Print Form

Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

Form F

2019049102

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: East Side Dike Improvement Project Phase 1

Lead Agency: Coachella Valley Water District

Contact Name: William Patterson

Email: WPatterson@cvwd.org Phone Number: 760-398-2651

Project Location: Indio (*City*) Riverside (*County*)

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

The Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) intends to certify the East Side Dike, from Dune Palms Road to Interstate 10 (I-10), with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as a flood protection structure. CVWD previously completed hydraulic and scour analyses, and geotechnical investigation for the East Side Dike. The results obtained from the studies indicate that the western end of the East Side Dike adjacent to the Talavera Development is susceptible to erosion, In order to accredit a levee, FEMA requires that no appreciable erosion would occur during the 100-year flood (44 CFR 65.10). The definition of "appreciable erosion" is generally accepted to mean that any erosion that occurs would not threaten the stability of the levee. For the East Side Dike, erosion or loss of the levee embankment can occur from the removal of sediments from the waterside slope of the embankment by high velocities and by scour near the toe of the embankment, loss of support, and failure of part of the embankment slope. To address the erosion potential and protect the dike from scour, CVWD proposes construction of approximately 3,420 lineal feet of concrete slope lining along the northern slope (water side slope) of the dike beginning at the dike's intersection with Dune Palms Road and continuing in a southeasterly direction ending adjacent to the Talavera development in Indio, Riverside County. Construction access to the site would be from Dune Palms Road and from the intersection of Avenue 38 and Madison Street. The Proposed Project would take place on parcels: APN 750-290-003; APN 750-300-015; APN 750-310-016; and APN 750-330-007.

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

Biological Resources - The Proposed Project could potentially result in impacts to Mecca-aster, Palm Springs pocket, mouse, loggerhead shrike, American badger, burrowing owl, desert tortoise, Le Conte's thrasher, nesting birds, mesquite hummocks. Mitigation measures to reduce impacts to a less than significant level include: BIO-1: General Pre-Construction Survey; BIO-2: Pre-Construction Focused Burrowing Owl Surveys; BIO-3: Pre-Construction Desert Tortoise Presence/Absence Survey; BIO-4: Pre-Construction Focused Le Conte's Thrasher Survey; BIO-5: Pre-Construction Survey for Nesting Birds; and BIO-6: Conserved Natural Community Avoidance.
Cultural Resources: Ground disturbing construction activities associated with the Proposed Project could potentially impact unknown cultural and paleontological resources in the project area. Mitigation measures to reduce impacts to a less than significant level include: CUL-1: WEAP Training; CUL-2: Cultural Resources; and CUL-3: Paleontological Resources.
Hazards and Hazardous Materials: There is a potential for the accidental release of hazardous materials during construction. Implementation of Mitigation Measure HAZ-1 would reduce potential impacts to a less than significant level.
Noise: Construction activities would result in the generation of noise levels. To ensure compliance with the City of Indio's municipal code regarding construction noise Mitigation Measure NOI-1 would be implemented.

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

None.

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

California Department of Fish and Wildlife; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Regional Water Quality Control Board

COACHELLA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
Established in 1918 as a public agency

GENERAL MANAGER
Jim Barrett

ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER
Robert Cheng

Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration

In accordance with Section 15072 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, this notice is to inform any responsible agencies, interested parties, and organizations that the Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) has completed a Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the **East Side Dike Improvement Project – Phase 1.**

Project Location: The project site is the East Side Dike beginning at the dike's intersection with Dune Palms Road and continuing in a southeasterly direction for approximately 3,420 lineal feet and ending adjacent north to the Talavera residential development in the City of Indio, Riverside County. The project site lies in the eastern half of Section 32, Township 3 South, Range 4 East of the San Bernardino Base and Meridian.

