

Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Milburn Pond Isolation Project

Notice is hereby given that a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) prepared by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) is available for public review.

Project: Milburn Pond Isolation Project (State Clearinghouse No. 2020100145)

General Description: The proposed project would isolate an abandoned gravel pit known as Milburn Pond from the San Joaquin River channel to increase native fish survival by reducing movement of non-native warmwater fish species from the pond to the river and movement of native salmonids from the river to the pond.

Location: The project site is located in Fresno County and is bounded by the San Joaquin River to the north and the Fresno urban area to the south. Privately owned agricultural land and the San Joaquin Country Club are adjacent to the upstream portion of the project site, and the San Joaquin River Conservancy property currently leased to Bluff Pointe Golf Course and Learning Center is immediately downstream of the project site.

Impacts: Without mitigation, the proposed project would have significant or potentially significant impacts on air quality; biological resources; cultural resources and Tribal cultural resources; geology, soils and paleontology; hazards and hazardous materials; hydrology and water quality; recreation; and wildfire. Mitigation measures are proposed to reduce impacts to less-than-significant levels for all resources areas except recreation. No feasible mitigation measures are available to reduce the significant impact on water-based recreation opportunities associated with Milburn Pond. Therefore, this impact would be significant and unavoidable.

Review: The public review period for this DEIR begins April 2, 2021 and ends May 17, 2021. The DEIR is available at <https://ceqanet.opr.ca.gov/> by searching for State Clearinghouse No. 2020100145. The DEIR and all references cited in the DEIR also are available at <https://geiconsultants.sharefile.com/d-s914bbc9c098645c58ae6eb867a57d82c>.

Paper copies of the DEIR (including electronic files of all cited references) are available for review during walk-in business hours at:

Fresno County Public Library, Central Branch
2420 Mariposa Street
Fresno, CA 93721
Telephone: 559-600-7323

Walk-in library hours (at the time this Draft EIR was published):

10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday and 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday
(closed Sunday and closed to walk-in service Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday)

Madera County Library, Madera Headquarters
121 North G Street
Madera, CA 93637
Telephone: 559-675-7871

Walk-in library hours (at the time this Draft EIR was published):

10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Monday and Wednesday, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday
(closed Sunday and closed to walk-in service Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday)

Public Meeting

DWR will not conduct a public meeting on the Draft EIR.

Submit Comments

Comments regarding the DEIR should be submitted in writing to:

Ms. Karen Dulik
California Department of Water Resources
South Central Region Office
3374 E. Shields Avenue
Fresno, CA 93726
Telephone: 559-230-3361
Fax: 559-230-3301
E-mail: Karen.Dulik@water.co.gov

Comments are due no later than 5 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time on Monday, May 17, 2021.

If comments are provided via email, please include the project title in the subject line, attach comments in Microsoft Word or American Disabilities Act accessible Adobe Acrobat format, and include the commenter's U.S. Postal Service mailing address.

PRIVACY NOTE: All comments received will be made available for public review in their entirety, including the names and addresses of the respondents. Individual respondents may request that their name and/or address be withheld from public disclosure. DWR will honor such requests to the extent allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment.