

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

TO: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 212
Sacramento, CA, 95812-3044

FROM: Weaverville Community Services
District
P.O. Box 1510
Weaverville, CA 96093
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X County Clerk
County of Trinity
P.O. Box 1215
Weaverville, CA 96093

SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code.

State Clearinghouse Number (if submitted to State Clearinghouse): 2021080288

Project Title: East Weaver Creek Dam Removal and Intake Relocation Project (Phase I)

Project Applicant: Northwest California Resource Conservation & Development Council

Project Location: The project is located in Trinity County, Section 30, Township 34N, Range 9W, MDB&M (40.73525, -122.93026). It is accessible by traveling north on Highway 3 from Weaverville to East Weaver Creek Road. At East Weaver Creek Road, turn left from Highway 3 and proceed 2.5 miles to the access road to the Weaverville Community Services Districts' facilities.

Project Description:

The project will remove a minor dam, the East Weaver Creek Dam, install a screened intake, and allow fish passage while maintaining water reliability to the community of Weaverville. The East Weaver Creek Dam is rated in poor condition due to repairs or modifications required to maintain the structure operationally. Deficiencies are evident on visual inspection of the dam including: loss of concrete apron segments, concrete spalling, exposed rebar, water flows interstitially through the dam's rock structure, sediment filling upstream, and bed scour below the base of the dam. The East Weaver Creek Dam is a complete barrier to aquatic species including the threatened coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*). It is recognized as the only complete barrier to upstream fish migration for all life stages of all fish species in East Weaver Creek.

Phase I will install new intake screens, pipes, and infrastructure approximately 270' upstream and on the east bank of East Weaver Creek. The water system will continue to operate while retaining the existing intake system through a winter period in order to assess performance.

The expected results of the proposed project will have short-term impacts to aquatic habitats from temporary increases in suspended sediment loads into the water column as the stream channel adjusts and the eventual transport and deposition of sediment onto fisheries habitat that exist immediately downstream. The long-term impacts would be beneficial, improving water reliability and security for the WCSD by replacing the aging dam and intake with a new intake system that is not dependent on damming the stream. In the process, the project will restore natural bedload, debris transport, and access to ~2.5 miles of high-quality, cold-water salmonid habitat in the upstream reaches of East Weaver Creek. The project will eliminate or reduce mortality to aquatic species migrating downstream or that are currently directed into the unscreened intake and treatment plant. The project would also affirm the quantified water right of the WCSD as 1.73 cubic feet per second (cfs) and include monitoring of intake flows.

This is to advise that the Weaverville Community Services District has approved the above
(Lead Agency or Responsible Agency)
described project on _____ and has made the following determinations regarding the described project.

1. The project [will will not] have a significant effect on the environment.
2. An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
 A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures [were were not] made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan [was was not] adopted for this project.
5. A statement of Overriding Considerations [was was not] adopted for this project.
6. Findings [were were not] made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

This is to certify that the final Initial Study/Negative Declaration with comments and responses and record of project approval, or the Negative Declaration, is available to the General Public at: http://www.5counties.org/ewd_removal.html.

Signature (Public Agency):  Date: 10-20-21
Tim Kasper
General Manger Date Received for filing at OPR: _____