



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
SAN FRANCISCO DISTRICT, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
450 GOLDEN GATE AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94102-3404

Operations and Readiness Division

PUBLIC NOTICE

**REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO ALTER A U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
PROJECT UNDER SECTION 408**

TITLE: Pajaro River – Sewer Force Main Repair

Public notice comment period:

Begins: July 12, 2023

Ends: August 12, 2023

REQUESTER: In compliance with U.S.C. Title 33, Chapter 9, Subchapter 1, Section 408, Monterey County Department of Public Works, Facilities, and Parks (requester) has requested permission through the Monterey County Water Resources Agency (WRA) and Pajaro Regional Flood Management Agency (PRFMA) (non-federal sponsor of the federally authorized project) from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to alter the Pajaro River Project, an existing federal flood risk management project, authorized by Section 10 of the Flood Control Act of December 1944.

LOCATION: Project location, adjacent to the Pajaro River in Pajaro, Monterey County, California. (see attachment 1)

REQUESTER'S PROPOSED ACTION: The proposed project includes emergency repair of failed sanitary sewer force main which was damaged when flooding from the January 2023 storms caused erosion of the existing Pajaro River levee. The proposed repair includes trenching and installing approximately 510 linear feet of new 16-inch HDPE pipeline within approximately 390 linear feet of 24-inch steel casing. Additionally, the project would include the installation of adjacent 390 linear feet of 16-inch steel casing for a future housing of a water line used for agriculture irrigation. (Attachment 1)

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF PROPOSED ACTION: The project is located along the left bank of the Pajaro River, in Monterey County, California. The Pajaro River borders Santa Cruz and Monterey Counties with the river being the boundary/border between the two jurisdictions. The Pajaro River basin drains an area of approximately 1,300 square miles extending into the southern part of Santa Clara and Santa Cruz Counties, the northern portion of San Benito County and a small portion of northern Monterey County.

The project sites have been highly modified from their natural state by existing land use and construction of the 1949 levee project. Management of the levee system, and

subsequently river and creek channels and adjacent banks, are guided by requirements to maintain hydrologic capacity resulting in a highly managed system. Typically, riparian, and forested vegetation is present within and along the river and creek channels extending up to approximately 100 feet from the center of the channel, however much of the vegetation was washed away during the 2023 January – March flood events. Varying densities of mixed woodland and grassland habitats are present between riparian areas and the river side of the levees. The proposed project would take place on the land side of the levee where there is no current vegetation cover. The project area includes the slope of the levee and toe of the levee which is used as an access road along the adjacent agriculture fields.

USACE determined there is no suitable habitat for federally listed species under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) or the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) in the vicinity of the project. Therefore, USACE determined there would be no effects to federally listed species, designated critical habitat, or essential fish habitat under the jurisdiction of the USFWS and/or NMFS.

After an initial review, USACE has determined no eligible or potentially eligible cultural resources may be affected by the proposed project. USACE will initiate consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer and Native American Tribes under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as appropriate.

Upon review of the Section 408 application and other supporting documentation, USACE has made a preliminary determination that the project qualifies for a Categorical Exclusion for the purposes of NEPA.

AUTHORITY: The authority to grant permission for temporary or permanent use, occupation, or alteration of any USACE civil works project is contained in Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, as amended (33 U.S.C 408) (“Section 408”). Section 408 authorizes the Secretary of the Army, on the recommendation of the Chief of Engineers, to grant permission for the alteration or occupation or use of a USACE project if the Secretary determines that the activity will not be injurious to the public interest and will not impair the usefulness of the project. The Secretary of Army’s authority under Section 408 has been delegated to the USACE, Chief of Engineers. The USACE Chief of Engineers has further delegated the authority to the USACE, Directorate of Civil Works and Division and District Engineers, depending upon the nature of the activity.

LIMITS OF SECTION 408 AUTHORITY: A requester has the responsibility to acquire all other permissions or authorizations required by federal, state, and local laws or regulations, including any required permits from the USACE Regulatory Program under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403), Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. Section 1344), and/or Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 (33 U.S.C. 1413). In addition, an approval under

Section 408 does not grant any property rights or exclusive privileges nor does it authorize any injury to the property or rights of others.

