

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (California Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq.) and CEQA Guidelines (Title 14, California Code of Regulations, Sections 15000 et seq.), an initial study of the Continued Implementation of Two Long-term Management Plans for the Rancho Cañada de Pala Preserve (project) was prepared to evaluate environmental impacts. Based on the initial study, it has been determined that a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) is the appropriate level of review. This is a Notice of Intent to adopt an MND for this project in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15072.

Project Title:

Continued Implementation of Two Long-term Management Plans for the Rancho Cañada de Pala Preserve

Project Description:

Santa Clara Valley Water District is proposing a project to continue to implement two long-term management plans (LTMPs) for the Rancho Cañada de Pala Preserve.

The purpose of the LTMPs is to ensure the preserve is monitored, maintained, and managed in a manner that preserves its conservation values. The LTMPs consist of biological resource management and monitoring, livestock grazing management, non-native plant species management, infrastructure and facilities maintenance, routine road maintenance activities, and site improvements for the preserve.

The LTMPs include construction of site improvements (e.g., bank repairs and retaining wall rehabilitations) as needed to further improve existing conditions and facilitate long-term management of the preserve.

Activities associated with the future site improvements could involve minor grading, excavation and fill, vegetation trimming, construction site isolation and staging, removal and replacement of degraded infrastructure.

Typical equipment that may be used for future site improvements may include dump trucks, excavators, portable water tanks, power tools and hand crews and other construction equipment as needed.

Project Location:

The project site is located eight miles northeast of downtown San Jose in unincorporated Santa Clara County and includes all of Assessor Parcel Number 042-20-010 and portions of 627-22-011, 042-07-019, 042-07-021, 042-07-023, 042-07-024, 042-07-025, 042-07-026, 042-07-027, 042-07-028, 042-08-001, 041-07-022, and 042-07-019.

Review:

The Draft IS/MND is available online at: <https://www.valleywater.org/public-review-documents>. Due to the current shelter in place order, hard copies of the Draft IS/MND will not be available for public review. The public comment period on the Draft IS/MND closes at 5 p.m. on March 19, 2021.

Contact:

Comments on the Draft MND should be submitted via US mail or electronically by **5 p.m. on March 19, 2021** to:

Santa Clara Valley Water District
Attention: Tiffany Chao
5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, CA 95118

For further information please contact **Tiffany Chao** at **(408) 630-3107**, or by email at Tchao@valleywater.org.