



NOTICE OF INTENT
TO ADOPT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
EL DORADO IRRIGATION DISTRICT FIVE-YEAR CONSERVED WATER TRANSFER

The El Dorado Irrigation District (EID) proposes to adopt a Negative Declaration pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Section 15000 et seq., Title 14, California Code of Regulations) for the EID Five-year Conserved Water Transfer Project (proposed project). EID plans to transfer up to 740 acre-feet (AF) annually of its pre-1914 water right water to Westland's Water District (WWD). The proposed project includes potential annual transfers of conserved water from 2024 – 2028.

In the spring of 2022, EID completed construction of the Upper Main Ditch Piping Project (piping project). The piping project involved converting the earthen unlined Upper Main Ditch that delivered water from El Dorado Forebay to the Reservoir 1 Water Treatment Plant to a piped conveyance (Main Pipeline). The water made available for transfer is water that was previously lost through evaporation and seepage from the Upper Main Ditch and is now conserved through operation of the Main Pipeline. Under the proposed project, EID's diversions from the South Fork American River (SFAR) at the El Dorado Diversion Dam will not change. The same amount of water will be diverted into the El Dorado Canal and conveyed to the El Dorado Forebay. However, because EID is able to meet the same customer consumptive demands as they did prior to the pipeline project with less water, the conserved water would either remain instream in the SFAR or be used for non-consumptive hydropower production and then returned into the SFAR and flow into Folsom Reservoir. From Folsom Reservoir, the conserved water would be re-regulated by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation for delivery to WWD for use in their service area south of the Delta. The actual transfer quantity of conserved water will depend on hydrologic conditions and consumptive demand patterns leading up to and during the transfer period; however, the quantity will not exceed 740 AF annually during 2024 – 2028.

EID has directed the preparation of an Initial Study (IS) on the proposed project in accordance with the requirements of CEQA, the State CEQA Guidelines, and EID's guidelines for CEQA compliance. The IS describes the proposed project and assesses the proposed project's potential to result in significant adverse impacts on the physical environment. It concludes that the proposed project would not have any potentially significant or significant adverse effects on the environment and, therefore, no mitigation is required or proposed and as such a Negative Declaration (ND) has been prepared.

DOCUMENT REVIEW & AVAILABILITY: The 30-day public review period begins on May 15, 2024 and ends on June 13, 2024. A copy of the IS/ND is available for public review at 2890 Mosquito Road, Placerville, CA 95667, or online at <http://www.eid.org/ceqa>.

CONTACT: Please send written comments to: Brian Deason, EID, 2890 Mosquito Road, Placerville, CA 95667; Email: ConservedWaterTransfer@eid.org by no later than 5:00 pm on June 13, 2024.

PUBLIC HEARING: The EID Board of Directors intends to consider adoption of the ND at its regularly scheduled board meeting on June 24, 2024 after 9:00 a.m. at EID's main headquarters building located at 2890 Mosquito Road in Placerville, CA. Board meeting schedule and agenda will be available at <https://www.eid.org/about-us/board-of-directors/meetings-agendas-and-minutes>.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and California law, it is the policy of the El Dorado Irrigation District to offer its public programs, services and meetings in a manner that is readily accessible to everyone, including individuals with disabilities. If you are a person with a disability and require information or materials in an appropriate alternative format; or if you require any other accommodation for this meeting, please contact the EID ADA coordinator at 530-642-4045 or e-mail at adacoordinator@eid.org at least 72 hours prior to the meeting. Advance notification within this guideline will enable the District to make reasonable accommodations to ensure accessibility.