



State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife
2022 ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FILING FEE
CASH RECEIPT
 DFW 753.5a (REV. 01/01/22) Previously DFG 753.5a

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RECEIPT NUMBER:
 41-09022022-0001
 STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER (if applicable)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

LEAD AGENCY SAN MATEO RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT	LEAD AGENCY EMAIL	DATE 09/02/2022
COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING SAN MATEO COUNTY	DOCUMENT NUMBER 128382	
PROJECT TITLE		

BAKER BRIDGE EMERGENCY REMOVAL

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME SARA POLGAR	PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL	PHONE NUMBER
PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS 80 STONE PINE RD. #100	CITY HALF MOON BAY	STATE CA
		ZIP CODE 94019

PROJECT APPLICANT (Check appropriate box)

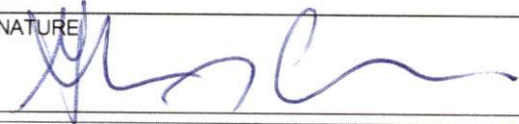
- Local Public Agency
 School District
 Other Special District
 State Agency
 Private Entity

CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:

- Environmental Impact Report (EIR) \$ 3,539.25 \$ _____
 Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND) \$ 2,548.00 \$ _____
 Certified Regulatory Program (CRP) document - payment due directly to CDFW \$ 1,203.25 \$ _____
 Exempt from fee
 Notice of Exemption (attach)
 CDFW No Effect Determination (attach)
 Fee previously paid (attach previously issued cash receipt copy)
- Water Right Application or Petition Fee (State Water Resources Control Board only) \$ 850.00 \$ _____
 County documentary handling fee \$ 50.00 \$ _____ 50.00
 Other \$ _____

PAYMENT METHOD:

- Cash
 Credit
 Check
 Other 831
 TOTAL RECEIVED \$ _____ 50.00

SIGNATURE 	AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE Glenn Changtin Deputy Clerk
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Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: (Public Agency): San Mateo Resource Conservation District
80 Stone Pine Rd, #100, Half Moon Bay, CA 94019

County Clerk
County of: San Mateo

(Address)

Project Title: Baker Bridge Emergency Removal

Project Applicant: San Mateo Resource Conservation District (RCD)

Project Location - Specific: Baker Bridge at Pescadero Creek on the Baker Fire Road in Pescadero Creek County Park (37.256918, -122.232507).

Project Location - City: Pescadero Project Location - County: San Mateo

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project: A large tree fell onto Baker Bridge over Pescadero Creek in Pescadero Creek County Park, San Mateo County damaging the bridge beyond repair, rendering it no longer functional and a hazard to park users and stream habitat. It is deteriorating rapidly and has a high risk of imminent collapse into the creek. In addition to being impassable for fire response vehicles, the presence of the damaged bridge blocks any alternate creek crossing (e.g., fording) for vehicles. Its removal is necessary to prevent additional harm to creek water quality, the creek bed which is spawning habitat for threatened and endangered anadromous fish, and downstream structures (e.g., bridges). A temporary log deck will be protect the creek while the bridge is cut into pieces that will be taken off site to an approved disposal facility.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: RCD

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: RCD

Exempt Status: (check one):

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
Categorical Exemption. State type and section number:
Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

Reasons why project is exempt: Removal of the bridge is exempt under 15269 (c) because the damaged bridge is rapidly deteriorating and is at imminent risk of collapse, posing a hazard to park users, creek habitat and other bridge crossings downstream. Furthermore, Baker Bridge is on a critically important fire access road and the damaged bridge currently blocks any emergency crossing of Pescadero Creek (e.g. fording) should CAL FIRE need access. Ideally the bridge could have been removed and replaced shortly after it was damaged, but safe access to this remote, steep site for the large, specialized equipment needed for removal required construction engineering planning as well as timing the work for driest conditions for safety. Due to supply chain delays for steel, it is not possible to get a replacement bridge in time for this emergency work.

Contact Person: Sara Polgar Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 650-712-7765

If filed by applicant:

- 1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No.

