



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Notice of Public Scoping Meeting on a Recirculated Portion of an Environmental Impact Report

Date: November 21, 2017
Case No.: 2015-004827ENV
Project Title: Alameda Creek Recapture Project
Location: The Sunol Valley in unincorporated Alameda County, west of Calaveras Road and south of Interstate 680. The proposed facilities would be constructed within and adjacent to an existing quarry pit on lands owned by the City and County of San Francisco.
BPA Nos.: N/A
Zoning: Water Management
Block/Lot: N/A
Project Sponsor: San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
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Lead Agency: San Francisco Planning Department
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The San Francisco Planning Department is hereby issuing this notice of a public scoping meeting on a recirculated portion of the environmental impact report (EIR) for the project listed above. The purpose of the scoping meeting is to receive oral comments on the scope of the recirculated portion of the EIR, which will address significant new information that was identified subsequent to the certification of the Final EIR for this project in June 2017. The San Francisco Planning Department issued a notice of preparation (NOP) of the recirculated portion of the EIR on October 18, 2017 to inform the public and responsible and interested agencies about the intent to prepare a recirculated portion of the EIR. This NOP is available online at the following website: <http://sf-planning.org/sfpuc-negative-declarations-eirs>.

BACKGROUND AND PROJECT DESCRIPTION

On June 22, 2017, the San Francisco Planning Commission certified the Final EIR (or June 2017 EIR) for the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission's (SFPUC) Alameda Creek Recapture Project (ACRP or proposed project). On September 19, 2017, following an appeal by the Alameda County Water District of the certification of the EIR, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors (Board) adopted findings reversing the Final EIR certification and directed the Planning Department to provide additional information and analysis on one aspect of the project: operational impacts on steelhead fish in the lower watershed as a result of project-induced effects on streamflow in Alameda Creek. The Board determined that with respect to all other issues, the June 2017 EIR is adequate, accurate, and objective, and no further analysis is required. This decision was based on "significant new information" under CEQA Guidelines section 15088.5 that was submitted by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on Central California Coast (CCC) steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) distinct population segment (DPS), a species listed as threatened

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under the federal Endangered Species Act. Therefore, consistent with this direction from the Board, the Planning Department will recirculate a limited portion of the June 2017 EIR that will provide additional information and analysis on operational impacts on steelhead fish in the lower watershed as a result of project-induced effects on streamflow in Alameda Creek.

The SFPUC is proposing the ACRP, a water supply project located within the SFPUC Alameda Watershed in Alameda County, as a part of improvements to its regional water system. Under the ACRP, the SFPUC would recapture some of the water that will be released from Calaveras Reservoir and/or bypassed around the Alameda Creek Diversion Dam when the SFPUC implements the instream flow schedules required as part of the regulatory permits for future operations of Calaveras Reservoir to improve conditions in Upper Alameda Creek for native aquatic species including steelhead fish. The recaptured water would maintain the historical contribution from the Alameda Watershed to the SFPUC regional water system, in accordance with the City and County of San Francisco's existing water rights. The proposed project would involve constructing facilities to withdraw water from Pit F2, an existing quarry pit formerly used by quarry operators located adjacent to Alameda Creek about six miles downstream of Calaveras Reservoir. The SFPUC would convey the recovered water to existing SFPUC facilities for treatment and distribution to its water supply customers in the Bay Area. Pit F2 passively collects water originating upstream from Alameda Creek through natural subsurface percolation and seepage, so the SFPUC would not construct any facilities within the Alameda Creek stream channel or actively divert water from the creek.

FINDING

The Planning Department has determined that a portion of the EIR prepared for the proposed project must be revised and recirculated prior to any final decision regarding whether to approve the project.

PUBLIC SCOPING PROCESS

Pursuant to CEQA section 21083.9(a)(2) and CEQA Guidelines section 15082(c)(1), a public scoping meeting will be held to receive oral comments concerning the scope of the recirculated portion of the EIR. The meeting will be held on **December 6, 2017 at 2 p.m.** at the **San Francisco Planning Department, 1650 Mission Street, Room 431, San Francisco, California**. To request a language interpreter or to accommodate persons with disabilities at the scoping meeting, please contact the staff contact listed above at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Written comments will also be accepted at this meeting. As indicated in the NOP for this project, written comments were accepted from October 18, 2017 and until 5:00 p.m. on November 17, 2017. If you have questions concerning environmental review of the proposed project, please contact **Chris Kern at (415) 575-9037**.

Members of the public are not required to provide personal identifying information when they communicate with the Commission or the Department. All written or oral communications, including submitted personal contact information, may be made available to the public for inspection and copying upon request and may appear on the Department's website or in other public documents.