

July 9, 2010

*Drafted by:*  
*Reviewed by:*

S. Morgan  
K. Drumm  
M. O'Keefe

## **ITEM FOR ACTION**

### **FOR CHANCELLOR APPROVAL**

#### **APPROVAL OF SPECIFIC RESOURCE PLAN, PHASE 1A, MARINE SCIENCE CAMPUS, UC SANTA CRUZ**

The Interim Campus Architect, UC Santa Cruz Physical Planning and Construction, recommends that, upon review and consideration of the environmental consequences of the proposed Specific Resource Plan, Phase 1A Project as reflected in the attached Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and Addendum #2 for the adopted CLRDP, and in accordance with University Delegation of Authority, the Chancellor of the Santa Cruz campus:

- (1) Consider the CLRDP EIR (SCH #2001112014) and Addendum #2 (Exhibits #1 and #2 to the attached Findings)
- (2) Adopt the Findings set forth in Attachment #1 hereto.
- (2) Approve the Specific Resource Plan Phase 1A Project, as described in Addendum #2 and the Findings.

#### **Background**

The Board of Regents of the University of California (The Regents), acting as the Lead Agency, approved the Coastal Long Range Development Plan ("CLRDP") following certification of an EIR (SCH # 2001112014), which included analysis of the CLRDP Resource Management Plan (RMP), in conjunction with its approval of the UC Santa Cruz Marine Science Campus CLRDP, on September 21, 2004. Subsequent to certification of the CLRDP Final EIR, the University prepared Addendum #1 to the Final EIR, which described certain proposed changes to the CLRDP. Following consideration of the Final EIR and Addendum #1, the proposed revisions to the CLRDP were approved by the University on November 29, 2006.

The CLRDP includes Implementation Measure 3.2.10, which requires that the CLRDP be carried out through development and implementation of a series of Specific Resources Plans, consistent with the habitat restoration goals and objectives of the CLRDP RMP. In compliance with Implementation Measure 3.2.10, the UCSC staff and a Scientific Advisory Committee have prepared the first of these Specific Resource Plans, Specific Resource Plan ("SRP") Phase 1 (July 1, 2010), which describes how proposed vegetation management and wetland restoration activities consistent with the RMP would be implemented. For purposes of environmental review, SRP Phase 1 has been divided into two sub-phases. SRP Phase 1A, which is the subject of CLRDP EIR Addendum #2, describes specific activities and mechanisms through which SRP Phase 1 vegetation management for habitat restoration the CLRDP RMP would be implemented during the next seven years, over the first third of natural lands at the Marine Science Campus. SRP Phase 1B proposed plantings within jurisdictional wetland areas and modifications

to wetlands that would be subject to federal and state permitting. SRP Phase 1B methods and footprints may be refined through consultation with state and federal agencies, and will be the subject of a separate, subsequent environmental analysis and approval.

### The Proposed Project

The SRP Phase 1A Project consists of vegetation management for habitat restoration on 16 acres of the marine terrace lands ("Terrace Lands") at the Marine Science Campus within the Younger Lagoon Natural Reserve. The project area is part of the 47 acres on the Marine Science Campus that were designated for permanent preservation from future development under the CLRDP land use plan. These 47 acres were incorporated into the Younger Lagoon Natural Reserve in July 2008. The SRP Phase 1A Project, consistent with and implementing the goals set forth in the previously-approved RMP, would focus on enhancement of coyote-brush scrub-grassland, grassland, and coastal bluff scrub expansion habitat areas within the Terrace Lands. Phase 1A also would include control and removal of non-native invasive weeds throughout the Terrace Lands. Habitat enhancement and protection of vegetation in other natural areas of the Terrace Lands, outside of delineated wetlands, also could take place as opportunities arise. The proposed work, including excavation of planting holes, installation of new plantings, and removal of non-natives by cutting, pulling, plastic cover, and selective application of herbicides, would be carried out primarily by hand. Small motorized equipment, such as mowers, saws and sprayers, might be used selectively as needed. Materials could be transported to and from work sites using pickup trucks or other motorized vehicles, but this use would be confined to existing roads and paths, and would occur only when roads are dry.

The proposed SRP Phase 1A initiates implementation of the CLRDP RMP. The proposed implementation activities, their objectives, and their proposed locations are consistent with the activities envisioned under the RMP and analyzed in the CLRDP EIR.

### Environmental Impact Summary

Pursuant to State law and University procedures for implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the environmental impacts of the RMP were analyzed in the certified Environmental Impact Report for the CLRDP. Addendum #2 to the CLRDP EIR further describes implementation of CLRDP Implementation Measure 3.2.10 and assesses whether the specific activities that would be implemented in the first phase of the RMP would result in new environmental impacts or increase the severity of environmental impacts identified in the CLRDP EIR and Addendum #1 thereto. Cumulative impacts and mitigation measures for all campus development proposed in the CLRDP, including the implementation of the RMP, are addressed in the CLRDP EIR and Addendum #1 thereto.

Based on the analysis of the significant environmental effects of the RMP as implemented through SRP Phase 1A, presented in the Draft CLRDP EIR (*Environmental Setting, Impacts, and Mitigation Measures*), CLRDP EIR Addendum #1, California Coastal Commission staff reports prepared for the December 2007 and April 2008 Coastal Commission hearings, and CLRDP EIR Addendum #2, the proposed SRP Phase 1A Project, which incorporates as part of the project mitigation measures identified in the CLRDP EIR, was determined not to result in any significant impacts as reflected in the attached Findings.

### Findings

The attached Findings discuss the project's environmental review process, the relation of the project to the UCSC Marine Science Campus CLRDP EIR, cumulative impacts and mitigation measures addressed in the environmental analysis, and conclusions regarding approval of this project in conformance with CEQA.

Approval of Specific Resource Plan, Phase 1A  
May 20, 2010

APPROVED



7/27/2010

Chancellor

Date

Attachment: 1, CEQA Findings for the Specific Resource Plan Phase 1A Project

Cc:  
Thomas Vani, Vice Chancellor, UCSC BAS  
John Barnes, Interim Campus Architect, UCSC PP&C  
Charlotte Strem, Interim Director UCOP, PDC