

Supplemental Environmental Project Description Addressing Nonpoint Source Water Pollution

Presented to the Regional Water Quality Control Board

Reference Case No. R#-2005-0024, David Pearson

Revised August 4, 2005

THE SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed Supplemental Environmental Project will reduce erosion and improve water quality within our jurisdictional area. The first element of the project is an erosion control project along the Salinas River, downstream of the Pierson property, within urban and agricultural areas near the community of San Miguel. Originally, four elements of water quality improvement were proposed for funding, but due to cutbacks, three of the projects have been eliminated from this proposal, and the proposal for the Salinas River restoration has been reduced in scope.

Overall Goal of the Supplemental Environmental Project:

- Implement nonpoint source pollution strategies within the planning area of the US-LT RCD.

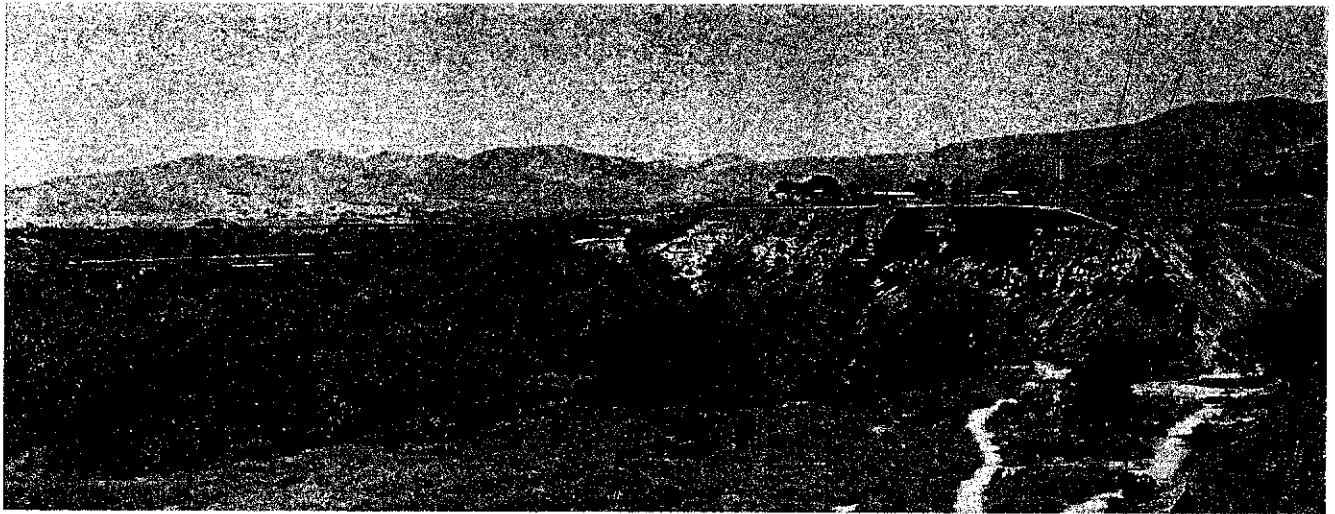
CONSISTENCY OF THE SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT WITH THE UPPER SALINAS RIVER WATERSHED ACTION PLAN

The Upper Salinas-Las Tablas Resource Conservation District (US-LT RCD) has been instrumental in applying erosion control measures throughout San Luis Obispo and southeastern Monterey Counties. In 2004, the US-LT RCD completed the *Upper Salinas River Watershed Action Plan*, a watershed management plan prepared for the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) covering the 2,000 square mile region in San Luis Obispo and Monterey Counties. The WAP was accepted by the SWRCB in July 2004. This plan now stands as the primary planning tool for resource protection in the Upper Salinas Watershed.

The US-LT RCD was formed by landowner initiative in 1950 to work with farmers and ranchers to reduce soil erosion and improve water quality. During the past 55 years, the US-LT RCD has established itself as one of most effective community-based organizations in the Central Coast in

restoring riparian habitat, reducing soil erosion and improving water quality. The US-LT RCD has a very active water quality monitoring program, guided by the SWRCB approved QAPP.

