FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Town of Hillsborough

Hillsborough Fire Hazard Mitigation and Fuel Reduction Program PDMC-PJ-09-CA-2008-057

The Town of Hillsborough (Town), San Mateo County, California, has applied, through the California Emergency Management Agency, to the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for Federal financial assistance to reduce the risk to life and property by mitigating the fire hazard in the Town (Proposed Project). The assistance would be provided through the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program (PDMC-PJ-09-CA-2008-057).

The Proposed Project consists of clearing vegetation (treatment) within eight Town-owned open space areas. The treatment would focus on reducing the biomass of vegetation, particularly non-native vegetation, through mowing, trimming, and pruning. Most of the treatment (80 to 90 percent) would concentrate on clearing shrubs and understory vegetation using hand tools and mechanical equipment. Herbicide would be painted onto stumps to prevent resprouting of freshly cut vegetation. The Proposed Project would reduce the risk of wildfire-related loss and damage in the Town.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, FEMA has prepared a Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the Hillsborough Fire Hazard Mitigation and Fuel Reduction Program (March 2013) to evaluate the impacts of the Proposed Project on the human environment. The SEA tiers from the Final Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) for Typical Recurring Actions Resulting from Flood, Earthquake, Fire, Rain, and Wind Disasters in California (December 2003), prepared by FEMA. The PEA and the SEA are available at FEMA's website for Environmental Documents and Public Notices in Region IX: http://www.fema.gov/environmental-planning-and-historic-preservation-program/environmental-documents-public-notices-5.

A Public Notice announcing the availability of the SEA was posted in the *San Mateo County Times*, a newspaper of general circulation published once daily in the Town of Hillsborough, and on FEMA's website for Environmental Documents and Public Notices in Region IX. No comments on the SEA were received during the 15-day comment period.

Based on the information contained in the PEA and the SEA, a review of the applicable environmental laws, and compliance with FEMA's regulations in 44 CFR Part 10 (Environmental Considerations), the following is concluded:

A Finding of No Significant Impact. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared. For more information, contact the Donna M. Meyer, Deputy Regional Environmental Officer, at (510) 627-7728.

Alessandro Amaglio

Region IX Environmental Officer

Date