



Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District

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Notice of Exemption

To:	Office of Planning and Research 1400 Tenth Street, Room 121 Sacramento, CA 95814 & SLO County Clerk	From:	Coastal San Luis RCD 1203 Main Street, Suite B Morro Bay, CA 93420 (805) 772-4391 hbarnes@coastalrcd.org
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Project Title: Talley Stream Bank Stabilization and Enhancement Project

Project Applicant: Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District

Project Location: The project is located on an unnamed tributary to Pismo Creek, off of Corbett Canyon Rd. in San Luis Obispo County, CA.

SCH#:

City: Unincorporated Arroyo Grande

County: San Luis Obispo

Description and Purpose of Project:

The purpose of the project is to stabilize stream banks and enhance riparian habitat along sections of an unnamed tributary to Pismo Creek to improve water quality. The project will address unstable and eroding banks that are contributing fine sediment to the watershed. The stream is adjacent to an agricultural road used to farm row crops. Approximately 500 linear feet of the 2000 linear foot reach of the parcel will be treated through planting, seeding, and laying back near vertical banks followed by native revegetation to address active erosion and reduce sedimentation. In some locations the agricultural road will be moved to accommodate wider riparian areas where slopes are laid back. Work will be completed from the top of the bank to the toe and does not include the channel bottom. Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be installed during and after construction. BMPs include, but are not limited to safety fencing, straw wattles, silt fencing or fiber rolls, revegetation of disturbed soils, protection of existing vegetation, erosion control measures for during and after construction, and other similar or suitable water quality improvement BMP.

Public Agency Approving Project and Carrying out project: The Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District will carry out the project with the landowner.

Categorical Exempt Status:

Class 4 (Sec 15304-Minor Alterations To Land)
Class 33 (Sec 15333-Small Habitat Restoration Projects)

Reasons why project is exempt:

In the upslope locations, the project involves minor private alterations, which does not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees, or adversely impact sensitive plant or wildlife species, to realign an existing agricultural road on slopes that are less than 10 percent. Treatments will not involve the removal of any trees, and revegetation will be incorporated to minimize impacts and help stabilize soils. The project will

not exceed 5 acres in size and BMPs included in the project are designed to protect and enhance ephemeral stream habitat.

None of the exceptions to the exemptions apply. There is no substantial evidence that there are unusual circumstances (including future activities) resulting in (or which might reasonably result in) significant impacts which threaten the environment. BMPs will not cause cumulative impacts or have significant effects on the environment. The project will not be implemented on sensitive environments such as wetlands, is not adjacent to an official state scenic highway, will not be undertaken on property listed on any hazardous waste list, and will not cause substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource. See Attachment 2.

