#### CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

SOUTH CENTRAL COAST AREA 89 SOUTH CALIFORNIA ST., SUITE 200 VENTURA, CA 93001 (805) 585-1800



Appeal Filed: 3/12/04 Substantial Issue Found: 4/15/04 Staff: Shana Gray Staff Report: 6/29/07

Hearing Date: 7/09/07

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Addendum Posted On July 6, 2007

# STAFF REPORT: APPEAL DE NOVO REVIEW

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT:** County of Santa Barbara

**LOCAL DECISION:** Approval with Conditions

CDP/APPEAL NO.: A-4-STB-06-054 (Parcel 22) (Previously assigned number,

used for Substantial Issue hearing: A-4-STB-04-035)

CDP/APPEAL NO.: A-4-STB-06-055 (Parcel 23) (Previously assigned number,

used for Substantial Issue hearing: A-4-STB-04-035)

**APPLICANTS:** Christopher and Kathryn Chase

APPELLANTS: Commissioners Wan and Woolley; Bruce Murdock; Rick and

Janet Stich; Edward Maguire; and Chris and Kathryn Chase

**PROJECT LOCATION:** 6800 Block of Del Playa Drive, Isla Vista, Santa Barbara

County (APNs 075-181-022 and -023)

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** Construction of three-level single-family residences – one on each of two adjacent bluff top lots, with parking for two to three cars on each lot. The applicants submitted revised project plans dated February 19, 2007, more specifically described as follows:

**CDP A-4-STB-06-054 (Parcel 22):** Construction of a three-level, 1,798 sq. ft., maximum 28 ft. 10-inch high, single family residence with 419 sq. ft. garage and carport, 640 sq. ft. lower deck or patio, 430 sq. ft. raised upper deck, and 187 sq. ft. roof deck. The project includes fill of wetland to create an approximately 960 sq. ft. backyard by placing a deck or patio, landscaping, and fence in the wetland. The project plans also identify a 613 sq. ft. area for onsite wetland mitigation.

CDP A-4-STB-06-055 (Parcel 23): Construction of a three-level, 1,998 sq. ft., maximum 28 ft. 10-inch high, single family residence with 610 sq. ft. garage-carport-laundry, 570 sq. ft. lower deck or patio, 392 sq. ft. raised upper deck, and 159 sq. ft. roof deck The project includes fill of wetland to create an approximately 1,025 sq. ft. backyard by placing a deck or patio, landscaping, and fence in the wetland. The project plans also identify a 416 sq. ft. area for onsite wetland mitigation..

MOTION & RESOLUTION: Page 9

SUMMARY OF STAFF RECOMMENDATION: On April 15, 2004, the Commission determined that a substantial issue exists with respect to the appellants' assertions that the proposed residences are not consistent with the wetlands, environmentally sensitive habitat, water quality, and visual resource standards of the certified Local Coastal Program (LCP). The de novo review portion of the hearing began at the January 12, 2005 Commission meeting and was continued in order to address additional alernatives. Concerns were raised by the Commission that the staff recommended building footprint would not allow a reasonable amount of living and parking space on lot 22. The applicants submitted revised plans, dated January 3, 2006, which were analyzed in the staff report for the second phase of the de novo portion of the hearing occurred on July 12, 2006. The hearing was again continued for the purpose of further exploring alternatives. The Commission directed staff to re-evaluate the size of the residences and reconsider alternatives that would set the house back farther from the wetlands. Some Commissioners indicated that an economically viable use can be achieved with a smaller footprint. Additionally, the Commission directed staff to evaluate whether elevating the residences on piles/caissons is a feasible method of building the residences while still maximizing protection of the on-site wetlands.

More recently, the applicants have submitted new revisions to the proposed project plans, dated February 19, 2007 (Exhibit 5). The plans for the residences are nearly identical to the previously reviewed January 3, 2006 plans; however, the February 19, 2007 plans have now delineated a backyard area, enclosed by a 36-inch high split-rail fence. On Lot 22, the proposed approximately 960 sq. ft. backyard includes a 640 sq. ft. lower patio/deck and native landscaping. On Lot 23, the proposed approximately 1,025 sq. ft. backyard includes a 570 sq. ft. lower patio/deck and native landscaping. Whereas previously, the proposed decks had primarily been designed to avoid the delineated wetland (with the exception of a raised boardwalk and overhanging second story deck on Lot 22), the updated plans expand the lower patio/deck and backyard landscaping into the delineated wetland (Exhibit 5).

In the two previous de novo hearings the Commission expressed concerns regarding the size of the residences, greater setbacks from the wetlands, and evaluation of whether elevating the residences would provide additional benefit to the wetlands. These three issues are specifically addressed below.

Size of Residences. An issue with respect to the size of the residences relates to whether the Commission should approve residential square footage that is larger than that approved by the County. The County approved a 1,012 sq. ft., two-story single-family dwelling with 400 sq. ft. carport on Parcel 22 (Exhibit 8a) and a 1,220 sq. ft., two-story single-family dwelling with 400 sq. ft. carport on Parcel 23 (Exhibit 8b). Staff has not targeted a particular square footage of allowable development for each parcel but has instead allowed the resource constraints to dictate a development envelope in which the applicant could design the residential development given the resource constraints. Though not quantifiable without detailed architectural plans, staff is recommending a specific development footprint for each property, as shown in Exhibit 6, that would allow for greater overall square footage.

Overall, the maximum development footprint is approximately 25 sq. ft. larger than the County's approved footprint for Parcel 22 and approximately 274 sq. ft. larger than the County's approved footprint for Parcel 23. The achievement of a greater development footprint is a result of reducing front and side yard setbacks. In addition, the staff recommendation would allow the structure to be designed to a maximum 25 ft. height (as the maximum height allowed in the zone district by pursuant to the LCP) and to increase the second story building coverage from 75% of the overall footprint to 100%. While this would result in some additional visual impacts as discussed in Section V.E, *Visual Resources*, of this report, the public will continue to have the ability to bypass the development and access the open space and bluff top path. Additionally the lots are each 40 feet wide and ocean through-view corridors are present immediately east and west of the properties. The visually imposing nature of the structures will briefly interrupt public views from the road but are not substantially out of character with the existing built-out Del Playa bluff top. The County's analysis indicated that single family residences in the vicinity ranged from 1,300 to 2,100 sq. ft.

Additionally, the greater square footage is achieved while at the same time providing a greater setback from the wetland habitat than what was approved by the County. Note, however, that the staff recommended development envelopes (Exhibit 6) would not accommodate the total square footage or development footprint proposed by the applicants in the February 19, 2007 project plans.

Setback from Wetland. Staff is recommending approval of the maximum development footprint shown in Exhibit 6. This recommendation sets back the residence / garage development 5 feet from the wetland to the extent feasible, with one exception on the more constrained lot, Parcel 22. The maximum development footprint on Parcel 22 (Exhibit 6a) allows for a portion of the residence, representing approximately 50 sq. ft., to be located within the five-foot setback in a manner briefly contiguous with the wetland boundary as specifically shown on Exhibit 6a. The purpose of the five-foot setback is to allow for any maintenance of the residential development to occur outside of the boundaries of the delineated wetland. As discussed further in this staff report, to further ensure that maintenance or other activities do not occur within the wetland, Special Condition 1 requires a 3-ft. raised boardwalk along the rear of the residence to provide a defined pathway for such activities within the five-ft. wetland setback.

The recommended development footprint in this staff report provides a greater wetland setback than the previous staff recommendation. As a result of locating the development further from the delineated wetland, the development footprint of the residence and garage has been reduced by approximately 127 sq. ft. on Parcel 22 (from 959 sq. ft. in previous recommendation to current recommendation of 832 sq. ft.) and by approximately 80 sq. ft on Parcel 23 (from 1,280 sq. ft. in previous recommendation to current recommendation of 1,200 sq. ft.).

<u>Elevating Residence on Caissons</u>. As discussed above, the residence would be situated entirely outside of the delineated wetland. Consequently, elevating the residence on caissons would not result in the direct preservation of any portion of the wetland. Therefore, the issue at hand is whether there are any indirect benefits to be gained to

the wetland by elevating the residence, such as maintaining or restoring hydrologic function or encouraging infiltration. The residential development, in this case, would be located between the developed/paved Del Playa Drive and the wetland. Del Playa has curbs on each side, with water directed along the road to a designated storm drain. Consequently, the roadway does not contribute water to the site. The distance from the northern property boundary to the nearest extent of wetland is approximately 21 feet on Parcel 22 and approximately 40 feet on Parcel 23. Though hydrologic studies have not been completed for the wetland, because runoff from Del Playa does not input water into this wetland, either at the site or on neighboring sites, the watershed that would be impacted by the location of the residences appears to be guite limited. To ensure that the wetland receives the necessary amount of water, Special Condition 9 requires the applicant to submit drainage plans that are approved by the consulting biologist that prepared the Onsite Wetland Enhancement Plan to ensure that redirection of drainage does not adversely impact on-site or adjacent wetlands. In particular, there shall be no net reduction in stormwater runoff to the on-site and adjacent wetland complex as delineated in the 1997 FLx report. Because of the limited extent of the potential hydrologic boundaries as well as the implementation of Special Condition 9, elevation of the residence does not appear to provide any additional benefit to the on-site resources.

Staff recommends approval of the proposed project in Coastal Development Permit No. A-4-STB-06-054 with sixteen (16) special conditions, regarding revised plans, assumption of risk, no future shoreline protective device, future development restriction, wetland mitigation, long-term wetland management measures, lighting restriction, construction monitoring, drainage and polluted runoff control plan, interim erosion control plans, signage program, operational responsibilities, deed restriction, conditions imposed by the local government, open space development restrictions, and other required approvals.

Staff recommends approval of the proposed project in Coastal Development Permit No. A-4-STB-06-055 with sixteen (16) special conditions, regarding revised plans, assumption of risk, no future shoreline protective device, future development restriction, wetland mitigation, long-term wetland management measures, lighting restriction, construction monitoring, drainage and polluted runoff control plan, interim erosion control plans, signage program, operational responsibilities, deed restriction, conditions imposed by the local government, open space development restrictions, and other required approvals.

The standard of review for the project is the Santa Barbara County LCP, which includes the Chapter Three Policies of the Coastal Act, as incorporated in their entirety into the LCP. As conditioned, the proposed project is consistent with all applicable policies of the LCP including the incorporated Chapter Three policies of the Coastal Act.

The two approximately 5,600 sq. ft. project sites are located on adjacent bluff top lots in Isla Vista on parcels designated as Environmentally Sensitive Habitat (ESH) in the County of Santa Barbara's certified Local Coastal Program. Both lots are zoned for single-family residential, minimum 10,000 sq. ft. lot size (10-R-1). The subject lots are undeveloped, relatively flat and surrounded by four publicly-owned open space parcels

to the east and one publicly-owned open space lot to the west. Wetlands are present over most of the site (Exhibit 3). A wetland delineation was conducted on the subject parcels in 1997 using the Commission's single indicator method, indicating wetland coverage of 61% on Parcel 22 and 48% on Parcel 23. The wetlands are vernal swales and flats.

LCP Policy 9-9 requires a 100-foot buffer to be maintained in a natural condition along the periphery of all wetlands. No permanent structures shall be permitted within the wetland or buffer except structures of a minor nature. Because of the size of the parcels, there is no part of the subject sites that would be outside of the required 100-foot wetland buffer. Therefore, application of LCP policy 9-9, by itself, would require denial of any substantial development on the subject lots because the 100-foot wetland buffer is not feasible under any circumstances involving substantial development.

However, Coastal Act Section 30010 provides that the Coastal Act shall not be construed as authorizing the Commission to exercise its power to grant or deny a permit in a manner which will take private property for public use. Outright denial of all residential use on the project site would interfere with reasonable investment-backed expectations and deprive the property of all reasonable economic use.

Consequently, some development must be approved within the 100-foot wetland buffer in order to provide an economically viable use. Therefore, siting and design alternatives must be considered in order to identify the alternative that can avoid and minimize impacts to the wetland to the greatest extent feasible consistent with the provision of an economically viable residential use. In this case, the County-approved project is located on the northern end of the parcels, and comes as close to wetlands as the edge of the delineated wetland boundary, effectively eliminating the required wetland buffer (Exhibit 6). In order to provide a level of development that would not constitute a taking, the County granted variances from setback standards on both parcels to avoid impacts to wetlands.

At the January 12, 2005 phase of the *de novo* portion of the hearing, staff recommended approval of a development footprint on Parcels 22 and 23 that would set all development back five feet from the boundary of the delineated wetlands. The five-foot setback was intended to create a margin of separation between the wetlands and the residential development in order to allow routine maintenance of the outside of the house. However, at the hearing, Commissioners were concerned that the residence on Parcel 22 could not be designed within a first floor footprint of 772 sq. ft. in a configuration that would accommodate parking and a reasonable living space. The hearing was continued to determine alternatives.

The Commission must protect wetlands to the maximum extent feasible while at the same time allowing for reasonable economic use of the property. To ensure that the applicants receive an economically viable use of their property and to include measures to protect the wetland to the maximum feasible extent, staff is recommending that both residences be setback five feet from the wetlands with one exception, the footprint on Parcel 22 may be contiguous with the wetland in one location at the center of the

property (see Exhibit 6a). The exception to the five-foot setback is necessary to address the Commission's concerns that the residence on Parcel 22 could not be designed within a first floor footprint that would accommodate parking and a reasonable habitable space. By allowing the Parcel 22 footprint to touch (but not encroach into) the wetlands in this one location, it "squares out" the footprint and provides enough depth for standard parking in carport or garage. Additionally, staff is recommending a backyard deck footprint that is limited to a 3-ft. wide raised boardwalk to the south of the residence on Parcel 22 (Exhibit 6a) and a 3-ft. wide raised boardwalk to the south of the residence on Parcel 23 that could connect to a larger deck in the western portion of the backyard provided that such a deck would remain outside of the five-foot setback (Exhibit 6b). These 3 ft. walkways would be configured to provide a continuous means of access along the south side of the structures and delineate the southern boundary of the developed area. The boardwalks and decks would be required to have a continuous five-foot high barrier railing on the southernmost portion of the decks or boardwalks, spanning from the western property boundary to the eastern property boundary. (Exhibit 6)

The barrier railing required pursuant to Special Condition 1 would be designed to hinder passage of humans and pets, and may consist, all or in part, of wood, wrought iron, frosted or partially-frosted plexiglass or other visually permeable barriers that are designed to prevent creation of a bird strike hazard. Clear glass or plexiglass shall not be installed. Gates would not be allowed to open from the residential development into the wetland.

Staff is recommending approval of a maximum development footprint on each parcel pursuant to Special Condition 1. The maximum development footprint would require the residences to be set five feet back from the wetlands. Other backvard development would be setback between two and five feet from the wetland as specifically shown in Exhibit 6. Application of these setback requirements would reduce the development footprint near the wetland in comparison to the County's approval which allowed development up to and adjacent to the wetland in multiple locations (Exhibit 8). The recommended maximum development footprint would require a reduction to what is proposed by the applicants in the February 19, 2007 project plans. As discussed above, the Commission must balance the protection of wetlands with the issue of providing reasonable use of the property. Under a maximum potential buildout scenario, the front yard setbacks could be reduced to three feet, and the side yard setbacks could be Moreover, the applicants may gain additional square footage by eliminated. constructing a 100% second story development over the ground floor development, rather than the 75% approved by the County. Also, the parking area may be in the representation of a garage rather than a carport and the applicants may redesign their project to have a roof top deck provided that the maximum height limit of 25 feet is not exceeded.

These variances would potentially have an adverse effect on protection of visual resources, such as views and community character. In this case, to provide reasonable economic use of property and as much of the required protection of the wetland as is still possible, the visual policies of the LCP cannot be fully applied. Where there is

conflict between protection of wetlands and protection of visual resources, the LCP provides that the protection of wetlands is of higher priority.

It is important to note that the majority of visual impacts will be to private views, rather than public views. Though the development will be visually imposing, the public will have the ability to bypass the development and access the open space and lateral bluff top path located between these parcels and the ocean. Additionally the lots are each 40 feet wide and ocean through-view corridors are present immediately east and west of the properties. By reducing the side yard setbacks the structures will briefly interrupt public views by automobile, bicycle, and pedestrian street traffic but are not substantially out of character with the existing built-out on the Del Playa bluff top.

Therefore, to allow reasonable economic use of property consistent with Section 30010 of the Coastal Act, there will be unavoidable adverse impacts to wetlands and visual resources. However, as conditioned, the proposed residential development is the minimum necessary to avoid a taking and the impacts to wetlands that cannot be avoided, are mitigated to the maximum extent feasible.

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- Exhibit 2. Parcel Map
- Exhibit 3. Wetland Delineation
- Exhibit 4. Fencing & Signage
- Exhibit 5. February 19, 2007 Project Plans
- Exhibit 6. Staff Recommendations for Development Footprint
- Exhibit 7. Applicants' Original Proposed Development
- Exhibit 8. County-Approved Development Footprint

Exhibit 9. County Approval with Conditions

Exhibit 10. John Dixon Memo Regarding Chase Property Wetland Delineation

SUBSTANTIVE FILE DOCUMENTS: County of Santa Barbara Coastal Development Permits (01CDH-00000-00060, 01CDH-00000-00061, 02VAR-00000-00003, 02VAR-00000-00004, approved 2/24/04); Proposed Final Environmental Impact Report for the Chase Single-Family Dwellings, Santa Barbara County, California (September 2003); Office of County Counsel Memorandum Re: Takings Analysis on Appeal of Chase Single Family Dwellings and Variances (11/21/03); Survey of Chase Property on Del Playa Drive in Isla Vista (Rachel Tierney Consulting, 11/17/03); Plant Surveys and Wetland Delineations for Five Land Parcels, Del Playa Drive, Isla Vista, CA (FLx, May 1997);

### I. STANDARD OF REVIEW

After certification of a Local Coastal Program (LCP), Section 30603 of the Coastal Act provides for appeals to the Coastal Commission of a local government's actions on certain types of coastal development permits (including any new development which occurs between the first public road and the sea, such as the proposed project sites). In this case, the proposed development was appealed to the Commission, which found during a public hearing on April 15, 2004, that a substantial issue was raised.

As a "de novo" application, the standard of review for the proposed development is, in part, the policies and provisions of the County of Santa Barbara Local Coastal Program. In addition, pursuant to Section 30604(c) of the Coastal Act, all proposed development located between the first public road and the sea, including those areas where a certified LCP has been prepared, (such as the project sites), must also be reviewed for consistency with the Chapter 3 policies of the Coastal Act with respect to public access and public recreation. In addition, all Chapter 3 policies of the Coastal Act have been incorporated in their entirety in the certified LCP as guiding policies pursuant to Policy 1-1 of the LUP.

### II. STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

### A. APPROVAL WITH CONDITIONS CDP NO. A-4-STB-06-054 (PARCEL 22)

MOTION I: I move that the Commission approve Coastal Development Permit No. A-4-STB-06-054 pursuant to the

staff recommendation.

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATION OF APPROVAL:

Staff recommends a **YES** vote. Passage of this motion will result in approval of the permit as conditioned and adoption of the following resolution and findings. The motion passes only by affirmative vote of a majority of the Commissioners present.

### **RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PERMITS:**

The Commission hereby approves a coastal development permit for the proposed development and adopts the findings set forth below on the ground that the development is located between the sea and the first public road nearest the shoreline and, as conditioned, will conform with the policies of the certified Local Coastal Program for the County of Santa Barbara and the public access and public recreation policies of Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act. Approval of the permit complies with the California Environmental Quality Act since feasible mitigation measures and/or alternatives have been incorporated to substantially lessen any significant adverse effects of the development on the environment.

### B. APPROVAL WITH CONDITIONS CDP NO. A-4-STB-06-055 (PARCEL 23)

MOTION II: I move that the Commission approve Coastal Development Permit No. A-4-STB-06-055 pursuant to the staff recommendation.

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION OF APPROVAL:**

Staff recommends a **YES** vote. Passage of this motion will result in approval of the permit as conditioned and adoption of the following resolution and findings. The motion passes only by affirmative vote of a majority of the Commissioners present.

#### **RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PERMITS:**

The Commission hereby approves a coastal development permit for the proposed development and adopts the findings set forth below on the ground that the development is located between the sea and the first public road nearest the shoreline and, as conditioned, will conform with the policies of the certified Local Coastal Program for the County of Santa Barbara and the public access and public recreation policies of Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act. Approval of the permit complies with the California Environmental Quality Act since feasible mitigation measures and/or alternatives have been incorporated to substantially lessen any significant adverse effects of the development on the environment.

### III. STANDARD CONDITIONS

(Note: These Standard Conditions are applicable to both Coastal Development Permit Nos. A-4-STB-06-054 and A-4-STB-06-055.)

- 1. <u>Notice of Receipt and Acknowledgment</u>. These permits are not valid and development shall not commence until copies of the permits, signed by the permittee or authorized agent, acknowledging receipt of the permits and acceptance of the terms and conditions, are returned to the Commission office.
- **Expiration.** If development has not commenced, the permits will expire two years from the date on which the Commission voted on the de novo appeal of the permits. Development shall be pursued in a diligent manner and completed in a reasonable period of time. Application(s) for extension of the permit(s) must be made prior to the expiration date.
- **3.** <u>Interpretation</u>. Any questions of intent or interpretation of any term or condition will be resolved by the Executive Director or the Commission.
- **4.** <u>Assignment.</u> The permits may be assigned to any qualified person, provided assignee files with the Commission an affidavit accepting all terms and conditions of the permits.
- **5.** <u>Terms and Conditions Run with the Land</u>. 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 properties to the terms and conditions.

### IV. SPECIAL CONDITIONS

### A. SPECIAL CONDITIONS FOR CDP A-4-STB-06-054 (PARCEL 22)

(Note: These Special Conditions are applicable to Coastal Development Permit No. A-4-STB-06-054)

#### 1. Revised Plans

- A. Prior to issuance of the coastal development permit, the applicants shall submit, for the review and approval of the Executive Director, two (2) sets of final revised project plans. All plans must be drawn to scale with dimensions shown. The final revised project plans and project description shall reflect the following:
  - Development shall be setback a minimum of five feet from the wetland (Exhibit 6) delineated in the FLx report dated May 1997 (as shown in Exhibit 7) with the following exceptions:
    - (a) A portion of the southern edge of the residence, representing approximately 50 sq. ft., may encroach into the five-foot wetland setback in a manner briefly contiguous with the wetland boundary as specifically shown in Exhibit 6a of the June 29, 2007 Coastal Commission staff report on this property ("Staff Report").
    - (b) A 3-ft. wide raised boardwalk may encroach within the wetland in one location as specifically shown in Exhibit 6a of the Staff Report.

- (c) A 3-ft. wide raised boardwalk may encroach within the five-foot wetland setback as specifically shown in Exhibit 6a of the Staff Report.
- (d) The wetland protection fence required by Subsection A.7 of this Special Condition may be located within or adjacent to the delineated wetland boundary as indicated in Exhibit 4 and Exhibit 6a of the Staff Report.
- (e) Locally indigenous native landscaping may be planted within the fivefoot setback as allowed in **Special Condition Ten**.
- 2. Development, including but not limited to upper and lower story: residence, decks, patios and walkways must be located within the approved maximum development footprint specifically shown in Exhibit 6a of the Staff Report. The maximum development footprint eliminates the minimum 5-ft. side yard setbacks required under the 10-R-1 zone district, reduces the front yard setback from 20 ft. from the Del Playa Drive right-of-way to three feet, and establishes a five-foot setback from the delineated wetland as described in Subsection 1 of this Special Condition.
- 3. There shall be no additional fencing on the subject parcel beyond the fencing specifically shown on Exhibit 4 of the Staff Report unless an amendment to Coastal Development Permit A-4-STB-06-054 is issued or a new coastal development permit is obtained.
- 4. Upper story decks over the wetland shall be cantilevered only and shall not extend beyond the footprint of the ground floor decks and boardwalks.
- 5. A 3-ft wide raised boardwalk shall be installed adjacent to the residence and carport/garage along the entire southern boundary of the development, as specifically shown in Exhibit 6a of the Staff Report. The approved boardwalk shall be configured in a manner to provide a non-obstructed access corridor between the east and west property boundaries along the south of the residence. The boardwalk shall include a continuous five-foot high barrier railing on the southernmost portion of the boardwalks, spanning from the western property boundary to the eastern property boundary. The barrier railing shall be sufficiently solid to hinder passage of humans and pets, and may consist, all or in part, of wood, wrought iron, frosted or partially-frosted plexiglass or other visually permeable barriers that are designed to prevent creation of a bird strike hazard. Clear glass or plexiglass shall not be installed. Gates shall not be installed which open from the residential development into the wetland. The 3-ft wide raised boardwalk and barrier railing shall be installed prior to occupancy.
- 6. The maximum height of development shall be 25 feet, consistent with the 10-R-1 zone district requirement. The design may include an optional open roof deck provided that all railings or other associated structures are within the maximum 25 ft. height limit from existing grade.
- 7. A permanent four-foot high split rail fence shall be installed to protect the onsite wetlands as specifically shown in Exhibit 4 of the Staff Report and described as follows:

- (a) A permanent four-foot high split rail fence shall be installed along the boundary of the wetlands between the approved structures and the open space as shown in Exhibit 4 of the Staff Report.
- (b) A permanent four-foot high split rail fence shall be installed along the east, west, and south property boundaries in one of two potential configurations, depending upon whether the development on adjoining Parcel 23 is constructed or in the process of construction by the time the Certificate of Occupancy is obtained for development on Parcel 22. If the development on Parcel 23 is constructed or in the process of construction, then the split rail fence shall be installed along the balance of the eastern property line south of the required barrier railing on Parcel 23, along the southern property line of Parcels 22 and 23, and on the balance of the western property line south of the barrier railing on Parcel 22, as indicated in Exhibit 4 of the Staff Report. If the development on Parcel 23 is not constructed, or in the process of construction, then the split rail fence shall be installed along the balance of the east and west property lines south of the required barrier railing on Parcel 22 and along the southern property line of Parcel 22 (Exhibit 4). When the Certificate of Occupancy is obtained for residences on both parcels, the split-rail fence, if constructed, shall be removed along the eastern property boundary on Parcel 22.
- (c) All split-rail fencing shall be installed prior to occupancy.
- (d) The fencing shall have signs posted, as described in **Special Condition Eleven**, to discourage entry into the wetland area.
- (e) The minimum distance from ground level to the split-rail fence's first rung shall be 18 inches. Barbed-wire fencing or permanent chainlink fencing shall not be installed on the subject parcel.
- (f) Gates shall not be installed.
- 8. Landscaping and development within the adjacent road right-of-way shall not obstruct pedestrians and shall be consistent with the future provision of a sidewalk.
- B. The Permittee shall undertake development in accordance with the final approved plans. Any proposed changes to the approved final plans shall be reported to the Executive Director. No changes to the approved final plans shall occur without a Coastal Commission approved amendment to the coastal development permit, unless the Executive Director determines that no amendment is legally required.

#### 2. Assumption of Risk

By acceptance of this permit, the applicants acknowledge and agree (i) that the site may be subject to hazards from liquefaction, storm waves, surges, erosion, landslide, and flooding; (ii) to assume the risks to the applicant and the property that is the subject of this permit of injury and damage from such hazards in connection with this permitted development; (iii) to unconditionally waive any claim of damage or liability against the Commission, its officers, agents, and employees for injury or damage from such

hazards; and (iv) to indemnify and hold harmless the Commission, its officers, agents, and employees with respect to the Commission's approval of the project against any and all liability, claims, demands, damages, costs (including costs and fees incurred in defense of such claims), expenses, and amounts paid in settlement arising from any injury or damage due to such hazards.

### 3. No Future Shoreline Protective Device

- A. By acceptance of the permit, the applicants/landowners agree, on behalf of itself and all successors and assignees, that no shoreline protective device(s) shall ever be constructed to protect the development approved pursuant to this coastal development permit including, but not limited to, the construction of the residence, garage, driveway/patios, decks, fencing, and any other future improvements in the event that the development is threatened with damage or destruction from waves, erosion, storm conditions, landslides, liquefaction, or any other natural hazards in the future. By acceptance of this permit, the applicants/landowners hereby waive, on behalf of itself and all successors and assigns, any rights to construct such devices that may exist under Public Resources Code Section 30235.
- B. By acceptance of this permit, the applicants/landowners further agree, on behalf of itself and all successors and assigns, that the landowner shall remove the development authorized by this permit including, but not limited to, the residence, garage, driveway/patios, decks, fencing if any government agency has ordered that the structures are not to be occupied due to any of the hazards identified above. In the event that portions of the development fall to the beach before they are removed, the landowner shall remove all recoverable debris associated with the development from the beach and ocean and lawfully dispose of the material in an approved disposal site. Such removal shall require a coastal development permit.

#### 4. Future Development Restriction

This permit is only for the development described in Coastal Development Permit No. A-4-STB-06-054. Pursuant to Title 14 California Code of Regulations Section 13250(b)(6), the exemptions otherwise provided in Public Resources Code Section 30610(a) shall not apply to any future development on any portion of the parcel. Accordingly, any future improvements to any portion of the property, including but not limited to the residence, garage, decks, landscaping, and removal of vegetation or grading other than as provided for in the approved landscape plan prepared pursuant to Special Condition 10 or as provided in the approved onsite wetland enhancement plan prepared pursuant to Special Condition 5, shall require an amendment to Coastal Development Permit No. A-4-STB-06-054 from the Commission or shall require an additional coastal development permit from the Commission or from the applicable certified local government.

#### 5. Wetland Mitigation

Prior to issuance of the coastal development permit, the applicants shall submit, for the review and approval of the Executive Director, an Onsite Wetland Enhancement Plan

and an Offsite Restoration Plan subject to the following provisions. Said plans shall be prepared by a qualified biologist, ecologist, or resource specialist with experience in the field of restoration ecology, and with a background knowledge of vernal wetlands. The applicants shall provide the resource specialist's qualifications, for the review and approval of the Executive Director, prior to plan development. The Onsite Wetland Enhancement Plan and an Offsite Restoration Plan shall include, at a minimum, the following information:

- **A. Onsite Wetland Enhancement Plan.** The Onsite Wetland Enhancement Plan shall include, at a minimum, the following information:
  - The onsite wetland enhancement shall include, at a minimum, the removal of any and all invasive plant species on the site; the removal of all non-native, nonwetland indicator plants within the boundary of the delineated wetland (FLx, 1997) and the adjacent open space area(s) on-site within the required wetland protection fencing; revegetation of all disturbed areas with appropriate native species, including areas where invasive and non-native plants were removed within and adjacent to the delineated wetland; and the installation of a permanent split-rail fence and educational and instructional signage to protect the remaining wetland habitat against impacts from humans, vehicles and pets as required in Special Condition One and Special Condition Eleven. The wetland enhancement plan shall include implementation of procedures to provide formal written notice to all occupant(s) and future occupants of the dwelling describing the wetland protection goals and objectives and statement that any activities, with the exception of restoration maintenance activities listed below, within the wetland are strictly prohibited. The written notice shall be a separate notice given to each occupant 18 years of age or older at the time of lease signing.
  - 2. A baseline assessment, including photographs, of the current physical and ecological condition of the onsite wetland boundaries delineated in the 1997 FLx report and the adjacent open space areas on site, including, a description and map of the delineated wetland showing the area and distribution of vegetation types, and a map showing the distribution and abundance of sensitive species.
  - 3. A description of the goals and objectives of the enhancement plan, including, as appropriate, topography, hydrology, vegetation types, sensitive species, and wildlife usage. Documentation of performance standards, which provide a mechanism for making adjustments to the mitigation site when it is determined, through monitoring, or other means that the restoration techniques are not working.
  - 4. A planting palette (seed mix and container plants), planting design, source of plant material, and plant installation. The planting palette shall be made up exclusively of native plants that are appropriate to the vernal wetland habitat and region and that are grown from seeds or vegetative materials obtained from local natural habitats so as to protect the genetic makeup of natural populations. Horticultural varieties shall not be used. The main plant communities that may be included in the plan are vernal pool, vernal swales or flats, and native

perennial grassland. Plantings shall be maintained in good growing condition throughout the life of the project and, whenever necessary, shall be replaced with new plant materials to ensure continued compliance with the revegetation requirements.

- 5. Sufficient technical detail on the enhancement activities including, at a minimum, a planting program including method and location of exotic species removal, timing of planting, plant locations and elevations on the baseline map, and maintenance timing and techniques.
- 6. A plan for documenting and reporting the physical and biological "as built" condition of the entire area south of the residential development and barrier railing, within 30 days of completion of the initial enhancement activities. The report shall describe the field implementation of the approved restoration program in narrative and photographs, and report any problems in the implementation and their resolution.
- 7. Provisions for on-going wetland area maintenance and/or management for the life of the proposed residential development. At a minimum, semi-annual maintenance and/or management activities shall include, as necessary, debris removal, periodic weeding of invasive and non-native vegetation and revegetation consistent with the approved enhancement plan. Onsite wetland maintenance and/or management activities shall occur within the onsite wetland boundaries delineated in the 1997 FLx report and the adjacent open space areas on the site within the required wetland protection fencing.
- 8. The Onsite Wetland Enhancement Plan shall specify long-term maintenance of the onsite wetland and adjacent onsite open space areas. The applicants shall hire a qualified resource specialist, with qualifications acceptable the Executive Director, to implement the ongoing wetland maintenance program required by this Condition. The applicants shall provide the resource specialist's qualifications, for the review and approval of the Executive Director, at least two weeks prior to the scheduled maintenance.
- **B.** Offsite Restoration Plan. The Offsite Restoration Plan shall include, at a minimum, the following information:
  - 1. Identification of off-site mitigation area(s) acceptable to the Executive Director with disturbed or degraded wetland habitat of equivalent type in the Goleta vicinity that shall be restored sufficient to provide mitigation of the long-term wetland impacts at a ratio of 2:1 for the 3,422 sq. ft. of vernal pool wetland habitat on Parcel 22. The total area of created or restored vernal pool wetland habitat required is 6,844 sq. ft. for Parcel 22 impacts.
  - 2. A baseline assessment, including photographs, of the current physical and ecological condition of the proposed restoration site, including, a wetland delineation conducted according to the definitions in the Coastal Act and the Commission's Regulations, a description and map showing the area and distribution of vegetation types, and a map showing the distribution and

abundance of sensitive species. Existing vegetation, wetlands, and sensitive species shall be depicted on a map that includes the footprint of the proposed restoration.

