

Property Considerations when in the Range of the Santa Cruz Long-Toed Salamander

Santa Cruz County Code that may constrain development (Matt Johnston, Environmental Coordinator, (831) 454-3201, <http://www.codepublishing.com/CA/SantaCruzCounty/>)

- A. Code 16.30 Riparian Corridor and Wetlands Protection
 - a. Riparian corridors established around ponds, ephemeral and perennial streams, and other wetland areas.
- B. Code 16.32 Sensitive Habitat Protection
 - a. Biotic assessment or report required in areas of biotic concern (wetlands, streams, ponds, coastal scrub, Santa Cruz Long-Toed Salamander Sensitive Habitat Ordinance (16.32.090-2), oak woodland)
 - b. Results of assessment typically include required measures to avoid loss of habitat or take of species. If impacts cannot be fully mitigated, may result in redesign or denial.
- C. CEQA Lead Agency
 - a. Projects that may impact listed species typically require analysis under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), with the County Planning Department acting as Lead Agency. Measures identified in the assessment or report are incorporated as mitigations through the CEQA process.

California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) (Monica Oey, Environmental Scientist, (707) 944-5575)

- A. Fully protected species status cannot authorize the injury or death of any Santa Cruz long-toed salamanders.
- B. If the property is within the range of the species and the property contains potential upland habitat for the species: The property owner must prove, through a research study and in coordination with and approved by CDFW on a case by case basis, that the species is absent prior to any ground disturbance.
- C. At a minimum, surveys consist of a winter drift fence study conducted by a CDFW and Service approved biologist.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) (Chad Mitcham, Biologist, (831) 768-7794)

- A. If suitable upland or dispersal habitat is present within an area to be impacted (ground disturbance), the land owner must obtain a section 10(a)(1)(B) permit (Habitat Conservation Plan or HCP) from the Service.
- B. An HCP must contain a conservation strategy that limits impacts to the species and its habitat through standard conservation measures, in addition to the permanent protection of suitable habitat (on-site or off-site) for the purposes of off-setting impacts to the species.