

Coachella Canal Lining Project

Riverside and Imperial Counties
California

Final Environmental Impact Statement/
Final Environmental Impact Report

Volume II

State Clearinghouse No. 1990020408

April 2001

United States Department of the Interior Coachella Valley Water District

Bureau of Reclamation
Lower Colorado Region

COACHELLA CANAL LINING PROJECT

FINAL

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT/ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

April 2001

Preface

This Final Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) consists of two volumes, each of which is bound separately. This is Volume II.

Volume I contains the main body of the Final EIS/EIR, which has been revised in response to comments received on the Revised and Updated Draft EIS/EIR. This volume also contains all of the Attachments (A through J) which were circulated with the Revised and Updated Draft EIS/EIR. These revisions and additions provide no significant new information; they merely provide additional background information, clarify, or expand the original conclusions of the Revised and Updated Draft EIS/EIR.

Volume II contains copies of the Draft EIS Notice of Availability and the Draft EIR Notice of Completion, public hearing announcements, comments received on the Revised and Updated Draft EIS/EIR and responses to those comments, and a transcript of the October 25, 2000 Revised and Updated Draft EIS/EIR public hearing.

Appendices to this Final EIS/EIR consist of the same four appendices that accompanied the Revised and Updated Draft EIS/EIR: geohydrology, engineering, environmental, and social. Each appendix is bound separately.

**Final Environmental Impact Statement/
Final Environmental Impact Report
Coachella Canal Lining Project
Riverside and Imperial Counties, California**

Volume II

Abstract

Notice of Draft EIS Availability/Notice of Draft EIR
Completion and Public Hearing Announcements

Comments Received on the Revised and Updated Draft EIS/EIR
and Responses to those Comments

Public Hearing Transcript

**Final Environmental Impact Statement/
Final Environmental Impact Report
Coachella Canal Lining Project
Riverside and Imperial Counties, California**

Prepared by: United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), and Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD)

Abstract

This Final Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) has been prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Reclamation is responsible for project compliance with NEPA. CVWD is responsible for project compliance with CEQA. This Final EIS/EIR incorporates revisions and responses to public comments received on the Revised and Updated Draft EIS/EIR, which was circulated for a 60-day public review period extending from September 22, 2000 through November 21, 2000. That Draft EIS/EIR revised and updated a 1994 Draft EIS/EIR which was previously prepared and circulated for public review for this proposed action.

The purpose of this federal action is to conserve 30,850 acre-feet annually of water presently being lost as seepage from the earthen reaches of the Coachella Canal. A specific quantity of conserved water would be assigned to the Department of the Interior to facilitate implementation of the San Luis Rey Indian Water Rights Settlement Act (Public Law 100-675, November 17, 1988). Remaining quantities of conserved water would be distributed to southern California to meet present water demand and to assist the State in attaining the goals of California's Colorado River Water Use Plan. The State of California is providing funding for the Coachella Canal Lining Project under California Water Code §12560 et seq.

This Final EIS/EIR describes the project area environment, addresses the significant environmental issues, and presents evaluations of the environmental consequences of the proposed action and its alternatives. The four alternatives evaluated are Conventional Lining, Underwater Lining, Parallel Canal, and No Action. Under the Conventional Lining Alternative, the canal would be lined in place after draining the water from each section of the canal and diverting the water flow around the construction area. The Underwater Lining Alternative would utilize a special process to line the canal while water continues to flow in the canal. The Parallel Canal Alternative would involve construction of a new canal parallel to the existing canal.

This Final EIS/EIR also complies with the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, the Clean Water Act (Section 404), the Clean Air Act, Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management), and Executive Order 11990 (Wetlands Protection), and partially fulfills the requirements of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974.

For further information regarding the processing or content of this document, please contact Mr. Don Young, Bureau of Reclamation, Yuma Office, P.O. Box D, Yuma, Arizona, 85366, telephone (520) 343-8159; or, Mr. Don Mitchell, Coachella Valley Water District, P.O. Box 1058, Coachella, California, 92236, telephone (760) 398-2651. Parties interested in providing comments prior to the adoption of a Record of Decision for the proposed action must provide their comments to Reclamation within 30 days of the publication of the Final EIS Notice of Availability in the *Federal Register*.

**Final Environmental Impact Statement/
Final Environmental Impact Report
Coachella Canal Lining Project**

Abstract

**Final Environmental Impact Statement/
Final Environmental Impact Report
Coachella Canal Lining Project
Riverside and Imperial Counties, California**

Prepared by: United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), and Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD)

Abstract

This Final Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) has been prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Reclamation is responsible for project compliance with NEPA. CVWD is responsible for project compliance with CEQA. This Final EIS/EIR incorporates revisions and responses to public comments received on the Revised and Updated Draft EIS/EIR, which was circulated for a 60-day public review period extending from September 22, 2000 through November 21, 2000. That Draft EIS/EIR revised and updated a 1994 Draft EIS/EIR which was previously prepared and circulated for public review for this proposed action.

