

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: Santa Cruz County FCWCD Zone 7 – Matt Machado

Applicant's Agent: Santa Cruz County FCWCD Zone 7 – Antonella Gentile

Project Name: Pajaro River Mouth Sandbar Breaching Program

Receiving Water: Pajaro River and Monterey Bay

City/County: Watsonville / Santa Cruz

Public Notice: February 10, 2023 – March 3, 2023

Project Description:

The purpose of the proposed project is to prevent flooding-related health and safety hazards.

The proposed project activities include:

- Excavating the breach channel as demarcated by a qualified biologist;
- Fanning out the termination of the breach channel to reduce scour;
- Placing a sand plug to prevent the lagoon from draining too quickly; and
- Monitoring the Watsonville Slough water level sensor twice a day.

No mitigation proposed.

Santa Cruz County filed a Mitigated Negative Declaration on 1/22/2003.