

# 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 #: 2020100292

Project Title: Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-2025 Non-Potable Water (NPW) Pipeline Connection Project

Lead Agency: Coachella Valley Water District

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Project Location: Palm Desert, Indio, unincorporated Riverside County Riverside County  
*City* *County*

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

The proposed FY 2024-2025 NPW Pipeline Connection Project (Modified Project) would expand CVWD's WRP #7 and WRP #10 NPW services and deliver an average of approximately 2,993 acre feet per year (AFY) of NPW to five new NPW customers and would expand the low pressure pipeline capacity within the WRP #10 service area (see Table 1). The proposed Project would involve the installation of approximately 34,200 linear feet of pipeline ranging from 12-inch to 36-inch diameter. All excavations would be approximately 5 feet deep with an average width of approximately 3 feet. Most of the activities would be located within City of Palm Desert and City of Indio rights-of-way with approximately 4,200 linear feet of pipeline within customer-owned properties. Construction activities associated with the Modified Project would involve the installation of pipelines, concrete-work, and installation of metering and control vaults, flow

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

Biological Resources  
Cultural Resources  
Geology and Soils  
Hazards and Hazardous Materials  
Transportation  
Tribal Cultural Resources

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

N/A

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

California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
State Water Resources Control Board

**Addendum No. 1 to  
Mitigated Negative Declaration for the  
Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Non-Potable Water Connections Project**

**Biological Resources Impacts**

- The Modified Project could have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- The Modified Project could interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites.
- The Modified Project could conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan.

*Mitigation Measures*

*BIO-1 Nesting Birds*

Project-related activities should occur outside of the bird breeding season (typically January 1 to September 15 to account for both passerines and raptors) to the extent practicable. If construction must occur within the bird breeding season, then no more than 3 days prior to initiation of ground disturbance and/or vegetation removal, a nesting bird and raptor pre-construction survey shall be conducted by a qualified biologist within the disturbance footprint plus a 100-foot buffer (500-foot for raptors), where feasible. If the Modified Project is phased or construction activities stop for more than 1 week during the nesting season, a subsequent pre-construction nesting bird and raptor survey would be required prior to re-initiation of construction during the nesting season.

Pre-construction nesting bird and raptor surveys shall be conducted during the time of day when birds are active and shall factor in sufficient time to perform this survey adequately and completely. A report of the nesting bird and raptor survey results, if applicable, shall be submitted to the lead agency for review and approval prior to ground and/or vegetation disturbance activities.

If nests are found, their locations shall be flagged. An appropriate avoidance buffer of at least 25 feet for passerines, and up to 500 feet for raptors, depending upon the species, proposed work activity, and CDFW approval, shall be determined and demarcated by a qualified biologist with bright orange construction fencing or other suitable flagging. Buffers will be determined in conjunction with CDFW through the development of a nesting bird management plan. Active nests shall be monitored at a minimum of once per week until it has been determined that the nest is no longer being used by either the young or adults.

No ground disturbance shall occur within this buffer until the qualified biologist confirms that the breeding/nesting is complete and all the young have fledged. If project activities must occur within the buffer, they shall be conducted at the discretion of the qualified biologist. If no nesting birds are observed during pre-construction surveys, no further actions would be necessary.

*BIO-2 CVMSHCP/NCCP Land Use Adjacency Guidelines*

The following Section 4.5 Land Use Adjacency Guidelines shall be implemented where applicable to minimize edge effects to adjacent Conservation Areas:

- **Drainage.** Proposed development adjacent to or within a Conservation Area shall incorporate plans to ensure that the quantity and quality of runoff discharged to the adjacent Conservation Area is not altered in an adverse way when compared with existing conditions. Stormwater systems shall be designed to prevent the release of toxins, chemicals, petroleum products, exotic plant materials or other elements that might degrade or harm biological resources or ecosystem processes within the adjacent Conservation Area.
- **Toxics.** Land uses proposed adjacent to or within a Conservation Area that use chemicals or generate bioproducts such as manure that are potentially toxic or may adversely affect wildlife and plant species, habitat, or water quality shall incorporate measures to ensure that application of such chemicals does not result in any discharge to the adjacent Conservation Area.
- **Lighting.** For proposed development adjacent to or within a Conservation Area, lighting shall be shielded and directed toward the developed area. Landscape shielding or other appropriate methods shall be incorporated in project designs to minimize the effects of lighting adjacent to or within the adjacent Conservation Area in accordance with the guidelines to be included in the Implementation Manual.
- **Noise.** Proposed development adjacent to or within a Conservation Area that generates noise in excess of 75 A-weighted decibels (dBA) equivalent sound level ( $L_{eq}$ ) over a one hour period shall incorporate setbacks, berms, or walls, as appropriate, to minimize the effects of noise on the adjacent Conservation Area in accordance with the guidelines to be included in the Implementation Manual.
- **Invasives.** Invasive, non-native plant species shall not be incorporated in the landscape for land uses adjacent to or within a Conservation Area. Landscape treatments within or adjacent to a Conservation Area shall incorporate native plant materials to the maximum extent feasible; recommended native species are listed in Table 4-112 of the CVMSHCP/NCCP. The plants listed in Table 4-113 of the CVMSHCP/NCCP shall not be used within or adjacent to a Conservation Area. This list may be amended from time to time through a Minor Amendment with Wildlife Agency Concurrence.

- **Barriers.** Land uses adjacent to or within a Conservation Area shall incorporate barriers in individual project designs to minimize unauthorized public access, domestic animal predation, illegal trespass, or dumping in a Conservation Area. Such barriers may include native landscaping, rocks/boulders, fencing, walls and/or signage.
- **Grading/Land Development.** Manufactured slopes associated with site development shall not extend into adjacent land in a Conservation Area.