EVALUATION FACTORS: The decision whether to grant the requested permission for project alteration under Section 408 will be based on several factors. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. Review of requests for alteration will be reviewed by a USACE technical review team considering the following factors:

1) Impair the Usefulness of the Project Determination. The review team will determine if the proposed alteration would limit the ability of the USACE project to function as authorized, or would compromise or change any authorized project conditions, purposes or outputs. In order for an alteration to be approved, the requester must demonstrate that the alteration does not impair the usefulness of the federally authorized project.

2) Injurious to the Public Interest Determination. Proposed alterations will be reviewed to determine the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts, on the public interest. Factors that may be relevant to the public interest evaluation depend upon the type of USACE project being altered and the nature of the proposed alteration and may include, but are not limited to, such things as conservation, economic development, historic properties, cultural resources, environmental impacts, water supply, water quality, flood hazards, floodplains, residual risk, induced damages, navigation, shore erosion or accretion, and recreation. This evaluation will consider information received from the interested parties, including tribes, agencies, and the public. The benefits that reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be compared against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. The decision whether to approve an alteration will be determined by the consideration of whether benefits are commensurate with risks and by the net impact of the alteration on the public interest using the public interest factors.

3) Environmental Compliance. A decision on a Section 408 request is a federal action, and therefore subject to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other environmental compliance requirements. While USACE is responsible for ensuring environmental compliance, the requester is responsible for providing all information that the San Francisco District identifies as necessary to satisfy all applicable federal laws, executive orders, regulations, policies, and procedures. NEPA and other analysis completed to comply with other environmental statutes (e.g. Endangered Species Act) should be commensurate with the scale and potential effects of the activity that would alter the USACE project. The San Francisco District will work with the requester to determine the requirements, which will be scaled to the likely impacts of the proposed alteration and should convey the relevant considerations and impacts in a concise and effective manner. The final NEPA analysis will normally address the direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts

that result from activities resulting in the temporary or permanent use, occupation, or alteration of any USACE civil works project. The final NEPA analysis will be incorporated in the decision documentation that provides the rationale for issuing or denying a Section 408 permission for the project. The final NEPA analysis and supporting documentation will be on file with the San Francisco District, Operations and Readiness Division.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT: The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public; federal, state, and local agencies and officials; tribes; and other interested parties regarding the Pajaro River – Sewer Force Main Repair, a proposed alteration to an existing federally authorized project. Comments received within 30 days of publication of this notice will be used in the evaluation of potential impacts of the proposed action on important resources and in the evaluation of whether the proposed alteration would be injurious to the public interest and/or would impair the usefulness of the authorized project. Only the specific activities that have the potential to occupy, use or alter the Pajaro River Project will be evaluated. Please limit comments to the area of the alteration and those adjacent areas that would be directly or indirectly affected by the alteration to the Pajaro River Project. Please note that all comment letters received are subject to release to the public through the Freedom of Information Act.

SUBMITTING COMMENTS: Written comments, referencing 408-SPN-2023-0001 must be submitted to the office listed below on or before August 12, 2023

Jessica Vargas, 408 Coordinator
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, San Francisco District
Operations and Readiness Division
450 Golden Gate Avenue, 4th Floor, Room 1111
San Francisco, California 94102-3404

Email: spn.operationsdivision@usace.army.mil

ATTACHMENTS: Proposed project plan sheets.

IMPROVEMENT PLANS FOR PAJARO SSFM TEMPORARY REPAIR

PAJARO, CALIFORNIA
MONTEREY COUNTY



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VICINITY MAP
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PROJECT SITE MAP
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Sheet List Table

