



Midpeninsula Regional
Open Space District

R-14-99
Meeting 14-17
July 23, 2014

AGENDA ITEM 7

AGENDA ITEM

Contract to Provide Pond Restoration work at the La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve

GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Authorize the General Manager to enter into an agreement with TKO General Engineering and Construction Inc. of Woodside, CA, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$122,351 to provide Pond Restoration work at the La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve.
2. Determine that the recommended action is consistent with the Mitigated Negative Declaration and Mitigation Monitoring Plan for Implementation of the La Honda Creek Master Plan, approved by the Board on August 22, 2012.

SUMMARY

The Request for Bids for the Pond DR05 Restoration Project was originally released on June 11, 2014. The District completed the bid process on Friday July 11, 2014 with TKO as the apparent low bidder. Pond DR05 is one of the largest ponds located in the La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve (See Attachment 1, Project Maps). Historically it was used for stockwatering of cattle and was planted with bass by previous owners for recreational fishing opportunities. The pond is located within critical habitat for the federally listed California red-legged frog (CRLF) and presence of this species has been documented in all surrounding ponds that lack the presence of predatory fish species. Due to the abundance of predatory fish species, Pond DR05 is acting as a “sink” for the local CRLF populations, where CRLF are more likely to die (from predation) than to thrive and increase in numbers. In addition to the presence of invasive fish, the earthen berm supporting the pond has been in decline due to an inadequately sized and ill placed outlet pipe, which has led to overtopping and failure (See Attachment 2, Aerial of Pond DR05). The Pond DR05 Restoration Project will restore the pond to functional CRLF habitat by draining the pond to remove the invasive fish species. Pond restoration will also include placement of adequately sized outlet pipes to convey stormwater runoff, rebuilding of the failed earthen berm and re-contouring of the pond basin to improve ponding depth, duration, and habitat complexity. Additional tasks include removal of a waste tire dump site located in the channel above the pond, re-vegetation and fencing of the upstream gullies to reduce ongoing erosion, and road improvements to the surrounding ranch road network. The restored pond is expected to convert from a “sink” population to a “source” population, where CRLF will grow, thrive and increase in overall number, while continuing to provide water for wildlife and livestock that use the pond for drinking water.

DISCUSSION

Background

The Pond DR05 Restoration Project is located in the La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve (Preserve), northwest of the Town of La Honda, adjacent to an unpaved ranch road (See Attachment 1, Project Maps). The project objectives are to restore the integrity of an important pond feature that provides aquatic habitat for the federally-listed California red-legged frog, provide year-round stock water access for the onsite cattle operation, and improve downstream water quality for two listed salmonid species. The Project will improve CRLF habitat by draining the pond to remove invasive fish species, rebuilding the failing earthen berm and re-contouring the pond basin to improve ponding duration, installing primary and secondary outlets to effectively convey stormwater, fencing upstream gullies to reduce erosion, and continuing to provide water for wildlife and livestock that use the pond for drinking water.

The need to repair Pond DR05 was first identified in 2008 when the berm was observed slowly failing over time as the original outlet structure was insufficient and water would overtop the berm. Higher priority projects were identified in the Pond Management Plan prepared by Vollmar Consulting in 2009 for the former Wool Ranch portion of La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve. These projects were completed in 2010 and 2012. At this time, Pond DR05 is the highest priority pond in need of repair at the Preserve (See Attachment 2 Project Aerial which shows the failed earthen berm). Project construction is scheduled for implementation in September 2014.

Contractor Selection

The bid package was sent to twelve (12) contractors as well as released to five (5) builders' exchanges. A legal notice was also posted in the Half Moon Bay Review and San Mateo County Times, and an Invitation to Bid was posted on the District website. A pre-bid meeting was held on June 20, 2014. Six contractors attended the pre-bid tour.

