

Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

Form F

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH # _____

Project Title: San Juan Bautista to Hollister Sanitary Sewer Force Main

Lead Agency: City of San Juan Bautista

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Project Location: San Juan Bautista/Hollister San Benito
City *County*

Project Description (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences).

The proposed project includes repurposing San Juan Bautista's existing WWTP influent pump station and development of a new 10-inch diameter high-density polyethylene (HDPE) force main that would carry effluent from the San Juan Bautista WWTP to a manhole just upstream of the Hollister Domestic WWTP influent pump station.

Identify the project's significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

Air Quality

AQ-1 The City of San Juan Bautista will prepare a Construction Management Plan and implement it during construction activities. The plan will include the following restrictions:

- a. Heavy-duty diesel vehicles will have 2010 or newer model year engines, in compliance with the California Air Resources Board's Truck and Bus Regulation, and will not be staged within 500 feet of occupied residences; and
- b. Idling of construction equipment and heavy-duty diesel trucks will be avoided where feasible, and if idling is necessary, it will not exceed five minutes.

AQ-2 All construction equipment will be maintained and properly tuned in accordance with manufacturer's specifications and will be checked by a certified visible emissions evaluator. All non-road diesel construction equipment will, at a minimum, meet Tier 3 emission standards listed in the Code of Federal Regulations Title 40, Part 89, Subpart B, §89.112. Further, where feasible, construction equipment will use alternative fuels such as compressed natural gas, propane, electricity or biodiesel.

Biological Resources

BIO-1 Prior to approval of grading permits for the WWTPs and sewer main route, a biologist qualified in botany shall conduct a focused survey of the proposed area of impact (including construction staging areas) for Congdon's tarplant in accordance with current CDFW and CNPS rare plant survey protocols (CDFW 2018 and CNPS 2001). The survey shall occur during the peak blooming period for this species to determine its presence or absence (typically August through September). If possible, a known reference population of the target species in the project vicinity shall first be visited to verify that the species is observable, and the focused survey shall be conducted within two weeks of observing the reference population in full bloom.

If the focused surveys identify Congdon's tarplant within the project site boundary and it would be affected by the proposed project, then appropriate mitigation shall be developed by the biologist and implemented by the City of San Juan Bautista prior to issuance of a grading permit. Measures may include, but are not limited to:

- a. A qualified biologist shall identify an on-site or off-site mitigation area suitable for restoration of habitat and seed transplantation for this annual herb. The City of San Juan Bautista shall be responsible for the placement of a conservation easement over the mitigation area and the provision of funds to ensure the restoration of the mitigation area and its preservation in perpetuity.
- b. Prior to approval of a grading permit, a qualified biologist or native plant specialist shall perform seed collection from all special-status plants located within the impact areas and implement seed installation at the mitigation area at the optimal time. Additionally, topsoil from the special-status species occurrence area(s) shall be salvaged (where practical) for use in the mitigation area.
- c. A maintenance and monitoring program shall be developed by a qualified biologist and established for a minimum of five years after mitigation area installation to verify that restoration activities have been successful. Maintenance activities may include, but not be limited to, watering during the plant establishment period, supplemental seed planting as needed, and removal of non-native plants. Monitoring shall include, at a minimum, quarterly monitoring reports for the first year and annual reports for the remaining four years. The performance standard for successful mitigation shall be a minimum 3:1 replacement ratio (i.e., three plants observed in mitigation area for each plant lost from the project site) achieved in at least one of the five years of monitoring.

The City of San Juan Bautista will be responsible for implementation of this mitigation measure. Compliance with this measure shall be documented prior to approval of a grading permit.

BIO-2 Prior to approval of a grading permit, a qualified biologist shall conduct a training session for all construction personnel. At a minimum, the training shall include a description of special-status species potentially occurring in the project vicinity, including, but not limited to, American badger, San Joaquin kit fox, California tiger salamander, California red-legged frog, burrowing owl, special-status bats, and nesting birds and raptors. Their habitats, general measures that are being implemented to conserve species as they relate to the project, and the boundaries within which construction activities will occur will be explained. Informational handouts with photographs clearly illustrating the species' appearances shall be used in the training session. All new construction personnel shall undergo this mandatory environmental awareness training.

