



COUNTY OF MENDOCINO

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND BUILDING SERVICES

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: MAY 21, 2024

TO: HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

FROM: LIAM CROWLEY, PLANNER II

SUBJECT: LCP_2024-0001 CONSOLIDATED COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT REQUEST FOR RESOURCE ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS, LLC (RES) TO ESTABLISH THE MENDOCINO COAST MITIGATION BANK II BY PERFORMING WILDLIFE HABITAT AND HYDROLOGICAL REGIME IMPROVEMENTS ALONG THE NAVARRO RIVER AND TEN MILE RIVER.

SUMMARY OF PROJECT

Resource Environmental Solutions, LLC (RES) is working to establish Mendocino Coast Mitigation Bank II along the Navarro River and Ten Mile River. Establishing the mitigation bank would involve wildlife habitat improvements for salmonid and tidewater goby habitats and hydrological regime improvements to floodplain habitats for fish. The goal is to provide compensatory mitigation credits for unavoidable adverse impacts authorized under the Clean Water Act and Coastal Act. The proposed restoration project consists of 1) estuary and river corridor improvements at the margins of active river channels and floodplains; 2) seasonal wetland, seasonal and perennial drainage improvements; 3) hillslope and low terrace features improvements; 4) ESHA restoration improvements; 5) salmonid and tidewater goby habitat improvements; and 6) grazing and land management improvements along the Navarro River and Ten Mile River.

Restoration actions would include “1) *estuary and river corridor improvements at the margins of active river channels and floodplains*; 2) *seasonal wetland, seasonal and perennial drainage improvements*; 3) *hillslope and low terrace features improvements*; 4) *ESHA restoration improvements*; 5) *salmonid and tidewater goby habitat improvements*; and 6) *grazing and land management improvements*.” LCP Maps show that the entirety of the Navarro River portion and portions of the Ten Mile River portion lie within Coastal Commission post-LCP permit jurisdiction. The proposed improvements are considered development as defined in Mendocino County Code (MCC) Section 20.308.035. Therefore, the improvements in each jurisdiction would require a separate Coastal Development Permit from each jurisdiction as provided in MCC Section 20.532.010.

The proposed consolidation request by RES would allow for streamlined processing of this project. The alternative would be the processing of multiple Coastal Development Permits by multiple jurisdictions, which would not allow analysis of the project as a whole. By authorizing the consolidation, the Board would allow the California Coastal Commission to process a Coastal Development Permit for the entirety of the proposed improvements to the Navarro River and Ten Mile River. Otherwise, a separate Coastal Development would be processed by both the California Coastal Commission and the County for the improvements within each jurisdiction. At the request of RES, adoption of a resolution is being sought which would consolidate the permit review under the Coastal Commission for this specific project only and streamline the permit process. Consolidation of the Coastal Development Permit would not substantially impair public participation in review of the Coastal Development Permit because a public hearing will be held by the Coastal Commission and may be attended by interested parties and the participation opportunities are the same as would be provided if two permits were processed instead.

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt the Resolution authorizing the processing of a Consolidated Coastal Development Permit, LCP_2024-0001 (Resource Environmental Solutions, LLC), by the California Coastal Commission, for Resource Environmental Solutions, LLC (RES) to establish the Mendocino Coast Mitigation Bank II by performing wildlife habitat and hydrological regime improvements along the Navarro River and Ten Mile River; and authorize Chair to sign same.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1) Resolution for Adoption
- 2) Project Application, Description, Plans, and Maps