

**REPORT OF MARIN COUNTY PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE
SECTION 65858 ON MEASURES TAKEN TO ALLEVIATE THE
CONDITIONS WHICH LED TO THE ADOPTION OF THE ORDINANCE
ESTABLISHING A MORATORIUM IN THE SAN GERONIMO VALLEY
WATERSHED STREAM CONSERVATION AREAS**

On February 12, 2008, the Marin County Board of Supervisors adopted Ordinance 3482, temporarily prohibiting the issuance of Building Permits on certain parcels containing Stream Conservation Areas (SCAs) within the San Geronimo Valley Watershed area. This Ordinance was initially adopted for 45 days, ending on March 28, 2008.

Government Code Section 65858(d) requires that:

Ten days prior to the expiration of that interim ordinance or any extension, the legislative body shall issue a written report describing the measures taken to alleviate the condition which led to the adoption of the ordinance.

The conditions which led to adoption of the Ordinance are detailed within the Ordinance itself, including continued dramatic reductions in the populations of, and potential future impacts to, Coho salmon, a federally listed endangered species, and steelhead trout, a threatened species, associated with development and construction along the streams that provide essential habitat for these populations.

The temporary limit on the issuance of building permits is intended to allow the County to develop a plan supporting the restoration of natural, biological and hydrological functions in the San Geronimo Valley Watershed to attempt to alleviate the existing and potential impacts to these fish species within that Watershed. Such action is especially critical because of the importance of the San Geronimo Valley Watershed, which is recognized by scientists and fisheries experts as home to one of the last productive runs of the endangered Coho salmon and threatened Steelhead trout, and the most important watershed for Coho in the Central California coast.

The County has been diligently pursuing these objectives in its attempt to limit impacts to fish and stream conservation areas in the San Geronimo Valley which are critical to the survival of these fish populations, and has to date taken the following measures in order to alleviate the conditions which led to the adoption of the ordinance:

1. County staff has developed and distributed a "Request for Proposal for a Salmonid Habitat Enhancement Plan" with detailed goals, objectives and requirements to produce a balanced, science-based restoration plan within two years of the original adoption date of the Interim Ordinance.
2. The Marin County Board of Supervisors has authorized funding of \$300,000 for this plan and associated activities.
3. County staff has begun work seeking additional funding to accomplish the objectives identified in the Interim Ordinance.

4. The County is well on the way to establishing an Advisory Committee of pre-eminent experts in salmonid recovery, local landowners and fish-restoration advocates to assist in the development and adoption of the Plan.

5. An Executive Committee has been established to provide oversight and expedite progress in developing the Plan.

6. Public education efforts have begun with the citizens of the affected area, including the publication of a Fact Sheet, maps and parcel lists on the purpose of the planning and procedures under the Interim Ordinance.

7. The Planning Division of the Community Development Agency has developed administrative procedures that will continue the processing of permits throughout the Interim Ordinance period, enabling a final decision on pending permit applications immediately upon the end of the temporary ordinance period.