

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

Categorical Exclusion Checklist

CCWD O'Hara and Rose Avenue Canal Safety Improvements Project

CEC-12-032

Prepared by:



Nick Kilb
Natural Resources Specialist
South-Central California Area Office

Date: 8/9/12

Concurred by:


for _____
Chuck Siek
Supervisory Natural Resources Specialist
South-Central California Area Office

Date: 8/9/12

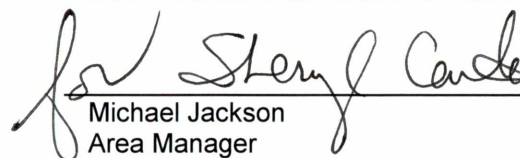
Concurred by:



Randy English
Chief, Resources Management Division
South-Central California Area Office

Date: 8/10/12

Approved by:


for _____
Michael Jackson
Area Manager
South-Central California Area Office

Date: 8-10-12



Background

Contra Costa Water District staff routinely clean debris at two culvert sites along the Contra Costa Canal in Oakley (figure 1): Rose Ave. (Milepost (MP) 4.3) and O'Hara Ave. (MP 5.0). Current conditions (figures 2a–h) present fall hazards to these workers. The District proposes several upgrades to correct unsafe conditions and improve worker safety (figures 3a–d). The improvements include: grading; installation of new concrete walkways and stairs; and replacement of existing retaining walls, fencing, and guard rails.

The work will occur within Reclamation's right-of-way. The project is expected to last approximately one (1) month, commencing in September, 2012. The typical construction duration at each site would be approximately two weeks.

The contractor will use construction equipment including: concrete mixers, dump trucks, small backhoes, and pickup trucks. Excavation would remove approximately 60 cubic yards at Rose Ave., and approximately 115 cubic yards at O'Hara Ave. The contractor will haul the excavated fill to an appropriate landfill. As the projects will occur within the previously disturbed berm areas of the Canal, no adverse effects to cultural resources are anticipated.

Federally protected species with the potential to be in the project areas include the Swainson's hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*), the burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia hypugaea*), the loggerhead shrike (*Lanus ludovicianus*), the white-tailed kite (*Elanus leucurus*), and the San Joaquin kit fox (*Vulpes macrotic mutica*).

Purpose and Need for Action

Current conditions at two sites along the Contra Costa Canal pose fall hazards to workers. Improvements are needed to ensure the safety of Contra Costa Water District and Reclamation employees.

Proposed Action

Reclamation proposes to issue an MP620 permit (a Reclamation Mid-Pacific Region-specific permit issued for additions or alterations to Reclamation-owned conveyance and distribution facilities) to Contra Costa Water District to perform safety improvements (refer to figures 3a–d) at Rose Ave. and O'Hara Ave. culverts in Oakley, California.

Environmental Commitments

Reclamation and Contra Costa Water District will implement the following environmental protection measures:

Table 1 Environmental Commitments

Resource	Protection Measure
Biological	Work shall occur outside of bird breeding season (February 1 to August 31) to avoid take of nesting birds in compliance with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. If work must take place during the breeding season, a qualified biologist shall conduct pre-construction nesting bird surveys at each project site. If nesting birds are found at, or directly adjacent to a project site, work shall be postponed until the young have fledged or until the nest is no longer active.
Biological	No more than 30 days prior to construction, a qualified biologist shall survey the project area for burrowing owls, their burrows and other sign. If any occupied burrows are found, no ground disturbing activities shall occur within 50 meters of occupied burrows during the non-breeding season (September 1 through January 31) or within 75 meters during the breeding season (February 1 through August 31). All survey information shall be documented and submitted to Reclamation.
Biological	A preconstruction survey for San Joaquin kit foxes, their dens, and other sign shall be conducted by a qualified biologist no less than 14 and no more than 30 days prior to any activities, and avoidance and minimization measures prior to and during construction activities for San Joaquin kit fox, per the 2011 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Standard Recommendations for Protection of the Endangered San Joaquin Kit Fox Prior to or During Ground Disturbance would be implemented. All survey information shall be documented and submitted to Reclamation.
Biological	If any listed species are observed in the project area, Reclamation will be notified and the project will be rescheduled or postponed to avoid all impacts to species. Any scheduled operations and maintenance activities will also be rescheduled or postponed to avoid impacts to listed species.
Biological	A litter control program shall be instituted at the project site. All workers shall ensure their food scraps, paper wrappers, food containers, cans, bottles, and other trash from the project area are deposited in covered or closed trash containers. The trash containers shall be removed from the project area at the end of each working day.
Biological	No firearms (except for Federal, State, or local law enforcement officers and security personnel) or canine or feline pets shall be permitted on construction sites to avoid harassment or killing or injuring of listed species.
Cultural	Ground disturbance will be limited to previously disturbed areas.

