Public Notice – 401 Certification/Dredged or Fill Waste Discharge Requirements Application

Date:

March 23, 2023

Applicant:
Coachella Valley Water District
William Patterson, Environmental Supervisor
75-515 Hovley Lane East, Palm Desert, Riverside County, CA 92211
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Duly Authorized Representative:
Coachella Valley Water District
Solan Watts, Associate Biologist
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Project Name:

Thousand Palms Flood Control Project, Located in Riverside County, California, 92276

WDID No.: 7A333252001, RM: 450902, Place ID: 885705

Receiving Water:

Eighty-six (86) alluvial fan streambeds, nearest downstream waterbody: Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel

Ephemeral washes (typical of dryland fluvial systems), Salton Sea approximately 24 miles downstream

Location:

City or area: Project sites are located in the Thousand Palms area of the Coachella Valley, within north-central Riverside County between the Indio Hills and Interstate 10. The unincorporated community of Thousand Palms, located south and east of the Project, is roughly 10 miles east of the City of Palm Springs and immediately north of the City of Palm Desert. The Project is located along the southern boundary of the Thousand Palms conservation area of the Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan and the Coachella Valley Preserve. Project work will occur in four “Reach” areas as follows:

Reach 1 is the northern most element of the proposed Project, located closest to the Indio Hills and generally north of residential development. Reach 1 levee extends 2.4 miles in an east southeasterly direction beginning near the intersection of 28th Avenue and Rio del Sol Road, and generally running parallel and north of an existing Southern California Edison (SCE) utility corridor.

Reach 2 levee is located south of the east end of Reach 1, east of residential development along Vista de Oro and north of SCE's Mirage Substation and extends 0.33 miles in a south-southeasterly direction.

Reach 3 includes a 1.23-mile levee and a 1.01-mile trapezoidal channel, and begins south and east of Reach 2, east of residential development along Chiricahua Drive, and extends in a south southeasterly direction to the Classic Club Golf Course.

Reach 4 is comprised of a 2-mile trapezoidal channel extending from the southeastern end of the Classic Club Golf Course, paralleling and south of the existing Avenue 38 alignment, to Washington Street where it would tie into existing stormwater conveyance facilities located in the Del Webb/Sun City residential development.

Latitude/Longitude: 33.8074145°, -116.3594390°

Section, Township, Range: Section 27, Township 4 south, Range 6 east

Project Description:

The purpose and goal of the Project is to provide flood hazard protection to the maximum number of properties located within the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)-designated flood hazard zone and floodplain in the Thousand Palms area to allow private residents use of their properties while reducing risk to life from flooding, while avoiding adverse effects to wildlife and habitat within the Coachella Valley Preserve and Wildlife Refuge.

The Project consists of construction of structures, including three levees and two channels, to act as flood control for the community of Thousand Palms, California. The proposed Project includes levees, channels, culverts, and a sediment basin at the end of Reach 1.

Reach 1 is comprised of a 12,667-foot-long (2.4 miles) levee (Levee 1).

Reach 2 is comprised of a 1,747-foot-long (0.33 mile) levee (Levee 2).

Reach 3 is comprised of a 6,498-foot-long (1.23 mile) levee (Levee 3), an access road, and a 5,314-foot-long (1.01 mile) incised channel (Reach 3 Channel).

Reach 4 is comprised of an approximately 10,560-foot-long (2 mile) incised channel (Reach 4 Channel).

Soils generated by the Project would either be used to construct the levees, placed back in the wind corridor to enhance sand movement, or placed below Avenue 38. All levees would have an underground "toe" (levee toe) extending to a depth of approximately 15 feet. The top, upstream/northern sides and the toe of the levees would be covered with soil cement, while the southern/downstream side would be comprised of earthen materials. The project would include a series of access and patrol roads. Road crossings would occur in two locations.

Anticipated Project Start and End Dates:

September 04, 2023 –March 01, 2027

US Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permit Number(s):

US Army Corps of Engineers Individual Permit: Corps File Number SPL-2014-00238

Action:

Pending

Water Board Contact:

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