Print Form

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: IS/MND for the Woodland Area Gravity Sewer Improvement Project

Lead Agency: Ross Valley Sanitary District

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Project Location: Kentfield (*City*) Marin (*County*)

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

See Attachment A.

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

See Attachment A.

Revised September 2011

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

None.

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

Marin County

ATTACHMENT A

Project Description

The RVSD Project entails the construction and rehabilitation, within the existing alignment, of sanitary sewer mains and related appurtenances within the unincorporated community of Kent Woodlands.

The Project plans to replace approximately 4,277 linear feet of existing sanitary sewer mains ranging in size from 6-inch (in.) to 8-in. of vitrified clay pipe with 8-in. to 12-in. high-density polyethylene (HDPE) pipe via pipe bursting, open cut, and jack-and-bore or directional drilling methods. Depths of excavation may range from 5 to 12 ft. Figure 1 in Attachment B shows the project alignments with associated construction methods used. Several creek crossings are located in the Project area along Tamalpais Creek. Work occurring at or near creek crossings is detailed below:

- Creek Crossing 1 (Woodland Road near Laurel Way): Tamalpais Creek flows beneath Woodland Road through a culvert. Work would occur within Tamalpais Creek to remove the old, suspended pipes within the culvert. The pipes would be cut back and capped, and the concrete walls of the culvert would be repaired. The pipes outside the culvert would be abandoned by filling with slurry. These pipes would be replaced with a double-barrel siphon installed under the creek, and any disturbance to the bed or bank of the channel would be avoided. Work may entail excavation by jack-and-bore or directional drilling.
- Creek Crossing 2 (Woodland Road near Acorn Way—private property): Open cut construction would be used to remove the existing pipes that are exposed in the Tamalpais Creek channel and a new sewer main beneath the creek bed would be installed. The creek channel will be restored and replaced with constructed riffles.

  The total area disturbed would be 0.001 acre. Approximately 2.9 cubic yards of existing 6-in. vitrified clay pipe will be removed from the channel bed. Excavation depth at the sewer line would be approximately 4 ft. Approximately 75 ft^2 of existing channel bed materials would be excavated to prepare for the constructed riffle. Excavation depth at the channel bed will be approximately 2 ft. Native channel bed materials will be excavated and stockpiled for use in the constructed riffle. Any non-natural materials, such as asphalt, will be removed from the stockpile.

Following the demolition, engineered streambed material (including boulders and cobbles) would be imported and staged on private property adjacent to the sewer crossing. The exposed subgrade would be compacted prior to the installation of the engineered streambed materials. Imported rock would be installed along with the native bed materials stockpiled onsite. The Contractor, under the direction of the design team, would construct the riffle in layers using the stockpiled boulders, cobbles, and salvaged bed materials.

The area adjacent to the sewer line, and the construction access corridor, will be cleared and grubbed of invasive species. Existing streambank vegetation is currently dominated by English ivy and will be replaced by locally sourced box elder, California buckeye, western thimbleberry, and red flowering currant. A total of 775 ft^2 of planted banks will receive 4 in. of mulch. All exposed soil surfaces outside of the active channel will be covered with a 100 percent biodegradable erosion control fabric and stapled in place, and two rows of wattles will be installed on the slope revegetated slopes.

Following the completion of the constructed riffle, the equipment will be removed from the channel bed. The access route will be relandscaped and vegetated, and areas of excavation will be covered with erosion-control fabric.

- Creek Crossing 3 (Woodland Road—private property): Tamalpais Creek flows beneath a culvert underneath the adjacent backyard. The sanitary sewer main would be replaced via pipe bursting.
- Creek Crossing 4 (Woodland Road past Upland Road): Tamalpais Creek flows beneath Woodland Road via a 36-in. concrete culvert. The sanitary sewer main would be replaced via pipe bursting, with no impact to the concrete culvert or Tamalpais Creek. All work where Woodland Road crosses Tamalpais Creek would be conducted within the paved section of Woodland Road via pipe bursting methods. The new sewer alignment would match the existing alignment for the entire section that crosses Tamalpais Creek. No work would be conducted in Tamalpais Creek.

