

DRAFT PROGRAM
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT for
CACHE CREEK RESOURCES
MANAGEMENT PLAN and
PROJECT-LEVEL
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT for
CACHE CREEK IMPROVEMENT
PROGRAM

for LOWER CACHE CREEK

SCH #96013004

**Yolo County** 

**April 8, 1996** 

ROY PEDERSON

County Administrative Officer

# NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY AND PUBLIC HEARING DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT for the YOLO COUNTY CACHE CREEK RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN

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TO:

Interested Agencies and Individuals

FROM:

Heidi Tschudin, Contract Planner

DATE:

April 8, 1996

The County of Yolo has prepared and is analyzing the Cache Creek Resources Management Plan (CCRMP), one of two key plans to manage the resources of the mining reach of Cache Creek. The draft CCRMP addresses a variety of issues relevant to managing the diverse resources within the creek channel. The other plan, the Off-Channel Mining Plan (OCMP), focuses on sand and gravel extraction outside the creek channel. The planning area for the CCRMP extends approximately 14.5 miles, from the Capay Dam to the Town of Yolo, covering approximately 4,995 acres. The CCRMP was developed pursuant to the Statement of Goals, Objectives, and Policies regarding the management of aggregate resources in and adjoining Cache Creek adopted by the Board of Supervisors in June of 1994.

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The CCRMP is largely a river management plan. It focuses on a program of channel stabilization and habitat restoration, and will prohibit commercial mining within the active channel. Initial channel reshaping following channel design specifications, ongoing maintenance activities to be regulated by the County, and habitat restoration projects consistent with the CCRMP, will be allowed under the proposed Cache Creek Improvement Program (CCIP).

The draft CCRMP is organized into an Introduction and six "elements" including a Floodway and Channel Stability Element, a Water Resources Element, a Biological Resources Element, an Open Space and Recreation Element, an Aggregate Resources Element, and an Agricultural Resources Element. Each of the six "elements" includes an introduction and a list of goals, objectives, actions, and performance standards.

The Draft CCRMP was released for public review on December 4, 1995. Copies are available at the Yolo County Community Development Agency front counter. The CCIP is included as Appendix 7.3 of this DEIR. The CCIP, as well as the other actions and performance standards of the CCRMP, will be implemented by specific regulatory ordinances. These ordinances will be written following approval of the CCRMP, in order to allow for additional time to coordinate with landowners, the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), and responsible state and federal agencies. Erosion/flood control work or other activities within the creek will be performed under a Floodplain Development Permit issued by County. All work will be required to comply with the CCRMP, the CCIP, and all applicable regulatory requirements. The County is also considering rezoning lands within the channel boundary to the Open Space (OS) Zone. Channel improvement projects under the CCIP will fall under the flood control provision within the OS Zone.

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The County and its consultant, EDAW Inc., have prepared a program-level Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) to analyze the CCRMP. This document also includes project-level environmental analysis of the CCIP, in full compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The County Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors will consider this information when deliberating the project. Following certification of the EIR, in order to allow the project to proceed, the County must approve the Cache Creek Resources Management Plan, the Cache Creek Improvement Program, amendments to the County Code, and implementing ordinances.

The DEIR identifies significant effects anticipated as a result of this project and alternatives, in the areas of land use and planning, geology and soils, hydrology and water quality, agriculture, biological resources, air quality, traffic and circulation, noise, aesthetics, cultural resources, hazards, and public services and utilities. All identified significant impacts can be eliminated or reduced to a less-than-significant level through the implementation of recommended mitigation measures, except land use; geology and soils; hydrology and water quality; agriculture; biological resources; air quality; and aesthetics. These impact areas remain significant and unavoidable.

The DEIR is now available for public review at the public counter of the Community Development Agency, at 292 West Beamer Street, Woodland, California 95695. The document is also available for public review at the Davis, Esparto, Woodland, and Yolo Branch County Libraries. The project file, including all documents referenced in the DEIR, may be reviewed upon request at the Community Development Agency public counter. The Community Development Agency requests your comments on the DEIR during the 45-day public review period which begins April 8, 1996 and ends on May 23, 1996. Written comments postmarked by May 23, 1996 will be accepted and should be directed to David Morrison, Resource Management Coordinator, Yolo County Community Development Agency, 292 West Beamer Street, Woodland, California 95695. A **public hearing** in front of the County Planning Commission will be held on May 1, 1996 in the Commission Chambers located at 292 West Beamer Street in Woodland, to accept oral comments from the public regarding the DEIR.

For more information regarding this project, please contact Heidi Tschudin at (916) 447-1809 or David Morrison at (916) 666-8020.

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