



Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District

1203 Main Street, Suite B, Morro Bay, CA 93442
805-772-4391 | www.coastalrcd.org

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 neschler@coastalrcd.org
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Project Title: Emergency Bank Stabilization and Stream Restoration Project at Wolff Vineyards

Project Applicant: Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District

Project Location: 6238 Orcutt Rd, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

SCH#:

City: San Luis Obispo

County: San Luis Obispo

Description and Purpose of Project: The project will stabilize a 55-foot reach of stream bank along an unnamed tributary of West Corral de Piedra Creek, within the property of Wolff Vineyards (APN: 044-051-016), using bioengineering techniques. The project will protect and enhance in-stream habitat for aquatic and amphibious species downstream of the project area. The project will protect a compromised riparian well and associated infrastructure located on the top of bank due to severely undercut stream banks resulting from significant storm flows over several storm events in early 2023.

Based on a preliminary hydraulic and hydrologic assessment conducted by the landowner and physical survey of the impact area, stabilization and hardening of the bank upstream from the well infrastructure will reduce scour of the toe slope, thus alleviating continued erosion and slumping of the upper slope and top of bank. Erosion control fabric made of natural, biodegradable materials will be installed across 440 square feet of stream bank, providing immediate and long-term bank stability and providing structure for revegetation. Approximately 100 square feet of undercut stream bank will be backfilled to a finished grade of 48 degrees. Approximately 102 cubic yards of clean fill will be used to accomplish this grade.

Public Agency Approving Project and Carrying out project: The Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District is acting as CEQA Lead Agency and assisting the landowner with the permitting process and technical assistance. The project has been awarded \$47,000 through the NRCS Emergency Watershed Protection Program. NEPA has been completed through the NRCS.

Categorical Exempt Status:

Class 33 (Sec 15333): SMALL HABITAT RESTORATION PROJECTS.

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project area is 55-linear feet and less than 0.5 acres along the stream bank. Bioengineering is being used to design the bank stabilization and re-vegetation with native plant species for improved riparian

habitat, protection of fish habitat downstream, and reduction of erosion.. Hand labor will be used as much as feasible.

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. The project 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 a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

