

Littlerock Reservoir Sediment Removal Project

The Palmdale Water District (District), as Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), has prepared the Final Environmental Impact Report (Final EIR) for the Littlerock Reservoir Sediment Removal Project. The Littlerock Reservoir Sediment Removal Project Final EIR documents the anticipated impacts from the proposed construction of a concrete grade control structure within Littlerock Reservoir, hauling sediment from behind the dam to nearby quarry sites, and maintaining the storage capacity through annual sediment removal. The project would restore Littlerock Reservoir to 1992 water storage and flood control capacity and preserve habitat for the arroyo toad by preventing sediment loss and headcutting of the stream channel.

The Final EIR has been prepared in compliance with CEQA and incorporates changes resulting from comments submitted during the public review period for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Draft EIR, (May 6, 2016 through June 30, 2016). The District has been supported in the preparation of the Final EIR by the USDA Forest Service, Angeles National Forest, as the Lead Agency under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). It should be noted that the Forest Service issued the Littlerock Reservoir Sediment Removal Project joint Final EIS/EIR and its Draft Record of Decision (ROD) on February 17, 2017 in compliance with its 45-day review period for its objection process, and prior to the issuance of its Final ROD expected by late Spring/early Summer 2017. The contents of the Final EIR and the joint Final EIS/EIR are exactly the same. However, given the bifurcated decision processes for the NEPA and CEQA lead agencies, the District has opted to move forward with certification of the environmental analysis document in advance of the Forest Service in an effort to facilitate the State and local agency permitting processes.

The Final EIR includes comments received during the public review period and the District's responses to those comments. The Final EIR can be downloaded at: <http://palmdalewater.org/about/new-developmen-projects/district-project/>

Final EIR Certification Hearing

The District Board of Directors will consider, among other things, the information in the Draft and Final EIRs and will determine the adequacy of the environmental documentation under CEQA. Should the Board of Directors elect to certify the Final EIR and approve the proposed Project, the District will file a Notice of Determination with the Los Angeles County Clerk and the State Clearinghouse within five working days of the Project approval hearing. Details on the Final EIR certification hearing are as follows:

Final EIR Certification Hearing	
Location	Palmdale Water District, Board Room
Date	March 22, 2017
Time	7:00 PM
Address	2029 East Avenue Q Palmdale, CA 93550

This hearing, which will be part of a Regular Board Meeting, is open to agencies and members of the public.