

# **Appendix F**

## **Project Materials**

**North Cathedral City Regional Stormwater Project**  
**Initial Study/Environmental Assessment**



# COACHELLA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

*Established in 1918 as a public agency*

## **NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD and Lead Agency) has prepared a Draft Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the proposed North Cathedral City Regional Stormwater Project described below pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) State Guidelines §15000 et seq and CEQA-Plus federal requirements. Anyone desiring to comment on the IS/MND may do so in writing within the 30-day public review period, commencing on April 26, 2023, and ending May 26, 2023.

**Project Title:** North Cathedral City Regional Stormwater Project

**Project Location:** The North Cathedral City Regional Stormwater Project is in Cathedral City, within Riverside County, California; located in portions of Section 32, T.3.S, R.5.E and Section 5, T.4.S, R.5.E. The proposed 26.44-acre project site is located within the northwestern portion of the City, approximately 130 feet southwest of Interstate 10 (I-10) and 0.8-mile east of Gene Autry Road.

**Brief Project Description:** The Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) proposes to construct a regional stormwater channel that would provide a connection from north of Interstate 10 (I-10) to the Whitewater River Stormwater Channel (WWRSC) to the south. The storm flow from north would be conveyed under I-10 and two Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) tracks to the existing WWRSC. The design would collect existing flows passing under I-10 and provides a reliable and engineered channel under the UPRR that will provide a long-term solution for conveying flows downstream to the WWRSC. The Morongo Wash Watershed is an approximately 207 square mile watershed that produces a 100-year storm flow of roughly 36,000 cubic feet per second (cfs). This project will reduce flooding to approximately 8,000 acres downstream and provide improved flooding protection to the lives and property of Thousand Palms and provide flooding protection to both I-10 and UPRR.

**Public Meeting:** CVWD's Board of Directors will consider the proposed project at a publicly-noticed Board of Directors meeting scheduled for June 27, 2023, at 8:00 AM. Meetings are typically held at CVWD's Administration Building, located at 51-501 Tyler Street, Coachella, California, 92236. In an effort to protect public health, prevent the spread of COVID-19, and because State and/or local officials are recommending measures to promote social distancing, the public may view the Board meeting online or virtually. The meeting will be streamed live on the District's website at: [www.cvwd.org/151/Board-Agendas](http://www.cvwd.org/151/Board-Agendas). Members of the public may provide comments in-person at the meeting or via Zoom.

**30-Day Document Review:** The document may be reviewed online at:  
<http://www.cvwd.org/368/Environmental-Documents>

**Contact Person:** Written comments may be submitted to: William Patterson, Environmental Supervisor, CVWD, 75-515 Hovley Lane East, Palm Desert, CA 92211, or emailed to: [wpatterson@cvwd.org](mailto:wpatterson@cvwd.org)



**Notice of Completion & Environmental Document Transmittal**

Mail to: State Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 (916) 445-0613  
 For Hand Delivery/Street Address: 1400 Tenth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

<b>SCH #</b>
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**Project Title:** North cathedral City Regional Stormwater Project

Lead Agency: Coachella Valley Water District

Contact Person: William Patterson

Mailing Address: 75-515 Hovley Lane East

Phone: 760-398-2651

City: Palm Desert

Zip: 92211

County: Riverside

**Project Location:** County: Riverside

City/Nearest Community: Cathedral City

Cross Streets: Gene Autry Trail and E Vista Chino

Zip Code: 92234

Longitude/Latitude (degrees, minutes and seconds): \_\_\_\_\_ ° \_\_\_\_\_ ' \_\_\_\_\_ " N / \_\_\_\_\_ ° \_\_\_\_\_ ' \_\_\_\_\_ " W Total Acres: \_\_\_\_\_

Assessor's Parcel No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Section: 32 Twp.: 3SS Range: 5E Base: \_\_\_\_\_

