



Midpeninsula Regional  
Open Space District

R-16-45  
Meeting 16-08  
April 13, 2016

### AGENDA ITEM 3

#### AGENDA ITEM

Award of Contract for Bear Creek Redwoods Ponds Assessment and Management Plan

#### GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the General Manager to enter into a contract with Balance Hydrologics, Inc. for a not to exceed amount of \$90,000, to assess three ponds and develop a management plan to guide restoration and maintenance actions at Bear Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve.

#### SUMMARY

A Request for Proposals and Qualifications was issued on February 26, 2016. Two well qualified teams submitted proposals on March 18, 2016. The proposals were reviewed and ranked by a panel consisting of three Midpen staff members, who recommend awarding the contract to the team led by Balance Hydrologics, Inc. to complete a Ponds Assessment and Management Plan to provide long term management recommendations for three ponds at the Bear Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve for a not to exceed amount of \$90,000.

#### MEASURE AA

A 5-year Measure AA (MAA) Project List was approved by the Board at their October 29, 2014 meeting and includes Portfolio #21: Bear Creek Redwoods Public Recreation and Interpretive Projects. In support of the larger Portfolio, the Board authorized MAA Project 21-8 Bear Creek Redwoods: Ponds Restoration at the FY2015-16 Midyear Budget Amendment. The proposed agreement with Balance Hydrologics Inc. will serve the goals of Project #21-8 by informing the District of the hydrological function, structural stability, and the biological opportunities and constraints of the three onsite ponds to develop recommendations that will guide future Preserve management.

#### DISCUSSION

##### Background

The ponds at Bear Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve (OSP) are positioned and formed in the San Andreas Fault zone and have been subject to human management and modification for over 100 years. The complications of the fault zone setting and uncertain history of human management and modification has resulted in the need for the District to: 1) understand the hydrologic function of the three onsite ponds to inform management decisions, 2) determine the structural stability of the three ponds to identify management actions needed to provide for long

term pond viability, and 3) prepare a habitat management plan for native species use of the ponds.

In May of 2015, a Water Resources Inventory (Inventory) was initiated at Bear Creek Redwoods OSP to assess historic and existing water sources and infrastructure within the Preserve for the process of determining feasible water supply sources for future Preserve development. Balance Hydrologics, Inc. was the consultant for the previous Inventory and will build upon their work to date to assess pond stability. Balance will work with subcontractors to determine the occurrence of both special status species and invasive non-native aquatic species to understand habitat quality and identify biological issues that would constrain the use of the ponds.

All of the information produced by the project studies will inform the Pond Assessment and Management Plan for the three ponds at Bear Creek Redwoods OSP. This Plan will address hydrology, seismic stability, geology, hydrology and provide recommendations for long-term pond management supported by bathymetry base maps, storage curves, and updated infrastructure maps.

### **Consultant Selection**

A Request for Proposals and Qualifications was issued on February 26, 2016 and was sent to eleven firms in the disciplines of biological services, hydrology, and engineering as well as posted on the District's website. A pre-proposal site tour was held at the project site on March 4, 2016 and was attended by 12 persons from 11 firms. Two well qualified teams submitted proposals by the March 18, 2016 deadline. The proposals were reviewed and ranked by an internal panel who recommend awarding the contract to Balance Hydrologics, Inc., as the most qualified and best suited for the project based on their response to the RFPQ, proposed approach, and responses to follow up questions.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The base price for the contract with Balance Hydrologics, Inc. is \$75,000. The FY2015-16 Natural Resources Department Budget included \$50,000 for project MAA 21-8 through June 30, 2016. The remaining balance of funds will be allocated in the FY2016-17 Natural Resources Department Budget to carry the project through its anticipated completion in November of 2016.

An allowance up to an additional \$15,000 is also recommended for additional geotechnical borings at one or more ponds if warranted by initial fieldwork and authorized in advance by the District project manager (estimated at \$5,000 per pond), or additional tasks required by the District that will be billed on a time and materials basis.

The contract award authorizes the General Manager to enter into a contract for an amount not to exceed \$90,000, of which \$15,000 will be held in reserve as described above.

### **BOARD COMMITTEE REVIEW**

The Bear Creek Redwoods Preserve Plan process has had substantial Board, Committee, and public review. These reviews have most recently been summarized during the CEQA Scoping Session for the Proposed Bear Creek Redwoods Preserve Plan at the Board meeting of June 24, 2015 (R-15-92).

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Public notice was provided as required by the Brown Act and additional notification, including this report, will also be sent to important stakeholders and project partners who have been supporting or involved in the development of the Preserve Plan. A notification mailing was sent on April 8, 2016.

**CEQA COMPLIANCE**

This item is not a project subject to the California Environmental Quality Act. The ponds assessment and management plan will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment [CEQA Guidelines Section 15060(c)(2)].

**NEXT STEPS**

If approved for award of contract, Balance Hydrologics, Inc. will begin field analysis and assessment of the ponds. Over the next six months, Balance will complete needed site visits, assessments, and analyses to develop the Pond Management Plan to guide future use and management of the ponds at Bear Creek Redwoods OSP.

