

EXHIBIT 13-A

December 2016
Sleepy Hollow Steelhead Rearing Facility Raw Water Intake Water Supply
System Upgrade



Addendum to the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration

State Clearinghouse Number 2016091071

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1 Introduction

This document comprises an addendum to the Sleepy Hollow Steelhead Rearing Facility (SHSRF) Raw Water Intake and Water Supply System Upgrade Project (Project) Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND; State Clearinghouse No. 2016091071) adopted on November 14, 2016, by the Board of Directors of the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD). Since the adoption of the IS/MND, MPWMD has realized that changes to information supporting the approved Project are required, prompting preparation of this Addendum. The IS/MND erroneously identified Central California Coast distinct population segment (DPS) steelhead as potentially occurring at the Project site, and provided a description for that species. Central California Coast DPS steelhead would not be present at the Project site as it is not within the range of this DPS. Rather, the Project site provides habitat to South Central California Coast DPS steelhead.

This correction to the affected environment description in the IS/MND is described in detail in this Addendum. The correction does not affect any of the resource-specific impact determinations presented in the IS/MND. As discussed in this Addendum, an IS/MND continues to be the appropriate document for addressing environmental impacts of the approved Project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Pursuant to the CEQA Guidelines, Section 15164, this Addendum finds that the approved Project's effect on South Central California Coast DPS steelhead would be consistent with the findings of the November 14, 2016, IS/MND.

2 Purpose of this Addendum

Following the certification and adoption of a CEQA document, when a project is changed or there are changes in the environmental setting, a determination must be made by the lead agency as to whether an addendum or subsequent MND should be prepared. CEQA Guidelines, Sections 15162 and 15164, sets forth criteria to assess which environmental document is appropriate. An addendum is appropriate if the following are true:

- No new significant impacts will result from the project or from new mitigation measures.
- No substantial increase in the severity of environmental impact will occur.
- No new feasible alternatives or mitigation measures that would reduce impacts previously found not to be feasible have, in fact, been found to be feasible.

An addendum is not circulated for public review but can be included in or attached to the final adopted CEQA document. The decision-making body will consider the addendum with the final adopted negative declaration prior to making a decision on the project. Based upon the information provided in the following section of this document, the changes to the approved Project will not result in new significant impacts or substantially increase the severity of impact. Therefore, an

addendum is an appropriate means for addressing this correction, and this Addendum has been prepared to demonstrate that the corrections to the environmental setting would have no effect on the environmental impact analyses presented in the IS/MND.

3 Approved Project and Environmental Analysis

3.1 Background

The approved Project involves upgrading the SHSRF to improve both the reliability of the water supply intake and the quality of the intake water. The biological program for the SHSRF involves rescuing steelhead in drying portions of the river annually from May through September¹. Steelhead are reared at the facility until December or January, after which they are collected, transported downstream, and released back into the Carmel River. The timing for releasing fish back into the river is dictated by river flows; fish are released once high flows have been established for 2 to 4 weeks. February is the latest month that fish have been released back to the river. The long-term annual average number of steelhead rescued and brought to the SHSRF is 17,000; however, the number of fish brought to and reared at the facility annually is highly variable, with a high of 50,000 and a low of 2,000. More than 200,000 steelhead have been placed in the facility since the beginning of its operations.

Under existing conditions, the facility cannot achieve the water requirements for operation due to existing limitations with the intake system and conditions in the Carmel River. As a result, the facility has been unable to operate during several recent seasons.

3.2 Modifications to the Approved Project

The species description provided on page 57 of the IS/MND, including associated citations, should be replaced with the description provided in this addendum. All remaining text, including the impact analysis, determinations, and mitigation measures, remain unaffected, as demonstrated in the following section. Please note that the table included in Appendix B: Special Status Species with the Potential to Occur in the Study Area correctly identifies the South Central California Coast DPS steelhead as potentially occurring in the Project site.

Page 57 of the IS/MND describes Central California Coast DPS steelhead as potentially present and provides the following account of this species:

Central California Coast DPS Steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*). Steelhead are the anadromous, or ocean-going, form of the species *Oncorhynchus mykiss*. The life cycle of steelhead generally involves rearing in freshwater for

¹ Cal-Am and non-Cal-Am pumping for municipal use results in dewatering of up to about 8 miles of the lower river in the spring and summer in a large majority of years.

one to three years before migrating to the ocean, and spending from one to four years maturing in the marine environment before returning to spawn in freshwater (NMFS 2013). Steelhead are capable of surviving in a wide range of temperature conditions. They do best where dissolved oxygen concentration is at least 7 parts per million. In streams, deep low-velocity pools are important wintering habitats. Spawning habitat consists of gravel substrates free of excessive silt (NMFS 2015). The Central California Coast steelhead DPS comprises winter-run steelhead populations from the Russian River (Sonoma County), in stream tributaries to the San Francisco/San Pablo Bay system, and stretches south to Aptos Creek (Santa Cruz County; (NMFS 2011).

