BOLINAS COMMUNITY PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT
BCPUD BOX 390 270 ELM ROAD BOLINAS CALIFORNIA 94924 415 868 1224

MEMORANDUM

TO:	Board of Directors
FROM:	Georgia Woods, General Manager
RE:	***Item 13.*** *Status Update on Tree Removal under Emergency Proclamation*
DATE:	October 21, 2026

Purpose

To provide the Board with an update on the status of the Bike Path Hazard Tree Removal Project and the environmental review activities necessary to support tree removals authorized under the Governor's emergency proclamation.

Background

The District has been authorized to proceed with removal of hazard trees along the pedestrian and bicycle path, subject to completion of the environmental review and documentation requirements associated with the project. Staff has identified approximately 40 hazardous Blue Gum eucalyptus trees for potential removal and has completed field marking and mapping of the proposed trees.

Over the past several months, staff has been working with environmental consultants to advance the studies necessary to support the project and satisfy applicable environmental review requirements.

Environmental Review Progress

The two primary environmental work efforts previously authorized by the Board are currently underway:

Archaeological Review

Alta Archaeological Consulting has been retained to conduct the archaeological evaluation associated with the proposed hazard tree removals. Staff has also been working to locate and compile previously completed environmental studies from adjacent projects in an effort to improve efficiency and avoid duplication of prior work where possible.

Monarch Butterfly Habitat Assessment

Monarch butterfly specialist Stu Weiss recently completed a field visit to evaluate the proposed tree removals and assess potential impacts to monarch butterfly habitat. Staff is currently awaiting the technical memorandum documenting his findings and recommendations.

Coordination with Bolinas Eucalyptus Project

Staff has also met with representatives of the Bolinas Eucalyptus Project (BEP), including Janice Tweedy and Jon Cozzi, to keep them informed regarding the project, benefit from their familiarity with the eucalyptus grove, and discuss potential funding strategies.

Staff appreciates the willingness of BEP representatives to share their knowledge of the site and assist in thinking through opportunities for community fundraising and project implementation.

Next Steps

Completion of the project remains dependent upon the ongoing environmental review efforts currently underway.

Once the archaeological evaluation and monarch habitat assessment are complete, staff expects to have a clearer understanding of the final list of trees that can be removed and any associated mitigation requirements.

Following completion of the environmental review process, staff intends to:

1. Finalize the list of hazardous trees approved for removal.
2. Conduct a site walk with the District's arborist.
3. Obtain a cost estimate for the proposed removals.
4. Develop and launch a community fundraising campaign to support implementation of the project.
5. Return to the Board with funding and implementation recommendations.

If sufficient funding can be secured, staff's goal would be to complete the tree removals during the spring 2027 work season, with a target implementation window of approximately May 2027.

Recommended Board Action

Receive update. No action requested.