

## **SECTION 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Central Coast Water Board is currently reviewing a Clean Water Act section 401 Water Quality Certification application for the project described below. We encourage public comments on the proposed project and will take comments into consideration when taking action on the application. You may submit written comments on this project to:

Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101

San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Attention: 401 Coordinator

OR

centralcoast@waterboards.ca.gov

Attention: 401 Coordinator

**Project Applicant:** Land Trust of Santa Cruz County – Sarah Newkirk

**Applicant's Agent:** EcoSystems West Consulting Group – Erin McGinty

**Project Name:** Community Harvey Program at Watsonville Slough Farm Project

**Receiving Water:** Hanson Slough, Harkins Slough, and Struve Slough

**City/County:** Watsonville / Santa Cruz

**Public Notice:** January 23, 2025 – February 13, 2025

### **Project Description:**

The project purpose is to allow managed visitor access onto the Watsonville Slough Farm.

The proposed project activities include:

- Constructing a 10-acre community harvest gateway;
- Realigning the Harkins Slough Road to reduce erosion;
- Installing new bioswales and multiple 18-inch HDPE culverts to facilitate drainage; and
- Implementing boardwalks with integrated fish screens to enhance California red-legged frog breeding.

The proposed mitigation activities include:

- Permittee responsible establishment of 0.02 acres of wetland habitat;
- Permittee responsible establishment of 0.12 acres of riparian habitat; and
- Permittee responsible rehabilitation of 0.0012 acres of stream channel habitat.