

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Bureau of Reclamation****Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency Revised Basin Management Plan Project; Santa Cruz; Santa Clara, Monterey, and San Benito Counties, CA**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of the final environmental impact statement.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) has prepared a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency (PVWMA) Revised Basin Management Plan Project.

The purpose of the project is to address groundwater overdraft and seawater intrusion problems in the Pajaro Valley Basin. The proposed action is the approval of the connection of a PVWMA pipeline to the Santa Clara Conduit and the funding for the design, planning, and construction of a recycled water facility.

Notice of the availability of the Draft EIS was published in the **Federal Register** on September 25, 2003 (68 FR 55412). A public meeting was held on October 29, 2003 to receive comments on the Draft EIS. The FEIS contains responses to all comments received and changes made to the text of the Draft EIS as a result of those comments.

**DATES:** Reclamation will not make a decision on the proposed action until 30 days after release of the FEIS. After the 30-day waiting period, Reclamation will complete a Record of Decision (ROD). The ROD will state the action that will be implemented and will discuss all factors leading to the decision.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the FEIS in hard copy or on CD may be requested from Reclamation's South-Central California Area Office or from PVWMA's office at the following addresses:

- Bureau of Reclamation, South-Central California Area Office, 1243 N Street, Fresno, CA 93721-1813.
- Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency, 36 Brennan Street, Watsonville, CA 95076.

The document can also be viewed on PVWMA's web page at <http://www.pvwma.dst.ca.us/>

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Lynne Silva, Bureau of Reclamation, South-Central California Area Office, telephone 559-487-5807; or Mr. Charles McNiesh, Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency, 831-722-9292.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The FEIS considers the effects of the construction

of PVWMA's pipeline and the construction and operation of a water treatment facility. The water treatment facility would be used to blend imported water. In 1999, Reclamation prepared an Environmental Assessment and approved a contract assignment from Mercy Springs Water District that provided 6,260 acre feet per year of Central Valley Project (CVP) water for PVWMA. The proposed pipeline connection to the Santa Clara Conduit (a component of the CVP) would provide the means for this imported water to be delivered into PVMWA. Therefore, the FEIS considers the effects of imported water on water resources in PVMWA. Other contract assignments or transfers resulting in importing water into PVWMA are not the focus of this FEIS. Separate environmental analysis and documents would be required. Reclamation is developing an Environmental Assessment for the assignment from Broadview Water District to PVWMA. This proposed assignment is discussed in the FEIS for disclosure purposes. Broadview Water District's CVP contract supply is up to 27,000 acre feet per year. The project description and alternatives have yet to be fully developed. The environmental impacts associated with this assignment and other actions occurring in the San Joaquin Valley are outside the scope of analysis in this FEIS.

Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home address from public disclosure, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. There also may be circumstances in which we would withhold a respondent's identity from public disclosure, as allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses available for public disclosure in their entirety.

Dated: January 6, 2004.

**Kirk C. Rodgers,**

*Regional Director, Mid-Pacific Region.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Bureau of Reclamation****Fish and Wildlife Service****Trinity River Fishery Restoration Program, Weaverville, CA**

**AGENCIES:** Bureau of Reclamation and Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (Draft SEIS/EIR) and notice of public hearings.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Reclamation, Fish and Wildlife Service, Hoopa Valley Tribe (Tribe) and Trinity County (County) have made available for public review and comment the Draft SEIS/EIR for the Trinity River Fishery Restoration Program (Program).

A final environmental impact statement (EIS) on the Program was issued in November 2000, and a Record of Decision (ROD) executed on December 19, 2000. Central Valley water and power interests filed suit in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California seeking to enjoin implementation of the ROD. On March 22, 2001, the district court issued a Memorandum Decision and Order preliminarily enjoining the Federal defendants from implementing certain flow related aspects of the ROD. In its Memorandum Decision and Order the court found that the effects of reasonable and prudent measures in the two biological opinions, as well as the effects on power in light of the California energy crisis were not adequately analyzed in the EIS. This Draft SEIS/EIR addresses the court's concerns and updates alternatives.

The purpose for the project alternatives outlined in the October 2000 EIS/EIR was as follows: to restore and maintain the natural production of anadromous fish on the Trinity River mainstem downstream of Lewiston Dam. The purpose of the Draft SEIS/EIR has been amended, consistent with court orders on the Program. The revised purpose for the alternatives discussed in the Draft SEIS/EIR is as follows: to restore and maintain the natural production of anadromous fish in the Trinity River basin downstream of Lewiston Dam and to meet the U.S. Government's tribal trust obligations. Secondary consideration is given to: (a) Meeting the Trinity Basin fishery and wildlife restoration goals of the Act of October 24, 1984, Public Law 98-541, and (b) achieving a reasonable balance among competing demands for use of