- 3. A description of the goals of the restoration plan, including, as appropriate, topography, hydrology, vegetation types, sensitive species, and wildlife usage. Documentation of performance standards, which provide a mechanism for making adjustments to the mitigation site when it is determined, through monitoring, or other means that the restoration techniques are not working.
- 4. Documentation of the necessary management and maintenance requirements, and provisions for timely remediation should the need arise.
- 5. A planting palette (seed mix and container plants), planting design, source of plant material, and plant installation. The planting palette shall be made up exclusively of native plants that are appropriate to the habitat and region and that are grown from seeds or vegetative materials obtained from local natural habitats so as to protect the genetic makeup of natural populations. Horticultural varieties shall not be used. Plantings shall be maintained in good growing condition throughout the life of the project and, whenever necessary, shall be replaced with new plant materials to ensure continued compliance with the revegetation requirements.
- 6. Sufficient technical detail on the restoration design including, at a minimum, a planting program including a description of planned site preparation, method and location of exotic species removal, timing of planting, plant locations and elevations on the baseline map, and maintenance timing and techniques.
- 7. A plan for documenting and reporting the physical and biological "as built" condition of the site within 30 days of completion of the initial restoration activities. The report shall describe the field implementation of the approved restoration program in narrative and photographs, and report any problems in the implementation and their resolution.
- 8. Documentation that the project will continue to function as a viable restored wetland site, as applicable, over the long term.
- 9. Documentation that the applicants have obtained all necessary rights from the property owner to access, use and maintain the off-site mitigation area(s) in compliance with all requirements of the restoration plan.

#### C. Monitoring

- 1. A Monitoring Program to monitor the Onsite Wetland Enhancement and Offsite Wetland Restoration. Said monitoring program shall set forth the guidelines, criteria and performance standards by which the success of the enhancement and restoration shall be determined. The monitoring programs shall include but not be limited to the following:
  - (a) Interim and Final Success Criteria. Interim and final success criteria shall include, as appropriate: species diversity, total ground cover of vegetation, vegetative cover of dominant species and definition of dominants, wildlife

- usage, hydrology, and presence and abundance of sensitive species or other individual "target" species.
- (b) Interim Monitoring Reports. The applicants shall submit, for the review and approval of the Executive Director, on an annual basis, for a period of five (5) years, a written monitoring report, prepared by a monitoring resource specialist indicating the progress and relative success or failure of the enhancement on the site. This report shall also include further recommendations and requirements for additional enhancement/ restoration activities in order for the project to meet the criteria and performance standards. This report shall also include photographs taken from predesignated sites (annotated to a copy of the site plans) indicating the progress of recovery at each of the sites. Each report shall be cumulative and shall summarize all previous results. Each report shall also include a "Performance Evaluation" section where information and results from the monitoring program are used to evaluate the status of the enhancement/restoration project in relation to the interim performance standards and final success criteria.
- (c) Final Report. At the end of the five-year period, a final detailed report on the restoration shall be submitted for the review and approval of the Executive Director. If this report indicates that the enhancement/ restoration project has, in part, or in whole, been unsuccessful, based on the performance standards specified in the restoration plan, the applicant(s) shall submit within 90 days a revised or supplemental restoration program to compensate for those portions of the original program which did not meet the approved success criteria. The revised or supplemental program shall be processed as an amendment to this permit.
- (d) Monitoring Period and Mid-Course Corrections. During the five-year monitoring period, all artificial inputs (e.g., irrigation, soil amendments, plantings) shall be removed except for the purposes of providing mid-course corrections or maintenance to insure the survival of the enhancement/restoration site. If these inputs are required beyond the first two years, then the monitoring program shall be extended for every additional year that such inputs are required, so that the success and sustainability of the enhancement/restoration is insured. The enhancement/restoration site shall not be considered successful until it is able to survive without artificial inputs.

#### D. Implementation

1. The Onsite Wetland Enhancement and Offsite Restoration activities shall be implemented by qualified biologists, ecologists, or resource specialists who are experienced in the field of restoration ecology within 60 days of receipt of the Certificate of Occupancy for the residence. The Executive Director may grant additional time for good cause. The monitoring plan shall be implemented immediately following the enhancement/restoration. The applicants shall provide

- the resource specialist's qualifications, for the review and approval of the Executive Director, at least two weeks prior to the start of such activities.
- 2. The Permittee shall undertake development in accordance with the final approved plans. Any proposed changes to the approved final plans shall be reported to the Executive Director. No changes to the approved final plans shall occur without a Coastal Commission approved amendment to the coastal development permit, unless the Executive Director determines that no amendment is legally required.

#### 6. Long-Term Wetland Management

- A. By acceptance of the permit, the applicants agree, on behalf of itself and all successors and assignees, to the following:
  - The split-rail fence, as shown in Exhibit 4, shall be installed prior to the start of construction and shall be maintained in good condition for the life of the project. The fences shall be repaired and/or replaced when necessary, in a manner that complies with the Conditions of CDP No. A-4-STB-04-054.
  - 2. No grass cutting shall be permitted within the delineated wetland areas except where required for wetland enhancement purposes and as approved in the Onsite Wetland Enhancement Plan.
  - 3. No disking for fire control shall occur in or adjacent to the wetlands on the property as identified in the 1997 FLx report.
  - 4. Mosquito abatement and/or other mosquito control activities shall not be conducted by anyone other than a public agency for health reasons. In such cases where a public agency determines that mosquito control is necessary for public health and safety reasons, non-chemical solutions such as mosquito fish or bacterium shall be considered as a first measure. This condition shall not be interpreted to prohibit personal mosquito traps placed outside of the wetlands in proximity to the residence.
  - Invasive plant species shall not be planted anywhere on the project site(s).
  - 6. Pesticides, herbicides, and/or rodenticides shall not be used within the delineated wetland as identified in the 1997 FLx report. Pesticides, herbicides, and/or rodenticides shall not be placed, stored, or used in a manner that would be dispersed into the delineated wetland as identified in the 1997 FLx report.
  - 7. Debris, waste, equipment or other materials shall not be placed or stored within the delineated wetland, nor placed or stored where they may be subject to dispersion to the delineated wetland as identified in the 1997 FLx report.
  - 8. No one shall enter the wetland area south of the residence except to carry out the Onsite Wetland Enhancement Plan required by Condition 5 of CDP No. A-4-STB-04-054 or to maintain, repair or replace the fences required by this Condition.

### 7. <u>Lighting Restriction</u>

- A. Outdoor night lighting allowed on the subject parcel is limited to the following:
  - 1. The minimum necessary to light walkways used for entry and exit to the structures, including parking areas on the site. This lighting shall be limited to fixtures that do not exceed two feet in height above finished grade, are directed downward and generate the same or less lumens equivalent to those generated by a 60 watt incandescent bulb, unless a greater number of lumens is authorized by the Executive Director.
  - 2. Security lighting attached to the residence and garage shall be controlled by motion detectors and is limited to same or less lumens equivalent to those generated by a 60 watt incandescent bulb.
  - 3. The minimum necessary to light the entry area to the driveway with the same or less lumens equivalent to those generated by a 60 watt incandescent bulb.
- B. No lighting around the perimeter of the site and no lighting for aesthetic purposes is allowed.

#### 8. Construction Monitoring

The applicants shall retain the services of a qualified biologist or environmental resources specialist with appropriate qualifications acceptable to the Executive Director to serve as the biological monitor. The applicants shall provide the biological monitor's qualifications for the review and approval of the Executive Director at least two (2) weeks prior to commencement of development. The applicants shall ensure that the biological monitor: (1) oversees the installation of the decks and boardwalks and splitrail wetland protection fence at the edge of the permitted construction zone, prior to any construction activities; and (2) is present during and observes all excavation, exterior construction such as framing and foundation placement, exterior paint/stucco application, and any grading activities to prevent intrusion into the delineated wetland habitat. If the biological monitor concludes that any activity has adversely impacted wetland habitat, on or adjacent to the site, the applicants shall cease work. In such event, the applicants shall notify the Executive Director within 24 hours of the biological monitor's conclusion that there has been an adverse impact. Project activities shall resume only upon written approval of the Executive Director. If significant impacts or damage occur to sensitive habitat or species, the applicants shall be required to mitigate such impacts and shall submit a revised, or supplemental program to adequately mitigate such impacts. The revised, or supplemental, program shall be submitted as an amendment to this coastal development permit.

### 9. <u>Drainage and Polluted Runoff Control Plan</u>

A. Prior to the issuance of the coastal development permit, the applicants shall submit for the review and approval of the Executive Director, two (2) sets of final drainage and runoff control plans, including supporting calculations. The plan shall be prepared by a licensed engineer and shall incorporate structural and non-structural Best Management Practices (BMPs) designed to control the volume, velocity, and

pollutant load of stormwater leaving the developed site. The plan shall be reviewed and approved by a qualified geotechnical engineer to ensure that the design does not represent a threat to the site stability or safety. The plan shall also be reviewed by the consulting biologist preparing the Onsite Wetland Enhancement Plan to ensure that redirection of drainage does not adversely impact on-site or adjacent wetlands. In addition to the specifications above, the plan shall be in substantial conformance with the following requirements:

- 1. Selected BMPs (or suites of BMPs) shall be designed to treat or filter the amount of stormwater runoff produced by all storms up to and including the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile, 24-hour runoff event for volume-based BMPs, and/or the 85th percentile, 1-hour runoff event, with an appropriate safety factor (i.e., 2 or greater), for flow-based BMPs.
- 2. Runoff shall be conveyed in a non-erosive manner.
- 3. Energy dissipating measures shall be installed at the terminus of outflow drains.
- 4. The plan shall include provisions for maintaining the drainage system, including structural BMPs, in a functional condition throughout the life of the approved development. Such maintenance shall include the following: (1) BMPs shall be inspected, cleaned and repaired when necessary prior to the onset of the storm season, no later than September 30<sup>th</sup> each year and (2) should any of the project's surface or subsurface drainage/filtration structures or other BMPs fail or result in increased erosion, the applicants/landowners or successor-in-interest shall be responsible for any necessary repairs to the drainage/filtration system or BMPs and restoration of the eroded area. Should repairs or restoration become necessary, prior to the commencement of such repair or restoration work, the applicants shall submit a repair and restoration plan to the Executive Director to determine if an amendment or new coastal development permit is required to authorize such work.
- 5. There shall be no net reduction in stormwater runoff to the on-site and adjacent wetland complex as delineated in the 1997 FLx report.
- 6. The permittee shall undertake development in accordance with the approved final plans. Any proposed changes to the approved final plans shall be reported to the Executive Director. No changes to the approved final plans shall occur without a Commission amendment to this coastal development permit unless the Executive Director determines that no amendment is legally required.

### 10. Landscaping and Interim Erosion Control Plans

Prior to the issuance of the coastal development permit, the applicants shall submit two (2) sets of landscape plans prepared by a licensed landscape architect or a qualified resource specialist and two (2) sets of interim erosion control plans, prepared by a qualified engineer or specialist, for review and approval by the Executive Director. The interim erosion control plans shall be reviewed and approved by a qualified geotechnical engineer to ensure that the design does not represent a threat to the site stability or safety. The plans shall incorporate the criteria set forth below. All development shall conform to the approved landscaping and erosion control plans:

### A. Landscaping Plan

- 1. All graded & disturbed areas between Del Playa Drive and the wetland on the subject site shall be planted and maintained for erosion control purposes within (60) days of receipt of the certificate of occupancy for the residence. To minimize the need for irrigation all landscaping shall consist of locally indigenous native/drought resistant plants. No plant species listed as problematic and/or invasive by the California Native Plant Society, the California Exotic Pest Plant Council, or by the State of California shall be employed or allowed to naturalize or persist on the site. No plant species listed as a 'noxious weed' by the State of California or the U.S. Federal Government shall be utilized or maintained within the property.
- 2. Such planting shall be adequate to provide 90 percent coverage within two (2) years, and this requirement shall apply to all disturbed soils;
- 3. Plantings will be maintained in good growing condition throughout the life of the project and, whenever necessary, shall be replaced with new plant materials to ensure continued compliance with applicable landscape requirements;
- 4. Rodenticides containing any anticoagulant compounds (including, but not limited to, Warfarin, Brodifacoum, Bromadiolone or Diphacinone) shall not be used.
- 5. The fencing type and location shall be illustrated on the landscape plan, consistent with Special Condition 1 and Exhibit 4.

The Permittee shall undertake development in accordance with the final approved 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 Coastal Commission - approved amendment to the coastal development permit, unless the Executive Director determines that no amendment is required.

#### **B. Interim Erosion Control Plan**

- 1. The plan shall delineate the areas to be disturbed by grading or construction activities and shall include any temporary access roads, staging areas, and stockpile areas. The natural areas on the sites shall be clearly delineated on the project site. Prior to any construction activities, the applicants shall install perimeter construction fencing between the development area and the wetland to represent the edge of the permitted construction zone. No construction activities, including staging or storage, shall occur within the on-site or adjacent wetland complex as identified in the 1997 FLx report.
- 2. The plan shall specify that grading shall take place only during the dry season (April 1 October 31). This period may be extended for a limited period of time if the situation warrants such a limited extension, if approved by the Executive Director. The applicants shall install or construct temporary sediment basins (including debris basins, desilting basins, or silt traps), temporary drains and swales, sand bag barriers, silt fencing, and shall stabilize any stockpiled fill with geofabric covers or other appropriate cover, install geotextiles or mats on all cut or fill slopes, and close and stabilize open trenches as soon as possible. These

erosion control measures shall be required on the project site prior to or concurrent with the initial grading operations and shall be maintained throughout the development process to minimize erosion and sediment from runoff waters during construction. All sediment should be retained on-site as approved in the final plans, unless removed to an appropriate, approved dumping location either outside of the coastal zone or within the coastal zone to a site permitted to receive fill.

- 3. The plan shall also include temporary erosion control measures should grading or site preparation cease for a period of more than thirty (30) days, including but not limited to: stabilization of all stockpiled fill and disturbed soils with geotextiles and/or mats, sand bag barriers, silt fencing; temporary drains and swales and sediment basins. Straw bales shall not be used. The plans shall also specify that all disturbed areas shall be seeded with native grass species and include the technical specifications for seeding the disturbed areas. These temporary erosion control measures shall be monitored and maintained until grading or construction operations resume.
- 4. Storm drain inlets shall be protected from sediment-laden waters by the use of inlet protection devices such as gravel bag barriers, filter fabric fences, block and gravel filters, and excavated inlet sediment traps.

### C. Monitoring

Five years from the date of the receipt of the Certificate of Occupancy for the residence the applicant shall submit for the review and approval of the Executive Director, a landscape monitoring report, prepared by a licensed Landscape Architect or qualified Resource Specialist, that certifies the on-site landscaping is in conformance with the landscape plan approved pursuant to this Special Condition. The monitoring report shall include photographic documentation of plant species and plant coverage.

If the landscape monitoring report indicates the landscaping is not in conformance with or has failed to meet the performance standards specified in the landscaping plan approved pursuant to this permit, the applicants, or successors in interest, shall submit a revised or supplemental landscape plan for the review and approval of the Executive Director. The revised landscaping plan must be prepared by a licensed Landscape Architect or a qualified Resource Specialist and shall specify measures to remediate those portions of the original plan that have failed or are not in conformance with the original approved plan.

#### 11. Signage Program

- A. Prior to issuance of the coastal development permit, the applicants shall submit two (2) sets of signage plans, for the review and approval of the Executive Director, indicating the location, size, design, and content of all signs to be installed. All signs shall be installed prior to the start of construction, concurrent with the installation of the split-rail wetland protection fence. Signage shall comply with the following:
  - A minimum of three signs shall be placed in conspicuous locations along the split-rail fence on the south and west property boundaries for Parcel 22, as shown in Exhibit 4.

- 2. The text of the signs shall notify residents and the public that the area contains a sensitive wetland habitat and that activities or entrance into the fenced area is prohibited.
- 3. All signs shall be maintained in good condition for the life of the development and, when necessary, shall be replaced with new signs that comply with the plans approved pursuant to this Condition.

### 12. Operational Responsibilities

- A. It shall be the applicants' responsibility to assure compliance with the following provisions during construction:
  - No construction materials, debris, or waste shall be placed or stored where it may be subject to erosion and dispersion; nor shall such materials be placed or stored within the on-site or adjacent wetland complex as identified in the 1997 FLx report.
  - 2. Any and all debris resulting from construction activities shall be removed from the site by close of the same day.
  - 3. Equipment shall not be operated or stored within the on-site or adjacent wetland complex as identified in the 1997 FLx report.
  - 4. During construction, washing of concrete trucks, paint, equipment, or similar activities shall occur only in areas where polluted water and materials can be contained for subsequent removal from the site. Wash water shall not be discharged to the storm drains, street, drainage ditches, creeks, or wetlands. Areas designated for washing functions shall be at least 100 feet from any storm drain, water body or sensitive biological resources. The location(s) of the washout area(s) shall be clearly noted at the construction site with signs. In addition, construction materials and waste such as paint, mortar, concrete slurry, fuels, etc. shall be stored, handled, and disposed of in a manner which prevents storm water contamination.
- B. During the life of the development, the garage or carports shall be kept clear and available for parking cars.

### 13. General Deed Restriction

Prior to the issuance of the coastal development permit, the applicants shall submit to the Executive Director for review and approval documentation demonstrating that the applicants have executed and recorded against the parcel(s) governed by this permit a deed restriction, in a form and content acceptable to the Executive Director: (1) indicating that, pursuant to this permit, the California Coastal Commission has authorized development on the subject property, subject to terms and conditions that restrict the use and enjoyment of that property; and (2) imposing the Special Conditions of this permit as covenants, conditions and restrictions on the use and enjoyment of the Property. The deed restriction shall include a legal description of the entire parcel or parcels governed by this permit. The deed restriction shall also indicate that, in the event of an extinguishment or termination of the deed restriction for any reason, the

terms and conditions of this permit shall continue to restrict the use and enjoyment of the subject property so long as either this permit or the development it authorizes, or any part, modification, or amendment thereof, remains in existence on or with respect to the subject property.

### 14. Conditions Imposed By Local Government

This action has no effect on conditions imposed by a local government pursuant to an authority other than the Coastal Act.

#### 15. Open Space Deed Restriction

- A. No development, as defined in Section 30106 of the Coastal Act, grazing, or agricultural activities shall occur in the Open Space Area as described and depicted in an Exhibit attached to the Notice of Intent to Issue Permit (NOI) that the Executive Director issues for this permit except for:
  - 1. Drainage and polluted runoff control activities pursuant to **Special Condition** Nine (9);
  - 2. Planting of native vegetation and other restoration activities, pursuant to **Special Condition Five (5)** or if approved by the Commission as an amendment to this coastal development permit or a new coastal development permit;
  - Construction and maintenance of public hiking trails, if approved by the Commission as an amendment to this coastal development permit or a new coastal development permit; and
  - 4. Existing easements for roads, trails, and utilities.
- B. Prior to the issuance by the Executive Director of the NOI for this permit, the applicants shall submit for the review and approval of the Executive Director, and upon such approval, for attachment as an Exhibit to the NOI, a formal legal description and graphic depiction, prepared by a licensed surveyor, of the portion of the subject property affected by this condition, as generally described on Exhibit 6a attached to the findings in support of approval of this permit.

#### 16. Required Approvals

By acceptance of this permit, the applicant agrees to obtain all other necessary State, Federal, or local permits that may be necessary for all aspects of the proposed project (including the California Department of Fish and Game, Regional Water Quality Control Board and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers). This shall specifically include authorization to construct any improvements within the Del Playa road right-of-way.

### B. SPECIAL CONDITIONS FOR CDP A-4-STB-06-055 (PARCEL 23)

(Note: These Special Conditions are applicable to Coastal Development Permit No. A-4-STB-06-055)

#### 1. Revised Plans

- A. Prior to issuance of the coastal development permit, the applicants shall submit, for the review and approval of the Executive Director, two (2) sets of final revised project plans. All plans must be drawn to scale with dimensions shown. The final revised project plans and project description shall reflect the following:
  - 1. Development shall be setback a minimum of five feet from the wetland boundaries (Exhibit 6) delineated in the FLx report dated May 1997 (as shown in Exhibit 7) with the following exceptions:
    - (a) A 3-ft. wide raised boardwalk may encroach within the five-foot wetland setback as specifically shown in Exhibit 6b of the June 29, 2007 Coastal Commission staff report on this property ("Staff Report").
    - (b) The wetland protection fence required by Subsection A.7 of this Special Condition may be located within or adjacent to the delineated wetland boundary as indicated in Exhibit 4 and Exhibit 6b of the Staff Report.
    - (c) Locally indigenous native landscaping may be planted within the five-foot setback as allowed in **Special Condition Ten**.
  - 2. Development, including but not limited to upper and lower story: residence, decks patios and walkways must be located within the approved maximum development footprint specifically shown in Exhibit 6b. The maximum development footprint eliminates the minimum 5-ft. side yard setbacks required under the 10-R-1 zone district, reduces the front yard setback from 20 ft. from the Del Playa Drive right-of-way to three feet, and establishes a five-foot setback from the delineated wetland as described in Subsection 1 of this Special Condition.
  - 3. There shall be no additional fencing on the subject parcel beyond the fencing specifically shown on Exhibit 4 of the Staff Report unless an amendment to Coastal Development Permit A-4-STB-06-055 is issued or a new coastal development permit is obtained.
  - 4. Upper story decks over the wetland shall be cantilevered only and shall not extend beyond the footprint of the ground floor decks and boardwalks.
  - 5. A 3-ft wide raised boardwalk shall be installed adjacent to the residence and carport/garage along the entire southern boundary of the development, as specifically shown in Exhibit 6b of the Staff Report. The approved boardwalk shall be configured in a manner to provide a non-obstructed access corridor between the east and west property boundaries along the south of the residence. The boardwalk shall include a continuous five-foot high barrier railing on the southernmost portion of the boardwalks, spanning from the western property boundary to the eastern property boundary. The barrier railing shall be sufficiently solid to hinder passage of humans and pets, and may consist, all or in part, of wood, wrought iron, frosted or partially-frosted plexiglass or other

- visually permeable barriers that are designed to prevent creation of a bird strike hazard. Clear glass or plexiglass shall not be installed. Gates shall not be installed which open from the residential development into the wetland. The 3-ft wide raised boardwalk and barrier railing shall be installed prior to occupancy.
- 6. The maximum height of development shall be 25 feet, consistent with the 10-R-1 zone district requirement. The design may include an optional open roof deck provided that all railings or other associated structures are within the maximum 25 ft. height limit from existing grade.
- 7. A permanent four-foot high split rail fence shall be installed to protect the onsite wetlands as specifically shown in Exhibit 4 of the Staff Report and described as follows:
  - (a) A permanent four-foot high split rail fence shall be installed along the boundary of the wetlands between the approved structures and the open space as shown in Exhibit 4 of the Staff Report.
  - (b) A permanent four-foot high split rail fence shall be installed along the east, west, and south property boundaries in one of two potential configurations, depending upon whether the development on adjoining Parcel 22 is constructed or in the process of construction by the time the Certificate of Occupancy is obtained for development on Parcel 23. If the development on Parcel 23 is constructed or in the process of construction, then the split rail fence shall be installed along the balance of the eastern property line south of the required barrier railing on Parcel 23, along the southern property line of Parcels 22 and 23, and on the balance of the western property line south of the barrier railing on Parcel 22, as indicated in Exhibit 4. If the development on Parcel 22 is not constructed, or in the process of construction, then the split rail fence shall be installed along the balance of the east and west property lines south of the required barrier railing on Parcel 23 and along the southern property line of Parcel 23 (Exhibit 4). When the Certificate of Occupancy is obtained for residences on both parcels, the split-rail fence, if constructed, shall be removed along the western property boundary on Parcel 23.
  - (c) All split-rail fencing shall be installed prior to occupancy.
  - (d) The fencing shall have signs posted, as described in **Special Condition Eleven**, to discourage entry into the wetland area.
  - (e) The minimum distance from ground level to the split-rail fence's first rung shall be 18 inches. Barbed-wire fencing or permanent chainlink fencing shall not be installed on the subject parcel.
  - (f) Gates shall not be installed.
- Landscaping and development within the adjacent road right-of-way shall not obstruct pedestrians and shall be consistent with the future provision of a sidewalk.
- B. The Permittee shall undertake development in accordance with the final approved plans. Any proposed changes to the approved final plans shall be reported to the

Executive Director. No changes to the approved final plans shall occur without a Coastal Commission - approved amendment to the coastal development permit, unless the Executive Director determines that no amendment is legally required.

### 2. Assumption of Risk

By acceptance of this permit, the applicants acknowledge and agree (i) that the site may be subject to hazards from liquefaction, storm waves, surges, erosion, landslide, and flooding; (ii) to assume the risks to the applicant and the property that is the subject of this permit of injury and damage from such hazards in connection with this permitted development; (iii) to unconditionally waive any claim of damage or liability against the Commission, its officers, agents, and employees for injury or damage from such hazards; and (iv) to indemnify and hold harmless the Commission, its officers, agents, and employees with respect to the Commission's approval of the project against any and all liability, claims, demands, damages, costs (including costs and fees incurred in defense of such claims), expenses, and amounts paid in settlement arising from any injury or damage due to such hazards.

#### 3. No Future Shoreline Protective Device

- A. By acceptance of the permit, the applicants/landowners agree, on behalf of itself and all successors and assignees, that no shoreline protective device(s) shall ever be constructed to protect the development approved pursuant to this coastal development permit including, but not limited to, the construction of the residence, garage, driveway/patios, decks, fencing, and any other future improvements in the event that the development is threatened with damage or destruction from waves, erosion, storm conditions, landslides, liquefaction, or any other natural hazards in the future. By acceptance of this permit, the applicants/landowners hereby waive, on behalf of itself and all successors and assigns, any rights to construct such devices that may exist under Public Resources Code Section 30235.
- B. By acceptance of this permit, the applicants/landowners further agree, on behalf of itself and all successors and assigns, that the landowner shall remove the development authorized by this permit including, but not limited to, the residence, garage, driveway/patios, decks, fencing if any government agency has ordered that the structures are not to be occupied due to any of the hazards identified above. In the event that portions of the development fall to the beach before they are removed, the landowner shall remove all recoverable debris associated with the development from the beach and ocean and lawfully dispose of the material in an approved disposal site. Such removal shall require a coastal development permit.

#### 4. Future Development Restriction

This permit is only for the development described in Coastal Development Permit No. A-4-STB-06-055. Pursuant to Title 14 California Code of Regulations Section 13250(b)(6), the exemptions otherwise provided in Public Resources Code Section 30610(a) shall not apply to any future development on any portion of the parcel. Accordingly, any future improvements to any portion of the property, including but not limited to the

residence, garage, decks, landscaping, and removal of vegetation or grading other than as provided for in the approved landscape plan prepared pursuant to Special Condition 10 or as provided in the approved onsite wetland enhancement plan prepared pursuant to Special Condition 5, shall require an amendment to Coastal Development Permit No. A-4-STB-06-055 from the Commission or shall require an additional coastal development permit from the Commission or from the applicable certified local government.

### 5. Wetland Mitigation

Prior to issuance of the coastal development permit, the applicants shall submit, for the review and approval of the Executive Director, an Onsite Wetland Enhancement Plan and an Offsite Restoration Plan subject to the following provisions. Said plans shall be prepared by a qualified biologist, ecologist, or resource specialist with experience in the field of restoration ecology, and with a background knowledge of vernal wetlands. The applicants shall provide the resource specialist's qualifications, for the review and approval of the Executive Director, prior to plan development. The Onsite Wetland Enhancement Plan and an Offsite Restoration Plan shall include, at a minimum, the following information:

- **A. Onsite Wetland Enhancement Plan.** The Onsite Wetland Enhancement Plan shall include, at a minimum, the following information:
  - The onsite wetland enhancement shall include, at a minimum, the removal of any and all invasive plant species on the site; the removal of all non-native, nonwetland indicator plants within the boundary of the delineated wetland (FLx. 1997) and the adjacent open space area(s) on-site within the required wetland protection fencing; revegetation of all disturbed areas with appropriate native species, including areas where invasive and non-native plants were removed within and adjacent to the delineated wetland; and the installation of a permanent split-rail fence and educational and instructional signage to protect the remaining wetland habitat against impacts from humans, vehicles and pets as required in Special Condition One and Special Condition Eleven. The wetland enhancement plan shall include implementation of procedures to provide formal written notice to all occupant(s) and future occupants of the dwelling describing the wetland protection goals and objectives and statement that any activities, with the exception of restoration maintenance activities listed below, within the wetland are strictly prohibited. The written notice shall be a separate notice given to each occupant 18 years of age or older at the time of lease signing.
  - 2. A baseline assessment, including photographs, of the current physical and ecological condition of the onsite wetland boundaries delineated in the 1997 FLx report and the adjacent open space areas on site, including, a description and map of the delineated wetland showing the area and distribution of vegetation types, and a map showing the distribution and abundance of sensitive species.

- 3. A description of the goals and objectives of the enhancement plan, including, as appropriate, topography, hydrology, vegetation types, sensitive species, and wildlife usage. Documentation of performance standards, which provide a mechanism for making adjustments to the mitigation site when it is determined, through monitoring, or other means that the restoration techniques are not working.
- 4. A planting palette (seed mix and container plants), planting design, source of plant material, and plant installation. The planting palette shall be made up exclusively of native plants that are appropriate to the vernal wetland habitat and region and that are grown from seeds or vegetative materials obtained from local natural habitats so as to protect the genetic makeup of natural populations. Horticultural varieties shall not be used. The main plant communities that may be included in the plan are vernal pool, vernal swales or flats, and native perennial grassland. Plantings shall be maintained in good growing condition throughout the life of the project and, whenever necessary, shall be replaced with new plant materials to ensure continued compliance with the revegetation requirements.
- 5. Sufficient technical detail on the enhancement activities including, at a minimum, a planting program including method and location of exotic species removal, timing of planting, plant locations and elevations on the baseline map, and maintenance timing and techniques.
- 6. A plan for documenting and reporting the physical and biological "as built" condition of the entire area south of the residential development and barrier railing, within 30 days of completion of the initial enhancement activities. The report shall describe the field implementation of the approved restoration program in narrative and photographs, and report any problems in the implementation and their resolution.
- 7. Provisions for on-going wetland area maintenance and/or management for the life of the proposed residential development. At a minimum, semi-annual maintenance and/or management activities shall include, as necessary, debris removal, periodic weeding of invasive and non-native vegetation and revegetation consistent with the approved enhancement plan. Onsite wetland maintenance and/or management activities shall occur within the onsite wetland boundaries delineated in the 1997 FLx report and the adjacent open space areas on the site within the required wetland protection fencing.
- 8. The Onsite Wetland Enhancement Plan shall specify long-term maintenance of the onsite wetland and adjacent onsite open space areas. The applicants shall hire a qualified resource specialist, with qualifications acceptable the Executive Director, to implement the ongoing wetland maintenance program required by this Condition. The applicants shall provide the resource specialist's qualifications, for the review and approval of the Executive Director, at least two weeks prior to the scheduled maintenance.

- **B.** Offsite Restoration Plan. The Offsite Restoration Plan shall include, at a minimum, the following information:
  - 1. Identification of –off-site mitigation area(s) acceptable to the Executive Director with disturbed or degraded wetland habitat of equivalent type in the Goleta vicinity that shall be restored sufficient to provide mitigation of the long-term wetland impacts at a ratio of 2:1 for the 2,690 sq. ft. of vernal pool wetland habitat on Parcel 23. The total area of created or restored vernal pool wetland habitat required is 5,380 sq. ft. for Parcel 23 impacts.
  - 2. A baseline assessment, including photographs, of the current physical and ecological condition of the proposed restoration site, including, a wetland delineation conducted according to the definitions in the Coastal Act and the Commission's Regulations, a description and map showing the area and distribution of vegetation types, and a map showing the distribution and abundance of sensitive species. Existing vegetation, wetlands, and sensitive species shall be depicted on a map that includes the footprint of the proposed restoration.
  - 3. A description of the goals of the restoration plan, including, as appropriate, topography, hydrology, vegetation types, sensitive species, and wildlife usage. Documentation of performance standards, which provide a mechanism for making adjustments to the mitigation site when it is determined, through monitoring, or other means that the restoration techniques are not working.
  - 4. Documentation of the necessary management and maintenance requirements, and provisions for timely remediation should the need arise.
  - 5. A planting palette (seed mix and container plants), planting design, source of plant material, and plant installation. The planting palette shall be made up exclusively of native plants that are appropriate to the habitat and region and that are grown from seeds or vegetative materials obtained from local natural habitats so as to protect the genetic makeup of natural populations. Horticultural varieties shall not be used. Plantings shall be maintained in good growing condition throughout the life of the project and, whenever necessary, shall be replaced with new plant materials to ensure continued compliance with the revegetation requirements.
  - 6. Sufficient technical detail on the restoration design including, at a minimum, a planting program including a description of planned site preparation, method and location of exotic species removal, timing of planting, plant locations and elevations on the baseline map, and maintenance timing and techniques.
  - 7. A plan for documenting and reporting the physical and biological "as built" condition of the site within 30 days of completion of the initial restoration activities. The report shall describe the field implementation of the approved restoration program in narrative and photographs, and report any problems in the implementation and their resolution.
  - 8. Documentation that the project will continue to function as a viable restored wetland site, as applicable, over the long term.

9. Documentation that the applicants have obtained all necessary rights from the property owner to access, use and maintain the off-site mitigation area(s) in compliance with all requirements of the restoration plan.

