**Prefumo Canyon Road Milepost 4.9 Slip Out Repair Project (ED20-008-PW/245R12B652)**

**Project Description:**

The County of San Luis Obispo Department of Public Works (County) is proposing to repair an approximately 110-foot long slip out immediately adjacent to and below Prefumo Canyon Road. The project is located on the east side of Prefumo Canyon Road at milepost (MP) 4.9 (i.e., 4.9 road miles from the junction of Prefumo Canyon Road and See Canyon Road), and is approximately one-half mile west of the San Luis Obispo city limits, in the San Luis Obispo North Subarea of the San Luis Obispo Planning Area.

The project site borders Prefumo Creek. Erosion at this location was triggered by a large oak tree falling from the top of the bank in March 2018, which resulted in the loss of a portion of the road and shoulder, creating a near-vertical to overhanging erosional scarp from the pavement down to Prefumo Creek. The downed tree trunk settled along the edge of Prefumo Creek at the base of the slope. Some of larger limbs of the downed tree were cut and removed by a crane operating from the road in August 2018. The trunk and the root mass of the tree remain in place and have been incorporated into the proposed slope stabilization plan to maintain the instream habitat that they provide.

The proposed project includes restoring the north-bound travel lane (to provide two 10-foot-wide travel lanes) and a 3-foot-wide shoulder with a guardrail for a length of approximately 110 feet, and stabilizing the slope between the road shoulder and Prefumo Creek with rock slope protection (RSP) at a 1:1 slope. RSP would consist of 3-ton angular rocks, typically 2.5 to 3 feet in diameter.

The project design includes the following habitat enhancement measures: (a) leaving the existing downed tree in place at the channel edge where it provides scour pools and woody debris/cover; (b) installing a second log structure at the base of the RSP at the upstream end of the project to provide the same functions; (c) installing up to three instream boulders at the base of the RSP for flow structure (i.e., development of pools and riffles); (d) planting willow stakes along the base of the RSP where conditions are suitable to provide shading to cool surface water temperatures, cover for aquatic species, and riparian habitat; and (e) establishing a 2:1 sloped vegetated shelf several feet wide on top of the RSP to provide a vegetated buffer.

Construction access would be from the existing road surface and from a temporary equipment access pad to be constructed adjacent to the scarp within the proposed footprint of permanent project impacts. All materials and equipment associated with the construction of the slip out repair would be staged within the County’s existing right-of-way.

The project would be constructed during dry conditions. Dewatering, if required, would be accomplished by installing gravel bag berms and pumping water upstream a distance of approximately 50 feet to a location where it can be discharged in a vegetated floodplain location to minimize impacts to the channel.

Minor trimming of roadside vegetation may be required for construction; no tree removal is proposed.

The project would be constructed after required permits have been obtained, ideally in late summer/early fall of 2020. Construction is expected to take between four and six weeks to complete, which includes up to approximately two weeks to complete the work in the creek and riparian bank, and the remaining time to pave the road and install the guardrail.