The purpose of this federal action is to conserve 30,850 acre-feet annually of water presently being lost as seepage from the earthen reaches of the Coachella Canal. A specific quantity of conserved water would be assigned to the Department of the Interior to facilitate implementation of the San Luis Rey Indian Water Rights Settlement Act (Public Law 100-675, November 17, 1988). Remaining quantities of conserved water would be distributed to southern California to meet present water demand and to assist the State in attaining the goals of California's Colorado River Water Use Plan. The State of California is providing funding for the Coachella Canal Lining Project under California Water Code §12560 et seq.

This Final EIS/EIR describes the project area environment, addresses the significant environmental issues, and presents evaluations of the environmental consequences of the proposed action and its alternatives. The four alternatives evaluated are Conventional Lining, Underwater Lining, Parallel Canal, and No Action. Under the Conventional Lining Alternative, the canal would be lined in place after draining the water from each section of the canal and diverting the water flow around the construction area. The Underwater Lining Alternative would utilize a special process to line the canal while water continues to flow in the canal. The Parallel Canal Alternative would involve construction of a new canal parallel to the existing canal.

This Final EIS/EIR also complies with the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, the Clean Water Act (Section 404), the Clean Air Act, Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management), and Executive Order 11990 (Wetlands Protection), and partially fulfills the requirements of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974.

For further information regarding the processing or content of this document, please contact Mr. Don Young, Bureau of Reclamation, Yuma Office, P.O. Box D, Yuma, Arizona, 85366, telephone (520) 343-8159; or, Mr. Don Mitchell, Coachella Valley Water District, P.O. Box 1058, Coachella, California, 92236, telephone (760) 398-2651. Parties interested in providing comments prior to the adoption of a Record of Decision for the proposed action must provide their comments to Reclamation within 30 days of the publication of the Final EIS Notice of Availability in the *Federal Register*.

**Final Environmental Impact Statement/
Final Environmental Impact Report
Coachella Canal Lining Project**

**Notice of Draft EIS Availability/Notice of Draft EIR Completion
and Public Hearing Announcements**

museum, institution, or Federal agency that has control of these Native American human remains and associated funerary objects. The National Park Service is not responsible for the determinations within this notice.

A detailed assessment of the human remains was made by the Office of the State Archaeologist, University of Iowa, professional staff in consultation with representatives of the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma and the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation, North Dakota.

In 1984, human remains representing one individual were recovered from site 13ML176, Mills County, IA, by the Office of State Archaeologist, University of Iowa, during the salvage excavation of an earthlodge. No known individuals were identified. There are no associated funerary objects.

This earthlodge was occupied by people of the Nebraska phase (A.D. 1050–1250) of the Central Plains tradition based on the material culture, art style, architecture, and geographical location of the site. Archeological evidence, especially continuities and similarities in material culture, and Pawnee tribal history indicate that the historic Pawnee and Arikara tribes may have their origins among the late prehistoric Nebraska phase people of the Missouri River area of southwestern Iowa and eastern Nebraska. The Arikara today are members of the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation, North Dakota.

Based on the above-mentioned information, officials of the Office of State Archaeologist, University of Iowa, have determined that, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.2 (d)(1), the human remains listed above represent the physical remains of one individual of Native American ancestry. Also, officials of the Office of State Archaeologist, University of Iowa, have determined that, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.2 (e), there is a relationship of shared group identity that can be reasonably traced between these Native American human remains and the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma and the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation, North Dakota. This notice has been sent to officials of the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma and the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation, North Dakota. Representatives of any other Indian tribe that believes itself to be culturally affiliated with these human remains should contact Shirley Schermer, Burials Program Director, Office of the State Archaeologist, 700 Clinton Street Building, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA 52242, telephone

(319) 384-0740, before October 27, 2000. Repatriation of the human remains to the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma and the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation, North Dakota may begin after that date if no additional claimants come forward.

Dated: September 5, 2000
 John Robbins,
 Assistant Director, Cultural Resources
 Stewardship and Partnerships.
 [FR Doc. 00-24358 Filed 9-21-00; 8:45 am]
 BILLING CODE 4310-70-F

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Coachella Canal Lining Project, Imperial and Riverside Counties, California

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation, Interior
ACTION: Notice of Availability, Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Draft Environmental Impact Report—Coachella Canal Lining Project (INT-DES 00-40).

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (as amended) and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and the Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) have prepared a joint Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIS/DEIR) for the "Coachella Canal Lining Project." The document is a revised and updated version of a DEIS/DEIR filed by Reclamation and the CVWD and issued for public comment on January 11, 1994.

DATES: A 60-day public review period shall begin with the publication date of this notice. Note that there will be no extension of the comment period for this DEIS/DEIR. In addition to mailing submissions, comments will also be received by Reclamation and CVWD at a public hearing scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on October 25, 2000, at the Coachella Valley Water District Office, Highway 111 and Avenue 52, Coachella, California. This facility is disability accessible. Please contact the persons identified below within two weeks prior to the hearing date to arrange for accommodations to meet other special needs, such as interpreters for the hearing-impaired.

