

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT
a Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration
for the Orleans Mutual Water Company Water Distribution System Replacement Project**

TO: State Clearinghouse, State Responsible Agencies, State Trustee Agencies, Other Public Agencies, and Interested Organizations and Parties.

PROPOSED PROJECT: Orleans Mutual Water Company Water Distribution System Replacement Project

PROJECT LOCATION: The proposed project is located in a rural, unincorporated portion of Humboldt County. The project site is located approximately one mile west of downtown Orleans. The community of Orleans is surrounded by the Six Rivers National Forest and the Marble Mountain Wilderness Area. Land uses surrounding the project site include single-family homes and public land used for timber extraction primarily within the Six Rivers National Forest. The Project site is located within the U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute Orleans, CA topographic quadrangle Township 11 North, Range 5 East, Section 36.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: An existing water distribution system operated by the Orleans Mutual Water Company would be demolished or abandoned in place and replaced with new water alignment piping. The proposed project is divided into three water main alignments: the Crawford Hill Subdivision Alignment, the Camp Creek Crossing Alignment, and the Raw Water Alignment. The Crawford Hill Subdivision Alignment would serve properties within the Crawford Hill Subdivision; the Camp Creek Crossing Alignment would serve properties on the eastern side of Placer Drive and along Lower Camp Creek Road, east of Camp Creek; the Raw Water Alignment would provide raw water for agricultural irrigation to the Tishaniik farm. A turnout would be installed at the bottom of Lower Camp Creek Road for future consolidation with the Orleans Community Services District and for water system redundancy. New non-potable fire hydrants would be installed at approximately 500 ft intervals along Camp Creek Road and Placer Drive. Additionally, a total of 38 new water services would be installed at each property to replace the services of the existing water mains. The new water services would include new water meters and customer-side isolation valves in separate valve boxes.

AVAILABILITY OF THE DOCUMENT: The Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration can be downloaded for review from the Humboldt County website at: <https://humboldt.gov/1426/Natural-Resources>

REVIEW PERIOD: The Humboldt County Public Works Department, as the California Environmental Quality Act Lead Agency, is providing a 30-day public review period for the Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration. The review period begins on November 12, 2024 and ends on December 11, 2024.

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION: The Humboldt County Public Works Department welcomes and encourages agency and public review and comment on the proposed Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration. Anyone wishing to make formal comments on the environmental document must do so in writing by mailing comments to the address listed below or submitting them by email. The full name and physical mailing address of the agency, individual, or organization must be included in the comment. Please use the phrase "Orleans Mutual Water Company Water Distribution System Replacement Project IS/MND Comment" in the subject line.

Send comments by email to Andrew Bundschuh at: abundschuh@co.humboldt.ca.us

Send comments by regular mail to:

Humboldt County Public Works Department
Environmental Services Division
1106 Second Street
Eureka, CA 95501

All written comments must be received by the Humboldt County Public Works Department no later than 5:00pm on December 11, 2024

PUBLIC MEETINGS: The proposed project and the Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration will be presented in a public meeting before the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors at 9:00am on December 17, 2024, or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, at the Board Chambers located at 825 5th Street, Eureka, CA.

Additional information may be obtained by contacting the Humboldt County Public Works Department, Environmental Services Division at (707) 445-7741, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:00am and 5:00pm.

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