

**STATEMENT OF WORK  
FOR COUNTY OCEAN BEACH PARK  
BOARDWALK Phase 1  
IN THE COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA, CA  
March 24, 2010**

**Project Description:**

The County of Santa Barbara Parks Department is proposing to construct a boardwalk along the northern and eastern perimeter of the existing parking lot. The boardwalk includes the construction of an interpretive/education kiosk to provide information relating to environmental concerns, seabird identification, and natural habitats. The boardwalk will be accessible per the ADA Guidelines for Recreational Facilities. The project is located at the Santa Barbara County Ocean Beach Park, at the mouth of the Santa Ynez River. This is Phase 1 of a 2 Phase project. The site is highly scenic and of high biological value.

The park property is approximately 36 acres in size. Visitor use of the park is estimated at 18,000 vehicle trips per year resulting in approximately 45,000 visitors per year. The proposed project will eliminate 10% (10 spaces) of the existing parking lot space to accommodate the proposed construction of the boardwalk. The decreased number of parking spaces should not affect the proposed project because the average current use of the parking lot is only 80% of the total capacity.



**Figure 1: Ocean Beach County Park, Interpretive Boardwalk Location**

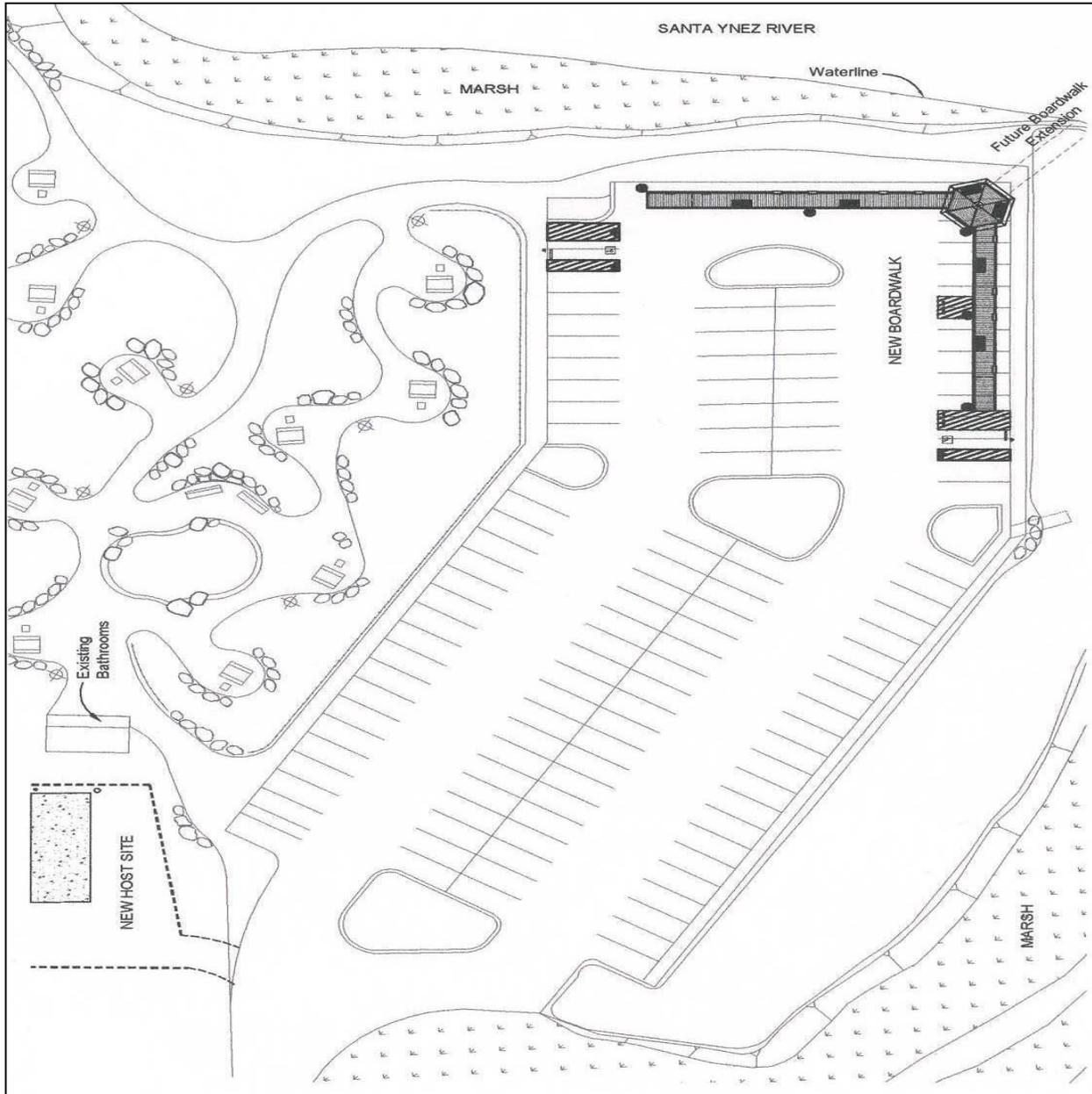


Figure 2: Phase 1 Interpretive Boardwalk, Plot Plan

The boardwalk will provide educational and interpretive services to park visitors. When the beach is closed, the boardwalk will provide an alternative high quality, ADA-accessible recreational experience. The interpretive panels will contain information regarding the wetland habitat, environmental concerns (e.g., effects of trash on wildlife and habitat), and the local sensitive species such as listed plants, savannah sparrows, tidewater gobies, seabirds, and steelhead trout. Santa Barbara County will work with the Torch Trustee council regarding the information that will be included on the interpretive panels.

**Background:**

Ocean Beach Park is a 36-acre park owned and operated by Santa Barbara County. The park provides coastal access to the public, particularly the 65,000 residents of the Lompoc Valley. Visitor-serving facilities at the park include picnic tables, ADA-accessible bathrooms, a small marine-themed playground, and a safe ADA-accessible ramp under the railroad tracks to the beach. Since 2000, access through the ramp under the railroad tracks to the west side of the beach has been prohibited from March 1 through September 30, to protect nesting western snowy plovers. This project has been part of the County's approved Master Plan for Ocean Beach Park and is consistent with the County's applicable land use designations and regulations. The boardwalk will be constructed and managed under the direction of Santa Barbara County's Parks Department.

