



Midpeninsula Regional
Open Space District

R-12-34
Meeting 12-09
March 14, 2012

AGENDA ITEM 10

AGENDA ITEM

Authorization to Apply for the California Department of Fish and Game Fisheries Restoration Grant Program for Ranch Road Upgrades, Improvements, and Decommissioning within the Driscoll Ranch Area of La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve

GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

Authorize Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (District) staff to prepare and submit a grant application for funds from the California Department of Fish and Game Fisheries Restoration Grant Program for implementation of ranch road upgrades, improvements, and decommissioning within the Driscoll Ranch area of La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve.

SUMMARY

The District has an opportunity to submit a grant application to the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) Fisheries Restoration Grant Program (FRGP) to help fund high priority erosion control treatments for road segments within the Driscoll Ranch area of La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve. These roads are located within the San Gregorio Creek watershed, a salmonid watershed that is listed as impaired by coliform bacteria and sediment, thus heightening the importance of completing these erosion control treatments. The total cost to implement this work effort is estimated between \$450,000 and \$600,000 (based on 2007 project costs). Staff recommends applying to the CDFG FRGP for a total amount not to exceed \$600,000, of which the District is anticipated to provide a cost share of 25 to 30 percent, anticipated at \$112,500 to \$180,000 (based on 2012 estimates).

DISCUSSION

In September 2007, a Road and Trail Inventory (RTI) was prepared for the Driscoll Ranch area of La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve (Preserve). Driscoll Ranch is located entirely within the San Gregorio Creek watershed, which is listed as impaired by coliform bacteria and sediment by the State Water Resources Control Board. These two factors impact salmonid habitat within the watershed. Salmonids are fish that deposit eggs (spawn) in fresh water, but spend most of their life at sea, returning to creeks and rivers only to reproduce. Two federal and state listed species, Coho salmon and steelhead, are found within the San Gregorio Creek watershed. The

2007 RTI identified priority treatment sites and specific prescriptions to reduce sediment input, with particular emphasis on road-related sediment reduction. District staff have reviewed the RTI and developed a treatment list for much of the high priority work sites identified in the plan. The cost to implement this work effort is estimated between \$450,000 and \$600,000 (based on 2007 costs that will be updated). The proposed treatments include: earthwork, placement of rock, removal and/or replacement of failed or undersized culverts, installation of rolling dips, road re-grading, removal of fill in stream crossings, and the decommissioning of one road segment. A complete list of treatments by specific location can be found in Attachment 1 and a map of the sites can be found as Attachment 2.

Staff recommends applying for funds in the amount of \$500,000 from the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) Fisheries Restoration Grant Program (FRGP) to help offset total road treatment costs. The District would be notified by January 2013 if grant funds are awarded.

The District has undertaken similar road upgrades, improvements, and decommissioning elsewhere. Examples include the Watershed Protection Program that is underway at El Corte de Madera Creek Preserve, and the recently completed Big Dipper Roads Restoration project at Skyline Ridge Open Space Preserve. CDFG FRGP grant funds were previously awarded to the District to complete the Big Dipper Roads Restoration project. Due in part to successful completion of previous work and the need for additional sediment reduction within the San Gregorio Creek watershed, the District has been encouraged by the CDFG to apply again for funds from the FRGP. The application deadline is March 31, 2012. In preparation for a potential grant submittal, the District attended a grant workshop and discussed a preliminary work proposal with representatives from the CDFG. The CDFG is enthusiastic about the proposed work and has stressed the need for sediment reduction in the impaired San Gregorio Creek watershed. Completion of this work will assist with the restoration of salmonid fisheries, water quality improvement, and lay the foundation for public access in the Preserve (as identified in the draft Master Plan) by upgrading and improving the existing road network.

