



NOTICE OF INTENT

TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION PURSUANT TO THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

DATE: October 8, 2018
TO: Interested Parties
FROM: Marin Municipal Water District
220 Nellen Ave., Corte Madera, CA 94925
SUBJECT: Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration for Amendment of the *Mt. Tamalpais Watershed Road and Trail Management Plan* for the Restoration of Azalea Hill

Comment Period: This is to advise that the Marin Municipal Water District (MMWD), serving as lead agency, has prepared an Initial Study (IS) of Environmental Impact to: (1) identify potential environmental impacts that might result from the proposed project; (2) determine whether any such environmental impacts can be mitigated to a level of insignificance in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines; and (3) determine whether a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) is the appropriate level of CEQA review for the proposed project.

MMWD is forwarding the IS/Proposed MND to appropriate agencies and interested parties for review and comment in compliance with the CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations (CCR), sections 15063(g) and 15071. As mandated by state law, the minimum public review period for this document is 20 days.

Prior to project approval, MMWD will consider all written comments regarding the Proposed MND that are received by 4:00 p.m. on November 9, 2018, as required in the CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations, Section 15074(b).

The Proposed MND and supporting studies are available for review at MMWD's office located at 220 Nellen Ave., Corte Madera, CA. Please contact Aaron Fulton at MMWD by mail at the above address, by email at azaleahill@marinwater.org, or by phone at 415-945-1143.

Project Update and Adoption of MND by MMWD: A project update will be presented at the Watershed Committee meeting on October 11, 2018 at 1:30 PM at the district board meeting room at 220 Nellen Avenue, Corte Madera, CA. Adoption of the Proposed MND will be considered at the regularly scheduled meeting of the MMWD Board of Directors on November 20, 2018, at the district office, 220 Nellen Avenue, Corte Madera, CA. The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m.

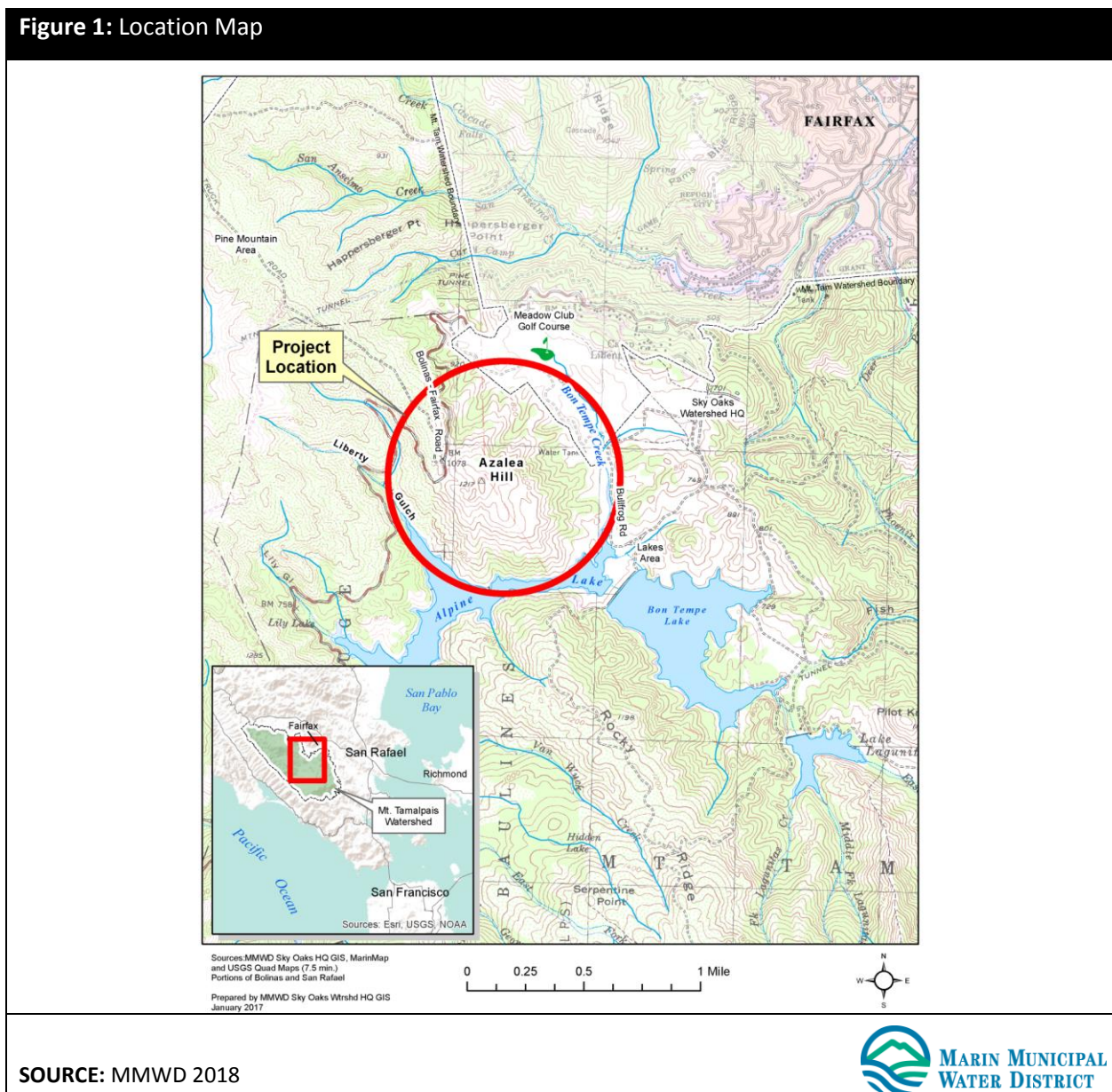
Location: Azalea Hill, approximately 4 miles west-southwest of the Town of Fairfax, CA (lat 37.9626, long -122.6206), APN 197-120-31.

Title and Description: The Marin Municipal Water District is proposing Amendment of the Mt. Tamalpais Watershed Road and Trail Management Plan for the Restoration of Azalea Hill (Proposed Project). The

project would amend the Mt. Tamalpais Watershed Road and Trail Management Plan (RTMP) for the Azalea Hill area to 1) remove approximately 4.4-miles of non-system roads and trails and restore those routes to natural conditions to improve habitat and water quality; 2) adopt and improve a 1.9-mile Class IV road comprised of the existing Liberty Gulch Road (1.2 miles) and conversion of existing non-system trails (0.7 miles) to the wider, small vehicle route); 3) improve the hiking and equestrian route over Azalea Hill by correcting erosion and drainage problems along approximately 1.1 miles of existing Class VI trail, rerouting the trail around sensitive plants and adopting 250 feet of an existing non-system trail; and 4) treat the Azalea Hill parking lot to correct its erosion problems and improve the visitor amenities. Upon its completion, the project would prevent up to an estimated 219 cubic yards of sediment from entering Azalea Hill's creeks and Alpine Lake annually (or 4,380 cubic yards over 20 years) and would restore approximately one acre of habitat.

Determination: MMWD has prepared an Initial Study, and on the basis of that study, has determined that the Proposed Project could have a significant effect on the environment, but that there would not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been agreed to by the project proponent. A Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration has been prepared.

Figure 1: Location Map



SOURCE: MMWD 2018