Environmental consequences for resource areas assume the measures specified would be fully implemented.

Exclusion Categories

516 DM 14.5 paragraph D (10): *Issuance of permits, licenses, easements, and crossing agreements which provide right-of-way over Bureau lands where the action does not allow for or lead to a major public or private action.*

516 DM 14.5 paragraph C (3): *Minor construction activities associated with authorized projects which correct unsatisfactory environmental conditions or which merely augment or supplement, or are enclosed within existing facilities.*

Evaluation of Criteria for Categorical Exclusion:

- | | | | | | | |
|---|----|-------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|-----|--------------------------|
| 1. This action would have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment (40 CFR 1502.3). | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. This action would have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA Section 102(2)(E) and 43 CFR 46.215(c)). | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. This action would have significant impacts on public health or safety (43 CFR 46.215(a)). | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. This action would have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographical characteristics as historic or cultural resources; parks, recreation, and refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (EO 11990); flood plains (EO 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas (43 CFR 46.215 (b)). | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. This action would have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks (43 CFR 46.215(d)). | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. This action would establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects (43 CFR 46.215 (e)). | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. This action would have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects (43 CFR 46.215 (f)). | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. This action would have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by Reclamation (LND 02-01) (43 CFR 46.215 (g)). | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. This action would have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated critical habitat for these species (43 CFR 46.215 (h)). | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> |

- | | | | | | | |
|--|----|-------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|-----|--------------------------|
| 10. This action would violate a Federal, tribal, State, or local law or requirement imposed for protection of the environment (43 CFR 46.215 (i)). | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11. This action would affect ITAs (512 DM 2, Policy Memorandum dated December 15, 1993). | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12. This action would have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (EO 12898) (43 CFR 46.215 (j)). | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13. This action would limit access to, and ceremonial use of, Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (EO 13007, 43 CFR 46.215 (k), and 512 DM 3)). | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 14. This action would contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act, EO 13112, and 43 CFR 46.215 (l)). | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Regional Archeologist concurred with Item 8. Their determination has been placed within the project file.

Area Office Biologist concurred with Item 9. Their determination has been placed within the project file.

ITA Designee concurred with Item 11. Their determination has been placed within the project file.

