelines for Use of Fertilizers and Pesticides. The City also receives an annual review by the O.C. Agricultural Commission.*" The Commission finds that implementation of these measures will reduce post-construction water quality effects of pesticide and fertilizer use at subject site.

The Commission has recently imposed a special condition requiring the applicant to install storm water filtration devices in new catch basins. For example, in CDP No. 5-99-452 (City of Newport Beach), the Commission approved a storm drain improvement project along Bayside Drive, which collected runoff from existing roadways and distributed it to a new ocean outfall to the Newport Harbor. In contrast, the currently proposed project involves a storm drain improvement project in Bonita Canyon Park, which does not drain a paved area. As stated in their recent letter, the applicant is not proposing to install storm water filtration devices in the new catch basins for the following reason:

"...all the storm water inlets installed are to be within the park area. They do not collect any runoff from streets or parking lots and therefore are not subject to the pollutants encountered by street catch basins."

The Commission recognizes that, in this case, the use of storm water filtration devices is not necessary. The applicant will install non-clogging side inlet type catch basins. According to the applicant, flat grates clog with leaves and will not be used. During construction, the contractor will be required to inspect and clean the inlets each day if needed. After the project is completed, the City of San Clemente will assume the responsibility for inspection and maintenance.

While the applicant is proposing water quality measures as part of their project proposal, the Commission must assure that these measures are in fact implemented. Therefore, in order to find the development consistent with Coastal Act sections 30230, 30231, and 30232 it is necessary to impose Special Condition Three (3), which requires the applicant to incorporate Best Management Practices effective at mitigating pollutants of concern, as highlighted above. Only as conditioned does the Commission find the proposed development to be consistent with Sections 30230, 30231 and 30232 of the Coastal Act.

C. GROWTH INDUCEMENT

Section 30254 of the Coastal Act states, in relevant part:

New or expanded public works facilities shall be designed and limited to accommodate needs generated by development or uses permitted consistent with the provisions of this division...

The proposed project is an upgrade to an existing under-capacity and deteriorated storm drain system. The Negative Declaration states that the proposed storm drain improvement will not increase the development potential of the area served by the proposed improvements. The project is located within a fully developed area of the City of San Clemente. Increasing the capacity of the storm water system will not be pivotal to increasing development density in this area. Therefore, the Commission finds the proposed development will not be growth-inducing and is consistent with Section 30254 of the Coastal Act.

