

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DISTRICT 4
OFFICE OF TRANSIT AND COMMUNITY PLANNING
P.O. BOX 23660, MS-10D
OAKLAND, CA 94623-0660
PHONE (510) 286-5528
FAX (510) 286-5559
TTY 711
www.dot.ca.gov



*Making Conservation
a California Way of Life*

March 19, 2019

SCH # 2013052056
GTS # 04-SOL-2018-00132
GTS I.D. 9858
Solano / 84 / 10.732

Dan Riordan
California Department of Water Resources
3500 Industrial Boulevard
West Sacramento, CA 95691

Prospect Island Tidal Habitat Restoration – Recirculated Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR)

Dear Dan Riordan:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above referenced project. In tandem with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's (MTC) Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS), Caltrans' mission signals a modernization of our approach to evaluate and mitigate impacts to the State Transportation Network (STN). Caltrans' Strategic Management Plan 2015-2020 aims to reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) by tripling bicycle and doubling both pedestrian and transit travel by 2020. Our comments are based on the review of the Recirculated DEIR.

Project Understanding

The proposed project is to restore approximately 1,600 acres of tidal habitat, with the overarching goal to restore tidal action to the interior of Prospect Island. The work would consist of constructing new internal channel networks, intertidal benches, and a weir at the north end of Prospect Island. The proposed project would also include site grading, repairing existing breached embankment segments, creating new breaches within existing embankments, planting approximately 75 acres of wetland, riparian, and upland vegetation, and removing approximately 250 acres of trees and invasive plants. Under the proposed project, the non-federal Miner Slough levee would be breached in two locations: one in the north property approximately 0.5 miles south of Arrowhead Harbor Marina and one in the south property at the location of the formerly repaired breach connecting to the Miner Slough spur channel. A portion of the internal cross levee separating the north and the south properties would also be removed. These levee breaches would result in the north and south properties being subject to daily tidal inundation. The project site is bound on the west by the Prospect Slough and on the east by State Route (SR) 84.

Dina Tasini, City of Dixon

March 19, 2019

Page 2

Hydraulics

SR 84 is built on Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) accredited levees along the eastern embankment of Miner Slough. The project should provide a hydraulic analysis to assure existing hydraulic grade lines of Miner Slough under 25-, 50-, and 100-year (Base Flood) event floods will not change with the proposed alternatives 2 and 3. Alternatives 2 and 3 should also address the potential scours at levee breach locations in Miner Slough under 100-year event flood.

Encroachment Permit

Please be advised that any work or traffic control that encroaches onto the state right-of-way requires an encroachment permit that is issued by the Department. To apply, a completed encroachment permit application, environmental documentation, and five (5) sets of plans clearly indicating state right-of-way must be submitted to: Office of Permits, California DOT, District 4, P.O. Box 23660, Oakland, CA 94623-0660. Traffic-related mitigation measures should be incorporated into the construction plans during the encroachment permit process. See the website link below for more information:

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/traffops/developserv/permits/>.

Lead Agency

As the Lead Agency, the Department of Water Resources is responsible for all project mitigation, including any needed improvements to the STN. The project's fair share contribution, financing, scheduling, implementation responsibilities and Lead Agency monitoring should be fully discussed for all proposed mitigation measures.

Thank you again for including Caltrans in the environmental review process. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Danny Fung at danny.fung@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



PATRICIA MAURICE

District Branch Chief

Local Development - Intergovernmental Review