

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

EL DORADO IRRIGATION DISTRICT TEMPORARY RESERVOIR RE-OPERATION 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 Temporary Reservoir Re-operation Water Transfer Project (proposed project). EID proposes to transfer up to 4,300 acre-feet (AF) of water to federal and/or state water contractors (Buyers) south of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The sources of water available for transfer are EID water rights from Weber Reservoir, Caples Lake, and Silver Lake

EID proposes to transfer water to the Buyers during summer and fall 2024. EID would make the water available through re-operations of three EID reservoirs to release water otherwise planned to be consumed by EID customers and/or stored within the EID network of reservoirs. The involved reservoirs and rivers/creeks would all operate consistent with their historic flow and release schedules, and would meet all applicable rules and requirements, including but not limited to lake level, minimum streamflow, and ramping rate requirements. The proposed 4,300-AF transfer quantity would consist of releases from Weber Reservoir (up to 750 AF) that would otherwise remain in Weber Reservoir and releases from Caples and Silver lakes (up to a combined total of 3,550 AF) that would otherwise be released for immediate consumptive use and/or conveyance into Jenkinson Lake. Under the proposed project, EID would rely on water stored in Jenkinson Lake to meet consumptive demands during the transfer period in lieu of using water from Caples and Silver lakes.

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 June 7, 2024, and ends on July 8, 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: Submit email comments to <u>2024ReopWaterTransfer@eid.org</u> and include the name and mailing address of the commenter in the body of the email and "Reservoir Reop Water Transfer Comment" in the subject line. Comments may also be submitted by mail to: Brian Deason, EID, 2890 Mosquito Road, Placerville, CA 95667; Comments must be received by no later than 5:00 pm on July 8, 2024.

PUBLIC HEARING: The EID Board of Directors intends to consider adoption of the ND at its regularly scheduled board meeting on July 22, 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.