

WILLOW CREEK COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

PROPOSED MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY FOR PUBLIC REVIEW

Brannan Mountain Water Storage Tank Project

DATE: December 23, 2020

TO: County of Humboldt Planning Department
California State Clearing House

ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBER

522-492-011-000

PROJECT SPONSOR: Willow Creek Community Services District (WCCSD)

PROJECT LOCATION:

The proposed project is located on the north side of the road, ½ mile up Brannan Mountain Road, off State Highway 96, in Willow Creek, CA. The project site is described below under Project Description.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Willow Creek CSD is proposing to construct and operate a tank in Pressure Zone 1. The proposed storage tank will be constructed in the middle of an unaddressed, 0.5-acre parcel (Assessor Parcel Number 522-492-011-000) that is owned by Willow Creek CSD. The tank will be constructed of bolted steel plates, and will be painted to blend with the surrounding tree colors. The steel tank will be constructed on a concrete ring wall foundation on an excavated and graded level area. In addition, the proposed project includes on-site pipelines, valves (above and below ground), drain lines, storm drain culverts, chain link fencing and gate, and asphalt pavement around the tank.

The final tank size will be determined after several factors are considered, including available funds. Two sizes of steel tank are analyzed in this Initial Study: a 72-foot diameter tank that can store 650,000 gallons of water; and a 60-foot diameter tank that can store 409,000 gallons (37% reduction in volume).

The existing access road (250 feet in length) between Brannan Mountain Road and the tank site will be widened and paved to a top width of 15 feet. The access road is located within a public utility easement and access easement that is approximately 40 feet wide and the entrance is along Brannan Mountain Road. The public utility easement is on a privately-owned 48-acre parcel (Assessor Parcel Number 522-492-012-000) that is adjacent to the parcel owned by Willow Creek CSD (the tank site).

Also proposed is a new water pipeline that connects the proposed water tank to the existing distribution system located at the intersection of Brannan Mountain Road and Stage Coach Lane. The proposed water pipeline is 12 inches in diameter and will be placed 36 inches below the existing surface of the ground. The pipeline will run for approximately 250 feet from the new tank to Brannan Mountain Road underneath the access road. Then, the pipeline will run for approximately 250 feet along the north shoulder of Brannan Mountain Road (and within the road right-of-way) to the northeast corner of the intersection of Brannan Mountain Road and Stage Coach Lane, where it will tie in to an existing 8-inch waterline.

INITIAL STUDY

This Initial Study is a public document to be used by the District to determine whether the Project may have a significant effect on the environment. Pursuant to the State of California "Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970," as amended to date, and the CEQA Guidelines adopted by WCCSD, a Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration has been prepared because no substantial evidence exists, as indicated in the attached Initial Study, that the proposed project may have a significant environmental effect. The Initial Study on the above-named project is included for your agency's review and comment. Should you wish to have a hard copy of any of these documents, please contact the undersigned at the district office.

This Notice of Availability serves as your agency's notice that the WCCSD intends to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the project identified above. As mandated by Public Resources Code § 21091, the minimum public review period for this document is 30 days. The public review period for the proposed project is from December 23, 2020 through January 28, 2021. **Comments must be received by 5 p.m. on the last day of the comment period, January 27, 2021.** Comments shall be sent to Susan O'Gorman, General Manager. email: susan@willowcreekcsd, or mail comments to:

General Manager
Willow Creek CSD
PO Box 8
Willow Creek, CA 95573

Final adoption of the Mitigated Negative Declaration will be considered on Thursday January 28th, 2021 at the WCCSD Board of Director's meeting, which commences at 8:00 am. Due to Covid-19, District meetings are being held online. ZOOM Meeting ID is 414 162 5718 (<https://zoom.us/j/4141625718>) or DIAL IN number 1-669-900-6833 (press *9 to raise your hand to speak). All comments received will be considered by the WCCSD Board of Directors when they meet to consider the adoption of the environmental document and project authorization.

PREPARED BY:



Susan O'Gorman, General Manager

12/23/2020

Date