Sealed bids were due on Friday, July 11, 2014, and one bid was received as shown below, with TKO announced as the apparent low bidder:

	Bidder	Location	Base Bid	Percent Difference from Base Bid Estimate of \$95,000
1.	TKO General Engineering and Construction Inc.	Woodside, CA	\$64,879	-32%

Evaluation of the bids revealed that the apparent low bidder, TKO presented a complete and responsive bid package. Therefore, staff recommends awarding the contract for pond repair services to TKO for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$122,351, which includes a bid amount of \$64,879 plus \$37,080 for selected add alternates as well as a 20% contingency amount of \$20,392. This amount is within the FY2014-15 Natural Resources Department budget of \$170,000 for implementation of this Project. See anticipated Project budget breakdown in Table 1, below:

Table 1. Pond DR05 Restoration Anticipated Cost Breakdown:

Base Bid	Labor and Materials: Install silt fence, clay cutoff wall, rebuild failed berm, re-contour pond, install outlet pipes, erosion control, and removal of waste tire dump site	\$64,879
Add Alternates (Anticipated additional items)	Labor and Materials: Install staff gage in pond, dewatering, general earthwork, and up to one mile of additional roadwork removing and replacing failed culverts, road reshaping, and installation of rolling/critical dips	\$37,080
Contingency (Unanticipated additional costs)	Labor and Materials: Address any unanticipated issues as directed by the project engineer (such as: install a pond liner, install toe drain, over-excavation and re-compaction, etc.)	\$20,392
TOTAL		\$122,351

In addition to the add alternate items, which the District plans to award based on the low cost of the submitted bid, an additional 20% contingency has also been requested for this Project. The 20% contingency is due to this project being considered to carry a heightened risk of encountering unanticipated conditions as evidenced by irregularities encountered during past pond projects completed by the District at the same Preserve.

One of the base bid items requires the selected contractor, under direction of the project engineers, to dig an exploratory trench on the inside face of the berm to minimize any surprises that may be encountered during construction. Although soil borings have already been completed at the site, they only present a small sampling of the entire project area. The exploratory trench will provide a cross section to determine the suitability of the existing berm and to reveal if any subsurface conditions exist that would require additional work beyond what was originally anticipated. If any subsurface conditions that were not anticipated are encountered, the 20% contingency will cover those costs to ensure that the project is able to proceed on schedule during the limited construction season (August 15 to September 30). Additional costs may include: additional grading, excavation, and compaction to rebuild a larger than anticipated portion of the berm, or over excavation and re-compaction within the pond basin to prevent seepage and/or installation of a toe drain to adequately convey water through the earthen berm without subjecting it to potential future failure.

Many of these scenarios are possible as outlined in the Lessons Learned document that was completed by Fall Creek Engineering in winter of 2013 after completion of the repair of the failed Pond DR08 Pond Restoration Project. The document details the many different scenarios that may be encountered when completing a pond restoration project in small stock watering ponds having an earthen berm. The document recommends a balance between spending a large amount upfront to replace the entire pond berm, which presents the lowest risk (but highest cost), and repairing only the failed section and any weak areas that are encountered during project construction which is a lower upfront cost, but does carry a heightened risk of encountering unexpected subsurface conditions. As currently designed, the project provides for the highest

quality repair that can be provided at a lower cost than that of rebuilding the entire berm and pond, but it does require a large contingency to provide the nimbleness needed to address any unexpected conditions encountered.

FISCAL IMPACT

Award of contract will result in a not-to-exceed contract amount of \$122, 351 being awarded to TKO General Construction and Engineering Inc. for the Project. This amount is well within the \$170,000 that was budgeted by the Natural Resources Department for this project in the FY2014-15 budget which was approved by the District's Board of Directors in March of 2014.

BOARD COMMITTEE REVIEW

No Board Committee review is required for this project.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice for the award of bid was provided as required by the Brown Act. No additional notice is required.

CEQA COMPLIANCE

Awarding the bid and issuing a contract agreement for construction services for the Pond DR05 Project is consistent with the Mitigated Negative Declaration and Mitigation Monitoring Plan for Implementation of the La Honda Creek Master Plan, approved by the Board on August 22, 2012 (see Report R-12-83).

