



# Application Guidelines & Form



## About Us

The National Park Service – Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance program (RTCA) supports community-led natural resource conservation and outdoor recreation projects across the nation. Our conservation and recreation planning professionals partner with community groups, nonprofit organizations, tribes, and government agencies. This partnership assists local communities in realizing their conservation and outdoor recreation vision and goals by providing a broad range of services and skills. National Park Service (NPS) staff share their expertise to help your team turn an idea into reality. We offer this assistance on an annual basis with extensions based on mutual agreement. *No monetary grants are made.*

## National Park Service Mission

The National Park Service preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.

.....

## Our Focus Areas

Our projects typically fall within five focus areas, although we consider other projects that fall outside of these categories:

- **Build healthy communities through parks, trails, and outdoor opportunities:**  
Improve access to outdoor recreation and park amenities on land and water that support healthy lifestyles for all users
- **Conserve natural lands, rivers, and watersheds:**  
Strengthen the conservation and stewardship of public lands, waterways, and wildlife habitat
- **Engage youth in outdoor recreation and stewardship:**  
Connect young people to the outdoors to develop a lifelong appreciation of recreation and nature
- **Strengthen the organizational capacity of project partners:**  
Develop and strengthen effective and sustainable community organizations and partner groups
- **Support National Park Service and community networks:**  
Facilitate strategic planning and collaboration between national parks and communities to achieve shared goals



## Our Services

Our assistance is tailored to your needs. Examples of the types of assistance we provide are listed below. Visit our website to learn about current projects: <https://www.nps.gov/orgs/rtca/current-projects.htm>

- Define project vision and goals
- Inventory and map community resources
- Identify and analyze key issues and opportunities
- Engage collaborative partners and stakeholders
- Design community outreach and participation strategies
- Develop concept plans for trails, parks, and natural areas
- Set priorities and build consensus
- Identify funding strategies
- Develop a sustainable organizational framework to support the project
- Create project management and strategic action plans
- Coach teams, groups, and partnership networks

## Application Process and Timeline

The application deadline is March 1. Consulting a program manager prior to the application deadline is *a requirement* to help identify how our expertise can complement your project and to answer questions regarding the application. Please see the contact list at the end of this application to identify the program manager who serves your state.

- Please contact the program manager for your state to discuss the proposed project and current application timeline.
- Email completed applications to the program manager who serves your state or contact them for guidance on mailing a printed version (*see list at the end of the application*)
- Please include the following in your Application Package:
  1. Completed application form
  2. Site location map
  3. A minimum of three commitment letters that describe each partner's role, responsibility, and contribution to the project
  4. Optional supplemental information that can help us learn more about your project (for example, background documents, media coverage, additional maps, list of links to resources, project photos, etc.)
- Project start times will be coordinated with applicants who have been selected for assistance.

## Project Selection Criteria

Applications for support from the Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance program are competitively evaluated based on the following criteria:

- The project is expected to accomplish noticeable results that promote natural resource conservation or outdoor recreation in the near future.
- Roles and contributions of project partners are significant and well-defined.
- There is evidence of broad community support for the project.
- The project fits with our focus areas (although proposals falling outside these areas are considered).



# Application Form

---

Date:

Project Name:

City and State:

Congressional District(s) Number(s):

Primary Applicant Organization(s):

Primary Contact:

Title:

Street Address:

City:

State/Territory:

Zip Code:

Email:

Daytime Phone:

Website (if applicable):

---

*Please review focus area descriptions (on page 1) and project selection criteria (on page 2) for guidance on addressing the following questions. If additional space is needed for your responses, please use the extra pages at the end of this document. Contact the program manager for your state with questions or for additional information.*

## 1. Project Summary

*Address the following points concisely:*

- a. Summary of project - Tell us about your project idea and the specific outcomes you would like to achieve:



## 2. Roles

a. Describe your organization, its role in the project, and the time and resources that will be contributed:

b. In the chart below, describe each partner's role, responsibility, and contribution to the project (please include partners providing letters of commitment):

Organization Name	Partner's Role, Responsibility, and Contribution



#### 4. NPS Support Requested (continued)

- b. Describe the types of assistance and specific deliverables you are seeking from the NPS staff that would complement your team. *For examples, see the description of "Our Services" on page 2.*

#### 5. How Did You Hear About Us?

Have you worked with Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance in the past? If not, how did you hear about our program (for example, from a colleague, online search, NPS website, grants.gov, social media, email, or other)?