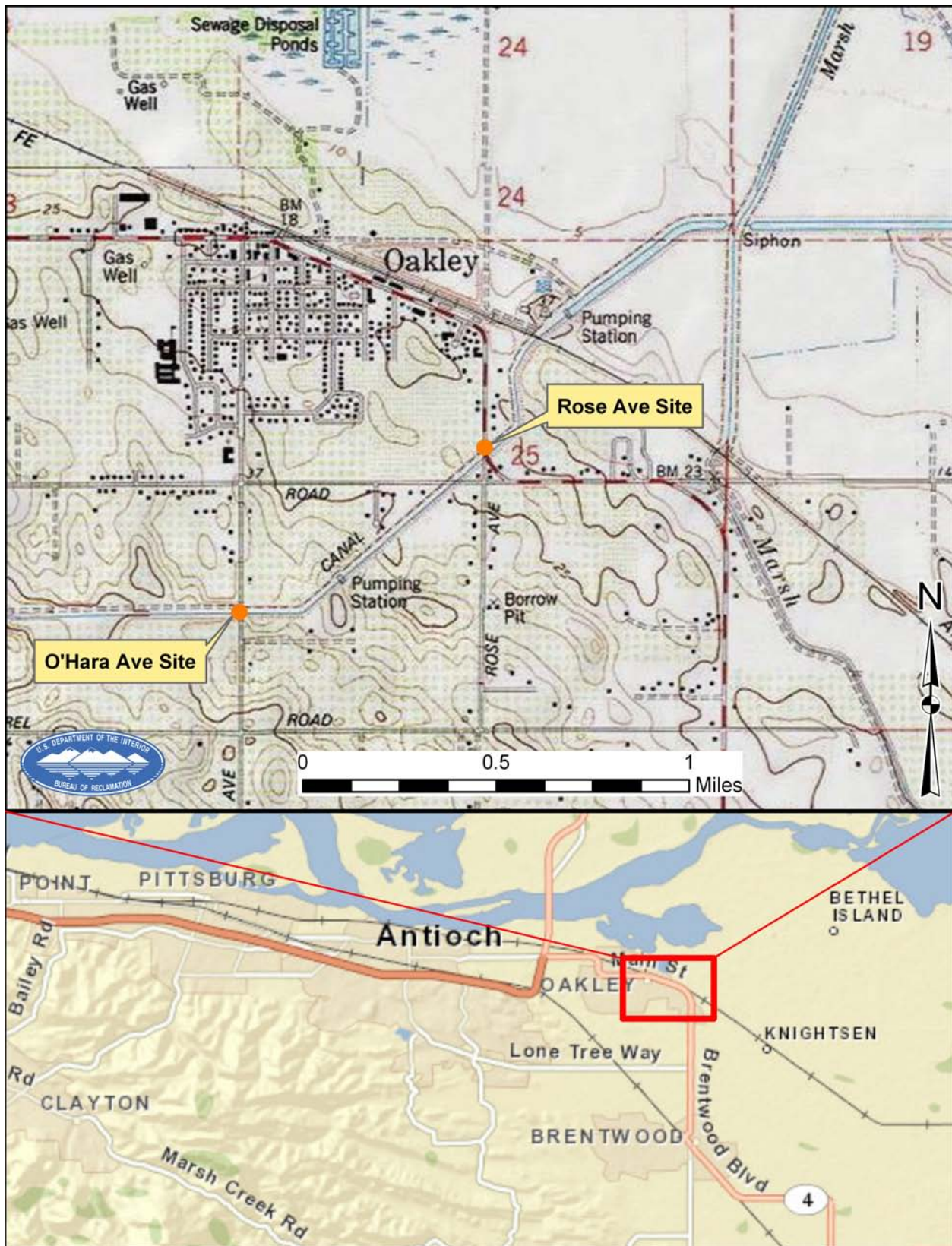


Figure 1 General Location Map



Figure 2a Current Conditions at Rose Ave.



Figure 2d Current Conditions at Rose Ave.



Figure 2b Current Conditions at Rose Ave.



Figure 2e Current Conditions at O'Hara Ave.



Figure 2c Current Conditions at Rose Ave.



Figure 2f Current Conditions at O'Hara Ave.