ADDRESSES: To request copies of the DEIS/DEIR or to obtain further information about the Coachella Canal Lining Project, please contact Mr. Don Young, Reclamation, Yuma Area Office, P.O. Box D, 7301 Calle Agua Salada,

Yuma, Arizona, 85366; telephone: (520) 343-8159; or Mr. Steve Robbins, Coachella Valley Water District, P.O. Box 1058, Highway 111 and Avenue 52, Coachella, California, 92236; telephone: (760) 398-2651. Written comments on the DEIS/DEIR should be sent to Mr. Don Young at the above address.

Note that Reclamation's standard practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review. Individual respondents may request that his or her name or identity be withheld from public disclosure. Requests for non-disclosure must be made in writing when comments are submitted. Reclamation shall accommodate such requests to the extent allowable by law. All comments submitted by organizations and businesses and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses shall be available for public disclosure in their entirety.

Copies of the DEIS/DEIR are now available for public review at the following locations:

- Bureau of Reclamation, Yuma Area Office, Central Files, Room 145, 7301 Calle Agua Salada, Yuma, Arizona; telephone: (520) 343-8147
- Coachella Valley Water District, Highway 111 and Avenue 52, Coachella, California, telephone: (760) 398-2651
- Bureau of Reclamation, Lower Colorado Regional Office, 400 Railroad Avenue, Boulder City, Nevada, telephone: (702) 293-8000
- Bureau of Reclamation, Reclamation Service Center Library, Building 67, Room 167, Denver Federal Center, 6th and Kipling, Denver, Colorado, telephone: (303) 236-6963
- Bureau of Reclamation, Program Analysis Office, Room 7456, 1849 C Street NW, Washington, DC, telephone: (202) 208-4662
- California Department of Water Resources, 6900 Devils Canyon Road, San Bernardino, California; telephone: (909) 886-5028
- Yuma County Library, 350 South Third Avenue, Yuma, Arizona, telephone: (520) 782-1871
- Coachella Branch Library, 1538 7th Street, Coachella, California; telephone: (760) 398-5148
- Brawley Public Library, 400 Main Street, Brawley, California; telephone: (760) 344-1891
- El Centro Public Library, 539 W. State Street, El Centro, California; telephone: (760) 337-4565

- Imperial Public Library, 200 W. 9th Street, Imperial, California; telephone: (760) 355-1332
- Indio Branch Library, 200 Civic Center Mall, Indio, California; telephone: (760) 347-2383
- Palm Springs Library, 300 S. Sunrise Way, Palm Springs, California; telephone: (760) 322-7323
- San Diego Central Library, 820 E Street, San Diego, California; telephone: (619) 236-5800
- Los Angeles Public Library, 630 W. Fifth Street, Los Angeles, California 90071; telephone: (213) 228-7000

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This DEIS/DEIR is a revised and updated version of a DEIS/DEIR for the Coachella Canal Lining Project filed by Reclamation and the CVWD and issued for public comment on January 11, 1994. At that time, because of funding constraints, construction of the project was deferred, and a Final EIS/EIR was not completed. The proposed action evaluated in the revised DEIS/DEIR is the same as in the previous document—to install a concrete lining within the existing cross-section of unlined portions of the canal (33.2 miles) using conventional construction methods and diverting water around each section while it is being lined. Alternatives evaluated in the DEIS/DEIR, also the same as in the original DEIS/DEIR, include No Action, Underwater Lining, and Parallel Canal Construction.

The purpose of this federal action is to conserve 30,850 acre-feet annually of water presently being lost as seepage from the earthen reaches of the Coachella Canal. A specific quantity of conserved water would be assigned to the Department of the Interior to facilitate implementation of the San Luis Rey Indian Water Rights Settlement Act (Public Law 100-675, November 17, 1988). Remaining quantities of conserved water would be distributed to southern California to meet present water demand and to assist the State in attaining the goals of California's Colorado River Water Use Plan. The federal action includes approval of transfers and exchanges of conserved Coachella canal water among California's Colorado River water contractors.

Dated: September 13, 2000.

Robert W. Johnson,

Regional Director.

[FR Doc. 00-24425 Filed 9-21-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-MN-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Reclamation

Colorado River Interim Surplus Criteria; Correction

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of correction to published Federal Register notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Reclamation is correcting information published in the Federal Register issue date of Tuesday, August 8, 2000 (Vol. 65, No. 153).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information, contact Ms. Jayne Harkins at (702) 993-8785.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On page 48534, in Table 1, "Cooperative Water Conservation/Transfer Projects", under the column labeled "Cooperative water conservation/transfer projects", the footnote for "All American Canal Lining-MWD/SLR" should be "5" instead of "3." In the "Estimated start date" column of the same table, the footnote for year "2006" should be "5" instead of "4."

On page 48536, in the far right column, subsection "IV.B.3.b." should read "Allocate and distribute the Quantified Surplus 50% to California, 46% to Arizona and 4% to Nevada subject to c. though f. that follow." instead of "* * * subject to c. though g. that follow."

Dated: September 15, 2000.

Robert W. Johnson,

Regional Director.

