



Notice of Intent to Adopt A Mitigated Negative Declaration

Gopher Canyon Water Pipeline Improvement Project

DATE: January 13, 2021

TO: State Clearinghouse; Responsible, Trustee, and Other Jurisdictional Agencies; and Other Interested Organizations/Individuals

LEAD AGENCY: Rainbow Municipal Water District
3707 Old Highway 395
Fallbrook, CA 92028

Notice is hereby given that the Rainbow Municipal Water District (District), as the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), has prepared and plans to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the above-named project. The District boundaries encompass the unincorporated communities of Rainbow and Bonsall, as well as portions of Pala, Fallbrook, and the city of Vista.

Project Location

The proposed project is located in the unincorporated community of Bonsall, west of Interstate 15 and approximately 12 miles inland from the Pacific Ocean in northwest San Diego County, California (Figure 1, Regional Location). More specifically, the project sites are located within the roadways of Disney Lane, Gopher Canyon Road, Integrity Court, and Margale Lane (Figure 2, Project Vicinity).

Project Description

The proposed Gopher Canyon Water Pipeline Improvement Project (proposed project) would entail the construction of three pipeline improvement components: Integrity Court (1,068 feet of 8-inch polyvinyl chloride [PVC] pipeline connecting two existing pipelines to create a single looped pipeline); Gopher Canyon Road Sections 1 and 2 (comprising the addition of a total of 2,125 feet of 8-inch PVC pipeline in two separate sections of pipeline within the public right-of-way that will connect existing pipelines, creating a single looped pipeline); replacement of 550 feet of pipeline between Disney Lane and Margale Lane and the addition of 287 feet of pipeline within the paved section of Margale Lane; and replacement of 300 feet of pipeline in Margale Lane; and Disney Lane (addition of 1,363 feet of 12-inch PVC pipeline). The work for the Disney Lane component also includes the installation of associated features, including assemblies, valves, and fire hydrants. Construction of the proposed project would occur within the existing roadway and adjacent disturbed areas.

Potential Environmental Effects

The proposed project would result in potential impacts in the following issue areas: biological resources (adverse impact to special status species and sensitive habitat); cultural resources (adverse change in the significance of archeological resources); noise (exposure to noise levels above standards during construction); transportation (potential road closures during construction); tribal cultural resources (change in significance of tribal cultural resource); and wildfire (construction activities within a High and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone).

Based on the Initial Study (IS) prepared for the project, it has been determined that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment that cannot be mitigated to a level of insignificance with the incorporation of mitigation measures.

Draft MND Availability

The Draft MND is on file with the District, located at 3707 Old Highway 395, Fallbrook, CA 92028. An electronic copy is available at the District's website at: www.rainbowmwd.com/engineering-services.

Responses and Comments

The District is soliciting comments during the 30-day public comment period for this Draft IS/MND from January 15, 2021 to February 13, 2021. All comments should indicate a contact person for each agency or organization, if applicable. Please submit email comments to mtamimi@rainbowmwd.com and written comments by mail to:

Rainbow Municipal Water District

Attn: Malik Tamimi
Engineering Department
3707 Old Highway 395
Fallbrook, CA 92028

A Final MND, incorporating public input, will be prepared for consideration by the District at a future public meeting. We appreciate your review of the Draft IS/MND. If you have any questions regarding the project, please contact me using the information above.

Chad A Williams

Chad Williams, Acting District Engineer

Attachments: Figure 1, Regional Location and Figure 2, Project Vicinity



