

Notice of Determination**- 1 -****To:**

Office of Planning and Research

For U.S. Mail:

P.O. Box 3044

Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

Street Address:

1400 Tenth Street

Sacramento, CA 95814

From:

Department of Fish and Wildlife

Bay Delta Region

2825 Cordelia Road, Suite 100

Fairfield, CA 95434

Contact: Tami Schane

Phone: (415) 831-4640

**Lead Agency**

Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water

Conservation District

255 Glacier Drive

Martinez, CA 94553

Contact: Paul Detjens

Phone: (925) 313-2000

SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21108**State Clearinghouse Number:** 2019099043**Project Title:** Lower Walnut Creek Restoration Project (Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement No. 1600-2019-0275-R3)**Project Location:** The project is located in unincorporated area along Suisun Bay, in Contra Costa County approximately 3 miles east of the city of Martinez, along the lower 2.5 miles of Walnut Creek and 1.5 miles of Pacheco Creek in Contra Costa County.**Project Description:** The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement number 1600-2019-0275-R3, pursuant to section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to the project Applicant, Allison Knapp/Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District.

The project is limited to the restoration and enhancement of wetlands and associated habitats along the southern shoreline of Suisun Bay in the area of Lower Walnut Creek and Pacheco Creek, while providing sustainable flood management and allowing opportunities for future public access and recreation. The project will improve habitat quality, diversity, and connectivity over approximately 303 acres. Project elements will include restoration and enhancement of tidal and seasonal wetlands, lowland grasslands, upland grasslands, and scrub through invasive plant species control, excavation and grading, and revegetation; creation of new setback levees in the South Reach to provide sustainable flood protection; opportunities for future public access amenities, and protection of existing water and wastewater infrastructure in the North and South Reaches. The project will directly restore or create approximately 89 acres of tidal wetland, 15 acres of non-tidal wetland, 12 acres of tidal waters, 3 acres of non-tidal waters, and 100 acres of transitional and upland areas. The project will indirectly benefit the enhancement of approximately 85 acres of fringing marsh habitat adjacent to the project site by increasing tidal and habitat connectivity.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the above described project on 09/30/2020 and has made the following determinations regarding the project pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15096, subdivision (i):

1. The project will not have a significant effect on the environment. This determination is limited to effects within CDFW's permitting jurisdiction as a Responsible Agency.
2. CDFW considered the mitigated negative declaration / negative declaration prepared by the Lead Agency for this project pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15096, subdivision (f).
3. Mitigation measures were / were not made a condition of CDFW's approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan was / was not adopted by CDFW for this project.
5. A statement of overriding considerations was not adopted by CDFW for this project.
6. Findings were not made by CDFW pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15091.

Notice of Determination

The mitigated negative declaration / negative declaration prepared for the project is available to the general public at the office location listed above for the Lead Agency. CDFW's record of project approval as Responsible Agency is available at CDFW's regional office.

DocuSigned by:

Signature

Craig J Weightman

Date: September 30, 2020

Craig J. Weightman, Environmental Program Manager

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Date Received for filing at OPR: Oct 01 2020

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE