

Pre-Approved Conservation Practices for Morro Bay

Fifteen conservation practices have been pre-approved by the regulatory agencies for inclusion in the program. These practices are promoted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the National Estuary Program to improve water quality, preserve important agricultural lands, and protect the health of the watershed and estuary.

CLEARING AND SNAGGING	Removing snags, drifts, or other obstructions from a channel to prevent bank erosion and improve fish and wildlife habitat.
CRITICAL AREA PLANTING	Planting native vegetation such as trees, shrubs, and grasses on highly erodable or critically eroding areas.
DIVERSION	An earth channel constructed across the slope with a supporting ridge on the lower side.
FILTER STRIP	A strip or area of vegetation for removing sediment, organic matter, and other pollutants from runoff and wastewater.
FISH STREAM IMPROVEMENT	Improving a stream channel to create new fish habitat or to enhance an existing habitat. For the purpose of this program, this practice is further defined as Digger Logs, Single and Opposing Boulder Wing Deflectors, and Root Wad as described in the California Salmonid Stream Habitat Restoration Manual.
GRADE STABILIZATION STRUCTURE	A structure built into a non-fish bearing creek bed, channel bottom, or gully to control the grade and prevent head cutting.
GRASSED WATERWAY	A natural or constructed channel that is shaped or graded to required dimensions and velocities, and established with suitable vegetation for the stable conveyance of runoff.
PIPELINE	Pipeline installed for conveying water for livestock or recreation.
SEDIMENT BASIN	Basins constructed to collect and store debris or sediment. Sediment basins will not be constructed in stream channels.
STREAMBANK PROTECTION	Using vegetation or structures to stabilize and protect banks of streams, lakes, estuaries, or excavated channels against scour and erosion.
STREAM CHANNEL STABILIZATION	Stabilizing the channel of a stream with suitable structures.
STREAM CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT	Restoration of a modified or damaged stream to a more natural state using bioengineering techniques.
TANK OR TROUGH	A trough or tank installed to provide drinking water for livestock.
UNDERGROUND OUTLET	A conduit installed beneath the surface of the ground to collect surface water and convey it to a suitable outlet.
WATER AND SEDIMENT CONTROL BASIN	An earthen embankment to form a sediment trap and water detention basin. Basins will not be constructed in stream channels.

Participate in the Permit Coordination Program

To participate in the Morro Bay PIR permit coordination program, you must contact the local NRCS office or the Coastal San Luis RCD to see if your projects can be covered by the Morro Bay permit coordination program. The NRCS / Coastal San Luis RCD will ensure your project meets the regulatory agency conditions and can be covered under the program. To simplify the permit process, the organizations may be able to assist you with project design, technical assistance, and information on cost-sharing programs.