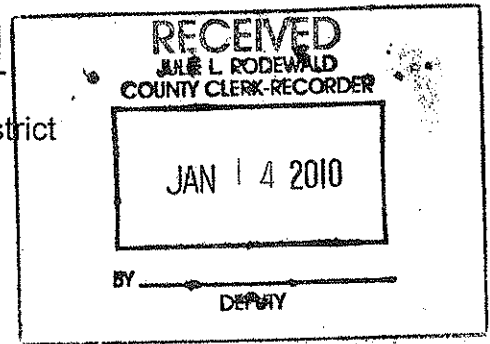


PROPOSED NEGATIVE DECLARATION



LEAD AGENCY: Cambria Community Services District
ADDRESS: P.O. Box 65
1316 Tamson Drive, Ste 201
Cambria, CA 93428

TELEPHONE NO: (805) 927-6235

PROJECT LOCATION: The study area will include the beach area at the mouth of Santa Rosa Creek State Beach Park downcoast to the beach adjacent to Shamel County Park and within the original jurisdiction of the California Coastal Commission. The Study site is in Sections 8 and 17, Township 27 South, Range 8 East, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian of the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Cambria quadrangle. See Figure 1

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Project is a temporary subsurface data gathering activity on the upper beach area of Santa Rosa Creek beach. The action includes:

- Ground-truthing the existing geophysical surveys;
- Exploring the subterranean conditions to determine approximate location and application of various proposed study elements;
- Collecting subterranean data to characterize the subsurface materials and hydrology; and
- Summarizing the data collected in a written report.

The objective of the investigations are to:

- Classify the lithology and material gradation within the beach-area paleochannels;
- Define the hydraulic characteristics of the alluvial deposits within the beach-area paleochannels;
- Determine the surface and ground water quality and soil properties preliminary computer modeling; and
- Preliminarily estimate ground water flow patterns and quantities.

The following details the means and methods proposed to accomplish the work. A maximum of three monitoring wells (6 to 8 inches in diameter each) will be installed for periodic groundwater sampling and monitoring over a two-year maximum time period. The initial installation period for the wells and pump would be approximately 3 weeks. Each monitoring well will initially serve as a test well, which will involve lowering a submersible pump into the casing and pumping over a 72-hour period while measuring the groundwater levels in nearby wells. Each well will be buried under three feet of beach sand at the end of the pumping test and will be kept covered over the sampling period. Hand tools would be used for uncovering the well cap during periodic sampling. The wells will also be removed following the monitoring period, which may involve using a roto sonic rig or a hollow stem auger. If a hollow stem auger is used, the upper ten feet of each well would be drilled out, with native materials replacing the upper ten feet. Well abandonment would also comply with all regulatory requirements, which typically require grouting the remaining well casing.

The remainder of the study will involve coring samples at approximately six to seven remaining locations along the State beach and County-owned Shamel park beach. The samples are planned to be obtained using a roto sonic rig and are typically 4 to 6-inch diameter corings that are collected into elongated plastic bags for analysis. Therefore, there should not be any waste material associated with this method. Either the sampled material or native materials from the beach would be used to fill each sample hole. The locations of the sample corings will be above the mean-high-tide line and may be adjusted depending upon field conditions. The corings would occur over a two to three week period depending upon field conditions and the actual progress achieved by the driller. Unless the creek is flowing at a rate greater than the estimated test flow, hydraulic testing will not be conducted from wells within 50 feet of the lagoon.

Equipment will be removed from the beach at the end of each workday and stored at the CCSD wastewater treatment plant off of Heath Lane. The equipment will be either track mounted or rubber-tire suitable for beach access. Besides the rotosonic rig, there will be one support vehicle that typically supplies coring tubes to the rig. A small four-wheel drive pickup or ATV may also be used to support the on-site geologist for purposes of collecting and transporting samples.

Public access onto the beach will be maintained at all times. Temporary protective markings, such as barrier tape, or plastic fencing will also be placed around the sampling rig. The work will comply with a spill prevention plan and related best management practices. The potential sources of spills from the activity include drilling fluid from rotary drilling, soil cuttings that may contain drilling fluid, and petroleum products from vehicle and equipment. The spill prevention plan addresses methods to deal with these three sources including use of least environmental impact fluids, proper containment of fluids, plastic sheeting placed around auger with berming and immediate removal of fluids in an approved container for transport and disposal. Soil cutting that may contain the drilling fluids will be contained and treated similar to the fluids. Petroleum products are addressed by daily inspection of good working condition equipment and proper staging area designation for refueling and repairs. A qualified biologist who knows snowy plover breeding, foraging, and roosting ecology will be present during study activities on the beach. The proposed study involves temporary information gathering activities. The study will not change the uses of Santa Rosa Creek Beach or Shamel Park.

The specific list of project actions that will minimize or reduce environmental effects are:

- Hazardous Spills Prevention Plan prepared and followed,
- A qualified biologist to monitor for snowy plover,
- Proper fencing and setbacks from the construction activities and wells,
- Limit the activity to weekday daylight hours,
- Maintain beach and Shamel Park access,
- Perform hydraulic testing and modeling of Santa Rosa Creek to ensure no drawdown,

PROPOSED FINDINGS:

The Cambria Community Services District has reviewed the above project in accordance with the Rules and Procedures for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act, and has determined that:

- [X] The proposed project would not have a significant effect on the environment, in that, there will not be a significant effect in this case based on the discussion described in the attached Initial Study which is hereby made part of this Negative Declaration and have been fully analyzed.
- [X] On the basis of the whole record before it, there is no substantial evidence that the Project may have a significant effect on the environment.
- [X] The Initial Study and Negative Declaration for the Project reflect the independent judgment and analysis of the Cambria Community Services District.


