

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT AN INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Date: November 18, 2022

To: Interested Parties

SWRCB FA No.: D16-02036

From: Feather River Canyon Community Services District

RE: Old Mill Ranch Water Supply Project

Project Location and Description

The Feather River Canyon Community Services (FRCCSD) encompasses nine small water systems in eight non-contiguous areas in Plumas County known as Grey's Flat, Maple Leaf/Little Indian Creek, Old Mill Ranch, Paxton, Tobin, and Twain along SR-70. The FRCCSD Old Mill Ranch water system's approximate range of elevation is from 2,757 to 2,820 feet above sea level (asl).

In the Old Mill Ranch Community, water service is provided to approximately 24 residential service connections. The FRCCSD Old Mill Ranch water system consists of one active well, one unequipped well, one storage tank, distribution piping, and appurtenances.

The Water Supply Project (Project) consists of the conversion of the existing Old Mill Ranch water system to non-potable water use, and the addition of infrastructure including pipelines, transmission lines, equipping of well, and associated infrastructure for a new potable water system. The Project is proposed by FRCCSD and benefits the Old Mill Ranch community. FRCCSD anticipates receiving funding assistance to implement the Project from the Division of Financial Assistance of the State Water Resources Control Board

Declaration

FRCCSD has determined that the above project, with mitigation measures, would have no significant impact on the environment and is therefore exempt from the requirement of an environmental impact report. The determination is based on the attached Draft Initial Study and the following findings:

1. The Project will not degrade environmental quality, substantially reduce habitat, cause a wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, reduce the number or restrict the range of special-status species, or eliminate important examples of California history or prehistory.
2. The Project does not have the potential to achieve short-term environmental goals to the disadvantage of long-term environmental goals.
3. The Project will not have impacts that are individually limited but cumulatively considerable.
4. The Project will not have environmental effects that will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly.
5. No substantial evidence exists that the Project will have a negative or adverse effect on the environment.
6. The Project incorporates all applicable mitigation measures or environmental commitments identified in the Draft Initial Study (attached).
7. This draft Mitigated Negative Declaration reflects the independent judgment of the lead agency.

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

A draft Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) was prepared for the project and made part of the draft Mitigated Negative Declaration to address and mitigate potential impacts to biological and cultural resources, and to air quality, noise, and soils conditions.

Public Workshop

A public workshop will be held as part of Board of Directors meeting at 5pm, on December 13, 2022, in the Twain area at the location noted in that meeting's agenda. During this presentation, the proposed project, and the anticipated mitigation measures to address potential impacts will be presented.

Public Hearing

Feather River Canyon Community Services District anticipates conducting a public hearing as part of its regular board meeting at 5pm, on January 10, 2023, in the Twain area at the location noted in that meeting's agenda. The Board of Directors of the Feather River Community Services District will consider the adoption of the CEQA Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration and a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and will authorize filing of a Notice of Determination, for the Water Supply Project.

Document Review

The Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration document are available for public review in person during normal business hours at the Plumas County Library (445 Jackson Street, Quincy, CA 95971), at the webportal of State of California's Office of Planning and Research (<https://ceqanet.opr.ca.gov/>), and upon request of FRCCSD at reynrick1@comcast.net.

The public comment period will be until 5pm pm on December 27, 2022.

Submit comments to:

By mail,

Feather River Canyon Community Services District
P.O. Box 141
Twain, CA 95984

Attn: Rick Reynolds, Project Coordinator

By email,

reynrick1@comcast.net

Please utilize this subject line with correspondence: FRCCSD – Old Mill Ranch – CEQA Comment

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