Project Description: The CVWD intends to certify the East Side Dike, from Dune Palms Road to Interstate 10 (I-10), with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as a flood protection structure. CVWD previously completed hydraulic and scour analyses, and geotechnical investigation for the East Side Dike. The results obtained from the studies indicate that the western end of the East Side Dike adjacent to the Talavera Development is susceptible to erosion, In order to accredit a levee, FEMA requires that no appreciable erosion would occur during the 100-year flood (44 CFR 65.10). The definition of "appreciable erosion" is generally accepted to mean that any erosion that occurs would not threaten the stability of the levee. For the East Side Dike, erosion or loss of the levee embankment can occur from the removal of sediments from the waterside slope of the embankment by high velocities and by scour near the toe of the embankment, loss of support, and failure of part of the embankment slope.

To address the erosion potential and protect the dike from scour, CVWD proposes construction of approximately 3,420 lineal feet of concrete slope lining along the northern slope (water side slope) of the dike beginning at the dike's intersection with Dune Palms Road and continuing in a southeasterly direction ending adjacent to the Talavera development in Indio, Riverside County. Construction access to the site would be from Dune Palms Road and from the intersection of Avenue 38 and Madison Street. The Proposed Project would take place on parcels: APN 750-290-003; APN 750-300-015; APN 750-310-016; and APN 750-330-007.

The slope lining width varies from 27 feet to 34.5 feet and would extend from near the top of the existing dike down below the toe of the slope, where a 20-foot excavated trench would be required for construction of the footing. Temporarily excavated material would be stored north of trench and would be backfilled to cover the completed work to match the existing topography. The slope lining would require approximately 2,700 cubic yards (CY) of concrete and 22 CY of rebar to be placed. The temporary work area required during construction would be approximately 4,000 feet in length and approximately 90 feet wide. Construction equipment staging would occur within these limits.

Estimated earthwork includes excavation of approximately 115,000 CY balanced cut/fill. Construction equipment required at the site includes excavators, dozers, backhoe, graders, concrete trucks, dump trucks, water trucks and utility trucks. Construction access to the site will be from Dune Palms Road and from the intersection of Avenue 38 and Madison Street. Due to the low quantity of concrete that is required it is anticipated that concrete would be supplied by ready mix plants in the vicinity of the project site (Thousand Palms and Indio). Both ready mix plants are a 15 to 20 minute one-way drive to the project site. It is anticipated that 100 CY of concrete would be placed a day, which will require an average of 10 concrete trucks per day with a load of 10 CY of concrete. The placement of concrete would require approximately 35 workdays.

Aggregate base would be applied to a portion of the 20-foot wide access road on top of dike to ensure a stable driving surface. These road repairs would begin from the dike's northwestern terminus for approximately 1,200 feet to the southeast. The aggregate base would vary in thickness from approximately 3 to 30 inches. Repairs to the surface of the dike would be performed as part of the Proposed Project to address locations with minor surficial erosion. Construction is estimated for approximately 110 workdays (six months), beginning in July 2019.

Potentially Significant Environmental Impacts: No potentially significant impacts to resources were identified in the Initial Study. All impacts would be reduced to a less-than-significant level with the incorporation of mitigation measures.

Hazardous Waste Sites: The project site is not located on any known listed toxic sites pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5.

Public Review Period: In compliance with CEQA, the CVWD has established a 30-day public review period beginning April 18, 2019 to solicit comments and input on the Draft IS/MND. To ensure that all environmental issues are fully identified and adequately addressed, written comments are invited from all interested parties. Written comments regarding the scope and content of information in the Draft IS/MND should be submitted no later than May 17, 2019 to:

William Patterson, Environmental Supervisor
Environmental Services Department
Coachella Valley Water District
75-515 E. Hovley Lane East
Palm Desert, California 92211
Email: WPatterson@cvwd.org

Copies of the Draft IS/MND are on-file and available for public review at the following location:

75-515 E. Hovley Lane East
Palm Desert, California 92211

The Draft IS/MND is also available online at: www.cvwd.org