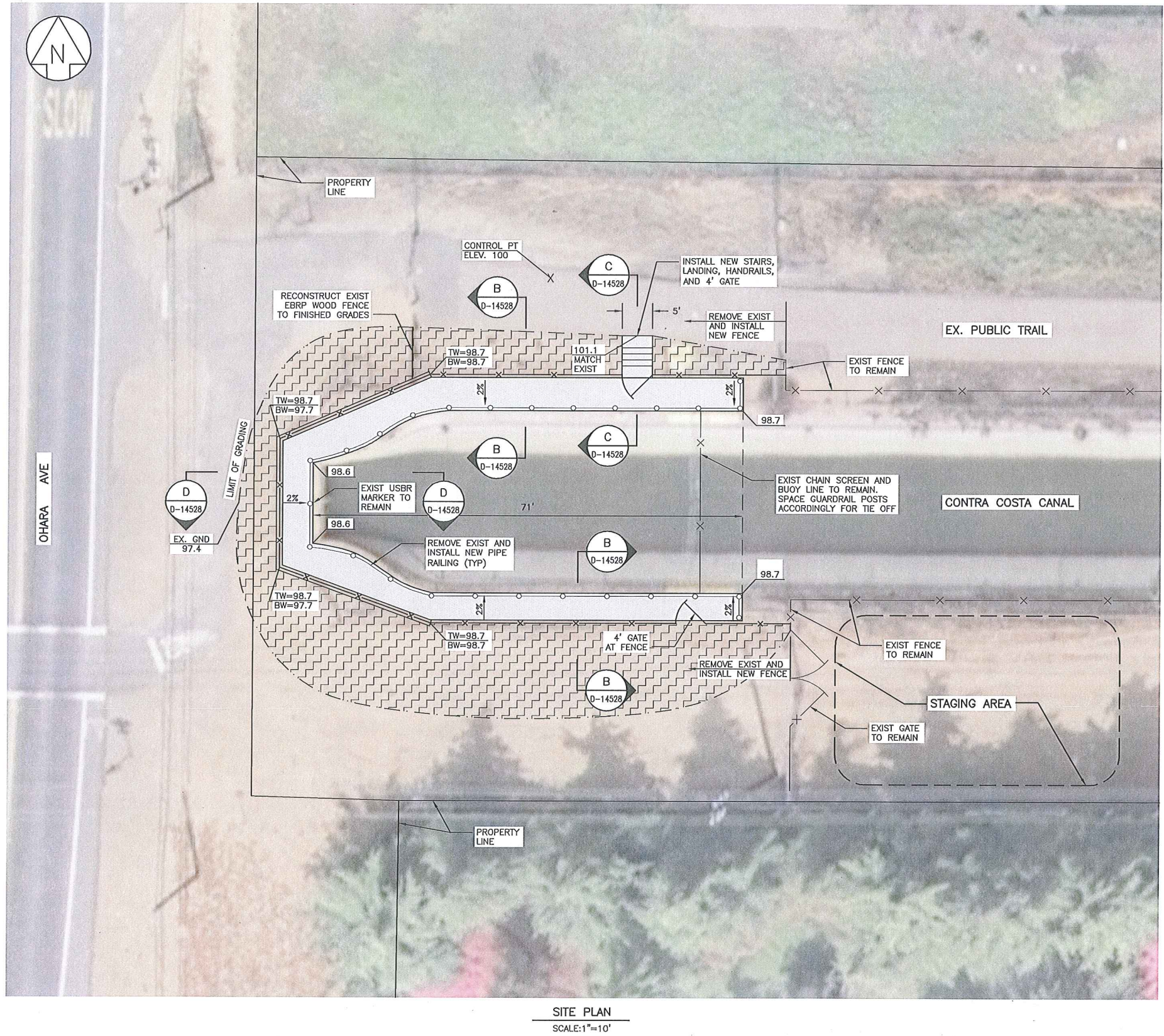


Figure 2g Current Conditions at O'Hara Ave.



Figure 2h Current Conditions at O'Hara Ave.