The Carmel River contains extensive and well-documented Central California Coast steelhead habitat, and the purpose of the SHSRF is to promote survivorship of steelhead individuals and the species itself.

The above text should be replaced with the text below, which identifies South Central California Coast DPS steelhead as present in the Project site and provides a species account:

South Central California Coast DPS Steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*).

Steelhead are the anadromous, or ocean-going, form of the species *Oncorhynchus mykiss*. The life cycle of steelhead generally involves rearing in freshwater for one to three years before migrating to the ocean, and spending from one to four years maturing in the marine environment before returning to spawn in freshwater (NMFS 2013). Steelhead are capable of surviving in a wide range of temperature conditions. They do best where dissolved oxygen concentration is at least 7 parts per million. In streams, deep low-velocity pools are important wintering habitats. Spawning habitat consists of gravel substrates free of excessive silt (NMFS 2015). The South Central California Coast DPS is comprised of a suite of steelhead populations that inhabit coastal stream networks from the Pajaro River south to, but not including, the Santa Maria River (NMFS 2016).

The Carmel River contains extensive and well-documented South Central California Coast DPS steelhead habitat, and the purpose of the SHSRF is to promote survivorship of steelhead individuals and the species itself.

The NMFS 2011 citation no longer applies to the Project and is replaced by the NMFS 2016 reference cited above.

3.3 Environmental Analysis

The following identifies how the correction to the environmental setting would affect the resource analyses presented in the November 14, 2016, IS/MND. As shown below, no changes to the impact analyses presented in the IS/MND for any of these resource topics are required.

- **Aesthetics; agriculture and forestry resources; air quality; geology and soils; greenhouse gas emissions; hazards and hazardous materials; hydrology and water quality; land use and planning; mineral resources; noise; population and housing; public services; recreation; transportation/traffic; and utilities and service systems:** The correction of the steelhead DPS does not affect the impact analyses presented for these resource topics in the IS/MND. The impact determinations for these resource topics would remain consistent with those presented in the IS/MND.
- **Biological resources:** The biological resources impact analysis presented in the IS/MND considered the Project's impacts on the Central California Coast DPS steelhead and identified mitigation measures necessary to reduce these impacts. The nature of Project impacts on the Central California Coast DPS steelhead described in the IS/MND would be essentially the same as those on South Central California Coast DPS steelhead. Both the South Central California Coast and Central California Coast DPSs have identical conservation status (federally threatened), and the effects of the project on steelhead would be the same. The MPWMD will implement the mitigation measures presented in the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan to ensure that the Project's impacts on South Central California Coast DPS steelhead remain below levels considered significant. As such, the impact determinations would remain consistent with those presented in the IS/MND.
- **Cultural resources:** The correction of the steelhead DPS does not affect the cultural resources impact analysis presented in the IS/MND. The MPWMD will implement the mitigation measures for cultural resources presented in the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan. As such, the impact determinations would remain consistent with those presented in the IS/MND.
- **Mandatory findings of significance:** The correction of the steelhead DPS does not affect the mandatory findings of significance impact analysis presented in the IS/MND. MPWMD will implement the mitigation measures for biological and cultural resources presented in the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan to ensure that the Project's impacts remain below levels considered significant. The impact determinations would remain consistent with those presented in the IS/MND.

4 Conclusion

Based on the information provided in the previous section, the proposed modifications to the approved Project would not result in a measurable increase in environmental impacts over what was previously analyzed in the November 14, 2016, IS/MND, and no new mitigation measures would be required.

5 References

- Anchor QEA, 2016. *Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration, Sleepy Hollow Steelhead Rearing Facility Raw Water Intake and Water Supply System Upgrade*. September 2016.
- NMFS (National Marine Fisheries Service), 2011. *5-Year Review: Summary and Evaluation of Central California Coastal Steelhead DPS Northern California Steelhead DPS*. Cited: November 25, 2015. Available from: http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/pdfs/species/ccc_nc_steelhead_5yearreview.pdf.
- NMFS, 2013. *South Central California Steelhead Recovery Plan*. December 2013. Cited: November 25, 2015. Available from: http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/publications/recovery_planning/salmon_steelhead/domains/south_central_southern_california/2013_sccs_recoveryplan_final.pdf.
- NFMS, 2015. Steelhead Trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*). Updated: February 24, 2016. Cited: November 25, 2015. Available from: <http://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/pr/species/fish/steelhead-trout.html>.
- NMFS, 2016. South-Central/Southern California Coast Steelhead Recovery Planning Domain. *5-Year Review: South-Central California Coast Steelhead Distinct Population Segment*. March 24, 2016. Available from: http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/pdfs/species/sccc_steelhead_5yearreview.pdf.

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