### C. Monitoring

- 1. A Monitoring Program to monitor the Onsite Wetland Enhancement and Offsite Wetland Restoration. Said monitoring program shall set forth the guidelines, criteria and performance standards by which the success of the enhancement and restoration shall be determined. The monitoring programs shall include but not be limited to the following:
  - (a) Interim and Final Success Criteria. Interim and final success criteria shall include, as appropriate: species diversity, total ground cover of vegetation, vegetative cover of dominant species and definition of dominants, wildlife usage, hydrology, and presence and abundance of sensitive species or other individual "target" species.
  - Interim Monitoring Reports. The applicants shall submit, for the review and (b) approval of the Executive Director, on an annual basis, for a period of five (5) years, a written monitoring report, prepared by a monitoring resource specialist indicating the progress and relative success or failure of the enhancement on the site. This report shall also include further recommendations and requirements for additional enhancement/ restoration activities in order for the project to meet the criteria and performance standards. This report shall also include photographs taken from predesignated sites (annotated to a copy of the site plans) indicating the progress of recovery at each of the sites. Each report shall be cumulative and shall summarize all previous results. Each report shall also include a "Performance Evaluation" section where information and results from the monitoring program are used to evaluate the status of the enhancement/restoration project in relation to the interim performance standards and final success criteria.
  - (c) Final Report. At the end of the five-year period, a final detailed report on the restoration shall be submitted for the review and approval of the Executive Director. If this report indicates that the enhancement/ restoration project has, in part, or in whole, been unsuccessful, based on the performance standards specified in the restoration plan, the applicant(s) shall submit within 90 days a revised or supplemental restoration program to compensate for those portions of the original program which did not meet the approved success criteria. The revised or supplemental program shall be processed as an amendment to this permit.
  - (d) Monitoring Period and Mid-Course Corrections. During the five-year monitoring period, all artificial inputs (e.g., irrigation, soil amendments, plantings) shall be removed except for the purposes of providing mid-course corrections or maintenance to insure the survival of the enhancement/restoration site. If these inputs are required beyond the first

two years, then the monitoring program shall be extended for every additional year that such inputs are required, so that the success and sustainability of the enhancement/restoration is insured. The enhancement/restoration site shall not be considered successful until it is able to survive without artificial inputs.

### D. Implementation

- 1. The Onsite Wetland Enhancement and Offsite Restoration activities shall be implemented by qualified biologists, ecologists, or resource specialists who are experienced in the field of restoration ecology within 60 days of receipt of the Certificate of Occupancy for the residence. The Executive Director may grant additional time for good cause. The monitoring plan shall be implemented immediately following the enhancement/restoration. The applicants shall provide the resource specialist's qualifications, for the review and approval of the Executive Director, at least two weeks prior to the start of such activities.
- 2. The Permittee shall undertake development in accordance with the final approved plans. Any proposed changes to the approved final plans shall be reported to the Executive Director. No changes to the approved final plans shall occur without a Coastal Commission approved amendment to the coastal development permit, unless the Executive Director determines that no amendment is legally required.

#### 6. Long-Term Wetland Management

- A. By acceptance of the permit, the applicants agree, on behalf of itself and all successors and assignees, to the following:
  - 1. The split-rail fence, as shown in Exhibit 4, shall be installed prior to the start of construction and shall be maintained in good condition for the life of the project. The fences shall be repaired and/or replaced when necessary, in a manner that complies with the Conditions of CDP No. A-4-STB-04-055.
  - 2. No grass cutting shall be permitted within the delineated wetland areas except where required for wetland enhancement purposes and as approved in the Onsite Wetland Enhancement Plan.
  - 3. No disking for fire control shall occur in or adjacent to the wetlands on the property as identified in the 1997 FLx report.
  - 4. Mosquito abatement and/or other mosquito control activities shall not be conducted by anyone other than a public agency for health reasons. In such cases where a public agency determines that mosquito control is necessary for public health and safety reasons, non-chemical solutions such as mosquito fish or bacterium shall be considered as a first measure. This condition shall not be interpreted to prohibit personal mosquito traps placed outside of the wetlands in proximity to the residence.
  - 5. Invasive plant species shall not be planted anywhere on the project site(s).

- 6. Pesticides, herbicides, and/or rodenticides shall not be used within the delineated wetland as identified in the 1997 FLx report. Pesticides, herbicides, and/or rodenticides shall not be placed, stored, or used in a manner that would be dispersed into the delineated wetland as identified in the 1997 FLx report.
- 7. Debris, waste, equipment or other materials shall not be placed or stored within the delineated wetland, nor placed or stored where they may be subject to dispersion to the delineated wetland as identified in the 1997 FLx report.
- 8. No one shall enter the wetland area south of the residence except to carry out the Onsite Wetland Enhancement Plan required by Condition 5 of CDP No. A-4-STB-04-055 or to maintain, repair or replace the fences required by this Condition.

### 7. <u>Lighting Restriction</u>

- A. Outdoor night lighting allowed on the subject parcel is limited to the following:
  - 1. The minimum necessary to light walkways used for entry and exit to the structures, including parking areas on the site. This lighting shall be limited to fixtures that do not exceed two feet in height above finished grade, are directed downward and generate the same or less lumens equivalent to those generated by a 60 watt incandescent bulb, unless a greater number of lumens is authorized by the Executive Director.
  - 2. Security lighting attached to the residence and garage shall be controlled by motion detectors and is limited to same or less lumens equivalent to those generated by a 60 watt incandescent bulb.
  - 3. The minimum necessary to light the entry area to the driveway with the same or less lumens equivalent to those generated by a 60 watt incandescent bulb.
- B. No lighting around the perimeter of the site and no lighting for aesthetic purposes is allowed.

### 8. Construction Monitoring

The applicants shall retain the services of a qualified biologist or environmental resources specialist with appropriate qualifications acceptable to the Executive Director to serve as the biological monitor. The applicants shall provide the biological monitor's qualifications for the review and approval of the Executive Director at least two (2) weeks prior to commencement of development. The applicants shall ensure that the biological monitor: (1) oversees the installation of the decks and boardwalks and split-rail wetland protection fence at the edge of the permitted construction zone, prior to any construction activities; and (2) is present during and observes all excavation, exterior construction such as framing and foundation placement, exterior paint/stucco application, and any grading activities to prevent intrusion into the delineated wetland habitat. If the biological monitor concludes that any activity has adversely impacted wetland habitat, on or adjacent to the site, the applicants shall cease work. In such event, the applicants shall notify the Executive Director within 24 hours of the biological monitor's conclusion that there has been an adverse impact. Project activities shall

resume only upon written approval of the Executive Director. If significant impacts or damage occur to sensitive habitat or species, the applicants shall be required to mitigate such impacts and shall submit a revised, or supplemental program to adequately mitigate such impacts. The revised, or supplemental, program shall be submitted as an amendment to this coastal development permit.

#### 9. Drainage and Polluted Runoff Control Plan

- A. Prior to the issuance of the coastal development permit, the applicants shall submit for the review and approval of the Executive Director, two (2) sets of final drainage and runoff control plans, including supporting calculations. The plan shall be prepared by a licensed engineer and shall incorporate structural and non-structural Best Management Practices (BMPs) designed to control the volume, velocity, and pollutant load of stormwater leaving the developed site. The plan shall be reviewed and approved by a qualified geotechnical engineer to ensure that the design does not represent a threat to the site stability or safety. The plan shall also be reviewed by the consulting biologist preparing the Onsite Wetland Enhancement Plan to ensure that redirection of drainage does not adversely impact on-site or adjacent wetlands. In addition to the specifications above, the plan shall be in substantial conformance with the following requirements:
  - Selected BMPs (or suites of BMPs) shall be designed to treat or filter the amount of stormwater runoff produced by all storms up to and including the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile, 24-hour runoff event for volume-based BMPs, and/or the 85th percentile, 1-hour runoff event, with an appropriate safety factor (i.e., 2 or greater), for flow-based BMPs.
  - 2. Runoff shall be conveyed in a non-erosive manner.
  - 3. Energy dissipating measures shall be installed at the terminus of outflow drains.
  - 4. The plan shall include provisions for maintaining the drainage system, including structural BMPs, in a functional condition throughout the life of the approved development. Such maintenance shall include the following: (1) BMPs shall be inspected, cleaned and repaired when necessary prior to the onset of the storm season, no later than September 30<sup>th</sup> each year and (2) should any of the project's surface or subsurface drainage/filtration structures or other BMPs fail or result in increased erosion, the applicants/landowners or successor-in-interest shall be responsible for any necessary repairs to the drainage/filtration system or BMPs and restoration of the eroded area. Should repairs or restoration become necessary, prior to the commencement of such repair or restoration work, the applicants shall submit a repair and restoration plan to the Executive Director to determine if an amendment or new coastal development permit is required to authorize such work.
  - 5. There shall be no net reduction in stormwater runoff to the on-site and adjacent wetland complex as delineated in the 1997 FLx report.
  - 6. The permittee shall undertake development in accordance with the approved final plans. Any proposed changes to the approved final plans shall be reported to the Executive Director. No changes to the approved final plans shall occur

without a Commission amendment to this coastal development permit unless the Executive Director determines that no amendment is legally required.

#### 10. Landscape and Interim Erosion Control Plans

Prior to the issuance of the coastal development permit, the applicants shall submit two (2) sets of landscape plans prepared by a licensed landscape architect or a qualified resource specialist and two (2) sets of interim erosion control plans, prepared by a qualified engineer or specialist, for review and approval by the Executive Director. The interim erosion control plans shall be reviewed and approved by a qualified geotechnical engineer to ensure that the design does not represent a threat to the site stability or safety. The plans shall incorporate the criteria set forth below. All development shall conform to the approved landscaping and erosion control plans:

### A. Landscaping Plan

- 1. All graded & disturbed areas between Del Playa Drive and the wetland on the subject site shall be planted and maintained for erosion control purposes within (60) days of receipt of the certificate of occupancy for the residence. To minimize the need for irrigation all landscaping shall consist of locally indigenous native/drought resistant plants. No plant species listed as problematic and/or invasive by the California Native Plant Society, the California Exotic Pest Plant Council, or by the State of California shall be employed or allowed to naturalize or persist on the site. No plant species listed as a 'noxious weed' by the State of California or the U.S. Federal Government shall be utilized or maintained within the property.
- 2. Such planting shall be adequate to provide 90 percent coverage within two (2) years, and this requirement shall apply to all disturbed soils;
- 3. Plantings will be maintained in good growing condition throughout the life of the project and, whenever necessary, shall be replaced with new plant materials to ensure continued compliance with applicable landscape requirements;
- 4. Rodenticides containing any anticoagulant compounds (including, but not limited to, Warfarin, Brodifacoum, Bromadiolone or Diphacinone) shall not be used.
- 5. The fencing type and location shall be illustrated on the landscape plan, consistent with Special Condition 1 and Exhibit 4.

The Permittee shall undertake development in accordance with the final approved 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 Coastal Commission - approved amendment to the coastal development permit, unless the Executive Director determines that no amendment is required.

#### **B. Interim Erosion Control Plan**

 The plan shall delineate the areas to be disturbed by grading or construction activities and shall include any temporary access roads, staging areas, and stockpile areas. The natural areas on the sites shall be clearly delineated on the

project site. Prior to any construction activities, the applicants shall install perimeter construction fencing between the development area and the wetland to represent the edge of the permitted construction zone. No construction activities, including staging or storage, shall occur within the on-site or adjacent wetland complex as identified in the 1997 FLx report.

- 2. The plan shall specify that grading shall take place only during the dry season (April 1 October 31). This period may be extended for a limited period of time if the situation warrants such a limited extension, if approved by the Executive Director. The applicants shall install or construct temporary sediment basins (including debris basins, desilting basins, or silt traps), temporary drains and swales, sand bag barriers, silt fencing, and shall stabilize any stockpiled fill with geofabric covers or other appropriate cover, install geotextiles or mats on all cut or fill slopes, and close and stabilize open trenches as soon as possible. These erosion control measures shall be required on the project site prior to or concurrent with the initial grading operations and shall be maintained throughout the development process to minimize erosion and sediment from runoff waters during construction. All sediment should be retained on-site as approved in the final plans, unless removed to an appropriate, approved dumping location either outside of the coastal zone or within the coastal zone to a site permitted to receive fill.
- 3. The plan shall also include temporary erosion control measures should grading or site preparation cease for a period of more than thirty (30) days, including but not limited to: stabilization of all stockpiled fill and disturbed soils with geotextiles and/or mats, sand bag barriers, silt fencing; temporary drains and swales and sediment basins. Straw bales shall not be used. The plans shall also specify that all disturbed areas shall be seeded with native grass species and include the technical specifications for seeding the disturbed areas. These temporary erosion control measures shall be monitored and maintained until grading or construction operations resume.
- 4. Storm drain inlets shall be protected from sediment-laden waters by the use of inlet protection devices such as gravel bag barriers, filter fabric fences, block and gravel filters, and excavated inlet sediment traps.

## C. Monitoring

Five years from the date of the receipt of the Certificate of Occupancy for the residence the applicant shall submit for the review and approval of the Executive Director, a landscape monitoring report, prepared by a licensed Landscape Architect or qualified Resource Specialist, that certifies the on-site landscaping is in conformance with the landscape plan approved pursuant to this Special Condition. The monitoring report shall include photographic documentation of plant species and plant coverage.

If the landscape monitoring report indicates the landscaping is not in conformance with or has failed to meet the performance standards specified in the landscaping plan approved pursuant to this permit, the applicant, or successors in interest, shall submit a revised or supplemental landscape plan for the review and approval of the Executive Director. The revised landscaping plan must be prepared by a licensed Landscape

Architect or a qualified Resource Specialist and shall specify measures to remediate those portions of the original plan that have failed or are not in conformance with the original approved plan.

### 11. Signage Program

- A. Prior to issuance of the coastal development permit, the applicants shall submit two (2) sets of signage plans, for the review and approval of the Executive Director, indicating the location, size, design, and content of all signs to be installed. All signs shall be installed prior to the start of construction, concurrent with the installation of the split-rail wetland protection fence. Signage shall comply with the following:
  - 1. A minimum of four signs shall be placed in conspicuous locations along the split-rail fence on the south and east property boundaries for Parcel 23, as shown in Exhibit 4.
  - 2. The text of the signs shall notify residents and the public that the area contains a sensitive wetland habitat and that activities or entrance into the fenced area is prohibited.
  - 3. All signs shall be maintained in good condition for the life of the development and, when necessary, shall be replaced with new signs that comply with the plans approved pursuant to this Condition.

## 12. Operational Responsibilities

- A. It shall be the applicants' responsibility to assure compliance with the following provisions during construction:
  - No construction materials, debris, or waste shall be placed or stored where it may be subject to erosion and dispersion; nor shall such materials be placed or stored within the on-site or adjacent wetland complex as identified in the 1997 FLx report.
  - 2. Any and all debris resulting from construction activities shall be removed from the site by close of the same day.
  - 3. Equipment shall not be operated or stored within the on-site or adjacent wetland complex as identified in the 1997 FLx report.
  - 4. During construction, washing of concrete trucks, paint, equipment, or similar activities shall occur only in areas where polluted water and materials can be contained for subsequent removal from the site. Wash water shall not be discharged to the storm drains, street, drainage ditches, creeks, or wetlands. Areas designated for washing functions shall be at least 100 feet from any storm drain, water body or sensitive biological resources. The location(s) of the washout area(s) shall be clearly noted at the construction site with signs. In addition, construction materials and waste such as paint, mortar, concrete slurry, fuels, etc. shall be stored, handled, and disposed of in a manner which prevents storm water contamination.

B. During the life of the development, the garage or carports shall be kept clear and available for parking cars.

### 13. General Deed Restriction

Prior to the issuance of the coastal development permit, the applicants shall submit to the Executive Director for review and approval documentation demonstrating that the applicants have executed and recorded against the parcel(s) governed by this permit a deed restriction, in a form and content acceptable to the Executive Director: (1) indicating that, pursuant to this permit, the California Coastal Commission has authorized development on the subject property, subject to terms and conditions that restrict the use and enjoyment of that property; and (2) imposing the Special Conditions of this permit as covenants, conditions and restrictions on the use and enjoyment of the Property. The deed restriction shall include a legal description of the entire parcel or parcels governed by this permit. The deed restriction shall also indicate that, in the event of an extinguishment or termination of the deed restriction for any reason, the terms and conditions of this permit shall continue to restrict the use and enjoyment of the subject property so long as either this permit or the development it authorizes, or any part, modification, or amendment thereof, remains in existence on or with respect to the subject property.

### 14. Conditions Imposed By Local Government

This action has no effect on conditions imposed by a local government pursuant to an authority other than the Coastal Act.

### 15. Open Space Deed Restriction

- A. No development, as defined in Section 30106 of the Coastal Act, grazing, or agricultural activities shall occur in the Open Space Area as described and depicted in an Exhibit attached to the Notice of Intent to Issue Permit (NOI) that the Executive Director issues for this permit except for:
  - 1. Drainage and polluted runoff control activities pursuant to **Special Condition Nine (9)**;
  - 2. Planting of native vegetation and other restoration activities, pursuant to **Special Condition Five (5)** or if approved by the Commission as an amendment to this coastal development permit or a new coastal development permit;
  - Construction and maintenance of public hiking trails, if approved by the Commission as an amendment to this coastal development permit or a new coastal development permit; and
  - 4. Existing easements for roads, trails, and utilities.
- B. Prior to the issuance by the Executive Director of the NOI for this permit, the applicants shall submit for the review and approval of the Executive Director, and upon such approval, for attachment as an Exhibit to the NOI, a formal legal

description and graphic depiction, prepared by a licensed surveyor, of the portion of the subject property affected by this condition, as generally described on Exhibit 6b attached to the findings in support of approval of this permit.

### 16. Required Approvals

By acceptance of this permit, the applicant agrees to obtain all other necessary State, Federal, or local permits that may be necessary for all aspects of the proposed project (including the California Department of Fish and Game, Regional Water Quality Control Board and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers). This shall specifically include authorization to construct any improvements within the Del Playa road right-of-way.

### V. FINDINGS AND DECLARATIONS

The Commission hereby finds and declares:

#### A. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

### February 19, 2007 Revised Plans

The applicants have submitted four iterations of plans since the January 12, 2005 hearing. The most recent plans submitted by the applicants, dated February 19, 2007 propose construction of three-level single-family residences on adjacent bluff top lots, with two-car parking on Lot 22 and three-car parking on Lot 23.

Specifically, on Parcel 22, the applicants propose construction of a three-level 1,798 sq. ft., maximum 28 ft. 10-inch high, single family residence with 419 sq. ft. garage and carport, and 1,256 sq. ft. of decks. The proposed project would result in ground coverage of 1,600 sq. ft., including the proposed residence; garage and carport; decks and patios. The development would include fill of the wetland to achieve an approximately 960 sq. ft. backyard area.

Specifically, on Parcel 23, the applicants propose construction of a three-level 1,998 sq. ft., maximum 28 ft. 10-inch high, single family residence with 610 sq. ft. garage-carport-laundry, and 1,121 sq. ft. of decks. The proposed project would result in ground coverage of 1,870 sq. ft., including the proposed residence; garage and carport; decks and patios. The development would include fill of the wetland to achieve an approximately 1,025 sq. ft. backyard area.

Two wetland mitigation sites are shown on the site plans, a 613 sq. ft. area is noted on Parcel 22 and a 416 sq. ft. area is noted on Parcel 23. Restoration activities, if any, have not been proposed in association with the designation of these two areas.

### Final County Approval Parcel 22

On Parcel 22, the County approved construction of a 1,012 sq. ft., two-story single-family dwelling with 400 sq. ft. carport. Due to a larger delineated wetland area on Parcel 22, the first floor development footprint would be 807 sq. ft., consisting of a maximum of 407 sq. ft. of habitable space and a 400 sq. ft. carport. The County restricted the second story to a maximum of 75% of the first floor area, or 605 sq. ft. This would allow for 1,012 sq. ft. of total habitable area. No first floor decks would be permitted. The development footprint would be located at the northern end of the parcel, entirely outside of the delineated wetland area. A front-yard and side yard setback variance would also be granted allowing the structure to be built with a 5-foot front yard setback, an eliminated western boundary setback, and a three-foot eastern side yard setback.

The foundation would be of raised floor construction with a minimum of 18" crawl space on caissons or piles. Grading is estimated at approximately 87 cubic yards of cut and 87 cubic yards of fill. Retaining walls of up to two feet in height would be installed according to building codes. Fencing approximately, but no higher than, six feet high would be installed at the east property line for the length of the dwelling. In addition, an approximately four-foot high split rail fence would be built on the balance of the property lines, in accordance with a wetland mitigation plan approved by the County. Two parking spaces would be provided within the attached carport. Water would be obtained from Goleta Water District and the residence would be connected to the Goleta West Sanitary District sewer system.

The Coastal Development Permit was approved subject to 22 project specific conditions (see Exhibit 9), including the following: conformance with final approved plans, construction timing and best management practices; location of development footprint and second story limitations; Board of Architectural Review approval; design standards such as building materials, landscaping plan, driveways, color, and fencing; exterior night lighting; offsite wetland mitigation; Onsite Wetland Protection Plan, requirement for caisson foundation; recordation of open space easement for the undeveloped remainder of the project parcel; long-term wetland protection measures; interim erosion control measures; permeable surfaces; runoff collection; water conservation; Revegetation and Restoration Plan for areas outside of the defined wetland/vernal pool complex; and fencing design for wildlife movement.

### Final County Approval Parcel 23

On Parcel 23, the County approved construction of a 1,220 sq. ft., two-story single-family dwelling with 400 sq. ft. carport. The first floor development footprint would be 926 sq. ft., consisting of 526 sq. ft. of habitable space and a 400 sq. ft. carport. The County restricted the second story to a maximum of 75% of the first floor area, or 694 sq. ft. This would allow for 1,220 sq. ft. of total habitable area. A first floor deck of approximately 216 sq. ft. would also be permitted. The development footprint would be located at the northern end of the parcel, entirely outside of the delineated wetland area. A front and western side yard setback variance would also be granted allowing the

structure to be built with a 12-foot front yard setback, a 2-foot western side yard setback, and a standard 5-foot eastern side yard setback. While the County's final approval reduced the first floor habitable area from the 800 sq. ft. (as approved by the Zoning Administrator), to 526 sq. ft., it added authorization for a 216 sq. ft. first story deck.

The foundation would be of raised floor construction with a minimum of 18" crawl space on caissons or piles. Grading is estimated at approximately 87 cubic yards of cut and 87 cubic yards of fill. Retaining walls of up to two feet in height would be installed according to building codes. Fencing approximately, but no higher than, six feet high would be installed at the east side property line for the length of the dwelling. In addition, an approximately four-foot high split rail fence would be built on the balance of the property lines, in accordance with a wetland mitigation plan approved by the County. Two parking spaces would be provided within the attached carport. Water would be obtained from Goleta Water District and the residence would be connected to the Goleta West Sanitary District sewer system.

The Coastal Development Permit was approved subject to 22 project specific conditions (see Exhibit 9), including the following: conformance with final approved plans, construction timing and best management practices; location of development footprint and second story limitations; Board of Architectural Review approval; design standards such as building materials, landscaping plan, driveways, color, and fencing; exterior night lighting; offsite wetland mitigation; Onsite Wetland Protection Plan, requirement for caisson foundation; recordation of open space easement for the undeveloped remainder of the project parcel; long-term wetland protection measures; interim erosion control measures; permeable surfaces; runoff collection; water conservation; Revegetation and Restoration Plan for areas outside of the defined wetland/vernal pool complex; and fencing design for wildlife movement.

### Board of Supervisors Appeal and Decision

The Board held hearings on the appeals and received evidence with respect to each appeal. After receiving public testimony, the Board directed staff to examine the feasibility of further restricting the development footprint on the parcels, avoiding encroachment of the delineated wetland entirely while allowing for more development flexibility in order to allow for economically feasible use of the properties. The results of the Board of Supervisor's hearings represent the final County action with a revised project as below:

## Projects Approved by Zoning Administrator

The project approved by the Zoning Administrator included a revised project that reduced the footprint of the development on each parcel by 100 sq. ft., achieved by reducing the size of the garage. The Zoning Administrator approval included approximately 400 sq. ft. garage and approximately 1,400 sq. ft. of habitable space (800 sq. ft. on the first floor and 600 sq. ft. on the second floor). Both development footprints approved by the Zoning Administrator would reduce impacts to wetland resources, with

Parcel 23 avoiding the delineated wetland altogether. As approved there would still be wetland fill on Parcel 22. The project included a side yard variance on Parcel 23 to permit design flexibility on that parcel, but without increasing the square footage of the development footprint or the maximum allowable square footage for the dwelling. The final development footprints for both parcels were to be determined in consultation with a County-approved biologist with expertise in wetland biology. This decision was appealed to the Board of Supervisors by Bruce Murdock; Edward Maguire; Rick and Janet Stich; and Chris & Kathryn Chase.

### Original Projects Proposed By Applicants

As originally proposed in their application to the County of Santa Barbara, the project included a two-story, 1,797 sq. ft. residence on each of two legal non-conforming lots located on the coastal bluff along Del Playa Drive in Isla Vista. Each residence would have an approximately 500 sq. ft. garage and 1,300 sq. ft. of habitable space (800 sq. ft. on the first floor and 500 sq. ft. on the second floor). Each dwelling would include an approximately 390 sq. ft. raised wood deck, and approximately 2,920 sq. ft. of the southern portion of each lot would remain undisturbed. The applicants requested a variance from the County for each structure to extend into the 20 foot front yard setback. Under this scenario, approximately 1,100 sq. ft. of wetland resources would be filled.

### **B. BACKGROUND**

The project sites are located on two adjacent blufftop properties on the south side of the 6800 Block of Del Playa Drive in Isla Vista, a community of unincorporated Santa Barbara County (Exhibits 1 and 2). Each lot is approximately 5,600 sq. ft., 40 ft. in width and 140 ft. in length. Both lots are zoned 10-R-1 (Single Family Residential 10,000 sq. ft. minimum lot size). The subject parcels are undeveloped, relatively flat and are covered with low-lying vegetation. Wetlands are present over most of the site(s) (Exhibit 3). The vernal wetlands have relatively flat topography with shallow depressions and low swales, and include native wetland vegetation.

Two public trails are adjacent to the sites: one running parallel to the easternmost project parcel (Parcel 23) from the street to the bluff top that connects to another trail that runs east-west along the bluff for some distance seaward of the subject parcels and extending beyond the subject parcels. Four parcels east and one parcel west of the subject sites are vacant open space parcels, also part of the vernal wetland complex, owned by either Isla Vista Recreation and Park District or the County of Santa Barbara.

The 75-year bluff setback required for the proposed development is approximately 42 feet. The County-approved footprint of each house would be setback approximately 94-105 feet from the property line nearest the ocean. That property line is approximately 47 feet from the bluff top for a total setback of 141-152 feet from the proposed structures to the bluff top. Recently, several nearby properties along Del Playa Drive suffered bluff failure and residential structures were determined to be uninhabitable (red-flagged) by the County forcing occupants to evacuate the structures.

On September 15, 2003 the Zoning Administrator approved the construction of two-story single-family residences on two adjacent parcels. The Zoning Administrator's action was appealed to the Board of Supervisors by four appellants. On February 24, 2004, the County Board of Supervisors approved two Coastal Development Permits and associated variances (01CDH-00000-00060, 01CDH-00000-00061, 02VAR-00000-00003, 02VAR-00000-00004) for the construction of two-story single-family residences on adjacent bluff top lots: construction of a 1,012 sq. ft. single-family dwelling & 400 sq. ft. carport on Parcel 22 and construction of a 1,220 sq. ft. single family dwelling, 400 sq. ft. carport, and 216 sq. ft. of first floor deck area on Parcel 23. Commission staff received the notice of final action for these projects on March 9, 2004. A 10 working day appeal period was set and notice provided beginning March 10, 2004 and extending to March 23, 2004.

An appeal of the County's action was filed by: (1) Commissioners Woolley and Wan on March 18, 2004; (2) Bruce Murdock on March 12, 2004; (3) Edward Maguire on March 18, 2004; (4) Rick and Janet Stich on March 22, 2004; and (5) Chris and Kathryn Chase on March 22, 2004, during the appeal period. The appeals are attached as Exhibit 11 to this report. Commission staff notified the County, the applicants, and all interested parties that were listed on the appeals and requested that the County provide its administrative record for the permit. The administrative record was received on March 19, 2004.

On April 15, 2004, the Commission found that the appellants' contentions raised substantial issue with regard to the consistency of the approved projects with the wetlands, environmentally sensitive habitat, water quality, and visual resources standards of the certified Local Coastal Program. The Commission further found that the Chase's appeal did not raise substantial issue because the appellant's contentions did not meet the grounds for an appeal of a CDP to the Commission.

#### C. HAZARDS AND SHORELINE PROCESSES

LCP Policy 1-1, incorporating Section 30235 of the Coastal Act states:

Revetments, breakwaters, groins, harbor channels, seawalls, cliff retaining walls, and other such construction that alters natural shoreline processes shall be permitted when required to serve coastal-dependent uses or to protect existing structures or public beaches in danger from erosion, and when designed to eliminate or mitigate adverse impacts on local shoreline sand supply. Existing marine structures causing water stagnation contributing to pollution problems and fish kills should be phased out or upgraded where feasible.

LCP Policy 1-1, incorporating Section 30253 of the Coastal Act states, in part, that new development shall:

- (1) Minimize risks to life and property in areas of high geologic, flood, and fire hazard.
- (2) Assure stability and structural integrity, and neither create nor contribute significantly to erosion, geologic instability, or destruction of the site or surrounding

area or in any way require the construction of protective devices that would substantially alter natural landforms along bluffs and cliffs.

### LCP Policy 3-1 states, in part:

Seawalls shall not be permitted unless the County has determined that there are no other less environmentally damaging alternatives reasonably available for protection of existing principal structures. The County prefers and encourages non-structural solutions to shoreline erosion problems, including beach replenishment, removal of endangered structures and prevention of land divisions on shorefront property subject to erosion; and, will seek solutions to shoreline hazards on a larger geographic basis than a single lot circumstance....

#### LCP Policy 3-4 states:

In areas of new development, above-ground structures shall be set back a sufficient distance from the bluff edge to be safe from the threat of bluff erosion for a minimum of 75 years, unless such a standard will make a lot unbuildable, in which case a standard of 50 years shall be used. The County shall determine the required setback. A geologic report shall be required by the County in order to make this determination. At a minimum, such geologic report shall be prepared in conformance with the Coastal Commission's adopted <u>Statewide Interpretive Guidelines</u> regarding "Geologic Stability of Blufftop Development". (See also Policy 4-5 regarding protection of visual resources.)

#### LCP Policy 3-5 states:

Within the required blufftop setback, drought-tolerant vegetation shall be maintained. Grading, as may be required to establish proper drainage or to install landscaping, and minor improvements, i.e., patios and fences that do not impact bluff stability, may be permitted. Surface water shall be directed away from the top of the bluff or be handled in a manner satisfactory to prevent damage to the bluff by surface and percolating water.

#### LCP Policy 3-6 states:

Development and activity of any kind beyond the required blufftop setback shall be constructed to insure that all surface and subsurface drainage shall not contribute to the erosion of the bluff face or the stability of the bluff itself.

### LCP Policy 3-7 states:

No development shall be permitted on the bluff face, except for engineered staircases or accessways to provide beach access, and pipelines for scientific research or coastal dependent industry. Drainpipes shall be allowed only where no other less environmentally damaging drain system is feasible and the drainpipes are designed and placed to minimize impacts to the bluff face, toe, and beach. Drainage devices extending over the bluff face shall not be permitted if the property can be drained away from the bluff face.

#### LCP Policy 3-8 states:

Applications for grading and building permits, and applications for subdivision shall be reviewed for adjacency to threats from, and impacts on geologic hazards arising from seismic events, tsunami runup, landslides, beach erosion, or other geologic hazards such as expansive soils and subsidence areas. In areas of known geologic

hazards, a geologic report shall be required. Mitigation measures shall be required where necessary.

### LCP Policy 3-14 states:

All development shall be designed to fit the site topography, soils, geology, hydrology, and any other existing conditions and be oriented so that grading and other site preparation is kept to an absolute minimum. Natural features, landforms, and native vegetation, such as trees, shall be preserved to the maximum extent feasible. Areas of the site which are not suited for development because of known soil, geologic, flood, erosion or other hazards shall remain in open space.

## LCP Policy 3-16 states:

Sediment basins (including debris basins, desilting basins, or silt traps) shall be installed on the project site in conjunction with the initial grading operations and maintained throughout the development process to remove sediment from runoff waters. All sediment shall be retained on site unless removed to an appropriate dumping location.

#### LCP Policy 3-17 states:

Temporary vegetation, seeding, mulching, or other suitable stabilization method shall be used to protect soils subject to erosion that have been disturbed during grading or development. All cut and fill slopes shall be stabilized immediately with planting of native grasses and shrubs, appropriate nonnative plants, or with accepted landscaping practices.

### LCP Policy 3-18 states:

Provisions shall be made to conduct surface water to storm drains or suitable watercourses to prevent erosion. Drainage devices shall be designed to accommodate increased runoff resulting from modified soil and surface conditions as a result of development. Water runoff shall be retained on-site whenever possible to facilitate groundwater recharge.

#### LCP Policy GEO-GV-3 of the Goleta Community Plan states:

Where feasible and where consistent with Local Coastal Plan Policies relocation of structures threatened by bluff retreat shall be required for development on existing legal parcels, rather than installation of coastal protection structures.

As stated above, Policy 3-8 of the LCP requires that all proposed development located in or adjacent to areas subject to geologic hazards or beach erosion shall be reviewed to determine any potential impacts of such development. In addition, Section 30253 of the Coastal Act, which has been included in the certified LCP as a guiding policy, requires that new development minimize risks to life and property in areas of high geologic or flood hazards and assure structural stability and integrity. LCP Policy 3-4 requires new development to be set back a sufficient distance from the bluff edge to be safe from the threat of bluff erosion for a minimum of 75 years. Furthermore, Policy 3-14 of the LCP requires development to preserve natural features, landforms to the maximum extent feasible. Policy 3-14 also states that those areas of the sites "which are not suited for development because of known soil, geologic, flood, erosion or other hazards shall remain in open space."

The proposed development in CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and A-4-STB-06-055 includes the construction of two single-family residences on two adjacent 5,600 sq. ft. blufftop lots. The subject parcels have a relatively flat topography with shallow depressions and low swales. The County's Initial Study (Santa Barbara County, No Date) indicated that the soils on the sites were sandy clay loams or clay loams present in the upper soil horizon above about 6 inches, and clay mostly occurred below that level. These soil conditions have lead to the relatively impermeable conditions at the site helping to form the wetland and vernal pool habitats. These clay soils are considered stable and relatively non-expansive.

