

Notice of Preparation

Notice of Preparation

To: State Clearinghouse

P.O. Box 3044

Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: Ron Downing, Director of Planning

Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District

1011 Anderson Drive, San Rafael, CA 94901

Subject: Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report

The Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District

will be the Lead Agency and will prepare an environmental impact report for the project identified below. We need to know the views of your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information which is germane to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. Your agency will need to use the EIR prepared by our agency when considering your permit or other approval for the project.

The project description, location, and the potential environmental effects are contained in the attached materials. A copy of the Initial Study (☐ is ☒ is not) attached.

Due to the time limits mandated by State law, your response must be sent at the earliest possible date but not later than 30 days after receipt of this notice.

Please send your response to Ron Downing at the address shown above. We will need the name for a contact person in your agency.

Project Title: The Larkspur Ferry Service and Parking Expansion Project

Project Applicant, if any: Same as above

Date October 1, 2024

Signature



Title

Director of Planning

Telephone

415-257-4583

Reference: California Code of Regulations, Title 14, (CEQA Guidelines) Sections 15082(a), 15103, 15375.

Project Description

The Golden Gate Bridge, Highway, and Transportation District (District) operates regional ferry service from the Larkspur Ferry Terminal, in the city of Larkspur, providing a transit alternative for residents to travel from Sonoma and Marin counties to downtown San Francisco, Mission Bay, and the Oracle Park and Chase Arena, with operations for all three ferry routes based at the Larkspur Ferry Terminal. The District is the lead agency for the environmental review of the Larkspur Ferry Service and Parking Expansion Project (Project).

The Larkspur Ferry Terminal is located on Sir Francis Drake Boulevard in the city of Larkspur. The ferry terminal is also located on San Francisco Bay. The Project will serve the ferry's foreseeable 21st Century needs. This includes increasing capacity by adding more high-speed boats, potentially creating a new ferry route to the foot of 16th Street near San Francisco's booming Mission Bay and UC San Francisco medical center, and expanding Larkspur Ferry Terminal parking on the main terminal parking lot and/or the north parking lot located in the Country Mart shopping center across Sir Francis Drake Boulevard. The project will include measures to accommodate ridership that arrives via modes other than single-occupant vehicle (Transportation Demand Management). Such measures may include shuttle buses, parking and ticket pricing strategies, and enhanced bicycle and pedestrian facilities. The project will also include improvements to the connection between the ferry terminal and the Sonoma-Marina Area Rail Transit (SMART) system's Larkspur station (see Figure 1, Project Location Map).

Purpose and Need for the Project

Golden Gate ferry operations at the Larkspur Ferry Terminal are currently constrained for the following reasons:

- The number of ferry revenue trips per day is capped at 42.
- The terminal site is space-constrained with limited parking.
- Vehicular ingress/egress of ferry customers to and from Sir Francis Drake Boulevard, a busy arterial, contributes to queuing and congestion during the morning and evening peak hours.

The purpose of the Larkspur Ferry Service and Parking Expansion Project is to:

- 1) Relieve congestion within the US-101 highway corridor and the Golden Gate Bridge by providing increased ferry service;
- 2) Meet increasing demand for ferry service from Larkspur and Sonoma and Marin Counties to existing and planned ferry terminals in San Francisco;
- 3) Develop parking solutions that will accommodate additional passengers accessing current and expanded ferry service to San Francisco.

The need for the proposed project is to meet forecasted ferry demand. Larkspur ferry service has traditionally been in high demand, particularly during peak commute hours. Prior to the pandemic, the primary and overflow parking lots at the Larkspur Ferry Terminal would be filled before 10 a.m. and vessels frequently would reach full capacity.

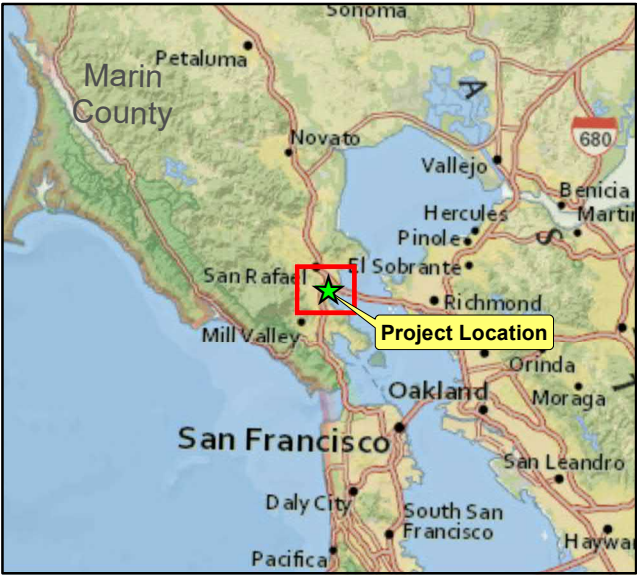
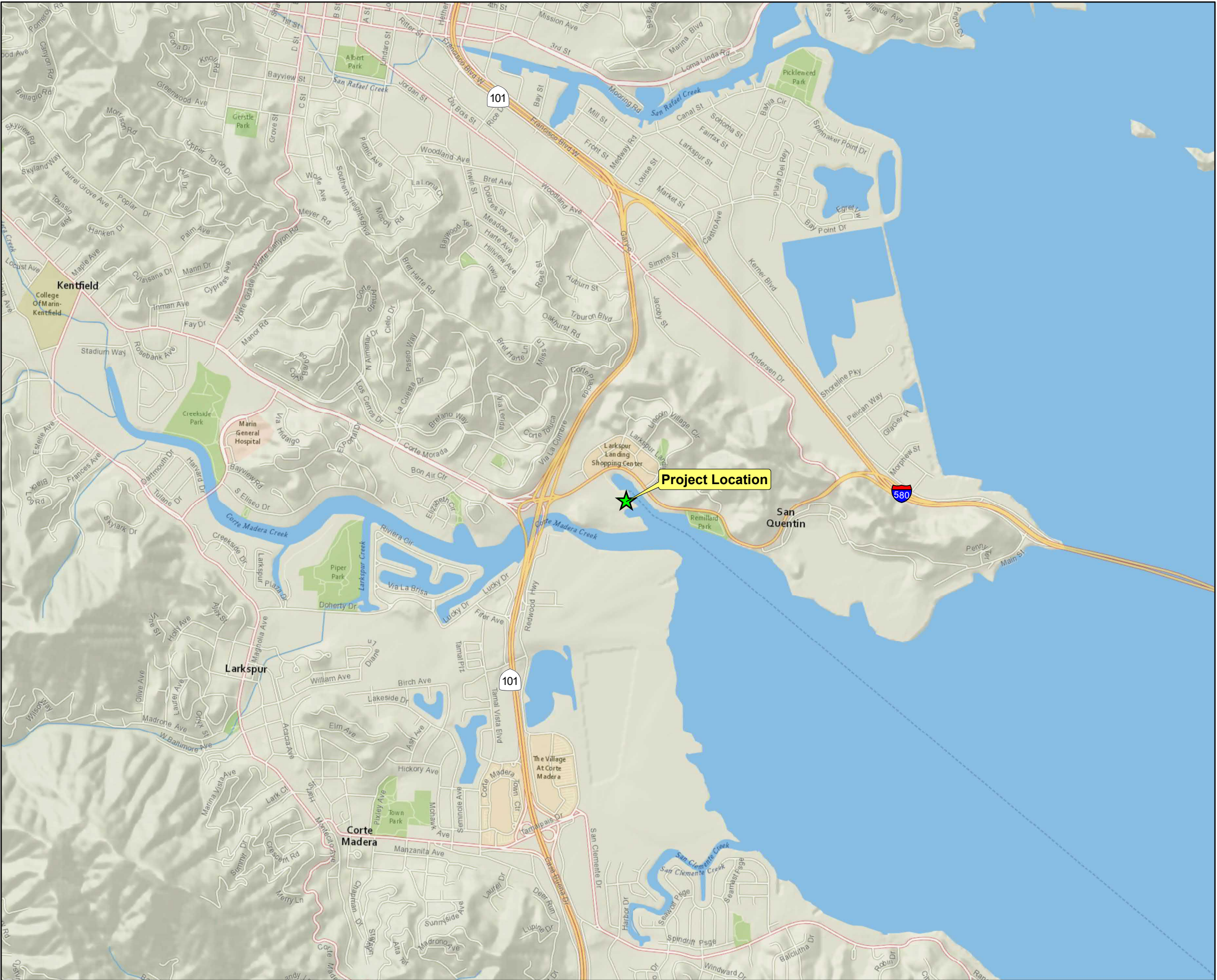
Potential Environmental Impacts