The qualified biologist will train biological monitors selected from the construction crew by the construction contractor (typically the project foreman). Before the start of work each day, the monitor will check for animals under any equipment such as vehicles and stored pipes within active construction zones. The monitor will also check all excavated steep-walled holes or trenches greater than one foot deep for trapped animals. If a special-status species is observed within an active construction zone, the qualified biologist will be notified immediately and all work within 50 feet of the individual will be halted and all equipment turned off until the individual has left the construction area.

The City of San Juan Bautista shall document evidence of completion of this training prior to issuance of a

grading permit.

BIO-3 Not more than 14 days prior to the commencement of ground-disturbing activities, a qualified wildlife biologist shall conduct surveys of the grassland habitat on site to identify any potential American badger burrows/dens. If the survey results are negative (i.e., no badger dens observed), a letter report confirming absence will be prepared and submitted to the City of San Juan Bautista and no further mitigation is required.

If the results are positive (badger dens are observed), the qualified biologist shall determine if the dens are active by installing a game camera for three days and three nights to determine if the den is in use.

a. If the biologist determines that a den may be active, coordination with the CDFW shall be undertaken to develop a suitable strategy to avoid impacts to American badger. The strategy may include the following: the biologist shall install a one-way door in the den opening and continue use of the game camera. Once the camera captures the individual exiting the one-way door, the den can be excavated with hand tools to prevent badgers from reusing them. If the biologist determines that the den is a maternity den, construction activities shall be delayed during the maternity season (February to August), or until the badgers leave the den on their own accord or the biologist determines that the den is no longer in use.

b. If the game camera does not capture an individual entering/exiting the den, the den can be excavated with hand tools to prevent badgers from reusing them.

After dens have been excavated and the absence of American badger confirmed, a letter report will be prepared and submitted to the City of San Juan Bautista.

BIO-4 The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Standardized Recommendations for Protection of the San Joaquin Kit Fox Prior to or During Ground Disturbance (USFWS 2011) shall be implemented prior to initiation of and during any construction activity on the project site to avoid unintended take of individual San Joaquin kit foxes.

Preconstruction/pre-activity surveys for San Joaquin kit fox shall be conducted by a qualified biologist no less than 30 days prior to the beginning of ground disturbance and/or construction activities or any project activity that may impact San Joaquin kit fox. The surveys shall include all work and staging areas and a minimum 200-foot buffer of the project site. The preconstruction surveys shall identify kit fox habitat features on the project site, evaluate use by kit fox and, if possible, assess the potential impacts of the proposed activity. The status of all dens shall be determined and mapped.

If a natal/pupping den is discovered within the project area or within 200 feet of the project boundary, the City shall consult with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to establish an appropriate avoidance buffer. The avoidance buffer shall be maintained until such time as the burrow is no longer active and/or an incidental take permit is determined to be required and is obtained.

In addition, the following measures shall be observed:

a. Project-related vehicles shall observe a 20-mph speed limit in all project areas; this is particularly important at night when kit foxes are most active. To the extent possible, night-time construction shall be minimized. Off-road traffic outside of designated project area shall be prohibited.

b. To prevent inadvertent entrapment of kit foxes or other animals during the construction phase of the project, all excavated, steep-walled holes or trenches more than two feet deep shall be covered at the close of each working day by plywood or similar materials, or provided with one or more escape ramps constructed of earth fill or wooden planks. Before such holes or trenches are filled, they shall be thoroughly inspected for trapped animals. If at any time a trapped or injured kit fox is discovered, the procedures under number 11 of the Construction and Operational Requirements in the Standardized Recommendations must be followed.