FISCAL IMPACT

Total cost for this project is estimated between \$450,000 and \$600,000, of which 70 to 75 percent is anticipated to be eligible for grant funding. To date, no monies other than those required to prepare the 2007 RTI and staff time to prepare the grant application, have been expended. If the District is successful in receiving grant funds from the FRGP, the District will be required to fund up to \$150,000 over five years to implement all of the work.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice of this Agenda Item was provided per the Brown Act. No additional notice is required.

CEQA COMPLIANCE

Project Description

The project consists of a grant application submittal to the CDFG FRGP to help fund implementation of ranch road upgrades, improvements, and decommissioning within the Driscoll Ranch area of La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve. No California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documentation is required to apply for CDFG FRGP grant funds. Participation in the

CDFG FRGP provides an opportunity for the District to have the CDFG act as the lead CEQA agency for the project. Staff believes this is an appropriate arrangement and will work to support the CDFG's preparation of an environmental document. Prior to project implementation, the CDFG will prepare a CEQA document to analyze potential environmental impacts and provide steps to reduce those impacts to a less than significant level.

NEXT STEPS

Pending Board action, staff would submit a grant application to the CDFG FRGP and if awarded, the District would enter into a partnership with the CDFG beginning in FY2012-13. Additional future steps include finalizing the site-specific road treatment design and updating cost estimates, preparing a project specific environmental review, and soliciting bids for implementation. This work effort is anticipated to occur over the next five years (FY2012-13 through FY2017-18).

Attachments:

1. Proposed work sites, treatment list
2. Proposed work sites, location map

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Summary of Work Sites
La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve

Feature	Road	Site #	Treatment	Priority	Subwatershed
36" x 20' Culvert	10	6	Remove wood retaining walls and lay embankments back to a 1:1 slope, install rock energy dissipater at the culvert outlet, rock armor the inlet.	MH	HC
36" x 20' Culvert	10	9	Clean culvert inlet of debris, install rock energy dissipater at the pipe outlet, add critical dip, clean and enlarge 150 ft of the inboard ditch above the crossing, rock armor lower 50 ft of ditch.	M	HC
Inboard ditch	10	11	Add two 18" by 20' DRCs at 300ft spacings.	M	HC
DRC and inboard ditch	10	13	Unbend crushed inlet and outlet ends of culvert, rock 150' of the inboard ditch.	LM	HC
Main ranch road	10	15.1	Add 4 new rolling dips, regrade 700 ft of road to crowned or outsloped pitch, spot rock 300 ft of road.		
24"x 80' Culvert	10	16	Replace failed culvert with 48" by 80'.	H	HC
12" x 20' DRC	30	21	Install 9 rolling dips on two road segments.	M	HC
12" x 20' Culvert	30	22	Replace shotgunned undersized culvert with 24" x 20' culvert, add rock dissipater.	M	HC
12" x 20' Culvert	30	23	Install 3 rolling dips to reduce water delivery to gully formed at culvert outlet.	LM	HC
12" x 30' Culvert	30	24	Install 6 rolling dips to reduce water delivery to the gully formed at culvert outlet.	H	HC
12" DRC	30	25	Replace existing DRC with 18" x 20' culvert, install energy dissipater at outlet, install a second 18" x 20' DRC. Install 4 new rolling dips.	H	HC
12" DRC and sinkhole.	30	26	Add new 18" by 20' DRC, excavate sinkhole and backfill with compacted earth. Install 2 rolling dips.	H	HC
36"x 50' Culvert	40.1	36	energy dissipater at outlet, add critical dip, fence cattle off of top of embankment.	H	SG
Culvert	40.1	40	Repair compromised culvert at road crossing.	M	SG
Eroding inboard ditch	40.2	41	Regrade 1700 ft of road to have a crowned pitch, install a rolling dip, clean and rock armor 700ft of inside ditch, spot rock segments of road.	MH	SG
DRC	50	42	Clean 200' of inboard ditch and outslope road. Add an 18" by 20" DRC.	LM	BC

