



## Press Release

April 5, 2011

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The Santa Cruz City Council will be holding a special session today, April 5, 2011 at 4:00 PM in the City Council Chambers to discuss the development of a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP). The HCP is required to protect threatened and endangered fish species in local streams and comply with the state and federal Endangered Species Act. The proposed plan will result in less water being available for the City's drinking water system.

City staff is requesting Council authorize the Water Director to enter into negotiations with NOAA Fisheries for an incidental take permit to bring the City's water operations in the San Lorenzo River, Newell Creek and North Coast streams into compliance with the Endangered Species Act. If the City fails to reach an agreement with regulators on an HCP that adequately protects special status species, it could face fines and court-ordered limits on its water operations.

To view the meeting's Agenda, click [here](#).

To view the City Council Agenda Report, click [here](#).

To view the Handout which provides an Overview of the Habitat Conservation Plan, click [here](#).

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