

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: March 25, 2020

From: MITCH WEISS, Executive Director

Reference Number: 2.2c.(2), Action

Prepared By: Jose Oseguera
Assistant Deputy Director

Published Date: March 13, 2020

Subject: Approval of Project for Future Consideration of Funding – Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Cochran Creek Habitat Enhancement Project (Resolution E-20-19)

Issue:

Should the California Transportation Commission (Commission), as a Responsible Agency, accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Cochran Creek Habitat Enhancement Project (Project) in Humboldt County and approve the Project for future consideration of funding?

Recommendation:

Staff recommends the Commission accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration and approve the Project for future consideration of funding.

Background:

Humboldt County (County) is the California Environmental Quality Act lead agency for the Project. The Project will construct habitat enhancements and other improvements, including a fish passage at the confluence of Fay Slough and Cochran Creek. The Project is located in the Indianola area, on the west side of Myrtle Avenue in Humboldt County.

On May 2, 2019, the Humboldt County Zoning Administrator adopted a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Project and found that the Project will not have a significant effect on the environment after mitigation.

Impacts that require mitigation measures to be reduced to less than significant levels relate to biological and cultural resources, geology, hazardous materials, hydrology, and noise. Mitigation measures include, but are not limited to, conduct surveys for the protection of the Western Pond Turtle, restrict construction activities to occur only

between the months of July and October, contract with a qualified archaeologist and halt construction if artifacts are encountered, train heavy equipment operators on emergency containment procedures should an accidental spill occur, adhere to the specifications of the California Storm Water Quality Association Storm Water Best Management Practices, and limit noise pollution by restricting construction hours from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on weekends.

On February 21, 2020, the County confirmed that the preferred alternative set forth in the final environmental document is consistent with the Project scope of work programmed by the Commission.

The Project is estimated to cost \$2,373,790 and is fully funded through construction with Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program Funds (\$500,000), California State Coastal Commission Proposition 1 Funds (\$876,804), and California Department of Fish and Wildlife Funds (\$996,986).

Construction is estimated to begin in Fiscal Year 2020-21.

Attachments:

- Attachment A: Resolution E-20-19
- Attachment B: Notice of Determination
- Attachment C: Project Location Map

**CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
Resolution for Future Consideration of Funding**

**1 – Humboldt County
Resolution E-20-19**

- 1.1 WHEREAS, Humboldt County (County) has completed a Mitigated Negative Declaration pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines for the Cochran Creek Habitat Enhancement Project (Project) in Humboldt County; and
- 1.2 WHEREAS, the County has certified that the Mitigated Negative Declaration has been completed pursuant to CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines; and
- 1.3 WHEREAS, the Project is located in the Indianola area, on the west side of Myrtle Avenue in Humboldt County; and
- 1.4 WHEREAS, the Project will construct habitat enhancements and other improvements, including a fish passage at the confluence of Fay Slough and Cochran Creek; and
- 1.5 WHEREAS, on May 2, 2019, the Humboldt County Zoning Administrator found that the proposed Project would not have a significant effect on the environment after mitigation; and
- 1.6 WHEREAS, on May 2, 2019, the Humboldt County Zoning Administrator adopted the Mitigated Negative Declaration; and
- 1.7 WHEREAS, on February 21, 2020, the County confirmed that the preferred alternative set forth in the final environmental document is consistent with the Project scope of work programmed by the California Transportation Commission (Commission); and
- 1.8 WHEREAS, the Commission, as a Responsible Agency, has considered the information contained in the Mitigated Negative Declaration.
- 2.1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Commission does hereby accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration and approves the above-referenced Project for future consideration of funding.

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

To: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

From: California Transportation Commission
Attn: Jose Oseguera
1120 N Street, MS 52
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 653-2094

Subject: Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 of the Public Resources Code.

Project Title: Cochran Creek Habitat Enhancement Project

2019012046	Michael Richardson	(707) 268-3723
State Clearinghouse Number	Lead Agency Contact Person	Area Code/Telephone

Project Location (include county): The project is located in the Indianola area, on the west side of Myrtle Avenue in Humboldt County.

Project Description: The project will construct habitat enhancements and other improvements, including a fish passage at the confluence of Fay Slough and Cochran Creek.