[FR Doc. 00-24424 Filed 9-21-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-MN-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

Notice of Proposed Information Collection

AGENCY: Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) is announcing its intention to renew its authority to collect information for the permanent program inspection and enforcement procedures at 30 CFR Part 840.

DATES: Comments on the proposed information collection must be received

by November 21, 2000, to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed to John A. Trelease, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, 1951 Constitution Ave., NW., Room 210-SIB, Washington, DC 20240. Comments may also be submitted electronically to jtrelease@osmre.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request a copy of the information collection request, explanatory information and related form, contact John A. Trelease, at (202) 208-2783.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations at 5 CFR 1320, which implement provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13), require that interested members of the public and affected agencies have an opportunity to comment on information collection and recordkeeping activities [see 5 CFR 1320.8 (d)]. This notice identifies information collections that OSM will be submitting to OMB for extension. This collection is contained in 30 CFR 840.

OSM has received burden estimates, where appropriate, to reflect current reporting levels or adjustments based on estimates of burden or respondents. OSM will request a 3-year term of approval for this information collection activity.

Comments are invited on: (1) The need for the collection of information for the performance of the functions of the agency; (2) the accuracy of the agency's burden estimates; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection; and (4) ways to minimize the information collection burden on respondents, such as use of automated means of collection of the information. A summary of the public comments will accompany OSM's submission of the information collection request to OMB.

This notice provides the public with 60 days in which to comment on the following information collection activity:

Title: Permanent Program Inspection and Enforcement Procedures, 30 CFR Part 840.

OMB Control Number: 1029-0051.

Abstract: This provision requires the regulatory authority to conduct periodic inspections of coal mining activities, and prepare and maintain inspection reports for public review. This information is necessary to meet the requirements of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 and its public participation provisions. Public review assures the public that the State is meeting the requirements for the

NOTICE OF COMPLETION

COUNTY CLERK
Neg. Declaration/Ntc Determination
Filed per B.C. 211152
POSTED

FILED
RIVERSIDE COUNTY

SEP 22 2000

State of California
Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

SEP 22 2000

Removed: _____

GARY L. ORSO

By: _____ Dept.
County of Riverside, State of California

By *C. Kohler* C. Kohler
Deputy

Project Title: Coachella Canal Lining Project

Project Location - Specific: The Coachella Canal originates as a branch of the All American Canal at Drop 1 near the international border between the United States and Mexico and runs in a northwesterly direction, terminating in the Coachella Valley. The section of the Coachella Canal that is proposed for lining includes siphons 7 through 14 and 15 through 32. This unlined, earthen section of the canal is located generally parallel to, and several miles east of, the Salton Sea.

Project Location - City: Unincorporated. Located near, but not in, the communities of Niland, Slab City, Hot Mineral Springs, Bombay Beach, and Mecca.

Project Location - County: Riverside and Imperial Counties

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: The purpose of the proposed project is to annually conserve approximately 30,850 acre-feet of water presently being lost as seepage from the earthen reaches of the Coachella Canal. A specific quantity of conserved water would be assigned to the U.S. Department of the Interior to facilitate implementation of the San Luis Rey Indian Water Rights Settlement Act (Public Law 100-675, November 17, 1988). Remaining quantities of conserved water would be distributed to southern California to meet present water demand and to assist the State in attaining the goals of California's Colorado River Water Use Plan.

Lead Agency: Coachella Valley Water District

Division: N/A

Address Where Copy of EIR is Available:

Coachella Valley Water District, Highway 111 at Avenue 52, Coachella, CA 92236

See also attached list of other locations where the Draft EIR is available.

Review Period: Friday, September 22 through Tuesday, November 21, 2000

Contact Person: Mr. Don Mitchell

Area Code/Phone/Extension: (760) 398-2651

NOTICE OF COMPLETION

POSTED

SEP 22 2000

Dolores Provencio
Imperial County Clerk Recorder
California

State of California
Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

FILED
IMPERIAL COUNTY, CA.

SEP 22 11 12 AM '00

Isabel Vargas

Project Title: Coachella Canal Lining Project

Project Location - Specific: The Coachella Canal originates as a branch of the All American Canal at Drop 1 near the international border between the United States and Mexico and runs in a northwesterly direction, terminating in the Coachella Valley. The section of the Coachella Canal that is proposed for lining includes siphons 7 through 14 and 15 through 32. This unlined, earthen section of the canal is located generally parallel to, and several miles east of, the Salton Sea.

Project Location - City: Unincorporated. Located near, but not in, the communities of Niland, Slab City, Hot Mineral Springs, Bombay Beach, and Mecca.

Project Location - County: Riverside and Imperial Counties

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: The purpose of the proposed project is to annually conserve approximately 30,850 acre-feet of water presently being lost as seepage from the earthen reaches of the Coachella Canal. A specific quantity of conserved water would be assigned to the U.S. Department of the Interior to facilitate implementation of the San Luis Rey Indian Water Rights Settlement Act (Public Law 100-675, November 17, 1988). Remaining quantities of conserved water would be distributed to southern California to meet present water demand and to assist the State in attaining the goals of California's Colorado River Water Use Plan.