- c. Kit foxes are attracted to den-like structures such as pipes and may enter stored pipe becoming trapped or injured. All construction pipes, culverts, or similar structures with a diameter of four inches or greater that are stored at a construction site for one or more overnight periods shall be thoroughly inspected for kit foxes before the pipe is subsequently buried, capped, or otherwise used or moved in any way. If a kit fox is discovered inside a pipe, that section of pipe shall not be moved until the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has been consulted. If necessary, and under the direct supervision of the biologist, the pipe may be moved once to remove it from the path of construction activity, until the fox has escaped.
- d. All food-related trash items such as wrappers, cans, bottles, and food scraps shall be disposed of in closed containers and removed at least once a week from a construction or project site.
- e. No firearms shall be allowed on the project site during construction activities.
- f. To prevent harassment, mortality of kit foxes or destruction of dens by dogs or cats, no pets shall be permitted on site during construction activities.
- g. Use of rodenticides and herbicides on the project site during construction shall be restricted. This is necessary to prevent primary or secondary poisoning of kit foxes and the depletion of prey populations on which they depend. All uses of such compounds shall observe label and other restrictions mandated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, California Department of Food and Agriculture, and other State and Federal legislation, as well as additional project-related restrictions deemed necessary by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. If rodent control must be conducted, zinc phosphide shall be used because of proven lower risk to kit fox.
- h. In the case of trapped animals, escape ramps or structures shall be installed immediately to allow the animal(s) to escape.
- i. Any contractor, employee, or agency personnel who inadvertently kills or injures a San Joaquin kit fox shall immediately report the incident to the City of San Juan Bautista, which will contact the CDFW and USFWS as needed.
- j. The City of San Juan Bautista shall prepare weekly reports on construction monitoring activities for the project file.

BIO-5 To avoid/minimize impacts to burrowing owls potentially occurring within the project site and staging areas, a biologist qualified in ornithology shall conduct surveys for burrowing owl. The approved biologist shall conduct a two-visit (i.e., morning and evening) presence/absence survey at areas of suitable habitat on and adjacent to the project site boundary no less than 14 days prior to the start of construction or ground disturbance activities. Surveys shall be conducted according to the methods for take avoidance described in the *Burrowing Owl Survey Protocol and Mitigation Guidelines* (California Burrowing Owl Consortium 1993) and the *Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation* (CDFW 2012). If no burrowing owls are found, a letter report confirming absence will be prepared and submitted to the City of San Juan Bautista and no further mitigation is required.

Because burrowing owls occupy habitat year-round, seasonal no-disturbance buffers, as outlined in the *Burrowing Owl Survey Protocol and Mitigation Guidelines* (CBOC 1993) and the *Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation* (CDFW 2012), shall be in place around occupied habitat prior to and during any ground disturbance activities. The following table includes buffer areas based on the time of year and level of disturbance (CDFW 2012), unless a qualified biologist approved by the CDFW verifies through non-invasive measures that either: 1) birds have not begun egg laying and incubation; or 2) that juveniles from the occupied burrows are foraging independently and are capable of independent survival.

Location	Time of Year	Level of Disturbance Buffers (meters)		
		Low	Med	High
Nesting Sites	April 1 – Aug 15	200 m	500 m	500 m
Nesting Sites	Aug 16 – Oct 15	200 m	200 m	500 m
Nesting Sites	Oct 16 – Mar 31	50 m	100 m	500 m

If burrowing owl is found and avoidance is not possible, burrow exclusion may be conducted by qualified biologists only during the non-breeding season, before breeding behavior is exhibited and after the burrow is confirmed empty through non-invasive methods, such as surveillance. Occupied burrows shall be replaced with artificial burrows at a ratio of one collapsed burrow to one constructed artificial burrow (1:1). Evicted burrowing owls may attempt to colonize or re-colonize an area that would be impacted, thus ongoing surveillance during project activities shall be conducted at a rate sufficient to detect burrowing owls if they return.

