

Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

Form F

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #: _____

Project Title: Roy's Redwoods Restoration Project

Lead Agency: Marin County Open Space District (MCOSD)

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Project Location: Woodacre, Marin County

City

County

Project Description (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences).

The purpose of the proposed project is to implement the MCOSD Road and Trail Management Plan (RTMP) to provide the public with a safe multi-use trail system to enhance the visitor experience, reduce the environmental impacts on sensitive resources by reducing sedimentation and erosion, and establish a sustainable system of roads and trails that meet design and management standards and would provide year-round access along the trail network. The proposed project includes 5,670 feet of trail upgrade and realignment to environmental conditions and 1,900 feet of trail upgrade to inclusive access standards. One new ADA parking stall would be installed as would two new designated entryways adjacent to Nicasio Valley Rd. The existing entryway would be upgraded along with relocation of an existing porta-toilet. 6,465 feet of social trail would be decommissioned. Proposed ecological and hydrological restoration would include reestablishment of a multi-threaded Stage Zero channel through the valley floor to reconnect Upper Larsen Ck to the surrounding floodplain, reduce erosion, restore hydrologic function, and increase the groundwater table. About 77,170 square feet of heavy visitor use areas would be restored to improve infiltration and reduce soil compaction.

Identify the project's significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

Projects to implement the RTMP must include RTMP policies and best management practices to reduce environmental impacts and to protect resources. All relevant measures for the project type and project location are incorporated into the project. The evaluation of impacts from the proposed project identified the need for four mitigation measures. The RTMP does not include BMPs regarding protection of dusty-footed woodrat nests. Dusty-footed woodrats provide an important food source for northern spotted owls, and loss of existing woodrat nests during implementation of the proposed project would remove their food source. Mitigation Measure BIO-1 requires the identification and protection of dusty-footed woodrat nests is included. The RTMP includes measures to protect nesting birds; however, the BMP does not provide buffers by species or guild. The MCOSD would implement the Mitigation Measure BIO-2 to protect nesting birds during critical nesting time periods. The RTMP does not include BMPs to address tree pruning. While tree pruning required to implement the proposed project would be minimal and would not result in a potentially significant environmental impact, the MCOSD would implement Mitigation Measure BIO-3 to protect native trees, and the measure articulates the necessary tree replacement ratios to reduce any impacts to less than significant levels.

Construction of the proposed project may require implementation of measures to reduce construction-period traffic hazards along Nicasio Valley Road. These measures are described in Mitigation Measure TRA-1.

If applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

During public meetings held during the development phase of the project, members of the public raised potential parking issues along Nicasio Valley Road during project construction and project operations. Potential increases in visitation and result environmental impacts was raised as an issue. Visitors expressed a strong desire to main visitor access to key areas within the valley floor. All issues are addressed in the IS/Proposed MND.

Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board

California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)

Marin County

Project Description (Continued)

The project includes the following elements, which are summarized below and fully described in the Project Description section of the IS/MND:

Ecological and Hydrologic Restoration:

Reestablish a multi-threaded Stage Zero wetland-channel complex to reconnect Upper Larsen Creek to its surrounding floodplain, reduce erosion, restore hydrologic functions, and increase infiltration and raise the groundwater table, rehabilitate approximately 77,170 square feet of heavy visitor use areas throughout the valley floor to reduce soil compaction and increase conditions for natural regeneration of vegetation, halt development and persistence of incised channel reaches of Upper Larsen Creek through the valley floor using large and small wood structures, and re-orient existing fallen trees and downed branches and obtain and place additional logs, where needed, through the floodplain to improve natural hydrologic function by slowing and spreading water throughout the floodplain to allow flows to infiltrate into the soil.

Trail Improvements:

Upgrade and realign approximately 5,670 feet of existing trails to improve drainage, prevent future erosion and sedimentation, meet RTMP trail design standards and upgrade approximately 1,900 feet of existing trails to meet Marin County Parks Inclusive Access Plan standards for an Access and Discovery Trail.

Parking and Entryway Improvements:

Develop two new designated entryways and improve the existing entryway adjacent to Nicasio Valley Road, relocate the existing porta-toilet out of the floodplain and closer to the existing entryway, install one inclusive access parking spot on the shoulder of Nicasio Valley Road, and reinstall fencing along the Nicasio Valley Road shoulder.

Social Trail Decommissioning:

Decommission approximately 6,465 feet of existing social trails located in sensitive areas using passive trail closure methods and active methods that involve heavy equipment and hand tools.

Visitor Education:

Install new fencing and visitor information signage to notify visitors of closed trails and discourage development of new social trails, construct a Nature Exploration Area and Scramble, provide visitor interpretive services.