NEXT STEPS

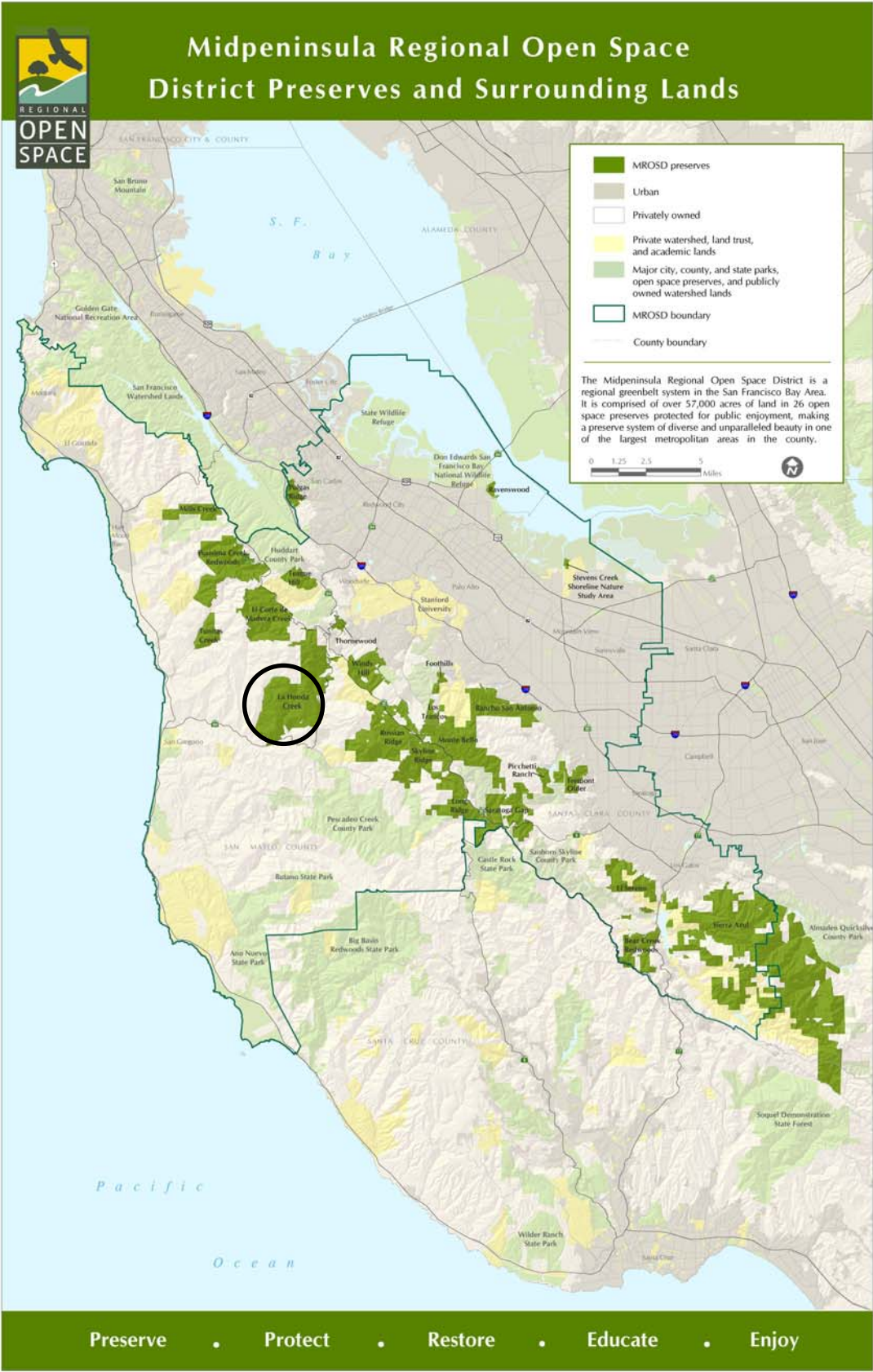
If approved by the Board, the General Manager will be authorized to enter into a contract with TKO to perform construction services for the Pond DR05 Restoration Project. Final contract signature is subject to meeting all District requirements, such as having all required insurance and bonding in place. The project is scheduled to begin in August and be completed by October 2014.