Lead Agency: Coachella Valley Water District

Division: N/A

Address Where Copy of EIR is Available:

Coachella Valley Water District, Highway 111 at Avenue 52, Coachella, CA 92236

See also attached list of other locations where the Draft EIR is available.

Review Period: Friday, September 22 through Tuesday, November 21, 2000

Contact Person: Mr. Don Mitchell

Area Code/Phone/Extension: (760) 398-2651

Coachella Canal Lining Project Notice of Completion
Revised Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR)

Additional locations where the Draft EIS/EIR is available.

- **Bureau of Reclamation, Yuma Area Office**, Central Files, Room 145, 7301 Calle Agua Salada, Yuma, Arizona; telephone: (520) 343-8147
- **Bureau of Reclamation, Lower Colorado Regional Office**, 400 Railroad Avenue, Boulder City, Nevada, telephone: (702) 293-8000
- **Bureau of Reclamation, Reclamation Service Center Library**, Building 67, Room 167, Denver Federal Center, 6th and Kipling, Denver, Colorado, telephone: (303) 236-6963
- **Bureau of Reclamation, Program Analysis Office**, Room 7456, 1849 C Street NW, Washington, DC, telephone: (202) 208-4662
- **California Department of Water Resources**, 6900 Devils Canyon Road, San Bernardino, California; telephone: (909) 886-5028
- **Yuma County Library**, 350 South Third Avenue, Yuma, Arizona, telephone: (520) 782-1871
- **Coachella Branch Library**, 1538 7th Street, Coachella, California; telephone: (760) 398-5148
- **Brawley Public Library**, 400 Main Street, Brawley, California; telephone: (760) 344-1891
- **El Centro Public Library**, 539 W. State Street, El Centro, California; telephone: (760) 337-4565
- **Imperial Public Library**, 200 W. 9th Street, Imperial, California; telephone:(760) 355-1332
- **Indio Branch Library**, 200 Civic Center Mall, Indio, California; telephone: (760) 347-2383
- **Palm Springs Library**, 300 S. Sunrise Way, Palm Springs, California; telephone: (760) 322-7323
- **San Diego Central Library**, 820 E Street, San Diego, California; telephone: (619) 236-5800
- **Los Angeles Public Library**, 630 W. Fifth Street, Los Angeles, California 90071; telephone: (213) 228-7000

Coachella Canal Lining Project Notice of Completion
Revised Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report

List of Sections Traversed by the Proposed Project (Unlined Coachella Canal)
by Township & Range and U.S.G.S. 7.5 Minute Topographic Quadrangle Maps

<u>Quadrangle Name</u>	<u>Township and Range</u>	<u>Sections</u>
Durmid	8 South, 12 East	7, 8, 17
Frink NW	9 South, 13 East	31
	9 South, 12 East	1, 12
	9 South, 13 East	7, 17, 18, 20, 21
Frink NE	9 South, 13 East	21, 22
Iris	10 South, 15 East	31
	11 South, 15 East	5, 6, 8, 9, 15, 16, 22, 23, 26, 35
Iris Wash	10 South, 14 East	15, 22, 23, 25, 26, 31, 36
Mortmar	7 South, 10 East	25, 35, 36
	7 South, 11 East	31
	8 South, 11 East	6
Orocopia Canyon	7 South, 11 East	31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36
	8 South, 11 East	1, 2
	8 South, 12 East	6
Wister	9 South, 13 East	22, 25, 26, 27, 36
	9 South, 14 East	31
	10 South, 14 East	5, 6, 8, 9, 15, 16

See NOTE below
SCH # 1990020408

1. **Project Title:** Coachella Canal Lining Project
 2. **Lead Agency:** Coachella Valley Water District
 3a. **Street Address:** P.O. Box 1058 (Avenue 52 and Highway 111)
 3c. **County:** Riverside
 3. **Contact Person:** Mr. Don Mitchell
 3b. **City:** Coachella
 3d. **Zip:** 92236 3e. **Phone:** (760) 398-2651

Project Location Along the Coachella Canal, parallel to and several miles east of the Salton Sea, west of the Chocolate Mountains Aerial Gunnery Range.
 4. **County:** Riverside and Imperial
 4a. **City/Community:** Near Slab City, Hot Mineral Springs communities
 4b. **Assessor's Parcel No.:** N/A
 4c. **Section:** See Attached List
 5a. **Cross Streets:** Coachella Canal, Hot Mineral Spa, Frink, & Beal Rds
 5b. **For Rural, Nearest Community:** Mecca, Slab City, Bombay Beach, Niland
 6. **Within 2 Miles:** a. **State Hwy #:** 111
 b. **Airports:** None
 c. **Railways:** Eagle Mountain, Southern Pacific
 d. **Waterways:** Coachella Canal, East Highline Canal, and Salt Creek

7. Document Type

CEQA:

- 01. NOP
- 02. Early Cons
- 03. Neg Dec
- 04. Draft EIR (Revised)
- 05. Supplement/Subsequent EIR (Prior SCH No.) _____
- 06. NOE
- 07. NOC
- 08. NOD