The watersheds within the US-LT RCD comprise approximately 1.5 million acres (2,300 square miles) of the Central Coast, including 1,365,000 acres in San Luis Obispo County (about three-quarters of the county area) and 138,000 acres within Monterey County. The district jurisdiction also encompasses the fragile Carrizo Plain in southeastern San Luis Obispo County. The coast of northern San Luis Obispo County and one-half of the 4,000-square-mile Salinas River Watershed is within the US-LT RCD boundary.



Many of the banks along Salinas River in San Miguel have lost protective riparian vegetation.

Salinas River-San Miguel Area River Bank Restoration Project:

The US-LT RCD will work with the community of San Miguel and the California Conservation Corps to implement riparian restoration and bioengineered bank stabilization projects along the banks of the Salinas River. The US-LT RCD's water quality monitoring data has demonstrated that sediment loads are particularly high in San Miguel. This data has been submitted to the RWQCB and SWRCB and has been documented in the *Upper Salinas River Watershed Action Plan*. The restoration projects will be designed to include community service opportunities, such as tree plantings, to provide needed public outreach and education about local water quality concerns and the importance of riparian habitat. This site is located downstream of Mr. David Pierson's property in Creston and has been impacted by the sediment from the subject violation site.

The Project's restoration design will be guided by the *Upper Salinas River Watershed Action Plan, July 2004* (WAP). It is endorsed by the local community groups including the San Miguel Community Advisory Council and the San Miguel Resource Connection as well as the County of San Luis Obispo Supervisor, Harry Ovitt.

In the fall of 2004, the US-LT RCD, in cooperation with the Community, the CCC, and the Planning and Conservation League Foundation created a concept project for the enhancement of four miles of river riparian restoration. If funded, this element of the SEP will implement a part of that dream. The proposed reduced plan and complete plan are shown on the attached map. With the funding, we will work with landowners and the County in effecting restoration in key areas.

Restoration of riparian vegetation and wildlife habitat enhancement will occur in areas of erosion along the riverbank. The vegetation enhancement will use bioengineering and holistic measures to reduce channel erosion and sediment transportation. Noxious and invasive weeds will also be removed. Trash dumped in the river near the project site will be removed.

- US-LT RCD will design and, with the assistance of the CCC, will implement riparian vegetation restoration for all of these segments of the river and establish workable methods to improve habitat and reduce erosion (reducing sediment loads). Design, approval, and construction are proposed over a four year period. The US-LT RCD will monitor the water quality in the Salinas River using methods approved in our SWRCB approved QAPP two times during the project and once at the end. (the RWQCB has copies of the US-LT RCD QAPP). The US-LT RCD project biologist will also monitor the success of the planting at the end of the project. Due to reductions in the project funding, no subsequent monitoring will be conducted.

Total Area of Riparian and River Bank Restoration: Approximately 700 lineal feet of channel.

Total Cost Estimated for Element 1: \$70,500

Planting Program and Removal of Noxious Weed Plants

The US-LT Biologist staff performed a survey on August 1, 2005 at the proposed restoration project sites. The riparian area is characterized by a mixture of native and noxious weeds plants.