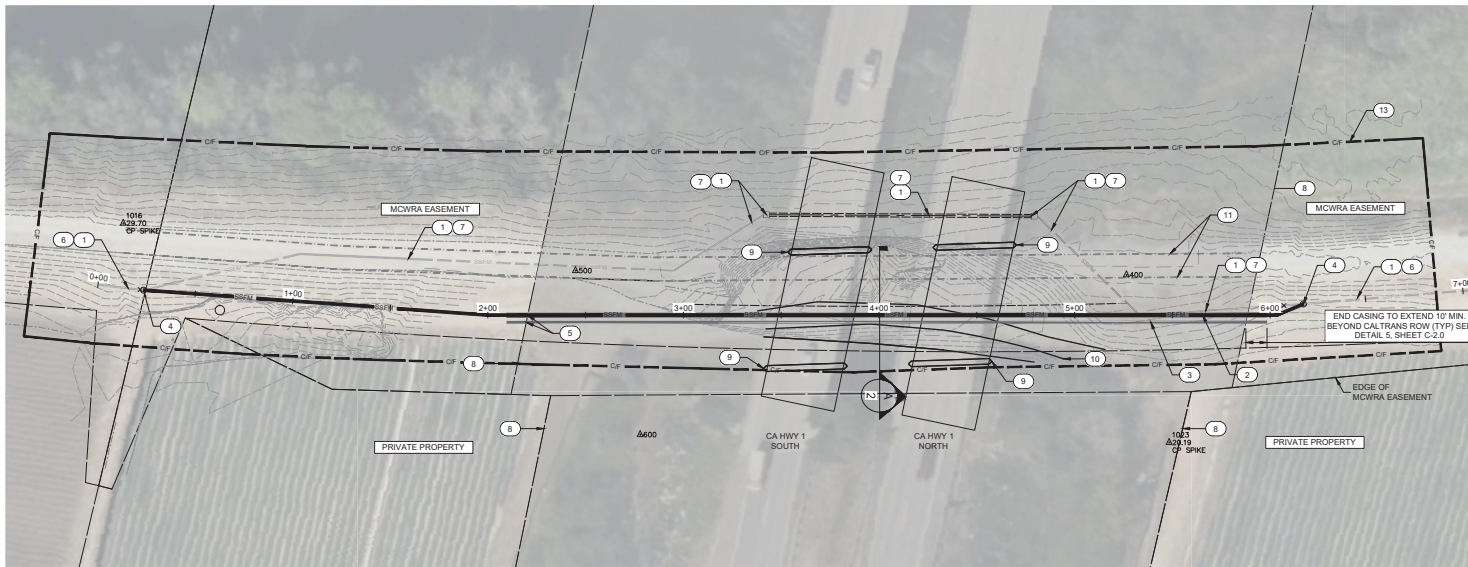
Sheet Number	Sheet Title
G-1.0	COVER
C-1.0	SSFM PLAN AND PROFILE
C-2.0	DETAILS

COUNTY OF MONTEREY
PAJARO SSFM TEMPORARY REPAIR
COVER

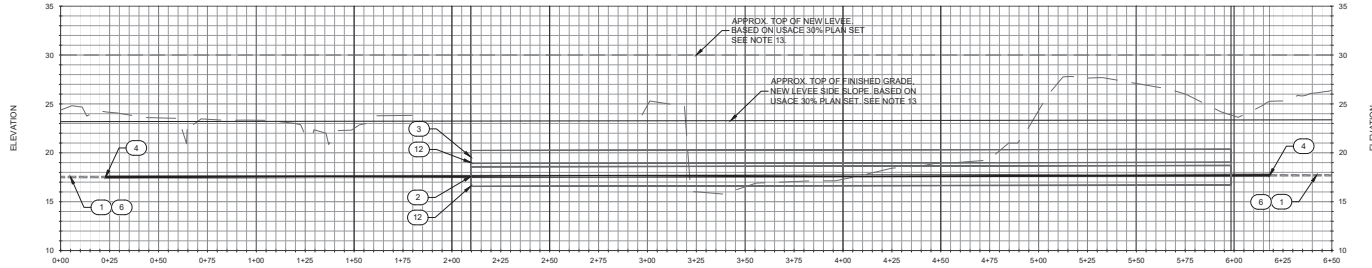
JOB # 1154-0023
DESIGNER: KEWISGT
DRAWN BY: JCM
DATE: 07/11/23

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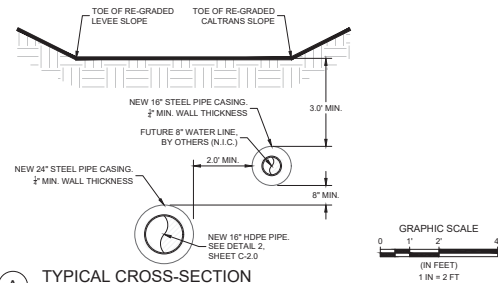
1 OF 3 SHEETS



