



NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION BOLINAS LAGOON WYE WETLANDS RESILIENCY PROJECT

Bolinas, Marin County, California

July 5, 2023

The Marin County Open Space District (MCOSD) is proposing a project to reconstruct the physical and biological linkages between Lewis Gulch Creek and Bolinas Lagoon by realigning Olema Bolinas Road and Lewis Gulch Creek, and removing the extension of Fairfax Bolinas Road (Crossover Road) to allow space for natural geomorphic and biological processes to occur. MCOSD has prepared an Initial Study/Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

PURPOSE OF THE NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION (NOI): The purpose of the NOI is to initiate the 30-day public review and comment period on the IS/MND. The document and the online comment form is available for review on the Marin County Parks website at [Bolinas Lagoon Wye Wetlands Resiliency Project](#). Hard copies of the IS/MND are available at the MCOSD's Administrative office, address listed below, at the Civic Center Library located at 3501 Civic Center Dr, Room 427, San Rafael, CA, at the Bolinas Library located at 14 Wharf Rd, Bolinas, CA, and at the Stinson Beach Library located at 3521 Shoreline Hwy, Stinson Beach, CA.

COMMENT PERIOD AND HOW TO SUBMIT COMMENTS: The comment period on the IS/MND is **July 5, 2023 to August 4, 2023 at 5:00pm**. Comments can be submitted online using the online comment form at [Bolinas Lagoon Wye Wetlands Resiliency Project](#), by email, or USPS as follows:

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PROJECT TITLE: Bolinas Lagoon Wye Wetlands Resiliency Project

PROJECT LOCATION: Latitude 37.93400 N; Longitude 122.69856 W, Southwest and southeast of State Route 1/Olema Bolinas Road intersection, Bolinas, Marin County, California

SUMMARY OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT: The purpose of the proposed project is to restore physical and ecological linkages between Lewis Gulch Creek and Bolinas Lagoon by realigning both Olema Bolinas Road and Lewis Gulch Creek and removing an extension of Fairfax Bolinas Road (Crossover Road). The main goal of the project is to restore hydrologic, geomorphic, and ecological processes in the Bolinas Wye wetlands to restore and improve the resiliency of in stream, tidal wetlands, riparian, and upland habitats with sea level rise and climate change. It will also protect the existing transportation access along Olema Bolinas Road for the town of Bolinas during scenarios consisting of up to 5.5 feet of sea level rise and a 100-year storm event (8 feet combined). The project includes the following elements, which are summarized below and fully described in the Project Description section of the IS/MND:

Intersection Realignment and New Bridge: The intersection at Olema Bolinas Road and State Route 1 (SR-1) would be moved approximately 150 feet to the south. The new approach of Olema Bolinas Road to SR-1 would include a bridge over Lewis Gulch Creek that would allow for lateral stream migration and provide a wildlife corridor.

Roadway Removal and Hydrologic Restoration: Upstream of Olema Bolinas Road, the left bank (eastern side) of Lewis Gulch Creek adjacent to SR-1 would be stabilized using bioengineering techniques. Downstream of Olema Bolinas Road, a new channel would be constructed for Lewis Gulch Creek within the center of the Wye wetland to flow over its former alluvial fan and restore geomorphic processes to the wetland. The section of Fairfax Bolinas ('Crossover') Road that passes through the Bolinas Wye wetland between SR-1 and Olema Bolinas Road would be permanently removed to allow for the realignment of Lewis Gulch Creek and to allow for wetland migration with 8 feet of sea level rise and storm surge.

Ecological Restoration: The project would implement ecological restoration techniques to supplement bioengineering work conducted for hydrologic restoration. Streambank stabilization would include the placement of large woody debris, rootwads, and live arroyo willow branches and rooted cuttings, which would also enhance habitat for fish and wildlife species. Non-native invasive species would be removed. Removed native trees would be replaced and reused on-site. Revegetation would occur in multiple areas within the project site and would utilize local native species. Continuing vegetation management would be implemented to control invasive vegetation and promote healthy native habitats for endemic plant and wildlife species of the area.

SUMMARY OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES: The IS/MND identified potentially significant environmental impacts in the areas of Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Hydrology/Water Quality, Noise, and Transportation. Mitigation measures to reduce the significance of these impacts to a less-than-significant level are included in the IS/MND. The IS/MND concludes that, with implementation of the mitigation measures, the proposed project would not result in significant environmental impacts.

CONTACT: Please contact Veronica Pearson, Senior Ecological Restoration Planner at vpearson@marincounty.org for additional information.