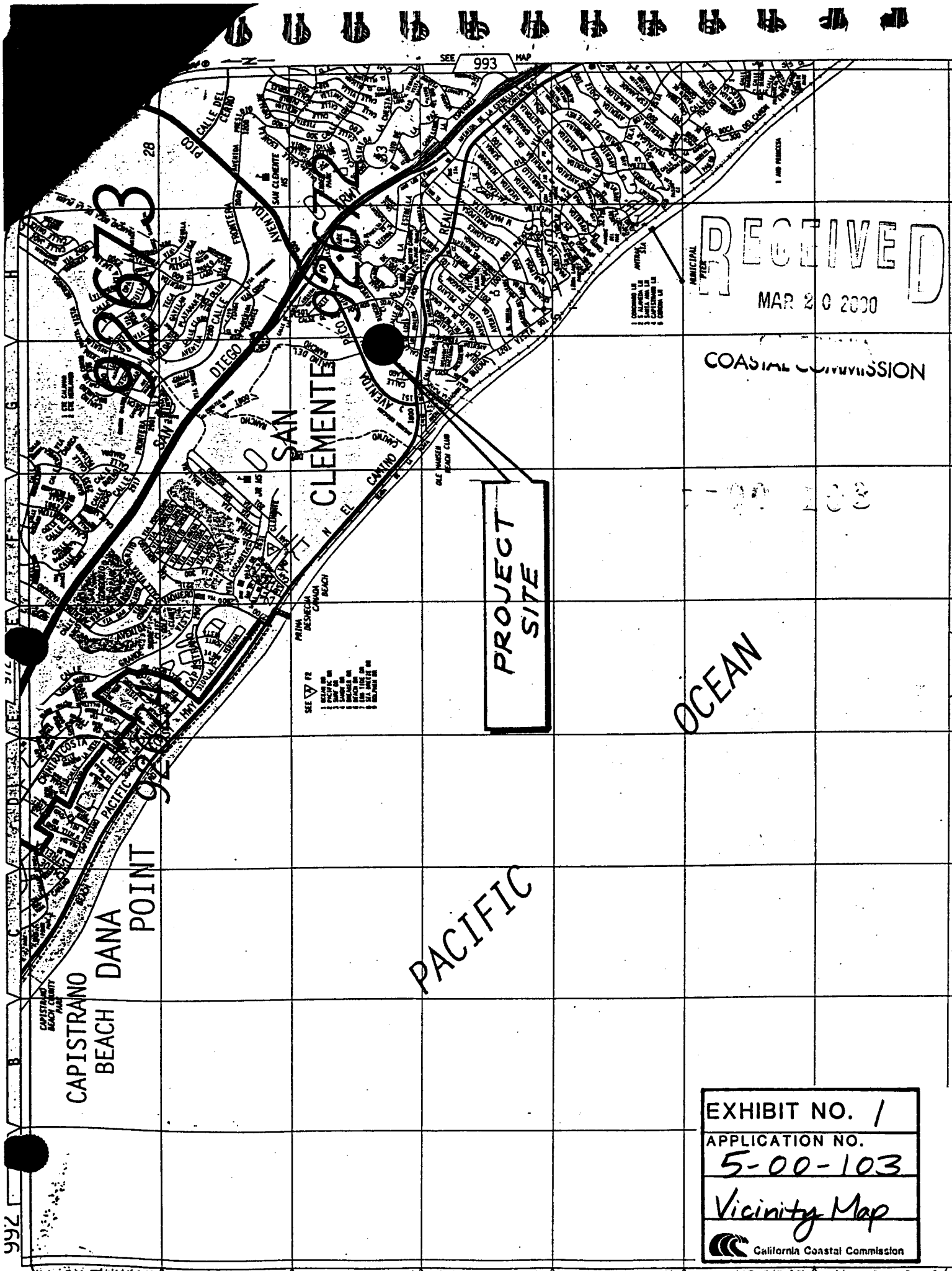
D. LOCAL COASTAL PROGRAM

Section 30604(a) of the Coastal Act provides that the Commission shall issue a coastal permit only if the project will not prejudice the ability of the local government having jurisdiction to prepare a Local Coastal Program which conforms with Chapter 3 policies of the Coastal Act. The Commission certified the Land Use Plan (LUP) for the City of San Clemente on May 11, 1988, and certified an amendment approved in October 1995. On April 10, 1998, the Commission certified with suggested modifications the Implementation Plan (IP) portion of the Local Coastal Program. The suggested modifications expired on October 10, 1998. As conditioned, the proposed development is consistent with the policies contained in the certified Land Use Plan regarding public access. Therefore, approval of the proposed development will not prejudice the City's ability to prepare a Local Coastal Program for San Clemente that is consistent with the Chapter 3 policies of the Coastal Act as required by Section 30604(a).

E. CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