Contact Person: Hayley Barnes

Title: Conservation Projects Manager

Hayley Barnes

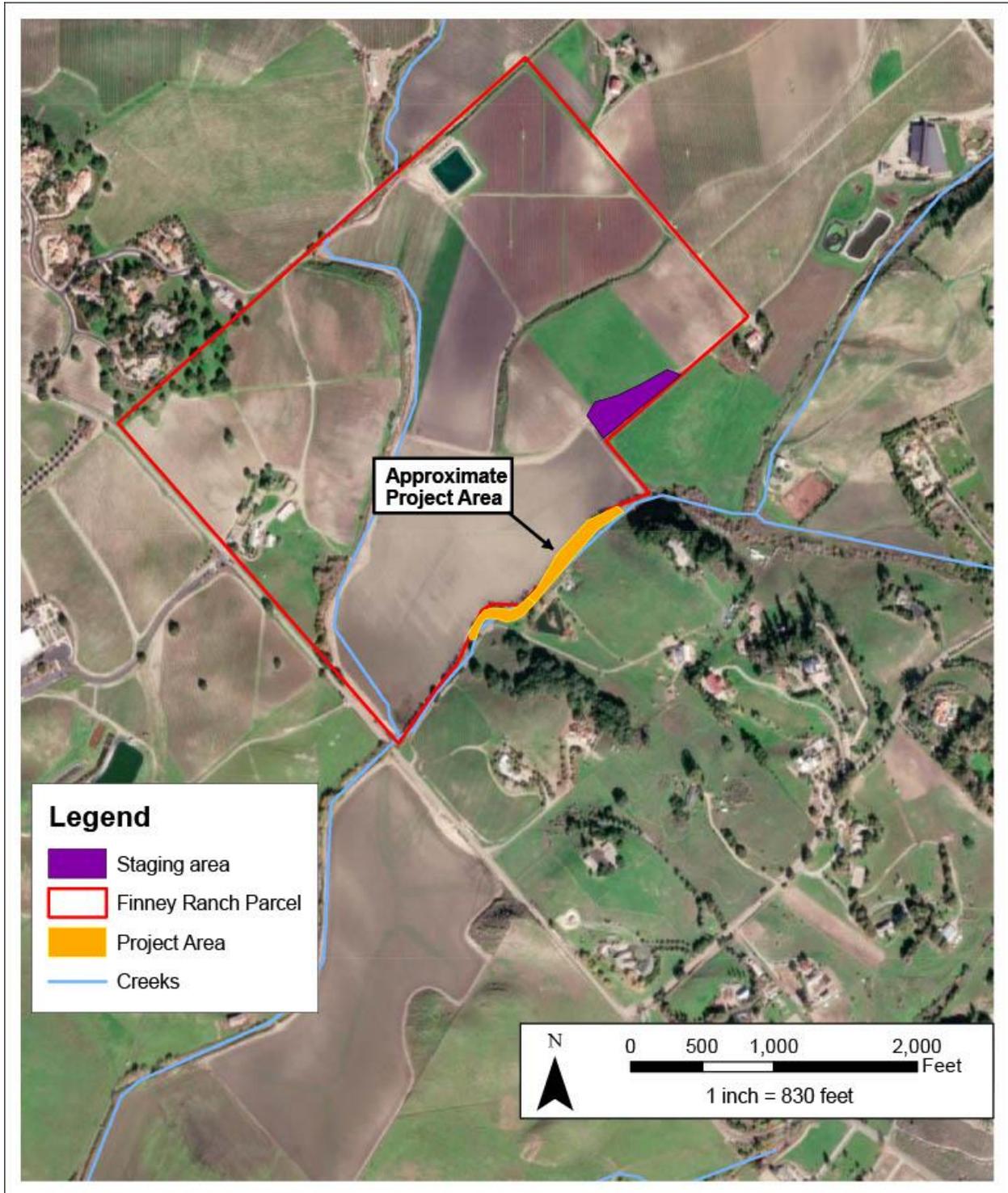
Signature

12-01-2022

Date

Date received for filing with OPR: _____

ATTACHMENT 1.



Talley Farms Restoration Project Project Overview Map

Service Layer Credits: Esri, HERE, Garmin, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS user community
Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community

