

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

NOTICE IS HERE GIVEN that, as lead agency under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Solano Resource Conservation District (Solano RCD): 1) Has concluded that, after preparing an Initial Study, the Post-fire Riparian Forest Restoration and Arundo and Tamarisk Eradication Project (Project) would not have a significant effect on the environment with the implementation of mitigation measures described in the Initial Study; 2) Has prepared a proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Project; and 3) Anticipates recommending to the Solano RCD Board of Directors that it adopt the MND.

PROJECT TITLE: Post-fire Riparian Forest Restoration and Arundo and Tamarisk Eradication

LOCATION: The project area encompasses a total of 123,230 acres in a rural agricultural zone of northern California, between Sacramento and the San Francisco Bay Area (refer to Figure 2, project area map). Tree removal will be focused in the Pleasants Valley area within the easternmost reach of the LNU Lightning Complex in Solano County. Pleasants Creek flows north into Putah Creek, while the Ulatis, Alamo and Sweany creeks comprise the 150-square-mile Ulatis watershed. Tamarisk and arundo removal will be focused in the Ulatis watershed, which drains into the Sacramento-Bay Delta Watershed. This is vital area for water quality protection and improvement.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: The purpose of the Project is to address impacts from both the LNU Lightning Complex wildfires in 2020 and over a century of noxious weed invasion in riparian corridors. This project aims to remove priority trees identified in SRCD-conducted surveys that pose a threat to riparian habitats and to remove populations of invasive *Arundo donax* (Arundo) and *Tamarisk spp.* (tamarisk). The Project proposes to remove fire-killed trees in watercourse zones that threaten stream bank integrity and aquatic habitat; and to remove invasive Arundo and tamarisk to improve watershed function, water quality, and riparian habitat.

PUBLIC REVIEW: The proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration and Initial Study may be downloaded from Solano RCD's website at: <https://www.solanorcd.org/resources/public-notices-ceqa.html> These documents may also be reviewed at the Solano RCD office located at: 1170 North Lincoln Street, Suite 110, Dixon, CA 95620. Please call (707) 678-1655 ext. 111 to arrange an appointment during business hours (Monday-Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.).

REVIEW PERIOD: The 30-day public review period begins February 21, 2025 and ends on March 23, 2025.

CONTACT: Please send your written comments during the review period to: Karin Young, Solano RCD; 1170 North Lincoln Street, Suite 110, Dixon, CA 95620; karin.young@solanorcd.org. When sending comments, please include the commenter's name, U.S. Postal Service mailing address, phone number and e-mail address.

GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 65962.5 The project site is not on database lists maintained by the California Department of Toxic Substances Control or the California State Water Resources Control Board for known hazardous waste facilities or disposal sites.