## 6. Attachments

Please include the following attachments with this completed application:

- Site location map
- Commitment letters from 3 or more project partners
- Optional supplemental information that can help us learn more about your project (background documents, examples of media coverage, additional maps, list of links to resources, project photos, etc.)

*Reminder: Ensure you have initiated contact with your individual state program manager for guidance prior to submittal (see below for contact information - for a list of current program managers, please visit: [www.nps.gov/orgs/rtca/contactus.htm](http://www.nps.gov/orgs/rtca/contactus.htm)).*

## Submitting Your Application

*After the application is completed, email your application materials to the program manager for your state, or contact them for guidance on mailing a printed version.*

**American Samoa** – [pwr\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:pwr_rtca@nps.gov)

**Alabama** – [ser\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:ser_rtca@nps.gov)

**Alaska** – [akr\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:akr_rtca@nps.gov)

**Arizona** – [rtca\\_apps\\_imr@nps.gov](mailto:rtca_apps_imr@nps.gov)

**Arkansas** – [mwr\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:mwr_rtca@nps.gov)

**California** – [pwr\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:pwr_rtca@nps.gov)

**Colorado** – [rtca\\_apps\\_imr@nps.gov](mailto:rtca_apps_imr@nps.gov)

**Connecticut** – [ner\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:ner_rtca@nps.gov)

**Delaware** – [ner\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:ner_rtca@nps.gov)

**District of Columbia** (and metropolitan area) –  
[ncr\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:ncr_rtca@nps.gov)