Attachments:

1. Project Maps
2. Project Aerial

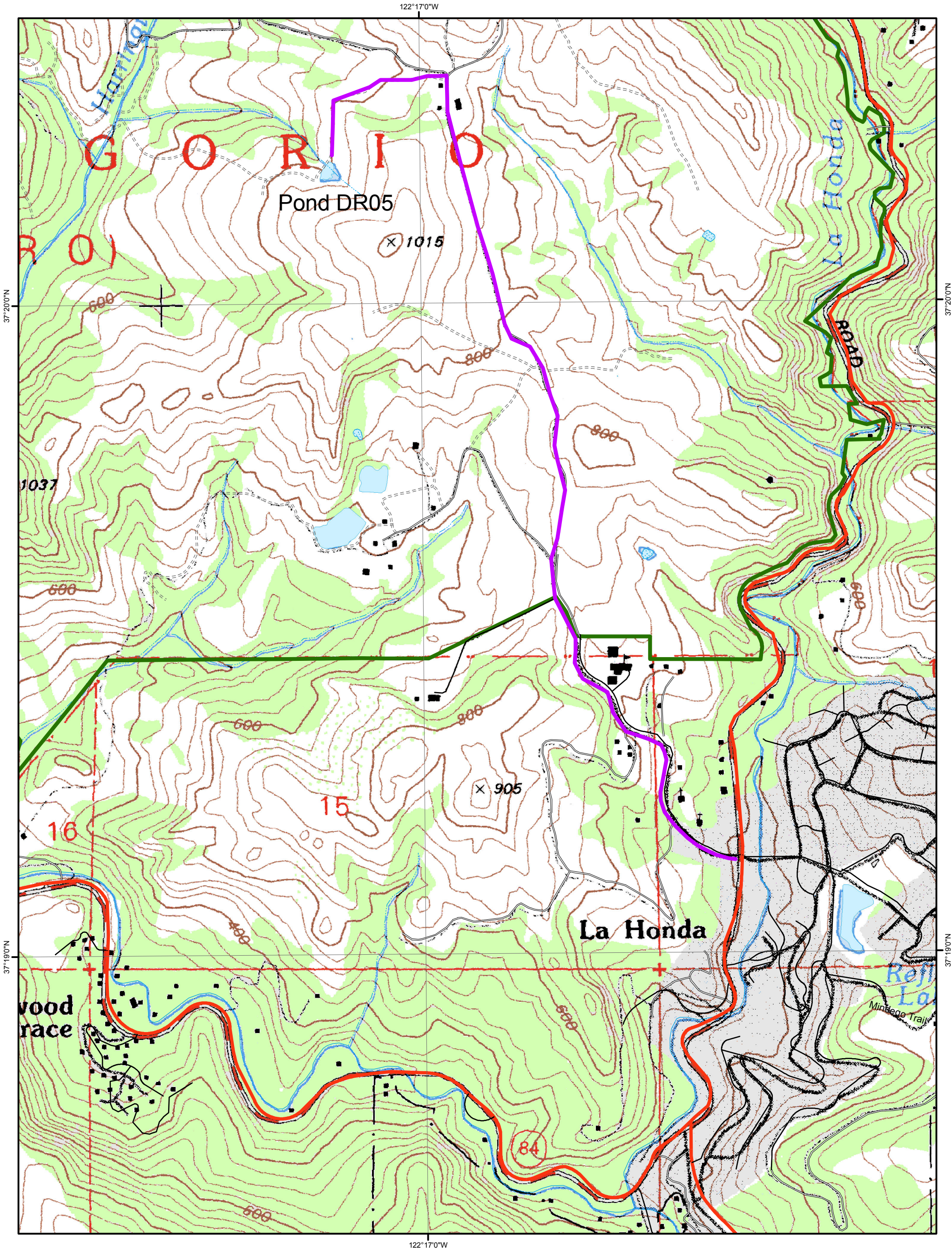
Responsible Department Manager:
Kirk Lenington, Natural Resources Manager


Prepared by:
Julie Andersen, Planner II



General Project Area
La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve

La Honda USGS Quadrangle Ponds DR05 Project Location



 La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve Boundary

 Pond DR05 Access Route

