



County of Santa Cruz

Department of Community Development and Infrastructure

701 Ocean Street, Fourth Floor, Santa Cruz, CA 95060
Planning (831) 454-2580 Public Works (831) 454-2160
<https://cdi.santacruzcountyca.gov/>

MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Project: Watsonville Slough Farm Community Harvest Project
34, 052-081-35, 052-081-37

APN(S): 052-081-

Application #:231264

Project Description:

The proposed project would result in structural and site improvements to support operation of the proposed Community Harvest Program at the Watsonville Slough Farm that is owned and managed by the Land Trust of Santa Cruz County (Land Trust). The Program calls for opening up areas on the Farm to local families and other visitors so they can harvest fruits and vegetables for their own consumption while learning about healthy food and sustainable agricultural practices. A reconstructed barn, new restrooms, picnic areas, parking improvements, trails and a number of other minor improvements are proposed to support the Program. In addition, the Project includes development of four agricultural worker residential units.

Project Location:

The proposed project is located at 275 Lee Road on the west side of Lee Road and Highway 1 within the southern portion of unincorporated southern Santa Cruz County; see Figure 1. Santa Cruz County is bounded on the north by San Mateo County, on the south by Monterey and San Benito counties, on the east by Santa Clara County, and on the south and west by the Monterey Bay and the Pacific Ocean. The project site is bounded by Lee Road on the east, Harkins Slough Road on the north and agricultural and rural lands on the west and south.

Owner: Land Trust of Santa Cruz County

Applicant: Land Trust of Santa

Staff Planner: Randall Adams

Email: Randall.adams@santacruzcountyca.gov

This project will be considered

California Environmental Quality Act Mitigated Negative Declaration Findings:

Find, that this Mitigated Negative Declaration reflects the decision-making body's independent judgment and analysis, and; that the decision-making body has reviewed and considered the information contained in this Mitigated Negative Declaration and the comments received during the public review period; and, that revisions in the project plans or proposals made by or agreed to by the project applicant would avoid the effects or mitigate the effects to a point where clearly no significant effects would occur; and, on the basis of the whole record before the decision-making body (including this Mitigated Negative Declaration) that there is no substantial evidence

that the project as revised will have a significant effect on the environment. The expected environmental impacts of the project are documented in the attached Initial Study on file with the County of Santa Cruz Planning Department located at 701 Ocean Street, 4th Floor, Santa Cruz, California. A digital copy of the document can be reviewed at the following web address:
<http://www.sccoplanning.com/PlanningHome/Environmental/CEQAINitialStudiesEIRs/CEQADocumentsOpenforPublicReview.aspx>

Review Period Ends: 12/07/2024

Note: This Document is considered Draft until it is Adopted by the Appropriate County of Santa Cruz Decision-Making Body

Date: 11/7/2024

DocuSigned by:
Matt Johnston
MATT JOHNSTON, Environmental
Coordinator
(831) 454-5357