

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BETTY H. OLSON, PH.D

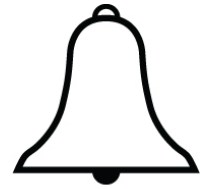
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GENERAL MANAGER



# Santa Margarita Water District

## NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

**To:** All Interested Parties

**From:** Santa Margarita Water District  
Don Bunts  
26111 Antonio Parkway  
Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688

### PROJECT INFORMATION

PROJECT NAME:

**Oso Creek Water Reclamation Plant Improvement Project**

LEAD AGENCY:

**Santa Margarita Water District**

PROJECT AREA:

**Mission Viejo**

PROJECT TYPE:

**Water Reclamation Plant**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT Santa Margarita Water District (SMWD) is the Lead Agency and has prepared an Initial Study (IS) with the intent to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the proposed Oso Creek Water Reclamation Plant Improvement Project (project).

**PROJECT LOCATION:** The project site is located adjacent to Oso Creek, within the City of Mission Viejo (Figure 1). The existing Oso Creek Water Reclamation Plant (WRP) is located at 27402 La Paz Road in Mission Viejo. The project site is bounded by a commercial strip mall to the north, open space and residential to the east and south, and Oso Creek and a commercial strip mall to the west. The residential uses are located approximately 300 feet away from the project site. Access to the project site is provided via La Paz Road and Oso Creek Road.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The proposed project will consist of demolishing the existing 3.0 million gallon a day (MGD) Oso Creek WRP, existing office and warehousing buildings and constructing a new technologically advanced WRP that is able to treat 3.3 MGD and a 1.0 MGD Oso Barrier Urban Return Water Treatment Plant (URWTP) advanced water treatment facility. Replacement offices, warehousing space, meeting space and parking will also be constructed on the site. The proposed Oso Creek WRP will treat wastewater generated within the SMWD service area and produce tertiary water that meets State of California Title 22 recycled water requirements for unrestricted reuse. The Oso Barrier URWTP will process urban runoff to be used for irrigation, lake fill, and potable reuse. The URWTP will include prescreening equipment, ultrafiltration, reverse osmosis and UV disinfection. The backwash water will be discharged to the Oso Trunk Sewer for treatment and ultimate disposal from the Latham Water Treatment Plant.

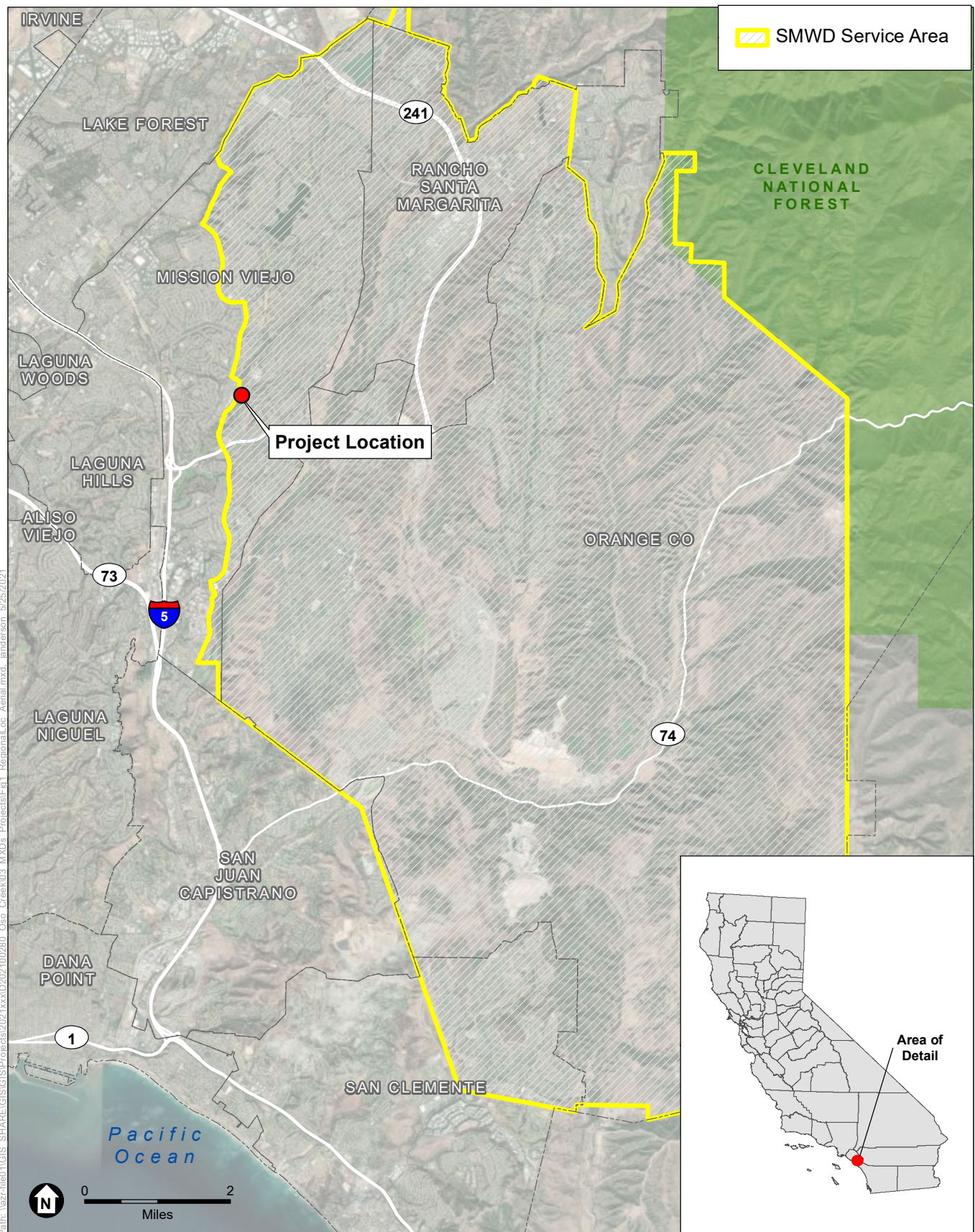
**ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS:** The IS/MND describes potentially significant impacts to biological resources, cultural resources, and geology and soils. Mitigation measures have been defined to reduce impacts to less than significant levels. All other resource areas found to have no impact or to be less than significant are also described in the IS/MND.

**PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD:** The IS/MND will be circulated for 30-days for public review. Comments on the MND must be received between August 12, 2021 and September 13, 2021. Written comments should be sent to: Don Bunts at Santa Margarita Water District, 26111 Antonio Parkway, Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688, or email comments to: [donb@smwd.com](mailto:donb@smwd.com).

**AVAILABILITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION:** The IS/MND may be viewed on the web at: [www.smwd.com](http://www.smwd.com)

For more information on the project, or if you would like to request a hard copy, please contact:

Don Bunts  
RE: Oso Creek Water Reclamation Plant Improvement Project  
Santa Margarita Water District  
26111 Antonio Parkway  
Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688  
(949)459-6602



SOURCE: ESRI

Oso Creek Water Reclamation Plant Improvement Project

**Figure 1**  
Regional Location