The Project may have the following potential environmental impacts:

- Aesthetic/Visual,
- Air Quality,
- Archeological/Historical,
- Biological Resources,
- Noise,
- Population/Housing Balance,
- Public Services/Facilities,
- Water Recreation,
- Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading,
- Traffic/Circulation,
- Transit Connectivity and Demand
- Pedestrian and bicycle Access
- Water Quality,
- Wake Wash,
- Wetlands,
- Land Use, and
- Sea Level Rise
- Energy
- Greenhouse Gas
- Tribal Cultural Resources

Scoping Meeting

The District will be holding a scoping meeting for the public and agencies during the 30 day Notice of Preparation period (October 1 through October 30) for input on the scope of the Environmental Impact Report. The scoping meeting will be held on October 15, 2024 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Drakes Landing Community Room located at 300 Drakes Landing in Greenbrae. Comments on the Notice of Preparation should be submitted during the Notice of Preparation period to: LFEP@goldengate.org. Attention: Ron Downing



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★ Project Location

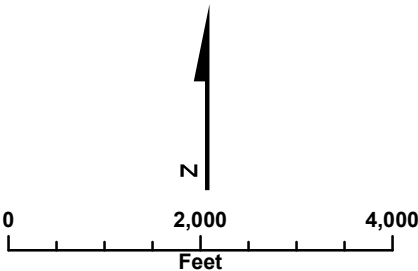
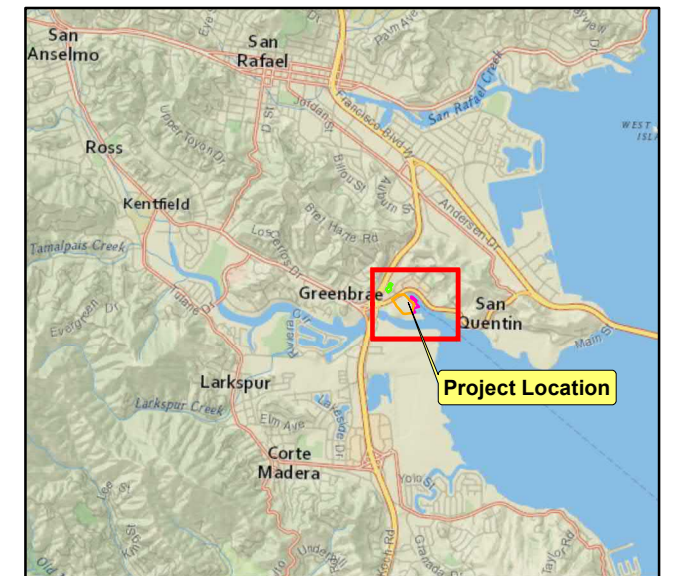


FIGURE 1
Vicinity Map
Larkspur Ferry Service and Parking Expansion
Golden Gate Bridge Highway and Transportation District
Marin County, California