Section 13096 of the Commission's regulations requires Commission approval of coastal development permit applications to be supported by a finding showing the application, as conditioned by any conditions of approval, to be consistent with any applicable requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Section 21080.5(d)(2)(A) of CEQA prohibits a proposed development from being approved if there are feasible alternatives or feasible mitigation measures available which would substantially lessen any significant adverse effect which the activity may have on the environment.

The proposed project has been conditioned for consistency with the marine resource protection policies of Sections 30230, 30231 and 30232 of the Coastal Act. Mitigation measures, in the form of special conditions, require 1) use of construction best management practices (BMPs); 2) identification of a debris disposal site; and 3) implementation of structural and non-structural best management practices. The proposed development, as conditioned, is consistent with the Chapter 3 policies of the Coastal Act. There are no feasible alternatives or mitigation measures available which will lessen any significant adverse impact the activity would have on the environment. Therefore, the Commission finds that the proposed project is consistent with CEQA and the policies of the Coastal Act.




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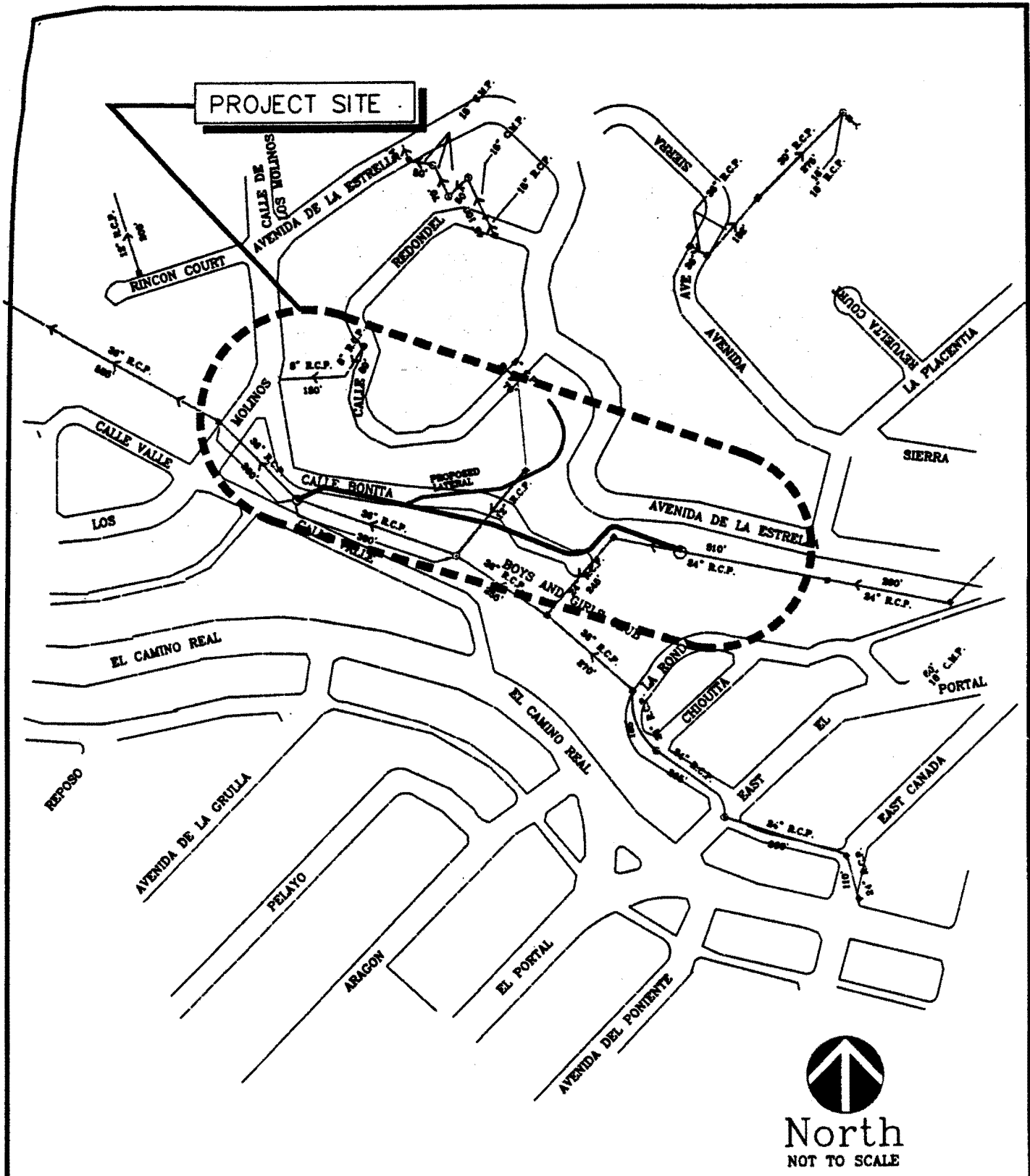
COASTAL COMMISSION