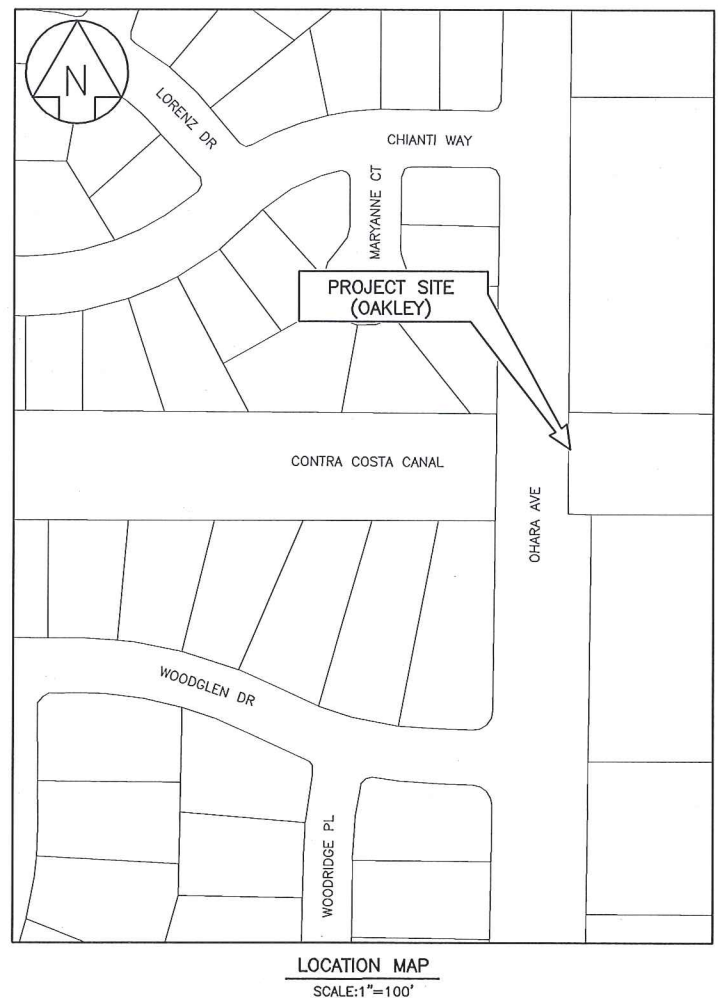
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LEGEND:

TW	TOP OF WALL
BW	BOTTOM OF WALL
—X—	NEW FENCE
—X—	EXISTING FENCE
—O—	PIPE RAILING
=====	NEW RETAINING WALL
- - - - -	LIMIT OF GRADING
[Hatched Area]	INDICATES AREA TO BE GRADED

MAX SLOPE 1 $\frac{5}{1}$



- NOTES:**
1. CONTRACTOR SHALL REMOVE EXISTING SITE FENCING, SITE RETAINING WALLS, AND CANAL RAILING SYSTEM AS DIRECTED BY THE CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATOR. INSTALLATION OF NEW FENCE, RETAINING WALLS, AND GUARDRAIL SYSTEM SHALL BE AS SHOWN ON DRAWING, AND BE CONSTRUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SPECIFICATIONS. CONTRACTOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR REMOVAL OF EXISTING MATERIALS AND COMPONENTS, WHICH SHALL BE HAULED TO A SUITABLE LANDFILL OR DISPOSAL SITE, IN COMPLIANCE WITH LOCAL AND STATE LAWS.
 2. EXISTING CANAL SAFETY LADDERS TO REMAIN.
 3. MAINTAIN A MIN 4' CLEAR ON PUBLIC ASPHALT TRAIL AT ALL TIMES. PUBLIC TRAIL SHALL NOT BE CLOSED FOR CONSTRUCTION.
 4. SEE PROJECT SPECIFICATIONS FOR WORKER SAFETY AND TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION FENCING TO PREVENT WATER ENTRY AND CONSTRUCTION DEBRIS FROM ENTERING THE CANAL.

Figure 3a Safety Improvement Plans, Canal at O'Hara Ave.