### The Initial Study further states:

Because the project sites are on the coastal bluff, a sea cliff retreat setback line must be established. A setback retreat of 75 feet has been established as the standard. Based on a survey performed in 1926 when the property was subdivided, the general rate of retreat for the two subject parcels has been about 25-30 feet in the 70 years between 1926 and 1996 which is approximately 5 inches per year. For purposes of analysis, a conservative sea cliff retreat rate has been established at this site of 0.56 feet/year. A 75-year setback would be 42 feet.

The County-approved footprint of each house would be setback approximately 94-105 feet from the property line nearest the ocean. That property line is approximately 47 feet from the bluff top for a total setback of 141-152 feet from the proposed structures to the bluff top, well above the required 42 ft setback.

Though the proposed structures would be located a significant distance from the recognized 75-year bluff setback, the Commission recognizes that development, even as designed and constructed to incorporate all recommendations of qualified geotechnical engineers, may still involve the taking of some risk. Bluff top development, such as this, is inherently subject to risk due to the geologic instability of bluffs over time. When development in areas of identified hazards is proposed, the Commission considers the hazard associated with the project site and the potential cost to the public, as well as the individual's right to use the subject property.

Though the location of the proposed structures on the subject site may presently be feasible from a geologic point of view, it is not possible to completely predict what conditions the proposed residence may be subject to in the future. Because of the inherent risk due to the geologic instability of bluffs over time, further improvements such as protective structures, may eventually be deemed necessary to ensure stability in the future due to instability and erosion.

The proper application of the maximum feasible setback from the bluff edge is a primary means by which the construction of seawalls can be avoided for the protection of development on erodible bluff top slopes. Although no site-specific information regarding the geologic stability of the subject sites was submitted by the applicants, the Commission notes (based on available information in the "Hazards" section of the County's LCP and reports previously submitted for projects along this stretch of bluff in Isla Vista) that the proposed development is located in an area that has been historically

subject to an unusually high amount of natural hazards including severe beach erosion from storm waves and general bluff erosion.

Development located along the shoreline, such as the proposed project, is subject to inherent potential hazard from storm generated wave damage. The El Nino storms recorded in 1982-1983 caused high tides of over seven feet, which were combined with storm waves of up to 15 feet. The severity of the 1982-1983 El Nino storm events is often used to illustrate the extreme storm event potential of the California coast. The Commission notes that the Santa Barbara County coast has historically been subject to substantial damage as the result of storm and flood occurrences. In fact, for over 20 years, the County has administered a program of annual inspections and evaluations of bluff-top properties in Isla Vista due to the erosion rate of these bluffs and potential hazards posed to development situated on them and to members of the public using the beach below. As part of this program, the County has required that individual structures which are actually threatened by bluff erosion be either supported by caisson foundations, or cut-back or relocated away from the edge of the bluff-top, to avoid public safety hazards and extend the useful and safe life of the threatened structure. As of 1999, at least 28 structures had been modified to include caisson foundations and over six structures had been cut-back, relocated, or built with a 75-years bluff set-back. As previously described, several nearby properties along Del Playa Drive suffered bluff failure and structures were red-flagged by the County forcing occupants to evacuate.

In addition, due to the high rate of bluff erosion in Isla Vista, there was previously a permit approved by the County for the construction of a timber-pile seawall at the base of the coastal bluff fronting this unincorporated residential community of Isla Vista. Incidentally, although a majority of that project would have been situated seaward of the mean high tide line, which is generally located at the toe of the coastal bluff and would have, therefore, been located on state tidelands or public trust lands within the Coastal Commission's area of retained original permit jurisdiction under Section 30519(b) of the Coastal Act, no application was made to the Coastal Commission for the project. Although the County's approval of the permit was ultimately appealed to and then denied at the de novo review hearing in 1999 by the Commission, the timber seawall under that permit would have been comprised of four non-contiguous segments totaling approximately 2,200 linear feet, and would have extended seven feet above grade and seven feet below grade. Two of the eight ends of the four segments would have connected to existing seawalls. The seawall would have extended across all of the privately and publicly owned properties on the south (ocean) side of Del Playa Drive. This previously proposed seawall, which was not approved, was intended to reduce the rate of coastal bluff retreat caused by wave action at the base of the coastal bluff affecting approximately 114 residential units.

Thus, ample evidence exists that bluff top development located on the seaward side of Del Playa Drive in Isla Vista, including the project sites, is subject to an unusually high degree of risk due to storm waves and surges, high surf conditions, and erosion. As such, the Commission notes that any new development that is permitted on the subject sites must be designed and constructed in a manner that ensures geologic and structural stability and must minimize hazards consistent with Policy 3-1, 3-4, 3-5, 3-6,

3-7, 3-8, and 3-9 of the LCP and Section 30253 of the Coastal Act, which has been included in the certified LCP.

The County has submitted information supporting the adequacy of the bluff top setbacks required and implemented by the applicants for the proposed residences. Evidence submitted by the County to support the adequacy of an approximate 42 foot bluff top setback for the proposed residences is adequate to meet the requirement under LCP Policy 3-4 that structures be "set back a sufficient distance from the bluff edge to be safe from the threat of bluff erosion for a minimum of 75 years." Further, the standard set forth in LCP Policy 3-4 reduces the potential requirement for bluff stabilization measures or shoreline armoring to protect the bluff in the future and aids in reducing threats from geologic hazard, as required by LCP Policy 3-8 and Section 30253 of the Coastal Act, included in the certified LCP. The applicant has prepared revised plans, dated February 19, 2007, which situate the residences outside of the wetlands (see Section V.D) and increase the bluff setback. This serves as added protection against damage to the structures from future potential bluff failure. Conservative bluff setbacks are particularly warranted in this case given the history of recent bluff failures along Del Playa Drive.

However Section 30253 of the Coastal Act requires that new development minimize risk to life and property in areas of high geologic, flood, and fire hazard, and to assure stability and structural integrity. Coastal bluffs, such as the one located on the subject sites, are unique geomorphic features that are characteristically unstable. By nature, coastal bluffs are subject to erosion from sheet flow across the top of the bluff and from wave action at the base of the bluff. In addition, due to their geologic structure and soil composition, these bluffs are susceptible to surficial failure, especially with excessive water infiltration.

Notwithstanding the projects' consistency with the required setbacks and geologic policies of the County's LCP, the Commission nevertheless finds that coastal bluff erosion is a dynamic, long-term process and that no structure situated on a coastal bluff, particularly a bluff exposed to wave attack at the beach elevation, can be completely free of hazard. Therefore, the Commission finds it necessary to impose **Special Condition Two (2)** of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and A-4-STB-06-055, assumption of risk, to ensure that the applicants understand the hazards involved in undertaking development on parcels located along a bluff above a beach, and that the applicants agree on behalf of itself and all successors and assignees to assume the risk from such development and to indemnify the Commission, its employees, and agents from all liability associated with proceeding with such development despite such unmitigable hazards.

The Commission notes that while the location of the proposed structures on the subject sites may presently be feasible from a geologic point of view, in order to maintain these structures, further improvements such as concrete block walls and/or other protective structures, may eventually be necessary to ensure slope stability in the future due to instability and erosion. In the case of the proposed projects, the applicants do not propose the construction of any shoreline protective device to protect the proposed

development. However, many beaches and bluffs in Santa Barbara County have experienced extreme erosion and scour during severe storm events, such as the El Nino storms. It is not possible to completely predict what conditions the proposed residences and accessory development may be subject to in the future.

Though no shoreline protective device is proposed as part of this project, the Commission notes that the construction of a shoreline protective device or devices on the proposed project sites would result in potential adverse effects to coastal processes, shoreline sand supply, the public's beach ownership interests, and public access. First, changes in the shoreline profile, particularly changes in the slope of the profile, which result from reduced beach width, alter the usable area under public ownership. A beach that rests either temporarily or permanently at a steeper angle than under natural conditions will have less horizontal distance between the mean low water and mean high water lines. This reduces the actual area of public property available for public use. The second effect on access is through a progressive loss of sand, as shore material is not available to nourish the bar. The lack of an effective bar can allow such high wave energy on the shoreline that materials may be lost far offshore, where they are no longer available to nourish the beach. The effect of this on the public is, again, a loss of area between the mean high water line and the actual water. Third, shoreline protective devices, such as revetments and bulkheads, cumulatively affect public access by causing accelerated and increased erosion on adjacent public beaches. This effect may not become clear until such devices are constructed individually along a shoreline, eventually affecting the profile of a public beach. Fourth, if not sited landward in a location that insures that the revetment is only acted upon during severe storm events, beach scour during the winter season will be accelerated because there is less beach area to dissipate the wave' energy. Finally, revetments and bulkheads interfere directly with public access by their occupation of beach area that will not only be unavailable during high tide and severe storm events but also potentially throughout the winter season.

In addition, the Commission notes that LCP Policy 3-1 allows for the construction of a shoreline protective device when necessary to protect existing principal structures when there are no other less environmentally damaging alternatives reasonably available. The Commission further notes that the approval of a shoreline protective device to protect new residential development, such as the proposed projects, would not be required by Section 30235 of the Coastal Act, incorporated into the County's LCP. The construction of a shoreline protective device to protect a new residential development would conflict with Section 30253 of the Coastal Act, incorporated into the County's LCP, which states that new development shall neither create nor contribute to erosion or geologic instability of the project sites or surrounding area.

If seawalls or shoreline protection devices were erected on these sites, there would be a direct impact on lateral public beach access opportunities due to the progressive narrowing of the beach resulting from the presence of a seawall. One seawall (Norris/Murphy) constructed in Isla Vista in 1979 has already resulted in the narrowing and almost complete disappearance of the beach directly in front of the seawall, as erosion on either side of the seawall has caused the bluff up and downcoast from the

seawall to retreat, creating an artificial promontory which juts out into the active surfzone. As the Commission found in the appeal and de novo denial of a permit for another Isla Vista seawall, mentioned previously, and as stated in the reports submitted pursuant to that project, the western end of Isla Vista Beach is generally narrower than the eastern end, and currently there is limited access toward the western end during periods of high tide, particularly during the winter months when the sand beach exhibits a winter beach profile (i.e., lower and narrower accumulation of sand on the wave cut platform.) Furthermore, as noted above, the effects of the Norris/Murphy seawall provides confirmation of the effects of seawalls and shoreline protective devices on lateral public access in Isla Vista.

In approving the proposed development, the County did not condition the proposed development to avoid the construction of a seawall or shoreline protective device in the future should the proposed development become threatened by bluff erosion and retreat. As a result, in order to ensure that the proposed project is consistent with the policies of the County LCP, including Section 30235 and 30253 of the Coastal Act incorporated therein, and to ensure that the proposed project does not result in future adverse effects to coastal processes, **Special Condition Three (3)** of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and A-4-STB-06-055, in conjunction with **Special Condition Thirteen (13)** of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and A-4-STB-06-055 require the applicants to record a deed restriction that would prohibit the applicants, or future landowners, from constructing a shoreline or bluff protective device or devices for the purpose of protecting any of the development approved under these applications.

Additionally, the Commission finds that controlling and diverting run-off in a non-erosive manner from the proposed structures, impervious surfaces, and building pad will minimize erosion and add to the geologic stability of the project sites. To ensure that adequate drainage and erosion control are included in the proposed developments the Commission requires the applicants to submit drainage and interim erosion control plans certified by a consulting geotechnical engineer, as specified in **Special Conditions Nine (9) and Ten (10)** of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and A-4-STB-06-055 in compliance LCP Policy 3-18. Special Condition 9 requires the applicants to maintain a functional drainage system at the subject sites to insure that run-off from the project sites is diverted in a non-erosive manner to minimize erosion at the sites for the life of the proposed developments. Should the drainage system of the project sites fail at any time, the applicants will be responsible for any repairs or restoration of eroded areas as consistent with the terms of Special Condition 9.

Finally, future developments or improvements to the property have the potential to create significant adverse geologic hazards and impacts on these bluff top lots. As a result, it is necessary to ensure that future developments or improvements normally associated with a single family residence or accessory development, which might otherwise be exempt, be reviewed by the Commission and/or the County of Santa Barbara or applicable local government, for compliance with the geologic and site stability policies of the LCP. As a result, **Special Condition Four (4)** of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and A-4-STB-06-055 in combination with **Special Condition Thirteen (13)** of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and A-4-STB-06-055 requires a future improvements deed

restriction, to ensure that the Commission and/or County of Santa Barbara will have the opportunity to review future projects for compliance with the LCP and Coastal Act and to ensure that any proposal is designed to minimize geologic hazards and impacts and/or that appropriate mitigation measures are included in the project.

Therefore, for reasons set forth above, the Commission finds that the proposed development, as conditioned, is consistent with the requirements of the policies and zoning ordinances of the County's LCP and with Section 30253 of the Coastal Act, as included within the LCP as a guidance policy.

### D. ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE HABITAT AND WETLANDS

LCP Policy 1-1, incorporating 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.

### LCP Policy 1-1, incorporating Section 30233 of the Coastal Act states:

- (a) The diking, filling, or dredging of open coastal waters, wetlands, estuaries, and lakes shall be permitted in accordance with other applicable provisions of this division, where there is no feasible less environmentally damaging alternative, and where feasible mitigation measures have been provided to minimize adverse environmental effects, and shall be limited to the following:
- (I) New or expanded port, energy, and coastal-dependent industrial facilities, including commercial fishing facilities.
- (2) Maintaining existing, or restoring previously dredged, depths in existing navigational channels, turning basins, vessel berthing and mooring areas, and boat launching ramps.
- (3) In wetland areas only, entrance channels for new or expanded boating facilities; and in a degraded wetland, identified by the Department of Fish and Game pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 30411, for boating facilities if, in conjunction with such boating facilities, a substantial portion of the degraded wetland is restored and maintained as a biologically productive wetland. The size of the wetland area used for boating facilities, including berthing space, turning basins, necessary navigation channels, and any necessary support service facilities, shall not exceed 25 percent of the degraded wetland.
- (4) In open coastal waters, other than wetlands, including streams, estuaries, and lakes, new or expanded boating facilities and the placement of structural pilings for public recreational piers that provide public access and recreational opportunities.
- (5) Incidental public service purposes, including but not limited to, burying cables and pipes or inspection of piers and maintenance of existing intake and outfall lines.

- (6) Mineral extraction, including sand for restoring beaches, except in environmentally sensitive areas.
  - (7) Restoration purposes.
  - (8) Nature study, aquaculture, or similar resource dependent activities.
- (b) Dredging and spoils disposal shall be planned and carried out to avoid significant disruption to marine and wildlife habitats and water circulation. Dredge spoils suitable for beach replenishment should be transported for such purposes to appropriate beaches or into suitable long shore current systems.
- (c) In addition to the other provisions of this section, diking, filling, or dredging in existing estuaries and wetlands shall maintain or enhance the functional capacity of the wetland or estuary. Any alteration of coastal wetlands identified by the Department of Fish and Game, including, but not limited to, the 19 coastal wetlands identified in its report entitled, "Acquisition Priorities for the Coastal Wetlands of California", shall be limited to very minor incidental public facilities, restorative measures, nature study, commercial fishing facilities in Bodega Bay, and development in already developed parts of south San Diego Bay, if otherwise in accordance with this division.
- (d) Erosion control and flood control facilities constructed on water courses can impede the movement of sediment and nutrients which would otherwise be carried by storm runoff into coastal waters. To facilitate the continued delivery of these sediments to the littoral zone, whenever feasible, the material removed from these facilities may be placed at appropriate points on the shoreline in accordance with other applicable provisions of this division, where feasible mitigation measures have been provided to minimize adverse environmental effects. Aspects that shall be considered before issuing a coastal development permit for such purposes are the method of placement, time of year of placement, and sensitivity of the placement area.

### LCP Policy 1-1, incorporating Section 30240 of the Coastal Act states:

- (a) Environmentally sensitive habitat areas shall be protected against any significant disruption of habitat values, and only uses dependent on such resources shall be allowed within such areas.
- (b) Development in areas adjacent to environmentally sensitive habitat areas and parks and recreation areas shall be sited and designed to prevent impacts which would significantly degrade such areas, and shall be compatible with the continuance of such habitat areas.

#### LCP Policy 1-2 states:

Where policies within the land use plan overlap, the policy which is most protective of coastal resources shall take precedence.

#### LCP Policy 2-11 states:

All development, including agriculture, adjacent to areas designated on the land use plan or resource maps as environmentally sensitive habitat areas, shall be regulated to avoid adverse impacts on habitat resources. Regulatory measures include, but are not limited to, setbacks, buffer zones, grading controls, noise restrictions, maintenance of natural vegetation, and control of runoff.

#### LCP Policy 3-19 states:

Degradation of the water quality of groundwater basins, nearby streams, or wetlands shall not result from development of the site. Pollutants, such as chemicals, fuels, lubricants, raw sewage, and other harmful waste, shall not be discharged into or alongside coastal streams or wetlands either during or after construction.

#### LCP Policy 9-9 states:

A buffer strip, a minimum of 100 feet in width, shall be maintained in natural condition along the periphery of all wetlands. No permanent structures shall be permitted within the wetland or buffer area except structures of a minor nature, i.e., fences, or structures necessary to support the uses in Policy 9-10.

The upland limit of wetland shall be defined as: 1) the boundary between land with predominantly hydrophytic cover and land with predominantly mesophytic or xerophytic cover; or 2) the boundary between soil that is predominantly hydric and soil that is predominantly nonhydric; or 3) in the case of wetlands without vegetation or soils, the boundary between land that is flooded or saturated at some time during years of normal precipitation and land that is not.

Where feasible, the outer boundary of the wetland buffer zone should be established at prominent and essentially permanent topographic or manmade features (such as bluffs, roads, etc.). In no case, however, shall such a boundary be closer than 100 feet from the upland extent of the wetland area, nor provide for a lesser degree of environmental protection than that otherwise required by the plan. The boundary definition shall not be construed to prohibit public trails within 100 feet of a wetland.

### LCP Policy 9-10 states:

Light recreation such as bird-watching or nature study and scientific and educational uses shall be permitted with appropriate controls to prevent adverse impacts.

### LCP Policy 9-11 states:

Wastewater shall not be discharged into any wetland without a permit from the Regional Water Quality Control Board finding that such discharge improves the quality of the receiving water.

### LCP Policy 9-13 states:

No unauthorized vehicle traffic shall be permitted in wetlands and pedestrian traffic shall be regulated and incidental to the permitted uses.

### LCP Policy 9-14 states:

New development adjacent to or in close proximity to wetlands shall be compatible with the continuance of the habitat area and shall not result in a reduction in the biological productivity or water quality of the wetland due to runoff (carrying additional sediment or contaminants), noise, thermal pollution, or other disturbances.

### LCP Policy 9-19 states:

No mosquito control activity shall be carried out in vernal pools unless it is required to avoid severe nuisance.

### LCP Policy 9-20 states:

Grass cutting for fire prevention shall be conducted in such a manner as to protect vernal pools. No grass cutting shall be allowed within the vernal pool area or with a buffer zone of five feet or greater.

### LCP Policy 9-21 states:

Development shall be sited and designed to avoid vernal pool sites as depicted on the resource maps.

Section 30107.5 and Article II, Section 35-58 of the certified LCP state:

"Environmentally sensitive area" means any area in which plant or animal life or their habitats are either rare or especially valuable because of their special nature or role in an ecosystem and which could be easily disturbed or degraded by human activities and developments.

Sec. 35-53. Overlay District Designations and Applicability. (in relevant part)

...If any of the provisions of the overlay district conflict with provisions of the zoning district regulations, the provisions which are most restrictive shall govern... The provisions of the ESH Overlay District are more restrictive than any base zone district and therefore the provisions of the ESH shall govern over the regulations of any base zone or other overlay district.

Article II, Sec. 35-97.7, Conditions on Coastal Development Permits in ESH, states:

A coastal development permit may be issued subject to compliance with conditions set forth in the permit which are necessary to ensure protection of the habitat area(s). Such conditions may, among other matters, limit the size, kind, or character of the proposed work, require replacement of vegetation, establish required monitoring procedures and maintenance activity, stage the work over time, or require the alteration of the design of the development to ensure protection of the habitat. The conditions may also include deed restrictions and conservation and resource easements. Any regulation, except the permitted or conditionally permitted uses, of the base zone district may be altered in furtherance of the purpose of this overlay district by express condition in the permit.

Sec. 35-71.7. R-1 Single-Family Residential Setbacks for Buildings and Structures (*in relevant part*):

- 1. Front: Fifty (50) feet from the centerline and twenty (20) feet from the right-of-way line of any street...
- 2. Side: On each side of the lot, ten percent of the width of the lot except:
- a. for lots zoned 2-E-1 [minimum 2 acre] or less, in no case shall the required side yard be less than five (5) feet nor more than ten (10) feet...
- 3. Rear: Twenty-five (25) feet or fifteen (15) feet if the rear yard abuts a permanently dedicated open space or a street to which access has been denied as part of an approved subdivision or other approved development permit.

### LCP Policy BIO-GV-2 of the Goleta Community Plan states:

Environmentally Sensitive Habitat (ESH) areas and Riparian Corridors within the Goleta Planning Area shall be protected and, where feasible and appropriate, enhanced.

LCP Policy BIO-GV-3 of the Goleta Community Plan states:

Development within areas designated Environmentally Sensitive Habitat or Riparian Corridor shall comply with the applicable habitat protection policies.

The project sites are located on two adjacent blufftop properties between the first public road and the sea (Exhibits 1 and 2). Each lot is approximately 5,600 sq. ft., 40 ft. in width and 140 ft. in length. The subject parcels are undeveloped, relatively flat and are covered with low-lying vegetation. The project EIR notes that the parcels have been somewhat degraded by disturbances such as the presence of trails well-used by humans and domesticated animals, and deep tire ruts worn into the soil near Del Playa Drive. Two public trails are adjacent to the sites: one running parallel to the easternmost project parcel (Parcel 23) from the street to the bluff top, where it connects to another trail that runs east-west along the bluff seaward of the subject parcels and extending beyond the subject parcels.

Wetlands are present over most of the site (Exhibit 3). Four parcels east and one parcel west of the subject sites are vacant open space parcels, also part of the vernal wetland complex, owned by Isla Vista Recreation and Park District and the County of Santa Barbara. The certified zoning maps designate the subject area as Environmentally Sensitive Habitat (ESH). Under the certified LCP, wetlands and vernal pools are specifically identified as unique, rare, and fragile habitats and specific policies are included in the LCP to provide protection of these resources. The existence of a vernal pool in this area was previously identified on the Coastal Commission's Coastal Resources Environmentally Sensitive Area maps prepared in the mid-1970s and are also listed on the County's zoning overlay maps as an ESHA area.

A wetland delineation was conducted by FLx in 1997 on the subject parcels (Exhibit 3). The wetlands were delineated based on positive evidence of at least one indicator (i.e., hydrophytic vegetation, hydric soils, or wetland hydrology). On the project parcels, the 1997 delineation concluded that wetland coverage was 61% on Parcel 22 and 48% on Parcel 23. The wetlands were vernal swales and flats which were classified in the FLx report as palustrine emergent-nonpersistent seasonally-saturated vernal drainage swale wetlands. In addition to wetlands, the Final EIR for this project reports that several small patches of native perennial grassland dominated by purple needlegrass were recorded in the southern parts of Parcels 22 and 23.

There are competing assertions regarding the adequacy of the 1997 FLx wetland delineation, on behalf of the applicants as well as the appellants. The appellants assert that the wetlands are more extensive than indicated in the 1997 FLx delineation, and the applicants assert that the wetlands are in fact less extensive than delineated in the 1997 report. The applicants engaged a consultant and had a separate report prepared regarding the location of the wetlands. The applicants' survey, prepared by Rachel Tierney Consulting (2003), indicated a smaller wetland footprint on the subject parcels. However, the Tierney survey indicates in the methodology that the survey did not occur in the appropriate season to evaluate hydrology or vegetative indicators, and uses the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) methodology, rather than the test for determining presence of wetlands used by the Coastal Commission.

Testimony at County hearings presented by appellants Bruce Murdock & Ed Maguire included pictures and statements in support of their position that the extent of wetlands and vernal pools on the subject lots are more extensive than delineated by FLx. These appellants suggested that a new wetland delineation should be required. However, the FLx delineation already demonstrates that the entirety of the subject parcels fall within either delineated wetlands or buffer zones in which residential development would not be allowed under the LCP except when such approval would be necessary to avoid a taking. Thus, the County determined that the FLx report was sufficient in this case for the purposes of determining the extent of development that should be allowed to avoid a taking.

The Commission's biologist reviewed the FLx and Tierney reports and concluded that the wetland boundary established by FLx should be accepted (see Memo in Exhibit 10). The Commission's biologist concluded that the FLx wetland delineation appears accurate based on the available information. The FLx report properly utilized the U.S. FWS Cowardin Wetlands Classification System to delineate vernal and wetland habitat on the five subject properties. The FLx report identified wetlands based on evidence of hydrophytic vegetation, hydric soils and/or wetland hydrology on the project lots.

Therefore, for the reasons described above, the following discussion and analysis of onsite wetlands specifically refers to the 1997 FLx delineated wetlands, unless otherwise indicated.

As stated previously, the County's coastal development permits approved the construction of two-story, single-family residences a maximum of 25 feet in height. Approved development on Parcel 22 included construction of a 1,012 sq. ft. single-family dwelling & 400 sq. ft. carport. On Parcel 23, the approved development included construction of a 1,220 sq. ft. single-family dwelling, 400 sq. ft. carport, and 216 sq. ft. of first floor deck area. The County's approval allowed for development on Parcels 22 and 23 to be constructed as close as the edge of the delineated wetland, as discussed in the findings for the revised project (pg. A-22): "The revised project modifies the proposed mitigation to avoid encroachment of the delineated wetland areas on the site while providing design flexibility to allow for the construction of two single-family dwellings approximately 1,220 and 1,012 s.f. of habitable space on Parcels 23 and 22, respectively, with design standards subject to approval of the BAR.

### 1. "Takings"

In general, the LCP policies work together to require siting, design, and mitigation to protect wetland habitat. LCP Policies 2-11, 9-9, and 9-14; Coastal Act Sections 30231 and 30240, as incorporated by LCP Policy 1-1; and Zoning Ordinance Sections 35-97.7 and 35.53 require measures including siting the project with setbacks and buffers to prevent impacts that would degrade the ESHA and/or wetland resources. Specifically LCP Policy 9-9 requires a 100-foot buffer to be maintained in a natural condition along the periphery of all wetlands. It also prohibits permanent structures within the wetland or buffer except structures of a minor nature. As stated previously, the subject

development includes the construction of two residences on adjoining parcels. However, the project site is entirely within the required 100-foot wetland buffer. Therefore, application of LCP Policy 9-9, by itself, would require denial of the project because there would be no developable area on the site outside the 100-foot wetland buffer.

However, the Commission must also consider Coastal Act Section 30010, and the Supreme Court decision in Lucas v. South Carolina Coastal Council (1992) 505 U.S. 1003, 112 S.Ct. 2886. Section 30010 of the Coastal Act provides that the Coastal Act shall not be construed as authorizing the Commission to exercise its power to grant or deny a permit in a manner that will take private property for public use. Application of Section 30010 may overcome the presumption of denial in some instances. The subject of what government action results in a "taking" was addressed by the U.S. Supreme Court in Lucas v. South Carolina Coastal Council. In Lucas, the Court identified several factors that should be considered in determining whether a proposed government action would result in a taking. For instance, the Court held that where a permit applicant has demonstrated that he or she has a sufficient real property interest in the property to allow him or her to undertake the proposed project, and that project denial would deprive the owner/applicant of all economically viable use of the property. then denial of the project by a regulatory agency might result in a taking of the property for public use unless the proposed project would constitute a nuisance under State law. Other Supreme Court precedent establishes that another factor that should be considered is the extent to which a project denial would interfere with the property owner's reasonable investment-backed expectations regarding the development of the property.

The Commission interprets Coastal Act Section 30010, together with the *Lucas* decision, to mean that if Commission denial of the project would deprive an applicant of all reasonable economic use of his or her property, the Commission may be required to allow some development even where an LCP policy would otherwise prohibit it, unless the proposed project would constitute a nuisance under state law. In other words, certified LCP Policy 9-9 cannot be read to deny all economically beneficial or productive use of land because it cannot be interpreted to require the Commission to act in an unconstitutional manner.

In the subject case, the applicants purchased the properties in March, 1988, for \$30,000 each. The Land Use Plan and Coastal Zoning Ordinance designated the parcels as zoned for single-family residential use at the time the applicants acquired them. Del Playa Drive was partially developed at that time, with residences to the east and to the west of the project site. The certified LCP also identified ESHA on the parcels at the time the applicants acquired them. The applicants' parents and in-laws, John and Barbara Chase, had purchased one of the nearby vacant blufftop lots (Lot 27) on January 23, 1988. Before John and Barbara Chase purchased Lot 27, John Chase was aware of the presence of a vernal pool complex and discussed the implications of it with County planning staff. The County's Findings indicate that John Chase was the principal family member who followed local development issues and had a great familiarity with the area and the events occurring in Isla Vista and the County regarding real estate

development and that Chris and Kathryn Chase relied on the advice of John Chase before they purchased the subject parcels. John Chase had actual knowledge of the vernal pool overlay on and adjacent to the subject lots and the impediments to development the overlay imposed before Chris and Kathryn Chase acquired the subject parcels. The County findings also indicate that as a result of his discussions with County staff, John Chase understood that residential development on the vacant blufftop parcels containing the vernal pool complex would need to minimize the intrusion of structures into vernal pool areas and/or include measures to avoid any significant environmental damage.

The Commission finds that in this particular case, other allowable uses for the subject site, such as a public park, are not feasible and would not provide the owner an economic return on the investment. Each parcel is approximately 5,600 sq. ft. in size, and there are other similarly sized parcels with residential development located further to the east and west along the Del Playa Drive bluff top. The County determined that single family residences in the vicinity ranged from 1,300 to 2,100 sq. ft. Some of the neighboring parcels have been acquired by the Isla Vista Recreation and Park District. There is currently no offer from any public agency to purchase the subject property. The Commission thus concludes that in this particular case there is no viable alternative use for the site other than residential development. The Commission also finds that, when they purchased the subject parcels, Chris and Kathryn Chase reasonably expected that some residential development would be allowed, although it would need to be sited and designed to minimize impacts on the sensitive habitat on the parcels. The Commission finds, therefore, that outright denial of all residential use on the parcels would interfere with reasonable investment-backed expectations and deprive the property of all reasonable economic use.

While the applicant is entitled under Section 30010 to an assurance that the Commission will not construe or implement the Coastal Act in such a way as to take their property, this section does not authorize the Commission to avoid application of the policies of the LCP, including LCP Policy 9-9, altogether. Instead, the Commission is only directed to avoid construing these policies in a way that would take property. Aside from this instruction, the Commission is still otherwise directed to apply the requirements of the LCP. Therefore, in this situation, the Commission must still comply with the LCP Policy 9-9 as well as the other LCP wetland protection policies, by avoiding impacts that would disrupt and/or degrade wetlands, to the maximum extent that this can be achieved without taking the property.

The applicants submitted revised plans to staff, dated February 19, 2007 (Exhibit 5). The February 19, 2007 project plans propose a three-level 1,798 sq. ft., maximum 28 ft. 10-inch high, single family residence with 419 sq. ft. garage and carport, and 640 sq. ft. lower deck or patio, 430 sq. ft. raised upper deck, and 187 sq. ft. roof deck on Parcel 22. Parcel 22 development also includes fill of a wetland to create an approximately 960 sq. ft. backyard and 613 sq. ft. of onsite wetland mitigation. Additionally, the project plans, dated February 19, 2007, show an upper story deck that would extend over the northernmost portion of the wetland with support beams in and adjacent to the wetland on Parcel 22 (Exhibit 5).

The applicants' proposed project on Parcel 23, pursuant to the February 19, 2007 project plans (Exhibit 5), includes construction of a three-level 1,998 sq. ft., maximum 28 ft. 10-inch high, single family residence with 610 sq. ft. garage-carport-laundry, and 570 sq. ft. lower deck or patio, 392 sq. ft. raised upper deck, and 159 sq. ft. roof deck. Parcel 23 development also includes fill of a wetland to create an approximately 1,025 sq. ft. backyard and 416 sq. ft. of onsite wetland mitigation. Additionally, the project plans, dated February 19, 2007, show an upper story deck that would extend over the northernmost portion of the wetland with support beams in and adjacent to the wetland on Parcel 23 (Exhibit 5).

As discussed above, some development must be approved within the 100-foot wetland buffer in order to provide an economically viable use. Therefore, siting and design alternatives must be considered in order to identify the alternative that can avoid and minimize impacts to the wetland to the greatest extent feasible.

The design of any project on Parcel 22 or 23 is constrained by the location of the wetlands which cover a majority of each of the parcels. The northern extent of wetlands on Parcel 22 is particularly limiting with regard to designing a feasible configuration that would allow parking and habitable space on the ground floor. Staff has endeavored to reconcile the Coastal Act Section 30010 requirement to avoid taking of property, while protecting coastal resources to the maximum extent feasible. However, the applicants' February 19, 2007 configuration includes fill of the wetlands for the purpose of creating a backyard area. Section 30233, incorporated into the LCP, limits the fill of wetland to certain specific activities. Residential or backyard uses are not on this list. Moreover, there are alternative rear yard and deck configurations that would avoid this impact.

Because the residential development would be located two to five feet from the wetland, rather than the required 100-feet, there is a potential for human intrusion into the wetlands. Due to the location of residential structures at the edge of the wetland, the owners/occupants of the house would reasonably expect to access the rear of the structures for routine maintenance such as repainting, clearing of gutters, windows cleaning, etc. As a result, residential development on these sites could inadvertently result in the direct use of the wetland by residents to: access the bluffs/beach, utilize for recreation, and/or access for maintenance purposes.