NEPA:

- 09. NOI
- 10. PONSI
- 11. Draft EIS (Revised)
- 12. EA

Other:

- 13. Joint Document
- 14. Final Document
- 15. Other: Recirculated Draft EIS/EIR

8. Local Action Type

- 01. General Plan Update
- 02. New Element
- 03. General Plan Amendment
- 04. Master Plan
- 05. Annexation
- 06. Specific Plan
- 07. Community Plan
- 08. Redevelopment
- 09. Rezone
- 10. Land Division (Subdivision, Parcel Map, Tract Map, etc.)
- 11. Use Permit
- 12. Waste Mgmt Plan
- 13. Cancel Ag Preserve
- 14. Other: Approve Canal Lining

9. Development Type

- 01. Residential: *Units* _____ *Acres* _____
- 02. Office: *Sq.ft.* _____ *Acres* _____
Employees _____
- 03. Shopping/Commercial: *Sq.ft.* _____ *Acres* _____
Employees _____
- 04. Industrial: *Sq.ft.* _____ *Acres* _____
Employees _____
- 05. Water Facilities: *Type* Lined Canal
MGD Canal delivers up to 330,000 acre-feet annually
- 06. Transportation: *Type* _____
- 07. Mining: *Mineral* _____
- 08. Power: *Type* _____ *Watts* _____
- 09. Waste Treatment: *Type* _____
- 10. OCS Related _____
- 11. Other: _____

10. **Total Acres** Approx. 270 acres (33.2 linear miles of unlined canal) 11. **Total Jobs Created** 492 Jobs - temporary (preferred alternative)

12. Project Issues Discussed in Document

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 01. Aesthetic/Visual | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 09. Geologic/Seismic | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 17. Social | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 25. Wetland/Riparian |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 02. Agricultural Land | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10. Jobs/Housing Balance | <input type="checkbox"/> 18. Soil Erosion | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 26. Wildlife |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 03. Air Quality | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 11. Minerals | <input type="checkbox"/> 19. Solid Waste | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 27. Growth Inducing |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 04. Archaeological/Historical | <input type="checkbox"/> 12. Noise | <input type="checkbox"/> 20. Toxic/Hazardous | <input type="checkbox"/> 28. Incompatible Landuse |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 05. Coastal Zone | <input type="checkbox"/> 13. Public Services | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 21. Traffic/Circulation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 29. Cumulative Effects |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 06. Economic | <input type="checkbox"/> 14. Schools | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 22. Vegetation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 30. Other: <u>Hydroelectric power, Indian Trust Assets, large mammal escape from the canal</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 07. Fire Hazard | <input type="checkbox"/> 15. Septic Systems | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 23. Water Quality | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 08. Flooding/Drainage | <input type="checkbox"/> 16. Sewer Capacity | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 24. Water Supply | |

13. **Funding (approx.)** **Federal \$** Zero **State \$** \$62 million + mitigation cost **Total \$** \$62 million + mitigation cost

14. **Present Land Use and Zoning:** Proposed project entails improvements to an existing canal. Approximately 97 percent of the surrounding land is open space, and approximately 2 percent is developed with spas and mobile homes/RV parks.

15. **Project Description:** The proposed project involves lining 33.2 miles of the existing Coachella Canal, in order to conserve approximately 30,850 acre-feet of water per year from seepage from the earthen sections of the canal.

16. **Signature of Lead Agency Representative** Tom Levy **Date** 9/20/00

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

Reviewing Agencies

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resources Agency
<input type="checkbox"/> Boating & Waterways
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fish & Game
<input type="checkbox"/> Forestry
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Colorado River Board
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dept. Water Resources
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reclamation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parks & Recreation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Office of Historic Preservation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Native American Heritage Commission
<input type="checkbox"/> S.F. Bay Cons & Dev't Commission
<input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Commission
<input type="checkbox"/> Energy Commission
<input type="checkbox"/> State Lands Commission
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Resources Board
<input type="checkbox"/> Solid Waste Management Board
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Sacramento
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RWQCB: Region # <u>7</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Rights
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Quality | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caltrans Districts <u>8 and 11</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dept. of Transportation Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Aeronautics
<input type="checkbox"/> California Highway Patrol
<input type="checkbox"/> Housing and Community Development
<input type="checkbox"/> Statewide Health Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Health
<input type="checkbox"/> Food and Agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Utilities Commission
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Works
<input type="checkbox"/> Corrections
<input type="checkbox"/> General Services
<input type="checkbox"/> OLA
<input type="checkbox"/> Santa Monica Mountains
<input type="checkbox"/> TRPA
<input type="checkbox"/> OPR - OLGA
<input type="checkbox"/> OPR - Coastal
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bureau of Land Management
<input type="checkbox"/> Forest Service
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
|--|---|

For SCH Use Only:

Date Received at SCH _____ Catalog Number _____

Date Review Starts _____ Applicant _____

Date to Agencies _____ Consultant _____

Date to SCH _____ Contact _____ Phone _____

Clearance Date _____ Address _____

Notes: _____

PROOF OF PUBLICATION
(2015.5.C.C.P)

