

**CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION**

SOUTH CENTRAL COAST AREA  
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# W24a



## **NOTICE OF IMPENDING DEVELOPMENT DE MINIMIS: CONSENT CALENDAR**

**DATE:** December 22, 2011

**TO:** All Interested Parties

**SUBJECT:** Notice of Impending Development (NOID) 6-11 (Goleta West Sanitary District Trunk Improvements) at the University of California at Santa Barbara

Based on project plans and information submitted by the applicant regarding the development described below, the Executive Director of the Coastal Commission believes the proposed development is *de minimis* with respect to the purposes and provisions of the certified LRDP and has therefore scheduled it for review by the Commission on its Consent Calendar, pursuant to Section 13550(c) of the Commission's Regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 5.5).

**Applicant:** University of California Santa Barbara (UCSB)

**Location:** Within and adjacent to approximately 3,000 linear ft. of Mesa Rd right-of-way at UCSB

**Description:** Abandonment of approximately 2,380 linear ft. of existing sewer line, removal of approximately 280 linear ft. of sewer line, and replacement with 2,961 linear ft. of new sewer line in a new alignment primarily located within the existing Mesa Road right-of-way. The sewer line abandonment/replacement project also includes partial/complete removal of six (6) manholes with minor backfill grading to restore grade to previous topography, removal of four (4) non-native pine trees, abandonment and restoration of existing access road in East Storke Wetland, approximately 0.4 acres of temporary disturbance in an existing degraded wetland area, restoration of 0.4 acres of disturbed wetland areas with native species pursuant to the proposed mitigation and monitoring plan, and approximately 19,712 cu. yds. of grading (10,554 cu. yds. cut and 9,158 cu. yds. fill) for trenching and microtunneling.

**Rationale:** The proposed project is minor in nature and will serve to enhance the long-term habitat value of wetland areas onsite. Specifically the project involves abandonment of a portion of an existing sewer line and associated infrastructure within the East Storke Wetland area and replacement/realignment of the sewer line outside of environmentally sensitive habitat areas (ESHA), primarily within an existing paved road right-of-way (Mesa Rd). In coordination with the Goleta West Sanitary District, the University proposes to have a biological monitor onsite during construction. Although the pipeline to be abandoned is located partially within an area of East Storke Wetland, this project will not result in any significant impacts or permanent loss of wetland habitat since all abandonment and construction activities will occur within previously disturbed/developed areas as a result of the original installation of the pipeline and its associated maintenance activities over time. However, approximately 0.4 acres of existing degraded/disturbed wetland habitat will be temporarily impacted by the abandonment activities. Thus, in order to ensure that no permanent impacts to wetland habitat occurs, the University has submitted a revegetation and restoration plan to restore all disturbed wetland areas with a three-year monitoring program which is part of the proposed project.

As part of the proposed mitigation and monitoring plan, restoration of approximately 0.4 acres of disturbed wetlands will be monitored for three years to ensure the successful establishment of native vegetation with a requirement that 75% of species establish and

persist. During this three-year period, a qualified biologist or resource specialist will prepare and submit, for the review and approval of the Executive Director, an annual monitoring report. Pursuant to the proposed plan, if the final monitoring report indicates that the restoration has, in part or in whole, been unsuccessful based on the performance standard, the University will submit a revised or supplemental mitigation and monitoring plan within 90 days, for the review and approval of the Executive Director, to compensate for those portions of the original plan which did not meet the success criteria. The Executive Director will determine whether a new NOID is necessary to implement the revised or supplemental mitigation program.

Moreover, the project is consistent with the subject site's land use designation as "Open Space" pursuant to the certified 1990 Long Range Development Plan (LRDP). Surrounding land uses include Central Stores/Mail Receiving Building 507 and California Department of Fish and Game habitat restoration site to the north; Los Carneros Rd and Storke Family Apartments to the east; East Storke Wetland, Parking Lot 28, and Harder Stadium to the south; and Public Safety Building 574 and Goleta West Sanitary District Pumping Station to the west.

Therefore, although the project involves minor temporary impacts to wetland areas, this project will serve to enhance the long-term biological productivity of wetland habitat on site. Thus, as proposed to incorporate biological monitoring during construction and a three-year revegetation/restoration and monitoring program, the impending project will not result in any adverse effects to coastal resources and the project is consistent with UCSB's certified LRDP.

**IMPORTANT:** This NOID is not valid unless the project site has been posted and until the NOID has been reported to the Coastal Commission. This NOID is proposed to be reported to the Commission at the meeting of January 11, 2012 in Santa Monica. If three Commissioners request that this NOID be scheduled for a public hearing on the regular permit calendar, this NOID shall be removed from the consent calendar, pursuant to Section 13103 of the Commission's Regulations.

Persons wishing to object to or having questions regarding this NOID should contact the Commission office at the above address or phone number prior to the Commission meeting date.

Sincerely,

CHARLES LESTER  
Executive Director

By: Kanani Brown  
Title: Coastal Program Analyst