

Supplemental Environmental Project
for
City of Santa Rosa Subregional Water Reclamation System
Order No. R1-2006-0045
Administrative Civil Liability Compliant No. R1-2014-0024

Title:

Exclusionary Fencing to Reduce Pollutants at Creek Crossings in Santa Rosa, CA

Project:

The construction of exclusionary structures will significantly reduce detrimental water quality impacts of chronic homeless encampments adjacent to creeks under three City of Santa Rosa bridges. Water quality impacts include litter, human waste, soap from bathing and washing clothes, hazardous materials (such as batteries, electronics, spray paint and hypodermic needles) and sedimentation from the excavation of material to create level camping areas. In addition, Emergency Response frequently visits these areas to address fires, medical situations, disturbances, violent behavior, substance abuse, and other unlawful activities. Similar exclusionary structures constructed by the City at other creek crossings have proven effective in reducing pollutants and the need for clean ups and emergency services.

Nexus Criteria:

The Project will reduce pollutants from entering creeks in the Santa Rosa Creek watershed, a major tributary of the Laguna de Santa Rosa. Pollutants to be mitigated include nutrients, bacteria, trash, and sediment.

Project Administration and Cost:

The Supplemental Environmental Project will be administered by the City of Santa Rosa's Storm Water & Creeks Section. The Project (SEP) would eliminate camping opportunities under three bridges at an estimated cost of \$38,960 (Exhibit 1) plus \$1,170 for inspection by a qualified inspector for a total cost of \$40,130. The City will cover additional staff costs which includes time to design, permit, bid, and monitor the Project. SEP funding would provide \$37,300 for materials, construction, and inspection. The Storm Water & Creeks Section will fund the remainder of the project.

The City of Santa Rosa has great interest in reducing detrimental water quality impacts at the Project's sites. The City's 2014-2015 budget includes funding that would insure Project completion in case of unexpected obstacles or cost overruns. During the last ten years, the City has constructed over two dozen similar exclusionary structures (Exhibit 2). The structures are monitored and repaired as necessary.

It is expected that the Project would receive a Class 1 Categorical Exemption as provided in the State of California Environmental Impact Report Guidelines: *The operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination.*

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Project Schedule:

The Project is anticipated to take no more than 12 months to complete after Regional Water Board approval through issuance of the Settlement Agreement and Stipulation for Entry of Administrative Civil Liability Order. Obtaining CEQA Clearance under a Categorical Exemption could require 8 weeks. It is anticipated that the Project will be bid as a purchase order, requiring another month. Once the purchase order is awarded it may take another month to order the materials. Once started the Project would take one month to complete. However, considering the likelihood of construction delays due to weather during the rainy season, the City is proposing a 12 month compliance timeline for project completion.

Project Completion Report:

The City shall submit a Final Report to the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board upon completion of the Project documenting the final construction and project cost.

Documentation of Supporting Agencies:

Two email pdfs are attached to document the support of the Santa Rosa Police Department and the Santa Rosa Fire Department for this project.

Project Description:

Project #1: Santa Rosa Creek at Mission Boulevard, Santa Rosa, CA

Estimated costs: \$23,600



Project # 1: North side of Santa Rosa Creek x Mission Boulevard looking upstream.

Sheets of expanded metal will be attached through anchoring and welding to the northernmost abutment of the Mission Boulevard bridge over Santa Rosa Creek. The sheets will be installed

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at an angle and extend horizontally 6-15 feet to cover (thus excluding access to) the flat areas used for camping at the base of the abutment. The end product will be similar to exclusionary fencing installed under the Stony Point Road and Pierson Street bridges over Santa Rosa Creek (see photos below).

Construction crews will take great care to prevent debris, garbage and other pollutants from entering the creek. All metal, fence fabric scraps, welding rod pieces and other debris will be picked up and disposed of off-site.

The northernmost bridge abutment is set back approximately 30 feet into the slope of the creek bank and placement of fencing under the bridge will not compromise the capacity of the bridge to handle high water flows.

Project #2: Matanzas Creek at Brookwood Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA

Estimated costs: \$9,600.



Project # 2: South side of Matanzas Creek x Brookwood Avenue. View downstream on left, and view upstream, right.

Sheets of expanded metal will be attached through anchoring and welding to the southern abutment of the Brookwood Avenue bridge over Matanzas Creek. The sheets will be installed at an angle and extend horizontally approximately 8 feet to cover (thus excluding access to) the flat areas used for camping at the base of the abutment. The end product will be similar to exclusionary fencing installed under the Stony Point Road and Pierson Street bridges over Santa Rosa Creek (see photos below).

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Construction crews will take great care to prevent debris, garbage and other pollutants from entering the creek. All metal, fence fabric scraps, welding rod pieces and other debris will be picked up and disposed of off-site.

Fencing will not reduce the capacity of the bridge to convey high water flows as a protrusion of the creek bank on the upstream side of the bridge and a concrete structure on the downstream side already form a constriction that the fencing will lie within.

Project #3: Piner Creek at Guerneville Road, Santa Rosa, CA
Estimated cost \$5,760.



Project #3 site. Piner Creek x Guerneville Road, view downstream from northeast corner of bridge, left, and northwest corner of bridge, right.