The Commission finds, however, that there is a feasible alternative that would reduce the potential impacts to the wetlands as a result of routine maintenance activities or other residential use of the wetland, by defining the ground floor outdoor space through a continuous corridor of boardwalks and decks with an established barrier railing (Exhibit 6). The 3-ft wide boardwalk corridor and barrier measures are intended to establish a logical separation between the wetland and the residential development so that future owners or occupants would not intrude into the wetlands while accessing the rear yard boardwalk/deck areas. Therefore to avoid direct impacts to the wetlands as a result of the proximity of the proposed residential development, **Special Condition One** (1) of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055 requires the applicants to revise the project plans to include 3-ft wide raised boardwalks in a manner that would provide a non-

obstructed access corridor between the east and west property boundaries along the south of the residence. The boardwalks and decks must have a continuous five-foot high barrier railing on the southernmost portion of the decks/boardwalks, spanning from the western property boundary to the eastern property boundary. The barrier railing must be designed to hinder passage of humans and pets, and may consist, all or in part, of wood, wrought iron, frosted or partially-frosted plexiglass or other visually permeable barriers that are designed to prevent creation of a bird strike hazard. Clear glass or plexiglass shall not be installed. Gates shall not be installed which open from the residential development into the wetland.

Application of Special Condition One of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055 would modify the development footprint by allowing a portion of the raised boardwalk to be placed over a small portion of the wetland on Parcel 22. Staff considered alternatives on Parcel 22 that would setback the residence and 3-ft. wide boardwalk entirely outside of the wetland but determined that it would not provide a reasonable size or shape to the ground floor footprint. As mentioned previously, at the January 12, 2005 de novo hearing, Commissioners were concerned that the residence on Parcel 22 could not be designed within a first floor footprint of 772 sq. ft. in a configuration that would accommodate parking and a reasonable habitable space.

Though the application of the 3-ft wide boardwalk will allow for some intrusion into the wetland area, the benefit of having a physical boundary to delineate the usable lot area will have long-term benefits to the overall protection of the wetland area. As discussed above, the Commission must protect wetlands as required by the policies listed above to the maximum extent feasible while at the same time providing reasonable economic use of the property. The subject properties are zoned for residential use and the applicants have some expectation to pursue economically viable residential use of the parcels. However, given the substantial evidence of the applicants' knowledge of the applicable restrictions when they bought the property, further highlighted by the reduced price they paid for the property, they clearly did not have a reasonable expectation of anything more than the minimum economically viable use. The Commission finds that the maximum development footprint as defined in Special Condition 1 and shown in Exhibit 6 provides a reasonable use while protecting the wetlands to the maximum extent feasible.

The project plans, dated February 19, 2007, include construction of upper story decks that would extend over the northernmost portion of the wetland with support beams in and adjacent to the wetland on Parcel 22 and Parcel 23 (Exhibit 5). In addition to support beams located within the delineated wetland area, the decks would extend over portions of the wetland. The proximity of the upper level decks over the wetland would have potential adverse impacts as a result of household pollutants or runoff introduced directly into the wetland and/or human and equipment intrusion directly into the wetland in order to conduct routine maintenance. Additionally, the presence of structures over wetlands may have long-term adverse impacts due to shading of the wetlands and the resulting effects to soil moisture, hydrology, and vegetation. As a result of these impacts, the shaded areas beneath the deck are unlikely to contain the full range of habitat that would be expected in an area that is not impacted by shading. For these

reasons, **Special Condition One (1)** of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055 limits the upper story decks to extend only as far as the approved first floor decks/boardwalk.

The LCP-required setbacks on the subject parcels are: 20 feet from the street right-of-way; a minimum of 5 feet from the side of each lot; and 15 to 25 feet from the rear yard depending on whether the rear yard abuts a permanently dedicated open space or street. The certified LCP includes provisions for setback and height variances in Section 35-173 of the Coastal Zoning Ordinance.

In order to locate the development outside of the wetlands, the Commission is requiring **Special Condition One (1)** of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055 to redesign the project plans with a maximum development footprint for each parcel (Exhibit 6). The maximum development footprint as defined under Special Condition 1 allows for variances from front and side yard setbacks. Under the project sites' 10-R-1 zoning, structures can be designed up to a maximum height of 25 feet from existing grade. This 25 foot height LCP requirement would not be modified by the development envelope as defined in Special Condition 1. In this case, the Commission finds that variances to other required development standards such as street setbacks, are necessary in order to avoid or minimize impacts to sensitive resource areas, such as wetlands. By reducing the zoning setback requirements, the development can be sited farther from the wetland while allowing for reasonable economic use of the property.

Consistent with the need to ensure that the applicants receive reasonable economic use of their property while minimizing impacts to the sensitive resources on the property to the maximum extent feasible consistent with Section 30010 of the Coastal Act, the Commission finds that the proposed variances to the County's setback and height requirements are necessary. The Commission finds that to provide a reasonable economic use of the property and maximum feasible protection of wetlands, the front yard setbacks may be reduced to three feet on both parcels and the side yard setbacks may be eliminated. Staff notes that a three-foot front yard setback would still allow for a potential future sidewalk along Del Playa Drive.

In addition to the setback and height requirements, the LCP requires new single-family residences to provide off street parking for two cars. This is provided on these parcels by the garages and carports. However, approval of variances to reduce the front yard setbacks makes it infeasible to have an extended driveway, for additional parking purposes. If the garage or carport is used for storage, the residents will be forced to park on the street. Therefore to ensure that the projects will not have adverse impacts on the availability of parking for residents, guests, and visitors to the bluff top trail, the Commission requires the applicants to maintain the garage or carport clear and available for parking for two cars, as required by **Special Condition Twelve (12)** of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055.

Approval of a variance to eliminate the setback between the structures, allows the structures to more closely resemble a duplex. The LCP base zone district allows only one single-family dwelling per lot, and not duplexes. A duplex at this location might be

considered inconsistent with the "community character" of the single-family residential zone district.

However, as described above, there are special circumstances in this case which warrant invocation of the hierarchy LCP policies established by Section 35-53 of the Zoning Code. Strict application of visual and wetland protection policies would not allow for reasonable economic use. Where LCP policies conflict, the alternative that is most protective of coastal resources shall apply. Section 35-53 of the Zoning Code specifically assigns a higher priority to implement ESHA protection standards over other resources, such as visual resources. As detailed in Section E *Public Access and Visual Resources*, to avoid taking of private property while implementing the wetland protection policies of the LCP to the maximum extent feasible, the policies associated with visual resources (such as zone district setbacks) cannot be fully implemented.

Because the lots are zoned for one single family dwelling (SFD) per lot and, even with no setback between the structures, *only* one SFD would be permitted on each parcel, the Commission finds that the lack of a setback is limited to a community character issue and is not inconsistent with the requirements of the base zone district. Furthermore, the elimination of side yard setbacks between separately owned structures has been feasibly implemented under similar circumstances further downcoast on the Isla Vista blufftop. In December 2000, the County approved the construction of two single family residences on two adjacent 7,000 square foot bluff top lots on Del Playa Drive that are zoned for multiple residential (99-CDP-046 and 99-CDP-047). The County approved two structures that were each 25 feet in height and 2,093 square feet in size, with a 293 square foot attached garage. A side yard setback variance was granted for each structure, creating a zero side yard setback between the structures. Although the variances resulted in the appearance of a duplex development, the approved structures are two individual single-family residences on separate parcels.

Under the LCP, variances from the provisions of the LCP are allowed when exceptional conditions such as the size, shape, unusual topography, or other extraordinary situation or condition property would impose practical difficulties or would cause undue hardship unnecessary to carryout the intent and purpose of the zoning ordinance. In this case, there are exceptional conditions due to the large area of wetlands on the property. Further the Commission finds that the strict application of the LCP policies would deprive the property of single-family residential privileges, enjoyed by other property in the vicinity also zoned for single-family residential. The granting of the above-described variances will not constitute a grant of special privileges that are inconsistent with other properties in the vicinity and base zone district. The approved variances do not constitute a grant of special privilege because the total allowable development is roughly equivalent to other residential uses in the immediate vicinity, and the reduction of front setbacks and elimination of side yard setbacks are necessary to allow a reasonable economic use of the property. Further, the variances are not in conflict with the intent and purpose of the LCP because development must be sited and designed to avoid destruction of wetlands.

As explained above, the Commission finds that residential development as designed within the maximum development footprint (Exhibit 6) defined in Special Condition 1 would allow for reasonable economic use of the property while minimizing impacts to the wetlands to the extent feasible given the highly constrained nature of the parcel. The development footprint would allow for residential development similar to nearby single-family residential development, which according to the County's findings, "ranges from 1,300 to 2,100 square feet of living space."

### 2. Wetland Mitigation

The existing certified LCP provides LUP Policy 1-1 and Section 30240 of the Coastal Act as incorporated into the LCP; LUP Policies 1-2, 2-11; certified policies of the Goleta Valley Community Plan BIO-GV-2 and BIO-GV-3; and Zoning Ordinance Sections 35-97.7 which require development adjacent to sensitive resource areas, to be regulated to avoid adverse impacts on habitat resources, including application of measures such as setbacks, buffers, grading and water quality controls. Section 30240 of the Coastal Act requires that development adjacent to ESHA is sited and designed to prevent impacts that would significantly degrade ESHA and be compatible with the continuance of the habitat areas. Section 35-97.7 specifically sets forth the types of conditions that may be necessary to ensure protection of the habitat area(s). Such conditions may, among other matters, limit the size, kind, or character of the proposed work, require replacement of vegetation, establish required monitoring procedures and maintenance activity, stage the work over time, or require the alteration of the design of the development to ensure protection of the habitat. The conditions may also include deed restrictions and conservation and resource easements. Any regulation, except the permitted or conditionally permitted uses, of the base zone district may be altered in furtherance of the purpose of this overlay district by express condition in the permit. The Commission has determined that in conjunction with siting new development, additional actions can be taken to minimize adverse impacts to ESHA.

In the design and review of any new development, alternative projects must be identified and analyzed. If there is no feasible alternative that can avoid or eliminate all significant impacts to resources, then the alternative that results in the fewest or least significant impacts must be selected. Any impacts that cannot be avoided through the implementation of siting or design alternatives must be mitigated, with priority given to on-site mitigation. Off-site mitigation measures shall only be approved when it is not feasible to mitigate impacts on the project site. However, mitigation cannot be substituted for implementation of the project alternative that would avoid impacts to the resources, to the maximum extent feasible in this case.

As noted above, the LCP requires a 100-foot natural buffer area to setback development from wetlands. New residential development contributes to an increase in pollutants and/or adverse impacts from light, noise, thermal, and household-related chemicals, which may have direct adverse impacts to the health of the wetland and associated plant and animal species. Buffers move the source of disturbance away from sensitive areas to attenuate these effects. Additionally, providing a significant distance between new development and the wetland will provide a natural barrier from effects of

runoff, by allowing for infiltration of runoff, minimizing erosion and sedimentation. Furthermore, siting new development such that an adequate buffer is provided between the sensitive resource area and development ensures that removal or thinning of native vegetation for fuel modification is not necessary. Finally, natural vegetation buffers minimize the spread of invasive exotic vegetation that tends to supplant native species, from developed areas into sensitive resource areas. The presence of surface or subsurface water makes wetland areas especially susceptible to invasion by non-native species that can in many instances out compete native plants. Invasive plant species do not provide the same habitat values as natural riparian areas. Therefore, the inability to provide a buffer on the site is a significant adverse impact to the wetland resource.

The Commission has found in past actions that such minimum buffer standards are necessary to ensure the protection of environmentally sensitive resources, such as wetlands, and any subsequent reduction to the buffer may adversely impact resources. In this case, there would be no effective buffer between the residential development and the wetlands.

The project EIR reported the following potential impacts as a result of residential development on the subject parcels (page 31):

...the adjacent vernal pool could be indirectly affected by impacts to wetlands if sufficient plant numbers are lost and/or if drainage patterns are affected due to construction of the residential structures. Indirect impacts are also likely due to site development, not only from the long-term presence of the residential development but from the grading during site preparation. Grading and increased impermeable surfaces on the project parcels do have the potential to result in potentially significant impacts to the sensitive wetland habitat by altering the established drainage patterns that helped create the habitat. If soils were left exposed during the rainy season, additional erosion and offsite sedimentation could occur. In addition, the soils within the development footprint may need to be dried to conduct the foundation work which could lead to additional impacts. Because of the relatively small development footprint, the runoff and erosion created by the proposed development is expected to be minimal. However, because the development would occur within a wetland habitat, any changes in drainage patterns are considered a potentially significant impact (Class I) due to potential changes to the wetland which is hydrologically linked to the adjacent vernal pool.

The proposed residential development would also introduce permanent lighting, fencing, noise, human presence, and/or domestic animals as well as use of normal household paints and chemicals which could adversely impact the adjacent wetland without a sufficient buffer. The project EIR found that the project would considerably contribute to the cumulative significant impacts on biological resources of the Goleta Valley and specifically in the Isla Vista community due to the tremendous adverse pressure on the limited remaining wetland resources.

Therefore, to help offset the unavoidable impacts to wetland resources due to the proximity of the residential development, consistent with the LCP's wetland and ESHA protection policies, the Commission requires the applicants to submit an onsite wetland enhancement plan pursuant to **Special Condition Five (5)** of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055. The Onsite Wetland Enhancement Plan must be prepared by a qualified

biologist, ecologist, or resource specialist with experience, acceptable to the Executive Director, in the field of restoration ecology, and with a background knowledge of vernal wetlands. The Onsite Wetland Enhancement shall include, at a minimum, the removal of any and all invasive plant species on the site; the removal of non-native plants within the boundary of the delineated wetland (FLx, 1997) and the adjacent open space area(s) on-site; revegetation of disturbed areas with appropriate native species, including areas where invasive and non-native plants were removed; a program to provide formal written notice to the occupant(s) of the wetland protection goals and objectives and statement that any activities (with the exception of certain wetland maintenance activities implemented by approved personnel), within the wetland are strictly prohibited; and the installation of a permanent split-rail fence and educational and instructional signage to protect the remaining wetland habitat against impacts from humans as required in Special Condition One of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055.

Special Condition 5 of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055 requires the Onsite Wetland Enhancement Plan to include a baseline assessment of the resource, performance standards, and provisions for on-going wetland area maintenance/management for the life of the project. At a minimum, semi-annual maintenance/management activities shall include, as necessary, debris removal, periodic weeding of invasive and non-native vegetation, revegetation consistent with the approved enhancement plan, and inspection and necessary repairs to the required fencing and signage. Maintenance/management activities shall occur within the onsite wetland boundaries delineated in the 1997 FLx report and the adjacent open space areas on the site. The Enhancement Plan shall contain detailed information regarding the implementation of enhancement activities, such as timing, methods, and location of removal, planting and maintenance.

The Enhancement Plan shall designate qualified personnel to implement the maintenance/management activities. Prior to implementing the monitoring and management activities, the applicants must hire a qualified resource specialist to implement the wetland maintenance program. The applicants shall provide the resource specialist's qualifications, for the review and approval of the Executive Director, at least two weeks prior to scheduled maintenance.

Furthermore, **Special Condition Six (6)** of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055, outlines long-term maintenance/management responsibilities that would be implemented under the Enhancement Plan. No grass cutting shall be permitted within the delineated wetland areas except where required for wetland enhancement purposes and as approved in the Onsite Wetland Enhancement Plan. No disking for fire control or any other use shall occur in the wetland or buffer areas. Mosquito control shall not be conducted by anyone other than a public agency for health reasons. Invasive plant species shall not be planted anywhere on the project site(s).

Though the onsite enhancement activities will protect the wetland to the maximum extent feasible, the lack of a natural buffer, impact to existing hydrology, and impacts associated with human presence will have lasting cumulative effects on the wetland. As stated previously, given the site constraints, it is simply not feasible to approve

residential development that will avoid indirect impacts to wetlands. As a result, in addition to the restoration/enhancement of the onsite wetlands, the County also required the applicants to provide offsite wetland mitigation at a ratio of 2:1 for each square foot lost indirectly.

Therefore, the Commission finds that offsite mitigation is necessary to fully mitigate the impacts of the proposed residential development. Pursuant to **Special Condition Five** (5) of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055, the applicants shall provide mitigation through the creation or enhancement of an area of degraded wetland habitat at an off-site location in the Goleta vicinity that is of equivalent type and acreage to the area of habitat impacted by the development. The extent of wetlands on the subject parcels, as identified in the 1997 FLx report, is 6,112 sq. ft. The area(s) of disturbed or degraded wetland habitat shall be restored sufficient to provide mitigation of the long-term wetland impacts at a ratio of 2:1 for the 6,112 sq. ft. of vernal pool wetland habitat. The total area of created or restored vernal pool wetland habitat required is 12,224 sq. ft.

A restoration plan must be prepared by a biologist or qualified resource specialist and must provide performance standards, and provisions for maintenance and monitoring as detailed in Special Condition 5 of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055.

### 3. <u>Wetland Protection Measures</u>

LUP Policies 1-2, 2-11, 3-19, 9-9, 9-13, 9-14, 9-19, 9-20 and 9-21; certified Goleta Community Plan policies BIO-GV-2 and BIO-GV-3; and the certified Zoning Ordinance (Article II) Sections 35.53 and 35-97.7 regulate potential direct and indirect impacts to wetland, ESHA, and water quality. Where development is unavoidable in constrained areas, the siting and design of development should avoid, where feasible, and minimize individual and cumulative impacts to coastal resources. Coastal Act Section 240, incorporated by reference in LUP Policy 1-1 provides a framework for new development in areas adjacent to ESHAs to be sited and designed to prevent impacts which would degrade those areas.

As stated above, there will be no effective buffer between development and the wetland resource. Given the site constraints and the unavoidable proximity of the wetland, there is a potential for human intrusion into the wetlands. In this case, the project design does not adequately define the useable backyard area in order to ensure that encroachment into the adjacent wetland by residents is minimized. Due to the location of residential structures at the edge of the wetland, the owners/occupants of the house would reasonably expect to access the rear of the structures for routine maintenance such as repainting, clearing of gutters, windows cleaning, etc. Additionally, the lack of a setback encourages the use of the wetlands as a backyard since there would be no defined area where activities by residents and entry are excluded. As a result, the proposed development footprint, even when set outside of the wetland boundary, could inadvertently result in the direct use of the wetland by residents to: access the bluffs/beach, utilize for recreation, and/or access for maintenance purposes.

The Commission finds, however, that there is a feasible alternative that would reduce the potential impacts to the wetlands as a result of routine maintenance activities or other residential use of the wetland, by defining the ground floor outdoor space through a continuous corridor of boardwalks and decks with an established barrier railing (Exhibit 6). The 3-ft wide boardwalk corridor and barrier measures are intended to establish a logical separation between the wetland and the residential development so that future owners or occupants would not intrude into the wetlands while accessing the rear yard deck areas. Therefore to avoid direct loss of wetlands as a result of the proposed residential development, Special Condition One (1) of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055 requires the applicants to revise the January 3, 2006 project plans to include 3-ft wide, raised boardwalks to connect up to the proposed ground floor decks in a manner that would provide a non-obstructed access corridor between the east and west property boundaries along the south of the residence. The boardwalks and decks would be required to have a continuous five-foot high barrier railing on the southernmost portion of the decks/boardwalks, spanning from the western property boundary to the eastern property boundary. The barrier railing would be designed to hinder passage of humans and pets, and may consist, all or in part, of wood, wrought iron, frosted or partially-frosted plexiglass or other visually permeable barriers that are designed to prevent creation of a bird strike hazard. Clear glass or plexiglass would not be permitted. Gates would not be allowed to open from the residential development into the wetland.

The terms of the approval of this CDP shall be recorded as a deed restriction on each property as specified in **Special Condition Thirteen (13)** of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055. This shall ensure that the requirement for the 5-ft. barrier railing and wetland fencing is permanent. Furthermore, to ensure that the wetland area is not interpreted as an extension of the backyard or as parkland available for active recreational uses, Special Condition 1 of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055 requires the installation of a permanent split rail fence, maximum four feet in height, to be installed along the balance of the eastern property line south of the approved boardwalk/decks/barrier railing on Parcel 23, along the southern property line of Parcels 22 and 23, and on the balance of the western property line south of the boardwalk/decks/barrier railing on Parcel 22, as indicated in Exhibit 6. The split-rail fence shall be installed prior to occupancy to protect the remaining wetland habitat against impacts from construction activities. The minimum distance from ground level to the split-rail fence's first rung shall be 18 inches to allow for wildlife movement through the site.

Permanent signage, as required in **Special Condition Eleven (11)** of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055 shall be posted along the split-rail fence to inform the public about the sensitive wetland resource and the enhancement activities. Prior to issuance of the coastal development permit, the applicants shall submit signage plans, for the review and approval of the Executive Director, indicating the location, size, design, and content of all signs to be installed. All signs shall be installed prior to the start of construction, concurrent with the installation of the split-rail wetland protection fence. A minimum of four signs shall be placed in conspicuous locations along the split-rail fence, as shown in Exhibit 4. The language shall notify the public that the area contains a sensitive wetland habitat and that activities are prohibited within the fenced area.

Furthermore, in order to protect habitat values as required by Section 30240 of the Coastal Act, the Commission has found, in permit actions, that it is necessary to consider alternatives for siting and designing development in order to ensure that the alternative chosen is the one that minimizes impacts to ESHA. One such impact is the effect of artificial night lighting on wildlife. To address the impact of night lighting on the neighboring open space habitat, the Commission requires exterior night lighting to be minimized, shielded and directed away from the wetland and surrounding open space wherever lighting associated with development adjacent to these resources cannot be avoided pursuant to **Special Condition Seven (7)** of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055. Special Condition 7 of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055 requires exterior night lighting installed on the project site to be of low intensity, low glare design, and be hooded to direct light downward onto the subject parcel(s) and prevent spill-over onto adjacent parcels and any public open space areas, and into the wetland habitat. The only outdoor night lighting allowed on the subject parcel is limited to the minimum necessary to light walkways used for entry and exit to the structures, including parking areas on the site. Security lighting attached to the residence and garage shall be controlled by motion detectors. The applicants shall submit a lighting plan for the review and approval of the Executive Director, fulfilling the lighting requirements.

Additionally, construction related disturbances may undermine the habitat value of the wetland complex through improper storage or placement of materials or equipment or through improper release of debris, waste or chemicals. To address the potential adverse impacts during construction, the Commission finds it necessary to provide a framework of the property owner's responsibilities that would apply during the construction phase of the project as well as for the life of the project, as described in Special Condition Twelve (12) of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055. Special Condition 12 of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055 outlines the applicants' responsibilities including parameters for placement and storage of construction materials, debris, or waste to ensure that it will not be subject to erosion nor degrade wetland habitat. Special Condition 12 of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055 also requires that any and all debris resulting from construction activities shall be removed from the site on the same day. Equipment shall not be operated or stored south of the rear yard fencing. Additionally, during construction, washing of concrete trucks, paint, equipment, or similar activities shall occur only in areas where polluted water and materials can be contained for subsequent removal from the site. Wash water shall not be discharged to the storm drains, street, drainage ditches, creeks, or wetlands. Areas designated for washing functions shall be at least 100 feet from any storm drain, water body or sensitive biological resources. The location(s) of the washout area(s) shall be clearly noted at the construction site with signs. In addition, construction materials and waste such as paint, mortar, concrete slurry, fuels, etc. shall be stored, handled, and disposed of in a manner which prevents storm water contamination.

Furthermore, the Commission requires a construction monitor, pursuant to **Special Condition Eight (8)** of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055, in order to ensure that construction activities are carried out in a manner that will not diminish wetland values. The applicants shall retain the services of a qualified biologist or environmental

resources specialist with appropriate qualifications acceptable to the Executive Director to serve as the biological monitor. The biological monitor shall oversee the installation of the decks, patios, boardwalks and split-rail wetland protection fence at the edge of the permitted construction zone, prior to any construction activities. The biological monitor shall be present during excavation, exterior construction such as framing and foundation placement, or any grading activities to prevent intrusion into the delineated wetland habitat. The applicants shall cease work should any construction activities adversely impact wetland habitat, on or adjacent to the site(s). In such event, the biological monitor(s) shall direct the applicants to cease work and shall immediately notify the Executive Director. Project activities shall resume only upon written approval of the Executive Director. If significant impacts or damage occur to sensitive habitat or species, the applicants shall be required to submit a revised, or supplemental program to adequately mitigate such impacts. The revised, or supplemental, program shall be processed as an amendment to this coastal development permit.

LCP Policy 9-14 specifically states that "new development adjacent to or in close proximity to wetlands shall be compatible with the continuance of the habitat area and shall not result in a reduction in the biological productivity or water quality of the wetland due to runoff (carrying additional sediment or contaminants), noise, thermal pollution, or other disturbances."

The project EIR recognizes that the proposed development has the potential to adversely impact coastal water quality through the removal of native vegetation, increase of impervious surfaces, increase of runoff, erosion, and sedimentation, introduction of pollutants such as petroleum, cleaning products, pesticides, and other pollutant sources. The use of insecticides, herbicides, or any toxic chemical substances has the potential to significantly degrade ESH. The use of pesticides and/or herbicides by the County for mosquito abatement poses potential adverse effects to coastal waters. These impacts reduce the biological productivity and the quality of coastal waters. One of the long-term management responsibilities assigned by **Special Condition Six (6)** of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055 prohibits mosquito control except where a public agency determines that mosquito control is necessary for public health and safety reasons.

To ensure protection of water quality consistent with the certified LCP, **Special Condition Nine (9)** of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055 requires drainage and runoff control plans, prepared by a licensed engineer, that incorporates structural and non-structural Best Management Practices (BMPs) designed to control the volume, velocity, and pollutant load of stormwater leaving the developed site. The selected BMPs (or suites of BMPs) shall be designed to treat or filter stormwater from each runoff event, up to and including the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile. Additionally, the plans shall reflect that there shall be no net reduction in stormwater runoff to the on-site and adjacent wetland complex (as delineated in the 1997 FLx report). The plan shall be reviewed and approved by a qualified geotechnical engineer to ensure that the design does not represent a threat to the site stability or safety and the consulting biologist preparing the Onsite Wetland Enhancement Plan to ensure that redirection of drainage does not adversely impact onsite or adjacent wetlands.

Additionally, **Special Condition Twelve (12)** of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055 outlines the property owner's responsibilities, which includes special provisions for washing of concrete trucks, paint, equipment, or similar activities. Such activities shall occur only in areas where polluted water and materials can be contained for subsequent removal from the site. Wash water shall not be discharged to the storm drains, street, drainage ditches, creeks, or wetlands. Areas designated for washing functions shall be at least 100 feet from any storm drain, water body or sensitive biological resources. The location(s) of the washout area(s) shall be clearly noted at the construction site with signs. In addition, construction materials and waste such as paint, mortar, concrete slurry, fuels, etc. shall be stored, handled, and disposed of in a manner which prevents storm water contamination.

Furthermore, interim erosion control measure implemented during construction will serve to minimize the potential for adverse impacts to wetlands resulting from drainage runoff during construction and in the post-development stage. Therefore, the Commission finds that **Special Condition Ten (10)** of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055 is necessary to ensure the proposed development will not adversely impact water quality or coastal resources, consistent with the County's LCP.

The Commission also finds that the amount and location of any new development that may be proposed in the future on the subject site is significantly limited by the unique nature of the site and the environmental constraints discussed above. Therefore, to ensure that any future structures, additions, change in landscaping or intensity of use at the project site, that may otherwise be exempt from coastal permit requirements, are reviewed by the Commission for consistency with the resource protection policies of the Coastal Act, **Special Condition Four (4)** of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055, the future development restriction, has been required.

The adverse impacts from the construction of new development on lots containing wetland habitat is substantial. As discussed above, these impacts can be reduced by considering project design alternatives and mitigation measures, but they cannot be completely avoided. However, the Commission can only find that this project alternative minimizes wetland impacts if the remaining wetland habitat on the site is preserved to the extent possible. The most effective way to protect the remaining wetlands on site is through an open space restriction that prohibits development on the remainder of the site now and in the future. Therefore, to ensure that the onsite wetland area is permanently protected to the maximum extent feasible, Special Condition Fifteen (15) of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055 requires that no future development occur within the boundaries of the open space / wetland area, illustrated in Exhibit 6, except for approved: drainage and polluted runoff control activities; planting of native vegetation and restoration activities; public trails; and existing easements for roads, trails and utilities. Special Condition Thirteen (13) of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055 requires the applicant to record a deed restriction that imposes the terms and conditions of this permit as restrictions on use and enjoyment of the property and provides any prospective purchaser of the site with recorded notice that the restrictions are imposed on the subject property.

Therefore, as described above, the Commission finds that to allow reasonable economic use of property consistent with Section 30010 of the Coastal Act, there will be significant and unavoidable impacts to wetlands. The Commission further finds that as conditioned, the proposed residential development is the minimum necessary to avoid a taking and that the impacts to wetlands that cannot be avoided, are mitigated to the maximum extent feasible.

### E. PUBLIC ACCESS AND VISUAL RESOURCES

#### Section 30210 Coastal Act states:

In carrying out the requirements of Section 4 of Article X of the California constitution, maximum access, which shall be conspicuously posted, and recreational opportunities shall be provided for all the people consistent with public safety needs and the need to protect public rights, rights of private property owners, and natural resource areas from overuse.

#### Section 30211 states:

Development shall not interfere with the public's right of access to the sea where acquired through use or legislative authorization, including, but not limited to, the use of dry sand and rocky coastal beaches to the first line of terrestrial vegetation.

### LCP Policy 1-1, incorporating Section 30251 of the Coastal Act states:

The scenic and visual qualities of coastal areas shall be considered and protected as a resource of public importance. Permitted development shall be sited and designed to protect views to and along the ocean and scenic coastal areas, to minimize the alteration of natural land forms, to be visually compatible with the character of surrounding areas, and, where feasible, to restore and enhance visual quality in visually degraded areas. New development in highly scenic areas such as those designated in the California Coastline Preservation and Recreation Plan prepared by the Department of Parks and Recreation and by local government shall be subordinate to the character of its setting.

## LCP Policy 1-2 states:

Where policies within the land use plan overlap, the policy which is most protective of coastal resources shall take precedence.

### LCP Policy 3-14 states:

All development shall be designed to fit the site topography, soils, geology, hydrology, and any other existing conditions and be oriented so that grading and other site preparation is kept to an absolute minimum. Natural features, landforms, and native vegetation, such as trees, shall be preserved to the maximum extent feasible. Areas of the site which are not suited for development because of known soil, geologic, flood, erosion or other hazards shall remain in open space.

#### LCP Policy 4-4 states:

In areas designated as urban on the land use plan maps, and in designated rural neighborhoods, new structures shall be in conformance with the scale and character of the existing community. Clustered development, varied circulation patterns, and diverse housing types shall be encouraged.

## LCP Policy 4-5 states:

In addition to that required for safety (see Policy 3-4), further bluff setbacks may be required for oceanfront structures to minimize or avoid impacts on public views from the beach. Blufftop structures shall be set back from the bluff edge sufficiently far to insure that the structure does not infringe on views from the beach except in areas where existing structures on both sides of the proposed structure already impact public views from the beach. In such cases, the new structure shall be located no closer to the bluff's edge than the adjacent structures.

## LCP Policy 7-1 states, in part:

The County shall take all necessary steps to protect and defend the public's constitutionally guaranteed rights of access to and along the shoreline....

Sec. 35-53. Overlay District Designations and Applicability. (in relevant part):

...If any of the provisions of the overlay district conflict with provisions of the zoning district regulations, the provisions which are most restrictive shall govern... The provisions of the ESH Overlay District are more restrictive than any base zone district and therefore the provisions of the ESH shall govern over the regulations of any base zone or other overlay district.

Sec. 35-71.7. R-1 Single-Family Residential Setbacks for Buildings and Structures(*in relevant part*):

- 1. Front: Fifty (50) feet from the centerline and twenty (20) feet from the right-of-way line of any street...
- 2. Side: On each side of the lot, ten percent of the width of the lot except:
- a. for lots zoned 2-E-1 [minimum 2 acre] or less, in no case shall the required side yard be less than five (5) feet nor more than ten (10) feet...
- 3. Rear: Twenty-five (25) feet or fifteen (15) feet if the rear yard abuts a permanently dedicated open space or a street to which access has been denied as part of an approved subdivision or other approved development permit.

The project sites are located on two adjacent blufftop properties between the first public road and the sea (Exhibits 1 and 2). Each lot is approximately 5,600 sq. ft., 40 ft. in width and 140 ft. in length. The subject parcels are undeveloped, relatively flat and are covered with low-lying vegetation. Wetlands are present over most of the site (Exhibit 3). Two public access easements are adjacent to the sites: one County easement running parallel to the easternmost project parcel to the bluff top where another easement runs east-west for some distance extending onto and beyond the subject parcels. Four parcels east and one parcel west of the subject sites are vacant open space parcels, also part of the vernal wetland complex, owned by Isla Vista Recreation and Park District and the County of Santa Barbara. Nearby single family residential development "ranges from 1,300 to 2,100 square feet of living space" (County Board of Sups. Findings).

The Final EIR (September 2003) for the project reports that: "no organized activities are known to occur on the parcels, but there is ample evidence of regular human (and domestic wildlife) use of the site due to the trampled vegetation and scattered trash, as

well as a number of well-worn paths (both legal and incipient) crossing the open space to the bluff top." The parcels have been somewhat degraded by disturbances such as the presence of trails well-used by humans and domesticated animals, and deep tire ruts worn into the soil near Del Playa Drive.

As stated previously, the applicant submitted modified project plans to staff dated February 19, 2007. These plans propose development of a three-level, maximum 28 ft. 10 inches in height, 1,798 sq. ft. single family residence with a 419 sq. ft. of garage/carport on Parcel 22 and a 1,998 sq. ft. single family residence with a 610 sq. ft of garage/carport/laundry area on Parcel 23.

## 1. Public Access

In addition to any applicable policies of the LCP, all projects located between the first public road and the sea requiring a coastal development permit, such as the proposed project, must be reviewed for compliance with the public access and recreation provisions of Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act. Coastal Act Sections 30210 and 30211 mandate that maximum public access and recreational opportunities be provided and that development not interfere with the public's right to access the coast.

With regard to public access, there is an existing vertical public accessway to the bluff top trail and beach adjacent to one of the subject parcels, and there is an east-west trending accessway located offsite along the blufftop and immediately seaward of the subject parcels. The lateral accessway along the blufftop leads to a stairway to the beach, west of the subject parcels. In addition, there are informal access trails traversing through the property. Since the vertical or blufftop accessways allow access directly around the parcels the approved project would not have any directly impact on the public's ability to access the blufftop or beach. As proposed, however, the project would result in the closure and restoration of informal trails through the wetland area.

