

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

<p>TO: Office of Planning and Research <input type="checkbox"/> P. O. Box 3044, Room 113 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044</p>	<p>FROM: Name: Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (Public Agency) Address: 31315 Chaney Street Lake Elsinore, CA 92530 Telephone: 951-674-3146</p>
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Clerk of the Board of Supervisors or County Clerk (Include County name) Address:</p>	<p>County of Riverside Clerk's Office 2724 Gateway Drive Riverside, CA 92507</p>

<p>1. Project Title:</p>	<p>Tomlin Pipeline Replacement</p>
<p>2. Project Applicant:</p>	<p>Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District</p>
<p>3. Project Location -- Identify street address and cross streets or attach a map showing project site (preferably a USGS 15' or 7 1/2' topographical map identified by quadrangle name):</p>	<p>The Project site is in Sections 9 and 10 of Township 6 South, Range 5 West of the Alberhill, CA Quadrangles, California U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle map. The Project is located within southwestern Riverside County and territory of the United States Forest Service (USFS), within Unincorporated Riverside County, approximately 0.8 miles east of the City of Lake Elsinore. (See Figures 1 and 2: Regional Location Map and Local Vicinity Map).</p> <p>The Project Location is within the boundaries of the Western Riverside County MSHCP and partially within the Cleveland National Forest, in an area consisting of primarily open space, conserved habitat, and developed pockets of low-density residences. The Project is proposed along, within, and adjacent to, an existing dirt road and entirely within an existing utility easement.</p>
<p>4. (a) Project Location -- City: NA</p>	<p>(b) Project Location -- County: Unincorporated Riverside County</p>
<p>5. Description of nature, purpose, and beneficiaries of Project:</p>	<p>The Project is proposed to replace and relocate approximately 5,100 linear feet of 6-inch diameter potable water pipe that is partially located within an existing utility easement. The Project will also reestablish maintenance access for all segments of the pipeline, as well as install conduit for ancillary communications equipment, to facilitate potable water services and fire flow within Pressure Zone PZ1871 of the Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District's Water System.</p> <p>The existing pipe is partially within a 20-foot-wide utility easement owned by Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (District) and was partially exposed due to erosion of supporting soils during recent storms. The Project will install permanent erosion control and will relocate and upsize the existing pipeline from 6-inch to 8-inch diameter to provide adequate fire flow. The Project will relocate the new pipeline entirely within the exiting utility easement and will rehabilitate the existing maintenance access to establish reliable, perpetual access for maintenance and uninterrupted water service to all customers, both during construction and on a permanent basis.</p> <p>Field surveys at the Project Location document no special status plants or wildlife species found within the proposed construction footprint. Plans for the Project indicate approximately 1.1 acres of vegetation removal will occur during construction along the edge of the existing dirt utility access roads. Vegetation removal is proposed of scrub habitat dominated by California buckwheat and deerweed, that has been damaged in previous fire events and is currently not highly suitable as California gnatcatcher (CAGN) habitat. (Kidd Biological, July 2023). Best Management Practices (BMPs) have been incorporated into the Contract Documents for the Project to avoid impacts to sensitive biological resources documented near the Project Location per USFWS consultation. These BMPs are also required to comply with the</p>