**Florida** – [ser\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:ser_rtca@nps.gov)

**Georgia** – [ser\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:ser_rtca@nps.gov)

**Guam** – [pwr\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:pwr_rtca@nps.gov)

**Hawaii** – [pwr\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:pwr_rtca@nps.gov)

**Idaho** – [pwr\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:pwr_rtca@nps.gov)

**Illinois** – [mwr\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:mwr_rtca@nps.gov)

**Indiana** – [mwr\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:mwr_rtca@nps.gov)

**Iowa** – [mwr\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:mwr_rtca@nps.gov)

**Kansas** – [mwr\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:mwr_rtca@nps.gov)

**Kentucky** – [ser\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:ser_rtca@nps.gov)

**Louisiana** – [ser\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:ser_rtca@nps.gov)

**Maine** – [ner\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:ner_rtca@nps.gov)

**Maryland** – [ner\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:ner_rtca@nps.gov)

**Massachusetts** – [ner\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:ner_rtca@nps.gov)

**Michigan** – [mwr\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:mwr_rtca@nps.gov)

**Minnesota** – [mwr\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:mwr_rtca@nps.gov)

**Mississippi** – [ser\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:ser_rtca@nps.gov)

**Missouri** – [mwr\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:mwr_rtca@nps.gov)

**Montana** – [rtca\\_apps\\_imr@nps.gov](mailto:rtca_apps_imr@nps.gov)

**Nebraska** – [mwr\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:mwr_rtca@nps.gov)

**Nevada** – [pwr\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:pwr_rtca@nps.gov)

**New Hampshire** – [ner\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:ner_rtca@nps.gov)

**New Jersey** – [ner\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:ner_rtca@nps.gov)

**New Mexico** – [rtca\\_apps\\_imr@nps.gov](mailto:rtca_apps_imr@nps.gov)

**New York** – [ner\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:ner_rtca@nps.gov)

**North Carolina** – [ser\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:ser_rtca@nps.gov)

**North Dakota** – [mwr\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:mwr_rtca@nps.gov)

**Northern Mariana Islands** - [pwr\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:pwr_rtca@nps.gov)

**Ohio** – [mwr\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:mwr_rtca@nps.gov)

**Oklahoma** – [rtca\\_apps\\_imr@nps.gov](mailto:rtca_apps_imr@nps.gov)

**Oregon** – [pwr\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:pwr_rtca@nps.gov)

**Pennsylvania** – [ner\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:ner_rtca@nps.gov)

**Puerto Rico** – [ser\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:ser_rtca@nps.gov)

**Rhode Island** – [ner\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:ner_rtca@nps.gov)

**South Carolina** – [ser\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:ser_rtca@nps.gov)

**South Dakota** – [mwr\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:mwr_rtca@nps.gov)

**Tennessee** – [ser\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:ser_rtca@nps.gov)

**Texas** – [rtca\\_apps\\_imr@nps.gov](mailto:rtca_apps_imr@nps.gov)

**Utah** – [rtca\\_apps\\_imr@nps.gov](mailto:rtca_apps_imr@nps.gov)

**Vermont** – [ner\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:ner_rtca@nps.gov)

**U.S. Virgin Islands** – [ser\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:ser_rtca@nps.gov)

**Virginia** – [ner\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:ner_rtca@nps.gov)

**Washington** – [pwr\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:pwr_rtca@nps.gov)

**West Virginia** – [ner\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:ner_rtca@nps.gov)

**Wisconsin** – [mwr\\_rtca@nps.gov](mailto:mwr_rtca@nps.gov)

**Wyoming** – [rtca\\_apps\\_imr@nps.gov](mailto:rtca_apps_imr@nps.gov)

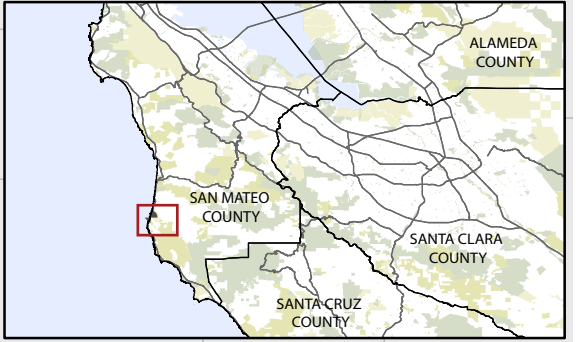
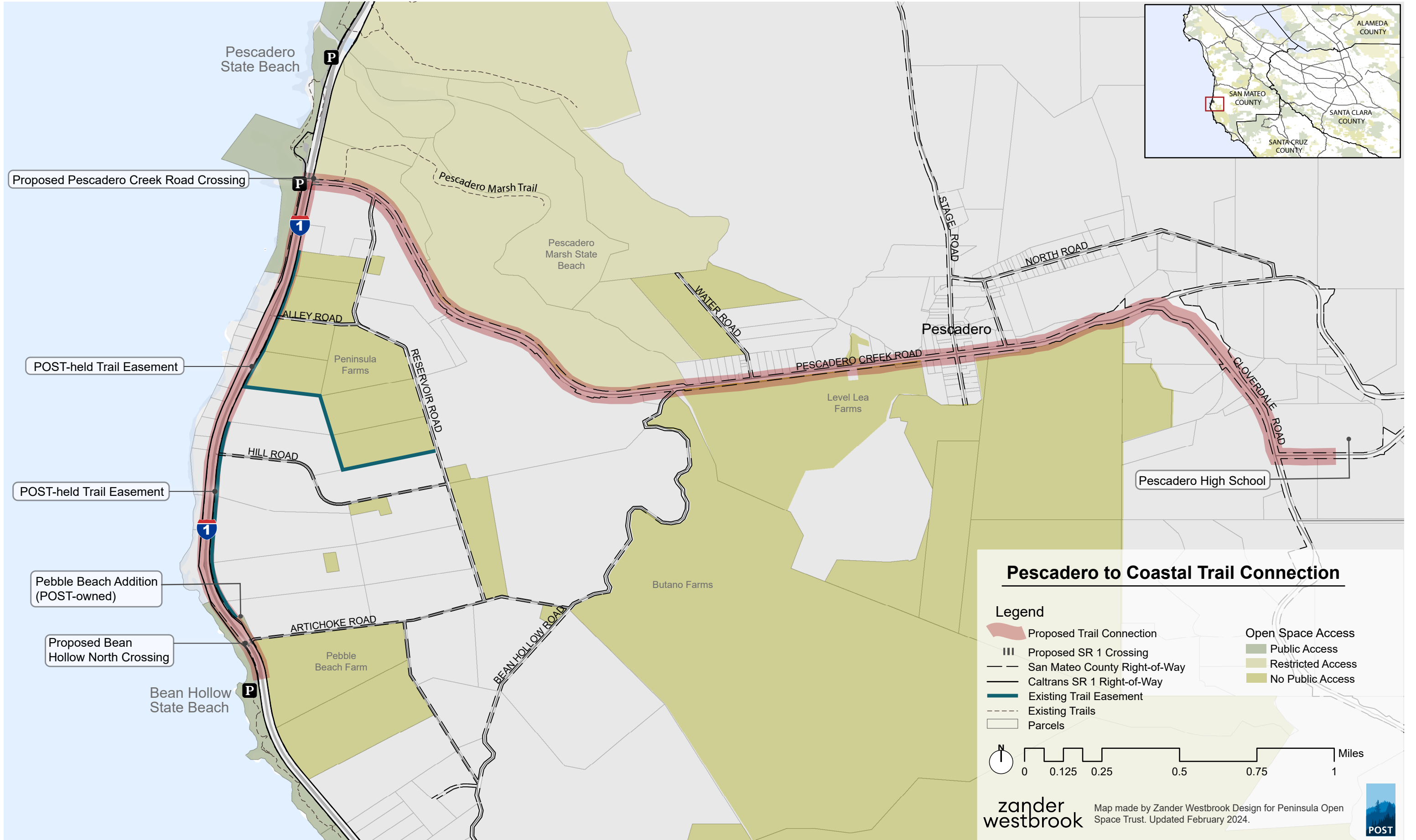


