

STAFF REPORT

Meeting Type: Board of Directors

Title: Wildfire Season Preparation Update

From: Shaun Horne, Watershed Resources Manager

Through: Ben Horenstein, General Manager

Meeting Date: November 7, 2023

TYPE OF ACTION: Action X Information Review and Refer

RECOMMENDATION: Receive staff update on wildfire preparedness and mitigation actions underway to prepare for the upcoming wildfire season

SUMMARY: At the February 16, 2021 Board of Directors meeting, the final Wildfire Resilience Study 2021 (Study) was presented to the Board. Since that time, the District has been actively implementing the wildfire preparedness and mitigation actions outlined in the Study. Staff will provide a presentation that provides an overview of work that has been underway to prepare for the upcoming wildfire season and advance the mitigation actions identified in the study.

DISCUSSION: California is facing unprecedented wildfire conditions as a result of decades of fire suppression and increasing impacts associated with climate change. In many California ecosystems, biodiversity, carbon stability and overall ecological resilience are dependent on the regular occurrence of fire. However, the wildfire seasons over the past few years have brought record impacts to communities, critical infrastructure and ecosystems. In an effort to establish a more resilient water supply system, watershed, and community, Marin Water developed the Wildfire Resilience Study 2021 to identify proactive hazard reduction actions. The Draft Plan was completed in March of 2020 and the final Study was presented to the Board on February 16, 2021.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW: Not applicable.

FISCAL IMPACT: None.

ATTACHMENT(S): None.