Mitigation Measures

Mitigation Measure BIO-1

Adequate measures shall be taken to avoid inadvertent take of bird nests protected under the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act and state fish and game code when in active use. This shall be accomplished by taking the following steps:

- If initial construction is proposed during the nesting season (March 1 to August 31), a focused survey for nesting raptors and other migratory birds shall be conducted by a qualified biologist within 7 days prior to the onset of construction to determine whether any active nests are present in the Project area and surrounding vicinity (within 50 ft for songbirds and 250 ft for raptors) of proposed construction. The survey shall be reconducted any time construction has been delayed or curtailed for more than 7 days during the nesting season.

- If no active nests are identified during the construction survey period, or development is initiated during the non-breeding season (September 1 to January 31), construction may proceed with no restrictions.

- If bird nests are found, an adequate setback shall be established around the nest location and construction activities restricted within this no-disturbance zone until the qualified biologist has confirmed that any young birds have fledged and are able to function outside of the nest location. The size of the buffer may be determined by the biologist based on species and proximity to activities but should generally be between 50 ft for songbirds and up to 250 ft for nesting raptors. As necessary, the no-disturbance zone shall be delineated if construction is to be initiated elsewhere in the Project area and surrounding vicinity to make it clear that the area should not be disturbed.

- A report of findings shall be prepared by the qualified biologist and submitted to RVSD or designated agent for review and approval prior to initiation of construction during the nesting season (March 1 to August 31). The report shall either confirm absence of any active nests or confirm that any young are located within a designated no-disturbance zone and construction can proceed. No report of findings is required if construction is initiated during the non-breeding season (September 1 to January 31) and continues uninterrupted according to the above criteria.

Mitigation Measure BIO-2

Pre-construction surveys for California red-legged frog and foothill yellow-legged frog shall be conducted prior to initiation of Project activities within 48 hours of the start of ground disturbance activities. Surveys are to be conducted by an approved qualified biologist with experience surveying for each species. If Project activities are stopped for greater than 7 days, a follow-up preconstruction survey may be required within 48 hours prior to reinitiation of Project activities. If California red-legged frog is detected during the survey, RVSD will consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). If foothill yellow-legged frog is detected, RVSD will consult with the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFW).

Pre-construction surveys for Western pond turtle and California giant salamander shall be conducted prior to initiation of Project activities within 48 hours of the start of ground disturbance activities. Surveys are to be conducted by an approved qualified biologist with experience surveying for each species. If Project activities are stopped for greater than 7 days, a follow-up pre-construction survey may be required within 48 hours prior to reinitiation of Project activities. If either of these species are found during surveys, CDFW will be notified via email. If Western pond turtle enters any of the Project area during construction, it will be relocated by the Project biologist to similar suitable habitat beyond the work area heading in the same direction it was found while moving through the area. If Western pond turtle is listed as a candidate species prior to the start of activities, then relocation would only occur following consultation with USFWS upon issuance of an incidental take permit. If California giant salamander are found during construction, they will be removed by the Project biologist and relocated to a similar habitat situated outside of the work area but within close proximity.

Mitigation Measure BIO-3

To the extent feasible, tree trimming will be performed outside the maternity season (between September 1 to April 15) to avoid the period when hoary bats and others may be present. If not possible, an acoustic emergence survey shall be performed to determine if bats are present including any solitary species. If present, the roost shall be avoided until after September 1 to ensure no significant effects to maternity bat roosts occur.

