

SECTION 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION PUBLIC NOTICE

The Central Coast Water Board is currently reviewing a Clean Water Act section 401 Water Quality Certification application for the project described below. We encourage public comments on the proposed project and will take comments into consideration when taking action on the application. You may submit written comments on this project to:

Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
Attention: 401 Coordinator
OR

centralcoast@waterboards.ca.gov

Attention: 401 Coordinator

Project Applicant: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) – Dustin Robbins

Applicant's Agent: Greg Bergquist

Project Name: CA FLAP SCR T5(1) - North Coast Rail Trail

Receiving Water: 28 Unnamed tributaries to the following waterbodies in the Davenport Hydrologic Subarea (304.11): Pacific Ocean, Liddell Creek, Yellow Bank Creek, Laguna Creek, Baldwin Creek, Wilder Creek.

City/County: Santa Cruz

Public Notice: May 12, 2022 – June 2, 2022

Project Description:

The purpose of the proposed project is to provide an accessible bicycle/pedestrian path for active transportation, recreation, and environmental and cultural education along the existing rail corridor, consistent with the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail Network Master Plan. The purpose of the proposed fills into waters of the state are to accommodate the proposed path, ancillary drainage features, and erosion and sediment controls.

The proposed project activities include:

- Creating a 7.3-mile multi-use bicycle and pedestrian trail along the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission-owned railroad corridor from Davenport to Wilder Ranch State Park including:
 - A 12ft wide paved path with striping,
 - A 2ft wide compacted gravel shoulder on either side, and
 - A parallel unpaved path;
- Improving parking conditions with trail connections at three locations along alignment.

Proposed Mitigation:

- Restoration of temporarily impacted areas to pre-project conditions;

- Compensatory Mitigation for 0.2 acres of permanent impacts to Wetlands, 0.01 acres of permanent impacts to the Stream Channel, and 0.66 acres of permanent impacts to the Riparian Zone as follows:
 - Establishment of 1 acre of Wetlands, and
 - Establishment of 1.2 acres of Riparian Zone.

FHWA filed an Environmental Impact Report 03/07/2019.

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