

Date: July 3, 2015

To: Responsible and Trustee Agencies, Interested Parties, and Organizations

**Subject: INITIAL STUDY AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A NEGATIVE
DECLARATION FOR THE LIBERTY ISLAND ECOLOGICAL RESERVE LAND
MANAGEMENT PLAN**

The California Department Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has prepared an Initial Study (IS) and intends to adopt a Negative Declaration (ND) for the proposed project in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and CEQA Guidelines.

Project Title: Liberty Island Ecological Reserve, Land Management Plan

Lead Agency: CDFW

Project Location: The project site is located at the southern end of the Yolo Bypass in the northern Delta, approximately 12 miles southeast of Dixon and 10 miles north of Rio Vista. The area is located on the southern half of the Liberty Island and along the northern edge of the Rio Vista U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute quadrangles. The majority of the project is located in Solano County, but the northern stair-step portion is within Yolo County.

Project Description: The Liberty Island Ecological Reserve (LIER) Land Management Plan (LMP) will guide the adaptive management of habitats, species, and programs on the 5,303-acre partially inundated island and intends to protect and enhance fish and wildlife values; serve as a guide for appropriate public uses of LIER; serve as a descriptive inventory of fish, wildlife, and native and non-native plants and vegetation communities that occur within LIER; and provide an overview of the property's planned operation and maintenance activities and of the personnel requirements to implement management goals.

Environmental Review Process: CDFW has prepared an IS/ND on the proposed project in accordance with the requirements of CEQA. The IS/ND provides an assessment of the proposed project's potential adverse impacts on the environment and concludes the proposed project would not have any significant adverse effects on the environment after implementation of mitigation measures.

Public Review Period: The IS/MND is being circulated for public review and comment for a review period of 30 days starting July 6, 2015. Written comments should be submitted and received at the following address no later than close of business (4:00 p.m.) on August 5, 2015.

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To Review or Obtain a Copy of the Environmental Document: Copies of the draft IS/MND may be reviewed at the following locations:

CDFW Website – <https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Notices>

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Bay Delta Region
7329 Silverado Trail
Napa, CA 94558

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area
45211 County Road 32B
Davis, CA 95618

Solano County Library – Fairfield Civic Center Branch
1150 Kentucky St.
Fairfield, CA 94533

Yolo County Library – Mary L. Stephens Branch
315 E 14th St
Davis, CA 95616