CALL BEFORE YOU DIG 1-800-227-2600

REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER
JENNIFER Y. LINDEN
NO. C 50561
Exp. 6/30/13
CIVIL
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

DATE: _____

REV.	DESCRIPTION	BY	APP.	DATE	DESIGN BY: J. LINDEN
					CHECKED BY: J. LINDEN
					DRAWN BY: H. NGUYEN
					CHECKED BY: K. SHUM
					PROJECT NO.: 112063
					CAL GRID: ASSESSOR'S BOOK: 35
					CAD FILE: D14525R0.dwg
					PLOT DATE: 4/12
0	ISSUED FOR BIDS				

CONTRA COSTA WATER DISTRICT
CONCORD, CALIFORNIA

TITLE: **CANAL SAFETY IMPROVEMENT**
OHARA AVE

SHEET 46 OF 49 DRAWING NO. **D-14525** REV. **0**

HALF SIZE

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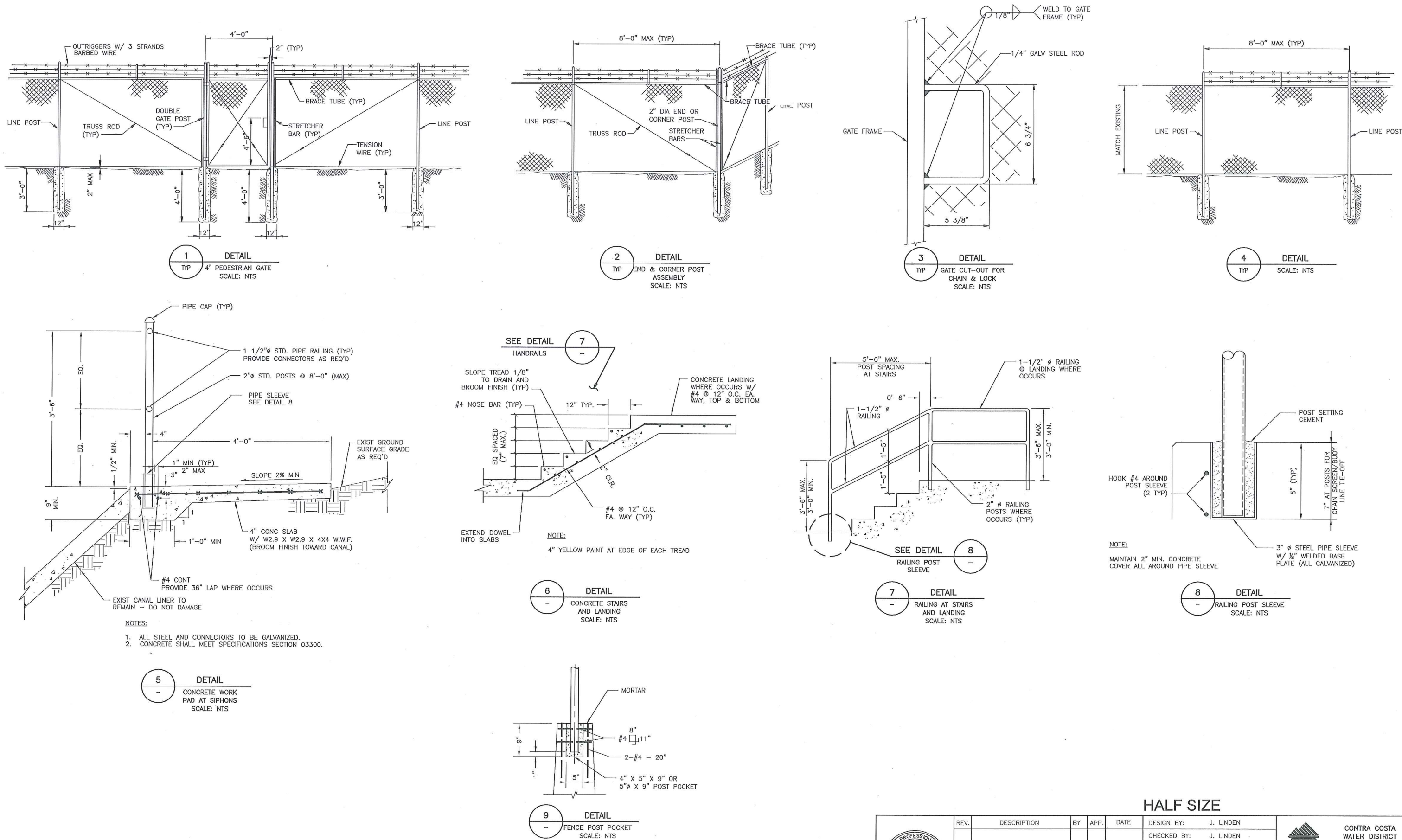
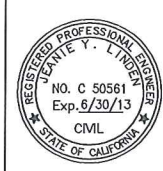