## Attachment

1. Map of Project Area.

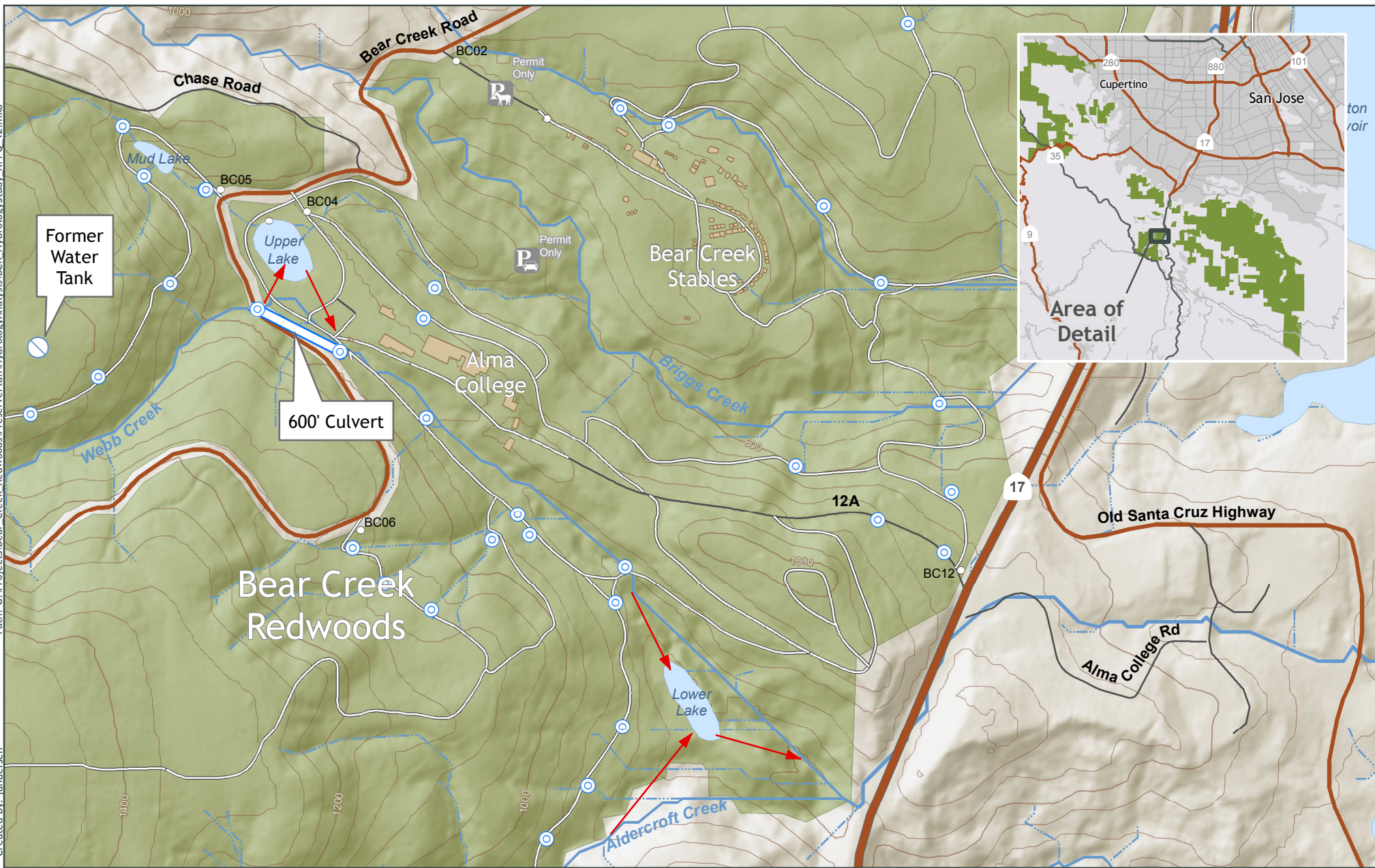
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Path: G:\Projects\Bear\_Creek\_Redwoods\PreservePlan\HydrologyAnalysis\BCR\_HydrologyStudy\_RFP0\_v2.mxd  
Created By: jandersen



### Pond Locations and Hydrology Map, Bear Creek Redwoods

- |                       |                          |                    |                          |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| MROSD Preserves       | Freeway or Major Highway | Building/Structure | Streams (LiDAR-derived): |
| Highway or Major Road | Minor Paved Road         | Gate               |                          |
| Minor Unpaved Road    | Lake                     | Culvert            |                          |
|                       | Additional input/outlet  |                    |                          |
|                       |                          |                    |                          |
- |        |
|--------|
| Tier 2 |
| Tier 3 |
| Tier 4 |
| Tier 5 |

Midpeninsula Regional  
Open Space District  
(MROSD)



March, 2016



While the District strives to use the best available digital data, this data does not represent a legal survey and is merely a graphic illustration of geographic features.