PROJECT
SITE

OCEAN

PACIFIC

EXHIBIT NO. /
APPLICATION NO.
5-00-103
Vicinity Map
 California Coastal Commission



CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE
PUBLIC WORKS/ENGINEERING DIVISION
 910 CALLE NEGOCIO SUITE 100
 SAN CLEMENTE CA. 92673
 TEL (949) 361-6133
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SBB

LOCATION MAP
BONITA PARK STORM
REHABILITATION
PROJECT NO 1080

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EXHIBIT NO. 2
APPLICATION NO.
5-00-103
Location Map



STORM DRAIN NOTES

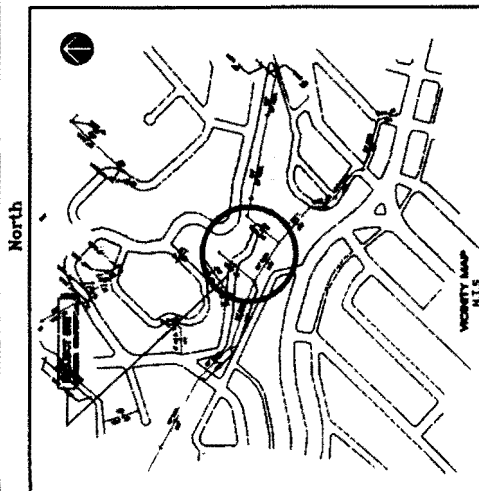
1. ALL WORK SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS FOR PUBLIC WORKS OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, LATEST EDITION, AND ANY AMENDMENTS THERE TO.
2. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL NOTIFY THE CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE'S INSPECTOR AT LEAST 24 HOURS PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION.
3. ALL PIPE LAYING AND MANHOLE INSTALLATIONS, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS.
4. LAYING OF PUBLIC UTILITIES SHALL BE DONE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CITY ENGINEER'S REQUIREMENTS. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROTECTION OF ALL EXISTING UTILITIES. THE CITY ENGINEER SHALL BE NOTIFIED PRIOR TO ANY WORK THAT MAY AFFECT EXISTING UTILITIES.
5. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL MAINTAIN ACCESS TO ALL ADJACENT PROPERTIES AND PUBLIC ROADS AT ALL TIMES. ANY OBSTRUCTIONS SHALL BE REMOVED IMMEDIATELY.

CONSTRUCTION PLANS
FOR
BONITA PARK STORM DRAIN
REHABILITATION
PROJECT NO. 10807



MAYOR: LOIS BERG
MAYOR PRO TEM: SUSAN RITSCHL
COUNCIL: JIM DAHL, SCOTT DIEHL,
G. WAYNE BOOLESTON CPM
CITY MANAGER: MIKE PARNES
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR: DAVE LUND
CITY ENGINEER: WILLIAM E. CAMERON

JANUARY 2000



AGENCY INDEX
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PROJECT NO. 10807
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BUREAU OF PUBLIC WORKS (949) 371-3000
CITY ENGINEER (949) 371-3000
CITY MANAGER (949) 371-3000
CITY CLERK (949) 371-3000
CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE (949) 371-3000
CONTACT: J. J. JAMES (949) 371-3000

REVISIONS

NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION
1	01/01/00	ISSUED FOR PERMIT

EXHIBIT NO. 3
APPLICATION NO. 5-00-103
Project Plans
1 of 7
California Coastal Commission

