



Southern California General Consistency Determination (CD)

The Consistency Determination (CD) is a no-cost, faster alternative to securing a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) from the California Coastal Commission while ensuring compliance with the California Coastal Act. By leveraging NOAA's South Coast Programmatic Biological Opinion (PBO) for Restoration, the CD **streamlines the approval process for restoration projects in the Coastal Zone**, helping to overcome barriers to conservation work under the Community-based Restoration Program (CRP).

Eligibility

Projects Must:

- Receive funding or technical assistance from NOAA's Restoration Center (RC).
- Involve a federal nexus (e.g., Army Corps permit requiring NMFS Section 7 consultation).
- Align with South Coast PBO requirements
- Projects must not de-water or disturb >500 contiguous stream feet
- Be located within the Coastal Zone from Santa Barbara County to the U.S.-Mexico border

Activities Covered

Qualifying projects involve on-the-ground habitat restoration activities that benefit federal trust species, such as:

- In-stream habitat improvement
- Fish passage improvement & barrier removal
- Riparian restoration & bio-engineered stream bank stabilization
- Upslope watershed restoration
- Small dam removals
- Off-channel/side-channel habitat creation
- Water conservation
- Wetland restoration

**This is not an exhaustive list of covered activities. The full description of Qualifying Project Types and Activity-Specific Protection Measures starts on page 20 of the CD.*

Implementation

NOAA Restoration Center (RC):

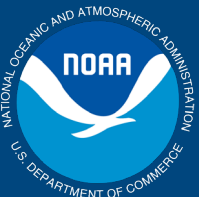
- NOAA is responsible for managing marine and anadromous species protected under the Endangered Species Act.
- Upon receiving an application, NOAA RC will evaluate the project's alignment with the NMFS PBO and conduct an initial assessment of CD eligibility.

California Coastal Commission (CCC):

- CCC regulates coastal development in accordance with the California Coastal Act.
- Following NOAA RC's initial review, CCC evaluates proposed restoration project applications to ensure compliance with the Coastal Act and confirms eligibility for the CD permitting pathway.

Helpful Links

- [General CD Document](#)
- [South Coast PBO Document](#)
- [Coastal Zone Map Boundaries](#)
- [NOAA Environmental Compliance](#)



For more information visit:
[Pacific Salmon and Steelhead:](#)
[ESA Protected Species](#)



South-Central California Coast and Southern California Steelhead Distinct Population Segment Boundaries

