

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, in compliance with California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines §15072, to responsible agencies, trustee agencies, interest groups and the general public that the Crestline-Lake Arrowhead Water Agency (CLAWA) plans to adopt a Negative Declaration (ND) for the Crestline-Lake Arrowhead Water Agency and San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District Proposed Multi-Year Water Exchange Project (Project). Anyone desiring to comment on the ND may do so in writing within the 30-day public review period, commencing on January 30, 2025, and ending February 28, 2025.

Project Title: Crestline-Lake Arrowhead Water Agency and San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District Proposed Multi-Year Water Exchange Project

Project Location: The service areas for CLAWA and San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District (San Bernardino Valley) areas are within San Bernardino County. Specifically, CLAWA is located in the San Bernardino Mountains and serves the communities of Lake Arrowhead, Crestline, Cedar Glen, Cedarpines Park, Twin Peaks, Blue Jay, Running Springs, and Skyforest. San Bernardino Valley serves the communities of Rialto, Colton, San Bernardino, Highland, East Highland, Mentone, Grand Terrace, Yucaipa, Redlands, Loma Linda, and Bloomington. The Project is a paper exchange of water allotments; there is no specific location for the Project. Rather, the Project will entail the use of the existing infrastructure associated with each of these water agencies.

Project Description: This Project is the implementation of the CLAWA and San Bernardino Valley proposed Multi-Year Water Exchange Project (the Project), which will allow for flexibility in management and use of allocated excess carryover State Water Project (SWP) water by Crestline-Lake Arrowhead Water Agency (CLAWA). The Project consists of a framework for San Bernardino Valley, at the request of CLAWA, to receive excess CLAWA carryover SWP water during periods when CLAWA is unable to accept delivery, and for CLAWA to receive return water from San Bernardino Valley. For every 1 acre-foot that CLAWA provides to San Bernardino Valley, up to ½ acre-foot may be returned thereby providing a net water supply benefit to the San Bernardino Valley. The Project would be implemented on an as-needed basis, consistent with Article 56 of the Water Management Amendment to the SWP Water Supply Contract with DWR. The framework would follow the terms and conditions identified in Appendix A of Article 56 of the Water Management Amendment to the SWP Water Supply Contract with DWR. The Project would not require new construction, and/or alteration/improvements to existing facilities. The proposed water exchange would use existing facilities, and there would be no changes to the maximum volume of allocated SWP water to either CLAWA or San Bernardino Valley, no material changes to the operation of the SWP itself, or material changes to the existing use of CLAWA and San Bernardino's existing facilities.

Cortese List Notice: Pursuant to Public Resources Code § 21092.6(a), the Project is not included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code § 65962.5 (California Department of Toxic Substances Control List of various hazardous sites).

Public Meeting: CLAWA's Board of Directors will consider the proposed project at a publicly-noticed Board of Directors meeting scheduled for April 4, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. Meetings are typically held at CLAWA's Office located at 24116 Crest Forest Drive, Crestline, CA 923525. The public may attend the meeting in person or virtually. Members of the public may provide public comments in-person at the meeting or via Zoom.

Document Availability: Copies of the Negative Declaration are available for public review on the CLAWA website at <https://www.clawa.org/public-hearings> and can be inspected at the CLAWA office, located at 24116 Crest Forest Drive, Crestline, CA 923525. A hard copy of the ND will also be available at the San Bernardino Valley office, located at 380 East Vanderbilt Way, San Bernardino, CA 92408. Office hours are Monday through Friday 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Additionally, all documents referenced in the ND can be reviewed at these locations.

Contact person: Written comments may be submitted to: Jennifer Spindler, General Manager, CLAWA, 24116 Crest Forest Drive, Crestline, CA 923525 or emailed to: clawa2@clawa.net.