

RESOLUTION 2020-2

San Mateo Resource Conservation District as the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (Pub. Resources Code, § 21000 et seq.) regarding the Butano Farms San Francisco Garter Snake Habitat Enhancement Project Approving the Mitigated Negative Declaration and Adopting the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

WHEREAS, the San Mateo Resource Conservation District is a Special District organized under Division 9 of the California Public Resources Code with an original petition granted on July 1, 1939;

WHEREAS, the San Mateo Resource Conservation District is defined in Section 3501 of the Government Code as a public agency;

WHEREAS, the Butano Farms San Francisco Garter Snake Habitat Enhancement Project (Proposed Project) is intended to enhance 65 acres of upland and wetland habitat in coastal San Mateo County for the Federally and State Endangered San Francisco garter snake (*Thamnophis sirtalis tetrataenia*) and the Federally Threatened and State Species of Special Concern California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*). The proposed project provides mitigation for biological impacts associated with Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E) Line 101 Inline Inspection and Upgrade, and Lomita Park Station Rebuild Project in the City of Millbrae, San Mateo County. PG&E provided financial contribution to the San Mateo Resource Conservation District for management of land with emphasis on management for San Francisco garter snake. Enhancement and restoration activities are consistent with the recovery actions outlined in the federal San Francisco Garter Snake Recovery Plan, and aim to increase forage, shelter, and breeding habitat for California red-legged frog, the primary prey for San Francisco garter snake, and increase basking, forage and prey habitat for San Francisco garter snake;

WHEREAS, San Mateo Resource Conservation District and Vinnedge Environmental Consulting prepared a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) to provide a transparent and comprehensive evaluation of the Proposed Project. San Mateo Resource Conservation District has prepared this resolution to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) (Pub. Resources Code, § 21000 et seq.). San Mateo Resource Conservation District is a “lead agency” under CEQA;

WHEREAS, consistent with CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines, a mitigation monitoring and reporting program (MMRP), has been prepared by Vinnedge Environmental Consulting for the San Mateo Resource Conservation District for the Proposed Project (Exhibit A). (See Pub. Resources Code, § 21081.6, subd. (a)(1); CEQA Guidelines, § 15097.) San Mateo Resource Conservation District will use the MMRP to track compliance with best management practices

and mitigation measures imposed by San Mateo Resource Conservation District and the MMRP will remain available for public review during the compliance period;

WHEREAS, San Mateo Resource Conservation District's Board of Directors (Board) hereby finds and declares that they have reviewed and considered the MND together with the comments received during the public review process in evaluating the Proposed Project, that the MND is an accurate and objective statement that fully complies with CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines, and that the MND reflects the independent judgment and analysis of San Mateo Resource Conservation District and Vinnedge Environmental Consulting. The Board further finds and declares that considering the record as whole, there is no substantial evidence that the Proposed Project will have a significant effect on the environment, that no new significant impacts as defined by State CEQA Guidelines section 15073.5 have been identified after circulation of the MND, and that recirculation of the MND is therefore not required. On behalf of San Mateo Resource Conservation District, the Board approves the MND;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21081.6, the Board, on behalf of San Mateo Resource Conservation District, hereby adopts the MMRP attached to this Resolution as Exhibit A;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the San Mateo Resource Conservation District Board of Directors hereby:

1. The Board finds that the approval and implementation of the Proposed Project is critical to recovery efforts for the endangered San Francisco garter snake and threatened California red-legged frog. Based on the entire record before San Mateo Resource Conservation District, including all written and oral evidence presented to San Mateo Resource Conservation District, the Board hereby approves the Butano Farms San Francisco Garter Snake Habitat Enhancement Project, with all the best management practices and mitigation measures in the MMRP as set forth in this document.
2. The Board is the custodian of the records of the proceedings on which this decision is based. Records are located at the San Mateo Resource Conservation District offices located at 80 Stone Pine Road, Suite 100, Half Moon Bay, CA 94019.
3. The Board directs San Mateo Resource Conservation District staff to prepare and file a Notice of Determination with the Office of Planning and Research as soon as practicable and no later than five (5) working days after the date of Proposed Project approval as set forth immediately below.

ADOPTED at the May 2020 of the Board of Directors of the San Mateo Resource Conservation District on May 21, 2020.



Barbara Kossy, President



Date