The Isla Vista beach is composed of a thin veneer of sand perched on a wave cut platform. The beach varies in width from approximately 43 feet to 136 feet (as measured from the base of the bluff to the MSL contour on the bedrock terrace), and is generally narrower at the west (up-coast) end and wider at the east (down-coast end). Vertical access to the beach is via a ramp and four public stairways. The beach fronting Del Playa Drive is a heavily used beach serving the student residential community of Isla Vista of over 20,000 people. Isla Vista beach is used both for recreational purposes and as a means of reaching adjoining beaches up and down-coast of this community. The Isla Vista beach is a pubic beach that is intensively used for a variety of recreational activities, including strolling, surfing, running, sunbathing, and fishing.

The proposed development will be located on the bluff top above this sandy beach of Isla Vista that is widely used by the public at large. The Commission also recognizes that this beach in Isla Vista below the bluff on which the development is proposed has been widely used by the public for many years and that prescriptive rights likely exist for public use of the dry sandy beach from the base of the bluffs seaward to the mean high tide line. Members of the public have used the Isla Vista beach for sunbathing at the base of the bluffs on the dry sand and for walking and running. In addition, during

periods when the tide is high along this beach, the dry sand has been used in order to pass along the beach from one end to the other. Use of both the dry and wet sandy beach at the base of these bluffs has been documented as far back as 1965, with public use continuing generally until the present for active and passive access and recreation. Due to this continual public use of the beach below the bluffs on which the proposed development will be situated, the Commission notes that the project should not have any adverse impact on any prescriptive rights to that use that may exist.

Furthermore, due to the naturally thin veneer of sand over the wave cut platform, the sand beach is highly sensitive to alteration of the littoral environment that would reduce the amount of sand reaching the beach or accumulating on the wave-cut platform. Any future seawalls or shoreline protective devices on the subject sites would exacerbate natural seasonal fluctuation in the amount of sand (and the consequent width of the beach) and result in the long-term loss of the beach and related public beach access. These effects are the result of a number of coastal processes influenced or induced by the seawall, including: (1) increasing the amount of wave reflection at the seaward face of the seawall, thus increasing the amount of beach sand scour; (2) preventing the natural retreat of the coastal bluff face in response to wave attack, thus preventing the landward shift of the fronting beach, as adjoining, unprotected reaches of the bluff retreat; and (3) reducing the amount of sand contributed to the littoral beach by the erosion of the bluff face.

One seawall (Norris/Murphy) constructed in Isla Vista in 1979 has already resulted in the narrowing and almost complete disappearance of the beach directly in front of the seawall, as erosion on either side of the seawall has caused the bluff up and downcoast from the seawall to retreat, creating an artificial promontory which juts out into the active surf-zone. The western end of Isla Vista Beach is generally narrower than the eastern end, and currently there is limited access toward the western end during periods of high tide, particularly during the winter months when the sand beach exhibits a winter beach profile (i.e., lower and narrower accumulation of sand on the wave cut platform.) Further, as noted above, the effects of the Norris/Murphy seawall provides confirmation of the effects of seawalls and shoreline protective devices on lateral public access in Isla Vista.

In summary, future seawalls or shoreline bluff protective devices necessary to protect the proposed development would result in substantial impact to lateral public beach access by directly displacing existing public beach area, and by causing the long-term progressive loss of beach width. Increased loss of sand on the beach due to wave scour and reduction in sand supply would adversely impact beach access to and recreational use of the Isla Vista Beach by narrowing the average width of the beach, and by increasing the frequency and length of time when no sand beach would be available on the wave cut terrace.

Therefore, the Commission finds that the County's approval of the project is not in conformance with the public access requirements of the County's LCP, which incorporates Sections 30210 and 30211 of the Coastal Act. In approving the proposed development, the County did not condition the proposed development to avoid the

construction of a seawall or shoreline bluff protective device in the future should the proposed development become threatened by bluff erosion and retreat. As a result, in order to ensure that the proposed project is consistent with the policies of the County LCP, including Section 30253 of the Coastal Act incorporated therein, and to ensure that the proposed project does not result in future adverse effects to coastal processes, **Special Condition Three (3)** of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055 in conjunction with **Special Condition Thirteen (13)** of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055 requires the applicants to record a deed restriction that would prohibit the applicants, or future landowners, from constructing a shoreline or bluff protective device or devices for the purpose of protecting any of the development approved under these applications.

The County has informed staff that the future construction of public sidewalks within the County's public right-of-ways are a priority in this area. As proposed by the applicants, private residential landscaping would be planted offsite (within the public right-of-way) between the proposed residences and the public street. Therefore, in order to ensure that public pedestrian access is not obstructed within the Del Playa road right-of-way, **Special Condition One (1)** of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055 requires the applicant to submit revised plans, for the review and approval of the Executive Director, that show that landscaping and development within the adjacent road right-of-way shall not obstruct pedestrians and shall be consistent with the future provision of a sidewalk. Additionally, **Special Condition Sixteen (16)** of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055 requires the applicant to obtain all appropriate local approvals, including encroachment permits from the County for any development (including all necessary driveway improvements) within the right-of-way.

Therefore, the Commission finds that, as conditioned, the proposed development will meet the public access and recreation policies of the County's LCP and Section 30210 of the Coastal Act.

### 2. Visual Resources

LCP Policies 3-14 and 4-4 require new development to be designed to fit the topography of the site and be consistent with the scale and character of the neighborhood. LCP Policy 4-5 specifically requires that oceanfront structures minimize or avoid impacts on public views from the beach. In addition, Section 30251 of the Coastal Act, which is included in the certified LCP as a guiding policy, requires that visual qualities of coastal areas shall be considered and protected and, where feasible, degraded areas shall be enhanced and restored. Policy 1-2 provides that where policies conflict the issue shall be resolved by applying the policies that are most protective of coastal resources. This is more specifically defined under the ESH Overlay District which explains that the provisions of the ESH shall govern over the regulations of any base zone district or overlay district.

The LCP policies as described above require that the proposed development be sited and designed to protect views to and along the ocean and scenic coastal areas and be visually compatible with the character of surrounding areas. The subject parcels are located on adjacent blufftop lots between the first public road and the sea and neighboring properties are open space. The County-approved footprint of each house

would be setback approximately 141-152 feet from the bluff edge and would not be visible from the beach.

The project EIR reported the significant impact to public and private views as a result of residential development on the subject parcels as follows:

Development of the project sites would occur within one of the last residentially-zoned coastal open spaces within the surrounding Isla Vista community. Although the areal extent of the loss of this open space is relatively unsubstantial (less than 1 acre), the loss is considered significant when viewed with the context of the surrounding community which is densely developed...

Application of the visual policies of the LCP would require additional measures to encourage continuity with the open space environment and compatibility with the neighborhood character. Such measures would likely include further setbacks to promote through-views; elimination of setback variances, especially as pertains to the front yard to soften views from the first public road to the ocean; elimination of second story development; and/or restriction of landscaping to low-growing, low-mass plant species, such that at maturity the landscaping softens the effect of the structure but would not overpower the site with additional massing of trees, hedges, vines, etc.

However, in this case, the Commission must protect wetlands and visual resources in a manner that shall not be construed to authorize the "taking" of private property for public use. Where policies conflict, the alternative that is the most protective of coastal resources shall apply, consistent with Policy 1-2 of the LCP. In this case, the implementation of the LCP polices that provide wetland protection would be, on balance, most protective of coastal resources. This is underscored by Section 35-53 of the Zoning Code which provides that environmentally sensitive habitat standards shall override the requirements of the base zone district. See Section D, *Environmentally Sensitive Habitat and Wetlands*, of this report for a detailed analysis of the wetlands protection policies as well as the requirements to avoid unconstitutional taking of private property for public use.

As described in Section D, the Commission must consider Section 30010, and the Supreme Court decision in *Lucas v. South Carolina Coastal Council* (1992) 505 U.S. 1003, 112 S. Ct. 2886. Section 30010 of the Coastal Act provides that the Coastal Act shall not be construed as authorizing the Commission to exercise its power to grant or deny a permit in a manner which will take private property for public use. Application of Section 30010 may overcome the presumption of denial in some instances. The subject of what government action results in a "taking" was addressed by the U.S. Supreme Court in *Lucas v. South Carolina Coastal Council*. In *Lucas*, the Court identified several factors that should be considered in determining whether a proposed government action would result in a taking. The subject properties are zoned for residential use and the applicants have some expectation to pursue economically viable residential use of the parcels. However, the level of residential development that would provide the minimum economically viable use of the property is not defined.

The applicants submitted revised plans to staff, dated February 19, 2007 (Exhibit 5). Specifically, on Parcel 22, the applicants propose construction of a three-level 1,798 sq. ft., maximum 28 ft. 10-inch high, single family residence with 419 sq. ft. garage and carport, and 1,256 sq. ft. of decks. The proposed project would result in ground coverage of 1,600 sq. ft., including the proposed residence; garage and carport; decks and patios. The development would include fill of the wetland to achieve an approximately 960 sq. ft. backyard area.

On Parcel 23, the applicants propose construction of a three-level 1,998 sq. ft., maximum 28 ft. 10-inch high, single family residence with 610 sq. ft. garage-carport-laundry, and 1,121 sq. ft. of decks. The proposed project would result in ground coverage of 1,870 sq. ft., including the proposed residence; garage and carport; decks and patios. The development would include fill of the wetland to achieve an approximately 1,025 sq. ft. backyard area.

The certified LCP includes provisions for setback and height variances in Section 35-173 of the Coastal Zoning Ordinance. In order to locate the development outside of the wetlands, the Commission is requiring Special Condition One (1) of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055 to redesign the project plans with a maximum development footprint for each parcel (Exhibit 6). The maximum development footprint as defined under Special Condition 1 allows for variances from front and side yard setbacks. Under the project sites' 10-R-1 zoning, structures can be designed up to a maximum height of 25 feet from existing grade. This 25 foot height requirement would not be modified by the development envelope as defined in Special Condition 1. However, side yard setbacks could be eliminated on both parcels allowing development up to the property lines to the east and west. Additionally, both parcels would be allowed reduce the front yard setback to 3 feet from the north property boundary. In this case, the Commission finds that variances to other required development standards such as street setbacks, are appropriate where it is necessary in order to avoid or minimize impacts to sensitive resource areas, such as wetlands. By reducing the zoning setback requirements, the development can be sited farther from the wetland while allowing for reasonable economic use of the property.

Consistent with the need to ensure that the applicants receive an economically viable use of their property while minimizing impacts to the sensitive resources on the property to the maximum extent feasible consistent with Section 30010 of the Coastal Act, the Commission finds that the proposed variances to the County's setback and height requirements are necessary. The Commission finds that to provide a reasonable economic use of the property and maximum feasible protection of wetlands, the front yard setbacks may be reduced to three feet on both parcels and the side yard setbacks may be eliminated as provided in the maximum development footprint defined for each parcel shown in Exhibit 6. These variances would potentially have an adverse effect on protection of visual resources, such as views and community character. In this case, to provide reasonable economic use of property, the visual policies of the LCP cannot be fully applied. Where there is conflict between protection of wetlands and protection of visual resources, both the LCP and Coastal Act find that the protection of wetlands is of higher priority.

Approval of a variance to eliminate the side yard setback between structures, allows development more closely resembling a duplex. The LCP base zone district allows only one single-family dwelling per lot, and not duplexes. A duplex at this location may be considered inconsistent with the community character of the single-family residential zone district.

Because the lots are zoned for one single family dwelling (SFD) per lot and, even with no setback between the structures, *only* one SFD would be permitted on each parcel, then the Commission finds that the lack of a setback is limited to a community character issue and is not inconsistent with the requirements of the base zone district. Furthermore, the elimination of side yard setbacks between structures has been feasibly implemented under similar circumstances further downcoast on the Isla Vista blufftop. In December 2000, on two other adjacent 7,000 square foot bluff top lots on Del Playa Drive, the County approved the construction of two single family residences on that are zoned for multiple residential (99-CDP-046 and 99-CDP-047). The two approved structures were each 25 feet in height and 2,093 square feet in size, with a 293 square foot attached garage. A side yard setback variance was granted for each structure, creating a zero side yard setback between the structures. Although the variances resulted in the appearance of a duplex development, the structures are two individual single-family residences.

As detailed in Section V.D and described above, the Commission finds that residential development on the subject parcels as designed within the maximum development footprint as allowed in Special Condition One of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055, would allow for reasonable economic use of the property while minimizing impacts to the wetlands to the extent feasible given the highly constrained nature of the parcel.

Though the reduction in zoning setbacks would minimize impacts to wetlands, residential development designed within the reduced setback development envelope would contribute to the further detriment of visual resources. And, as noted above, the LCP policies cannot be fully applied in these circumstances in order to implement wetland protection measures while allowing reasonable development of the property. It is important to note, however, that the majority of visual impact will be to private views, rather than public views. Though the development will be visually imposing, the public will have the ability to bypass the development and access the open space and bluff top path. Additionally the lots are each 40 feet wide and ocean through-view corridors are present immediately east and west of the properties. The visually intimidating structures will briefly interrupt public views from the road but are not substantially out of character with the existing built-out Del Playa bluff top.

Therefore, the Commission concludes that adverse impacts to wetland resources would be more significant than the impact to visual resources and that the proposed project as modified, is most protective of coastal resources consistent with Section 30010 of the Coastal Act.

### F. WATER QUALITY

## LCP Policy 1-1, incorporating 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, minimizing alteration of natural streams.

## LCP Policy 3-14 states:

All development shall be designed to fit the site topography, soils, geology, hydrology, and any other existing conditions and be oriented so that grading and other site preparations is kept to an absolute minimum. Natural features, landforms, and native vegetation, such as trees, shall be preserved to the maximum extent feasible. Areas of the site which are not suited for development because of known soil, geologic, flood, erosion or other hazards shall remain in open space.

## LCP Policy 3-16 states:

Sediment basins (including debris basins, desilting basins, or silt traps) shall be installed on the project site in conjunction with the initial grading operations and maintained throughout the development process to remove sediment from runoff waters. All sediment shall be retained on site unless removed to an appropriate dumping location.

### LCP Policy 3-17 states:

Temporary vegetation, seeding, mulching, or other suitable stabilization method shall be used to protect soils subject to erosion that have been disturbed during grading or development. All cut and fill slopes shall be stabilized immediately with planting of native grasses and shrubs, appropriate nonnative plants, or with accepted landscaping practices.

### LCP Policy 3-18 states:

Provisions shall be made to conduct surface water to storm drains or suitable watercourses to prevent erosion. Drainage devices shall be designed to accommodate increased runoff resulting from modified soil and surface conditions as a result of development. Water runoff shall be retained on-site whenever possible to facilitate groundwater recharge.

### LCP Policy 3-19 states:

Degradation of the water quality of groundwater basins, nearby streams, or wetlands shall not result from development of the site. Pollutants, such as chemicals, fuels, lubricants, raw sewage, and other harmful waste, shall not be discharged into or alongside coastal streams or wetlands either during or after construction.

As stated previously, the applicant submitted modified project plans to staff dated February 19, 2007 (Exhibit 5). These plans propose development of a three-level, maximum 28 ft. 10 inches in height, 1,798 sq. ft. single family residence with a 419 sq.

ft. of garage/carport on Parcel 22 and a 1,998 sq. ft. single family residence with a 610 sq. ft of garage/carport/laundry area on Parcel 23. As proposed, the development footprint of all structures would be located at the northern end of the parcels.

The proposed development will result in an increase in impervious surfaces, which in turn may decrease the infiltrative function and capacity of existing permeable land on sites. The reduction in permeable space therefore leads to an increase in the volume and velocity of stormwater runoff that can be expected to leave the sites. Further, pollutants commonly found in runoff associated with residential use include petroleum hydrocarbons such as oil and grease from vehicles, heavy metals, synthetic organic chemicals such as paint and household cleaners, soap and dirt from the washing of vehicles, dirt and vegetation from yard maintenance, litter, fertilizers, herbicides, pesticides, and bacteria and pathogens from animal waste. The discharge of these pollutants into coastal waters can cause cumulative impacts such as eutrophication and anoxic conditions resulting in fish kills and diseases and the alteration of aquatic habitat, including adverse changes to species composition and size; excess nutrients causing algae blooms and sedimentation increasing turbidity which both reduce the penetration of sunlight needed by aquatic vegetation which provide food and cover for aquatic species; disruptions to the reproductive cycle of aquatic species; and acute and sublethal toxicity in marine organisms, leading to adverse changes in reproduction and feeding behavior. These impacts reduce the biological productivity and the quality of coastal waters, streams, wetlands, estuaries, and lakes; reduce optimum populations of marine organisms; and have adverse impacts on human health.

Therefore, in order to find the proposed development consistent with the water and marine resource policies of the LCP, the Commission finds it necessary to require the incorporation of Best Management Practices (BMPs) designed to control the volume, velocity, and pollutant load of stormwater leaving the developed sites. Critical to the successful function of post-construction structural BMPs in removing pollutants in stormwater to the Maximum Extent Practicable (MEP), is the application of appropriate design standards for sizing BMPs. The majority of runoff is generated from small storms because most storms are small. Additionally, storm water runoff typically conveys a disproportionate amount of pollutants in the initial period that runoff is generated during a storm event. Designing BMPs for the small, more frequent storms, rather than for the large infrequent storms, results in improved BMP performance at lower cost.

For design purposes, post-construction structural BMPs (or suites of BMPs) should be designed to treat or filter the amount of stormwater runoff produced by all storms up to and including the 85th percentile, 24-hour storm event for volume-based BMPs, and/or the 85th percentile, 1-hour storm event, with an appropriate safety factor (i.e., 2 or greater), for flow-based BMPs. The Commission finds that sizing post-construction structural BMPs to accommodate (filter or treat) the runoff from the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile storm runoff event, in this case, is equivalent to sizing BMPs based on the point of diminishing returns (i.e. the BMP capacity beyond which, insignificant increases in pollutants removal (and hence water quality protection) will occur, relative to the additional costs. Therefore, the Commission requires the applicants to submit final drainage and runoff

plans including selected post-construction structural BMPs which shall be sized based on design criteria specified in **Special Condition Nine (9)** of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055, and finds this will ensure the proposed developments will be designed to minimize adverse impacts to coastal resources, in a manner consistent with the water and marine policies of the Coastal Act.

Furthermore, interim erosion control measure implemented during construction will serve to minimize the potential for adverse impacts to water quality resulting from drainage runoff during construction and in the post-development stage. Therefore, the Commission finds that **Special Condition Ten (10)** of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055 is necessary to ensure the proposed development will not adversely impact water quality or coastal resources, consistent with the County's LCP, including Policies 3-14, 3-16, 3-17, 3-18, and 3-19 and Section 30231 of the Coastal Act, incorporated into the LCP.

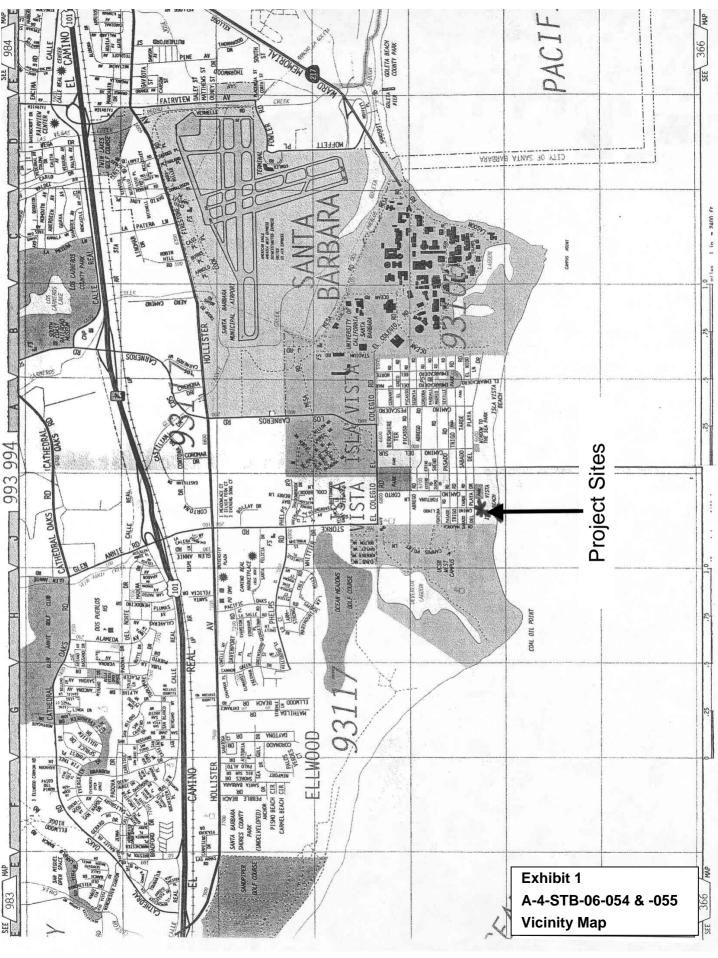
Additionally, to ensure that inadvertent impacts to water quality and the adjacent wetlands do not result from the construction of the proposed development, Special Condition Twelve (12) of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055 outlines the applicants' responsibilities including parameters for placement and storage of construction materials, debris, or waste to ensure that it will not be subject to erosion nor degrade wetland habitat. Special Condition 12 of CDPs A-4-STB-06-054 and -055 also requires that any and all debris resulting from construction activities shall be removed from the site on the same day. Equipment shall not be operated or stored south of the rear yard fencing. Additionally, during construction, washing of concrete trucks, paint, equipment, or similar activities shall occur only in areas where polluted water and materials can be contained for subsequent removal from the site. Wash water shall not be discharged to the storm drains, street, drainage ditches, creeks, or wetlands. Areas designated for washing functions shall be at least 100 feet from any storm drain, water body or sensitive biological resources. The location(s) of the washout area(s) shall be clearly noted at the construction site with signs. In addition, construction materials and waste such as paint, mortar, concrete slurry, fuels, etc. shall be stored, handled, and disposed of in a manner which prevents storm water contamination.

Therefore, the Commission finds that, as conditioned, the proposed development will meet the water quality and watershed protection policies of the County's LCP and Section 30210 of the Coastal Act.

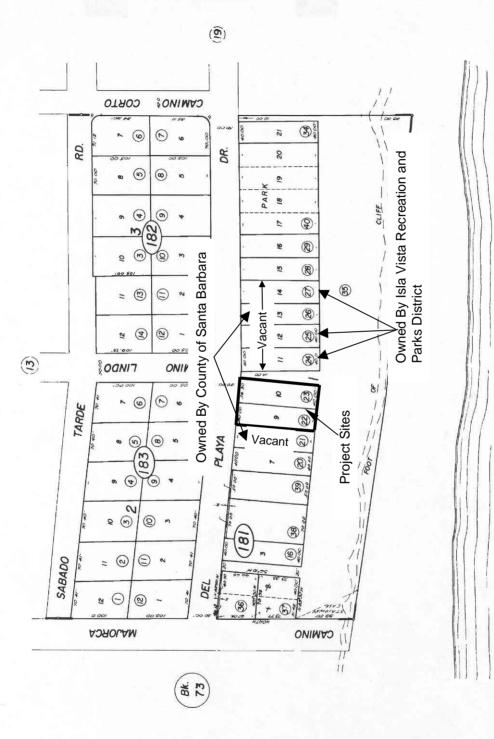
## G. CEQA

Section 13096(a) of the Commission's administrative regulations requires Commission approval of Coastal Development Permit application 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 Commission finds that, the proposed project, as conditioned, will not have significant adverse effects on the environment, within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970. Therefore, the proposed project, as conditioned, has been adequately mitigated and is determined to be consistent with CEQA and the policies of the Coastal Act.



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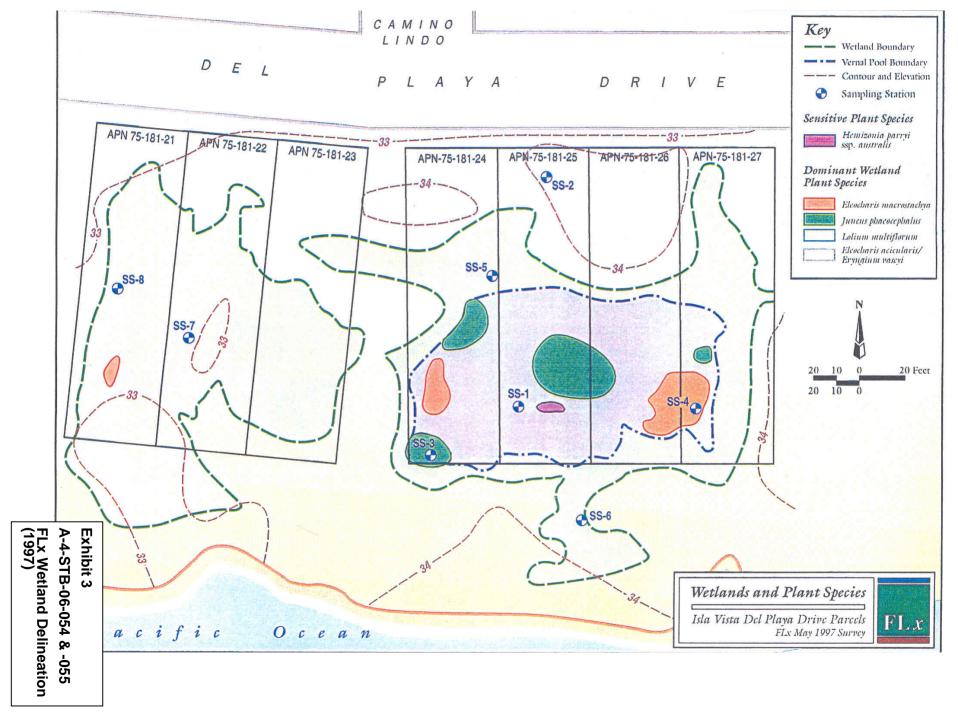


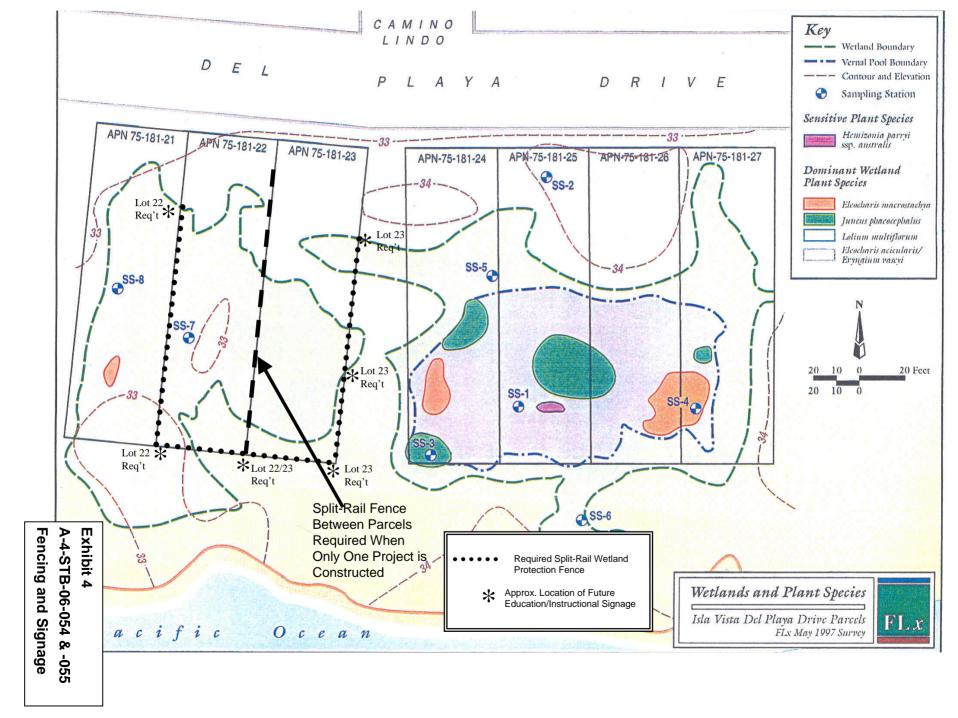
County of Santa Barbara, Calif. Assessor's Map Bk.75 - Pg. 18

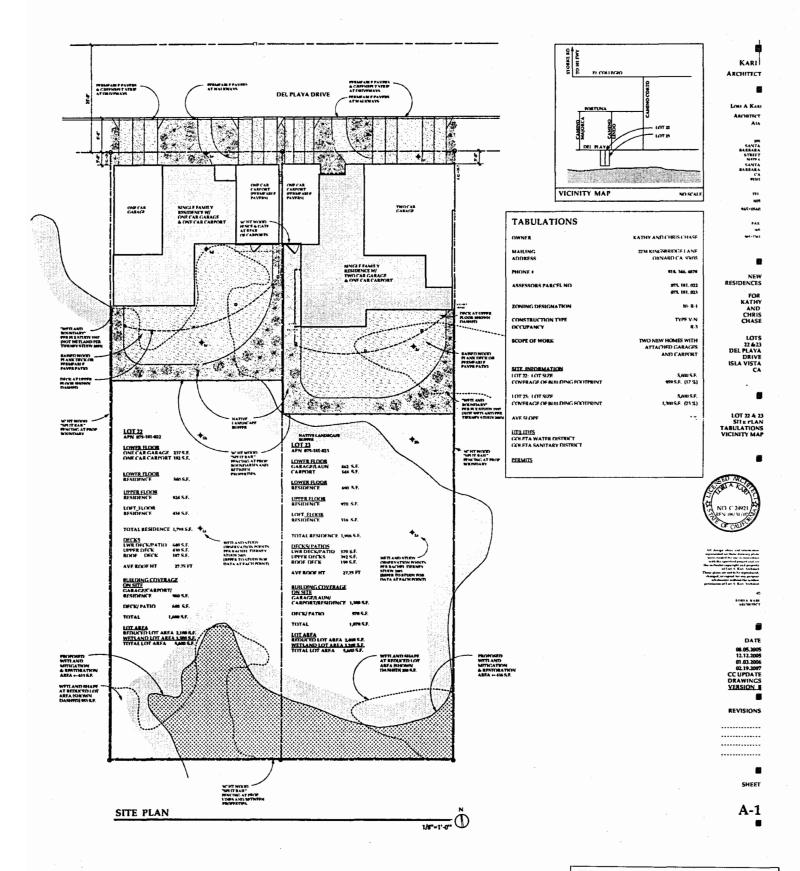
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Exhibit 2 A-4-STB-06-054 & -055 **Parcel Map** 