Contact Person: *Niki Eschler*

Title: *Conservation Project Manager*

Niki Eschler

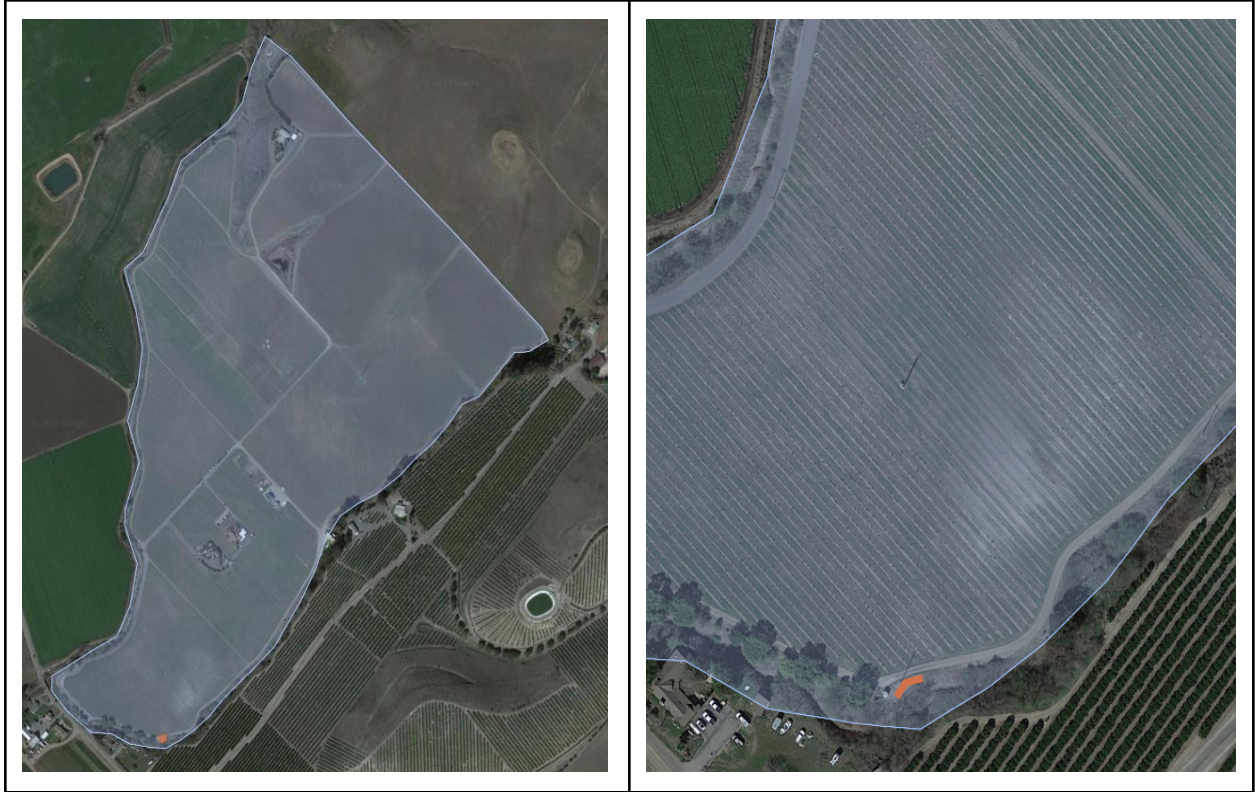
8-7-2023

Signature

Date

Date received for filing with OPR: _____

ATTACHMENT 1.



Wolff Vineyard property line and project area in orange

ATTACHMENT 2.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW FOR CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION		
Project Applicant: Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District		
Project Name: Bank Stabilization Restoration Project at Wolff Vineyards		
Lead Agency: Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District		
<p>Description: The project will stabilize The impact area includes a 55-foot reach of stream bank along an unnamed tributary of West Corral de Piedra Creek, within the property of Wolff Vineyards (APN: 044-051-016), using bioengineering techniques. The project will protect and enhance in-stream habitat for aquatic and amphibious species downstream of the project area. The project will protect a compromised. A riparian well and associated infrastructure located on the top of bank is compromised due to severely undercut stream banks resulting from significant storm flows over several storm events in early 2023.</p> <p>Based on a preliminary hydraulic and hydrologic assessment conducted by the landowner and physical survey of the impact area, stabilization and hardening of the bank upstream from the well infrastructure will reduce scour of the toe slope, thus alleviating continued erosion and slumping of the upper slope and top of bank. Erosion control fabric made of natural, biodegradable materials will be installed across 440 square feet of stream bank, providing immediate and long-term bank stability and providing structure for revegetation. Approximately 100 square feet of undercut stream bank will be backfilled to a finished grade of 48 degrees. Approximately 102 cubic yards of clean fill will be used to accomplish this grade.</p> <p>Environmental Setting: The project area is along an ephemeral stream bordering an agricultural road on Wolff Vineyard. The stream is an unnamed tributary of Pismo Creek watershed which is dominated by agricultural land uses in its upper reaches. Wolff vineyard is 125-acres of agricultural land in Edna Valley, San Luis Obispo, which grows wine grapes using sustainable practices.</p>		
Exemption Qualifications	Applicable Items	Supporting Information or Explanations
Class 33 Small Habitat Restoration Projects	X	Streambank stabilization of a small eroded area on ephemeral drainage for the purpose of water quality, bank stabilization and habitat restoration.
Federal Statutes/Critical Concerns	Applicable Items	Supporting Information or Explanations
Agricultural Land	X	Project is located on land zoned agriculture and used for growing wine grapes. Project will not impact Prime Agricultural soils.
Air Quality Regulations	NA	The project will not affect air quality.
Archaeological/Historical	NA	The project area does not have any archaeological concerns.
Coastal Zone	NA	This project is not in a coastal zone
Endangered Species	NA	There are no endangered or threatened species on the property or in the project area.
Flood Plain	NA	The project will not occur within or 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 33	PROJECT NO.	DATE 8-7-2023
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PROJECT TITLE: Bank Stabilization Restoration Project at Wolff Vineyard

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 type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" 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 it has been determined that this project is exempt from CEQA (pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15333, class 33).

Environmental Scientist: Niki Eschler

Signature *Niki Eschler*

Date: 8/7/2023