## Additional Text

Please use the space below for any additional text if needed.

## Additional Text

Please use the space below for any additional text if needed.



Proposed Pescadero Creek Road Crossing

POST-held Trail Easement

POST-held Trail Easement

Pebble Beach Addition (POST-owned)

Proposed Bean Hollow North Crossing

Bean Hollow State Beach

Pescadero State Beach

Pescadero Marsh Trail

Pescadero Marsh State Beach

ALLEY ROAD

Peninsula Farms

HILL ROAD

ARTICHOKE ROAD

Pebble Beach Farm

RESERVOIR ROAD

WATER ROAD

Level Lea Farms

Butano Farms

BEAN HOLLOW ROAD

Pescadero

PESCADERO CREEK ROAD

STAGE ROAD

NORTH ROAD

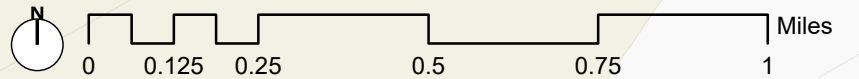
CLOVERDALE ROAD

Pescadero High School

### Pescadero to Coastal Trail Connection

#### Legend

- Proposed Trail Connection
- Proposed SR 1 Crossing
- San Mateo County Right-of-Way
- Caltrans SR 1 Right-of-Way
- Existing Trail Easement
- Existing Trails
- Parcels
- Open Space Access
- Public Access
- Restricted Access
- No Public Access



**zander westbrook**

Map made by Zander Westbrook Design for Peninsula Open Space Trust. Updated February 2024.





Top left: Pescadero town sign at Hwy 1 and Pescadero Creek Road.

Top center: Aerial photo of downtown Pescadero.

Top right: Pedestrian coastal trail segment at Bean Hollow State Beach

Bottom left: Aerial photo of Pescadero State Beach and the junction of Hwy 1 & Pescadero Creek Road.

Bottom center: Local recreation on Pescadero Creek Road.