The Initial Study, which provides the basis for this determination, is attached. A copy, along with supporting documents referenced in the Initial Study, will be kept on file at the Cambria Community Services District located at 1316 Tamson Drive, Suite 201 Cambria, CA 93428, telephone 805 927-6235 or you may find it online at Cambriacsd.org.

DRAFT PREPARED BY: FIRMA

DATE: January 13, 2010

REVIEW PERIOD: January 14 to February 14, 2010

LEAD AGENCY: Cambria Community Services District


Signature Tammy Rudzick, General Manager
trw

DISTRIBUTION

Lead Agency List: Cambria
Community Services District

Regional Water Quality
Control Board
Attn: David Schwartzbart
895 Aero Vista Pl Ste 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

County of San Luis Obispo
Department of General Services
1087 Santa Rosa Street
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

Air Pollution Control Board
San Luis Obispo County
Attn: Aeron Arlin Genet
3433 Roberto Court
San Luis Obispo, Ca 93401

Department of Fish & Game
Central Coast Region 3
Post Office Box 47
Yountville, Ca 94599

SLO County Planning & Building
County Government Center
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

State Clearing House
Office of Planning & Research
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, Ca. 94812

NOAA Fisheries
5600 Richenbacher Rd
Bell, CA 90201

Supervisor Bruce Gibson
County Government Center
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

Army Corps of Engineers
Attn/ Thomas Keeney
P.O. Box 532711
Los Angles, Ca. 90053

U.S. Fish & Wildlife
2493 Portola Road, Suite B
Ventura, Ca. 93003

Mike Willis
2791 Newton Drive
Cambria, Ca. 93428

M. Power Giacoletti
9349 Jasper Way
San Simeon, Ca. 93452

Elizabeth Bettenhausen
345 Plymouth Street
Cambria, Ca. 93428

Allison Ford
475 Washington St Suite A
Monterey, Ca. 93940

Lynne Harkins
P.O. Box 606
Cambria, Ca. 93428

Mahala Burton
6425 Cambria Pines Road
Cambria, Ca. 93428

Mary Webb
1186 Hartford Street
Cambria, Ca. 93428

California Coastal Commission.
Central Coast District Office
725 Front Street, Suite 300
Santa Cruz, CA
95060

Vince Cicero, California Dept of Parks &
Recreation
San Luis Obispo Coast District
750 Hearst Castle Road
San Simeon, CA
93452

Jan DiLeo
County Parks & Recreation
1087 Santa Rosa
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

Richard Hawley
Greenspace
P. O. Box 1505
Cambria, CA 93428-1505

Kathe Tanner
The Cambrian
2442 Main Street
Cambria, CA 93428

Judy Brown
California State Lands Commission
100 Howe Avenue, Suite 100 South
Sacramento, CA 95825

DISTRIBUTION

Cynthia Hawley
Landwatch SLO County
PO Box 174
Cambria CA 93428

Jack Morrow
311 Wedgewood
Cambria CA 93428

Will Washburn
131 Regal Drive
Santa Maria CA 93454

Initial Study of Environmental Impact

I. ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION FORM

1a. File No.:

1b. Project Title:

Geotechnical and Hydrogeologic Study at Santa Rosa Creek Beach

2. Lead Agency Name and Address:

Cambria Community Services District
P.O. Box 65
1316 Tamson Drive, Ste 201
Cambria, CA 93428

3. Contact Person and Phone Number:

David Foote, c/o *firma*, (805) 781-9800
Tammy Ruddock, General Manager, (805) 927-6235

4. Project Location:

The study area will include the beach area of the Hearst San Simeon State Park at the Santa Rosa Creek beach and the adjacent San Luis Obispo County beach that is contiguous with the Shamel County Park. The study area is landward of the mean high tide line (MHTL) and within the jurisdiction of the California Coastal Commission. The Study site is in Sections 8 and 17, Township 27 South, Range 8 East, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian of the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Cambria quadrangle. See Figure 1

5. Project Sponsor's Name and Address:

Cambria Community Services District
P.O. Box 65
1316 Tamson Drive, Ste 201
Cambria, CA 93428

6. General Plan Designation:

The Santa Rosa Creek Beach site is within the Cambria Urban Reserve Line of San Luis Obispo County.

7. Zoning:

The proposed study site is within the open space (OS) and recreation (REC) land use categories for the Cambria Urban Reserve Line area of San Luis Obispo County. The REC land use area portion of the beach study site is contiguous with the County's Shamel Park and immediately downcoast.

8. Description of the Project:

Project Description: The Project is a temporary subterranean data gathering activity on the upper beach area of Santa Rosa Creek beach. The action includes:

- Ground-truthing the existing geophysical surveys;

- Exploring the subterranean conditions to determine approximate location and application of various proposed study elements;
- Collecting subterranean data to characterize the subsurface materials and hydrology; and
- Summarizing the data collected in a written report.

