

County of Santa Cruz

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER SUSAN A. MAURIELLO, J.D., COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER PRESS RELEASE

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EMERGENCY LEVEE REPAIRS

During weather-related patrols of the Pajaro River levee, crews noticed small "boils" along a 200-foot section in a rural area near Coward Creek, an indication of seepage from the river channel.

At no point did the levee breach. However, if left unabated the situation could have posed a flooding threat.

On Tuesday, the County enlisted the help of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, California Department of Water Resources and Granite Rock and commenced emergency repairs to address the boils. Haro Kasunich & Associates and Pacific Crest Engineering provided technical support. Repair work includes adding sheathing covered with 5,000 cubic yards of fill to shore up the levee.

Staffing at the Santa Cruz County Office of Emergency Services was increased to manage the logistics of the operation, including field support and hydrology and weather monitoring. A handful of homes in the area were given a precautionary emergency notification of potential flooding in the area.

Repair work is expected to conclude Wednesday evening.