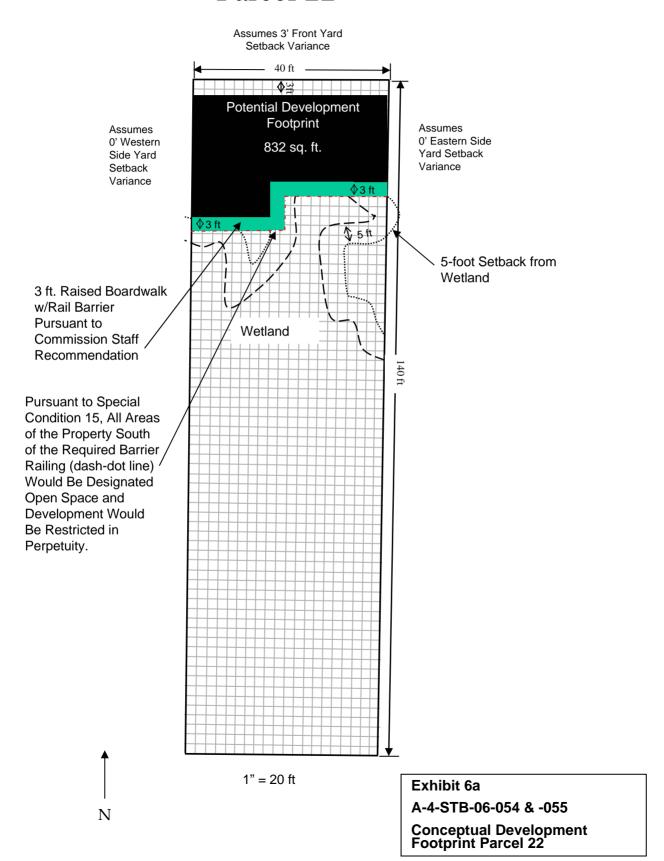


## **EXHIBIT 5**

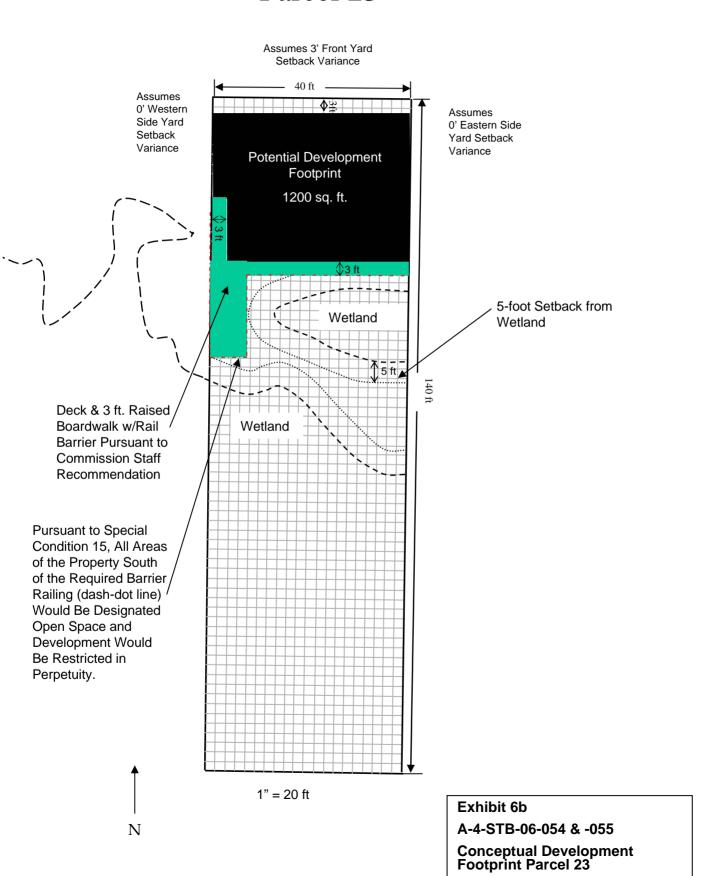
A-4-STB-06-054 & -055

February 19, 2007 Project Plans

## Parcel 22



## Parcel 23



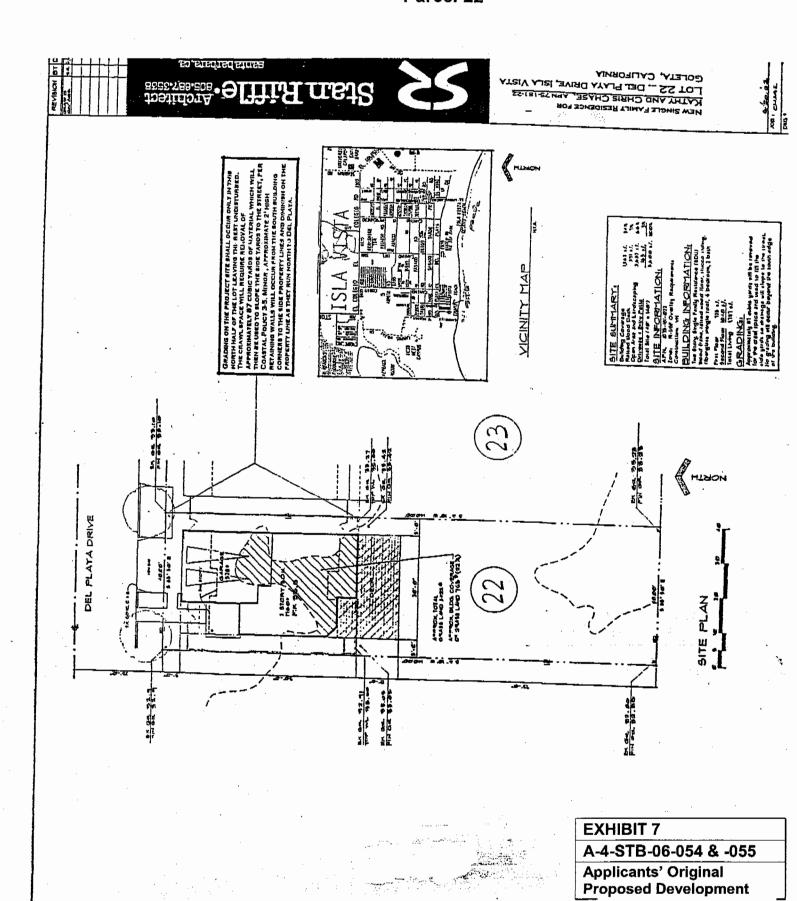
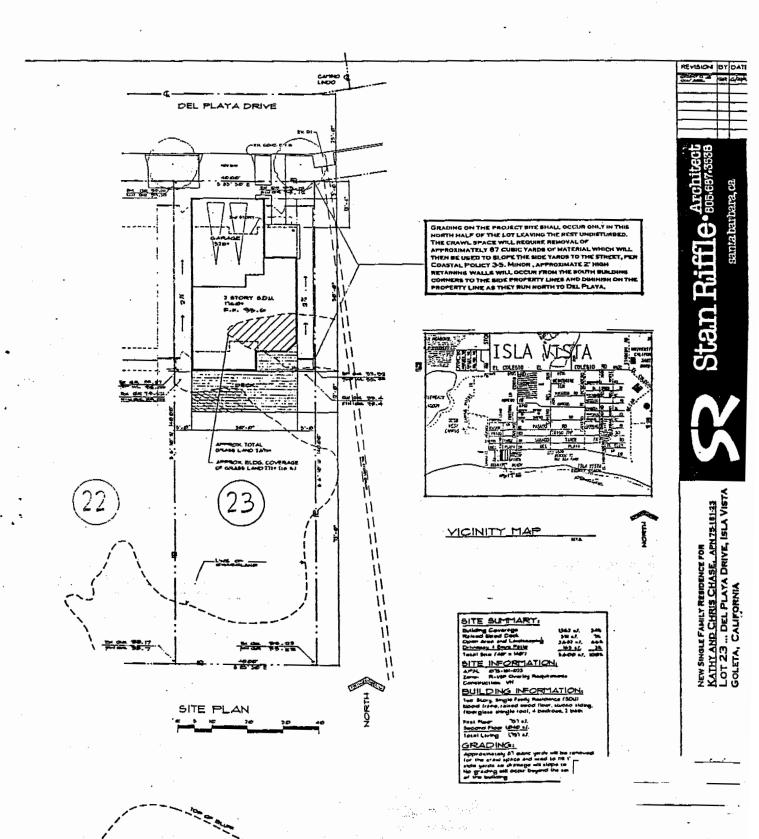
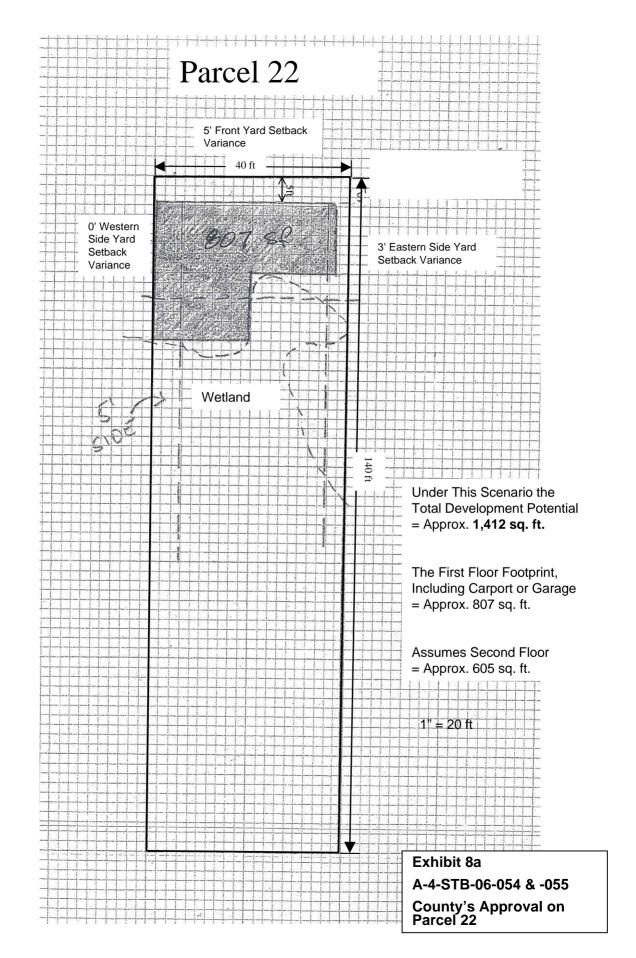
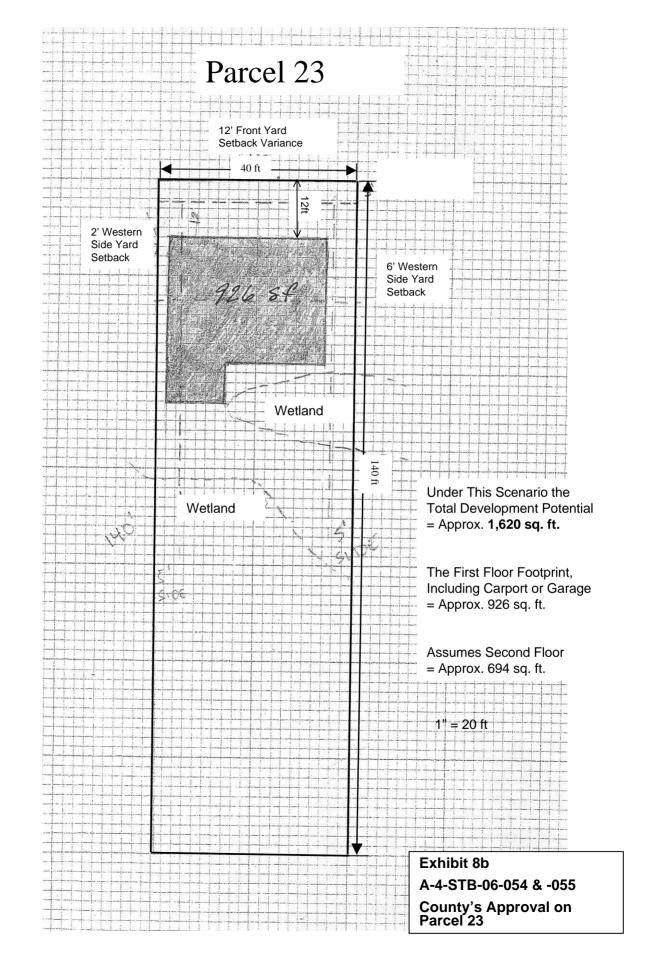


Figure 4
Parcel 23 Site Plan







## ATTACHMENT D

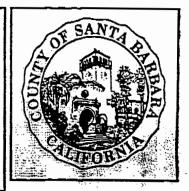
## APPROVAL/INTENT TO ISSUE A DISCRETIONARY APPEALABLE COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT (CDP)

Case No.: 01CDH-00000-00060 Planner: Jackie Campbell

Project Name: Chase SFD

Project Address: 6800 Block of Del Playa Drive

A.P.N.: 075-181-022



The Board of Supervisors grants approval of this discretionary Coastal Development Permit for the development described below, subject to the attached conditions and final issuance of the Coastal Development Permit.

APPROVAL DATE: February 24, 2004

The Board of Supervisors' final decision may be appealed to the California Coastal Commission.

COASTAL COMMISSION APPEAL PERIOD STARTS: March 1, 2004 (approximate)

COASTAL COMMISSION APPEAL PERIOD ENDS: (ten working days after receipt by the CCC)

DATE OF PERMIT ISSUANCE:

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND CONDITIONS: See Exhibit A, hereby incorporated by reference.

#### EXPIRATION:

Upon permit issuance, the permit shall be valid for two years. Failure to obtain a required construction or

soard of Supervisors Approval:		
Losten		2134-114
Chair, Signature		Date
		f this permit and agrees to abide
Il terms and conditions thereof.		
Il terms and conditions thereof.  Print Name	Signature	/Date
ll terms and conditions thereof.  Print Name  Planning & Development Issuan	_	

EXHIBIT 9

A-4-STB-04-035

County Approval with Conditions

# EXHIBIT A PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND CONDITIONS

## **Project Description**

1. This Coastal Development Permit is based upon and limited to compliance with the project description, the hearing exhibits marked Figure # 2, dated February 24, 2004 and conditions of approval set forth below. Any deviations from the project description, exhibits or conditions must be reviewed and approved by the County for conformity with this approval. Deviations may require approved changes to the permit and/or further environmental review. Deviations without the above-described approval would constitute a violation of permit approval.

## The project description is as follows:

This Coastal Development Permit (with Hearing) for case number 01CDH-00000-00060 allows the construction of a two-story single-family dwelling with an attached carport on APN 075-181-022. The first floor development footprint would be 807 s.f. with a maximum of 1,012 s.f. of living space and a 400 s.f. carport. The second story would be a maximum of 75% of the first floor area, or 605 s.f. The development footprint would be to the northern end of the parcel, to the maximum extent feasible, to reduce impacts to the wetland habitat. The foundation would be of raised floor construction with a minimum 18" crawl space on caissons or piles. Grading is estimated at approximately 87 cubic yards of cut and 87 cubic yards of fill. Retaining walls of up to two feet in height would be installed according to building codes. Fencing approximately, but no higher than, six feet high would be installed at the east property line for the length of the dwelling. In addition, an approximately four-foot high split rail fence may be built on the balance of the property lines, in accordance with a wetland mitigation plan approved by the County. Two parking spaces would be provided within the attached carport. Water would be obtained from Goleta Water District and the residence would be connected to the Goleta West Sanitary District sewer system.

A Variance for building encroachment into the front and side setbacks is allowed pursuant to case number 02VAR-00000-00003.

The grading, development, use, and maintenance of the property, the size, shape, arrangement, and location of structures, parking areas and landscape areas, and the protection and preservation of resources shall conform to the project description above and the hearing exhibits and conditions of approval below. The property and any portions thereof shall be sold, leased or financed in compliance with this project description and the approved hearing exhibits and conditions of approval hereto.

## **Project Specific Conditions**

- 2. All site preparation and associated grading and exterior construction activities shall be limited to the hours between 7:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., weekdays only. No construction shall occur on State holidays (e.g. Labor Day, Thanksgiving). Construction equipment maintenance shall be limited to the same hours. Non-noise generating construction activities, such as interior painting, are not subject to these restrictions.
- 3. All construction must comply with final plans approved by the County Board of Architectural Review for 01CDH-00000-00060 prior to issuance of a Coastal Development Permit.

## Mitigation Measures from the EIR

4. In order to reduce impacts related to wetland loss due to building coverage, the maximum first story footprint for the structure shall not exceed 807 square feet. The carport footprint shall not exceed 400 square feet. The second story shall be limited to no more than 75% of the total coverage of the first floor, or 605 square feet for a total living space area of 1,012 square feet. There shall be no other structural development in or over the wetland habitat, including decks. Structural development toward the south (ocean side) of the parcel shall be reduced to the maximum extent feasible to reduce wetland impacts. The actual development footprint shall be determined in consultation with a County-approved wetland biologist. Plan Requirements and Timing: The plans shall be reviewed and approved by the Board of Architectural Review and Planning and Development prior to issuance of Coastal Development Permits.

Monitoring: Permit compliance staff shall site inspect throughout the construction period.

- 5. The design, scale and character of the project architecture shall be compatible with the area development, particularly that which is located on the coastal bluff. Natural building materials and colors compatible with surrounding terrain (earth tones and non reflective paints) shall be used on exterior surfaces of all structures, including any fences. Plan Requirement and Timing: The applicant shall submit architectural drawings of the project for review and approval by the Board of Architectural Review prior to issuance of a Coastal Development Permit. Grading plans, if required, shall be submitted to P&D concurrent with or prior to Board of Architectural Review plan filing.
- 6. The Design Standards shall be as follows:

### Goals and Objectives:

- To protect and enhance the scenic character and natural integrity of the site.
- To encourage grading and development that will be appropriate to the site and will not significantly
  alter the topography
- To encourage architecture that blends with the site and is compatible in terms of size, massing and scale, that is compatible with the neighborhood and has a high standard of architectural quality.

### Standards:

The architectural design of the structure shall conform to the following criteria. Definition of terms shall be in accordance with the Santa Barbara County Article II Coastal Zoning Ordinance.

- a) <u>Materials</u>: The materials should weather properly in an ocean environment. Unified design materials should be used. Shingle or horizontal siding should be considered. Materials subject to glare, rapid deterioration and inconsistent with high quality standards shall not be permitted.
- b) <u>Landscaping:</u> A Landscaping Plan shall be developed and clearly distinguish between those areas determined to be outside of the wetland area as well as the wetlands. Generally, the front yard area would be considered outside of the wetland area, although it is still considered a buffer area. The wetland area portion of the plan shall consist only of wetland delineated vegetation. The main plant communities that may be included in the plan are vernal pool, vernal swales or flats, introduced

annual grasslands, and native perennial grassland. Any proposed vegetation for the front yard area must be compatible with and non-invasive to the wetland vegetation. The Landscaping Plan shall be reviewed and approved by a County-approved botanist/biologist.

c) <u>Driveways:</u> The driveway shall be designed such that vehicles remain outside setbacks, as modified.

d) <u>Color:</u> The color of exterior materials shall be subdued and to the maximum extent feasible, blend into the natural environmental surroundings (colors which blend in with the surrounding vegetation and soils). All colors shall be reviewed and approved by the Board of Architectural Review.

- e) Passive Solar Design: It is encouraged but not mandatory that passive solar energy design principles be used in the design of the residence, such as south-facing glass, thermal storage, shading, insulation devices, and other elements of passive design that can result in an attractive building that also provides heating and cooling. Solar equipment shall be screened from offsite views.
- Fencing: An open type fence such as split rail shall be used, when fencing is desired, in the front yard. Rear/side yard fencing shall be similar and may include wire mesh, however permanent chain link fencing is prohibited. All fencing within the project site shall be subject to review and approval by P&D and the Board of Architectural Review, in consultation with a County-approved botanist/biologist.
- g) <u>Design:</u> The design of the structure shall have individuality but work with the adjacent project on APN 075-181-023. All elevations should exhibit a cohesive vocabulary.

Plan Requirement and Timing: The applicant shall submit architectural drawings of the project for review and approval by the Board of Architectural Review prior to issuance of a Coastal Development. Permit. Grading plans, if required, shall be submitted to P&D concurrent with or prior to Board of Architectural Review plan filing.

Any exterior night lighting installed on the project site shall be of low intensity, low glare design, and shall be hooded to direct light downward onto the subject parcel and prevent spill-over onto adjacent parcels and any public open space areas, and into the wetland habitat. Applicant shall develop a Lighting Plan incorporating these requirements and provisions for dimming lights after 10:00 p.m. Plan Requirements: The lighting plan shall show the locations of all exterior lighting fixtures and an arrow showing the direction of light being cast by each fixture, the foot candles and other lighting specifications, and the height of the fixtures. The plan shall be designed in particular to avoid lighting impacts to the wetland habitat.

Monitoring: P&D and BAR shall review a Lighting Plan for compliance with this measure prior to issuance of a Coastal Development Permit. Permit Compliance shall inspect structures upon completion to ensure that exterior lighting fixtures have been installed consistent with their depiction on the final Lighting Plan.

8. In order to help offset the loss of wetland habitat due to the construction of the residences, the applicant shall provide offsite wetland mitigation at a ratio of 4:1 for each square foot lost directly as a result of the project, and at a ratio of 2:1 for each square foot lost indirectly, as determined by a County-approved biologist with expertise in wetland habitats. As an alternative, the applicant may provide funding to an existing offsite wetland mitigation bank, or may mitigate through a combination of land and funding. There would be no loss of primary wetland habitat through avoidance and a loss of approximately 1,187 square feet of wetland buffer, the entire development footprint of the first floor, including driveway and

sidewalk areas. These estimates could change based on the actual design plans. Plan Requirements: The applicant shall prepare an Offsite Wetland Mitigation Plan prepared by a County-approved biologist (with expertise in wetland habitats) for review by P&D and County Counsel. The plan shall specify the offsite mitigation site(s), include performance standards, explain the methodology for choosing the sites and determining the appropriate acreage (or a calculation of the in lieu mitigation fees), and explain the mechanism(s) for securing the offsite location for mitigation. Timing: The mitigation plan shall be approved by P&D and County Counsel prior to issuance of a Coastal Development Permit.

- 9. In order to help offset the impacts to the wetland habitat due to the construction of the residence, the applicant shall prepare an Onsite Wetland Protection Plan. Plan Requirements: The Onsite Wetland Protection Plan shall be prepared by a County-approved biologist (with expertise in wetland habitats) for review by P&D and County Counsel. The plan shall specify the onsite methods to ensure the long-term health and viability of the wetland resources and include at a minimum measures such as revegetation and periodic weeding, periodic debris collection, periodic soil nourishment and fencing, as appropriate. Timing: The Plan shall be approved by P&D and County Counsel prior to issuance of a Coastal Development Permit.
- 10. In order to reduce construction related and long-term impacts to the wetland and particularly to the wetland hydrology, a caisson foundation shall be used. Plan Requirements and Timing: This requirement shall be stated on all building plans and be approved by P&D prior to issuance of a Coastal Development Permit.
- 11. In order to reduce the potential of dust generation within proximity to the wetland habitat, dust generated by the development activities shall be kept to a minimum using the dust control measures listed below.
  - a. During clearing, grading, earth moving, excavation, or transportation of cut or fill materials, water trucks or sprinkler systems are to be used to prevent dust from leaving the site and to create a crust after each day's activities cease.
  - b. During construction, water trucks or sprinkler systems shall be used to keep all areas of vehicle movement damp enough to prevent dust from leaving the site. At a minimum, this would include wetting down such areas in the later morning and after work is completed for the day and whenever wind exceeds 15 miles per hour.
  - c. Soil stockpiled for more than two days shall be covered, kept moist, or treated with soil binders to prevent dust generation.

Plan Requirements: All requirements shall be shown on grading and building plans. Timing: Condition shall be adhered to throughout all grading and construction periods.

Monitoring: P&D shall ensure measures are on plans. P&D Grading and Building inspectors shall spot check; Grading and Building shall ensure compliance on-site. APCD inspectors shall respond to nuisance complaints.

12. In order to protect the wetland habitat, the applicant shall record an open space easement for the undeveloped remainder of the project parcel (excluding the front and side yards). The easement language shall specify the purpose and restrictions in the easement area. The language shall include, but not be limited to specifying that the purpose of the easement is to preserve and to restore vernal pool and

wetland vegetation and the activities that occur in this are shall be compatible with this intent and purpose. The easement area shall have signs alerting the public of the sensitive resources. In addition, the management of this area shall be in conformance with the Onsite Wetland Protection Plan approved by P&D. Plan Requirements and Timing: Prior to issuance of a Coastal Development Permit, the applicant shall specify how management of the easement area will be funded and provide the funding. P&D and County Counsel shall approve the method of funding.

Monitoring: Provisions of the easement and encroachment prevention plans shall be monitored annually through site inspections and photo documentation by P&D staff.

- 13. The following mitigations shall apply to the wetland complex (including the buffer area) designated on the biological survey maps:
  - a. During construction, temporary fencing shall be installed at edge of the permitted construction zone to prevent any further intrusion into the wetland habitat. The placement of the fence as well as the fence design shall be approved by a County-approved wetland biologist.
  - b. No grass cutting shall be permitted within the delineated wetland areas except for as provided in an approved landscaping/planting plan.
  - c. Installation of a permanent split rail fence should be considered, in consultation with a County-approved wetland biologist. The purpose of the fence would be to protect the remaining wetland habitat against impacts from humans, vehicles and pets. The fence would have signs posted to explain this requirement and discourage vandalism.
  - d. No disking for fire control or any other used shall occur in the wetland or buffer areas.
  - e. No mosquito control shall be permitted except use of mosquito fish.

Plan Requirements: These wetland protection measures shall be included in the Onsite Wetland Protection Plan and the site restoration/revegetation plan and recorded on all project plans. Timing: These measures shall be included in the appropriate plans prior to issuance of a Coastal Development Permit.

Monitoring: Permit Compliance shall site inspect throughout the implementation and maintenance periods.

During construction, washing of concrete trucks, paint, equipment, or similar activities shall occur only in areas where polluted water and materials can be contained for subsequent removal from the site. Wash water shall not be discharged to the storm drains, street, drainage ditches, creeks, or wetlands. Areas designated for washing functions shall be at least 100 feet from any storm drain, water body or sensitive biological resources. The location(s) of the washout area(s) shall be clearly noted at the construction site with signs. In addition, construction materials and waste such as paint, mortar, concrete slurry, fuels, etc. shall be stored, handled, and disposed of in a manner which minimizes the potential for storm water contamination. Plan Requirements: The applicant shall designate washout and storage areas, acceptable to P&D, and these areas shall be shown on the construction and/or grading and building plans. Timing: The washout and storage areas shall be designated on all plans prior to

issuance of Coastal Development Permits. Both areas shall be in place and maintained throughout construction.

Monitoring: P&D staff shall check plans prior to issuance of a Coastal Development Permit and compliance staff shall site inspect throughout the construction period to ensure proper use and maintenance of the washout and storage areas.

- 15. Best available erosion and sediment control measures shall be implemented during grading and construction in order to reduce impacts to the wetland/vernal pool complex. The following measures shall be used and be placed outside of the wetland habitat to the extent feasible to remain effective Best available erosion and sediment control measures may include but are not limited to use of gravel bags, silt fences, geo-bags or gravel and geotextile fabric berms, erosion control blankets, coir rolls, jute net, and straw bales. Sediment control measures shall be maintained for the duration of the grading period and until graded areas have been stabilized by structures, long-term erosion control measures or landscaping. Construction entrances and exits shall be stabilized using gravel beds, rumble plates, or other measures to prevent sediment from being tracked onto adjacent roadways. Any sediment or other materials tracked off site shall be removed the same day as they are tracked using dry cleaning methods. Plan Requirements: An erosion and sediment control plan shall be submitted to and approved by P&D and Flood Control prior to issuance of a Coastal Development Permit. The plan shall be designed to address erosion and sediment control during all phases of development of the site. Timing: The plan shall be implemented prior to the commencement of grading/construction.
- 16. To limit runoff into the wetland/vernal pool complex from impervious areas and to allow for infiltration, all proposed hardscape areas (i.e., driveways, walkways) shall use permeable surfaces (e.g., porous pavement or unit pavers on sand) in the project design. Driveway designs could also include paving only under wheels. Plan Requirements and Timing: Pervious surfaces shall be described and depicted graphically on the site, building, grading and landscape plans and including all specifications. The plans shall be submitted to P&D for review prior to issuance of a Coastal Development Permit.

Monitoring: P&D shall site inspect for installation.

- 17. The applicant shall install a roof runoff collection and disposal system. Runoff shall be directed to either a subsurface infiltration trench or French drains. The intent of this mitigation is to direct clean water to the wetland area. Plan Requirements and Timing: The roof runoff collection system shall be shown on grading, building and landscape plans. The plans shall be submitted to P&D for review prior to issuance of a Coastal Development Permit. The system shall be installed prior to final inspection.
- 18. Indoor water use shall be limited through the following measures:
  - a. All hot water lines shall be insulated.
  - b. Recirculating, point-of-use, or on-demand water heaters shall be installed.
  - c. Water efficient clothes washers and dishwashers shall be installed.

Plan Requirements: Prior to issuance of the Coastal Development Permits, indoor water-conserving measures shall be graphically depicted on building plans, subject to P&D review and approval. Timing: Indoor water-conserving measures shall be implemented prior to occupancy clearance.

Monitoring: P&D shall inspect for all requirements prior to occupancy clearance.

19. The applicant shall implement a Revegetation and Restoration Plan. This plan shall apply only to those areas outside of the defined wetland/vernal pool complex and generally includes the front and side yards. Only seed stock from locally obtained sources shall be used for landscaping purposes. The plan shall utilize only species compatible with and noninvasive to the wetland. Plan Requirements and Timing: The plan shall be submitted to and approved by P&D and a performance surety posted prior to issuance of a Coastal Development Permit. The plan shall be reviewed and approved by a County-approved biologist for compatibility with the wetland vegetation. All plant genus and species shall be denoted in the plan.

Monitoring: P&D staff shall perform site inspections both throughout the construction phase and during the long-term performance phase.

20. The minimum distance from ground level to any fence's first rung shall be 18 inches. Barbed-wire fencing shall not be installed between lots or along property boundaries. Plan Requirements: All fences shall be shown on plans prior to issuance of a Coastal Development Permit. Timing: Fencing shall be installed prior to final inspection.

Monitoring: P&D shall site inspect prior to occupancy clearance.

- 21. In order to reduce the impacts to the sensitive wetland habitat, grading and erosion and sediment control plans shall be designed to minimize erosion and shall include the following:
  - a. Ground disturbances shall be prohibited beyond the development footprint of each structure. The exclusion areas shall be designated with orange construction fencing or other barrier to prevent entry by equipment or personnel.
  - b. Methods such as geotextile fabrics, erosion control blankets, drainage diversion structures, and spot grading shall be used to reduce erosion and siltation into the wetland area during grading and construction activities.
  - c. All entrances/exits to the construction site shall be stabilized (e.g. using rumble plates, gravel beds or other best available technology) to reduce transport of sediment off site. Any sediment or other materials tracked off site shall be removed the same day as they are tracked using dry cleaning methods.
  - d. Storm drain inlets shall be protected from sediment-laden waters by the use of inlet protection devices such as gravel bag barriers, filter fabric fences, block and gravel filters, and excavated inlet sediment traps.
  - e. Graded areas shall be revegetated in accordance with the project revegetation/restoration plan to minimize slope failure and erosion potential. Geotextile binding fabrics shall be used if necessary until vegetation is established.

Chase Single Family Dwelling 01CDH-00000-00060

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f. Temporary storage of construction equipment shall not be permitted on site to avoid any additional impacts to the wetland resource. This requirement shall be stated in the Grading and Erosion Control Plan and be noted on all project plans.

Plan Requirements: A Grading and Erosion Control Plan shall be submitted for review and approved by P&D prior to issuance of a Coastal Development Permit. The plan shall be designed to address erosion and sediment control during all phases of development of the site and include a performance standard section consistent with other project required wetland protection plans. The applicant shall notify Permit Compliance prior to commencement of grading. Timing: Components of the grading plan shall be implemented prior to final inspection. Erosion and sediment control measures shall be in place throughout grading and development of the site until all disturbed areas are permanently stabilized.

Monitoring: Permit Compliance will photo document revegetation and ensure compliance with plan. Grading inspectors shall monitor technical aspects of the grading activities.

- 22. The applicant shall ensure that the project complies with all approved plans and all project conditions including those which must be monitored after the project is built and occupied. To accomplish this, the applicant agrees to:
  - a. Contact P&D compliance staff as soon as possible after project approval to provide the name and phone number of the future contact person for the project and give estimated dates for future project activities.
  - b. Contact P&D compliance staff at least two weeks prior to commencement of construction activities to schedule an on-site pre-construction meeting with the owner, compliance staff, other agency personnel and with key construction personnel.
  - c. Pay fees prior to issuance of Coastal Development Permits as authorized under ordinance and fee schedules to cover full costs of monitoring as described above, including costs for P&D to hire and manage outside consultants when deemed necessary by P&D staff (e.g. non-compliance situations, special monitoring needed for sensitive areas including but not limited to biologists, archaeologists) to assess damage and/or ensure compliance. In such cases, the applicant shall comply with P&D recommendations to bring the project into compliance. The decision of the Director of P&D shall be final in the event of a dispute.

## Conditions Unique to Permit Type

- 23. If the Zoning Administrator determines at a noticed public hearing that the permittee is not in compliance with any conditions of this permit pursuant to the provisions of section 35-169.9 of Article II of the Santa Barbara County Code, the Zoning Administrator may, in addition to revoking the permit pursuant to said section, amend, alter, delete or add conditions to this permit.
- 24. The applicant's acceptance of this permit and/or commencement of construction and/or operations under this permit shall be deemed acceptance of all conditions of this permit by the permittee.

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- 25. The approval of this appealable CDP shall expire one year from the date of approval by the Board of Supervisors or the California Coastal Commission on appeal, if the permit for use, building or structure permit has not been issued.
- The use and/or construction of the building or structure, authorized by this approval cannot commence until the Coastal Development Permit has been issued. Prior to the issuance of the Coastal Development Permit, all of the project conditions that are required to be satisfied prior to issuance of the Coastal Development Permit must be satisfied. Plans accompanying this Coastal Development Permit shall contain all project conditions.

## County Rules and Regulations

- 27. Prior to issuance of the Coastal Development Permit, the applicant shall pay all applicable P&D permit processing fees in full.
- Developer shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the County or its agents, officers and employees from any claim, action or proceeding against the County or its agents, officers or employees, to attack, set aside, void, or annul, in whole or in part, the County's approval of this Coastal Development Permit. In the event that the County fails promptly to notify the applicant of any such claim, action or proceeding, or that the County fails to cooperate fully in the defense of said claim, this condition shall thereafter be of no further force or effect.
- 29. In the event that any condition imposing a fee, exaction, dedication or other mitigation measure is challenged by the project sponsors in an action filed in a court of law or threatened to be filed therein which action is brought within the time period provided for by law, this approval shall be suspended pending dismissal of such action, the expiration of the limitation period applicable to such action, or final resolution of such action. If any condition is invalidated by a court of law, the entire project shall be reviewed by the County and substitute conditions may be imposed.
- 30. If the applicant requests a time extension for this permit, the permit may be revised to include updated language to standard conditions and/or mitigation measures and additional conditions and/or mitigation measures which reflect changed circumstances or additional identified project impacts.
- 31. Prior to issuance of the Coastal Development Permit, the applicant shall obtain an address for the subject property.
- 32. Applicant shall comply with the letter from the Public Works Department dated January 20, 2004.
- 33. Prior to issuance of the Coastal Development Permit, applicant shall obtain all other agency permit approvals or exemptions.

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## ATTACHMENT E

#### CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

## CHASE VARIANCE 02VAR-00000-00003 APN 075-181-022

## **Project Description**

1. This Variance approval [02VAR-00000-00003] is based upon and limited to compliance with the project description, Board of Supervisors Exhibit # 2 dated February 24, 2004 and the conditions of approval set forth below. Any deviations from the project description or the conditions must be reviewed and approved by the Director of Planning and Development for conformity with this approval. Deviations from the project description or conditions of approval may require a modification to 02VAR-00000-00003 and further environmental review.

The project description is as follows:

The front yard variance would allow the building a front yard setback encroachment of twenty (20) feet from the centerline and five (5) feet from the right of way line. The 10-R-I Zone District requirements are fifty (50) feet and twenty (20) feet, respectively. The variance is requested to site the structure as close to Del Playa Drive as possible to avoid, to the maximum extent feasible, impacts to the wetland and vernal pool resources that cover the parcel in its entirety but are more sensitive to impacts towards the center of the parcel.

The side yard variance along the western property boundary would allow the structure to encroach up to the property line. The 10-R-1 zone district requirement for a side yard setback on the subject lot would be five feet. The variance allows the structure to be located up to the property line to avoid impacts to the wetland and vernal pool resources and to allow floor planning flexibility.

The side yard variance on the eastern property boundary adjacent to Lot 23 would allow the structure to be three feet from the property line and five feet from the structure on Lot 23 if development is approved as recommended in case number 01CDH-00000-00061 and 02VAR-00000-00004.

This Variance is approved in conjunction with case number 01CDH-00000-00060.

The grading, development, use, and maintenance of the property, the size, shape, arrangement, and location of structures, parking areas and landscape areas, and the protection and preservation of resources shall conform to the project description above and the conditions of approval below. The property and any portions thereof shall be sold, leased or financed in compliance with this project description and the conditions of approval hereto.

2. Before using any land or structure, or commencing any work pertaining to the erection, moving, alteration, enlarging, or rebuilding of any building, structure, or improvement, the applicant shall obtain a Coastal Development Permit from Planning and

Chase Single Family Dwelling
02VAR-00000-00003
Attachment E - Conditions of Approval
Page E - 2

Development. The Coastal Development Permit (zoning clearance) is required by ordinance and is necessary to ensure implementation of the conditions required by the Board of Supervisors.