LEGEND

- Larkspur Ferry Terminal
- Main Parking Lot
- Overflow Parking
- Larkspur SMART Station
- Corte Madera Channel

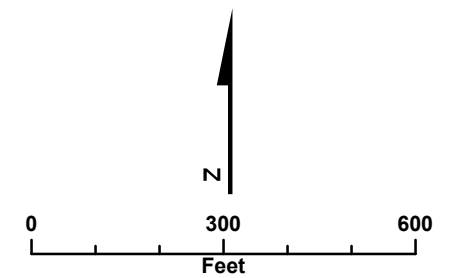


FIGURE 2
Project Location
 Larkspur Ferry Service and Parking Expansion
 Golden Gate Bridge Highway and Transportation District
 Marin County, California

Notice of Completion & Environmental Document Transmittal

Mail to: State Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 (916) 445-0613
 For Hand Delivery/Street Address: 1400 Tenth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

SCH #**Project Title:** Larkspur Ferry Service Expansion and Parking Project

Lead Agency: Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District

Contact Person: Ron Downing, Director of Planning

Mailing Address: 1011 Anderson Drive, San Rafael, CA

Phone: 415-257-4583

City: Larkspur

Zip: 94901-5318

County: Marin

Project Location: County: Marin

City/Nearest Community: Larkspur

Cross Streets: Sir Francis Drake Boulevard

Zip Code: 94901

Longitude/Latitude (degrees, minutes and seconds): _____ ° _____ ' _____ " N / _____ ° _____ ' _____ " W Total Acres: _____

Assessor's Parcel No.: _____ Section: _____ Twp.: _____ Range: _____ Base: _____

Within 2 Miles: State Hwy #: I-580 and U.S. 101

Waterways: San Francisco Bay and Corte Madera Creek

Airports: N/A

Railways: Larkspur SMART

Schools: N/A

Document Type:

CEQA: ☒ NOP ☐ Draft EIR NEPA: ☐ NOI Other: ☐ Joint Document
☐ Early Cons ☐ Supplement/Subsequent EIR ☐ EA ☐ Final Document
☐ Neg Dec (Prior SCH No.) _____ ☐ Draft EIS ☐ Other: _____
☐ Mit Neg Dec Other: _____ ☐ FONSI

Local Action Type:

☐ General Plan Update ☐ Specific Plan ☐ Rezone ☐ Annexation
☐ General Plan Amendment ☐ Master Plan ☐ Prezone ☐ Redevelopment
☐ General Plan Element ☐ Planned Unit Development ☐ Use Permit ☐ Coastal Permit
☐ Community Plan ☐ Site Plan ☐ Land Division (Subdivision, etc.) ☐ Other: _____

Development Type:

☐ Residential: Units _____ Acres _____
☐ Office: Sq.ft. _____ Acres _____ Employees _____
☐ Commercial: Sq.ft. _____ Acres _____ Employees _____
☐ Industrial: Sq.ft. _____ Acres _____ Employees _____
☐ Educational: _____
☐ Recreational: _____
☒ Water Facilities: Type Ferry Terminal MGD _____
☒ Transportation: Type _____
☐ Mining: Mineral _____
☐ Power: Type _____ MW _____
☐ Waste Treatment: Type _____ MGD _____
☐ Hazardous Waste: Type _____
☐ Other: _____

Project Issues Discussed in Document:

☒ Aesthetic/Visual ☐ Fiscal ☒ Recreation/Parks ☐ Vegetation
☐ Agricultural Land ☐ Flood Plain/Flooding ☐ Schools/Universities ☒ Water Quality
☒ Air Quality ☐ Forest Land/Fire Hazard ☐ Septic Systems ☐ Water Supply/Groundwater
☒ Archeological/Historical ☐ Geologic/Seismic ☐ Sewer Capacity ☒ Wetland/Riparian
☒ Biological Resources ☐ Minerals ☒ Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading ☐ Growth Inducement
☐ Coastal Zone ☒ Noise ☐ Solid Waste ☒ Land Use
☐ Drainage/Absorption ☒ Population/Housing Balance ☐ Toxic/Hazardous ☒ Cumulative Effects
☐ Economic/Jobs ☒ Public Services/Facilities ☒ Traffic/Circulation ☒ Other: Sea Level Rise, Wake Wash

Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Designation:

Transportation

Project Description: (please use a separate page if necessary)

The Larkspur Ferry Service and Parking Expansion Project proposes increased capacity by adding more high-speed boats, potentially creating a new ferry route to the foot of 16th Street near San Francisco's booming Mission Bay and UC San Francisco medical center and expanding Larkspur Ferry Terminal parking. The Project proposes the opportunity to connect Golden Gate Ferry with SMART's Larkspur station, located in the near vicinity.

Note: The State Clearinghouse will assign identification numbers for all new projects. If a SCH number already exists for a project (e.g. Notice of Preparation or previous draft document) please fill in.

Reviewing Agencies Checklist

Lead Agencies may recommend State Clearinghouse distribution by marking agencies below with an "X".
If you have already sent your document to the agency please denote that with an "S".

☒ Air Resources Board	☒ Office of Historic Preservation
☒ Boating & Waterways, Department of	☐ Office of Public School Construction
☐ California Emergency Management Agency	☐ Parks & Recreation, Department of
☐ California Highway Patrol	☐ Pesticide Regulation, Department of
☐ Caltrans District # _____	☐ Public Utilities Commission
☐ Caltrans Division of Aeronautics	☒ Regional WQCB # _____
☐ Caltrans Planning	☐ Resources Agency
☐ Central Valley Flood Protection Board	☐ Resources Recycling and Recovery, Department of
☐ Coachella Valley Mtns. Conservancy	☒ S.F. Bay Conservation & Development Comm.
☐ Coastal Commission	☐ San Gabriel & Lower L.A. Rivers & Mtns. Conservancy
☐ Colorado River Board	☐ San Joaquin River Conservancy
☐ Conservation, Department of	☐ Santa Monica Mtns. Conservancy
☐ Corrections, Department of	☐ State Lands Commission
☐ Delta Protection Commission	☐ SWRCB: Clean Water Grants
☐ Education, Department of	☐ SWRCB: Water Quality
☐ Energy Commission	☐ SWRCB: Water Rights
☒ Fish & Game Region # _____	☐ Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
☐ Food & Agriculture, Department of	☐ Toxic Substances Control, Department of
☐ Forestry and Fire Protection, Department of	☒ Water Resources, Department of
☐ General Services, Department of	☐ Other: _____
☐ Health Services, Department of	☐ Other: _____
☒ Housing & Community Development	
☒ Native American Heritage Commission	

Local Public Review Period (to be filled in by lead agency)

Starting Date _____ Ending Date _____

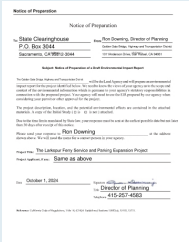
Lead Agency (Complete if applicable):

Consulting Firm: _____	Applicant: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____	City/State/Zip: _____
Contact: _____	Phone: _____
Phone: _____	

Signature of Lead Agency Representative:  Date: October 1, 2024

Authority cited: Section 21083, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 21161, Public Resources Code.

DOCUMENT

	Title
	Notice of Preparation
	Filename
	Larkspur Ferry-Notice of Preparation_Fi...e2_508.pdf
	Language
en	Tags
	Pages
2 MB	Size

RESULT

The PDF/UA requirements checked by PAC are fulfilled.

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ABOUT PAC

Version: 24.0.0.1
OS: Windows

DOCUMENT

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	Notice of Completion & Environmental Docume...mittal			
	Filename			
	Larkspur Ferry-Notice of Completion_508.pdf			
Language				Tags
en				88
				Pages
				2
				Size
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RESULT

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ABOUT PAC

Version: 24.0.0.1
OS: Windows