

General Plan Biological Resources Policy Update Project Fact Sheet



Public Scoping Meeting

**1:00 p.m. on Thursday,
August 13, 2015**

To seek input and comments from public agencies and interested persons on the scope and content of the environmental analyses to be included in the draft EIR.

**Regular Meeting of the
Planning Commission,
PC Hearing Room, Bldg. C
2850 Fairlane Ct., Placerville**

Public Workshops

A series of five public workshops were held with the Board of Supervisors in the Board Chambers January – June 2015: January 26, February 23, March 30, May 18, and June 22. These workshops were a continuing discussion of the 10 decision points presented to the Board on January 13, 2015. Workshop materials were available in advance on the project webpage (*weblink at bottom of this sheet*).

Questions ?

- **Email or Call:**
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Project Overview

The County is updating the biological resources policies and implementation measures in the County's General Plan and the Oak Resources Management Plan (ORMP). The project requires the completion of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR). On July 17, 2015, the County released a Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a draft EIR for a 30-day public review period. The deadline to submit comments is **5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 17, 2015**. The draft EIR is anticipated to be released in November 2015 for a 45-day review period. The final EIR is anticipated to be released in April 2016 with Board adoption hearings in May 2016.

Project Background

In May 2008, the Board of Supervisors adopted the Oak Woodland Management Plan (OWMP) to implement Option B provisions of General Plan Policy 7.4.4.4 and Measure CO-P. These provisions would establish an Oak Conservation In-Lieu Fee for the purchase of conservation easements for oak woodland in areas identified as Priority Conservation Areas. In June 2008, a lawsuit was filed challenging the approval of the OWMP. In 2010, the Court ruled to uphold the Board's action to adopt the Plan. However, on appeal, the Appellate Court over-ruled that decision, remanding the case back to Superior Court, with the direction to require the County to prepare an Environmental Impact Report for the OWMP. The OWMP was rescinded on September 4, 2012 (Resolution 123-2012) and its implementing ordinance was rescinded on September 11, 2012 (Ord. No. 4892). For the time being, only Option A of Policy 7.4.4.4 is available to mitigate impacts to oak woodlands.



In September 2012, the Board of Supervisors directed staff to prepare a General Plan Amendment to amend the Conservation of Biological Resources section of the Conservation and Open Space Element of the General Plan and their related Implementation Measures. In March 2014, the Board approved a three-year contract with consulting firm Dudek to assist the County with this project. In July 2014, Dudek presented the Board with historical background, current status of the six General Plan biological policies and related implementation measures, and four approach options. In November 2014, the Board selected the Mitigation/Conservation Approach. In January 2015, Dudek presented the Board with ten decision points and a proposed project schedule which included a series of five public workshops with the Board (*see Sidebar*).

Anticipated Project Schedule

Draft EIR Public Review Period (Public Meetings)	Nov - Dec 2015
Planning Commission Hearing on Final EIR	April 2016
Board of Supervisors Hearing/Adoption of Final EIR	May 2016

Revised: 7/14/2015

For more information, visit the project webpage on the County website:

www.edcgov.us/Government/LongRangePlanning/Environmental/BioPolicyUpdate.aspx