Mitigation Measure BIO-4

All in-water construction activities are expected to occur during the dry season (June 15 to October 15) when the channel is typically dry. However, if water is unexpectedly present or if groundwater is encountered and dewatering must occur, a fish handling and relocation plan would be developed by the approved aquatic biologist in coordination with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and/or CDFW. Individual organisms would be relocated the shortest distance possible to an adjacent upstream area with sufficient aquatic habitat. Within occupied habitat, capture, handling, exclusion, and relocation activities would be completed no earlier than 48 hours before construction begins. If electrofishing is conducted, it must be performed by an approved biologist following NMFS guidelines.[1]

During fish relocation, all organisms would be kept in water to the maximum extent possible, and captured coho salmon and steelhead would be kept in cool, shaded, well-aerated water and protected from disturbance and overcrowding until they are released. To avoid predation, separate containers would be used: one for young-of-the-year steelhead, and one for second- or third-year steelhead. Captured fish would be relocated to suitable

[1] NMFS. 2000. Guidelines for Electrofishing Waters Containing Salmonids Listed Under the Endangered Species Act. National Marine Fisheries Service.

upstream rearing habitat that is as close to the dewatered area as possible while meeting the survival needs (adequate water quality/quantity, cover, and forage) of both the relocated individuals and the fish already inhabiting the relocation site.

Mitigation Measure CUL-1

Prior to project implementation, a Cultural and Tribal Resources Testing and Monitoring Plan (Plan) will be prepared by a qualified archaeological consultant. The Plan will discuss the testing and monitoring procedures, field methods, communication protocols, and inadvertent discovery actions to be taken in the event cultural resources are identified during testing, monitoring, and/or any project activities. The Plan will be developed in coordination with FIGR.

Based on the results of the testing and in coordination with the RVSD and FIGR, monitoring by an archaeologist and tribal monitor may also be required to observe excavated soils that are removed during construction activities.

Mitigation Measure CUL-2

Upon approval of the Plan, archaeological testing will occur in areas determined to be sensitive for subsurface cultural resources. Testing will take place prior to project implementation and will be coordinated in advance with FIGR. A tribal monitor will be present during all testing. Testing will occur within the Project area. Where testing is not feasible, Mitigation Measure CUL-1 will be implemented.

Mitigation Measure CUL-3

Construction crews shall be trained in basic archaeological identification and have access to an Alert Sheet. The Alert Sheet shall photographically depict shell midden and associated indicators of prehistoric archaeological sites, and clearly outline the procedures in the event of new archaeological discovery. These procedures include temporary work stoppage (Stop Work Order) of all ground disturbance, short-term physical protection of artifacts and their context, and immediate advisement of the archaeological team and RVSD representatives. Any Stop Work Order would contain a description of the work to be stopped, special instructions or requests for the Contractor, suggestions for efficient mitigation, and a time estimate for the work stoppage. The archaeologist shall notify the tribal representative, examine the findings and assess their significance, and offer recommendations for any procedures deemed appropriate to further investigate and/or mitigate adverse impacts to those cultural resources that have been encountered.

Mitigation Measure CUL-4

Upon discovery of human remains, the Coroner Division of the Marin County Sheriff's Office will be contacted for identification of the remains. The Coroner has 2 working days to examine the remains after being notified.

If the remains are Native American, the Coroner must notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) of the discovery within 24 hours. The NAHC will then identify and contact a Most Likely Descendant (MDL). The MDL may make recommendations to the owner, or representative, for the treatment or disposition, with proper dignity, of the remains and grave goods. Once proper consultation has occurred, a procedure that may include the preservation, excavation, analysis, and curation of artifacts and/or reburial of those remains and associated artifacts will be formulated and implemented.

If the remains are not Native American, the Coroner will consult with the archaeological research team and the lead agency to develop a procedure for the proper study, documentation, and ultimate disposition of the remains. If a determination can be made as to the likely identity—either as an individual or as a member of a group—of the remains, an attempt should be made to identify and contact any living descendants or representatives of the descendant community. As interested parties, these descendants may make recommendations to the owner, or representative, for the treatment or disposition, with proper dignity, of the remains and grave goods. Final disposition of any human remains or associated funerary objects will be determined in consultation between RVSD and FIGR.