



County of Santa Cruz

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

701 OCEAN STREET, FOURTH FLOOR, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060-4070
PLANNING (831) 454-2580 PUBLIC WORKS (831) 454-2580

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Sandhills Septic Addendum

Address:	
APN:	

This form is to notify you that your proposed septic system repair is located in sandhills habitat, and that there are special requirements for ground-disturbance activities within this habitat. Sandhills habitat is characterized by coarse sandy soils and is host to several federally listed endangered or threatened species.

In order to comply with the County Sensitive Habitat Ordinance, it shall be a condition of approval of your septic repair permit that you take one of following two measures to mitigate impacts to this habitat. In either case, it is the property owner's responsibility to ensure the minimum area necessary for the repair is disturbed. These options are only available for replacement or expansion of failed septic systems or tanks where the capacity of the system is not increased.

Option 1 - Restore Habitat Onsite

Identify on your plot plan an area equal to or greater than the area to be disturbed for the new leach field and/or new septic tank location that can be restored to native sandhills habitat. This may be an area that has become inundated with non-native invasive plants or that is landscaped. This area must be shown on a parcel map provided to Environmental Health staff. Within 120 days of permit issuance, the restoration of this area must be complete. Restoration includes either removal of non-native invasive plants and retention of native species, or conversion of previously landscaped area with native vegetation, or some combination thereof. A list of acceptable Sandhills flora is attached.

Option 2 Purchase Mitigation Credits

Calculate the square footage of disturbance that will result from the proposed repair and commit to purchasing credits from the Zayante Sandhills Conservation Bank. The calculations should be included on the parcel map provided to the Environmental Health Department. The County will notify you in writing the total amount you will be required to pay to the bank based upon the current rate of credits per square foot. The rate currently stands at \$8.10 per square foot as of 1/17/13.

The County charges a fee of **\$320** to cover the costs of tracking and a site inspection to ensure compliance with the Sensitive Habitat Ordinance in Sandhills Habitat, regardless of which option above is selected.

I, _____ (owner/agent), understand that my septic repair is located within sensitive sandhills habitat. In order to mitigate impacts to this habitat I agree to within 120 days of the issuance of my septic permit:

Select one: **Option 1 - Restore Habitat Onsite** or **Option 2 - Purchase Mitigation Credits**

Signature of Owner/Agent

Date of Signing

By signing this form, I agree to the above conditions.