#### Board of Directors

Rajesh Mashruwala

*Chair*

Wende Hutton

*Vice Chair*

Andrew Bosworth

Kalle Dahl

Dennis DeBroeck

Sean Dempsey

Rod Ferguson

Jennifer Lynch

Alisa MacAvoy

Paul Simpson

Nanhi Singh

Suzanne Sullivan

Katherine Tsai

Sanjay Vaswani

Emerick Woods

Ken Yeager

#### President

Walter T. Moore

February 29, 2024

Barbara Rice, Program Manager  
Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RCTA) Program  
National Parks Service  
333 Bush Street, Suite 500  
San Francisco, CA 94104

#### **Re: Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program Application for Community Assistance- *Pescadero to Sea Trail Exploration Project***

Dear Ms. Rice:

Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST) would like to add our support for the **Pescadero to Sea Trail Exploration Project** application. This Project provides a unique opportunity to explore the feasibility of connecting several popular coastal destinations, closing a key gap in the California Coastal Trail, and to improve coastal access, active transportation safety, and climate resilience for a diverse rural community and visitors.

Numerous plans identify the proposed study area as a priority for improved public access, safety, and also in need of investments in infrastructure resilience. These include San Mateo County's 2021 Active Transportation Plan (ATP), the 2019 Pescadero Town Plan, and a recently completed County Safety Audit of Pescadero Creek Road. The recently completed Southern San Mateo County Coastal Trail Feasibility Study (Feasibility Study) also identified the 1.7-mile gap in the coastal trail between Pescadero State Beach and Bean Hollow State Beach as a high impact, feasible project, and community feedback during the Feasibility Study reiterated the value of a direct trail connection between Pescadero and the coast, two-miles west, as a priority.

As a coalition of stakeholders, coordinated by POST and South Coast Sustainable, we propose to conduct a scoping and planning effort that coordinates between numerous landowners and invested agencies within that planning area to explore feasible solutions for safe pedestrian and bicycle travel between Pescadero and the coast. Agency partners and key community stakeholders will participate in this effort to evaluate trail routes, terrain, geology, drainage, funding, and management considerations. The ultimate goal will be to solidify a project scope and lay the groundwork to complete the 1.7-mile Coastal Trail gap between Pescadero State Beach and Bean Hollow State Beach; develop a 2-mile trail connection between Pescadero High School, downtown Pescadero, and the ocean; and improve drainage issues along Pescadero Creek Road that impact coastal access.

Thank you for your consideration of this application and what we consider to be a unique opportunity to remove barriers to coastal access in San Mateo County.

Sincerely,

Walter T. Moore  
President



---

Barbara Rice, Program Manager  
Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RCTA) Program  
National Parks Services  
333 Bush Street, Suite 500  
San Francisco, CA 94104

29 February 2024

**Re: Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program Application for Community Assistance – Pescadero to Sea Trail Exploration Project**

South Coast Sustainable would like to add our support for the **Pescadero to Sea Trail Exploration Project** application. This project provides a unique opportunity to explore the feasibility of connecting several popular coastal destinations, closing a key gap in the California Coastal Trail, and to improve coastal access, active transportation safety, and climate resilience for a diverse rural community and visitors.

Numerous plans identify the proposed study area as a priority for improved public access, safety, and also in need of investments in infrastructure resilience. These include San Mateo County's 2021 Active Transportation Plan (ATP), the 2019 Pescadero Town Plan, and a recently completed County Safety Audit of Pescadero Creek Road. The recently completed Southern San Mateo County Coastal Trail Feasibility Study (Feasibility Study) also identified the 1.7-mile gap in the coastal trail between Pescadero State Beach and Bean Hollow State Beach as a high impact, feasible project, and community feedback during the Feasibility Study reiterated the value of a direct trail connection between Pescadero and the coast, two-miles west, as a priority.