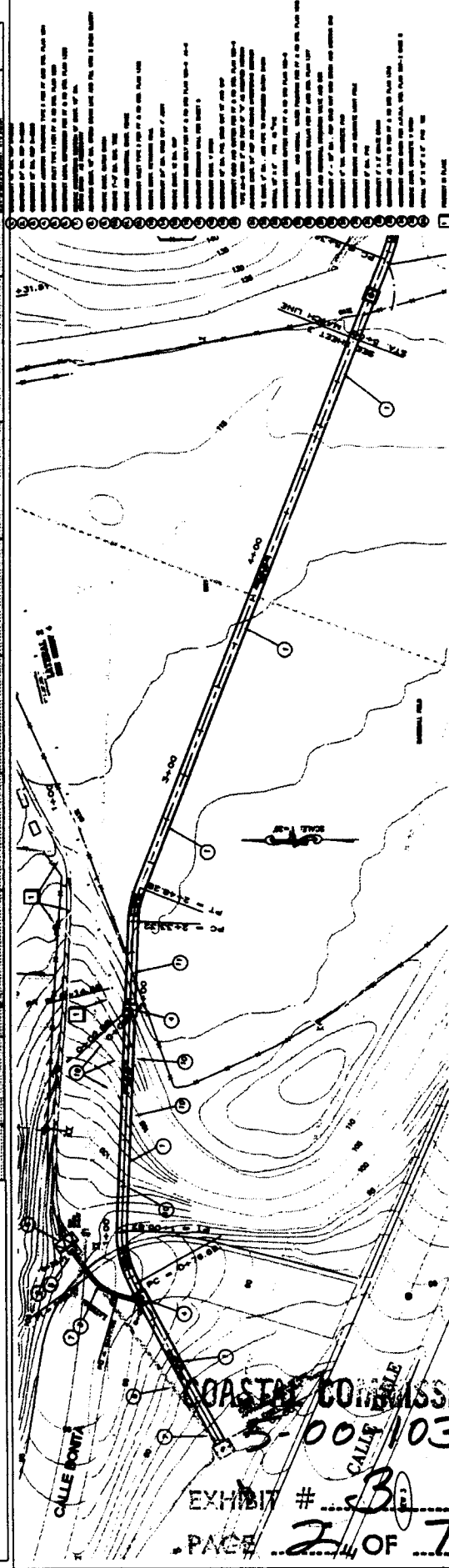
BONITA PARK STORM DRAIN REHABILITATION
PROJECT NO. 10807
CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE

APPROVALS

NAME	DATE	TITLE
LOIS BERG	01/01/00	MAYOR
SUSAN RITSCHL	01/01/00	MAYOR PRO TEM
JIM DAHL	01/01/00	COUNCIL
SCOTT DIEHL	01/01/00	COUNCIL
G. WAYNE BOOLESTON	01/01/00	CPM
MIKE PARNES	01/01/00	CITY MANAGER
DAVE LUND	01/01/00	PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
WILLIAM E. CAMERON	01/01/00	CITY ENGINEER

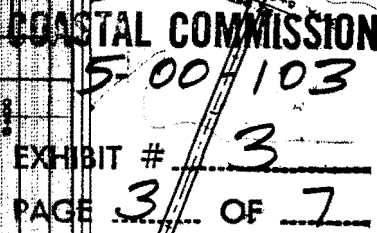
REVISIONS

NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION
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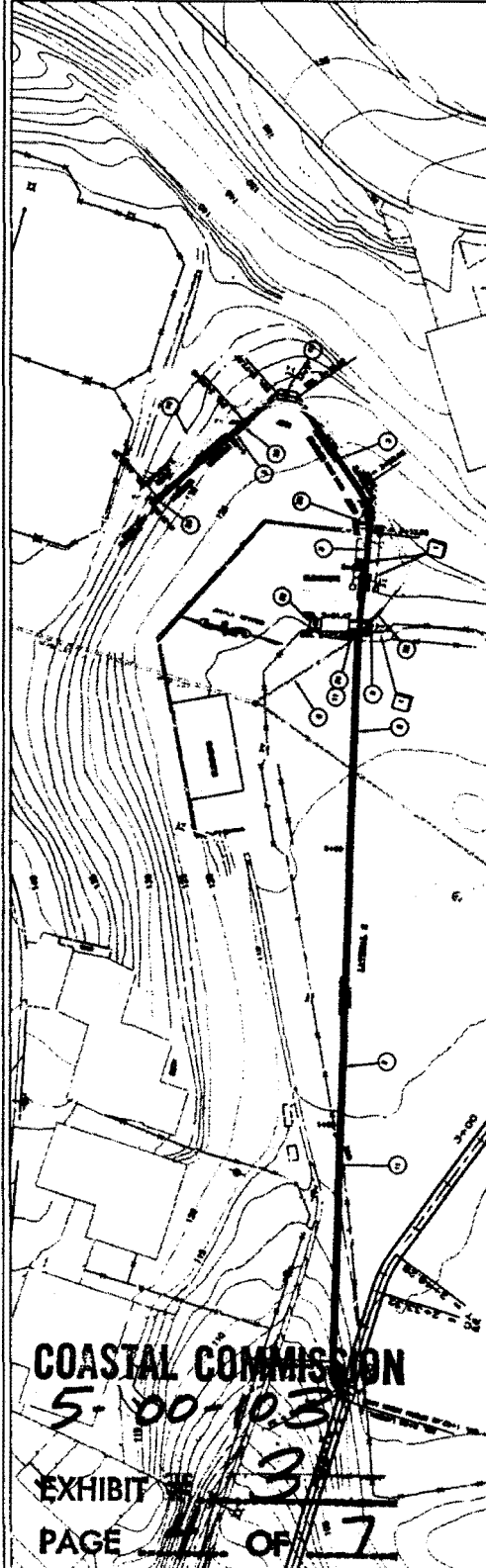
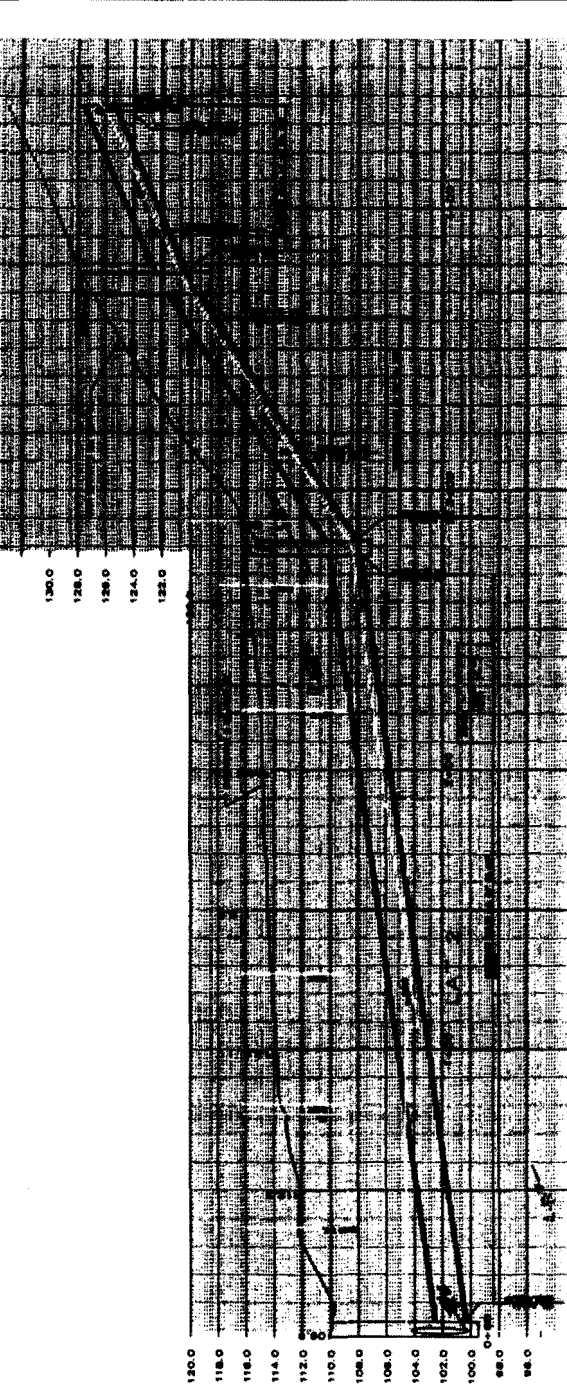
BONTA PARK STORM DRAIN REHABILITATION PROJECT NO. 10807 CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE		SHEET NO. 1 OF 1
DESIGNED BY: [] CHECKED BY: [] APPROVED BY: []	DATE: [] SCALE: [] CITY ENGINEER: []	APPROVALS REFERENCES REVISIONS