This is space for County Clerk's Filing Stamp

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
County of Riverside

I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the County aforesaid; I am over the age of eighteen years, and not a party to or interested in the above-entitled matter. I am the principal clerk of a printer of the, DESERT SUN PUBLISHING COMPANY a newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in the city of Palm Springs, County of Riverside, and which newspaper has been adjudged a newspaper of general circulation by the Superior Court of the County of Riverside, State of California under the date of March 24, 1988. Case Number 191236; that the notice, of which the annexed is a printed copy (set in type not smaller than non pariel, has been published in each regular and entire issue of said newspaper and not in any supplement thereof on the following dates, to wit:

September 22nd

All in the year 2000

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

22nd

Dated at Palm Springs, California this----- day
September

of-----, 2000

Signature

No.6041

Notice of Availability/Notice of Completion
Coachella Canal Lining Project Revised and Updated Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR).

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act and the California Environmental Quality Act, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and the Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) have prepared a joint Draft EIS/EIR for the "Coachella Canal Lining Project." The document is a revised and updated version of a Draft EIS/EIR filed by Reclamation and the CVWD and issued for public comment on January 11, 1994.

The purpose of this action is to conserve 30,850 acre-feet annually of water presently being lost as seepage from the earthen reaches of the Coachella Canal in Imperial and Riverside Counties. These earthen canal reaches total 33.2 miles in length. They are located several miles to the east of and generally parallel to the Salton Sea, between the communities of Slab City on the south and Mecca on the north. The federal action includes approval of transfers and exchanges of conserved Coachella Canal water among California's Colorado River water contractors.

A 60-day public review period shall begin with the publication date of this notice. Note that there will be no extension of the comment period for this Draft EIS/EIR. In addition to mailing submissions, comments will also be received by Reclamation and CVWD at a public hearing scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on October 25, 2000, at the Coachella Valley Water District Office, Highway 111 and Avenue 52, Coachella, California. This facility is disability accessible. Please contact the persons identified below within two weeks prior to the hearing date to arrange for accommodations to meet other special needs, such as interpreters for the hearing-impaired.

To request copies of the Draft EIS/EIR or to obtain further information about the Coachella Canal Lining Project, please contact Mr. Don Young, Reclamation, Yuma Area Office, P.O. Box D, 7301 Calle Agua Salada, Yuma, Arizona, 85366; telephone: (520) 343-8159; or Mr. Steve Robbins, Coachella Valley Water District, P.O. Box 1058, Highway 111 and Avenue 52, Coachella, California, 92236; telephone: (760) 398-2651. Written comments on the Draft EIS/EIR should be sent to Mr. Don Young at the above address.

Note that Reclamation's standard practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review. Individual respondents may request that his or her name or identity be withheld from public disclosure. Requests for non-disclosure must be made in writing when comments are submitted. Reclamation shall accommodate such requests to the extent allowable by law. All comments submitted by organizations and businesses and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses shall be available for public disclosure in their entirety.

Copies of the Draft EIS/EIR are available for public review at the following locations: Bureau of Reclamation, Yuma Area Office; Coachella Valley Water District; California Department of Water Resources, San Bernardino; Yuma County Library, Yuma, Arizona; Coachella Branch Library; Brawley Public Library; El Centro Public Library; Imperial Public Library; Indio Branch Library; Palm Springs Library; San Diego Central Library; Los Angeles

PROOF OF PUBLICATION

(2015.5 C.C.P.)

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

County of Imperial

I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the County aforesaid; I am over the age of eighteen years and not a party to or interested in the matter. I am the principal clerk* of the printer.

IMPERIAL VALLEY PRESS

NORTH COUNTY EDITION

a newspaper of general circulation, printed a daily in the City of El Centro, County of Imperial, State of California, under the date of 1951, Case Number 26775; that the notice, annexed is a printed copy, has been published in a regular and entire issue of said newspaper and supplement thereof on the following dates, to

September 22

all in the year 2000

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Wicki Cheate

SIGNATURE

* Printer, Foreman of the Printer, or Principal Clerk of the Printer.

Date 11/17
at El Centro, California

**LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT
Notice of
Availability/Notice of
Completion**

Coachella Canal Lining Project Revised and Updated Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR).

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act and the California Environmental Quality Act, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and the Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) have prepared a joint Draft EIS/EIR for the "Coachella Canal Lining Project." The document is a revised and updated version of a Draft EIS/EIR filed by Reclamation and the CVWD and issued for public comment on January 11, 1994.

The purpose of this action is to conserve 30,850 acre-feet annually of water presently being lost as seepage from the earthen reaches of the Coachella Canal in Imperial and Riverside Counties. These earthen canal reaches total 33.2 miles in length. They are located several miles to the east of and generally parallel to the Salton Sea, between the communities of Slab City on the south and Mecca on the north. The federal action includes approval of transfers and exchanges of conserved Coachella Canal water among California's Colorado River water contractors.