Sheets of expanded metal will be attached through anchoring and welding to remnants of the abutments of a previous bridge over Piner Creek. The sheets will be installed at an angle and extend horizontally to cover (thus excluding access to) two flat areas at the base of the old abutments used for camping. The end product will be similar to exclusionary fencing installed under the Stony Point Road and Pierson Street bridges over Santa Rosa Creek (see photos below).

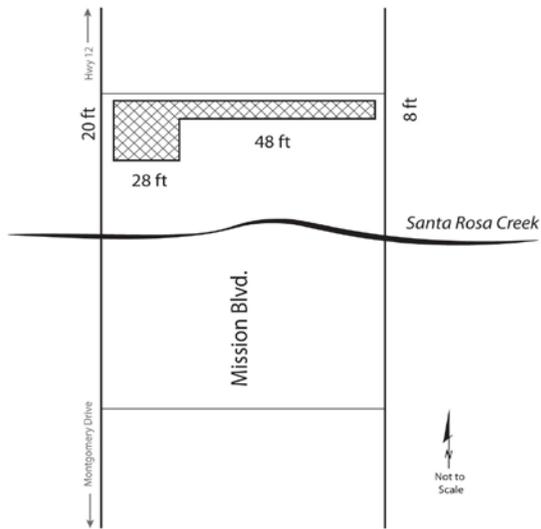
Construction crews will take great care to prevent debris, garbage and other pollutants from entering the creek. All metal, fence fabric scraps, welding rod pieces and other debris will be picked up and disposed of off-site. The old abutments currently limit the cross sectional area underneath the bridge and thus its capacity to convey high water flows. The fencing will not reduce this capacity.

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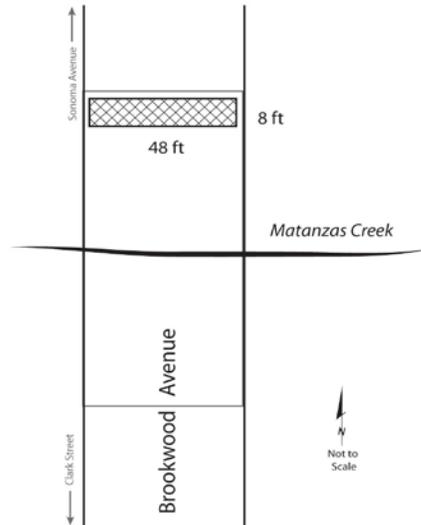
**Exhibit 1:
Estimated construction and material costs**

TOTAL ESTIMATE FOR PROJECTS 1-3 = \$38,960

Project #1: Santa Rosa Creek at Mission Boulevard
ESTIMATE \$23,600



Project #2: Matanzas Creek at Brookwood Avenue
ESTIMATE \$9,600



Project #3: Piner Creek at Guerneville Road
ESTIMATE \$5,760



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Exhibit 2
Examples of previous exclusionary fencing projects



Expanded metal exclusionary fencing at Santa Rosa Creek x Stony Point Road (before and after). The Project will install similar structures.



Expanded metal exclusionary fencing at Santa Rosa Creek x Pierson Street (detail on right). The Project will install similar structures.

From: [Pedroia, Mark](#)
To: [Miller, Rita](#)
Subject: SR Creek - Exclusionary Improvements
Date: Wednesday, June 11, 2014 9:22:27 AM

Hi Rita,

I'm e-mailing to provide you the Fire Department's support for the SR Creek Exclusionary Improvement Project.

We are a first responder to the creek for the many incidents that are reported such as medical emergencies, assaults, fires, smoke from illegal campfires and environmental issues (spills, releases and dumping).

We are very aware of the conditions and the impact that homeless and transient encampments present. Activities along the creek directly impact the users of the creek path and the neighbors. Activities also impact our residents who need emergency assistance however the nearest unit(s) are committed to somewhat preventable incidents because of these conditions. All this results in a delay in delivering emergency service.

Last, encampments, trash, debris and human waste both threaten and pollute the waterway and we mitigate this when we can however there is more opportunity than resources.

Any assistance in minimizing the calls for service and the accumulation of trash/debris and human waste would keep our resources available for the unexpected emergency.

Thanks

Mark Pedroia | Acting Fire Marshal

Fire Prevention Bureau – Fire Department | 2373 Circadian Way | Santa Rosa, CA 95407
Tel. (707) 543-3541 | Fax (707) 543-3520 | mpedroia@srcity.org



From: [Noland, John](#)
To: [Miller, Rita](#)
Subject: Exclusionary Fencing
Date: Monday, June 09, 2014 3:24:26 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Rita,

Each year the City spends thousands of hours dealing with different issues associated to people inappropriately and illegally using creek areas underneath roadway bridges within the City. The police department is well aware of many of the issues connected to the encampments often found in the creeks and under bridges. Cases involving, illegal camping, vandalism, theft, large amounts of trash and debris, drug use and sales, and assault and battery to include domestic violence require thousands of hours of work between initial contact through prosecution or disposition. Even with successful prosecution of violators, many of the crimes continue. I believe, properly placed exclusionary fencing would assist in reducing many of the issues associated the improper and illegal use of the creeks and bridges.

Lieutenant John Noland

Santa Rosa Police Department
Field Services Division
Patrol Bureau
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