If surveys locate occupied burrows in or near construction areas, consultation with the CDFW shall occur to interpret survey results and develop a project-specific avoidance and minimization approach. Once the absence of burrowing owl has been confirmed, a letter report will be prepared and submitted to the City of San Juan Bautista.

BIO-6 Approximately 14 days prior to tree removal or construction activities, a qualified biologist shall conduct a habitat assessment for bats and potential roosting sites in trees to be removed and in trees within 50 feet of the construction easement. These surveys shall include a visual inspection of potential roosting features (bats need not be present) and a search for presence of guano within the project site, construction access routes, and 50 feet around these areas. Cavities, crevices, exfoliating bark, and bark fissures that could provide suitable potential nest or roost habitat for bats shall be surveyed. Assumptions can be made on what species is present due to observed visual characteristics along with habitat use, or the bats can be identified to the species level with the use of a bat echolocation detector such as an “Anabat” unit. Potential roosting features found during the survey shall be flagged or marked.

If no roosting sites or bats are found, a letter report confirming absence shall be prepared and submitted to City of San Juan Bautista and no further mitigation is required.

If bats or roosting sites are found, bats shall not be disturbed without specific notice to and consultation with CDFW.

If bats are found roosting outside of the nursery season (May 1 through October 1), CDFW shall be consulted prior to any eviction or other action. If avoidance or postponement is not feasible, a Bat Eviction Plan will be submitted to CDFW for written approval prior to project implementation. A request to evict bats from a roost includes details for excluding bats from the roost site and monitoring to ensure that all bats have exited the roost prior to the start of activity and are unable to re-enter the roost until activity is completed. Any bat eviction shall be timed to avoid lactation and young-rearing. If bats are found roosting during the nursery season, they shall be monitored to determine if the roost site is a maternal roost. This could occur by either visual inspection of the roost bat pups, if possible, or by monitoring the roost after the adults leave for the night to listen for bat pups. Because bat pups cannot leave the roost until they are mature enough, eviction of a maternal roost cannot occur during the nursery season. Therefore, if a maternal roost is present, a 50-foot buffer zone (or different size if determined in consultation with the CDFW) shall be established around the roosting site within which no construction activities including tree

removal or structure disturbance shall occur until after the nursery season.

BIO-7 California tiger salamander, California red-legged frog, Coast Range newt, western spadefoot, and western pond turtle have been recorded in close proximity to the proposed project. Impacts to these federally and state listed species are considered potentially significant.

The City of San Juan Bautista shall obtain Incidental Take Permits from the USFWS and CDFW for potential project impacts to California tiger salamander, California red-legged frog, Coast Range newt, western spadefoot, and western pond turtle, and implement all avoidance, minimization, and compensatory mitigation measures required by these permits.

Take permit conditions may include, but not be limited to, the following avoidance and minimization measures identified below before/during construction to minimize the potential for “take” of California tiger salamander, California red-legged frog, Coast Range newt, western spadefoot, and western pond turtle:

1. At least 15 days prior to ground disturbance, the biologist shall submit the name and credentials of the project biologists who would conduct activities specified in this measure. No project activities shall begin until the biologist has received written approval from the USFWS and CDFW that the biologists are qualified to conduct the work.
2. The biologists shall have the authority to halt construction work at any time to prevent harm to California tiger salamander, California red-legged frog, Coast Range newt, western spadefoot, and western pond turtle or when any of the permit-specified protection measures have been violated. Work shall re-commence only when authorized by the biologists. If work is stopped due to potential harm to protected species, the project biologists shall contact the USFWS and/or CDFW by telephone or email on the same day to communicate the event and coordinate appropriate action.
3. A biologist shall conduct biological construction monitoring in all work and staging areas with potential to impact California tiger salamander, California red-legged frog, Coast Range newt, western spadefoot, and western pond turtle. Before the start of work each day, a biologist shall check for wildlife under any equipment such as vehicles and stored pipes within active construction zones. A biologist shall also check all excavated steep-walled holes or trenches greater than one foot deep for trapped animals. If California tiger salamander, California red-legged frog, Coast Range newt, western spadefoot, and western pond turtle is observed within an active construction zone, a biologist shall be notified immediately and all work within 100 feet of the individual animal shall be halted and all equipment turned off until the biologist has captured and removed the individual from the work area. California tiger salamander, California red-legged frog, Coast Range newt, western spadefoot, and western pond turtle shall be relocated to a USFWS/CDFW-approved off-site location according to permit specifications.
4. Offsite habitat mitigation. If necessary, offsite habitat shall be procured at an appropriate ratio of project site impact area to compensation habitat area, as determined in coordination with USFWS and/or CDFW. Offsite mitigation may include purchasing credits at a mitigation bank, or permanent protection of land with established aquatic and upland habitat or sites with known upland habitat where the creation of a pond may enhance the habitat value of the site.