The objective of the investigations are to:

- Classify the lithology and material gradation within the beach-area paleochannels;
- Define the hydraulic characteristics of the alluvial deposits within the beach-area paleochannels;
- Determine the surface and ground water quality and soil properties for preliminary computer modeling; and
- Preliminarily estimate ground water flow patterns and quantities.

The following details the means and methods proposed to accomplish the work. A maximum of three monitoring wells (6 to 8 inches in diameter each) will be installed for periodic groundwater sampling and monitoring over a two-year maximum time period. The installation period for the wells and pumps will be approximately three weeks. Each monitoring well will initially serve as a test well, which will involve lowering a submersible pump into the casing and pumping over a 72-hour period while measuring the groundwater levels in nearby wells. Each well will be buried under three feet of beach sand at the end of the pumping test and will be kept covered over the sampling period. Hand tools would be used for uncovering the well cap during periodic sampling. The wells will also be removed following the monitoring period, which may involve using a roto sonic rig or a hollow stem auger. If a hollow stem auger is used, the upper ten feet of each well would be drilled out, with native materials replacing the upper ten feet. Well abandonment would also comply with all regulatory requirements, which require grouting any remaining well casing.

The remainder of the study will involve coring samples at approximately six to seven remaining locations along the State beach and County-owned Shamel park beach. The samples are planned to be obtained using a roto sonic rig and are 4 to 6-inch diameter corings that are collected into elongated plastic bags for analysis. Therefore, there will not be any drilling fluid or waste material associated with this method. Either the sampled material or native materials from the beach would be used to fill each sample hole. The locations of the sample corings will be above the mean-high-tide line and may be adjusted depending upon field conditions. The corings would occur over a two to three week period depending upon field conditions and the actual progress achieved by the driller. Drilling will not impact the Santa Rosa Creek lagoon. Unless the lagoon is flowing out to sea at a rate greater than the estimated test flow, hydraulic testing will not be conducted from monitoring wells that may have the potential to influence the lagoon water level or otherwise impact lagoon habitat.

Equipment will be removed from the beach at the end of each workday and stored at the CCSD wastewater treatment plant off of Heath Lane. The equipment will be either track mounted or rubber-tire suitable for beach access. Besides the roto sonic rig, there will be one support vehicle that typically supplies coring tubes to the rig. A small four-wheel drive pickup or ATV may also be used to support the on-site geologist for purposes of collecting and transporting samples.

Public access onto the beach will be maintained at all times. Temporary protective markings, such as barrier tape, or plastic fencing will also be placed around the sampling rig. The work will comply with a spill prevention plan and related best management practices. The potential sources of spills from the activity include groundwater that may be withdrawn with the soil samples and petroleum products from vehicle and equipment. The attached spill prevention plan addresses methods to deal with these potential sources, including use of least environmental impact fluids, proper containment of fluids, plastic sheeting placed around auger with berming and immediate removal of fluids in an approved container for transport and disposal. Soil samples or cuttings that may contain the drilling fluids will be contained and treated similar to the fluids. Petroleum products are addressed by daily inspection of good working condition equipment and proper staging area designation for refueling and repairs. A qualified biologist who knows snowy plover breeding, foraging, and roosting ecology will be present during study activities on the beach. The proposed study involves temporary information gathering activities. The study will not change the uses of Santa Rosa Creek Beach or Shamel Park.

The following study practices will be followed to avoid environmental impacts otherwise minimize the potential for such impacts to a less than significant level:

- Adherence to the attached spill prevention plan,
- Compliance with recommendations made by a qualified on-site biologist to avoid habitat impacts, including recommendations associated with snowy plover monitoring,
- Temporary safety fencing and monitoring of sampling activity areas to ensure public safety and beach access is maintained at all times. ,
- Removal of equipment from the beach area to the CCSD wastewater treatment plant site at the end of each workday. Conformance with San Luis Obispo County rules and regulations associated with limiting noise from the sampling activities and equipment. ,

9. Surrounding Land Uses and Setting:

The site investigation will occur onshore along the Hearst San Simeon State Park, Santa Rosa Creek beach and County-owned Shamel Park beach, entirely above (landward of) the mean high tide line. The onshore subterranean surface exploration will occur at approximately 10 sites between the beach at the Santa Rosa Creek lagoon outlet and slightly south of the southern beach access staircase at Shamel Park.

The study site and activities will be limited to previously disturbed parking and service vehicle access ways within Shamel Park and the beach areas that are above the mean high tide line. The study activities will avoid disturbance to Central Fore-dune vegetation located immediately to the east of the site and areas of Freshwater Marsh and Willow Woodland east of the Santa Rosa Creek. The project site at Santa Rosa Creek Beach is not designated as snowy plover critical habitat and is not a snowy plover nesting site. No regular marine mammal haul out sites are located near Santa Rosa Creek Beach. Access to the Santa Rosa Creek beach study site will be from an existing ten-foot wide reinforced concrete emergency vehicle access ramp. The Santa Rosa Creek Beach study site is not visible from Highway 1.

10. Other Public Agencies Whose Approval is Required:

California Coastal Commission – Coastal Consistency Determination.

