

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A DRAFT INITIAL STUDY FOR THE OLD DEER CREEK WATER BANK PROJECT. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Saucelito Irrigation District (District) plans to adopt a draft initial study for the proposed improvements and operations of the District's Old Deer Creek Water Bank Project. The public hearing for the document will be on the agenda of District's regularly scheduled Board meeting on December 09, 2021, at the District Office, 20712 Avenue 120, Porterville, CA. The project is southwest of the City of Porterville and northwest of the Community of Terra Bella, in Tulare County. The Project site is north of Teapot Dome Avenue, and west of Road 208.

The Project proposes to develop and operate up to 50 acres of recharge basins for banking and associated facilities. The Project site is currently walnuts and will be cleared and developed in three phases with a pipeline going north to south for a distance of approximately one mile, connecting to an existing District mainline along Avenue 120. The Project will not include recovery wells and will be constructed in monitored phases to ensure that significant unacceptable water quality and water level impacts do not occur.

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), an Initial Study has been prepared, describing the degree of possible environmental impacts of the proposed project. The District has assessed the potential environmental impacts of this proposed action and has determined that they will be less than significant. Copies of the Initial Study and proposed mitigated negative declaration are on file and available for public review at the District Office. The public review period during which the District will receive comments on the proposed mitigated negative declaration will begin on October 29, 2021 and end on November 29, 2021. Comments should be in writing, if possible, and addressed to the District Board of Directors, at either saucelito-id@ocsnet.net, or 20712 Avenue 120, Porterville, CA 93257.