

# **NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE PROPOSED LEWISTON COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM REPLACEMENT AND WELL 8 PROJECT**

**Lewiston Community Services District  
130 Texas Avenue, Lewiston, CA 96052**

## **Introduction**

This Notice of Intent serves as public notice that the Lewiston Community Services District (LCSD)—a not-for-profit [503(c)(12)] Public Water System (PWS) (Permit CA5201002) serving 221 active service connections—has prepared an Initial Study and proposes to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for its Water Distribution System Replacement and Well 8 Project (project). A Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared because no substantial evidence exists that the proposed project would have any significant environmental effects that cannot be fully mitigated to a less-than-significant level. The proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration does not signify approval or disapproval of this project by LCSD's decision-making body. LCSD will consider the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration together with any comments received during the public review process to determine whether the proposed project would have a heretofore unidentified significant impact on the environment.

## **Project Location**

The approximately 45-acre project area is located between Trinity Dam Boulevard and the Trinity River in the rural community of Lewiston, Trinity County, California. The project area is shown on the *Lewiston, California*, 7.5-minute U.S. Geological Survey quadrangle, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian; Township 33 North, Range 8 West, Sections 19 and 20. It includes the existing LCSD water system infrastructure associated with the Lewiston Subdivision. The project is not located within any state or federally maintained lands (e.g., Bureau of Land Management or United States Forest Service land).

## **Project Description**

Replacement of the failing LCSD water distribution system and completion of Well 8 are recommended to maintain water service within LCSD's service area boundary. On July 1, 2018, LCSD subsumed Lewiston Park Mutual Water Company, which provided water to the Lewiston Subdivision. The existing water distribution system in the Lewiston Subdivision was installed circa 1957 and consists of asbestos-cement pipe ranging in size from 4 inches to 8 inches. This pipe has reached the end of its useful service life as demonstrated by the significant daily loss of water experienced by LCSD—as much as 32 percent daily loss due to leaks and unauthorized water use. Replacement of the distribution system in the Lewiston Subdivision is recommended to address these system deficiencies. Replacement of outdated infrastructure would address human health risks posed by the existing water system. The new system would also allow for fire flow compliance and the reconnection and installation of fire hydrants. An open trench cut method would be used to install new pipe along surface streets and through annual grasslands and urban lawns to connect to three wells.

In 2017, initial drilling of Well 8 began to replace Well 5, which had been disconnected from the water distribution system due to poor water quality and electronic control malfunctions. The LCSD Water Distribution System Replacement and Well 8 Project (project) would complete Well 8. Project activities would include furnishing and installing a pump; construction of a building to house the well and its components; addition of a disinfection system; and connecting the well to the distribution system by installing several hundred feet of subsurface piping. Additionally, the Community Park Well, an irrigation-only well, would be decommissioned, and water sourced from Well 8 would be used to irrigate the park via the new water distribution system.

## **Review Period**

As mandated by Public Resources Code § 21091, the minimum public review period for this Initial Study and proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration is 30 days. The document has been sent to the State Clearinghouse. This document is open to public review and comment from Monday, March 8, 2021 through Wednesday, April 7, 2021. **Comments must be received by 5 p.m. on the last day of the comment period, April 7, 2021.** Any comments on the document may be presented in writing to:

Lewiston Community Services District  
Attn.: Mr. Mel Deardorff, Board President  
P.O. Box 164  
Lewiston, California 96052  
Phone: (530) 778-3018  
email: meldeardorff@gmail.com

## **Document Availability**

Copies of the Public Draft Initial Study and Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration and supporting technical studies are available for review at the following location:

Lewiston Community Services District  
130 Texas Ave  
Lewiston, CA 96052  
(530) 778-3869