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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

August 13, 2007

Bruce Henderson
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Ventura Field Office
2151 Alessandro Drive, Suite 255
Ventura, CA 93001

Subject: Programmatic Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Waterway Management Plan for San Luis Obispo Creek Watershed; San Luis Obispo, California (CEQ# 70260)

Dear Mr. Henderson:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the document above. Our review is pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act.

On June 17, 2005, EPA provided comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for this project. EPA rated the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR)/DEIS as Environmental Concerns - Insufficient Information (EC-2). EPA's rating was based on potential impacts to water quality and endangered species and habitat, the possible presence of asbestos, and an unclear alternatives analysis. The Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) responds to our comments by including additional specificity on the proposed enhancement and restoration activities, existing water quality, NEPA Tier 2 compliance requirements, and mitigation measures for asbestos, as requested by the National Marine Fisheries Service. At this time, we have no further comments, but underscore the importance of appropriate environmental analyses at the project-level.

We appreciate the opportunity to review this FEIS. If you have any questions, please contact me at (415) 972-3846 or Summer Allen, the lead reviewer for this project, at (415) 972-3847 or at allen.summer@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Nova Blazej, Manager
Environmental Review Office

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