

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY  
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT**

**PROJECT LOCATION:** The Palms Groundwater Recovery Project (Recovery Project) is located in Kern County, CA., approximately 6 miles south of the unincorporated community of Buttonwillow, in the East Elk Hills and Tupman U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute quadrangles.

**COMMENT PERIOD:** December 4, 2020 to 5:00 p.m. January 18, 2021.

As Lead Agency, Buena Vista Water Storage District (District) has completed the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Recovery Project. The document is now available for public review and written comment at the District's office at 525 North Main Street, Buttonwillow, California 93206. The document is available online at the District's webpage at the following link: <http://www.bvh2o.com>.

The overall purpose of the Recovery Project is to enhance groundwater management by increasing the District's ability to recharge groundwater in wet years and return that banked water in dry years. Additionally, enhanced groundwater management would benefit agriculture by providing irrigation water supplies in years with limited surface water supplies. The Recovery Project involves the construction and replacement of a suite of 14 wells: nine proposed new wells and five replacement wells. Additionally, conveyance pipelines would be installed to connect these wells to a water delivery system.

The Draft EIR (SCH# 2020060315) has been prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970 (Public Resources Code [PRC] Section 21000, et seq.) and the State CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 14, Chapter 3, Section 15000, et seq.) to disclose the potential environmental consequences of implementing the Recovery Project.

The resources and environmental consequences discussed within the Draft EIR include: air quality, biological, cultural, hydrology/water quality, geology, and cumulative impacts. Mitigation is included in the Draft EIR to reduce impacts to less-than-significant levels.

The Draft EIR is being circulated for a 45-day public review period from December 4, 2020 to January 18, 2021. Written comments regarding the Draft EIR should be received by the District **NO LATER THAN 5:00 p.m., Monday, January 18, 2021** (note: District hours are 7:30 a.m. through 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday (except holidays)). Written comments should be submitted to:

Tim Ashlock, Engineer Manager  
Buena Vista Water Storage District  
P.O. Box 756  
Buttonwillow, CA 93206  
[tim@bvh2o.com](mailto:tim@bvh2o.com)

If you have any questions, please contact the undersigned at (661) 324-1101.

**SIGNED:**



Tim Ashlock  
Engineer Manager  
Buena Vista Water Storage District