PLAN - PROPOSED SSFM AND CASING



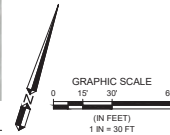
PROFILE - PROPOSED SSFM AND CASING



TYPICAL CROSS-SECTION

REFERENCE NOTES:

1. APPROXIMATE ALIGNMENT AND ELEVATION OF EXISTING SSFM AND TEMPORARY BYPASS. SEE NOTE 7.
2. 600 LF NEW 16" HDPE SSFM WITH 360 LF OF 24" STD STEEL PIPE CASING. EXTEND CASING 10' PAST CALTRANS ROW (EAST AND WEST). MAINTAIN POSITIVE SLOPE IN EASTERLY DIRECTION TO PREVENT CREATION OF AIR POCKETS IN SSFM.
3. NEW 360 LF OF 16" STD STEEL PIPE CASING FOR FUTURE 8" WATER LINE. FUTURE WATER LINE BY OTHERS (N.I.C.). EXTEND CASING 10' PAST CALTRANS ROW (EAST AND WEST).
4. FIELD VERIFY LOCATION OF EXISTING ACP 16" SSFM. TIE NEW 16" HDPE SSFM TO EXISTING ACP SSFM PER DETAIL 3, SHEET C-2.0.
5. SEE HORIZONTAL CONTROL TABLE FOR CASING COORDINATES AT CALTRANS ROW.
6. EXISTING 16" ACP SSFM TO REMAIN.
7. REMOVE ALL LIQUIDS FROM EXISTING SSFM PIPELINE AND TEMPORARY BYPASS. FLUSH PIPELINE CLEAN AND PROPERLY MANAGE/DISPOSE OF ALL SEWAGE AND LIQUIDS. DEMOLISH/REMOVE EXISTING CONCRETE JUNCTION BOXES AND TEMPORARY BYPASS.
8. EXISTING CALTRANS RIGHT-OF-WAY (ROW).
9. EXISTING HIGHWAY BRIDGE ABUTMENTS.
10. APPROXIMATE LOCATION, TOE OF NEW CALTRANS ABUTMENT SLOPE.
11. APPROXIMATE ALIGNMENT OF NEW LEVEE CROWN/TOP OF LEVEE.
12. OVER EXCAVATE A MINIMUM OF 3 FEET BELOW CASING INVERT. BACKFILL AROUND CASING WITH NATIVE SOILS FREE OF DEBRIS, ORGANIC MATERIAL, AND ROCKS LARGER THAN 3" DIAMETER. RE-COMPACT TO 95% RELATIVE COMPACTION TO TOP OF GRADE.
13. REFER TO ATTACHED US ARMY CORP OF ENGINEERS PLAN SET (PROJECT PL 84-89, PAJARO RIVER LEFT BANK) SHEETS C-102, C-303, C-304, AND C-502 FOR GRADING PLAN.



Scale: 1"= 30'

Scale: 1"= 30'

HORIZONTAL CONTROL TABLE		
CASING	STATION	COORDINATES
24"	2+09.66	N: 2216377.35, E: 5750798.14
24"	5+98.41	N: 2216488.55, E: 5751148.95
16"	2+09.66	N: 2216373.62, E: 5750798.51
16"	5+98.41	N: 2216484.82, E: 5751149.32



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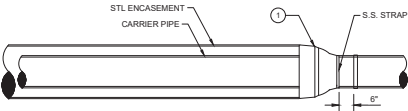
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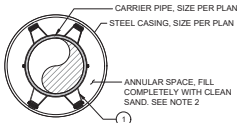
COUNTY OF MONTEREY
PAJARO SSFM TEMPORARY REPAIR
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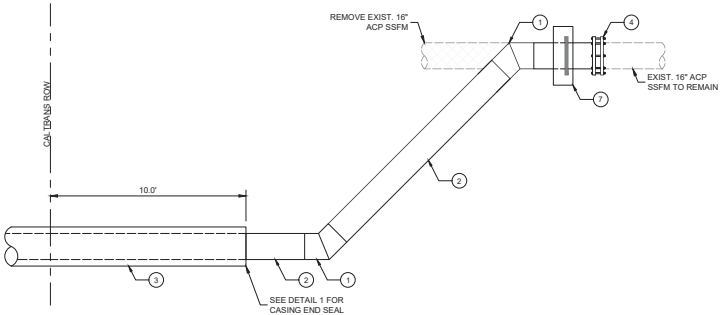
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C-1.0
2 OF 3 SHEETS



- NOTES:
1. END SEAL, MOLDED AND CENTERED TYPE WITH SS HARDWARE, ADVANCED PRODUCTS & SYSTEMS, LLC OR APPROVED EQUAL.
 2. TYPICAL DETAIL FOR BOTH ENDS OF CASING.
 3. SEAL CASING ENDS AFTER FILLING ANNULUS WITH SAND. SEE DETAIL 2.



