

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

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



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NOTICE OF IMPENDING DEVELOPMENT DE MINIMIS: CONSENT CALENDAR

DATE: May 21, 2015

TO: All Interested Parties

SUBJECT: Notice of Impending Development UCS-NOID-0009-14 (Kavli Institute for Theoretical Physics (KITP) Southern Tarplant Habitat Enhancement and Seedbank Restoration Project) at Storke Campus 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: Kavli Institute for Theoretical Physics (KITP) Housing Complex and north of the San Clemente Habitat Restoration Site, Storke Campus, University of California Santa Barbara (UCSB)

Description: The University is requesting after-the-fact approval for the implementation of a southern tarplant habitat enhancement and seedbank re-establishment project involving relocation of approximately 15 cu. yds. of topsoil, with the potential to contain Southern Tarplant seedbank, from the KITP Housing project site to the San Clemente Habitat Restoration site (receiver site). No tarplants were removed or relocated as part of the seedbank re-establishment project. The University also proposes restoration of the receiver site and will monitor the seedbank soil for restoration success and incorporate Best Management Practices (BMPs) for erosion control purposes during the revegetation process.

Rationale: The proposed development is minor in nature involving the relocation of topsoil, , from the area of the previously approved footprint for development on the KITP Housing project site to an area just north of the San Clemente Habitat Restoration site (receiver site) for the purpose of habitat enhancement and to establish *Centromadia parryivaraustralis* (Southern Tarplant) seedbank on the receiver site. The KITP Housing site is bounded by El Colegio Road to the south, San Clemente Graduate Student Housing Complex to the east, and the San Clemente

Habitat Restoration Site to the west. The receiver site is located to the north of the San Clemente Habitat Restoration and east of Los Carneros Road. The receiver site is located within the 100-foot buffer of an adjacent wetland, however the topsoil was placed over a degraded area that contained non-native species (*Picris echoides* (bristly ox tongue) and *Medicago polymorpha* (Bur medic)), and prior to the placement of the topsoil, the receiver site was removed of non-native species. Thus, no native vegetation was removed or impacted as part of either the collection or the placement of the topsoil. Furthermore, Southern tarplant is considered to be an appropriate wetland species, with an indicator of FACW, to be located within the buffer area of the adjacent wetland habitat. The proposed project is consistent with the allowed uses under the Open Space land use designation.

Although the KITP Housing Complex project biological surveys and pre-construction surveys did not find the presence of Southern Tarplant at the housing complex site, historical monitoring surveys for the adjacent San Clemente Habitat Restoration noted a presence of Southern tarplant in and around the KITP project site in 2007 and 2010. In order to ensure the success of the habitat enhancement project, the University also proposes to monitor the restoration success of the receiver site for a period of five years and submit a monitoring report at the end of the five years. In addition, the University also proposes to incorporate Best Management Practices (BMPs), such as jute netting and silt fencing, for erosion control purposes at the receiver site. Furthermore, the project will not result in the removal of any native vegetation and will not adversely impact any environmentally sensitive habitat areas. The impending development will not result in potential adverse effects to any coastal resources and the project is consistent with UCSB's certified 2010 Long Range Development Plan (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 June 11, 2015 in Newport Beach. 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 Commisison's Regulations.

Person wising 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: Denise Venegas
Title: Coastal Program Analyst