11. Environmental Factors Potentially Affected:

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant" or is "Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated," as indicated by the Environmental Checklist:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Aesthetics	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hazards and Hazardous Materials	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Services
<input type="checkbox"/>	Agriculture Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hydrology and Water Quality	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recreation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Air Quality	<input type="checkbox"/>	Land Use and Planning	<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation and Traffic
<input type="checkbox"/>	Biological Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mineral Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	Utilities and Service Systems
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cultural Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	Noise	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mandatory Findings of Significance
<input type="checkbox"/>	Geology and Soils	<input type="checkbox"/>	Population and Housing		

There is no evidence before the Department that the project will have any potential adverse effects on fish and wildlife resources or the habitat upon which the wildlife depends. As such, the project qualifies for a "no effect" determination with regards to the filing of Fish and Game Fees.

The project has potential to impact fish and wildlife resources and shall be subject to the payment of Fish and Game fees pursuant to Section 711.4 of the California Fish and Game Code.

12. Determination: (To be completed by the Lead Agency)

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project applicant in the form of a MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a potentially significant impact or potentially significant unless mitigated impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Signature

MIKE PRATER

Printed Name

Date

1-13-10

For

DAVID FOOTE

II. ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Sources	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
1. AESTHETICS. Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	1		x	
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	1			x
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	1		x	
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare, which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	1			x

Impact Discussion:

- 1a-c. The proposed project site is located near Santa Rosa Creek Beach, which is not visible from Highway 1. Equipment will be removed from the beach at the end of each workday and stored at the CCSD wastewater treatment plant off of Heath Lane. Each well will be buried under three feet of beach sand at the end of the pumping test and will be kept covered over the sampling period. The wells will also be removed following the monitoring period. Therefore, the change in the visual setting is limited to workday times over a period of 3 weeks for initial drilling. This impact is less than significant.
- 1d. The proposed project does not propose any new lighting, no nighttime activity is proposed. The proposed project will result in no impact from new lighting.

2. AGRICULTURE RESOURCES. In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. Would the project:

- a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?
- b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?
- c) Involve other changes in the existing environment, which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use?

Sources	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
1				x
1				x
1				x

Impact Discussion:

2a.-c The project site is not zoned for agricultural use nor is the site located on or adjacent to existing farmland, therefore the project will have no impact on agricultural resources.

3. AIR QUALITY. Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:

- a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?
- b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?
- c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?

Sources	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
1				x
1				x
1				x

- d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?
- e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?

1				x
1			x	

Impact Discussion:

- 3a. The project area is located in the South Central Coast Air basin (SCCAB). The SCCAB consists of San Luis Obispo County and that portion of Santa Barbara County north of the Santa Ynez Mountain ridgeline. Atmospheric pollutant concentrations in the SCCAB are generally moderate, due to persistent west-to-northwesterly winds that blow off the Pacific Ocean and enhance atmospheric mixing. San Luis Obispo County is in non-attainment for State ozone and respirable particulate matter (PM10) and in attainment or unclassified for all other State and federal standards. The project would not cause an increase of population in the area or adversely affect any land use or transportation control measures or be considered large enough to create an air quality change to significantly interfere with the Clean Air Plan. The project would therefore would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable Clean Air Plan.
- 3.b.c. The sampling rig to be used has been modified to meet EPA Tier 3 Non-road Diesel Standards. Additionally, the proposed study will use a mid-sized four-wheel drive truck to transport soil samples and be able to transport staff off the beach in case of emergency. Test wells will utilize a submersible pump capability of pumping 100 to 150 gallons per minute from each test well. The electric test pump will be rated between 15 to 20 horsepower and powered with a generator. The generator will be capable of producing up to three-phase, 220-volt power to the test pump. Therefore, with the required implementation of applicable fugitive dust control measures, air quality impacts from proposed construction activities would be less than significant.
- 3.d. The proposed study will generate approximately 6 pounds per day of ROG and NOX, combined¹. The Air District's threshold for ozone precursors is 137 pounds per day and the proposed study activities will also be less than the Air District's threshold of 0.75 tons/acre/month of construction activity screening level for fugitive dust. Ambient pollutant impacts would not be expected to exceed significance levels. The San Luis Obispo County APCD regulates diesel particulate matter (DPM). The threshold for DPM is 7 lbs per day for construction operations. These emissions would be temporary and, given the expected rate and duration of drilling, would not exceed the threshold. During normal operation of the study, no direct emissions are expected to result.
- 3.e. There may be some odors associated with the use of diesel equipment during the drilling phase. These odors would be temporary. There are residences within 200 feet of two test wells. However, the duration of drilling would ensure that these residences are minimally affected by odors during the drilling. A less than significant impact would occur.

4. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES. Would the project:

- a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

Sources	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
1			x	

¹ ACOE Planning Division determination December 2009 Coastal Consistency Determination.

- b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?
- c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?
- d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?
- e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?
- f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?

1				x
1			x	
1			x	
1				x
1				x

Impact Discussion:

4a-d. In accordance with the 1996 amendments to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Management and Conservation Act, an assessment of Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) was conducted for the proposed Study. The Study is located within an area designated as EFH for three Fishery Management Plans: Coastal Pelagic Species Fishery Management Plan, Pacific Salmon fishery Management Plan, and Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan. Many of the 89 species managed under these plans would be expected to occur offshore of the study area. Study activities would occur above the mean high tide line and would not impact Essential Fish Habitat.

