



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT Notice of Determination

To:

Office of Land Use and Climate
Innovation
State Clearinghouse
1400 Tenth Street, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95814

County Clerk
County of Contra Costa
555 Escobar Street
Martinez, CA 94553

From:**Project Lead Agency:**

Contra Costa County
Department of Conservation and Development
30 Muir Road
Martinez, CA 94553

Lead Agency Contact:

Syd Sotoodeh, (925) 655-2877, syd.sotoodeh@dcd.cccounty.us

Lead Agency (if different from above):

SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code.

State Clearinghouse Number (if submitted to State Clearinghouse): 2025120302

Project Title: San Pablo Dam Road Storm Drain and Pavement Repair Project, Project No. 0672-6265, CP#23-19

Project Applicant: Contra Costa County Public Works Department, 255 Glacier Drive, Martinez, CA 94553, Contact: Shravan Sundaram, (925) 313-2366

Project Location: On San Pablo Dam Road approximately 1.2 miles east of Wildcat Canyon Road and approximately one mile northwest of Orinda in unincorporated Contra Costa County. Assessor's Parcel Number: 267-040-002

Project Description:*Construction Overview*

Construction of the proposed project is expected to begin in 2026 and last approximately 115 working days and take one construction season between May 2026- December 2026. Standard construction equipment would be used, including but not limited to: excavators, graders, scrapers, loaders, etc. Portable construction trailers would be placed on-site. Dewatering equipment would be used. Construction activities would be generally limited to the hours between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Night work would be allowed to ensure projects can be constructed prior to the rainy season.

Staging and Access

Staging areas have been proposed and evaluated for environmental resources. Staging would take place at the culvert's inlet and outlet. Access to the inlet is available through the fire access route and access to the outlet is available through Old San Pablo Dam Road. Additional staging area is available along Old San Pablo Dam Road, and the boat ramp located 0.3 miles north of the outlet. San Pablo Dam Road will remain open for traffic throughout the project. Standard traffic control measures would be employed during construction activities, and emergency vehicles will have access at all times. Temporary construction easements from East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) would be required for access to the storm drain system, proposed staging areas, and other construction access.

Site Preparation

Tree removal will be limited to what is necessary to construct the proposed project. Approximately 27 trees, including California bay, Arroyo willow, Coast live oak, and Blue elderberry will be removed around the inlet to create space necessary for pipe ramming, and at the outlet where the concrete flume will be reconstructed. Vegetation within the work area will be cleared and grubbed as needed. In addition, a cattle fence will be installed along the fire trail to allow grazing to continue while keeping cattle away from the project site.

Demolition

Construction would first require demolition of the existing inlet and outlet headwalls. The existing inlet headwall size is approximately 40' x 10' and the existing outlet is approximately 30' x 10'. Demolition of the existing roadway will occur to depth needed for stabilization of the roadway prior to restoration of the roadway.

Installation and Repair of Culvert System

The two existing 72-inch corrugated metal pipes would be replaced through pipe ramming with 66-inch steel casing pipes through the existing alignment. A pneumatic hammer delivers percussive blows to the rear of the steel pipe, driving it forward. The steel pipe is equipped with a cone-shaped head to help navigate angular deflections, reduce friction, and expand the deformed CMP into a more circular cross-section through outward

diametral pressure. To maintain consistent alignment, the cone-shaped head will also be pulled with a pulley system from the downstream end. This project involves ramming approximately 410 linear feet in total (205 feet in each direction). The steel casings, fabricated in 20-foot sections, are expected to be installed at a rate of one section per day. After each section is driven, another is positioned, welded to the preceding casing, and the process continues until the full length is completed. Since the existing dual 72-inch system will be reduced to a dual 66-inch system, an additional 48-inch culvert will be installed by jack and bore on the south side to compensate for the reduced hydraulic capacity.

The third culvert would be constructed using the jack and bore method where a boring machine would jack (push) a 48-inch casing pipe into the ground in segments while simultaneously removing soil using a rotating auger within the casing.

Grouting

The County performed geotechnical borings around the existing culverts, which revealed severally compromised soils surrounding the system. To ensure that the newly installed pipes are properly supported and embedded in competent material, contact grouting is required around the exterior of the pipes. This grouting will be performed from within the installed pipes, using port holes specifically manufactured for this project, through which the contractor will pump the grout material. Additional vertical compact injection grouting from the roadway will be required to stabilize compromised soils between the culvert and roadway surface.

Concrete Work (Headwall, Flume, Abandonment of 36" Overflow CMP)

The existing inlet and outlet headwalls will be removed to install the three culverts. Once the three pipes are placed, the proposed headwalls will be constructed around them. Additionally, the existing concrete flume will be reconstructed due to structural damage caused by tree root intrusion. The proposed flume will be designed to direct the flow of the three culverts into the existing inlet, which conveys the flow through Old San Pablo Dam Road. Lastly, the existing 36" CMP overflow pipe will be abandoned and capped in place with concrete slurry to prevent future use or void formation.

Roadway Rehabilitation

The roadway will be excavated and replaced with a new aggregate base (AB) and hot mix asphalt (HMA). The reconstruction effort will rehabilitate the roadway section and fill any underlying voids contributing to the settlement.

Site Clean-up and Restoration

All disturbed areas will be stabilized with best management practices following construction and restored to pre-project conditions through hydroseeding with a native seed mix and replanting approximately 50 trees.

This is to advise that the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors (Lead Agency or Responsible Agency) has approved the above-described project on February 10, 2026 and has made the following determinations:

1. The project [will will not] have a significant effect on the environment.
2. An Environmental Impact Report (EIR) was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
 A Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures [were were not] made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan [was was not] adopted for this project.
5. A statement of Overriding Considerations [was was not] adopted for this project.
6. Findings [were were not] made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

This is to certify that the final EIR with comments and responses and record of project approval, or the Negative Declaration, is available to the General Public at:

Contra Costa County Department of Conservation & Development, 30 Muir Road, Martinez, CA 94553

Signature (Lead Agency):  Title: Senior Planner

Print Name: Syd Sotoodeh Date: February 11, 2026

Date received for filing at LCI: _____

Applicant

Shravan Sundaram
Contra Costa County Public Works Department
255 Glacier Drive
Martinez, CA 94553
(925) 313-2366

Department of Fish and Wildlife Fees Due

<input type="checkbox"/> Neg. Dec. - \$3,043.75	Total Due: \$ _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mitigated Neg. Dec. - \$3,043.75	Total Paid: \$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> EIR - \$4,227.50	Receipt # _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County Clerk - \$50.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> DCD - \$25.00	