- The applicant shall agree in writing to comply with all of the conditions of approval for this Variance request.
- 4. The effective date of this Variance shall be the date of expiration of the appeal period or, if appealed, the date of action by the California Coastal Commission.
- 5. Approval of this variance is considered project specific. The variance applies only to the project described above. Any future development proposals would be subject to the standard setbacks of the 10-R-1 zone district as described in the Article II Zoning Ordinance.
- 6. Developer shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the County or its agents, officers and employees from any claim, action or proceeding against the County or its agents, officers or employees, to attack, set aside, void or annul, in whole or in part, the County's approval of this Variance. In the event that the County fails promptly to notify the applicant of any such claim, action or proceeding, or that the County fails to cooperate fully in the defense of said claim, this condition shall thereafter be of no further force or effect.
- 7. In the event that any condition imposing a fee, exaction, dedication or other mitigation measure is challenged by the project sponsors in an action filed in a court of law or threatened to be filed therein which action is brought within the time period provided for by law, this approval shall be suspended pending dismissal of such action, the expiration of the limitation period applicable to such action, or final resolution of such action. If any condition is invalidated by a court of law, the entire project shall be reviewed by the County and substitute conditions may be imposed.

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## ATTACHMENT B

## APPROVAL/INTENT TO ISSUE A DISCRETIONARY APPEALABLE COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT (CDP)

Case No.: 01CDH-00000-00061 Planner: Jackie Campbell

Project Name: Chase SFD

Project Address: 6800 Block of Del Playa Drive

A.P.N.: 075-181-023



The Board of Supervisors grants approval of this discretionary Coastal Development Permit for the development described below, subject to the attached conditions and final issuance of the Coastal Development Permit.

APPROVAL DATE: February 24, 2004

APPEALS: The Board of Supervisors' final decision may be appealed to the California Coastal Commission.

COASTAL COMMISSION APPEAL PERIOD STARTS: March 1, 2004 (estimated)

COASTAL COMMISISON APPEAL PERIOD ENDS: (ten working days after receipt by the CCC)

#### DATE OF PERMIT ISSUANCE:

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND CONDITIONS: See Exhibit A, hereby incorporated by reference.

### EXPIRATION:

Upon permit issuance, the permit shall be valid for two years. Failure to obtain a required construction or grading permit and to lawfully commence development within two (2) years of permit issuance, shall render this Coastal Development Permit null and void.

ims Coastai Development Ferm	it hun and void.	
Board of Supervisors Appro	val:	
Soft in		15-54-04
Chair, Signature		Date
ACKNOWLEDGMENT: Unde	ersigned permittee acknowledges receipt o	of this permit and agrees to abide by
all terms and conditions thereo		
Print Name	Signature	Date
Planning & Development Is	suance by:	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
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Name	Date CDH\01 CASES\01CDH-00000-00060\BOARD APPEA	

# EXHIBIT A PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND CONDITIONS

## **Project Description**

1. This Coastal Development Permit is based upon and limited to compliance with the project description, the Board of Supervisors hearing exhibit marked Figure 1, dated February 24, 2004 and conditions of approval set forth below. Any deviations from the project description, exhibits or conditions must be reviewed and approved by the County for conformity with this approval. Deviations may require approved changes to the permit and/or further environmental review. Deviations without the above-described approval would constitute a violation of permit approval.

The project description is as follows:

This Coastal Development Permit (with Hearing) for case number 01CDH-00000-00061 allows the construction of a two-story single-family dwelling with an attached carport on APN 075-181-023. The first floor development footprint would be 926 s.f. with 526 s.f. of living space and a 400 s.f. carport. A first floor deck of approximately 216 square feet would also be permitted. The second story would be a maximum of 75% of the first floor area, or 694 s.f. The development footprint would be to the northern end of the parcel, to the maximum extent feasible, to reduce impacts to the wetland habitat. The foundation would be of raised floor construction with a minimum 18" crawl space on caissons or piles. Grading is estimated at approximately 87 cubic yards of cut and 87 cubic yards of fill. Retaining walls of up to two feet in height would be installed according to building codes. Fencing approximately, but no higher than, six feet high would be installed at the east side property line for the length of the dwelling. In addition, an approximately four-foot high split rail fence may be built on the balance of the property lines, in accordance with a wetland mitigation plan approved by the County. Two parking spaces would be provided within the attached carport. Water would be obtained from Goleta Water District and the residence would be connected to the Goleta West Sanitary District sewer system.

A Variance for building encroachment into the front and side (west) setbacks is allowed pursuant to case number 02VAR-00000-00004.

The grading, development, use, and maintenance of the property, the size, shape, arrangement, and location of structures, parking areas and landscape areas, and the protection and preservation of resources shall conform to the project description above and the hearing exhibits and conditions of approval below. The property and any portions thereof shall be sold, leased or financed in compliance with this project description and the approved hearing exhibits and conditions of approval hereto.

## **Project Specific Conditions**

- All site preparation and associated grading and exterior construction activities shall be limited to the hours between 7:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., weekdays only. No construction shall occur on State holidays (e.g. Labor Day, Thanksgiving). Construction equipment maintenance shall be limited to the same hours. Non-noise generating construction activities, such as interior painting, are not subject to these restrictions.
- All construction must comply with final plans approved by the County Board of Architectural Review for 01CDH-00000-00061 prior to issuance of the Coastal Development Permit.

# Mitigation Measures from the EIR

4. In order to reduce impacts related to wetland loss due to building coverage, the maximum first story footprint for the habitable portion of the structure shall not exceed 526 square feet. The carport footprint shall not exceed 400 square feet. The second story shall be limited to no more than 75% of the total coverage of the first floor, or 694 square feet for a total living space area of 1,220 square feet. There shall be no other structural development in or over the wetland habitat, including decks. The construction footprint shall avoid altogether the wetland habitat that enters the parcel from the east, as shown in the 1997 FLx report. Plan Requirements and Timing: The plans shall be reviewed and approved by the Board of Architectural Review and Planning and Development prior to issuance of the Coastal Development Permit.

Monitoring: Permit compliance staff shall site inspect throughout the construction period.

- The design, scale and character of the project architecture shall be compatible with the area development, particularly that which is located on the coastal bluff. Natural building materials and colors compatible with surrounding terrain (earth tones and non reflective paints) shall be used on exterior surfaces of all structures, including any fences. Plan Requirement and Timing: The applicant shall submit architectural drawings of the project for review and approval by the Board of Architectural Review prior to issuance of the Coastal Development Permit. Grading plans, if required, shall be submitted to P&D concurrent with or prior to Board of Architectural Review plan filing.
- 6. The Design Standards shall be as follows:

### Goals and Objectives:

- To protect and enhance the scenic character and natural integrity of the site.
- To encourage grading and development that will be appropriate to the site and will not significantly
  alter the topography.
- To encourage architecture that blends with the site and is compatible in terms of size, massing and scale, that is compatible with the neighborhood and has a high standard of architectural quality.

# Standards:

The architectural design of the structure shall conform to the following criteria. Definition of terms shall be in accordance with the Santa Barbara County Article II Coastal Zoning Ordinance.

- a) <u>Materials:</u> The materials should weather properly in an ocean environment. Unified design materials should be used. Shingle or horizontal siding should be considered. Materials subject to glare, rapid deterioration and inconsistent with high quality standards shall not be permitted.
- b) <u>Landscaping:</u> A Landscaping Plan shall be developed and clearly distinguish between those areas determined to be outside of the wetland area as well as the wetlands. Generally, the front yard area would be considered outside of the wetland area, although it is still considered a buffer area. The wetland area portion of the plan shall consist only of wetland delineated vegetation. The main plant communities that may be included in the plan are vernal pool, vernal swales or flats, introduced

annual grasslands, and native perennial grassland. Any proposed vegetation for the front yard area must be compatible with and non-invasive to the wetland vegetation. The Landscaping Plan shall be reviewed and approved by a County-approved botanist/biologist.

- c) <u>Driveways:</u> The driveway shall be designed such that vehicles remain outside setbacks, as modified.
- d) <u>Color:</u> The color of exterior materials shall be subdued and to the maximum extent feasible, blend into the natural environmental surroundings (colors which blend in with the surrounding vegetation and soils). All colors shall be reviewed and approved by the Board of Architectural Review.
- e) Passive Solar Design: It is encouraged but not mandatory that passive solar energy design principles be used in the design of the residence, such as south-facing glass, thermal storage, shading, insulation devices, and other elements of passive design that can result in an attractive building that also provides heating and cooling. Solar equipment shall be screened from offsite views.
- f) Fencing: An open type fence such as split rail shall be used, when fencing is desired, in the front yard. Rear/side yard fencing shall be similar and may include wire mesh, however permanent chain link fencing is prohibited. All fencing within the project site shall be subject to review and approval by P&D and the Board of Architectural Review, in consultation with a County-approved botanist/biologist.
- g) <u>Design:</u> The design of the structure shall have individuality but work with the adjacent project on APN 075-181-022. All elevations should exhibit a cohesive vocabulary.

Plan Requirement and Timing: The applicant shall submit architectural drawings of the project for review and approval by the Board of Architectural Review prior to issuance of the Coastal Development Permit. Grading plans, if required, shall be submitted to P&D concurrent with or prior to Board of Architectural Review plan filing.

7. Any exterior night lighting installed on the project site shall be of low intensity, low glare design, and shall be hooded to direct light downward onto the subject parcel and prevent spill-over onto adjacent parcels and any public open space areas, and into the wetland habitat. Applicant shall develop a Lighting Plan incorporating these requirements and provisions for dimming lights after 10:00 p.m. Plan Requirements: The lighting plan shall show the locations of all exterior lighting fixtures and an arrow showing the direction of light being cast by each fixture, the foot candles and other lighting specifications, and the height of the fixtures. The plan shall be designed in particular to avoid lighting impacts to the wetland habitat.

Monitoring: P&D and BAR shall review a Lighting Plan for compliance with this measure prior to issuance of the Coastal Development Permit. Permit Compliance shall inspect structures upon completion to ensure that exterior lighting fixtures have been installed consistent with their depiction on the final Lighting Plan.

8. In order to help offset the loss of wetland habitat due to the construction of the residences, the applicant shall provide offsite wetland mitigation at a ratio of 4:1 for each square foot lost directly as a result of the project, and at a ratio of 2:1 for each square foot lost indirectly, as determined by a County-approved biologist with expertise in wetland habitats. As an alternative, the applicant may provide funding to an existing offsite wetland mitigation bank, or may mitigate through a combination of land and funding.

There would be no loss of primary wetland habitat through avoidance and a loss of approximately 1,522 square feet of wetland buffer, the entire development footprint of the first floor, including driveway, sidewalk and deck areas. These estimates could change based on the actual design plans. Plan Requirements: The applicant shall prepare an Offsite Wetland Mitigation Plan prepared by a County-approved biologist (with expertise in wetland habitats) for review by P&D and County Counsel. The plan shall specify the offsite mitigation site(s), include performance standards, explain the methodology for choosing the sites and determining the appropriate acreage (or a calculation of the in lieu mitigation fees), and explain the mechanism(s) for securing the offsite location for mitigation. Timing: The mitigation plan shall be approved by P&D and County Counsel prior to issuance of a Coastal Development Permit.

- 9. In order to help offset the impacts to the wetland habitat due to the construction of the residence, the applicant shall prepare an Onsite Wetland Protection Plan. Plan Requirements: The Onsite Wetland Protection Plan shall be prepared by a County-approved biologist (with expertise in wetland habitats) for review by P&D and County Counsel. The plan shall specify the onsite methods to ensure the long-term health and viability of the wetland resources and include at a minimum measures such as revegetation and periodic weeding, periodic debris collection, periodic soil nourishment and fencing, as appropriate. Timing: The Plan shall be approved by P&D and County Counsel prior to issuance of the Coastal Development Permit.
- 10. In order to reduce construction related and long-term impacts to the wetland and particularly to the wetland hydrology, a caisson or pile foundation shall be used. Plan Requirements and Timing: This requirement shall be stated on all building plans and be approved by P&D prior to issuance of the Coastal Development Permit.
- In order to reduce the potential of dust generation within proximity to the wetland habitat, dust generated by the development activities shall be kept to a minimum using the dust control measures listed below.
  - a. During clearing, grading, earth moving, excavation, or transportation of cut or fill materials, water trucks or sprinkler systems are to be used to prevent dust from leaving the site and to create a crust after each day's activities cease.
  - b. During construction, water trucks or sprinkler systems shall be used to keep all areas of vehicle movement damp enough to prevent dust from leaving the site. At a minimum, this would include wetting down such areas in the later morning and after work is completed for the day and whenever wind exceeds 15 miles per hour.
  - c. Soil stockpiled for more than two days shall be covered, kept moist, or treated with soil binders to prevent dust generation.

Plan Requirements: All requirements shall be shown on grading and building plans. Timing: Condition shall be adhered to throughout all grading and construction periods.

Monitoring: P&D shall ensure measures are on plans. P&D Grading and Building inspectors shall spot check; Grading and Building shall ensure compliance on-site. APCD inspectors shall respond to nuisance complaints.

In order to protect the wetland habitat, the applicant shall record an open space easement for the undeveloped remainder of the project parcel (excluding the front and side yards). The easement language shall specify the purpose and restrictions in the easement area. The language shall include, but not be limited to specifying that the purpose of the easement is to preserve and to restore vernal pool and wetland vegetation and the activities that occur in this are shall be compatible with this intent and purpose. In addition, the management of this area shall be in conformance with the Onsite Wetland Protection Plan approved by P&D. Plan Requirements and Timing: Prior to issuance of the Coastal Development Permit, the applicant shall specify how management of the easement area will be funded and provide the funding. P&D and County Counsel approve the method of funding.

Monitoring: Provisions of the easement and encroachment prevention plans shall be monitored annually through site inspections and photo documentation by P&D staff.

- 13. The following mitigations shall apply to the wetland complex (including the buffer area) designated on the biological survey maps:
  - a. During construction, temporary fencing shall be installed at edge of the permitted construction zone to prevent any further intrusion into the wetland habitat. The placement of the fence as well as the fence design shall be approved by a County-approved wetland biologist.
  - b. No grass cutting shall be permitted within the delineated wetland areas except for as provided in an approved landscaping/planting plan.
  - c. Installation of a permanent split rail fence should be considered, in consultation with a County-approved wetland biologist. The purpose of the fence would be to protect the remaining wetland habitat against impacts from humans, vehicles and pets. The fence would have signs posted to explain this requirement and discourage vandalism. No residentially-related uses shall be permitted outside of the fenced areas except for the decks.
  - d. No disking for fire control or any other used shall occur in the wetland or buffer areas.
  - e. No mosquito control shall be permitted except use of mosquito fish.

Plan Requirements: These wetland protection measures shall be included in the Onsite Wetland
Protection Plan and the site restoration/revegetation plan and recorded on all project plans. **Timing:**These measures shall be included in the appropriate plans prior to issuance of the Coastal Development
Permit.

Monitoring: Permit Compliance shall site inspect throughout the implementation and maintenance periods.

During construction, washing of concrete trucks, paint, equipment, or similar activities shall occur only in areas where polluted water and materials can be contained for subsequent removal from the site.

Wash water shall not be discharged to the storm drains, street, drainage ditches, creeks, or wetlands. Areas designated for washing functions shall be at least 100 feet from any storm drain, water body or sensitive biological resources. The location(s) of the washout area(s) shall be clearly noted at the

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construction site with signs. In addition, construction materials and waste such as paint, mortar, concrete slurry, fuels, etc. shall be stored, handled, and disposed of in a manner which minimizes the potential for storm water contamination. Plan Requirements: The applicant shall designate washout and storage areas, acceptable to P&D, and these areas shall be shown on the construction and/or grading and building plans. Timing: The washout and storage areas shall be designated on all plans prior to issuance of the Coastal Development Permit. Both areas shall be in place and maintained throughout construction.

Monitoring: P&D staff shall check plans prior to issuance of a Coastal Development Permit and compliance staff shall site inspect throughout the construction period to ensure proper use and maintenance of the washout and storage areas.

- 15. Best available erosion and sediment control measures shall be implemented during grading and construction in order to reduce impacts to the wetland/vernal pool complex. The following measures shall be used and be placed outside of the wetland habitat to the extent feasible to remain effective Best available erosion and sediment control measures may include but are not limited to use of gravel bags, silt fences, geo-bags or gravel and geotextile fabric berms, erosion control blankets, coir rolls, jute net, and straw bales. Sediment control measures shall be maintained for the duration of the grading period and until graded areas have been stabilized by structures, long-term erosion control measures or landscaping. Construction entrances and exits shall be stabilized using gravel beds, rumble plates, or other measures to prevent sediment from being tracked onto adjacent roadways. Any sediment or other materials tracked off site shall be removed the same day as they are tracked using dry cleaning methods. Plan Requirements: An erosion and sediment control plan shall be submitted to and approved by P&D and Flood Control prior to issuance of the Coastal Development Permit. The plan shall be designed to address erosion and sediment control during all phases of development of the site. Timing: The plan shall be implemented prior to the commencement of grading/construction.
- 16. To limit runoff into the wetland/vernal pool complex from impervious areas and to allow for infiltration, all proposed hardscape areas (i.e., driveways, walkways) shall use permeable surfaces (e.g., porous pavement or unit pavers on sand) in the project design. Driveway designs could also include paving only under wheels. Plan Requirements and Timing: Pervious surfaces shall be described and depicted graphically on the site, building, grading and landscape plans and including all specifications. The plans shall be submitted to P&D for review prior to issuance of the Coastal Development Permit.

Monitoring: P&D shall site inspect for installation.

- 17. The applicant shall install a roof runoff collection and disposal system. Runoff shall be directed to either a subsurface infiltration trench or French drains. The intent of this mitigation is to direct clean water to the wetland area. Plan Requirements and Timing: The roof runoff collection system shall be shown on grading, building and landscape plans. The plans shall be submitted to P&D for review prior to issuance of the Coastal Development Permit. The system shall be installed prior to final inspection.
- 18. Indoor water use shall be limited through the following measures:
  - a. All hot water lines shall be insulated.

- b. Recirculating, point-of-use, or on-demand water heaters shall be installed.
- c. Water efficient clothes washers and dishwashers shall be installed.

Plan Requirements: Prior to issuance of the Coastal Development Permits, indoor water-conserving measures shall be graphically depicted on building plans, subject to P&D review and approval. Timing: Indoor water-conserving measures shall be implemented prior to occupancy clearance.

Monitoring: P&D shall inspect for all requirements prior to occupancy clearance.

19. The applicant shall implement a Revegetation and Restoration Plan. This plan shall apply only to those areas outside of the defined wetland/vernal pool complex and generally includes the front and side yards. Only seed stock from locally obtained sources shall be used for landscaping purposes. The plan shall utilize only species compatible with and noninvasive to the wetland. Plan Requirements and Timing: The plan shall be submitted to and approved by P&D and a performance surety posted prior to issuance of a Coastal Development Permit. The plan shall be reviewed and approved by a County-approved biologist for compatibility with the wetland vegetation. All plant genus and species shall be denoted in the plan.

Monitoring: P&D staff shall perform site inspections both throughout the construction phase and during the long-term performance phase.

20. The minimum distance from ground level to any fence's first rung shall be 18 inches. Barbed-wire fencing shall not be installed between lots or along property boundaries. Plan Requirements: All fences shall be shown on plans prior issuance of the Coastal Development Permit. Timing: Fencing shall be installed prior to final inspection.

Monitoring: P&D shall site inspect prior to occupancy clearance.

- 21. In order to reduce the impacts to the sensitive wetland habitat, grading and erosion and sediment control plans shall be designed to minimize erosion and shall include the following:
  - a. Ground disturbances shall be prohibited beyond the development footprint of each structure. The exclusion areas shall be designated with orange construction fencing or other barrier to prevent entry by equipment or personnel.
  - b. Methods such as geotextile fabrics, erosion control blankets, drainage diversion structures, and spot grading shall be used to reduce erosion and siltation into the wetland area during grading and construction activities.
  - c. All entrances/exits to the construction site shall be stabilized (e.g. using rumble plates, gravel beds or other best available technology) to reduce transport of sediment off site. Any sediment or other materials tracked off site shall be removed the same day as they are tracked using dry cleaning methods.
  - d. Storm drain inlets shall be protected from sediment-laden waters by the use of inlet protection devices such as gravel bag barriers, filter fabric fences, block and gravel filters, and excavated inlet sediment traps.

- e. Graded areas shall be revegetated in accordance with the project revegetation/restoration plan to minimize slope failure and erosion potential. Geotextile binding fabrics shall be used if necessary until vegetation is established.
- f. Temporary storage of construction equipment shall not be permitted on site to avoid any additional impacts to the wetland resource. This requirement shall be stated in the Grading and Erosion Control Plan and be noted on all project plans.

Plan Requirements: A Grading and Erosion Control Plan shall be submitted for review and approved by P&D prior to issuance of a Coastal Development Permit. The plan shall be designed to address erosion and sediment control during all phases of development of the site and include a performance standard section consistent with other project required wetland protection plans. The applicant shall notify Permit Compliance prior to commencement of grading. Timing: Components of the grading plan shall be implemented prior to final inspection. Erosion and sediment control measures shall be in place throughout grading and development of the site until all disturbed areas are permanently stabilized.

Monitoring: Permit Compliance will photo document revegetation and ensure compliance with the plan. Grading inspectors shall monitor technical aspects of the grading activities.

- 22. The applicant shall ensure that the project complies with all approved plans and all project conditions including those which must be monitored after the project is built and occupied. To accomplish this, the applicant agrees to:
  - a. Contact P&D compliance staff as soon as possible after project approval to provide the name and phone number of the future contact person for the project and give estimated dates for future project activities.
  - b. Contact P&D compliance staff at least two weeks prior to commencement of construction activities to schedule an on-site pre-construction meeting with the owner, compliance staff, other agency personnel and with key construction personnel.
    - c. Pay fees prior to issuance of Coastal Development Permits as authorized under ordinance and fee schedules to cover full costs of monitoring as described above, including costs for P&D to hire and manage outside consultants when deemed necessary by P&D staff (e.g. non-compliance situations, special monitoring needed for sensitive areas including but not limited to biologists, archaeologists) to assess damage and/or ensure compliance. In such cases, the applicant shall comply with P&D recommendations to bring the project into compliance. The decision of the Director of P&D shall be final in the event of a dispute.

# Conditions Unique to Permit Type

23. If the Zoning Administrator determines at a noticed public hearing that the permittee is not in compliance with any conditions of this permit pursuant to the provisions of section 35-169.9 of Article II of the Santa Barbara County Code, the Zoning Administrator may, in addition to revoking the permit pursuant to said section, amend, alter, delete or add conditions to this permit.

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- 24. The applicant's acceptance of this permit and/or commencement of construction and/or operations under this permit shall be deemed acceptance of all conditions of this permit by the permittee.
- 25. The approval of this appealable CDP shall expire one year from the date of approval by the Board of Supervisors or the California Coastal Commission, if the permit for use, building or structure permit has not been issued.
- The use and/or construction of the building or structure, authorized by this approval cannot commence until the Coastal Development Permit has been issued. Prior to the issuance of the Coastal Development Permit, all of the project conditions that are required to be satisfied prior to issuance of the Coastal Development Permit must be satisfied. Plans accompanying this Coastal Development Permit shall contain all project conditions.

## County Rules and Regulations

- 27. Prior to issuance of the Coastal Development Permit, the applicant shall pay all applicable P&D permit processing fees in full.
- 28. Developer shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the County or its agents, officers and employees from any claim, action or proceeding against the County or its agents, officers or employees, to attack, set aside, void, or annul, in whole or in part, the County's approval of this Coastal Development Permit. In the event that the County fails promptly to notify the applicant of any such claim, action or proceeding, or that the County fails to cooperate fully in the defense of said claim, this condition shall thereafter be of no further force or effect.
- 29. In the event that any condition imposing a fee, exaction, dedication or other mitigation measure is challenged by the project sponsors in an action filed in a court of law or threatened to be filed therein which action is brought within the time period provided for by law, this approval shall be suspended pending dismissal of such action, the expiration of the limitation period applicable to such action, or final resolution of such action. If any condition is invalidated by a court of law, the entire project shall be reviewed by the County and substitute conditions may be imposed.
- 30. If the applicant requests a time extension for this permit, the permit may be revised to include updated language to standard conditions and/or mitigation measures and additional conditions and/or mitigation measures which reflect changed circumstances or additional identified project impacts.
- 31. Prior to issuance of the Coastal Development Permit, the applicant shall obtain an address for the subject property.
- 32. Applicant shall comply with the letter from the Public Works Department dated January 20, 2004.
- 33. Prior to issuance of the Coastal Development Permit, applicant shall obtain all necessary permits or exemptions from other agencies.

# ATTACHMENT C

#### CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

CHASE VARIANCE 02VAR-00000-00004 APN 075-181-023

## **Project Description**

1. This Variance approval [02VAR-00000-00004] is based upon and limited to compliance with the project description, Figure #1 dated February 24, 2004, and the conditions of approval set forth below. Any deviations from the project description or the conditions must be reviewed and approved by the Director of Planning and Development for conformity with this approval. Deviations from the project description or conditions of approval may require a modification to 02VAR-00000-00004 and further environmental review.

The project description is as follows:

The front yard variance would allow the building a front yard setback encroachment of twenty-seven (27) feet from the centerline and twelve (12) feet from the right of way line. The 10-R-1 Zone District requirements are fifty (50) feet and twenty (20) feet, respectively. The variance is requested to site the structure close to Del Playa Drive to avoid, to the maximum extent feasible, impacts to the wetland and vernal pool resources that cover the parcel in its entirety but are more sensitive to impacts towards the center of the parcel.

The side yard variance along the western property boundary would allow the structure to be located as close as two feet from the property line. The 10-R-1 zone district requirement for a side yard setback on the subject lot would be five feet. The variance allows the structure to be located close to the property line to avoid impacts to the wetland and vernal pool resources and to allow floor planning flexibility.

This Variance is approved in conjunction with case number 01CDH-00000-00061.

The grading, development, use, and maintenance of the property, the size, shape, arrangement, and location of structures, parking areas and landscape areas, and the protection and preservation of resources shall conform to the project description above and the conditions of approval below. The property and any portions thereof shall be sold, leased or financed in compliance with this project description and the conditions of approval hereto.

2. Before using any land or structure, or commencing any work pertaining to the erection, moving, alteration, enlarging, or rebuilding of any building, structure, or improvement, the applicant shall obtain a Coastal Development Permit from Planning and Development. The Coastal Development Permit (zoning clearance) is required by ordinance and is necessary to ensure implementation of the conditions required by the Board of Supervisors.

Chase Single- Family Dwelling
02VAR-00000-00004
Attachment C - Conditions of Approval
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- 3. The applicant shall agree in writing to comply with all of the conditions of approval for this Variance request.
- 4. The effective date of this Variance shall be the date of expiration of the appeal period or, if appealed, the date of action by the California Coastal Commission.
- 5. Approval of this variance is considered project specific. The variance applies only to the project described above. Any future development proposals would be subject to the standard setbacks of the 10-R-1 zone district for interior lots as described in the general regulations of the Article II Zoning Ordinance.
- 6. Developer shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the County or its agents, officers and employees from any claim, action or proceeding against the County or its agents, officers or employees, to attack, set aside, void or annul, in whole or in part, the County's approval of this Variance. In the event that the County fails promptly to notify the applicant of any such claim, action or proceeding, or that the County fails to cooperate fully in the defense of said claim, this condition shall thereafter be of no further force or effect.
- 7. In the event that any condition imposing a fee, exaction, dedication or other mitigation measure is challenged by the project sponsors in an action filed in a court of law or threatened to be filed therein which action is brought within the time period provided for by law, this approval shall be suspended pending dismissal of such action, the expiration of the limitation period applicable to such action, or final resolution of such action. If any condition is invalidated by a court of law, the entire project shall be reviewed by the County and substitute conditions may be imposed.

G:\group\permitting\casefiles\cdh\01cases\01cdh-00061\Board Appeal\Variance04 Lot 23

### CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

45 FREMONT, SUITE 2000 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105-2219 VOICE AND TDD (415) 904-5200 FAX (415) 904-5400



### MEMORANDUM

FROM: John Dixon, Ph.D.

**Ecologist / Wetland Coordinator** 

TO: Shana Gray

SUBJECT: Wetland Delineation for Chase & adjacent parcels

DATE: December 29, 2004

#### Materials reviewed:

- 1. Photos of vacant lots on Del Playa Drive in Isla Vista, including the Chase property, apparently taken during January, February, and March of 1978 and during January and February of 1995.
- 2. Santa Barbara County Flood Control District rainfall records for Station 339 (Santa Barbara El Estero Treatment Plant), Station 226 (Dos Pueblos Ranch), and Station 440 (Goleta Fire Station #14).
- 3. FLx. May 1997. Plant surveys and wetland delineations for five land parcels, Del Playa Drive, Isla Vista, CA. A report to the County of Santa Barbara, Zoning Administration Division.

Photographs showing extensive ponding on the subject property have been submitted as evidence that the wetland areas are larger than those mapped by Flx as part of their technical wetland delineation. The significance of such photographs is generally difficult to assess since they provide no indication of the duration of inundation. A series of photographs of the same area taken about 7 days apart is necessary in order to estimate the duration of inundation in the context of a technical wetland delineation. It is also necessary to have rainfall records in order to determine whether the observations took place in a "normal" year. In the case of the photographs submitted, there is no way to assess the duration of ponding or inundation, and the rainfall data in the following table indicate that both periods were extraordinarily wet. Therefore, I do not think the photographs provide a basis for questioning the accuracy of the Flx delineation.

EXH	IBI	T 1	0

A-4-STB-06-054 & -055

J. Dixon Memo

Table. Rainfall immediately before and during the months that the submitted photographs were taken.

Date	Monthly Rainfall (Average from 3 Stations)	Long- Term Monthly Average	Deviation from Long-Term Average	Approximate Return Interval for Monthly Total (years)	
Dec-77	5.63	2.92	2.71	5 - 10	
Jan-78	9.33	3.96	5.37	10 - 25	Photos
Feb-78	10.33	3.94	6.39	10 - 25	Photos
Mar-78	12.17	3.02	9.15	200	Photos
Dec-94	0.84	2.92	-2.08	2	
Jan-95	20.18	3.96	16.22	200 - 500	Photos
Feb-95	1.32	3.94	-2.62	1	Photos

### CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

45 FREMONT, SUITE 2000 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105-2219 VOICE AND TDD (415) 904-5200 FAX (415) 904-5400



#### MEMORANDUM

FROM: John Dixon, Ph.D.

**Ecologist / Wetland Coordinator** 

TO: Shana Gray

SUBJECT: Chase Property Wetland Delineation

DATE: October 26, 2004

#### Documents reviewed:

- 1. FLx. May 1997. Plant surveys and wetland delineations for five land parcels, Del Playa Drive, Isla Vista, CA. A report to the County of Santa Barbara, Zoning Administration Division.
- 2. Rachel Tierney (Biological Consultant). Letter report to Keven Drude (County of Santa Barbara) concerning wetland boundaries on the Chase property on Del Playa Drive in Isla Vista dated November 17, 2003

The Flx wetland delineation was conducted using the standard methods contained in the 1987 Army Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual. The wetland definition in the Commission's Regulations, which generally requires positive evidence of either wetland soils or wetland vegetation, was followed. The wetland delineation was conducted treating the whole open space area occupied by the five land parcels as a unit. Seven wetland sampling points were distributed throughout the area and 1 sampling point was placed in a typical upland portion of the site. The wetland sample points had evidence of all three wetland parameters (hydrology, hydric soils, and hydrophytic vegetation). The boundary between the wetlands and the uplands was drawn using a visually obvious change in the vegetation from an area dominated by wetland indicator species to an area dominated wild oats, an upland grass. Although it is stated that, "All areas within the wetland boundary satisfy at least two delineation criteria (and usually all three).", this is strictly true only for the seven sample points. Unfortunately, only one wetland sample point (SS6) was actually adjacent to the delineated wetland boundary. This is a significant lack in an otherwise careful delineation. Delineations should include paired sample points in and out of the wetland and adjacent to one another. The number of such paired samples depends on the size and the apparent homogeneity of the wetlands and uplands. Also, as a practical matter, a separate delineation with sample points would usually be conducted on each legal parcel, even though the parcel lines are arbitrary in the wetland context. In this case, two parcels (APN 75-181-23 & APN 75-181-27) received no sample points and the others received either one or two sample points. However, despite these technical shortcomings, the procedure used to delineate the wetlands was reasonable and the

distinction between areas with a predominance of wetland indicator species and those with a predominance of upland species can reasonably be assumed to be accurate.

Rachel Tierney accepts the accuracy of FLx's data, but noted the sparseness of the sample sites. She established five, uniformly spaced sample points along each of two transects from Del Playa Drive to the center of parcel APN 75-181-22 and parcel APN 75-181-23. She found evidence of hydric soils at the southern most point on each transect, which were in the general area of the nearest FLx sample point (SS7). However none of the more northerly points had hydric soil indicators. The only readily recognizable vegetation (in late fall) was the FAC species *Lolium*. In the FLx study, *Lolium* was the only dominant in the one sample point in the vicinity of these two parcels. Also, there was a note on that sample sheet that it was a "problem area – lower depressions are wetland but [unclear word] higher areas need to be visited in winter to confirm hydrology." Tierney points out that the areas under the proposed building footprint do not have hydric soils and would not be delineated as wetlands by the Army Corps of Engineers. She also points out that *Lolium* is a poor indicator and should not be used as the sole basis for delineating a wetland.

Based on the available information, it is my opinion that the wetland boundary established by FLx should be accepted. It marks the boundary between a predominance of wetland indicator plants and upland plants. FLx did not identify which wetland indicators were present near the boundary on the parcels in question. Tierney, observing during the worst time of year, only found evidence of *Lolium*, which is, no doubt, one of the dominant wetland indicator plants present during the winter and spring, but not necessarily the only one. Also, the delineation is not based solely on Lolium. It is clear that there is a wetness gradient from wet to dry as one goes from the center of the parcels to Del Playa Street and it is probable that a careful vegetation study during the appropriate time of year would also show a gradient in the vegetation. Along this moisture gradient, the line marking the lower extreme of upland grass is significant. I think that landscape position is important and where a preponderance of wetland indicator plants, even FAC plants, occur around the edges of an obvious wetland that the presumption should be that they are part of that wetland. That presumption could be rebutted by strong evidence of upland conditions, which generally requires extensive observations during the rainy season.