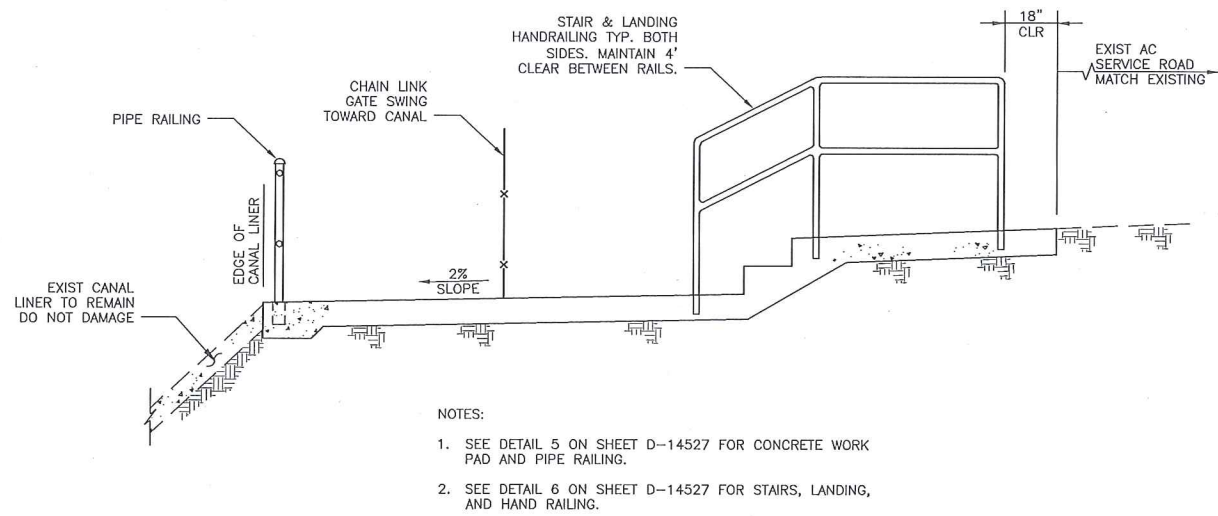


Figure 3c Safety Improvement Plans, Details Sheet

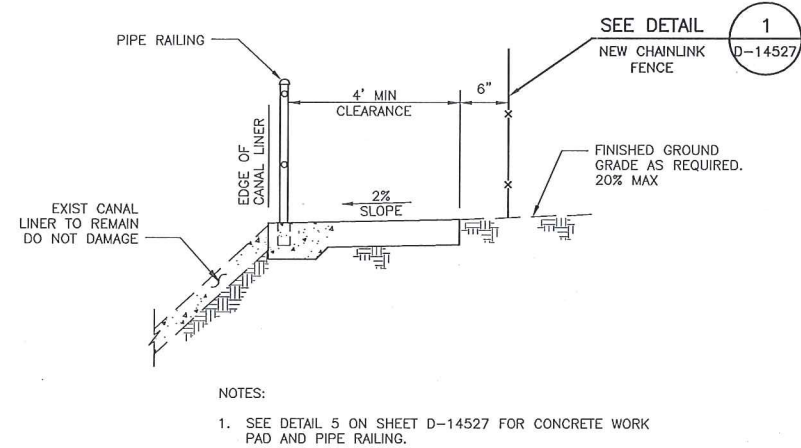
CALL BEFORE YOU DIG 1-800-227-2600

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						DRAWN BY: H. NGUYEN	
						CHECKED BY: K. SHUM	
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						CAL GRID: ASSESSOR'S BOOK:	
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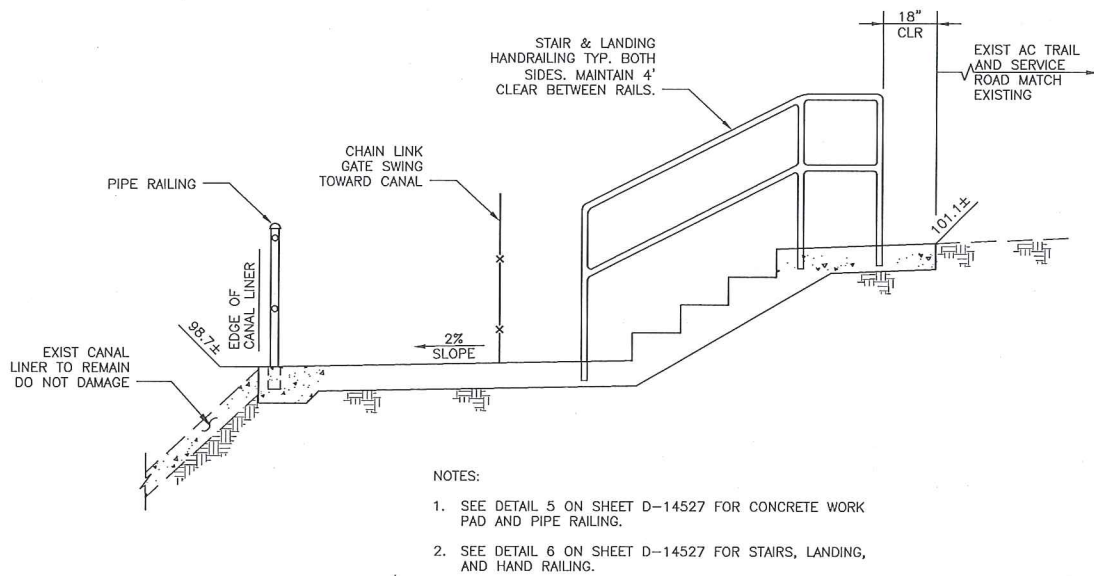
