

Section 401 Water Quality Certification Public Notice

The Central Coast Water Board is currently reviewing an application for the following project for water quality certification under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. We encourage public comments on the proposed work, which will be considered in the decision on certification. 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	CA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife - Julie Vance
Applicant's Agent	Elkhorn Slough Reserve - Monique Fountain
Project Name	Elkhorn Slough Tidal Marsh Restoration Project, Phase 1
Receiving Water	Elkhorn Slough
City/County	Castroville/Monterey
Public Notice	April 29, 2016 – May 20, 2016
Project Description	<p>The purpose of this project is to restore tidal marsh, reduce tidal erosion, improve water quality, provide sea-level rise resilience, increase carbon sequestration, improve ecosystem function and support the recovery of the southern sea otter, all within areas of Elkhorn Slough that have been altered by past land use practices.</p> <p>The project activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restoring 47 acres of tidal marsh within the Minhoto-Hester Marsh area; • Using approximately 107,900 to 167,800 cubic yards of fill to raise the marsh plain an average height of 2.4 feet; • Revegetating the buffer grasslands with native dominated perennial grassland; • Filling smaller channels as needed for temporary marsh access; • Constructing low levees of fill material along larger main channels to simulate natural channel levees; and • Draining isolated work areas with a combination of gravity and pumps. <p>There is no planned compensatory mitigation for this project.</p> <p>California Department of Fish and Wildlife filed a (Mitigated) Negative Declaration on August 27, 2016.</p>