Within 2 Miles: State Hwy #: \_\_\_\_\_ Waterways: \_\_\_\_\_

Airports: \_\_\_\_\_ Railways: \_\_\_\_\_ Schools: \_\_\_\_\_

**Document Type:**

- |   |  |                                    |  |
|---|--|------------------------------------|--|
| CEQA: <input type="checkbox"/> NOP              | <input type="checkbox"/> Draft EIR                 | NEPA: <input type="checkbox"/> NOI | Other: <input type="checkbox"/> Joint Document |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Early Cons             | <input type="checkbox"/> Supplement/Subsequent EIR | <input type="checkbox"/> EA        | <input type="checkbox"/> Final Document        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neg Dec                | (Prior SCH No.) _____                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Draft EIS | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mit Neg Dec | Other: <u>Draft MND</u>                            | <input type="checkbox"/> FONSI     |  |

**Local Action Type:**

- |   |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Plan Update    | <input type="checkbox"/> Specific Plan            | <input type="checkbox"/> Rezone                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Annexation                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Plan Amendment | <input type="checkbox"/> Master Plan              | <input type="checkbox"/> Prezone                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Redevelopment                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Plan Element   | <input type="checkbox"/> Planned Unit Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Use Permit                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Permit                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Plan         | <input type="checkbox"/> Site Plan                | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Division (Subdivision, etc.) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Project Approval</u> |

**Development Type:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Residential: Units _____ Acres _____                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation: Type _____            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Office: Sq.ft. _____ Acres _____ Employees _____                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Mining: Mineral _____                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial: Sq.ft. _____ Acres _____ Employees _____                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Power: Type _____ MW _____            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial: Sq.ft. _____ Acres _____ Employees _____                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Waste Treatment: Type _____ MGD _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educational: _____  | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazardous Waste: Type _____           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational: _____   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Facilities: Type <u>Stormwater Channel</u> MGD _____ |  |

**Project Issues Discussed in Document:**

- |  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetic/Visual                | <input type="checkbox"/> Fiscal                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation/Parks                | <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetation                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural Land               | <input type="checkbox"/> Flood Plain/Flooding       | <input type="checkbox"/> Schools/Universities            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Quality                |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Quality          | <input type="checkbox"/> Forest Land/Fire Hazard    | <input type="checkbox"/> Septic Systems                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Supply/Groundwater                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archeological/Historical        | <input type="checkbox"/> Geologic/Seismic           | <input type="checkbox"/> Sewer Capacity                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Wetland/Riparian                        |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Minerals                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading | <input type="checkbox"/> Growth Inducement                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Zone                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Noise           | <input type="checkbox"/> Solid Waste                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drainage/Absorption             | <input type="checkbox"/> Population/Housing Balance | <input type="checkbox"/> Toxic/Hazardous                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative Effects                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economic/Jobs                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services/Facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic/Circulation             | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Tribal/Cultural Resources</u> |

**Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Designation:**

Existing Flood Channel

**Project Description:** *(please use a separate page if necessary)*

The Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) proposes to construct a regional stormwater channel that would provide a connection from north of Interstate 10 (I-10) to the Whitewater River Stormwater Channel (WWRSC) to the south. The storm flow from north would be conveyed under I-10 and two Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) tracks to the existing WWRSC. The design would collect existing flows passing under I-10 and provides a reliable and engineered channel under the UPRR that will provide a long-term solution for conveying flows downstream to the WWRSC. The Morongo Wash Watershed is an approximately 207 square mile watershed that produces a 100-year storm flow of roughly 36,000 cubic feet per second (cfs). This project will reduce flooding to approximately 8,000 acres downstream and provide improved flooding protection to the lives and property of Thousand Palms and provide flooding protection to both I-10 and UPRR.

Note: The State Clearinghouse will assign identification numbers for all new projects. If a SCH number already exists for a project (e.g. Notice of Preparation or previous draft document) please fill in.

**Reviewing Agencies Checklist**

Lead Agencies may recommend State Clearinghouse distribution by marking agencies below with an "X".  
If you have already sent your document to the agency please denote that with an "S".

