



El Dorado Irrigation District

NOTICE OF INTENT and NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

(Pursuant to CEQA Section 21092 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15072)

EL DORADO IRRIGATION DISTRICT VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROJECT

The El Dorado Irrigation District (EID) proposes to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Section 15000 et seq., Title 14, California Code of Regulations) for the El Dorado Canal Diversion Vegetation Management Project (proposed project). The proposed project consists of the implementation of a vegetation management project on approximately 42-acres of EID property near the El Dorado Canal in the vicinity of the El Dorado Diversion Dam, immediately adjacent to U.S. Highway 50 and approximately 1.5 miles southwest of the town of Kyburz in El Dorado County, California. Vegetation management proposed by EID is designed to protect critical facilities located in a very high fire hazard severity zone while serving to reduce fuel loads and create defensible space for neighboring communities located in the wildland urban interface. The proposed project would be funded by a California Climate Investments Fire Prevention Grant administered by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. The Fire Prevention program is designed to improve resiliency of forested and forest-adjacent communities and upper watershed forests while achieving climate goals.

The proposed project would employ a variety of vegetation management prescriptions such as mechanical mastication and hand treatments, removal of fuel ladders, and tree pruning to inhibit vertical fire spread and the potential for crown fire. Planning and layout for the treatments will occur in spring of 2021. Fuels reduction work is planned to begin in late summer to early fall of 2021 with treatments occurring through February 2022. The proposed project site is not identified on the lists specified in Government Code section 65962.5. EID is the lead agency under CEQA for the proposed project and has directed the preparation of an Initial Study (IS) for the proposed project in accordance with the requirements of CEQA, the State CEQA Guidelines, and EID's guidelines. The IS describes the proposed project and assesses the proposed project's potentially significant adverse impacts on the physical environment. It concludes that the proposed project's potentially significant or significant adverse effects on the environment can be mitigated to less-than-significant levels; therefore, a proposed MND has been prepared.

Agencies and members of the public are invited to comment on the proposed IS/MND. **The comment period is from April 23, 2021 to May 24, 2021.** The proposed IS/MND can be reviewed at EID's Customer Service Building, 2890 Mosquito Road, Placerville, CA 95667 or on the EID web site at www.eid.org/ceqa. Comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. on May 26, 2021. Comments can be sent to Doug Venable, Environmental Review Analyst, El Dorado Irrigation District, at the address above or by email at dvenable@eid.org. **EID will hold a public hearing to consider the IS/MND on June 14, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. during a regularly scheduled meeting of the EID Board of Directors.** Please check EID's website for information regarding the meeting format: <https://www.eid.org/about-us/board-of-directors/meetings-agendas-and-minutes>.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and California law, it is the policy of the El Dorado Irrigation District to offer its public programs, services and meetings in a manner that is readily accessible to everyone, including individuals with disabilities. If you are a person with a disability and require information or materials in an appropriate alternative format; or if you require any other accommodation for this meeting, please contact the EID ADA coordinator at 530.642.4045 or email at adacoordinator@eid.org at least 72 hours prior to the meeting. Advance notification within this guideline will enable the District to make reasonable accommodations to ensure accessibility.