- NOTES:
1. CASING SPACER W/ SS BAND, MIN 8" WIDTH, 1/4 GAUGE T-304 SS, 1" MIN. WIDE RUNNERS, ADVANCED PRODUCTS & SYSTEMS, LLC OR APPROVED EQUAL. MAX 6" SPACING ALONG PIPELINE OR AS SPECIFIED BY MFG, WHICHEVER IS MORE STRINGENT.
 2. SAND SHALL HAVE SAND EQUIVALENT OF 30 OR GREATER. FIELD VERIFY THAT CASING ANNULUS IS COMPLETELY FILLED WITH SAND. PROVIDE CALCULATION OF VOLUME TO BE FILLED, AND COMPARE TO QUANTITY OF SAND BLOWN INTO INTERIOR OF CASING. PROVIDE VENT AS REQUIRED TO ENSURE GOOD PLACEMENT OF SAND MATERIAL.



- NOTES:
1. 16" HDPE 45° FITTING, BUTT FUSION WELDED
 2. 16" SDR 17 IPS HDPE SSFM
 3. 24" STEEL CASING
 4. POTHOLE AND VERIFY TIE-IN LOCATION. MATE PLAIN END HDPE TO PLAIN END ACP WITH RESTRAINED COUPLING, MEGALUG OR APPROVED EQUAL. SUBMIT COUPLING FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY ENGINEER.
 5. ALL STEEL CASING SHALL BE MIN. 0.25" THICK UNLESS OTHERWISE SHOWN OR SPECIFIED
 6. THIS DETAIL APPLIES TO EAST AND WEST ENDS OF SSFM CONNECTION/CASING
 7. THRUST BLOCKWALL COLLAR PER DET. 4, THIS SHEET

1 24" STEEL CASING END SEAL

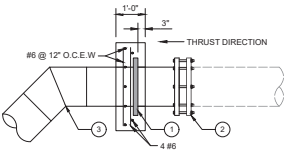
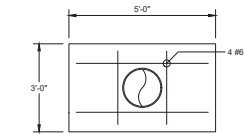
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2 CASING SPACER

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3 16" SSFM AND 24" STL CASING TIE-IN TO EXISTING ACP SSFM

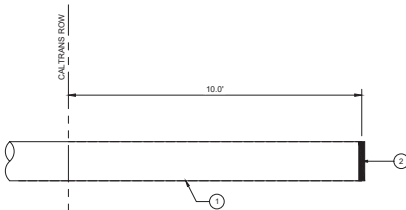
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- NOTES:
1. 16" HDPE SDR 17 IPS FABRICATED WALL ANCHOR THRUST RING, BUTT FUSION WELD TO 16" HDPE 45° FILL FITTING
 2. HDPE TO ACP COUPLING. SUBMIT COUPLING FOR REVIEW/APPROVAL BY ENGINEER
 3. 16" HDPE 45° FITTING, BUTT FUSION WELDED

4 THRUST COLLAR

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- NOTES:
1. 16" STEEL CASING
 2. PROVIDE SOLID END CAP TO SEAL BOTH ENDS OF 16" CASING (FOR FUTURE INSTALLATION OF 8" WATER MAIN BY OTHERS). ATTACH PERMANENT CORROSION-PROOF MARKER TO END OF CASING, AND VISIBLE AT GROUND SURFACE TO DEMARKATE TERMINUS OF CASING. SUBMIT END CAP AND MARKER FOR REVIEW/APPROVAL BY ENGINEER.
 3. ALL STEEL CASING SHALL BE MIN. 0.25" THICK UNLESS OTHERWISE SHOWN OR SPECIFIED
 4. THIS DETAIL APPLIES TO EAST AND WEST ENDS OF CASING

5 16" STL CASING

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