



## Notice of Availability and Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration

<b>Date:</b>	Wednesday, March 13, 2024
<b>Project Title:</b>	Phoenix – Bon Tempe Connection Project
<b>Project Location:</b>	Fish Grade Road near Phoenix Lake Road and Filter Plant Road, Unincorporated Marin County
<b>Project Sponsor:</b>	Marin Municipal Water District (Marin Water) 220 Nellen Avenue, Corte Madera, CA 94925
<b>Staff Contact:</b>	Elysha Irish, (415) 945-1572, <a href="mailto:eirish@marinwater.org">eirish@marinwater.org</a> .

### To Whom It May Concern:

This notice is to inform you of the availability of the environmental review document concerning the proposed Project as described below. The document is a Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND), containing information about the possible environmental effects of the proposed Project. The Draft IS/MND documents the determination by Marin Water that the proposed Project could not have a significant adverse effect on the environment. Preparation of an IS/MND does not indicate a decision by Marin Water to carry out or not to carry out the proposed Project. That decision will be made at a regularly noticed meeting of Marin Water's Board of Directors, currently scheduled for Tuesday, April 30, 2024.

**Project Description:** Marin Water proposes to improve operational efficiency and flexibility and allow for more frequent use of Phoenix Lake water without the intensive system modifications that are required under current conditions. Marin Water would construct a dedicated 18-inch diameter raw water pipeline between the barge pump (Pump 1) in Phoenix Lake and the Bon Tempe Reservoir shoreline. Approximately 6,310 linear feet of new pipeline would be constructed and would mostly follow existing trails and fire roads. At Bon Tempe Reservoir, the pipeline would be installed alongside existing pipes and water would enter the reservoir from the Bon Tempe shoreline. No new inlets or outlets would be required for Phoenix Lake.

Two pumps would be required to convey the water over the 500-foot elevation change between the two lakes. Pump 1, the Barge Pump station, would be upsized and Pump 2 would be installed in a new building adjacent to the existing Phoenix Transfer Pump station. This pump station building would be approximately 20 feet long, 15 feet wide and 15 feet tall and would include a new 450 hp pump and associated electrical equipment. The new building would include noise attenuation measures such as louvers or venting that is oriented away from trail users and recreationists.

The Project would be constructed in two phases: Phase 1 would occur from August 1, 2024, to January 31, 2025, and Phase 2 would occur from August 1, 2025, to January 31, 2026, to avoid impacts to the Northern spotted owl. No construction activities would occur during the February 1 to July 31 nesting season. Construction staging, laydown, and worker parking would take place at existing parking/staging areas at Phoenix Lake and Bon Tempe Reservoir.

During Project operations, Phoenix Lake water would be moved to Bon Tempe Reservoir during dry years. Pumping would occur continuously over 28 days to convey a total of 260-acre feet of raw water at a rate of 3 million gallons per day, and could occur twice in one year for about 56 days. The water would only be conveyed during late fall to early winter and/or early to late spring but would not be conveyed during the summer or early fall when Phoenix Lake would not be able to refill before the dry season.

**Cortese List:** The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) are responsible for updating the Hazardous Waste and Substances Site List compiled pursuant to

Government Code Section 65962.5 (referred to as the “Cortese List”). An independent review of the hazardous materials databases confirms there are no active or closed hazardous materials sites within the Project site boundary (DTSC 2023; SWRCB 2023).

**Available for Review:** The Draft IS/MND is available to view or download from Marin Water’s web page (<https://www.marinwater.org/>). Paper copies of the IS/MND, and all documents cited in the IS/MND, are available for review during normal business hours at Marin Water, 220 Nellen Avenue, Corte Madera, CA 94925. Paper copies of the IS/MND are also available for review during normal business hours at the Sky Oaks Watershed Headquarters, on Sky Oaks Road.

If you have questions concerning environmental review of the proposed project, contact the staff contact listed above.

Within 30 calendar days following publication of the IS/MND (i.e., by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, April 12, 2024), any person may:

- 1) Review the IS/MND as an informational item and take no action, or;
- 2) Review the IS/MND and make recommendations for amending the text of the document. The text of the IS/MND may be amended to clarify or correct statements and may be expanded to include additional relevant issues or to cover issues in greater depth. Reviewers should focus on the sufficiency of the document in identifying and analyzing the possible impacts on the environment and ways in which the significant effects of the project might be avoided or mitigated. Comments are most helpful when they suggest additional specific mitigation measures that would provide better ways to avoid or mitigate the potentially significant environmental effects.

#### **References**

Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC). 2023. EnviroStor database. Hazardous materials sites in Marin County.

State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). 2023. GeoTracker database. Hazardous materials sites in Marin County.