COASTAL COMMISSION
 5-000103
 EXHIBIT # 3
 PAGE 2 OF 7

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CONSTRUCTION NOTES:

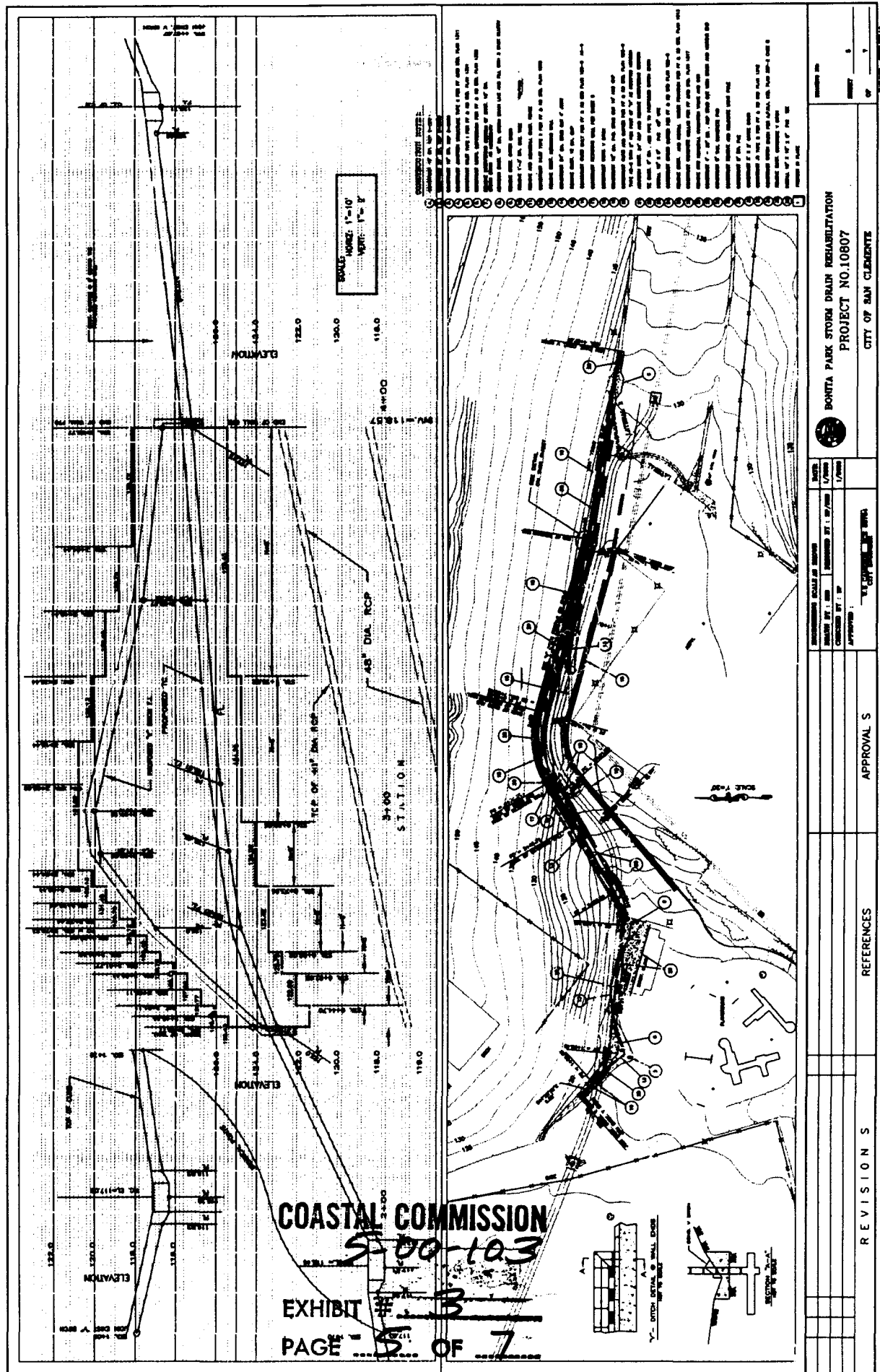
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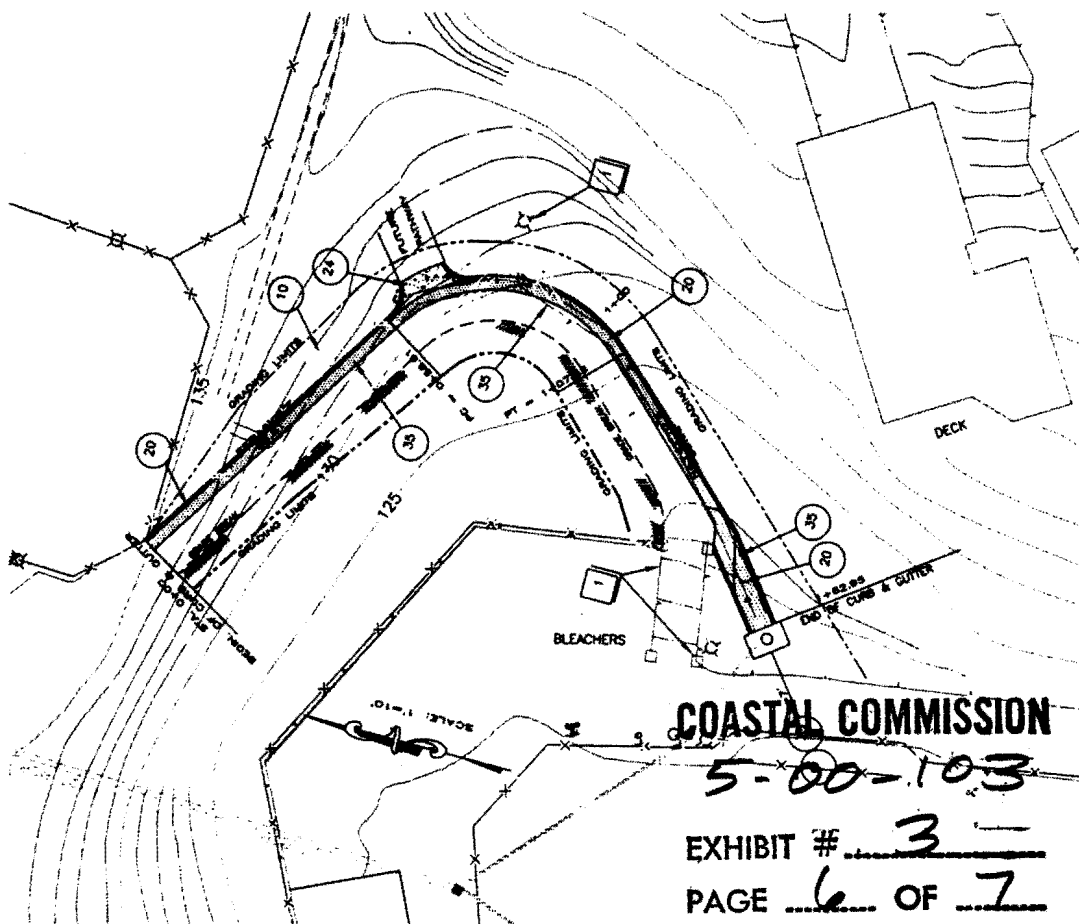
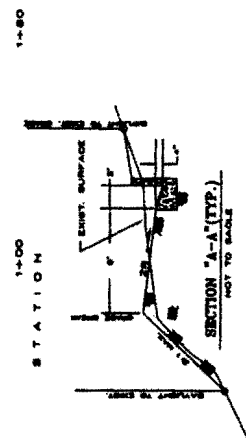
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PROJECT NO. 10807
CITY OF SAN CLAYTON



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Archives

Friday, April 28, 2000

Home Edition

Section: Metro

Page: B-7

Pollution Fears Plague Beach Areas

· Environment: In Orange County, bacteria from runoff threaten not only the region's reputation, but also its way of life and tourism, officials say.