**Environmental Requirement:**

Care will be taken to assure that the construction design and materials will focus on minimizing any adverse impacts to the wetland habitat. Implementation for the construction of the proposed boardwalk will likely not require permits from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, or the Regional Water Quality Control Board, and is expected to be exempt from CEQA review because construction will occur within the existing parking lot only. The required environmental review and permitting will be completed, including validating the existing vested CDP permit from the California Coastal Commission by Santa Barbara County prior to construction of the Boardwalk.

**Potential Adverse Effects and Measures:**

All of the Phase 1 boardwalk, including construction access, will be located within the existing parking lot at Ocean Beach Park and will not permanently affect wildlife or habitat. Some wildlife may temporarily avoid the area due to noise during the 2 week construction period, but should return upon completion of boardwalk construction activities. Care will be taken in constructing the boardwalk so that disturbances to wildlife caused by the construction are minimized and human presence will not be unduly intrusive.

For the Phase 1 boardwalk, the following measures are proposed to be incorporated into the project to minimize impacts to biological resources.

1. In order to avoid impacts to nesting listed species construction shall be prohibited between March 1 and September 30.
2. Standard procedures shall ensure that all equipment is maintained properly and free of leaks during operation and any necessary refueling or repairs are carried out with proper spill containment.
3. All human-generated trash at the project site shall be contained and removed from the work site and disposed of properly at the end of each work day. All

construction debris and trash shall be removed from the work area upon completion of the project.

4. All permit conditions, minimization measures, and Best Management Practices (BMP) shall be implemented to minimize potential adverse impacts to water and wildlife resources.
5. After its construction, Santa Barbara County Parks Department shall monitor the boardwalk to ensure that proper security is maintained, to avoid any impacts to sensitive resources from vandalism, littering, and other careless or unlawful activity.
6. Prior to construction, temporary exclusion fencing shall be placed along the work limits to prevent entry by the public, workers, or equipment into adjacent habitat areas.
7. All vehicles associated with the project will be restricted to operating only on the existing parking lot.
8. Prior to construction, Santa Barbara County shall inform the workers of the environmental sensitivity of the area, including informing the construction workers about the listed species in the area, to educate the workers on the importance of complying with the measures 1-5 listed above.
9. Prior to the start of construction, Santa Barbara County shall inform the Trustee Council of the project start date.