The California grunion (*Leuresthes tenuis*) is a nearshore fish that lays its eggs in the high intertidal zone between March and August. During the grunion spawning season, eggs and developing embryos are buried in the sand to incubate between the highest tides of each month at the full and new moon (Martin 2006). Grunion are rare north of Point Conception, but have a slight potential to spawn on the beach near Santa Rosa Creek. The study is on the upper beach, an area highly used by beachgoers. The site is not a major migration corridor for wildlife. There is a slight chance that grunion could spawn on the site. Grunion runs at the northern extent of their range usually do not start early in the season. For example, in 2009, grunions were not observed north of Pt. Conception until June; but grunion runs along the central coast can start as early as May. Because study construction would occur in March, no impacts to grunion are expected.

Federal endangered tidewater goby, and federal threatened south-central California coast steelhead and California red-legged frogs occur in Santa Rosa Creek. The proposed study would have no effect on the creek because placement of the test wells will occur along the sandy beach area and monitoring within the well casings will be the only activity. Unless the creek is flowing at a rate greater than the estimated test flow, hydraulic testing will not be conducted from wells that could potentially lower the lagoon water level or otherwise impact the lagoon habitat. For testing proposed during low lagoon flow periods, preliminary hydraulic modeling will be performed to confirm that the lagoon will be outside the cone of influence of the test well. These measures will ensure test pumping will not result in a drawdown of water in Santa Rosa Creek. Therefore, no impacts on aquatic species that might occur due to decreased creek lagoon flow are identified.

A variety of birds occur in the study area. Bird species seen on the study site itself during a November 5, 2009, field visit included American crows (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*), western gulls (*Larus occidentalis*), Heermann's gulls (*L.heermanni*), ring billed gulls (*L.delawarensis*), Say's phoebe (*Sayornis saya*), black phoebe (*S.nigricans*), Brewer's blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) and red-winged blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*). These birds were mostly associated with wrack and debris on the Study site. Large numbers of birds were observed congregating in the Santa Rosa Creek lagoon adjacent to the Study site. Birds observed in the lagoon during the November site visit included great egret (*Casmerodius albus*), western gulls, Heermann's gulls, ring billed gulls, snowy egrets (*Egretta thula*), California brown pelicans (*Pelecanus occidentalis*), killdeer (*Charadrius vociferous*) and a peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*). The intertidal area seaward of the study site is used for foraging by gulls and shorebirds. Shorebirds observed during the November visit included whimbrel (*Numenius pheopus*), long-billed curlew (*N. americanus*), and marbled godwit (*Limosa fedoa*). Birds that use the upper beach will be monitored by an on-site biologist who will make recommendations to the study investigators to avoid potential impacts or otherwise ensure the potential impacts are less than significant.

The nearest Critical Habitat for snowy plovers is CA-77 (San Simeon), over a mile to the north. The study site at Santa Rosa Creek Beach is not designated as snowy plover critical habitat. The study site does not support breeding or nesting habitat for the snowy plover and does not have nesting snowy plovers. The nesting season is between March and September therefore a qualified biologist who knows snowy plover breeding, foraging, and roosting ecology will be present during study activities on the beach. If nesting plovers are identified the USFWS will be consulted and appropriate avoidance measures employed.

Federal threatened southern sea otters may occur in the ocean offshore of the study site but would not be present on the study site itself. Temporary noise and activities on the upper beach would not disturb sea otters offshore. Pump testing will employ a filter bag as part of its testing protocol to trap any sediment within the discharged groundwater and to reduce the flow velocity across the beach to prevent scour prior to returning groundwater into the ocean environment. In addition, the roto sonic sampling method will collect cored samples into sealed elongated plastic bags for analysis. Past laboratory testing of groundwater from the Santa Rosa Creek aquifer also yielded none detected or .00005 ppm for mercury, which is 40 times less than the State's maximum contaminant level allowed for drinking water. Impacts of the proposed study to sea otters would be insignificant.

The proposed study will occur entirely on the upper beach, which is sparsely vegetated with a disturbed Central Fore dune plant community. Although dune habitats may be sensitive, the vegetation on the study site has very low diversity and one of the dominants, sea rocket, is a non- native species. A small amount of a native plant, beach-bur, may be impacted by study activities. The vegetation is routinely subjected to trampling by beach goers. To the extent possible, study activities would avoid disturbing vegetation. However, it is likely that some of this vegetation will be impacted by work and vehicles on the beach. Temporary disturbance of a limited amount of low diversity dune vegetation would be an insignificant impact.

4e. There are no local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources conflicting with the project. The State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA) governs the state waters within the central coast study region (Pigeon Point to Point Conception). The Cambria SMCA regulates the commercial take of living marine resources and kelp harvesting however recreational take is allowed. The project is not located within the SMCA, however, located in the sandy beach area.

4f. The project location is not under the provisions of a habitat conservation plan.

5. CULTURAL RESOURCES. Would the project:

- a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?
- b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?
- c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?

Sources	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
1				x
1				x
1				x

- d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?

1				x
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Impact Discussion:

- 5a,b. No known prehistoric or historic cultural resources are located within the proposed project area.
- 5.c. Though paleontological fossils may be present in the rock strata, the drilling is minimal in scope and would not substantially disturb these resources.
- 5.d. No known archaeological remains are located within the project site. There is no potential for unknown buried burial remains, as the activity is within beach previously below the mean high tide line.

6. GEOLOGY AND SOILS. Would the project:

- a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:
- i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.
- ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?
- iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?
- iv) Landslides?
- b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?
- c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?
- d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18- 1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?

Sources	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
1				x
1				x
1				x
1				x
1				x
1				x
1				x
1				x

- e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?