This is to advise that the California Transportation Commission has approved the above described project on

(Lead Agency/ Responsible Agency)

March 25-26, 2020, and has made the following determinations regarding the above described project:

1. The project (will/ will not) have a significant effect on the environment.
2. An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
 A Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures (were/ were not) made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. Mitigation reporting or monitoring plan (was / was not) adopted for this project.
5. A Statement of Overriding Considerations (was / was not) adopted for this project.
6. Findings (were/ were not) made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

The above identified document with comments and responses and record of project approval is available to the General Public at: 3015 H Street, Eureka, CA 95501

MITCH WEISS

Signature (Public Agency)

Date

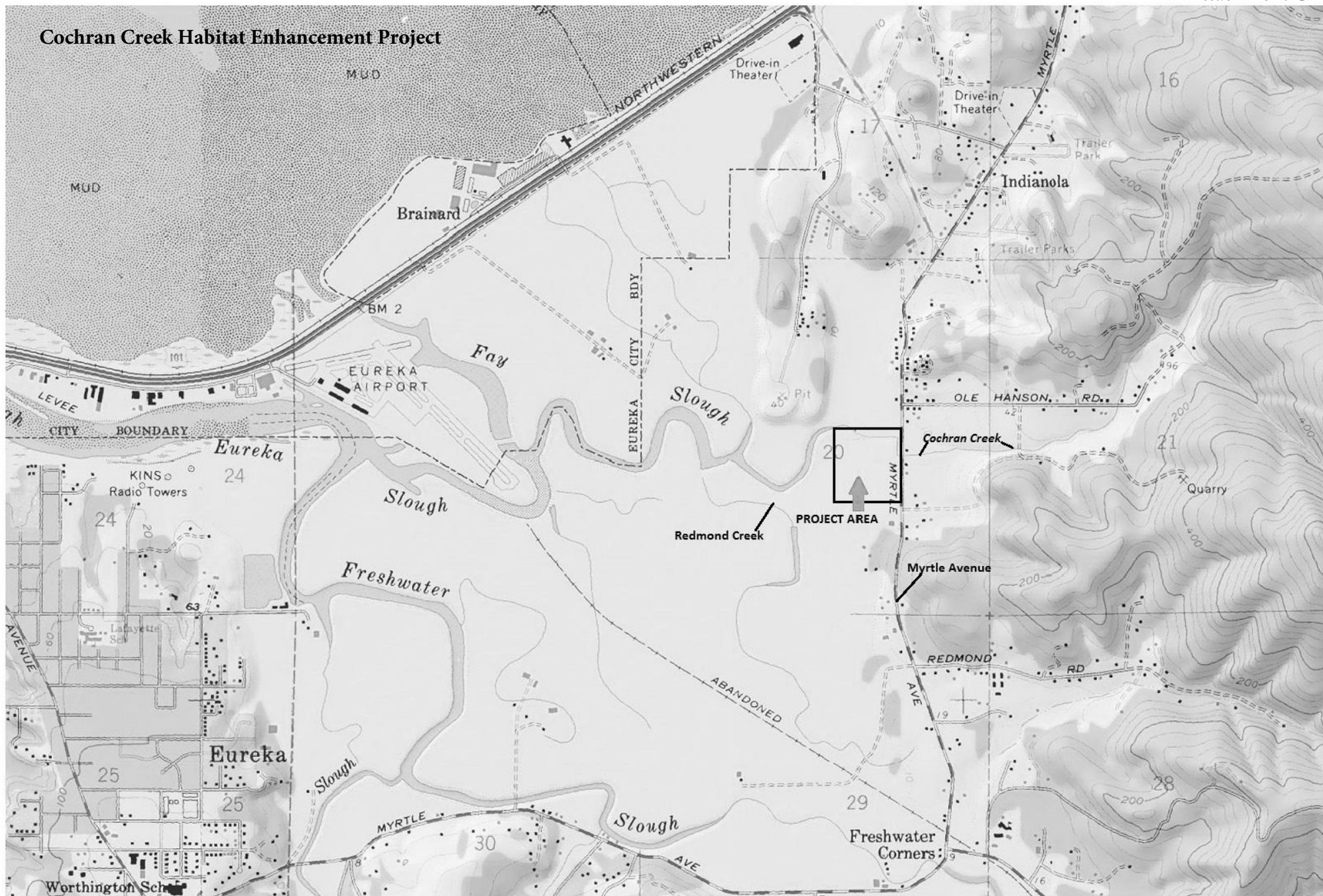
Executive Director

California Transportation Commission

Title

Date received for filing at OPR:

Cochran Creek Habitat Enhancement Project



Mercator Projection
 WGS84
 USNG Zone 10TDL
 CalTopo.com