The project setting is remote and generally characterized by low noise levels. Intermittently, the project area is subjected to high noise levels from trains on the railroad track immediately adjacent to the park, as well as from large aircraft noise from VAFB. Noise impacts during construction do not have the potential to adversely affect both park visitors and wildlife in the immediate area of the parking lot, because the construction of the Boardwalk structure in the parking lot will only require hand held tools (saws and screwdrivers) no noise impacts are anticipated to reach a level of significance.

Furthermore, the Park is physically separated from the beach nesting areas by the railroad tracks (which are elevated at this point over a large earthen berm) and thus provide a physical barrier between the nesting areas and the parking lot where construction will occur.

### **Beneficial Effects:**

The benefits of the boardwalk will be to provide an opportunity for viewing estuarine wildlife and habitat, to allow the public to learn first hand about the importance of maintaining this invaluable natural resource and important habitat in pristine condition. The project should increase visitor appreciation and awareness of their natural resources and stress the

importance of environmental stewardship. During times when access to Ocean Beach is restricted, the boardwalk will provide an alternative, ADA-accessible, high-quality recreational experience to park visitors. The boardwalk project should serve to direct visitors to stay within the parking lot area and on the boardwalk. Currently, walking out into the estuary is not allowed but does occur, so this project should benefit the habitat by discouraging access into the estuary.

**Probability of Success:**

The probability of success for the boardwalk project is very high. Similar boardwalks and viewing platforms have been successfully constructed in other areas, such as Oso Flaco Lake in San Luis Obispo County. This site provides an excellent example of beach estuary habitat for wildlife viewing and is readily accessible. The on-going maintenance of the new facilities will be provided by Santa Barbara County Parks Department.

**Budget:**

Pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding between the Trustee agencies, approximately \$65,520 has been allocated for restoration projects benefitting human recreational beach use. A preliminary cost estimate for constructing both Phases of the boardwalk at Ocean Beach Park was approximately \$110,832, so other sources of funds for the boardwalk would be needed to construct Phase II. Potential sources of additional funding include Santa Barbara County's Coastal Resource Enhancement Fund (CREF) and money collected by the County in the settlement of County of Santa Barbara vs. Torch Operating Company, 2001.

**Schedule:**

Provided the vesting determination of the existing permit from the California Coastal Commission is processed expeditiously, construction for Phase 1 is anticipated to start during the fall of 2010. Construction will be completed in a maximum of 12 weeks.

**EXHIBIT B  
 BUDGET**

**FWS Agreement No.:** 81440-A-G301  
**Charge Code:** 81440-9822-0167  
**Amount Obligated:** \$65,520.00  
**Recipient Tax Identification No.** 95-6002833  
**CFDA No.** 15.658  
**Recipient Duns No.** 825905268  
**Expiration Date:** June 1, 2011

<b>Budget Category</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Federal Funds</b>	<b>Recipient Funds or In-Kind Value (if applicable)</b>
<b>SUPPLIES:</b>	Decking and Gazebo	\$65,520.00	\$4,280.00
		\$	\$
		\$	\$
		\$	\$
		\$	\$
		\$	\$
	<b>SUPPLY TOTAL:</b>	\$65,520.00	\$4,280.00

<b>TRAVEL:</b>	N/A	\$	\$
		\$	\$
		\$	\$
	<b>TRAVEL TOTAL:</b>	\$0.00	\$

<b>EQUIPMENT:</b>	Trash Cans 5 @ \$600	\$	\$3,000.00
		\$	\$
		\$	\$
	<b>EQUIPMENT TOTAL:</b>	\$	\$3,000.00

<b>LABOR:</b>	1,552 hours @\$22.50	\$	\$34,920.00
		\$	\$
		\$	\$
	<b>LABOR TOTAL:</b>	\$	\$34,920.00

<b>OTHER:</b>	Interpretive Panels 8 @ \$400	\$	\$3,200
	Interpretive Signs 8 @ \$350	\$	\$2,800
		\$	\$

	<b>OTHER TOTAL:</b>	\$	\$6,000.00
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<b>TOTAL :</b>		\$65,520.00	\$48,200.00
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