

Notice of Intent Application Reception

File Number: 332023-27

Project Name: Rice Canyon Reservoir Access Road and New Conduit Project

Received: 9/26/2023

Date Posted: 9/28/2023

End of 21 Day Public Comment Period: 10/19/2023

Project City: Lake Elsinore

Project County: Riverside

Applicant Organization: Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (EVMWD)

Applicant Name: Parag Kalaria

Waterboard Staff: TBA

Brief Description of Project:

Project Description: Repair EVMWD's access road and replace the electrical conduit to its 1.5-million-gallon Rice Canyon Reservoir. The overall goal is to restore permanent access to the reservoir and protect the 16-inch underground potable water pipeline and electrical conduit from future flooding events and vehicular traffic. The existing concrete low water crossings along the access road have been damaged beyond repair and require replacement.

Project Activities: The Project includes: 1. Replacement of the existing electrical conduit located within the access road (partly within jurisdictional area). 2. Replacement of the three existing concrete low water crossings (located in jurisdictional area). 3. Clearing vegetation, regrade and compact the access road, and construct earthen drainage swales along the road in areas where natural ditches have already formed (partly within jurisdictional area). 4. Perform reservoir rehabilitation repairs (this step is not located in jurisdictional area). 5. Perform ongoing maintenance of roadway to keep clear for access (partly located in jurisdictional areas). All Project related activities are planned and designed to stay within the proposed Project footprint, which is EVMWD's right-of-way limits. Existing onsite concrete low-flow crossings (Crossing A, Crossing B, and Crossing C) will be replaced with two new concrete low-flow crossings. Existing Crossings A and B will be combined into one stretch of concrete (Crossing A+B) that is 487 feet long and 12 feet wide. Existing Crossing C will be replaced with a new low flow crossing that is 266 feet long and 12 feet wide. Crossing C will have un-grouted Class III riprap (150 lb riprap) to provide slope stabilization. Additional riprap (Class I, 20 lb riprap) will be placed on the west side of Crossing A+B and midway down the access road to dissipate water velocity from the hillside and reduce potential erosion to the roadway. Road repairs consist of grading and formalizing earthen drainage swales along the road in areas where low spots have already formed.

EVMWD will conduct yearly maintenance to the access road as needed to maintain vehicle access. Project construction is expected to commence in 2024 and will be broken down in two phases: the first phase consisting of the conduit and road repairs lasting approximately three months and the second phase consisting of the reservoir rehabilitation lasting another 9-12 months (reservoir work is not located in jurisdictional areas). The area of Project activities within Waters of the U.S. is approx. 0.3 acre, which includes areas that are currently vegetated, unvegetated, and concrete. Project demolition of existing concrete within Waters of the U.S. associated with the 3 low-flow crossings totals 1,446 square feet (0.033-ac). At completion of construction, an additional 1,482 square feet of new impervious area (0.034-ac) will be added to the area within Waters of the U.S. jurisdiction for a total of approximately 2,928 square feet (1,446 sf+ 1,482 sf) of imperviousness in jurisdictional area (0.067 ac). Approximately 1,610 square feet (0.04-ac) of existing unvegetated dirt roadway will remain as such at Project completion, albeit graded. The proposed mitigation for impacts to Waters of the U.S. is to mitigate for jurisdictional areas with new impacts (i.e., concrete and grading beyond the existing roadway) and not the Project activities within the existing disturbed road.