1				x
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Impact Discussion:

6a.-d The San Luis Obispo County General Plan Safety Element Risk Map designates landslides, flood zones and other areas where potential natural hazards exist. The geotechnical investigations does not place life or property in areas of high geologic, flood, and fire hazard risks. The proposed action does not affect the stability and structural integrity, and neither creates nor contributes significantly to erosion, geologic instability, or destruction of the site or surrounding area or in any way require the construction of protective devices that would substantially alter natural landforms along bluffs and cliffs.

- 6e. Development of the proposed project would not involve the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems.

7. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS. Would the project:

- a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?
- b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?
- c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?
- d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?
- e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?
- f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in

Sources	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
1,2			x	
1,2			x	
1,2				x
1				x
1				x
1				x

the project area?

g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where Wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with Wildlands?

1				x
1				x

Impact Discussion :

7a.-e The samples are planned to be obtained using a roto sonic rig are 4 to 6-inch diameter corings that are collected into elongated plastic bags for analysis. The roto sonic drilling method will not require the use of drilling fluids. Therefore, there should not be any waste material from the borings associated with this method. Either the sampled material or native materials from the beach would be used to fill each sample hole. A Hazardous Spill Contingency Plan has been prepared and is attached. The purpose of the HSCP is to provide the procedures and protocols that will be utilized in the event of a release of hazardous materials, either onshore or in the marine environment resulting from geotechnical and hydrogeologic investigation activities. The potential sources of spills from the activity may include fluid from roto sonic sampling operation, soil cuttings that may contain drilling fluid, and petroleum products from vehicle and equipment. The spill prevention plan addresses methods to deal with these three sources including use of least environmental impact fluids, proper containment of fluids, plastic sheeting placed around auger with berming and immediate removal of fluids in an approved container for transport and disposal. Soil cutting that may contain the drilling fluids will be contained and treated similar to the fluids. Petroleum products are addressed by daily inspection of good working condition equipment and proper staging area designation for refueling and repairs.

7g. The proposed project does not entail any design feature capable of impacting an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan.

7h. The proposed project is within an urban area and will not expose people or structures to wildland fires.

8. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY.

Would the project:

a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?

b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?

Sources	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
1				x
1				x

- c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?
- d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?
- e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?
- f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?
- g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?
- h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?
- i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?
- j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?

1				x
1				x
1				x
1			x	
1				x
1				x
1				x
1				x

Impact Discussion:

- 8a. The project will not create any activity that violates water quality standards but rather each monitoring well will be used throughout aquifer testing to monitor water levels and, after completion of aquifer testing, to monitor seasonal variations in water quality. Either during pumping (dynamic) or subsequent (static) monitoring, a depth dependent survey of water quality will be performed using an ion-specific (chloride) conductivity transducer. The transducer will be lowered throughout the water column to record changes in water quality at various depths. Field water quality parameters including electrical conductivity, pH, turbidity, and temperature will be monitored at regular intervals throughout aquifer testing. Up to 10 water samples will be collected during the aquifer testing for chemical analysis.
- 8b. The proposed study would have no adverse effect on the creek. Unless the creek is flowing at a rate greater than the estimated test flow, hydraulic testing will not be conducted from wells within 50 feet of the lagoon. For testing proposed during low lagoon flow periods, preliminary hydraulic modeling will be performed to confirm that the lagoon will be outside the cone of influence of the test well. This is an investigative objective of the Proposed Project. The relatively low test pumping volumes are projected to be well below the stream flow volume, therefore, the proposed study will not result in a drawdown of water in Santa Rosa Creek.
- 8c-d. The proposed action would not generate or dispose of any wastes that would substantially affect the flow patterns, volumes, or quality of surface or ground waters at the project site.
- 8e. The proposed project would not create runoff exceeding the capacity of existing stormwater drainage systems. The project will not provide substantial sources of polluted runoff.
- 8. f. The proposed project does not consist of any activities that could substantially degrade water quality. The action will be permitted by a RWQCB issued Conditional Waiver automatically invoked by the Nationwide 6 permit under section 404 of the Clean Water Act. This permit is anticipated to require water and soil testing during the first ten feet of drilling at each test well. The purpose of this requirement is due to the possible presence of mercury on the creek mouth sediments. Pumping discharge would be subject to conditions identified by the RWQCB based on the soil and water sampling tests during drilling. According to ACOE investigations, there are no EPA or state Department of Toxic Substance Control cleanup sites identified in the watershed. However, about ten years ago the Regional Water Quality Control Board issued a clean up order on a site 5 miles upstream for mercury mine tailings. The District received testimony from the public on January 5, 2010 asserting the potential for mercury in sediments to become soluble and enter the biotic food chain. While the August 2009 Cambria Community Services District consumer confidence report for 2008 indicated that mercury concentration within the District's groundwater was at 0.00005 ppm, which is 40 times less than the maximum contaminant level allowed for potable drinking water by the State, (i.e., 0.002 ppm) the District has not independently verified the recent public testimony. Based on evidence presented by the ACOE, the likelihood of the short duration drilling and discharge activities releasing substantial amounts of soluble mercury via disturbed sediments is low. In any case, RWQCB permit compliance will ensure no adverse effects on water quality. ¹ Jim Adams, CCSD Water Department Supervisor; July 2008 sampling and analysis of groundwater from well SR-4 yielded a "none detected" result for mercury. The 0.00005 ppm mercury result listed in the CCSD's consumer confidence report for 2008 were a composite of both the San Simeon and Santa Rosa aquifers combined, with Santa Rosa at zero. The September 2005 sampling and analysis from well SR-4 yielded a 0.00005 mg/l result for mercury. August 2002 sampling and analysis from well SR-4 yielded a none detected result for mercury.
- 8g-h. The proposed project site is located outside the 100-year flood zone. No housing is proposed as part of the project; therefore, no flooding impacts on residential land use would occur.
- 8i. There are no levees or dams within the project vicinity that could create a flood hazard on the project site.
- 8j. The proposed project site is subject to a seiche, tsunami however the the project itself is a short-term data gathering and the wells would not be affected by these events.