Signature: [Signature] Date: 8/18/2022 Title: Conservation Program Specialist

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR:

128382
FILED
SAN MATEO COUNTY
Sep 02 2022
MARK CHURCH, County Clerk
By [Signature] Deputy Clerk



SAN MATEO
RESOURCE
CONSERVATION
DISTRICT

CERTIFICATION OF CEQA EXEMPTION FINDING

Project Title: Baker Bridge Emergency Removal
Project Location: Baker Bridge at Pescadero Creek on the Baker Fire Road in Pescadero Creek County Park. 37.256918, -122.232507

Assessor's Parcel Number: 085-150-080

City and County: Pescadero, San Mateo County

Description of Nature and Purpose of Project:

The San Mateo Resource Conservation District (RCD), in partnership with San Mateo County Parks Department (County Parks), proposes to remove the damaged Baker Bridge over Pescadero Creek along Baker Fire Road in Pescadero Creek County Park. (Figure 1) To minimize impacts and ensure safety, construction will take place in the dry season after marble murrelet nesting season, a temporary log deck will be constructed over the creek in the work area to protect the underlying creek bed, and the bridge will be cut into smaller pieces for safe transport to an off-site, approved disposal facility.

In July 2021 it was discovered that a tree had fallen across the 100' long by 18' wide bridge, damaging it beyond repair, rendering it no longer functional and a hazard to park users and stream habitat. (Figure 3) The damaged bridge is deteriorating and has a high risk of breaking apart further imminently. Pieces that fall into the creek have a high likelihood of damaging creek spawning habitat for threatened and endangered anadromous fish and could also damage downstream structures (e.g., bridges). Furthermore, Baker Bridge is on a critically important fire access road and the damaged bridge itself blocks emergency crossing of Pescadero Creek. (Figure 2) Removal of the damaged bridge will prevent these potential impacts and allow for interim emergency access until County Parks replaces the bridge.

Name of Person, Board, Commission or Department Proposing to Carry Out Project:

San Mateo Resource Conservation District

Sara Polgar

80 Stone Pine Road, Suite 100

Half Moon Bay, CA 94019

EXEMPT STATUS:

Statutory Exemption: Emergency Project [CEQA State Guidelines, Section 15269(c)]

REMARKS: See next page.

Contact Person:

Sara Polgar

Telephone:

(650) 712-7765

August 18, 2022

Date of Determination:

I do hereby certify that the above determination has been
made pursuant to State and Local requirements.



Sara Polgar, Conservation Program Specialist

REMARKS:

The project meets the CEQA criteria for exemption from environmental review under Section 15269 (c) of the CEQA State Guidelines. This statutory exemption describes the following emergency projects:

- (c) Specific actions necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency. This does not include long-term projects undertaken for the purpose of preventing or mitigating a situation that has a low probability of occurrence in the short-term, but this exclusion does not apply (i) if the anticipated period of time to conduct an environmental review of such a long-term project would create a risk to public health, safety or welfare, or (ii) if activities (such as fire or catastrophic risk mitigation or modifications to improve facility integrity) are proposed for existing facilities in response to an emergency at a similar existing facility.

Baker Bridge is the only bridge crossing over Pescadero Creek within Pescadero Creek County Park to connect the park areas on the north and south sides of the creek. It provides critical access for emergency fire response as well as emergency medical response and park staff patrols through the park property. Not only is the damaged Baker Bridge inaccessible for vehicles, it blocks alternate crossing using a temporary bridge or safely fording the creek at the bridge site.

The risk of fire in the park is high, as demonstrated by the August 2020 CZU Lightning Complex Fire that started on Butano Ridge along the southern edge of the park. During the CZU Fire, County Parks had to do an emergency repair to another bridge (Trestle Bridge) in the park along Old Haul Road to restore access for fire response vehicles. That bridge had failed prior to 2020 and County Parks had been working on design and permitting for its replacement when the CZU Fire occurred. Immediate access was essential to enable fire response vehicles and equipment hold the north line of the fire at Old Haul Road, and fortunately a construction contractor was able to reuse the existing bridge and restore access within four days.

As with Trestle Bridge, access across Pescadero Creek at Baker Bridge is needed to mitigate an emergency in a catastrophic fire. This meets the requirements under CEQA Guideline Section 15269(c) for an emergency project.

Ideally Baker Bridge could have been removed shortly after it was damaged in 2021, but the removal requires specialized construction equipment that is much larger and heavier than emergency response vehicles and, unlike Trestle Bridge, the Baker Bridge site is very steep. To ensure safe access and working conditions, the bridge removal was delayed to allow for necessary engineering and construction planning as well as timing the work for driest site conditions (i.e. September). Additionally, County Parks had sought to combine the bridge removal and replacement work, but it was not possible to get a replacement bridge soon enough due to supply chain delays.