---

PO Box 864 | Pescadero, CA 94060 | (650) 455-6690 | [www.south-coast-sustainable.org](http://www.south-coast-sustainable.org)

South Coast Sustainable is a fiscal project of Coastal Quest, a 501(c)(3) non-profit working collaboratively to build resilient coastal communities. EIN# 31-1678716. [www.coastalquest.org](http://www.coastalquest.org)

A coalition of stakeholders, led by POST and South Coast Sustainable, now proposes to conduct a scoping and planning effort that coordinates between numerous landowners and invested agencies within that planning area to explore feasible solutions for safe pedestrian and bicycle travel between Pescadero and the coast. Agency partners and key community stakeholders will participate in this effort to evaluate trail routes, terrain, geology, drainage, funding, and management considerations. The ultimate goal will be to solidify a project scope and lay the groundwork to complete the 1.7-mile Coastal Trail gap between Pescadero State Beach and Bean Hollow State Beach; develop a 2-mile trail connection between Pescadero High School, downtown Pescadero, and the ocean; and improve drainage issues along Pescadero Creek Road that impact coastal access.

South Coast Sustainable (SCS) works to engage, mobilize, and empower local residents to advance actions towards equity, resilience, and climate protection in the unincorporated coastal areas of San Mateo County, including the communities of Pescadero, Loma Mar, La Honda, and San Gregorio. For the **Pescadero to Sea Trail Exploration Project**, SCS will provide local resources and expertise to facilitate community outreach, information sharing, and alignment with other resilient infrastructure initiatives at the local and county level.

Thank you for your consideration of this application and this unique opportunity to remove barriers to coastal access in San Mateo County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Irma Rodriguez Mitton". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Irma Rodriguez Mitton  
Executive Director

## CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

NORTH CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT  
455 MARKET STREET, SUITE 300  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105  
PHONE: (415) 904-5260  
FAX: (415) 904-5400  
WEB: WWW.COASTAL.CA.GOV



March 1, 2024

Barbara Rice, Program Manager  
Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RCTA) Program  
National Parks Service  
333 Bush Street, Suite 500  
San Francisco, CA 94104

Re: Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program Application for Community Assistance-  
*Pescadero to Sea Trail Exploration Project*

The California Coastal Commission ("Commission") would like to add our support for the **Pescadero to Sea Trail Exploration Project** ("Project") application to NPS's RTCA Program. The Coastal Commission is a state agency responsible for statewide coastal planning and regulation, operating under the Coastal Act of 1976. An important part of the Commission's responsibility is the Commission's role as the lead agency for California Coastal Trail (CCT) planning and permitting for the entire coastline, and for maximizing public access and recreational opportunities along California's coast in general. A primary objective for the Commission is to ensure the selection of a continuous and coordinated trail alignment and other public access improvements, which respects and protects natural resources in a manner consistent with the [Coastal Act](#). The Commission believes this Project provides a unique opportunity to explore the feasibility of connecting several popular coastal destinations, closing a key gap in the CCT, and to improve coastal access, active transportation safety, and climate resilience for a diverse rural community and visitors.

Numerous plans identify the proposed study area as a priority for improved public access, safety, and also in need of investments in infrastructure resilience. These include San Mateo County's 2021 Active Transportation Plan (ATP), the 2019 Pescadero Town Plan, and a recently completed County Safety Audit of Pescadero Creek Road. The recently completed Southern San Mateo County Coastal Trail Feasibility Study (Feasibility Study) also identified the 1.7-mile gap in the coastal trail between Pescadero State Beach and Bean Hollow State Beach as a high impact, feasible project, and community feedback during the Feasibility Study reiterated the value of a direct trail connection between Pescadero and the coast, two-miles west, as a priority.

A coalition of stakeholders, led by Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST) and South Coast Sustainable, now proposes to conduct a scoping and planning effort that coordinates between numerous landowners and invested agencies within that planning area to explore feasible solutions for safe pedestrian and bicycle travel between Pescadero and the coast. Agency partners and key community stakeholders will participate in this effort to evaluate trail routes, terrain, geology, drainage, funding, natural resource management, and other management considerations. The ultimate goal will be to solidify a project scope and lay the groundwork to complete the 1.7-mile Coastal Trail gap between Pescadero State Beach and Bean Hollow State Beach; develop a 2-mile trail connection between Pescadero High School, downtown Pescadero, and the ocean; and improve drainage issues along Pescadero Creek Road that impact coastal access.



