



Yana Garcia
Secretary for
Environmental Protection



Department of Toxic Substances Control

Katherine M. Butler, MPH, Director
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dtsc.ca.gov



Gavin Newsom
Governor

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

November 18, 2025

Daniel Gho
Public Works Director/Deputy City Manager
City of Pacific Grove
300 Forest Avenue
Pacific Grove, CA 93950
dgho@cityofpacificgrove.org

RE: MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE CRESPI POND VEGETATION
MANAGEMENT PROJECT DATED NOVEMBER 6, 2025 STATE CLEARINGHOUSE
NUMBER 2025110213

Dear Daniel Gho:

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) reviewed the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Crespi Pond Vegetation Management Project (Project). The Project site located at Point Piños adjacent to Ocean View Boulevard, within the Point Piños Lighthouse Reservation between the 16th and 17th holes of the municipal golf course, Assessor's Parcel Number 007-011-006-000. The proposed Project consists of removing emergent vegetation to enhance wildlife habitat at Crespi Pond. Emergent vegetation would be removed around the pond's perimeter and within a central portion of the pond to maintain approximately 70 percent open water habitat and 30 percent emergent vegetation. Approximately 0.55 acre (43 percent) of emergent vegetation in the pond is proposed for removal and would consist primarily of California tule with a lesser component of narrow-leaved cattail. DTSC recommends and requests consideration of the following comment:

The Property may contain lead-based paint as outlined in this [Lead Contamination figure](#) and is located on a DTSC site, the [Port Pinos Lighthouse](#). The site contains Land Use Restrictions outlined in the [Quitclaim Deed](#) recorded in August 2006 on the Property and the following activities are prohibited:

- (1) Soil Management. No activities that will disturb the surface soil to 12 inches below ground surface (e.g. excavation, grading, removal, trenching, filling, earth movement, or mining) shall be allowed on Property without a pre-approved Soil Management Plan and a Health and Safety Plan approved by the Department.
- (2) Owner shall provide the Department written notice at least thirty (30) days prior to any building, filling, grading, mining, or excavation of the Property surface soil to 12 inches below the ground surface.
- (3) Any soil removed from the Property shall be managed in accordance with all applicable provisions of state and federal law.

The Deed also noticed wetlands at or near the Property. Below is the language in the Deed:

The northern portion of the Property contains jurisdictional wetlands near Crespi Pond. Activities contemplated for the Property by the GRANTEE, its successors and assigns are subject to any and all Federal, State and local laws, rules, and ordinances governing land use in wetland areas. No work by the GRANTEE, its successors or assigns on the Property, including filling, excavation, digging, or dredging is permitted in this area without a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, if applicable.

DTSC would like to thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Crespi Pond Vegetation Management Project. Thank you for your assistance in protecting California's people and environment from the harmful effects of toxic substances. If you have any questions or would like clarification on DTSC's comments, please respond to this letter or via our [CEQA Review email](#) for additional guidance.

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Sincerely,



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cc: (via email)

Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
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