By: SEEMA MEHTA and SCOTT MARTELLE
TIMES STAFF WRITERS

A surge in Orange County beach closures caused by high bacteria levels in the surf has intensified worries among civic, business and environmentalist leaders who fear that diminishing water quality threatens not only the county's reputation, but also its way of life.

"We are a coastal county," said Wayne Baglin, chairman of the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board and a former Laguna Beach city councilman. "Our beaches are key to not only generating revenue, but also for the quality of life that we all enjoy."

The coast has already had 20 beach closings caused by sewage spills this year--only two shy of the total for all of 1999. Bacteria levels at Huntington Beach, which was closed for two months last summer, are again escalating; the source is still unidentified.

Health officials in Los Angeles County have reported nothing abnormal about bacteria counts for the first four months of this year. Widespread increases in bacteria counts usually accompany heavy rains, like those caused by an El Nino weather pattern, and this year has been a relatively dry one.

In Los Angeles County, "we're seeing the usual poor water quality, the same problems we usually see during the first four months of every year," said Mark Gold, director of Heal the Bay. He noted that so far this year, Orange County has had the most spill-related closures of the four counties his group monitors.

Exacerbating the problem is that urban runoff--the brew of trash, chemicals and toxic substances washed off lawns and streets into gutters--also often flows to county beaches by way of storm channels and creeks.

Several city, county and state studies in Orange County are underway to determine the source of the Huntington Beach pollution. And at least five coastal cities are making a preemptive strike by diverting polluted water to treatment plants before it hits the beach.

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APPLICATION NO. 5-00-103
Recent articles re: Water Quality
1 of 6 California Coastal Commission

But some officials worry that the problem will persist because of a failure to address the causes of the coastal pollution--from aging sanitation systems to over-watered gardens. Michael Beanan, chairman of Laguna Beach's Ocean Water Quality Advisory Committee, said he anticipates an escalation in beach closings--and a related drop in tourism.

"There has been no substantive improvement in the management of suburban runoff in Orange County, so the likelihood is, it's going to be as bad or worse," said Beanan, an artist and former UC Irvine administrator.

The closings attributed to sewage spills have primarily been related to seeping of raw waste from blocked lines. Activists say this points to a need for increased maintenance of aging sewer systems, as well as more inspections and enforcement actions against polluters who illegally release grease into their lines.

One point of optimism, however, is the unprecedented attention that the beach closings have generated.

San Clemente Mayor Susan Ritschel said she has seen increased interest in water quality among leaders of inland communities--the source of much of the runoff that fouls beaches.

"It is gaining momentum," Ritschel said. "In years past, it was a small group of the environmental community that was most sincere and most aware. Now it's becoming much more commonplace. That will benefit the coastal communities."

On the pier at Seal Beach, children, fishermen and tourists expressed sorrow and anger at the problems of ocean water quality.

They worried most about the environmental dangers they couldn't see or understand. Sarge Henritz, 66, of Huntington Beach has fished off county beaches for nearly 40 years.

"Thirty years ago, there were a lot of great fish out here. They aren't here anymore. This year in particular has been a very, very bad year for fish, and no one knows why, but the pollution is here," he said.

Like others on the pier, Henritz wouldn't eat what he caught. Fishermen haven't for years. Daniel Lopez of Montebello said he has caught halibut with lesions, and worries whether he and his daughter Theresa will be able to fish in the future.

"You think twice about where you want to take your family," he said. "That's why we choose to go to Orange County beaches, with the image they have of being cleaner than ones in Los Angeles. I don't know if that's true anymore."

Years ago, Patricia Sandoval went to Orange County beaches every weekend. Now she rarely goes, and she won't let her children swim in the water.

"It's sad, especially for the children," she said. "Animals are disappearing from the environment, and the water causes diseases."

Times staff writer Willoughby Mariano and correspondent Monte Morin contributed to this story.

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LA TIMES 5/8/00

Troubled Waters

Stretches of the Orange County coastline are regularly plagued with high bacteria levels from sewage spills or urban runoff. As of Friday, swimmers were urged to avoid the following spots, in addition to creek mouths, storm drains and channels.

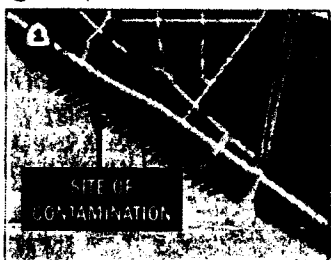
LEGEND

 Sewage spill
  Chronic high bacteria from urban runoff
  Bacteria level exceeds health standards

1 HUNTINGTON HARBOUR MARINA



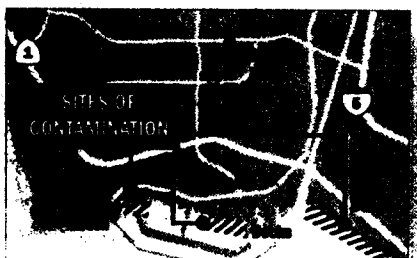
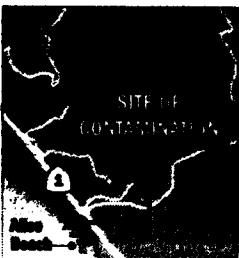
2 HUNTINGTON STATE BEACH



3 BAYSHORE, DOWR SHORE, NEWPORT DUNES— NEWPORT BEACH



4 ALISO BEACH, LAGUNA BEACH 5 BABY BEACH, DANA POINT



Signs of Contamination

A look at the beach warning signs, which are usually posted on the sand, lifeguard towers or parking lot entrances, and what they mean:



Warning against swimming near storm drains, channels and creek mouths because of urban runoff.