### **Cultural Resources Impacts**

- The Modified Project could cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource as defined in §15064.5?

### *Mitigation Measures*

#### *CR-1 Worker's Environmental Awareness Program*

A qualified archaeologist, defined as an archaeologist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for archaeology (National Park Service [NPS] 1983), shall conduct Worker's Environmental Awareness Program (WEAP) training on archaeological sensitivity for all construction personnel and the Native American monitor prior to the commencement of any ground-disturbing activities. Archaeological sensitivity training shall include a description of the types of cultural material that may be encountered, cultural sensitivity issues, regulatory issues, and the proper protocol for treatment of the materials in the event of a find. Protocols will include the immediate cessation of all ground disturbing activities in the vicinity of an unanticipated discovery of an archaeological resource, until the sensitivity of the resource has been assessed and subsequent actions are identified by a qualified archaeologist. A sign-in sheet for WEAP training attendees will be documented and maintained on-file.

#### *CR-2 Construction Monitoring*

During all project ground disturbance in areas with known sensitivity for cultural resources, project activities shall be observed by a qualified archaeological monitor or a qualified Native American monitor, defined as an individual from a local tribe as listed by the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC). Daily monitoring logs with supporting photographic evidence shall be documented and maintained on-file. The qualified archaeologist or the Native American monitor, in consultation with CVWD, may recommend the reduction or termination of monitoring depending upon observed conditions (e.g., no resources encountered within the first 50 percent of ground disturbance). If archaeological or Native American resources are encountered during ground-disturbing activities, work within a minimum of 50 feet of the find must halt and the find evaluated for California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) and National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility. Should an unanticipated resource be found as CRHR or NRHP eligible and avoidance is infeasible, additional analysis (e.g., testing) may be necessary.

## **Geology and Soils Impacts**

- The Modified Project could directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature.

### *Mitigation Measures*

#### *GEO-1 Worker's Environmental Awareness Program*

Prior to any ground disturbance associated with the Modified Project, CVWD shall retain a qualified, professional paleontologist to prepare a WEAP, which shall be used to train all site personnel prior to the start of work. The WEAP training will include at a minimum the following information:

- Review of local and state laws and regulations pertaining to paleontological resources
- Types of fossils that could be encountered during ground disturbing activity
- Photos of example fossils that could occur on site for reference
- Instructions on the procedures to be implemented should unanticipated fossils be encountered during construction, including stopping work in the vicinity of the find and contacting a qualified professional paleontologist

#### *GEO-2 Unanticipated Discovery of Paleontological Resources*

In the event an unanticipated fossil discovery is made during the course of construction, the worker shall immediately notify CVWD's construction inspector to request temporary halting of construction activity in the immediate vicinity of the fossil, and the qualified professional paleontologist shall be notified to evaluate the discovery, determine its significance, and determine if additional mitigation or treatment is warranted. Work in the area of the discovery will resume once the find is properly documented and authorization is given to resume construction work. Any significant paleontological resources found during construction monitoring will be prepared, identified, analyzed, and permanently curated in an approved regional museum repository under the oversight of the qualified paleontologist.

## **Hazards and Hazardous Materials Impacts**

- The Modified Project could impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

### *Mitigation Measures*

TRA-2: Traffic Control Plan and Notification of Construction to Service Providers and Educational Institutions

## Transportation Impacts

- The Modified Project could conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing a measure of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation, including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways, and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit.
- The Modified Project could conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?
- The Modified Project could result in inadequate emergency access.

## Mitigation Measures

### *TRA-1 Emergency Service Providers*

Prior to construction, CVWD's Project Manager shall notify emergency service providers (fire and police departments within a 0.5-mile radius of the Modified Project area) with construction contact names, locations, schedules, and traffic plans, if applicable.

### *TRA-2 Traffic Control Plan and Notification of Construction to Service Providers and Educational Institutions*

To mitigate temporary traffic disruption and ensure public safety, CVWD and/or its construction contractor shall prepare a traffic control plan for construction areas located in or near roadways whose traffic volumes exceed Riverside County Acceptable Levels of Service or the criteria for the City of Palm Desert or the City of Indio. CVWD and/or its construction contractors shall prepare the traffic control plans. In addition, 14 days prior to commencement of project construction, construction notifications will be sent to police departments, fire departments, hospitals, and schools located within a 0.5-mile radius of the Modified Project area so that detour routes for emergency responses can be planned for the construction period.

### *TRA-3 High Volume Intersections*

High volume intersections (those in which traffic volumes exceed city or county acceptable levels of service criteria) will be avoided if possible and identified in the Traffic Control Plan.

## **Tribal Cultural Resources Impacts**

- Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or
- A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 2024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.

### *Mitigation Measures*

Implementation of Mitigation Measure CR-1, Worker's Environmental Awareness Program, and Mitigation Measure CR-2, Construction Monitoring from the FY 2020-2021 NPW Connections Project IS/MND, presented in the Cultural Resources discussion above would reduce potential impacts to tribal cultural resources to a less-than-significant level.

## **Wildfire Impacts**

- a) *Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?*

### *Mitigation Measures*

The following mitigation measures from the FY 2020-2021 NPW Connections Project IS/MND are presented in full in the *Transportation* discussion above. No additional mitigation measures have been identified for this criterion.

- TRA-1: Emergency Service Providers
- TRA-2: Traffic Control Plan and Notification of Construction to Service Providers and Educational Institutions