	<p>Programmatic Agreement among the U.S.D.A Forest Service Pacific Southwest Region 5 and the various cultural entities and regulatory agencies and with state water quality requirements.</p> <p>Project construction will begin within the fourth quarter of 2024 and last for approximately 10 months. Construction activities include vegetation removal, grading portions of a new access road, trenching and establishment of the pipe bed, installation, testing and disinfection of the new pipeline, backfill and connections to the existing water system. The existing 6-inch diameter water main will be abandoned in-place in portions where it does not conflict with the new water main. Staging areas will be located within existing disturbed or developed areas of the utility easement, requiring no vegetation removal. The entire existing pipeline will be abandoned in place, including the area that is exposed. Construction access is anticipated to occur via Ortega Highway and the Tomlin 1 Booster Pump Station at Lancashire Road.</p>
<p>6. Name of Public Agency approving project:</p>	<p>Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District</p>
<p>7. Name of Person or Agency undertaking the project, including any person undertaking an activity that receives financial assistance from the Public Agency as part of the activity or the person receiving a lease, permit, license, certificate, or other entitlement of use from the Public Agency as part of the activity:</p>	<p>Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District</p>
<p>8. Exempt status: (check one)</p>	
<p>(a) <input type="checkbox"/> Ministerial project.</p>	<p>(Pub. Resources Code § 21080(b)(1); State CEQA Guidelines § 15268)</p>
<p>(b) <input type="checkbox"/> Not a project.</p>	<p>State CEQA Guidelines 15050(c)(2)-(3)</p>
<p>(c) <input type="checkbox"/> Declared Emergency</p>	<p>(Pub. Resources Code § 21080(b)(3); State CEQA Guidelines § 15269(a))</p>
<p>(d) <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Project.</p>	<p>(Pub. Resources Code § 21080(b)(4); State CEQA Guidelines § 15269(b),(c))</p>
<p>(e) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Categorical Exemption. State type and section number:</p>	<p>Class I (Sec. 15301)- Existing Facilities (b) Class II (Sec. 15302)—Replacement or Reconstruction (c) Class IV (Sec. 15304)—Minor Alterations of Land (d) & (f)</p>
<p>(f) <input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Exemption. State Code section number:</p>	
<p>(g) <input type="checkbox"/> Other. Explanation:</p>	
<p>9. Reason why project was exempt:</p>	<p>The Project is not of a type or at a scale that would result in significant changes to the environment. The Project does not involve substantive upsizing that will induce growth either directly or indirectly. The Project will replace an existing utility and will not result in direct or indirect impacts with the implementation of BMPs. No impacts to scenic resources, cultural, historical, or tribal resources, or sensitive biological resources will result from the Project, and the Project is not located on a hazardous waste site according to Envirostor and Geotracker. Surfaces will be restored to preconstruction conditions or better and no permanent changes to a scenic vista or contribution to any cumulative impacts are anticipated. The Contract Documents for the Project include Best Management Practices (BMPs) which avoid direct and indirect impacts under CEQA and NEPA Guidelines, including impacts on sensitive resources protected under the Endangered Species Acts, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Section 106 of the Historic Preservation Act, and the Clean Water Act.</p>

	<p>Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District has made findings for Project compliance with CEQA Exemptions under CEQA Guidelines Sections 15301 (Class I), 15302 (Class II) and 15304 (Class IV). Likewise, USFS has issued a "Findings of No Significant Impacts" under NEPA. The "Finding of No Significant Impact" under NEPA has been issued by United States Forest Service based on both the formal Section 106 concurrence and Tribal Consultations pursuant to AB52 and the incorporation of BMPs into the Contract Documents for the Project implementing the Programmatic Agreement among the U.S.D.A Forest Service Pacific Southwest Region 5, and other third-party resource agencies.</p> <p>The Project is categorically exempt from requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Statute and Guidelines pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15301 (Existing Facilities), 15302 (Replacement or Reconstruction), and 15304 (Minor Alterations of Land) as described above.</p>
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10. Lead Agency Contact Person: Telephone:	Parag Kalaria, Director of Engineering & Water Resources 951-674-3146
11. If filed by applicant: Attach Certificate of Determination (Form "B") before filing.	
12. Was a public hearing held by the Lead Agency to consider the exemption? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If yes, the date of the public hearing was:	

Parag Kalaria
Signature

Date: December 12, 2024

Parag Kalaria
Name

Title: Director of Engineering & Water Resources

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by Applicant

Date Received for Filing:

(Clerk Stamp Here)