The Coastal Commission was an active member of the Feasibility Study's project advisory committee and is dedicated to continuing in its role as advisor. In addition to our role on the committee, the Coastal Commission will continue to provide technical expertise and advisory support and is open to assist with meaningful community engagement. Thank you for your consideration of this application and what we consider to be a unique opportunity to provide public coastal access improvements and ensure the continuity of the CCT in San Mateo County.

Sincerely,  
Marlene Alvarado, Senior Planner  
California Coastal Commission

February 28, 2024

Barbara Rice, Program Manager  
Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RCTA) Program  
National Parks Service  
333 Bush Street, Suite 500  
San Francisco, CA 94104

Re: Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program Application for Community Assistance- *Pescadero to Sea Trail Exploration Project*

San Mateo County Parks Department would like to add our support for the Pescadero to Sea Trail Exploration Project application. This Project provides a unique opportunity to explore the feasibility of connecting several popular coastal destinations, closing a key gap in the California Coastal Trail, and to improve coastal access, active transportation safety, and climate resilience for a diverse rural community and visitors.

Numerous plans identify the proposed study area as a priority for improved public access, safety, and also in need of investments in infrastructure resilience. These include San Mateo County's 2021 Active Transportation Plan (ATP), the 2019 Pescadero Town Plan, and a recently completed County Safety Audit of Pescadero Creek Road. The recently completed Southern San Mateo County Coastal Trail Feasibility Study (Feasibility Study) also identified the 1.7-mile gap in the California Coastal Trail between Pescadero State Beach and Bean Hollow State Beach as a high impact, feasible project, and community feedback during the Feasibility Study reiterated the value of a direct trail connection between Pescadero and the coast, two-miles west, as a priority.

A coalition of stakeholders, led by POST and South Coast Sustainable, now proposes to conduct a scoping and planning effort that coordinates between numerous landowners and invested agencies within that planning area to explore feasible solutions for safe pedestrian and bicycle travel between Pescadero and the coast. Agency partners and key community stakeholders will participate in this effort to evaluate trail routes, terrain, geology, drainage, funding, and management considerations. The ultimate goal will be to solidify a project scope and lay the groundwork to complete the 1.7-mile Coastal Trail gap between Pescadero State Beach and Bean Hollow State Beach; develop a 2-mile trail connection between Pescadero High School, downtown Pescadero, and the ocean; and improve drainage issues along Pescadero Creek Road that impact coastal access.

San Mateo County Parks Department was an active member of the Feasibility Study's project advisory committee and is dedicated to continuing in its role as advisor. In addition to our role on the committee, San Mateo County Parks Department will

continue to provide advisory support. Thank you for your consideration of this application and what we consider to be a unique opportunity to remove barriers to coastal access in San Mateo County.

Sincerely,



Sam Herzberg  
Senior Planner, AICP





Barbara Rice, Program Manager  
Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RCTA) Program  
National Parks Service  
333 Bush Street, Suite 500  
San Francisco, CA 94104

Re: Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program Application for Community Assistance- *Pescadero to Sea Trail Exploration Project*

The California State Coastal Conservancy (SCC) would like to add our support for the **Pescadero to Sea Trail Exploration Project** application. This Project provides a unique opportunity to explore the feasibility of connecting several popular coastal destinations, closing a key gap in the California Coastal Trail, and to improve coastal access, active transportation safety, and climate resilience for a diverse rural community and visitors.

Numerous plans identify the proposed study area as a priority for improved public access, safety, and also in need of investments in infrastructure resilience. These include San Mateo County's 2021 Active Transportation Plan (ATP), the 2019 Pescadero Town Plan, and a recently completed County Safety Audit of Pescadero Creek Road. The recently completed Southern San Mateo County Coastal Trail Feasibility Study (Feasibility Study) also identified the 1.7-mile gap in the coastal trail between Pescadero State Beach and Bean Hollow State Beach as a high impact, feasible project, and community feedback during the Feasibility Study reiterated the value of a direct trail connection between Pescadero and the coast, two-miles west, as a priority.

