

## Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) proposes to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Del Puerto Creek Sediment Removal Project in Stanislaus County involving the removal of accumulated silt and cobble from the creek where it crosses under the California Aqueduct, bank stabilization measures, repairs to the existing rocked drainage, access road improvements, and spoils disposals. DWR plans to adopt the MND on April 13, 2015. Information regarding the MND and public comment period is listed below.

**Project Title:** Del Puerto Creek Sediment Removal Project

**Lead Agency:** California Department of Water Resources

**Project Location:** The Del Puerto Creek Sediment Removal Project is located between Interstate 5 and the Governor Edmond G. Brown California Aqueduct (Aqueduct), approximately 4 miles northwest of the city of Patterson, Stanislaus County, California. The project site is within Section 21, Township 5 South, Range 7 East of the Mount Diablo Meridian, in the "Patterson, CA" 7.5 minute U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic quadrangle at Latitude 37.4910, Longitude -121.2047.

**Project Description:** The Del Puerto Creek Sediment Removal Project includes actions to restore channel flow capacity within Del Puerto Creek, and to forestall potential damages to the California Aqueduct levee. These actions include the removal of silt/cobble within 200 feet upstream of where Del Puerto Creek crosses under the Aqueduct, returning the drainage to its intended condition; placement of rip-rap along both sides of the creek embankments to stabilize the banks and prevent erosion of the Aqueduct levee; repairing a rocked drainage ditch that channels water runoff from the Aqueduct levee directly to the creek bed, improving the flow of water away from the levee toe; and access road improvements. DWR's Division of Operations and Maintenance Dam Safety Branch has recommended these improvements in order to maintain channel flow capacity and prevent potential damage or failure of the Aqueduct levee. The work will occur biennially during the dry season, August through October 2015-2020.

**Environmental Review:** This IS/MND is being circulated for public review and comment for a period of 30 days, starting on March 13, 2015 through April 13, 2015. The document will be available for review at the following locations: (1) DWR Division of Operations and Maintenance, 1416 Ninth Street, Sixth Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814, (2) DWR's website: <http://www.oandm.water.ca.gov/>

Written comments should be received at the following address no later than close of business (4:00 PM) on April 13, 2015.

**Contact Person:**

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