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

CERTIFICATE OF DETERMINATION

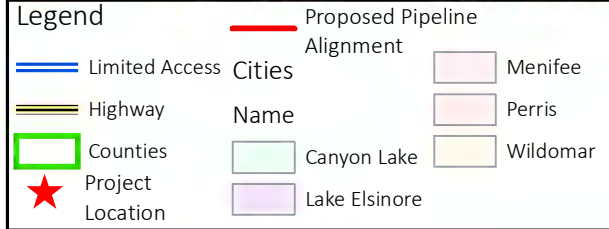
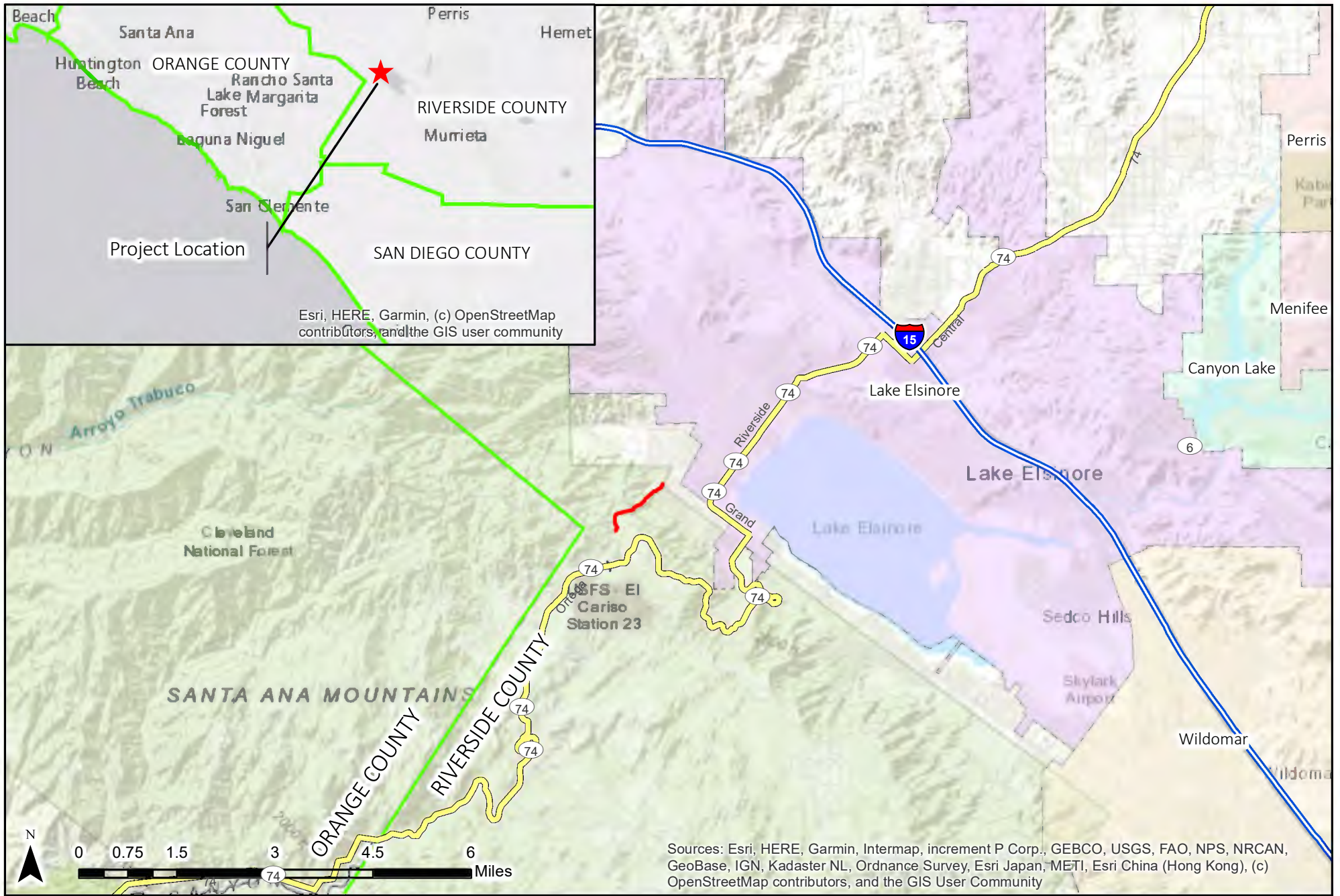
(If Notice of Exemption filed by Project Applicant, Project Applicant must Attach to Notice of Exemption)

1. Name or description of project:	Tomlin Pipeline Replacement	
2. Project Location – Identify street address and cross streets or attach a map showing project site (preferably a USGS 15’ or 7 1/2’ topographical map identified by quadrangle name):	<p>The Project site is in Sections 9 and 10 of Township 6 South, Range 5 West of the Alberhill, CA Quadrangles, California U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle map. The Project is located within southwestern Riverside County and territory of the United States Forest Service (USFS), within Unincorporated Riverside County, approximately 0.8 miles east of the City of Lake Elsinore. (See Figures 1 and 2: Regional Location Map and Local Vicinity Map).</p> <p>The Project Location is within the boundaries of the Western Riverside County MSHCP and partially within the Cleveland National Forest, in an area consisting of primarily open space, conserved habitat, and developed pockets of low-density residences. The Project is proposed along, within, and adjacent to, an existing dirt road and entirely within an existing utility easement.</p>	
3. Entity or person undertaking project:	A. Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District	
	B. Other (Private)	
	(1) Name	
	(2) Address	
<p>4. Staff Determination:</p> <p>The Lead Agency’s Staff, having undertaken and completed a preliminary review of this project in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the Lead Agency’s Local Guidelines for Implementing CEQA has concluded that this project does not require further environmental assessment because:</p>		
a. <input type="checkbox"/>	The proposed action does not constitute a project under CEQA.	
b. <input type="checkbox"/>	The project is a Ministerial Project.	
c. <input type="checkbox"/>	The project is an Emergency Project.	
d. <input type="checkbox"/>	The project constitutes a feasibility or planning study.	
e. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The project is categorically exempt.	
	<p>Applicable Exemption Class:</p> <p>Class I (Sec. 15301) - Existing Facilities (b) Class II (Sec. 15302) - Replacement or Reconstruction(c) Class IV (Sec. 15304) - Minor Alterations of Land (d)&(f)</p>	
f. <input type="checkbox"/>	The project is statutorily exempt.	
	Applicable Exemption:	
g. <input type="checkbox"/>	The project is otherwise exempt on the following basis:	
h. <input type="checkbox"/>	The project involves another public agency which constitutes the Lead Agency.	
	Name of Lead Agency:	

