



El Dorado Irrigation District

NOTICE OF INTENT

TO ADOPT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION

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

AND

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CAPLES CREEK WATERSHED ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION PROJECT

The El Dorado Irrigation District (EID) has released for public review the Initial Study (IS) and proposes to adopt a Negative Declaration (ND) for the Caples Creek Watershed Ecological Restoration Project (Project) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (Section 15000 et seq., Title 14, California Code of Regulations). The Project is located 22 miles south, southeast of Pollock Pines in southeastern El Dorado County and northeastern Amador County between the communities of Kyburz and Kirkwood (see map).

The Project includes forest management and restoration activities on approximately 6,800 acres in the Caples Creek watershed, which were determined to be the highest priority for restoration. The Project would be implemented in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service, Eldorado National Forest over a four-year period. The objectives of the Project are to reduce fire hazard and restore forest, meadow, and watershed health within the Caples Creek watershed, which provides a significant portion of municipal water sources for EID's customers. The Project would involve prescribed fire activities on approximately 6,800 acres, including approximately 4,400 acres of understory burning in lower elevation areas, and approximately 2,400 acres of prescribed burning using aerial ignition, in higher elevation areas. The Project would also include meadow restoration and aspen enhancement activities on approximately 25 acres, as well as rerouting approximately a half mile of an existing hiking trail in Jake Schneider Meadow.

As lead agency, EID has prepared an IS/ND pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Sections 15063 and 15071. EID has studied the effects the Project may have on the environment. Based on the IS, and due to environmental protection measures that have been incorporated into the Project before release of the IS/ND for public review, the Project would not result in significant environmental impacts. Therefore, an IS/ND is proposed for compliance with the requirements of CEQA.

Members of the public are invited to comment on the proposed IS/ND from September 21, 2016 to October 21, 2016. The proposed IS/ND 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. Copies of the IS/ND are also available at the following public libraries: El Dorado County Library Placerville Branch, 345 Fair Lane, Placerville, CA 95667; and El Dorado County Library South Lake Tahoe Branch, 1000 Rufus Allen Blvd., South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150.

EID will hold a public hearing to consider the IS/ND on November 14, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. during a regularly scheduled meeting of the EID Board of Directors. The hearing will be in the EID Customer Service Building Board Room at the above address.

Comments on the Initial Study must be received by 5:00 p.m. on October 21, 2016. Requests for additional information and comments on the IS/ND can be sent to Dan Corcoran, Environmental Manager, El Dorado Irrigation District at 2890 Mosquito Road, Placerville, CA 95667 or dcorcoran@eid.org.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and California law, it is the policy of EID 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 530-642-4013 or e-mail 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.

