

# **Appendix D: Santa Clara's Best Management Practices and Mitigation Measures**

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## Chapter 6 (Table 6-2) of the VHP

AMM-1: Minimize the potential on covered species most likely to be affected by changes in hydrology and water quality.

AMM-2: Reduce stream pollution by removing pollutants from surface runoff before the polluted surface runoff reaches local streams.

AMM-6: Activities in the active (i.e. flowing) stream channel shall be avoided. If activities must be conducted in the active stream channel, avoidance and minimization measures in Table 6-2 will be applied.

AMM-7: Personnel shall prevent the accidental release of chemicals, fuels, lubricants, and non-storm drainage into channels.

AMM-8: Spill prevention kits shall always be in close proximity when using hazardous materials (e.g. crew trucks and other logical locations).

AMM-9: Personnel shall implement measures to ensure that hazardous materials are properly handled and the quality of water resources is protected by all reasonable means when removing sediments from the streams.

AMM-11: Vehicles shall be washed only at approved areas. No washing of vehicles shall occur at job sites.

AMM-12: No equipment servicing shall be done in the stream channel or immediate flood plain, unless equipment stationed in those locations cannot be readily relocated (i.e. pumps, generators).

AMM-13: Personnel shall use the appropriate equipment for the job that minimizes disturbance to the stream bottom. Appropriately-tired vehicles, either tracked or wheeled, shall be used depending on the situation.

AMM-33: Regional Board objectives for temperature change in receiving waters (measured 100 feet downstream of discharge point) shall not be exceeded. Receiving water and discharge water may be monitored for temperature changes after a comparison of ambient temperature to pipeline water temperature suggests the potential for change.

AMM-61: Minimize ground disturbance to the smallest area feasible.

AMM-62: Use existing roads for access and disturbed area for staging as site constraints allow. Off-road travel will avoid sensitive communities such as wetlands and known occurrences of covered plants.

AMM-63: Prepare and implement erosion control plans.

AMM-65: Control exposed soil by stabilizing slopes (e.g., with erosion control blankets) and protecting channels (e.g., using silt fences or straw wattles).

AMM-66: Control sediment runoff using sandbag barriers or straw wattles.

AMM-69: Maintain construction activities within a defined project area to reduce the amount of disturbed area.

AMM-70: Only clear/prepare land which will be actively under construction in the near term.

AMM-71: Preserve existing vegetation to the extent possible.

AMM-72: Equipment storage, fueling and staging areas will be sited on disturbed areas or non-sensitive habitat outside of a stream channel.

AMM-74: Stabilize site ingress/egress locations.

AMM-75: Dispose of all construction waste in designated areas and prevent stormwater from flowing onto or off of these areas.

AMM-76: Prevent spills and clean up spilled materials.

AMM-82: Channel bed temporarily disturbed during construction activities will be returned to pre-project or ecologically improved conditions at the end of construction.

AMM-84: Appropriate erosion control measures (e.g., fiber rolls, filter fences, vegetative buffer strips) will be used on site to reduce siltation and runoff of contaminants into wetlands, ponds, streams, or riparian vegetation. Fiber rolls used for erosion control will be certified as free of noxious weed seed. Filter fences and mesh will be of material that will not entrap reptiles and amphibians. Erosion control measures will be placed between the outer edge of the buffer and the project site.

AMM-85: Seed mixtures applied for erosion control will not contain invasive nonnative species and will be composed of native species or sterile nonnative species. If sterile nonnative species are used for temporary erosion control, native seed mixtures must be used in subsequent treatments to provide long-term erosion control and slow colonization by invasive nonnatives.

AMM-87: Vehicles operated within and adjacent to streams will be checked and maintained daily to prevent leaks of materials that, if introduced to the water, could be deleterious to aquatic life.

AMM-88: Vehicles and equipment will be parked on pavement, existing roads, and previously disturbed areas.

AMM-89: The potential for traffic impacts on terrestrial animal species will be minimized by adopting traffic speed limits.

AMM-90: All trash will be removed from the site daily to avoid attracting potential predators to the site. Personnel will clean the work site before leaving each day by removing all litter and construction-related materials.

AMM-92: To minimize the spread of pathogens all staff working in aquatic systems (i.e., streams, ponds, and wetlands)—including site monitors, construction crews, and surveyors—will adhere to the most current guidance for equipment decontamination provided by the Wildlife Agencies at the time of activity implementation. Guidance may require that all materials that

come in contact with water or potentially contaminated sediments, including boot and tire treads, be cleaned of all organic matter and scrubbed with an appropriate cleansing solution, and that disposable gloves be worn and changed between handling equipment or animals. Care should be taken so that all traces of the disinfectant are removed before entering the next aquatic habitat.

AMM-93: When accessing upland areas adjacent to riparian areas or streams, access routes on slopes of greater than 20% should generally be avoided. Subsequent to access, any sloped area should be examined for evidence of instability and either revegetated or filled as necessary to prevent future landslide or erosion.

AMM-94: Personnel shall use existing access ramps and roads if available. If temporary access points are necessary, they shall be constructed in a manner that minimizes impacts to streams.

AMM-97: Erosion control measures shall be in place at all times during construction. Do not start construction until all temporary control devices (straw bales, silt fences, etc.) are in place downstream of project site.

AMM-100: Potential contaminating materials must be stored in covered storage areas or secondary containment that is impervious to leaks and spills.