Notice of Determination

To: Office of Planning and Research
PO Box 3044, 1400 Tenth Street, Room 222
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

Yolo County Clerk-Recorder
625 Court Street, Room B01
Woodland, CA 95695

From: City of West Sacramento
1110 West Capitol Avenue
West Sacramento, CA 95691

Subject: **Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code.**

Bees Lakes Habitat Restoration Project
Project Title

2020120220	Traci Michel	(916) 617-4620
State Clearinghouse Number	**Contact Person**	**Area Code/Telephone/Extension**

Project Location:

The project site is located along the west bank of the Sacramento River in the City of West Sacramento, Yolo County, California. The West Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (WSAFCA) completed construction of 5.5 miles of levee improvements in 2018 as part of the Southport Sacramento River Early Implementation Project (Southport EIP), including constructing a setback levee along the northwestern edge of the project site. The Southport EIP created two new floodplain restoration areas connected to the Sacramento River, immediately upstream and downstream of the project site. Cross levees between the project site and the two floodplain restoration sites were built to preserve access to the Sacramento Yacht Club and the Sherwood Harbor Marina, which are located at the north and south ends of the project site, respectively. The remaining segment of the unmaintained levee along Chicory Loop runs through the project site, with the portion southeast of the levee encompassing the Sacramento river bank and associated riverside riparian habitat.

The project site is bounded by the Reclamation District (RD) 900 Operations and Maintenance (O&M) waterside toe road on the northwest edge, the Sacramento River on the southeast edge, and the property boundaries of the Sacramento Yacht Club and the Sherwood Harbor Marina southeast of the remnant levee along Chicory Loop.

Project Description:

The proposed project includes implementing ecosystem, water quality and recreational improvements at the Bees Lakes site consistent with the goals and objectives identified in the Final Bees Lakes Habitat Restoration Plan. Project site restoration includes focused removal and control of target invasive species at the project site. The goal of the invasive plant removal is to significantly decrease abundance of target invasive species and increase abundance of native understory species to improve and sustain native plant community health and diversity. The most prevalent target invasive species are: Himalayan blackberry, which occurs in large patches in portions of the riparian forest understory and in some monoculture patches; and edible fig (Ficus carica), which is scattered throughout the site, primarily on the riverside portion.

Water quality components include removing and disposing of potentially contaminated soil from the two ponds on the site, potentially treating the pond water, and the removal of trash from the ponds. An abandoned boat and a large amount of refuse have been observed in the ponds, which are suspected to be degrading pond water quality. At minimum, project implementation would include drawing down pond water levels temporarily to extract large trash and debris.

The water quality components also include installing a submerged or floating aeration diffusion device to increase pond aeration and water circulation within the ponds, decrease algae growth, and increase habitat suitability for fishes and other aquatic life (including mosquito fish). An additional water quality enhancement, which would also

provide habitat benefits, includes installing one or more artificial floating wetland islands in one or both of the site ponds.

The proposed project includes several recreational components that are intended to improve access management at the site and to provide improved recreational opportunities for site users. Potential recreational amenities include marked foot trails, elevated boardwalks, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) access ramps, an equestrian trail, a ten-stall parking area, portable bathrooms, two large viewing platforms, multi-purpose picnic/recreational areas, way-finding signage and information kiosks.

This is to advise that the City of West Sacramento, acting as the lead agency, approved the above-described project on January 20, 2021 and has made the following determinations:

1. The Project will not have a significant effect on the environment.
2. A Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures were made a condition of the approval of this project.
4. A Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program was adopted for this project.
5. A Statement of Overriding Considerations was not adopted for this project.
6. Findings were made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

This is to certify that the Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared and adopted pursuant to the provisions of CEQA. The Mitigated Negative Declaration and the record of project approval are available to the General Public at:

City of West Sacramento, 1110 West Capitol Avenue, West Sacramento, CA 95691

Signature (Public Agency) _____ *Date* 1.24.21 *Title* PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR

Date received for filing and posting at OPR: January 21, 2021