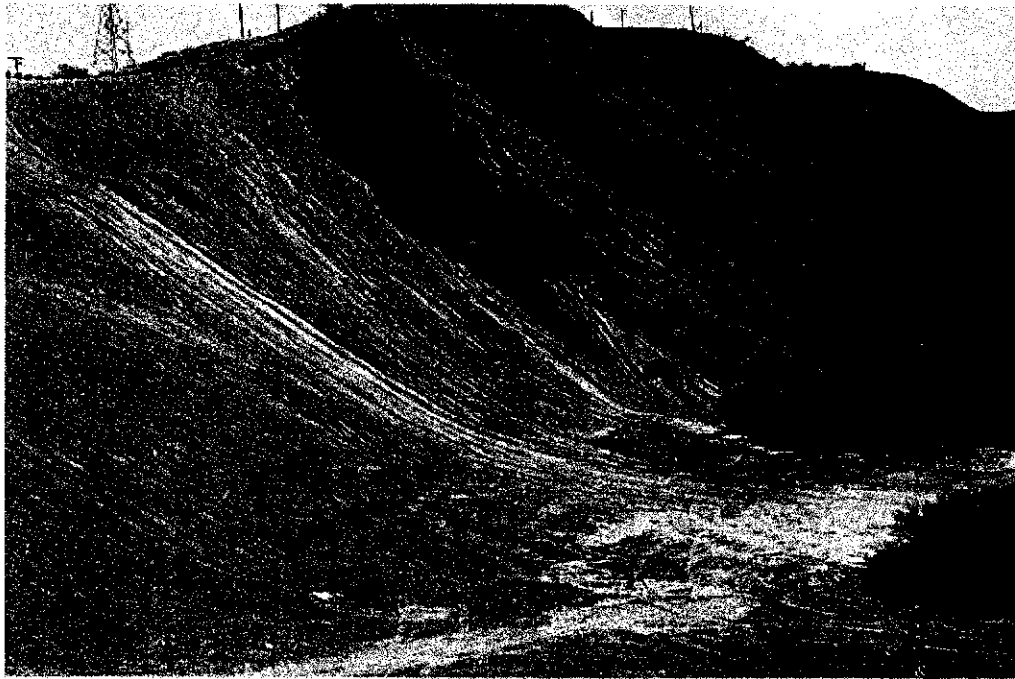
The Biologist will monitor the riparian restoration areas to ensure that noxious weeds will be removed and replaced with native species in order to protect the Salinas River riparian area from erosion and enhance the riparian corridors for wildlife.

Native Common Name for Planting	Scientific Name
Arroyo Willow	<i>Salix lasiolepis</i>
California Blackberry	<i>Rubus sp. ursinus</i>
California Black Walnut	<i>Juglans californica</i>
California Rose	<i>Rosa californica</i>
California Coffeeberry	<i>Rhamnus californica</i>
California Four O'clock	<i>Mirabilis californica</i>
Freemont Cottonwood	<i>Populus fremontii</i>
Mugwort	<i>Artemisia douglasiana</i>
Mulefat	<i>Baccharis salicifolia</i>
Snow Berry	<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>
Sticky Stream Monkey Flower	<i>Mimulus aurantiacus</i>
Stream Monkey Flower California	<i>Mimulus guttatus</i>
Sycamore	<i>Platanus racemosa</i>

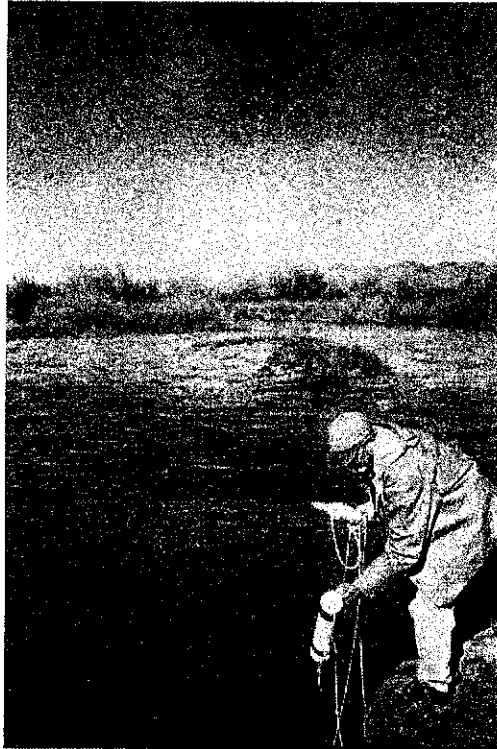
The following lists correspond to the plant species found in the survey on 08/01/2005. The weed plants were dominant represented by 63% of the total of plants surveyed, compared with the natives that represented 37%.

Native Common Name from Site Survey	Scientific Name
Arroyo Willow	<i>Salix lasiolepis</i>
Blue Oak	<i>Quercus douglasii</i>
Freemont Cottonwood	<i>Populus fremontii</i>
Juncus	<i>Juncus acutus leopoldii</i>
Pacific Poison Oak	<i>Toxicodendron diversilobum</i>
Snow Berry	<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>
Sycamore	<i>Platanus racemosa</i>

