

NOTICE OF PUBLIC REVIEW AND INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Project Name: An Ordinance to Amend District Rules and Regulations to Modify the Extent of the

Carmel River Riparian Corridor

Lead Agency: Monterey Peninsula Water Management District

Location: Carmel River, Monterey County, California

Review Period: Friday, February 22, 2019 to Monday, March 25, 2019

Project Description: The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (District) currently implements a comprehensive program to protect and restore water resources along the lower 15.4 miles of the main stem of the Carmel River. The District desires to extend this program upstream by 13.5 miles, such that all properties between the Pacific Ocean and the Ventana Wilderness boundary would be included in the program. The definition of the Carmel River Riparian Corridor, which includes area within 25 lineal feet of the 10% chance flood line, and the District Rules concerning activities in the Riparian Corridor of the Carmel River would apply to all the properties in this reach of the river.

If the Mitigated Negative Declaration is approved and the District adopts an Ordinance to implement a change to the District program, the District would regulate activities along the Carmel River main stem between the Pacific Ocean and the Ventana Wilderness.

The District's Rules instruct staff what services the District can provide to property owners adjacent to the river and also describes regulations concerning activities within the riparian corridor. Rules concerning activities within the Riparian Corridor are not proposed to be changed; however, if approved by the District, property owners affected by the new ordinance will be required to secure a permit from the District for certain activities within the riparian corridor that could alter the bed or banks of the river.

Mitigated Negative Declaration: Because circumstances are essentially the same, the District intends to rely on the previously certified 1984 Final EIR for the Carmel River Management Program to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The District has prepared a Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the project. The District has determined that the project will not have a significant impact on the environment with implementation of mitigation measures as noted in the Draft IS/MND.

Public Comment Period: The public and all affected agencies are hereby invited to review the Draft IS/MND and submit written comments. The Board of Directors will hold a Public Hearing to consider adoption of the IS/MND on April 15, 2019. The Draft IS/MND is currently available for review on the District's website (http://www.mpwmd.net/regulations/public-notices/ceqa/) or in hardcopy at the District's office at 5 Harris Court, Building G (Ryan Ranch), Monterey, California 93940.

Comments should be submitted to Larry Hampson, District Engineer, at the address below, by email at larry@mpwmd.net, or by regular mail at:

Larry Hampson, District Engineer Monterey Peninsula Water Management District P.O. Box 85 Monterey, California 93942