A coalition of stakeholders, led by POST and South Coast Sustainable, now proposes to conduct a scoping and planning effort that coordinates between numerous landowners and invested agencies within that planning area to explore feasible solutions for safe pedestrian and bicycle travel between Pescadero and the coast. Agency partners and key community stakeholders will participate in this effort to evaluate trail routes, terrain, geology, drainage, funding, and management considerations. The ultimate goal will be to solidify a project scope and lay the groundwork to complete the 1.7-mile Coastal Trail gap between Pescadero State Beach and Bean Hollow State Beach; develop a 2-mile trail connection between Pescadero High School, downtown Pescadero, and the ocean; and improve drainage issues along Pescadero Creek Road that impact coastal access. This project is in line with several of SCC's key priorities, including increasing equitable access to the coast and building California Coastal Trail.

SCC was an active member of the Feasibility Study's project advisory committee and is dedicated to continuing in its role as advisor. In addition to our role on the committee, SCC will continue to provide advisory support and consideration for funding later phases of the project. Thank you for your consideration of this application and what we consider to be a unique opportunity to remove barriers to coastal access in San Mateo County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Erin Gravley".

Erin Gravley, Project Manager  
Central Coast

1515 Clay Street, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612-1401  
510-286-1015



GENERAL MANAGER  
Ana M. Ruiz

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Craig Gleason  
Yoriko Kishimoto  
Jed Cyr  
Curt Riffle  
Karen Holman  
Margaret MacNiven  
Zoe Kersteen-Tucker

February 29, 2024

Barbara Rice, Program Manager  
Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) Program  
National Parks Service  
333 Bush Street, Suite 500  
San Francisco, CA 94104

RE: RTCA Program Application for Community Assistance- *Pescadero to Sea Trail Exploration Project*

The Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (Midpen) is pleased to add our support for the **Pescadero to Sea Trail Exploration Project** (Project) application. This Project provides a unique opportunity to explore the feasibility of connecting several popular coastal destinations, closing a key gap in the California Coastal Trail, and to improve coastal access, active transportation safety, and climate resilience for a diverse rural community and visitors.

Numerous plans identify the proposed study area as a priority for improved public access, safety, and also in need of investments in infrastructure resilience. These include San Mateo County's 2021 Active Transportation Plan (ATP), the 2019 Pescadero Town Plan, and a recently completed County Safety Audit of Pescadero Creek Road. The recently completed Southern San Mateo County Coastal Trail Feasibility Study (Feasibility Study) also identified the 1.7-mile gap in the coastal trail between Pescadero State Beach and Bean Hollow State Beach as a high impact, feasible project, and community feedback during the Feasibility Study reiterated the value of a direct trail connection between Pescadero and the coast, two-miles west, as a priority.

A coalition of stakeholders, led by the Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST) and South Coast Sustainable, now proposes to conduct a scoping and planning effort that coordinates between numerous landowners and invested agencies within that planning area to explore feasible solutions for safe pedestrian and bicycle travel between Pescadero and the coast. Agency partners and key community stakeholders will participate in this effort to evaluate trail routes, terrain, geology, drainage and other environmental factors, funding, and management considerations. The ultimate goal will be to solidify a project scope and lay the groundwork to complete the 1.7-mile Coastal Trail gap between Pescadero State Beach and Bean Hollow State Beach; develop a 2-mile trail connection between Pescadero High School, downtown Pescadero, and the ocean; and improve drainage issues along Pescadero Creek Road that impact coastal access.

Midpen was an active member of the Feasibility Study's project advisory committee and is dedicated to continuing in its role as an advisor. In addition to our role on the committee, Midpen will continue to provide support for community outreach & engagement and provide technical and planning guidance. Thank you for your consideration of this application and what we consider to be a unique opportunity to remove barriers to coastal access in San Mateo County.

Sincerely,

Jane Mark, AICP, Planning Manager