BIO-8 To avoid impacts to nesting birds during the nesting season (January 15 through September 15), all construction activities should be conducted between September 16 and January 14, which is outside of the bird nesting season. If construction occurs during the bird nesting season, then a qualified biologist will conduct a pre-construction survey for nesting birds to ensure that no nests would be disturbed during project construction.

If project-related work is scheduled during the nesting season (February 15 to August 30 for small bird species such as passerines; January 15 to September 15 for owls; and February 15 to September 15 for other raptors), a qualified biologist shall conduct nesting bird surveys.

a. Two surveys for active bird nests will occur within 14 days prior to start of construction, with the final survey conducted within 48 hours prior to construction. Appropriate minimum survey radii surrounding each work area are typically 250 feet for passerines, 500 feet for smaller raptors, and 1,000 feet for larger raptors. Surveys will be conducted at the appropriate times of day to observe nesting activities. Locations off the site to which access is not available may be surveyed from within the site or from public areas. If no nesting birds are found, a letter report confirming absence will be prepared and submitted to the City of San Juan Bautista and no further mitigation is required.

b. If the qualified biologist documents active nests within the project site or in nearby surrounding areas, an appropriate buffer between each nest and active construction shall be established. The buffer shall be clearly marked and maintained until the young have fledged and are foraging independently. Prior to construction, the qualified biologist shall conduct baseline monitoring of each nest to characterize "normal" bird behavior and establish a buffer distance, which allows the birds to exhibit normal behavior. The qualified biologist shall monitor the nesting birds daily during construction activities and increase the buffer if birds show signs of unusual or distressed behavior (e.g., defensive flights and vocalizations, standing up from a brooding position, and/or flying away from the nest). If buffer establishment is not possible, the qualified biologist or construction foreman shall have the authority to cease all construction work in the area until the young have fledged and the nest is no longer active. Once the absence of nesting birds has been confirmed, a letter report will be prepared and submitted to the City of San Juan Bautista.

BIO-9 Prior to issuance of a grading permit within the project boundary, the City of San Juan Bautista will retain a qualified biologist to determine the extent of potential wetlands and waterways regulated by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), and CDFW. If the USACE claims jurisdiction, the City shall retain a qualified biologist to obtain a Clean Water Act Section 404 Nationwide Permit. If the impacts to the drainage features do not qualify for a Nationwide Permit, the City will proceed with the qualified biologist in obtaining an Individual Permit from the USACE. The City will then retain a qualified biologist to coordinate with the RWQCB to obtain a Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification. If necessary, the City will also retain a qualified biologist to coordinate with the CDFW to obtain a Streambed Alteration Agreement.

To compensate for temporary and/or permanent impacts to Waters of the U.S. that would be impacted as a result of the proposed project, mitigation shall be provided as required by the regulatory permits. Mitigation would be provided through one of the following mechanisms:

i. A *Wetland Mitigation and Monitoring Plan* shall be developed that will outline mitigation and monitoring obligations for temporary impacts to wetlands and other waters as a result of construction activities. The Wetland Mitigation and Monitoring Plan would include thresholds of success, monitoring and reporting requirements, and site-specific plans to compensate for wetland losses resulting from the project. The Wetland Mitigation and Monitoring Plan shall be submitted to the appropriate regulatory agencies for review and approval during the permit application process.

ii. To compensate for permanent impacts, the purchase and/or dedication of land to provide suitable wetland restoration or creation shall ensure a no net loss of wetland values or functions. If restoration is available and feasible, a minimum 1:1 mitigation to impact ratio would apply to projects for which mitigation is provided in advance.

