

## NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

**Date:** October 30, 2020

**To:** Agencies, Organizations, and Interested Parties

**Subject:** Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Mono Basin Water Rights Licenses Project

The City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) prepared an Initial Study for the Mono Basin Water Rights Licenses Project. Based on the information contained in the Initial Study, LADWP intends to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). LADWP is the CEQA Lead Agency for the project.

**Project Location:** The project area is located on the eastern slope of the Sierra Nevada Mountains encompassing the regions of Mono Basin including Rush, Lee Vining, Parker and Walker Creeks. Grant Lake Reservoir is located in Mono County, California; approximately 7 miles south of the community of Lee Vining in Sections 3, 4, 9, 10, 15, and 16 of Township 1 South, Range 26 East, as shown on the Lee Vining and June Lake U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 15-minute quadrangle maps. The latitude/longitude of the Grant Lake Reservoir dam is 37.86219°N/-119.10379°W (WGS84). The site is accessed from U.S. Highway 395.

**Project Description:** LADWP proposes to implement Water Rights Licenses 10191 and 10192 as “living licenses” that include stream flow management and modification of the Grant Lake Reservoir spillway to allow for controlled releases of larger volumes of water from the reservoir during wetter time periods under the guidance of the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). The proposed Stream Ecosystem Flow (SEF) regime follows the recommendations provided in the 2010 Mono Basin Stream Restoration and Monitoring Program: Synthesis of Instream Flow Recommendations summarizing the 12-year monitoring program (Synthesis Report). The SEFs were developed by the SWRCB-appointed stream scientists after 12 years of study and are intended to achieve goals of “functional and self-sustaining stream systems with healthy riparian ecosystem components” and “trout in good condition” for Rush Creek and Lee Vining Creek.

**Environmental Effects:** The Initial Study describes potentially significant impacts of the proposed project on biological resources, cultural resources, and geology and soils. Mitigation measures have been defined to reduce impacts to less than significant levels. Other effects found to be less than significant are also described in the Initial Study.

*Hazardous Waste Disclosure*

Per Section 15087 (c)(6) of the CEQA Guidelines, the proposed project is not on any of the lists enumerated under Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code.

**Public Review of the Initial Study:** The public review period commences on October 30, 2020 and concludes on December 15, 2020 at 5:00 pm. A copy of the Initial Study is posted at [www.ladwp.com/envnotices](http://www.ladwp.com/envnotices). If you do not have electronic access, please contact (213) 367-0968.

**Public Comments:** During the public review period, written comments concerning the adequacy of the Initial Study may be submitted. Comments must be submitted by December 15, 2020. Please submit your comments to the following address:

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power  
111 North Hope Street, Room 1044  
Los Angeles, California 90012  
Attn: Ms. Jane Hauptman  
Email: [Jane.Hauptman@ladwp.com](mailto:Jane.Hauptman@ladwp.com)

If you require additional information, please contact Ms. Jane Hauptman at [Jane.Hauptman@ladwp.com](mailto:Jane.Hauptman@ladwp.com) or (213) 367-0968.

Signature:   
Charles C. Holloway  
Manager of Environmental Planning and Assessment