

# MONTEREY COUNTY

MONTEREY COUNTY WATER RESOURCES AGENCY  
893 BLANCO CIRCLE, SALINAS, CA 93901-4455  
(831) 755-5159 FAX: (831) 424-7935



## NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION MONTEREY COUNTY WATER RESOURCES AGENCY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Monterey County Water Resources Agency has prepared a Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration, pursuant to the requirements of CEQA Guidelines §15072, for a Floodplain Restoration Project located south of the State Route 1 Carmel River Bridge on property owned by the California Department of State Parks, Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District, California Department of Transportation, Big Sur Land Trust, and Clint and Margaret Eastwood (see description below). The Project does not involve the burning of municipal wastes, hazardous waste, or refuse-derived fuel and is not on a list enumerated under Section 65962.5 of the Government Code. The Mitigated Negative Declaration and Initial Study and referenced documents are available for review at the following address:

Monterey County Water Resources Agency  
893 Blanco Circle, Salinas, California 939401-4455

The Monterey County Water Resources Agency Board of Directors will consider this proposal at a meeting on **March 28, 2011 at 2:00 PM** or soon thereafter at the address above. Written comments on this Negative Declaration will be accepted from **February 17, 2011 to March 18, 2011**. Comments can also be made during the public hearing.

**Project Description:** The Carmel River Floodplain Restoration and Environmental Enhancement Project proposes to restore and enhance the hydrologic function and connectivity of the Odello East property with the lower Carmel River region and southern floodplain. The Project would: 1) restore approximately 90 acres of historic coastal wetlands, upland habitat, and/or riparian habitat on existing agricultural land to enhance the site's capacity to function as part of the historical Carmel River floodplain and to provide additional habitat to the lower Carmel River ecosystem; 2) create an approximately 40 acre agricultural preserve to achieve the goal of preserving the agricultural heritage of the Project area in a manner that is compatible with adjacent habitat; 3) replace a segment of State Route (SR) 1 with a 520-foot causeway to improve floodwater conveyance under the highway and reduce flood hazards to SR 1; and 4) remove approximately 2,400 feet of the south bank levee and "Blister" to allow the lateral dispersal of floodwater onto the south overbank area and Project site. Grading and planting of native species would also be completed within the restored floodplain to establish the topographic and riparian habitat diversity that characterizes floodplain environments in similar settings. The Proposed Project would address the long standing problems of floodplain constriction and flood management while preserving the site's agricultural heritage and improving wildlife habitat.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:  
William L. Phillips, Deputy General Manager  
Monterey County Water Resources Agency  
893 Blanco Circle, Salinas, California 93901-4455  
(831) 755-5159 or [phillipsb@co.monterey.ca.us](mailto:phillipsb@co.monterey.ca.us)

We welcome your comments during the 30-day public review period. You may submit your comments in hard copy to William Phillips at the address above. The Agency also accepts comments via e-mail or facsimile but requests that you follow these instructions to ensure that the Agency has received your comments. To submit your comments by e-mail, please send a complete document including all attachments to: **phillipsb@co.monterey.ca.us**

An e-mailed document should contain the name of the person or entity submitting the comments and contact information such as phone number, mailing address and/or e-mail address and include any and all attachments referenced in the e-mail. To ensure a complete and accurate record, we request that you also provide a follow-up hard copy to the name and address listed above. If you do not wish to send a follow-up hard copy, then please send a second e-mail requesting confirmation of receipt of comments with enough information to confirm that the entire document was received. If you do not receive e-mail confirmation of receipt of comments, then please submit a hard copy of your comments to ensure inclusion in the environmental record or contact the Agency to ensure the Agency has received your comments.

Facsimile (fax) copies will be accepted with a cover page describing the extent (e.g. number of pages) being transmitted. A faxed document must contain a signature and all attachments referenced therein. Faxed document should be sent to the contact noted above at **(831) 424-7935**. To ensure a complete and accurate record, we request that you also provide a follow-up hard copy to the name and address listed above. If you do not wish to send a follow-up hard copy, then please contact the Agency to confirm that the entire document was received.

All written comments on the Initial Study should be addressed to:

Monterey County Water Resources Agency  
Attn: William L. Phillips, Deputy General Manager  
893 Blanco Circle  
Salinas, California 93901-4455

Re: Carmel River Floodplain Restoration and Environmental Enhancement Project