Summary of Work Sites
La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve

DRC	50	43	Replace failed culvert with 18" by 20' culvert, build up 200 ft of road bed and surface with rock.	M	BC
Failed 12" and 18"x 30' Culverts	50	46	Replace 12' culvert with a 24" by 30' culvert, rock armor to top of culvert and add energy dissipater. Remove the 18" DRC. Rebuild the road prism to a 16' width on compacted fill. Install 50' long 6'deep subdrain along back edge of road. Add 18" by 30' culvert 100 ft south of crossing.	H	BC
DRC	50	47	Add 24" by 20' culvert at the stream crossing, discharge culvert onto rock energy dissipater, rock inlet and outlet to top of culvert. Plug inboard ditch above and below the new culvert to prevent flow from being diverted along the ditch. Add 18" by 20' DRC.	M	BC
Undersized 12" x 30' culvert	50	48	Replace failed culvert with 30"by 30' new culvert, install rock energy dissipater, rock inlet and outlet. Add 18" by 20' DRC.	M	BC
12" rusted culvert	50	49	Replace existing pipe with 24"by 30' culvert. Install rock energy dissipater. Rock inlet and outlet.	M	BC
12" x 20' culvert and DRC	50	50	Add 18" by 20' DRC with 20' downspout. Install rock energy dissipater at culvert. Plug the ditch below the proposed culvert to prevent flow from bypassing the inlet. Add rock energy dissipater at the existing DRC.	MH	BC
DRC	50	51	Replace existing culvert with new 18" by 30' DRC. Place culvert at base of fill. Add rock energy dissipater at culvert outlet. Widen the road inboard 6' by cutting into the bank.	LM	BC
Undersized and plugged 18" culvert	50	52	Evaluate the long term need for this road. If the road is not needed, remove pipe and abandon crossing. If the road is needed then the pipe should be replaced with 30" by 40' foot culvert.	M	BC
Fall line road	51	53.1	Abandon through non use or limit to seasonal ATV use	M	BC
Steep section of road	23.1	54	Add two large dips or DRCs at STN 306 and 416 to break up drainage. Because of the steep grade installation of dips may limit vehicular access. Rock 500 ft of road.	MH	HC
Fall line road	23.3	54.2	Abandon road through non use, install berm to discourage use	M	BC
Plugged 18" x 40' culvert	23.3	55	Abandon crossing by removing fill and backfill eroded gully with compacted earth, add waterbreaks to upgrade road drainage.	H	BC
Plugged 12" x 20' culvert	23.3	56	Abandon crossing by excavating fill, place compacted fill onto road to recontour.	M	BC

Summary of Work Sites
La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve

Shotgunned pipe, road washout	23.4	57	Pull culvert and abandon crossing. Install drainage structures on the steep road segment leading to the crossing. Bare in mind that the steep road segment (MP 58) drops at up to a 22% grade down the fall line of the hillside and may prove difficult to drain.	M	BC
Fall line road	23.4	58	Drain by installing rolling dips (~ 15) at 150 foot maximum spacings. Permit seasonal truck and cattle access only. Install powder river type gate at top of road and fence at bottom of pasture to prevent cattle access to stream	M	BC
Cattle use of creek		12	Fence cattle out of Harrington creek.	M	HC
Main ranch road			Strategically rock up to 10,000' of main ranch access road with a minimum of 3" rock to provide all weather patrol access	M	HC

