Print Form

Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

Form F

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #: 2020060315

Project Title: Palms Groundwater Recovery Project

Lead Agency: Buena Vista Water Storage District (District)

Contact Name: Tim Ashlock

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Project Location: Buttonwillow, CA (*City*) Kern County (*County*)

Project Decription (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences).

The District is located in Kern County in the southern San Joaquin Valley, approximately 16 miles west of the city of Bakersfield and encompassing the town of Buttonwillow. In order to extract water banked within the District's Palms Groundwater Recharge Project, the District would utilize a suite of 14 wells: nine proposed new wells and five replacement wells. Conveyance pipes would be installed to connect new and replacement wells for the Recovery Project water delivery system. Construction activities would include excavation and trenching to install the wells, and approximately 11.9 miles of conveyance pipe. The total area of disturbance would be approximately 72 acres. Available surplus water supply will continue to be recharged at the Palms Groundwater Recharge Project during wet years. The District anticipates recharging up to 100,000 acre-feet per year through the Palms Groundwater Recharge Project when surplus water supply is available. The Recovery Project will be managed so that groundwater elevations will, in the long term, improve from those observed historically. Annual water recovery will be limited to no more than 25,000 acre-feet, with a total recovery not to exceed 90 percent of recharged water. Wells will be pumped at a rate of no more than 5 cubic feet per second, and the wells selected for recovery will be selected to optimize groundwater recovery and minimize impacts to groundwater levels.

Identify the project's significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

The Draft EIR identifies six resource areas - air quality, biological, cultural, hydrology/water quality, geology, and cumulative impacts - that would result in less-than significant impacts after mitigation implementation. For air quality, the District will be required to implement best management practices from the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District. Because special-status species may be present on-site during construction-related activities, the District will implement mitigation measures for biological resources. Because undiscovered historic properties, archaeological resources, tribal cultural resources, and human remains may be encountered during construction-related activities, the District will implement mitigation measures for cultural resources. Because there is a chance of discovering unknown paleontological resources within the project site, the District will implement a mitigation measure for geology. For hydrology, the District will implement five mitigation measures to ensure that water quality standards are met. Finally, the District will implement two groundwater level related mitigation measures under cumulative impacts.

If applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

There are no known areas of controversy.

Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

California Department of Fish and Wildlife