9. LAND USE AND PLANNING. Would the project:

Sources	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact

- a) Physically divide an established community?
- b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?
- c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?

1				x
1				x
1				x

Impact Discussion:

- 9a. The proposed project is not located in an area such that it would divide an established community.
- 9b. The project site is located on the sand beach adjacent to the mouth of Santa Rosa Creek in Cambria's Urban Area Land Use Designation within the County of San Luis Obispo Coastal Zone. No new residential, commercial, or industrial development is proposed. No new or expanded public works facilities are proposed. No development of sewage treatment plant is proposed. The temporary installation of test wells and monitoring wells into the beach areas at Santa Rosa Creek is considered "development" and therefore will require a Coastal Development Permit.
- 9c. The proposed project will not conflict with any habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan.

10. MINERAL RESOURCES. Would the project:

- a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?
- b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?

Sources	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
1				x
1				x

Impact Discussion:

- 10a-b. There are no known mineral resources within the vicinity of the project.

11. NOISE. Would the project result in:

Sources	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact

- a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?
- b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?
- c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?
- d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?
- e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?
- f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

1				x
1				x
1				x
1			x	
1				x
1				x

Impact Discussion:

11.a-f. The geotechnical investigation at Santa Rosa Beach does not include a seismic reflection survey. The proposed investigation involves only swimmers with hand held or similar devices logging GPS coordinates within coastal waters. Therefore, no potential noise and pressure impacts of mini-sparker on marine mammals and other marine life will occur.

The study field activities for test holes and wells installation would require up to two to four weeks to complete. These field activities are anticipated to begin as early as mid February 2010, once all permits and access agreements are in place, and will be completed by mid-March 2010. All site work will be performed during daylight hours during non-holiday weekdays (Monday through Friday) for a maximum of 10 hours per day (approximately 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.). The workday may be shortened based on site conditions, including rising tides and wave run-up. All equipment will be removed from the beach before sunset of each day. The proposed study will use a mid-sized four-wheel drive truck to transport soil samples and be able to transport staff off the beach in case of emergency. Test wells will utilize a submersible pump capability of pumping 100 to 150 gallons per minute from each test well. The electric test pumps will be rated between 15 to 20 horsepower and powered with a generator.

The equipment for drilling may produce up to 86-90 dBA noise levels at the noise source. At 200 feet from the source, the noise levels would be about 72-77 dBA.² The County Noise Ordinance threshold is 70 dBA for stationary noise sources at the property line adjacent to the noise source. The nearest residences are about 200 feet from the two southerly test wells, therefore, these receptors would be affected. However, ambient noise levels on the beaches measured by the CCSD (Carroll Engineers, 2006) are 75 to 104 dBA. Thus, the ambient noise level is similar to the projected construction noise level. The Proposed Project activities include the provision for a flatbed truck with straw bales or other temporary sound barriers to be positioned between the rig and receptors to attenuate construction noise where needed. Therefore, no adverse impact is identified.

² ACOE Planning Division determination 2009 Coastal Consistency Determination

12. POPULATION AND HOUSING. Would the project:

- a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?
- b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?
- c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

Sources	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
1				x
1				x
1				x

Impact Discussion:

- 12a. The proposed project does not induce substantial population growth in the area. The proposed study involves temporary information gathering activities only. The study will not change the uses of Santa Rosa Creek Beach or Shamel Park.
- 12b-c. The proposed project site is located on the sand beach adjacent to the mouth of Santa Rosa Creek, therefore no individuals would be displaced.

13. PUBLIC SERVICES.

- a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:
 - Fire protection?
 - Police protection?
 - Schools?
 - Parks?
 - Other public facilities?

Sources	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
1				x
1				x
1				x
1				x
1				x

Impact Discussion:

13a. The proposed study involves temporary information gathering activities only. The public services provided will not be altered and continue to maintain acceptable services after the project is completed.

14. RECREATION:

- a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?
- b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?

Sources	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
1				x
1				x

Impact Discussion:

14a.-b The study site is on a beach area that that is easily accessed through Shamel Park for recreational purposes. The large beach area is contiguous with Moonstone Beach and Leffingwell Landing. Recreational activities that occur in the area include walking, bird watching, sun bathing, picnicking, surfing, kayaking, and swimming. Shamel County Park adjacent to the beach site is 6 acres and has a developed lawn area with picnic tables, barbecues, a swimming pool, restrooms, parking and direct beach access.

During drilling, a small portion of the beach would be closed to recreational beachgoers. An exclusion area of about 20 feet around each drilling rig will be necessary for safety. There also will be vehicles on the beach. Because the study would be of short duration and would occur during times of low beach use, impacts to recreation would be insignificant. The study will not change the uses of Santa Rosa Creek Beach or Shamel Park.

15. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC: Would the project:

- a) Cause an increase in traffic which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at

Sources	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
1				x

intersections)?

- b) Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?
- c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?
- d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?
- e) Result in inadequate emergency access?
- f) Result in inadequate parking capacity?
- g) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?

1				x
1				x
1				x
1				x
1				x
1				x

Impact Discussion:

- 15a-b The proposed project will not generate new daily automotive trips.
- 15c. The project will not affect air traffic. The project consists of temporary information gathering activities only.
- 15.d The project does not include any design features that will increase hazards or incompatible uses.
- 15.e,f Pedestrian access to the study site includes direct access from Shamel Park via two sets of staircases or from Moonstone Beach across the Santa Rosa Creek mouth during low tides or when the mouth is closed and a berm is present. Surface parking is located at the Shamel Park parking lot or Moonstone Beach south parking lot. The Shamel Park parking lot may be accessed from Windsor Boulevard, which provides 41 paved spaces, 2 paved handicap spaces, and 23 dirt spaces. The Moonstone Beach south parking lot may be accessed from York Street and Moonstone Beach Drive and provides 14 paved spaces and 2 paved handicap spaces. During working hours, the geotechnical investigation at Santa Rosa Creek Beach would use only 10 of the 66 parking spaces at Shamel Park adjacent to Santa Rosa Beach or approximately 15 percent of the available public parking. In addition, the investigation at Santa Rosa Creek Beach would not interfere in any way with the most convenient access to Santa Rosa Beach – the stairway from Shamel Park to the beach. All test equipment will be removed from the beach and park area to the CCSD wastewater plant off of Heath Lane at the end of each work day.
- 15g. The project does not conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation.

16. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS.

Would the project:

- a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?

Sources	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
1				x

- b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?
- c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?
- d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?
- e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?
- f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?
- g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

1				x
1				x
1				x
1				x
1				x
1				x

Impact Discussion:

- 16a. The project does not require the connection to existing infrastructure.
- 16b. The project does not create the need for additional capacity or wastewater facility modifications.
- 16.c The proposed project would not contribute amounts of stormwater runoff that would necessitate the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities.
- 16.d The proposed project does not require any water use.
- 16.e The proposed study involves temporary information gathering activities only.
- 16.f The proposed project construction uses will not generate enough waste to impact the current local landfill capacity.
- 16.g The proposed study involves temporary information gathering activities only.

17. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE.

- a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?
- b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?
- c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

Sources	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
1				x
1				x
1				x

Impact Discussion:

- 17a. The proposed project does not have the potential for cumulative impacts to threaten or restrict plant or animal communities because the proposed study involves temporary information gathering activities only. There are no known prehistoric and early historic cultural resources in the project vicinity.
- 17b. The proposed project does not have an impact on biological, hazardous materials, air quality, noise levels, or traffic circulation that is considered significant individually or cumulatively.
- 17c. The proposed project does not effect the environment in a way that would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings directly or indirectly. The preceding discussions have been evaluated through the CEQA guidelines and found to have a less than significant levels or no impact.

17. EARLIER ANALYSES.	
Earlier analysis may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, one of more effects have been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or Negative Declaration. Section 15063 © (3) (D). In this case a discussion should identify the following items:	
a) Earlier analysis used.	None
b) Impacts adequately addressed. (Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.)	None
c) Mitigation measures. (For effects that are "Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated," describe the mitigation measures, which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions of the project.)	None

18. SOURCE REFERENCES.	
1.	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Coastal Consistency Determination (December 2009).
2.	County of San Luis Obispo. 2008. The Land Use and Circulation Elements of the San Luis Obispo County General Plan: North Coast.
3.	Holland, Robert F. 1986. Preliminary Descriptions of the Terrestrial Natural Communities of California. State of California, The Resources Agency, Department of Fish and Game, Natural Heritage Division, Sacramento, California.
4.	Martin, K. 2006. Ocean Outlets and Grunion in the County of Orange.
5.	Oakden, J. 1999. Sandy Beaches in Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Site Characterization.
6.	Page, G. W., L. E. Stenzel, W. D. Shuford, and C. R Bruce. 1991. Distribution and abundance of the snowy plover on its western North American breeding grounds. <i>J. Field Ornithol.</i> 62: 245-255.
7.	Page, G. W., M. A. Stern, and P. W. C. Paton. 1995. Differences in wintering areas of snowy plovers from inland breeding sites in western North American. <i>Condor</i> 97:258-262.
8.	Powell, A. N., C. L. Collier, and B. Peterson. 1995. The Status of western snowy plovers (<i>Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus</i>) in San Diego County, 1995. Report to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Portland OR, and CA DFG, Sacramento, CA.
9.	Powell, A. N. 1996. Western snowy plover use of State-managed lands in southern California, 1995. Calif. Dep. Fish and Game, Wildl. Manage. Div., Bird and Mammal Conservation Program Rep 96-03, Sacramento, CA. 14 pp.
10.	U.S. Congress. 2000. Water Resources Development Act of 1992. U.S. Congress, December 29, 2009.
11.	Carollo Engineers, Technical Memorandum No.1, Mini-sparker Sound Attenuation Study, Final, August 2006. (Including a related discussion on sonic drilling).
12	
13.	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Hazardous Spill Contingency Plan (December 2009).