A 60-day public review period shall begin with the publication date of this notice. Note that there will be no extension of the comment period for this Draft EIS/EIR. In addition to mailing submissions, comments will also be received by Reclamation and CVWD at a public hearing scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on October 25, 2000, at the Coachella Valley Water District Office, Highway 111 and Avenue 52, Coachella, California. This facility is disability accessible. Please contact the persons identified below within two weeks prior to the hearing date to arrange for accommodation to meet other special needs, such as interpreters for the hearing-impaired.

This space is for County Clerk's Filing Stamp

Proof of Publication of

**Paste Clipping
of Notice
SECURELY
In This Space**

To request copies of the Draft EIS/EIR or to obtain further information about the Coachella Canal Lining Project, please contact Mr. Don Young, Reclamation, Yuma Area Office, P.O. Box D, 7301 Calle Agua Salada, Arizona, 85366; telephone: (520) 343-8159; or Mr. Steve Robbins, Coachella Valley Water District, P.O. Box 1058, Highway 111 and Avenue 52, Coachella, California, 92236; telephone: (760) 398-2651. Written comments on the Draft EIS/EIR should be sent to Mr. Don Young at the above address.

Note that Reclamation's standard practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review. Individual respondents may request that his or her name or identity be withheld from public disclosure. Requests for non-disclosure must be

made in writing when comments are submitted. Reclamation shall accommodate such requests to the extent allowable by law. All comments submitted by organizations and businesses and from individuals identifying themselves as representative or officials of organizations or businesses shall be available for public disclosure in their entirety.

Copies of the Draft EIS/EIR are available for public review at the following locations: Bureau of Reclamation; Yuma Area Office; Coachella Valley Water District; California Department of Water Resources, San Bernardino; Yuma County Library, Yuma, Arizona; Coachella Branch Library; Brawley Public Library; El Centro Public Library; Imperial Public Library; Indio Branch Library; Palm Springs Library; San Diego Central Library; Los Angeles Public Library. N359 S22

**PROOF OF PUBLICATION
(2015.5.C.C.P)**

This is space for County Clerk's Filing Stamp

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
County of Riverside

I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the County aforesaid; I am over the age of eighteen years, and not a party to or interested in the above-entitled matter. I am the principal clerk of a printer of the, DESERT SUN PUBLISHING COMPANY a newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in the city of Palm Springs, County of Riverside, and which newspaper has been adjudged a newspaper of general circulation by the Superior Court of the County of Riverside, State of California under the date of March 24, 1988. Case Number 191236; that the notice, of which the annexed is a printed copy (set in type not smaller than non pariel, has been published in each regular and entire issue of said newspaper and not in any supplement thereof on the following dates, to wit:

October 18th, 24th, 25th

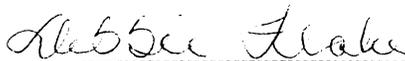
All in the year 2000

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

25th

Dated at Palm Springs, California this----- day
October

of-----, 2000



Signature

Proof of Publication of

No.6311

**NOTICE OF
PUBLIC HEARING
COACHELLA CANAL
LINING PROJECT**

The Coachella Valley Water District is proposing to install a concrete lining along the unlimited portions of the Coachella Canal (33.2 miles). A Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIS/DEIR) has been prepared to analyze the potential environmental effects of the Proposed Action and its alternatives.

A public hearing is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on October 25, 2000 to receive comments on the adequacy of the DEIS/DEIR. The public hearing will be held at the Coachella Valley Water District Office, Highway 111 and Avenue 52, Coachella CA. Please direct questions to Steve Robbins, (760)398-2651
PUB:Oct.18,24,25,2000

PROOF OF PUBLICATION

(2015.5 C.C.P.)

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

County of Imperial

I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the County aforesaid; I am over the age of eighteen years, and not a party to or interested in the above entitled matter. I am the principal clerk* of the printer of the

IMPERIAL VALLEY PRESS

NORTH COUNTY EDITION

a newspaper of general circulation, printed and published daily in the City of El Centro, County of Imperial and which newspaper has been adjudged a newspaper of general circulation by the Superior Court of the County of Imperial, State of California, under the date of October 9, 1951, Case Number 26775; that the notice, of which the annexed is a printed copy, has been published in each regular and entire issue of said newspaper and not in any supplement thereof on the following dates, to-wit:

October 18, 24, 25

all in the year 2000

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct

Vickie Cheath

SIGNATURE

* Printer, Foreman of the Printer, or Principal Clerk of the Printer

Date 11/17 2000
at El Centro, California.

This space is for County Clerk's Filing Stamp

Proof of Publication of

**LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT
NOTICE OF PUBLIC
HEARING CANAL
LINING PROJECT**

The Coachella Valley Water District is proposing to install a concrete lining along the unlined portions of the Coachella Canal (33.2 miles). A Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIS/DEIR) has been prepared to analyze the potential environmental effects of the Proposed Action and its alternatives. A public hearing is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on October 25, 2000 to receive comments on the adequacy of the DEIS/DEIR. The public hearing will be held at the Coachella Valley Water District Office, Highway 111 and Avenue 52, Coachella CA. Please direct questions to Steve Robbins, (760) 398-2651.
N375 O18,24,25