ATTACHMENT 2.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW FOR CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION		
Project Applicant: Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District		
Project Name: Talley Stream Bank Stabilization and Enhancement Project		
Lead Agency: Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District		
Description: The purpose of the project is to stabilize stream banks and enhance riparian habitat along sections of an unnamed tributary to Pismo Creek to improve water quality. The project will address unstable and eroding banks that are contributing fine sediment to the watershed. The stream is adjacent to an agricultural road used to farm row crops.		
Environmental Setting: Treatment areas are located on farmland and an unnamed tributary within the Pismo Creek watershed. This coastal subwatershed characteristically includes non-native grasslands with some coast live oak, mixed chaparral with chamise and buckbrush, mixed evergreen forests, and black sage scrub. Riparian vegetation including willow and oak are present along portions of the unnamed tributary. Land uses within the subwatershed include vineyards, ranches, annual row crops and residential rural.		
Exemption Qualifications	Applicable Items	Supporting Information or Explanations
Class 4 Minor Land Alteration	X	Plan consists of minor alterations of the agricultural access road and in the condition of ephemeral stream banks on farmland that do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees
Class 33 Small Habitat Restoration Projects	X	Streambank stabilization of small erosion areas on ephemeral drainages for the purpose of reduced sediment loading and fish habitat restoration.
Federal Statutes/Critical Concerns	Applicable Items	Supporting Information or Explanations
Agricultural Land	X	Treatments are located on land zoned agriculture and used for row crop production. Treatments will not impact Prime Agricultural soils.
Air Quality Regulations	X	Construction of treatments may require use of equipment for short durations. Due to the small size of the project area it is expected that air quality impacts will be insignificant and not expected to trigger any air quality permit thresholds.
Archaeological/Historical	NA	Treatments will be completed in areas already impacted by existing agricultural land uses and will result in minimal ground disturbance. The creek associated with the treatments is ephemeral and all activities will take place in the absence of flow. No archaeological or historical sites are known to exist. A records search and survey identified no known cultural resources within APE. Cumulative treatment footprints are <5 acres. In the unlikely event that an archeological site is found, work will stop immediately until a qualified professional reviews the site.
Coastal Zone	NA	The project area is not within the Coastal Zone.
Endangered Species	X	A review of the California Natural Diversity Database produced a list of potential sensitive species in the San Luis Obispo Quadrangle. Fed T&E species and critical habitat within a 3 mile radius include: Pismo clarkia and steelhead. The project will not impact the plant nor animal species. A field survey will be conducted prior to project installation for sensitive plants suited to the habitats affected - upland annual grassland and if found, will be avoided.
Flood Plain	NA	The project will not impact adjacent floodplains.
National Forest	NA	There is no national forest within the project area.

Wetlands	NA	The project will not impact wetlands.
Wild and Scenic Rivers	NA	There are no wild and scenic rivers within the project area.
Unusual Circumstances	Applicable Items	Supporting Information or Explanations
Biological Resources	NA	No unusual circumstances (including future activities) resulting in (or which might reasonably result in) significant impacts which threaten the environment.
Cumulative Impacts	NA	
Climate	NA	
Erosion/Sedimentation Control	NA	
Flooding/Drainage	NA	
Geologic/Seismic	NA	
Groundwater	NA	
Growth Inducement	NA	
Health and Safety	NA	
Noise	NA	
Open Space	NA	
Public Services	NA	
Recreation	NA	
Scenic Attributes	NA	
Soils	NA	
Topography	NA	
Toxic/Hazardous Materials	NA	
Water Quality	NA	
Water Supply	NA	

CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION FINDINGS

APPLICANT Coastal San Luis RCD	EXEMPTION CLASS Class 4 and 33	PROJECT NO.	DATE 12-01-2022
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PROJECT TITLE: Talley Stream Bank Stabilization and Enhancement Project

CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION QUALIFICATIONS

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| 1. Is there a reasonable possibility that the project will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances? | YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
UNDETERMINED <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Will there be a significant cumulative impact by this project and successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time? | YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
UNDETERMINED <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. If a Class 1 (over 2,500ft ²), 3, or 4 exemption, might it impact on an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted pursuant to law? | YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/>
UNDETERMINED <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. If a Class 2 exemption, will the project involve an expansion of capacity? | YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/>
UNDETERMINED <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. If a Class 4 exemption, will the project involve removal of mature, scenic trees or grading in a waterway, wetland, officially designated scenic area, or officially mapped area of severe geologic hazard? | YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/>
UNDETERMINED <input type="checkbox"/> |

FINDING

Based on the preceding findings and attached worksheet, it has been determined that this project is exempt from CEQA (pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15304 and 15333, Classes 4 and 33).

Conservation Projects Manager: Hayley Barnes

Signature *Hayley Barnes*

Date: 12-01-2022