

082-23



County of Santa Cruz

FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT – ZONE 7

701 OCEAN STREET, ROOM 410, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060-4070
(831) 454-2160 FAX (831) 454-2385 TDD (831) 454-2123

MATTHEW J. MACHADO
DISTRICT ENGINEER

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: Clerk of the Board
Attn: Heather Miller
701 Ocean Street, Room 500
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Project Name: Pajaro River Levee Reinforcement – Watsonville Wastewater Treatment Plant

Project Location: The project is located at the following site along the Pajaro River levee bank:

Pajaro River Right Bank Levee Station 155+00 36.88624, -121.78353

Assessor Parcel No.: 052-571-08 and 052-571-13

Project Description: The project will include placement of 1/2 to 1 ton rock slope protection (RSP) along 2 lengths of levee slope over HP570 geotextile fabric. Upstream length "A" is approximately 1300 linear feet and downstream length "B" is approximately 300 linear feet. No excavation or vegetation removal is required for this project.

Agency Approving Project: Santa Cruz County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, Zone 7 (District)

County Contact: Antonella Gentile **Telephone No.** 831-454-2632

This is to advise that the District has found the project to be exempt from CEQA under the following criteria:

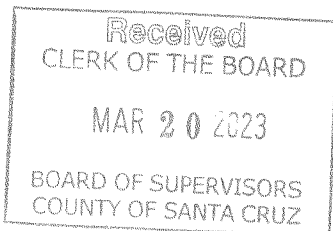
Exempt status: (check one)

- The proposed activity is not a project under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378.
- The proposed activity is not subject to CEQA as specified under CEQA Guidelines Section 15060 (c).
- The proposed activity is exempt from CEQA as specified under CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3).
- Ministerial Project involving only the use of fixed standards or objective measurements without personal judgment.
- Statutory Exemption** Emergency Projects 15269(c)
- Categorical Exemption

Reasons why the project is exempt:

High water levels in the Pajaro River due to recent storms have resulted in a levee breach on the left bank, floodwaters overtopping Highway 1, and eroding the Highway embankment. Flooding in Monterey County has put pressure on the dryside of the left bank levee, increasing the potential for a subsequent levee failure and resultant rapid increase in water levels within the channel, and increasing risk of failure of the right bank levee. Right bank levees must be reinforced to prevent a failure that could flood the Watsonville Wastewater Treatment Plant.

DocuSigned by:
Antonella Gentile
Signature: _____ Date: 3/15/2023 Title: Resource Planner IV
2391753D49E344B



THIS NOTICE HAS BEEN POSTED AT THE CLERK
OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OFFICE FOR A
PERIOD COMMENCING 3/20/2023
AND ENDING 4/20/2023