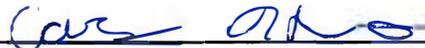
- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Resources Board                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Office of Historic Preservation          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boating & Waterways, Department of             | <input type="checkbox"/> Office of Public School Construction                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> California Emergency Management Agency         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parks & Recreation, Department of        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> California Highway Patrol                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Pesticide Regulation, Department of                 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caltrans District # <u>8</u>        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Utilities Commission              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans Division of Aeronautics               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regional WQCB # <u>7</u>                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans Planning                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Resources Agency                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Central Valley Flood Protection Board          | <input type="checkbox"/> Resources Recycling and Recovery, Department of     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coachella Valley Mtns. Conservancy  | <input type="checkbox"/> S.F. Bay Conservation & Development Comm.           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Commission                             | <input type="checkbox"/> San Gabriel & Lower L.A. Rivers & Mtns. Conservancy |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Colorado River Board                | <input type="checkbox"/> San Joaquin River Conservancy                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation, Department of                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Santa Monica Mtns. Conservancy                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corrections, Department of                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Lands Commission                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Delta Protection Commission                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Clean Water Grants                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education, Department of                       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Water Quality                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy Commission                              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Water Rights                      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fish & Game Region # <u>6</u>       | <input type="checkbox"/> Tahoe Regional Planning Agency                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food & Agriculture, Department of              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Toxic Substances Control, Department of  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forestry and Fire Protection, Department of    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Resources, Department of           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Services, Department of                | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services, Department of                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Housing & Community Development                |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Native American Heritage Commission |  |

**Local Public Review Period (to be filled in by lead agency)**

Starting Date 04/26/23 Ending Date 05/25/23

**Lead Agency (Complete if applicable):**

Consulting Firm: <u>Michael Baker International</u>	Applicant: _____
Address: <u>75-410 Gerald Ford Drive, Suite 100</u>	Address: _____
City/State/Zip: <u>Palm Desert, CA 92211</u>	City/State/Zip: _____
Contact: <u>Elizabeth Meyeroff</u>	Phone: _____
Phone: <u>760-341-6103</u>	

Signature of Lead Agency Representative:  Date: 04/26/23

Authority cited: Section 21083, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 21161, Public Resources Code.

# Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

**Form F**

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Title: North Cathedral City Regional Stormwater Project

Lead Agency: Coachella Valley Water District

Contact Name: William Patterson

Email: wpatterson@cvwd.org

Phone Number: 760-398-2651

Project Location: Cathedral City, CA

*City*

Riverside

*County*

Project Description (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences).

The Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) proposes to construct a regional stormwater channel that would provide a connection from north of Interstate 10 (I-10) to the Whitewater River Stormwater Channel (WWRSC) to the south. The storm flow from north would be conveyed under I-10 and two Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) tracks to the existing WWRSC. The design would collect existing flows passing under I-10 and provides a reliable and engineered channel under the UPRR that will provide a long-term solution for conveying flows downstream to the WWRSC. The Morongo Wash Watershed is an approximately 207 square mile watershed that produces a 100-year storm flow of roughly 36,000 cubic feet per second (cfs). This project will reduce flooding to approximately 8,000 acres downstream and provide improved flooding protection to the lives and property of Thousand Palms and provide flooding protection to both I-10 and UPRR.

Identify the project's significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

#### Air Quality

AQ-1: Prior to the commencement of construction, the CVWD Project Engineer shall ensure all project plans and specifications stipulate that, in compliance with SCAQMD Rule 402 & 403 (Nuisance and Dust Control).

#### Biological Resources

Bio 1-16: 16 Biological Mitigation Measures are intended as avoidance, minimization, or mitigation to offset or reduce the potential impacts to the Coachella Valley milk-vetch, burrowing owl, and other special status species with potential to occur in the vicinity. The CVWD Project Engineer, Contractor, CVWD Environmental Specialist and/or Biological Monitor, and CVWD Inspector shall ensure implementation of all biological mitigation measures. Please see Draft MND for more information.

#### Cultural Resources

CR-1: CVWD shall provide tribal monitoring during earthwork activities.

#### Hydrology and Water Quality

HWQ 1-2: Obtain Applicable Regulatory Permits

If applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

NA

Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

1. U.S. Bureau of Land Management
2. Coachella Valley Conservation Commission
3. United States Fish and Wildlife
4. City of Cathedral City
5. Union Pacific Railroad