Posted when bacteria counts exceed state's health standards. These don't forbid water contact but urge against it.



State law mandates that ocean be off-limits if polluted with a raw sewage spill because officials assume untreated waste carries pathogens.

Source: Orange County Health Care Agency

Graphics Reporting by SEEMA MEHTA / Los Angeles Times

Los Angeles Times

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Wednesday, May 10, 2000

Orange County Edition

Section: Part A

Page: A-1

Future of O.C. Beaches Is Murkier After Spill

Pollution: A leak of raw sewage forces the closure of two miles of shoreline and raises worries of another summer of closures.

By: SEEMA MEHTA
TIMES STAFF WRITER

Up to 5,000 gallons of raw sewage oozed out of an aging pipeline into already troubled waters off Huntington Beach and Newport Beach on Tuesday, the 23rd spill to close county beaches this year--one more than all of 1999.

Nearly two miles of prime beach is now closed or posted with warnings not to enter the water because of the spill, combined with soaring bacteria levels. Another dye study that starts today will try to find the source of the pollution.

Officials throughout California and the nation are watching Orange County beaches closely. With the cause of last summer's devastating shoreline closures still a mystery, and bacteria levels rising along Huntington Beach since late March, there are heightened fears of a second straight summer of closed beaches that could hurt more than just the Surf City image.

"Everyone is terrified," said Susan Jordan, board member of the League for Coastal Protection. "You have a \$12-billion coastal industry here in California . . . and it cannot function with closed beaches."

Wayne Baglin, chairman of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board in San Diego, said he has spoken with water officials and environmentalists nationwide.

"The entire state is looking at Huntington Beach, not only because we're all fearful it will happen in our areas," Baglin said. "We're all so hopeful they are going to come up with a solution to the problem, because they'll probably end up being the solution to many of our problems."

Local, county and California officials have poured millions of dollars into studies to find the source of last summer's pollution. Officials say the long-term picture won't improve until there is increased investment in infrastructure, like the aging pipe that burst Tuesday; penalties for polluters; and mandated spill-prevention plans and backup systems. Activists say the long-term solution is a fundamental change in behavior by developers, other businesses and ordinary residents, inland as well as along the coast.

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The latest woes include:

* The shoreline will be off-limits until at least Friday from Orange Avenue in Newport Beach to Talbert Channel in Huntington State Beach. An Orange County Sanitation District pipeline broke at 5 a.m. Tuesday near College and Gisler avenues in Costa Mesa. It flowed from the 1970s-era pipeline into a storm drain that emptied into the Greensville Banning Channel and then flowed into the Santa Ana River, which dumped it into the ocean off Huntington Beach.

Had the spill occurred just a few hours later, though, it probably would have released tens of thousands of gallons more.

"Unfortunately pipes do break," said Michelle Tuchman, spokeswoman for the Orange County Sanitation District. "This one broke . . . when the flow was low. Certainly if it was during a high-flow period there would have been more sewage."

* Bacteria levels from an unknown source also caused county health officials to urge swimmers to avoid the water from Magnolia Street to Talbert Channel at Huntington State Beach.

* State officials closed Huntington State Beach from Newland Street to the Santa Ana River. The beach is expected to reopen Thursday. USC researchers will conduct a second magenta dye study to try to pinpoint the mysterious source of bacteria. Preliminary results from a similar study of the 9,000-foot stretch last week supported suspicions that runoff flowing from Talbert Marsh through the channel into the ocean is a contributor.

Urban runoff is the brew of chemicals, metals and bacteria that washes off lawns and streets into storm drains, which flow into area waterways that lead to the ocean.

Talbert Marsh, on the inland side of Pacific Coast Highway at Brookhurst Street, is a 25-acre wetland that attracts thousands of migratory birds and other wildlife. Twelve square miles of Huntington Beach and Fountain Valley drain through it into the Pacific Ocean.

The city will also stop eight pump stations today that bring urban runoff to the ocean so researchers can test water quality in several more areas during the next week.

"We're trying to be comprehensive," said Rich Barnard, a Huntington Beach spokesman. "Once we get the results of these studies, we'll be in a position to aggressively address them."

Activists say the solution is clear--a dramatic shift in individual and societal behavior.

Christopher J. Evans, executive director of the Surfrider Foundation in San Clemente, said, "The beach starts at our doorstep. Everything we put in our toilets and gutters eventually goes into the ocean. We have to take better care of our Mother Ocean."

(BEGIN TEXT OF INFOBOX / INFOGRAPHIC) Triple Whammy

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County officials warn swimmers to avoid two miles of coast today because of a sewage spill, high bacterial counts and a dye test.

Source: Orange County Sanitation District * CREEK CLEANUP

O.C. supervisors approve a state study of the polluted San Juan Creek watershed. B1

PHOTO: Westminster resident Hanh Voysey, left, leads her 2-year-old son, Adrian, away from a closed beach.

PHOTOGRAPHER: IRFAN KHAN / Los Angeles Times

GRAPHIC-MAP: Triple Whammy, Los Angeles Times

Type of Material: OC Lead Story

Descriptors: OCEAN POLLUTION; BEACHES -- ORANGE COUNTY;
SEWAGE SPILLS; HEALTH HAZARDS; BACTERIA;

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