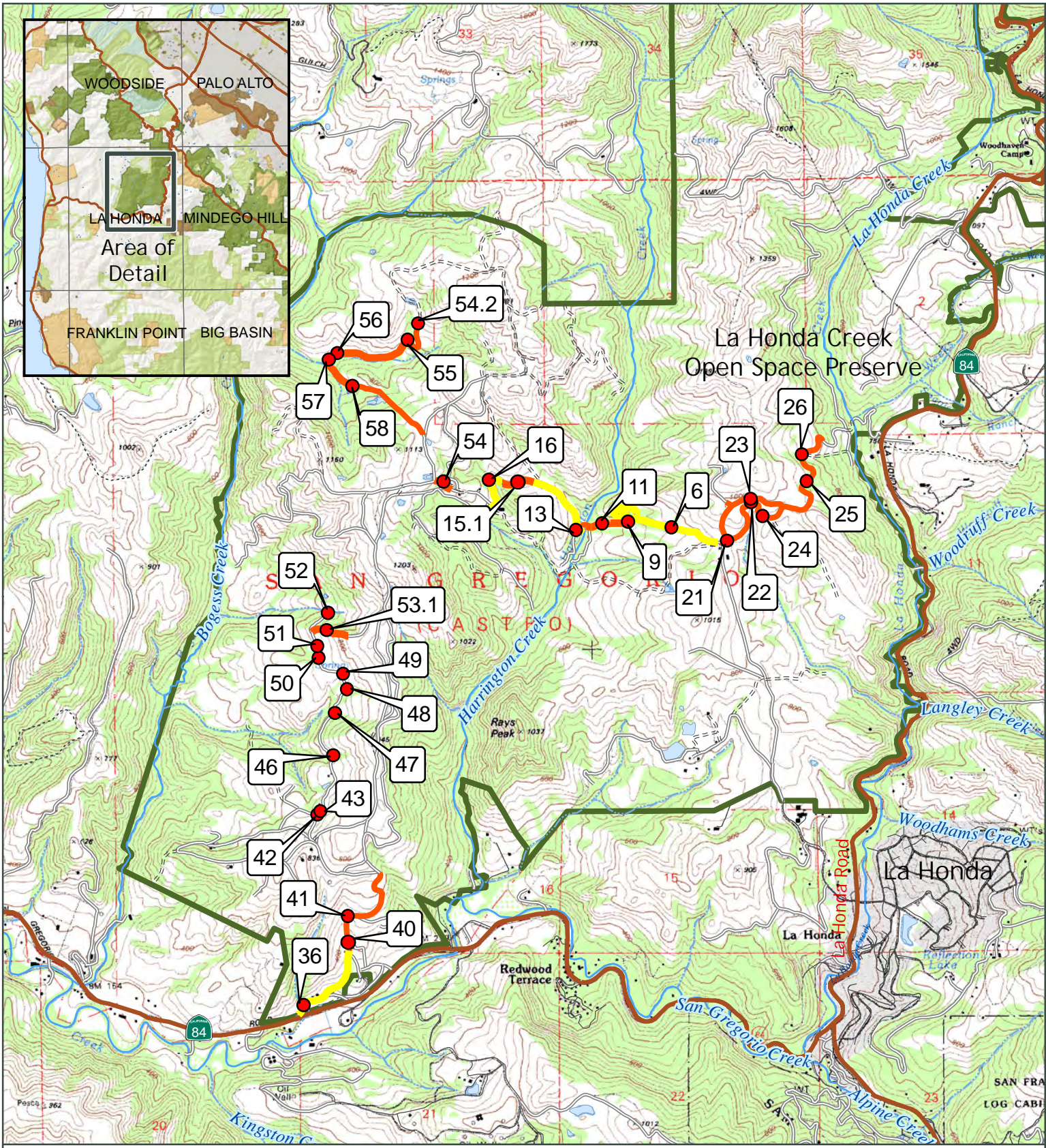
Total sites: 31

Priority: L= Low, M= Medium, H= High

Subwatershed: HC= Harrington Creek, BC= Bogess Creek, SG= San Gregorio Creek

DRC= Ditch relief culvert

Created By: zalexander\alexander\Desktop\Driscoll\Ranch_ProjectLocation_Quad.mxd



Project Location

- Project Sites
- Linear Project Sites
- Strategic Road Rocking
- MROSD Preserve
- Minor Unpaved Road
- Unmaintained Road Width
- Minor Paved Road
- Major Road

Midpeninsula Regional
Open Space District
(MROSD)



March, 2012

Miles
0
0.5
1

While the District strives to use the best available digital data, this data does not represent a legal survey and is merely a graphic illustration of geographic features.