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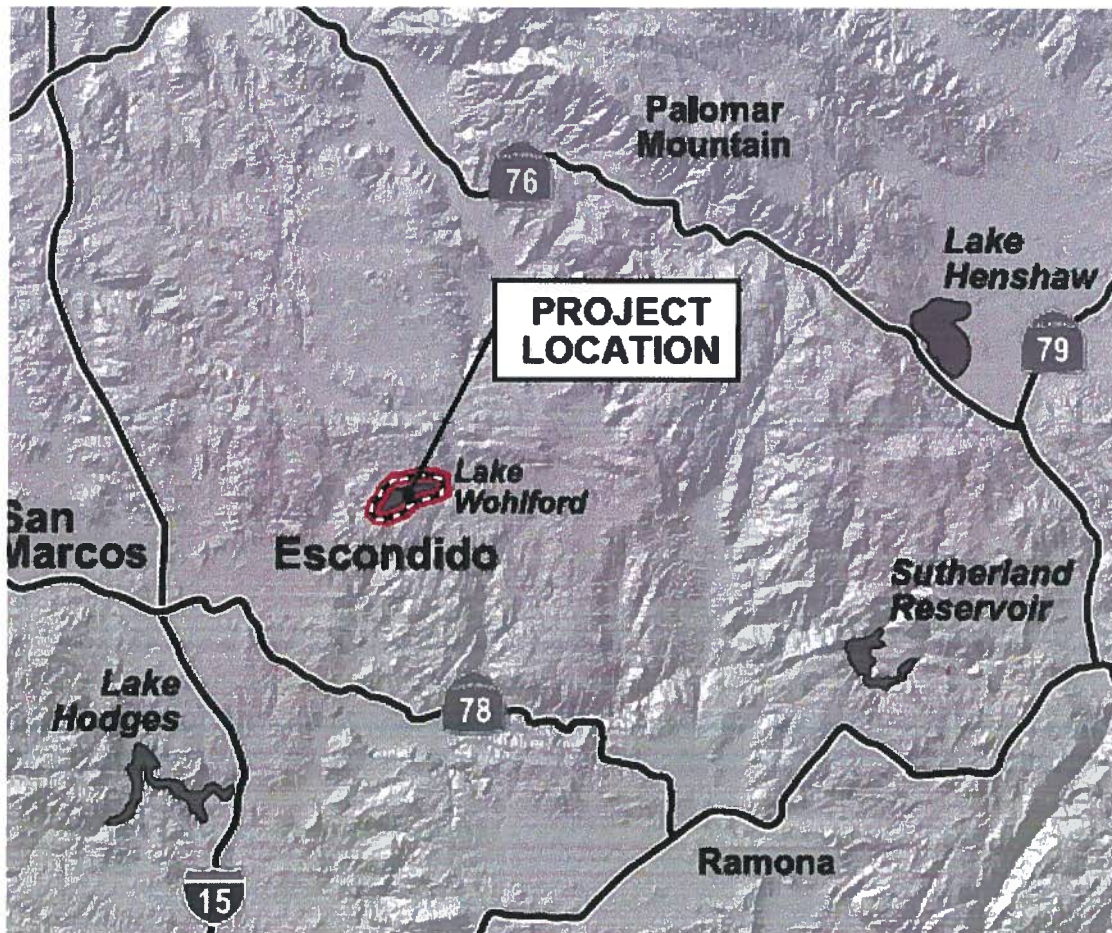
NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE LAKE WOHLFORD DAM REPLACEMENT PROJECT – ENV 13-0005 (SCH #2015041091)

The City of Escondido (City), as lead agency pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970 (CEQA) statues (Cal. Pub. Res. Code § 21 et seq., as amended) and implementing guidelines (Cal. Code Regs., Title 14, § 15000 et seq.) (1998) has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Lake Wohlford Dam Replacement Project that is now available for public review and comment.

The project proposes to construct a replacement dam immediately downstream (west) of the existing Lake Wohlford Dam and partially deconstruct the existing dam by removing the hydraulic fill material that is at a higher elevation than the original rockfill. The replacement dam would feature an outlet tower that is integrated into the dam's upstream face; the top of the existing outlet tower would be demolished, and the bottom of the existing outlet tower and the outlet pipe would be filled with sand and abandoned in place. The project would entail improvement and extension of an existing unpaved access road located west of the Lake Wohlford Marina, extending it to the right (north) abutment of the replacement dam. The road would provide equipment and material access to the dam construction zone and, following completion of the project, would provide permanent maintenance and inspection access to the right abutment and the dam crest. To accommodate the replacement dam's configuration, the project also entails realignment of the portion of Oakvale Road near the dam's left (south) abutment. This portion of the road would be realigned south of its current location, requiring excavation into the adjacent hillside. The replacement dam would be constructed so the resultant storage capacity and maximum reservoir level would be equal to the capacity and elevation prior to the implementation of a water level restriction, at 6,500 acre-feet and 1,480 feet AMSL, respectively, so the project proposes no changes to Lake Wohlford's historic high water level or storage capacity.

The Draft EIR evaluates the environmental impacts associated with project implementation. The Draft EIR includes the analysis of project impacts associated with aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology/soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and public safety, hydrology/water quality, noise, recreation, and traffic/circulation. Environmental analysis presented in the EIR concluded that the project would result in significant environmental impacts with respect to the following issue areas: air quality; biological resources; cultural resources; and noise. The environmental analysis concluded that mitigation for the project's impacts on air quality, biological resources, and cultural resources would reduce the identified impacts to a less-than-significant level. Analysis of the project's noise impacts concluded that temporary construction impacts would be significant and unavoidable, so adoption of the EIR would require the City to issue a Statement of Overriding Considerations identifying the social, economic, or other benefits that outweigh the unavoidable impacts, pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15093. It is anticipated the Escondido City Council will review and consider certifying the Final EIR in January of 2017.

In accordance with §15105 of the CEQA Guidelines, this public notice officially notifies the general public, public agencies, and interested individuals and organizations that a 45-day public review period will begin on October 4, 2016 and end on November 17, 2016. The Draft EIR may be viewed on the City's website at <https://www.escondido.org/lake-wohlford-dam-.aspx> or by navigating to www.escondido.org (from the main page, click on "City Departments," then "Community Development," then "Planning," and scroll down to "Projects/Lake Wohlford Dam"). Hardcopies of the Draft EIR and associated documents are available at the following locations during normal business hours: Escondido Public Library (239 S. Kalmia Street) and Escondido City Hall Planning Division (201 N. Broadway). The public review period is your opportunity to provide comments on issues related to the proposed project. Written comments regarding the adequacy of this Draft EIR must be received by **5:00 p.m. on November 17, 2016.**



Comments should be addressed or e-mailed to:

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Case File No.: ENV 13-0005

Date: September 29, 2016

Bill Martin, AICP
Director of Community Development