Weed Common Name, Plants for removal	Scientific Name
Bull Thistle	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>
Broadleaf Plantain	<i>Plantago major L.</i>
Curly Dock	<i>Rumex crispus L.</i>
Dandelion	<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>
Italian Ryegrass	<i>Lolium multiflorum Lam.</i>
Milk Thistle	<i>Silybum marianus</i>
Perennial Mustard	<i>Hirschfeldia incana</i>
Perennial Pepperweed	<i>Lepidium latifolium</i>
Soft Chess, Soft Brome, Soft Cheat, Lop Grass	<i>Bromus mollis L.</i>
Star Thistle	<i>Centaurea solstitialis</i>
Telegraph Weed	<i>Heterotheca grandiflora</i>
Wild Oat	<i>Avena fatua L.</i>



Riparian planting will address bank erosion along Salinas River in San Miguel



Upper Salinas-Las Tablas RCD conducts monthly water quality monitoring of the Salinas River in San Miguel for sediments and turbidity (per SWRCB approved QAPP)



Noxious weeds, such as star thistle and pepperweed, will be removed.

Proposed Project Schedule:

October 2005 thru June 2006	Site Background
October 2005 thru September 2006	Biological Surveys of Project Area
October 2005 thru October 2009	Begin Administration of Project
January 2006 thru August 2006	Design and Meetings
April 2006 thru November 2006	Agency review of project
April 2006 thru October 2009	Exotic plant removal
November 2006 thru October 2009	Planting and irrigation system
January 2006 thru October 2009	Debris removal (with community volunteers)
November 2006 thru October 2009	Monitoring H2O and Plants

(Reporting will be one-page summary of completed elements submitted to RWQCB and Mr. Pierson quarterly and at end of project.)



Areas along river bank will be revegetated

Proposed Budget:

Salinas River Trail and Habitat Restoration Project

Aug. 4, 2005

Upper Salinas-Las Tablas RCD, California Conservation Corps and Planning and Conservation League Foundation

**Reach Salinas River, Town of San Miguel
DESIGN, PLANNING, APPROVAL AND ADMINISTRATION**

	Materials & Other	Hours	Rate	Total hour cost	Total Funding Request
Design, Coord. w/ community, agencies and permits	\$150	160	\$40	\$6,400	\$6,550
Meetings, Drafting, Rendering		120	\$32	\$3,840	\$3,840
Site Background Evaluation		40	\$40	\$1,600	\$1,600
CCC Design Collaboration	Match	240	\$45	\$10,800	\$0
Planning & Cons. League Found.	Match	80	\$45	\$3,600	\$0
Permits and Review					
DFG	\$0			\$0	\$0
County	\$0			\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$150			\$26,240	\$11,990

Note: This Assumes that the permitting agencies, DFG and County, will waive any permit or processing fees.

CONSTRUCTION - San Miguel Salinas-Estrella River Area

700 ft. of channel bank, 3 ac. of restoration

	Materials & Other	Hours	Rate	Total hour cost	Total Funding Request
US-LT RCD					
Construction manage	\$150	120	\$40	\$4,800	\$4,950
Project Construction (Biologists & Cons. Planner)	\$200	150	\$35	\$5,250	\$5,450
Monitoring (During) H2O and plant success		24	\$40	\$960	\$960
Monitoring (After) Vegetation Success		0	\$40	\$0	\$0
CCC					
Signs	\$1,800	80	\$15	\$1,200	\$3,000
Bollards and fencing	\$2,000	180	\$15	\$2,700	\$4,700
Planting restoration	\$7,200	1600	\$15	\$24,000	\$31,200
Temporary irrigation	\$2,250	200	\$15	\$3,000	\$5,250
Debris & noxious weed removal	\$200	120	\$15	\$1,800	\$2,000
Admin. Assistance to RCD	Match	400	\$45	\$18,000	\$0
Other	\$250			\$0	\$250
TOTAL	\$14,050			\$61,710	\$57,760

1 Percent contingency					\$698
Total Cost of Construction					\$57,760
Total Cost of design and approval					\$11,990
TOTAL					\$70,448



Salinas River Restoration Project Proposal for San Miguel

Upper Salinas-Las Tablas RCD
 California Conservation Corps
 County of San Luis Obispo
 San Miguel Advisory Committee
 San Miguel Resource Connection

Project Riparian Restoration Areas

Future Proposed Riparian Restoration Areas

