



2017012007

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (DRAFT EIR) FOR THE BIODIVERSITY, FIRE, AND FUELS INTEGRATED PLAN PURSUANT TO THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT AND NOTICE OF A PUBLIC MEETING TO PROVIDE COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT EIR

DATE: March 21, 2019
TO: Interested Parties
FROM: Marin Municipal Water District
220 Nellen Avenue, Corte Madera, CA 94925
SUBJECT: Public Release of the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Draft Biodiversity, Fire, And Fuels Integrated Plan

The Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) (SCH# 2017012007) for the Biodiversity, Fire, and Fuels Integrated Plan (BFFIP) is now available for review. Public comment on the Draft EIR is invited for a 47-day period extending from Thursday, March 21, 2019 through Monday, May 6, 2019. More information is provided below.

Project Location: The BFFIP would be implemented on Marin Municipal Water District (District) lands in Marin County, California, across three administrative units, including:

- Mount Tamalpais Watershed (approximately 18,900 acres)
- Nicasio Reservoir Lands (approximately 1,600 acres)
- Soulajule Reservoir Lands (approximately 1,100 acres)

The Mount Tamalpais Watershed is in the southern portion of Marin County, the Soulajule Reservoir is in the north-central area of Marin County, and the Nicasio Reservoir is located between the Mount Tamalpais Watershed and the Soulajule Reservoir.

Project Description: The District proposes to implement the BFFIP on the District lands specified above. The BFFIP identifies 27 specific actions that are designed to achieve the goals of minimizing the risk from wildfires, preserving and enhancing existing significant biological resources, and allowing for an adaptive framework for the periodic review and revision of BFFIP implementation in response to changing conditions and improved knowledge. Of these 27 actions, 19 are considered administrative and would not have direct or indirect impacts on the environment. These 19 actions would include inventorying and monitoring resources, partner collaboration, and planning for various District activities. The remaining eight management actions could have direct physical effects on the environment and include the use of hand tools and mechanical equipment to establish and maintain fuelbreaks and defensible spaces; to remove invasive plant species; and to improve and restore native ecosystems on watershed



lands. Herbicides are not included as part of the plan. All work would be performed using manual or mechanical methods. The BFFIP is available for review at: www.marinwater.org/bffip

Significant Effects of the Project: The District is the Lead Agency, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), for the BFFIP Draft EIR. Adoption and implementation of the BFFIP by the District is considered a discretionary action and is, therefore, subject to CEQA. The District has prepared the Draft EIR for the BFFIP pursuant to CEQA.

The Draft EIR identifies significant impacts from implementation of the BFFIP in the following CEQA environmental issue areas: air quality, biological resources, cultural and tribal cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gases, hazardous materials and fire hazards, hydrology and water quality, noise, recreation, and transportation and circulation, and cumulative effects. As described in the Draft EIR, many of these impacts can be fully mitigated but some cannot, and they would remain significant and unavoidable including air quality impacts and greenhouse gas emissions.

Addresses Where the Draft EIR is Available: The Draft EIR, the BFFIP, and other project materials are now available for public review and download at the District's website: www.marinwater.org/bffip

Printed copies of the Draft EIR are available for public review at the following locations during normal business hours:

MMWD Main Office

220 Nellan Avenue
Corte Madera, CA 94925

Bolinas Library

14 Wharf Road
Bolinas, CA 94924

Fairfax Library

2097 Sir Francis Drake Blvd
Fairfax, CA 94930

San Rafael Public Library

1100 E. St
San Rafael, CA 94901

Stinson Beach Library

3521 Shoreline Hwy
Stinson Beach, CA 94970

Corte Madera Library

707 Meadowsweet Dr
Corte Madera, CA 94925

Mill Valley Public Library

375 Throckmorton Ave
Mill Valley, CA 94941

Larkspur Library

400 Magnolia Ave
Larkspur, CA 94939

Town of San Anselmo Public Library

110 Tunstead Avenue
San Anselmo, CA 94960

Comment Period: The District published the Draft EIR on Thursday, March 21, 2019, beginning a 47-day review period that will end on Monday, May 6, 2019. Comments should be limited to assisting the District in evaluating the adequacy of the environmental analysis in the Draft EIR. Commenters should be aware that the District reserves the right to publish the name of commenters and the content of any and all comments received in preparing the Final EIR.

All comments on the Draft EIR must be received by the District no later than 5:00 pm on May 6, 2019 to be considered. Pursuant to Section 15088a of the CEQA Guidelines, late comments will be considered only at the District's discretion. Comments must be directed to:

US Mail or Courier:

Shaun Horne, Natural Resources Manager
Marin Municipal Water District
220 Nellan Avenue
Corte Madera, CA 94925

Email: Shaun Horne, Natural Resources Manager
bffipeir@marinwater.org (maximum file size is 10 megabytes)

Public Meeting on the Draft EIR: The District will hold a public meeting to solicit agency and public input on the Draft EIR. This meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 10th at the Marin Municipal Water District Main Office on 220 Nellen Avenue, Corte Madera, CA 94925 from 7:00 to 9:00 PM.

Oral comments received during the public meeting regarding the environmental analysis will be considered in preparing the Final EIR. A transcriptionist will be available to record comments.

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact the District's Project Manager at shorne@marinwater.org. Meeting facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities. By request, alternative agenda document formats are available to persons with disabilities.