BIO-10 An arborist evaluation of all trees and project plans will be conducted prior to construction; implementation of specific protections for preserved trees during construction will be followed; and replacement plantings for damaged or removed trees will be installed. Compliance with this mitigation measure will ensure that impacts to protected trees are avoided, minimized, or mitigated.

Cultural Resources

CUL-1 In the event that prehistoric traces (human remains, artifacts, concentrations of shell/bone/rock/ash) are encountered during excavation and/or grading of the site, all activity within a 50-foot radius of the find will be stopped, the San Juan Bautista Director of Community Development will be notified, and a qualified archaeologist will examine the find and make appropriate recommendations prior to commencement of construction. Recommendations could include collection, recordation, and analysis of any significant cultural materials. A report of findings documenting any data recovery during monitoring would be submitted to the Director of Community Development.

CUL-2 In the event that human remains are discovered during excavation and/or grading of the site, all activity within a 50-foot radius of the find will be stopped. The San Benito County Coroner will be notified and will make a determination as to whether the remains are of Native American origin. If the remains are determined to be Native American, the Coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) immediately. Once NAHC identifies the most likely descendants, the descendants will make recommendations regarding proper burial, which will be implemented in accordance with Section 15064.5(e) of the CEQA Guidelines.

Geology and Soils

GEO-1 If paleontological resources (i.e., fossil remains) are discovered during excavation activities, the contractor will notify the City and cease excavation within 100 feet of the find until a qualified paleontological professional can provide an evaluation of the site. The qualified paleontological professional will evaluate the significance of the find and recommend appropriate measures for the disposition of the site (e.g., fossil recovery, curation, data recovery, and/or monitoring). Construction activities may continue on other parts of the construction site while evaluation and treatment of the paleontological resource takes place.

Noise

N-1 During all project construction activities, the following mitigation measures will be incorporated into construction documents and shall be implemented by the contractors:

- All construction equipment shall be properly maintained and equipped with intake and exhaust mufflers that are in good condition and recommended by the vehicle manufacturer.
- Unnecessary idling of internal combustion engines shall be strictly prohibited.
- Wheeled earth moving equipment shall be used rather than track equipment.
- A detailed construction plan shall be prepared and submitted with the grading and improvement plans identifying the schedule for major noise-generating construction activities. The construction plan shall identify a procedure for coordination with adjacent residential land uses so that construction activities can be scheduled to minimize noise disturbance.
 - A noise disturbance coordinator shall be designated to handle complaints and the site shall be posted with a phone number and email address so that the nearby residents have a contact person in case of a noise problem.
 - Vehicle routes clean and smooth both on site and off site to minimize noise and vibration from vehicles rolling over rough surfaces.
 - Nail guns shall be used where possible as they are less noisy than manual hammering.
 - Stationary equipment, such as compressor and generators shall be housed in acoustical enclosures and placed as far from sensitive receptors as feasible.
 - Utilize “quiet” air compressors and other stationary noise sources where technology exists.
 - Control noise from construction workers’ radios to a point where they are not audible at

existing residences bordering the project site.

- Restrict noise-generating activities at the construction site or in areas adjacent to the construction site to the hours of 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM Monday through Friday and 8:00 AM and 6:00 PM on Saturday. Construction-related noise-generating activities shall be prohibited on Sundays.

Revised September 2011

If applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

None known to the City of San Juan Bautista.

Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers;
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service;
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife;
- Regional Water Quality Control Board;
- California Department of Transportation;
- County of San Benito;
- California State Water Resources Control Board (Funding); and
- U.S. Department of Agriculture (Funding)