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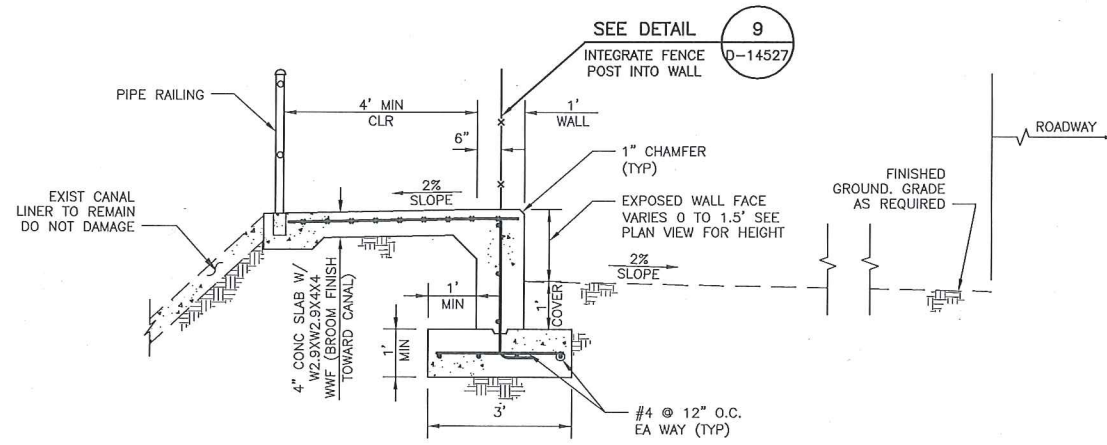
A SECTION
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SCALE: NTS



B SECTION
D-14525 D-14526 SCALE: NTS



C SECTION
D-14525 O'HARA AVE
SCALE: NTS



D SECTION
D-14525 D-14526 SCALE: NTS

HALF SIZE

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						CHECKED BY: K. SHUM		
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Figure 3d Safety Improvement Plans, Sections Sheet