

Environmental Information for Petitions

Permit 20905A

7. Environmental Setting. These photos document only those areas of the project that will be impacted during the requested extension period.

2005 Aerial View of 49.1 acre property where organic agriculture production occurs. Photo orientation with north on the bottom and south on the top of the photo.



View from southern road, March 31, 2006, prior to agriculture re-introduction during October 2006.



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Organic agricultural production, October 19, 2007, facing northwest.



Attachment 1(a)

In 1997, the State Water Resources Control Board issued Permit 20905 to Margaret Eastwood Trust and Clint Eastwood ("Eastwood") for the diversion of 195.9 AFY of water from the Carmel River underflow. In 1995, The State Water Resources Control Board had reserved this same amount of water on Table 13 of Decision 1632, which reflected the amount of water use for the long established farming operations located on the Eastwood property (which is commonly known as the Coast Ranch formerly owned by the Odello family).

In 1999, a 49.1 acre portion of the Coast Ranch property was sold to The Big Sur Land Trust. This change of ownership resulted in the revocation of Permit 20905 and the issuance of Permits 20905A to The Big Sur Land Trust and 20905B to Eastwood. Permit 20905A issued to The Big Sur Land Trust authorizes the diversion of 28.14 AFY on the 49.1 acres held by The Big Sur Land Trust for irrigation purposes.

The permittees have submitted annual progress reports of its water use under this permit to the State Water Resources Control Board; a spreadsheet consolidating these reports is attached hereto as Attachment 2. Please note that although the permit covers the time period from 1997-2006, the reports exist from 1999-2006 based on when The Big Sur Land Trust was issued permit 20905A. During the winter of 1997/1998, water use was abruptly interrupted due to the flood damage that occurred, which destroyed the well and artichoke crops on the property.

The well was replaced in June 1999, and thereafter the property has been leased for organic crop production. However, while farming production had partially recovered after the flood with water use up to 24.15 acre-feet in 2001, the organic crop production temporarily ceased production beginning in the autumn of 2002, in order to implement restoration of riparian habitat and wetlands on the adjacent property located to the west of the permittees' property. This restoration project is referred to as the Carmel River Lagoon Restoration Project, and the Coastal Conservancy has been the lead agency for this restoration project. The Coastal Conservancy has done a commendable job towards restoring the area west of the Coast Ranch to riparian habitat and wetlands. However, restoration work is ongoing and additional flood control is being planned in order to allow more periodic flooding on the Coast Ranch that will reduce the flood potential on the north side of the Carmel River. Organic farm production began once again in the fall of 2006, and is planned to continue until further restoration work and flood control projects are implemented.

Permittees expect that these flood control and restoration improvements will be completed by December 2016. As such, pursuant to Water Code section 1398, The Big Sur Land Trust respectfully requests that the State Water Resources Control Board approve a ten (10) year extension of time, or until December 2016 to allow for complete full beneficial water use under our permit.

Attachment 2

Summary of Water Use

Permit 20905A

Year	Gallons	Acre-feet
1997	0	0
1998	0	0
1999	3551060.33	10.90
2000	5989402.06	18.38
2001	7855943.06	24.15
2002	5724277.44	17.57
2003	0	0
2004	448737.23	1.38
2005	18014.35	0.06
2006	932568.62	2.86

* Please note that data for year 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2004 is extrapolated based on reporting for permit 20905B, based on the original division of permit 20905.