It is notable that if a fire occurs before Baker Bridge has been removed and fire responders need immediate access along Baker Fire Road, they will have to try to ford Pescadero Creek downstream of where Baker Bridge crosses and then reconnect with the road along the bank on the other side. Without any protection for the creek bed (e.g., temporary bridge or a log deck) this type of crossing could destroy the spawning habitat at this location. Removal of Baker Bridge will give County Parks the ability to use a temporary bridge that can quickly be set up to connect Baker Fire Road over Pescadero Creek if emergency access becomes necessary prior to permanent replacement of the bridge.

In addition to mitigating an emergency in a catastrophic fire, removal of the bridge prevents harm to spawning habitat for threatened and endangered anadromous fish, and downstream structures (e.g.,

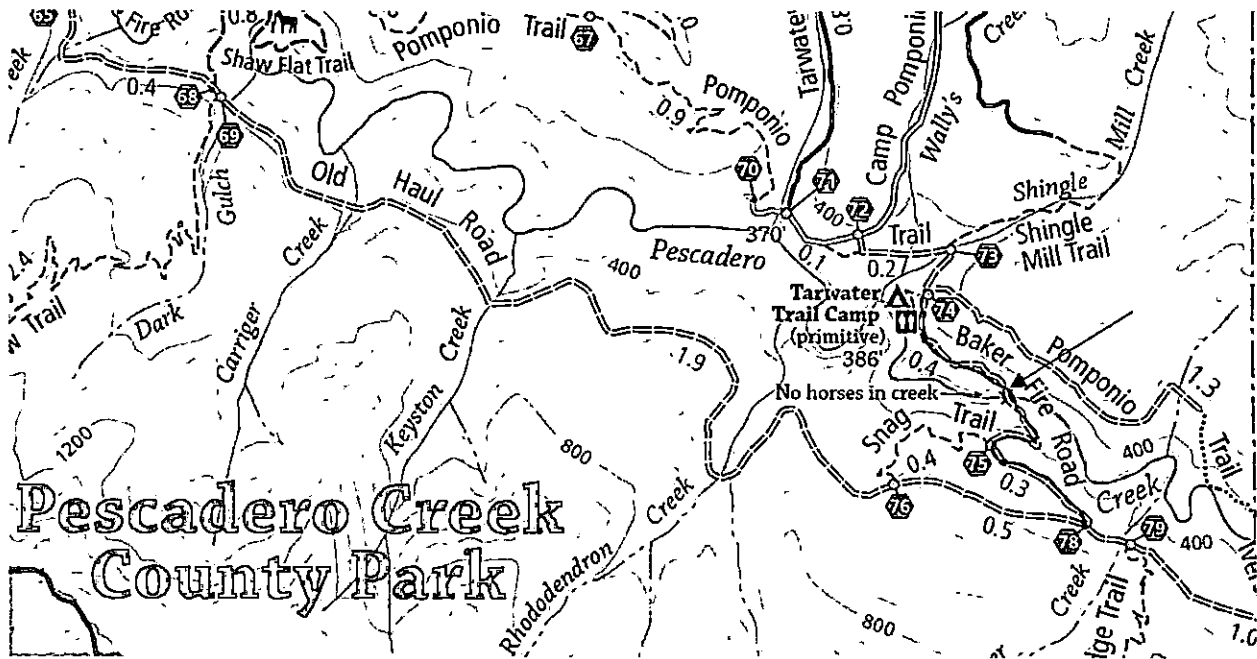


Figure 3. Damaged Baker Bridge



County of San Mateo
Clerk-Recorder
Mark Church
555 County Center
Redwood City, CA 94063
(650) 363-4500

Receipt No.: RPT20220059731

Finalization No.: 2022059623

Cashier: 77

Register: 020

Date/Time: 09/02/2022 01:32 PM

Item	Title	Count
1	NOE	1
NOTICE OF EXEMPTION		
Document No.:		128382
Filing Time:		01:32 PM
Filing Total:		\$50.00
Filing Fee:		\$50.00
Total Amount Due:		\$50.00
Total Paid		
Check Tendered:		\$50.00
#831		
Amount Due:		\$0.00

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<https://www.smoacre.org/>



09/02/2022 01:32 PM