Date: December 12, 2024

Staff: Parag Kalaria

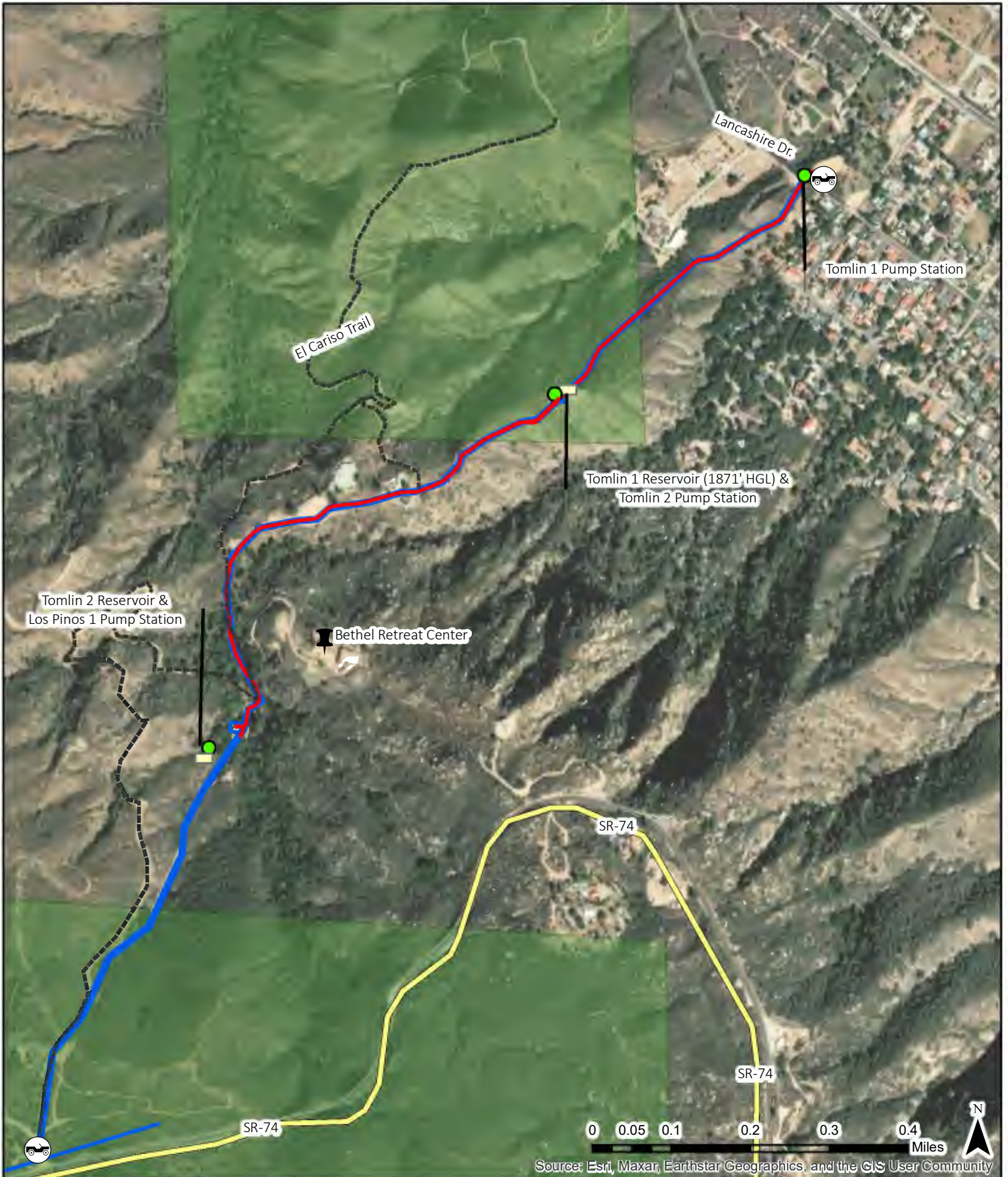
Parag Kalaria, Director of Engineering & Water Resources



*Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District
Tomlin Pipeline Replacement Project*

Figure 1. Regional Location Map





- Legend**
- USFS Land
 - Highway
 - ExistEasment
 - Truck Access
 - Lake Elsinore
 - Existing Reservoir
 - Existing Pump Station
 - Project Alignment
 - Existing Building
 - Trails

*Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District
Tomlin Pipeline Replacement Project*
Figure 2. Local Vicinity Map



TOMLIN PIPELINE REPLACEMENT C1903

