

## **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:** County of San Benito – Steve Loupe

**Applicant's Agent:** LSA – Mike Trueblood

**Project Name:** Panoche Road Bridge Replacement Project

**Receiving Water:** Tres Pinos Creek, Unnamed Ephemeral Drainage

**City/County:** Unincorporated / San Benito County

**Public Notice:** 9/24/2025 – 10/15/2025

### **Project Description:**

The purpose of the proposed Project is to provide wider travel lanes and shoulders, provide a seismic-fit replacement structure, and increase bridge clearance.

The proposed project activities include:

- Demolishing the existing single-lane 87-foot-long and 16-foot-wide bridge;
- Replacing it with an approximately 132-foot-long and approximately 35.5-foot-wide cast-in-place pre-stressed concrete slab bridge;
- Reducing the number of piers in the channel from two to one;
- Building Pier 2 within the Tres Pinos Creek channel;
- Installing an approximately 140-foot-long soil nail retaining wall against the hillside east of Tres Pinos Creek and south of Panoche Road;
- Modifying the east and west roadway approaches to conform to the width and location of the new bridge;
- Relocating any existing utilities if they are in conflict with the new bridge; and
- Installing a temporary diversion of creek flows.

Mitigation activities include:

- Permittee-responsible re-establishment of 0.174 acres of stream channel habitat;
- Mitigation bank re-establishment of 0.231 acres of wetland habitat.