

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Bureau of Reclamation****American Basin Fish Screen and Habitat Improvement Project**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (Final EIS/EIR).

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), the National Environmental Policy Act Federal lead agency, and the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG), the California Environmental Quality Act State lead agency have prepared a Final EIS/EIR for the American Basin Fish Screen and Habitat Improvement Project (Project). The Project is located in northwestern Sacramento County and southern Sutter County. The Project modifies the Natomas Mutual Water Company's water diversion from the Sacramento River and distribution system, thereby avoiding and minimizing potentially adverse affects to fish, particularly juvenile anadromous fish.

The Notice of Availability of the Draft EIS/EIR was published in the **Federal Register** on March 3, 2008 (Volume 73, No. 42). The written comment period on the Draft EIS/EIR ended May 2, 2008. The Final EIS/EIR contains responses to all comments received and any additional information received during the review period.

**DATES:** After the 30-day circulation of the Final EIS/EIR, Reclamation will prepare a Record of Decision (ROD). The ROD will state the decision and will identify and discuss relevant factors considered in the decision.

**ADDRESSES:** A compact disc or copy of the Final EIS/EIR may be requested from Mr. Brad Hubbard, by writing to the Bureau of Reclamation, 2800 Cottage Way, MP-400, Sacramento, CA 95825; by calling 916-978-5204; or by e-mailing [bhubbard@mp.usbr.gov](mailto:bhubbard@mp.usbr.gov). The Final EIS/EIR is also accessible from the following Web site: [http://www.usbr.gov/mp/nepa/nepa\\_projdetails.cfm?Project\\_ID=783](http://www.usbr.gov/mp/nepa/nepa_projdetails.cfm?Project_ID=783). See the Supplementary Information section for locations where copies of the Final EIS/EIR are available for public review.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Brad Hubbard, Bureau of Reclamation, at 916-978-5204; or Mr. James Navicky, Environmental Scientist, California Department of Fish and Game, at 916-358-2926.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Draft EIS/EIR evaluated impacts related to constructing and operating one or two positive-barrier fish screen diversion facilities; decommissioning and removing the Verona Diversion Dam and lift pumps; removing five pumping plants and one small private diversion; and modifying the distribution system. The Draft EIS/EIR documented the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects to the physical, natural, and socioeconomic environment that may result from implementation of one of the alternatives. Copies of the Final EIS/EIR are available for public review at the following locations:

- Bureau of Reclamation, Denver Office Library, Building 67, Room 167, Denver Federal Center, 6th and Kipling, Denver, Colorado 80225; *telephone:* 303-445-2072.
- Bureau of Reclamation, Mid-Pacific Region, Regional Library, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, California 95825; *telephone:* 916-978-5100.
- Natural Resources Library, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, NW., Main Interior Building, Washington, DC 20240-0001.
- California Department of Fish and Game, North Central Region, 1701 Nimbus Road, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670; *telephone:* 916-358-2900.
- Natomas Mutual Water Company, 2601 West Elkhorn Boulevard, Rio Linda, CA 95673; *telephone:* 916-419-5936.

Before including your name, address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in any correspondence, you should be aware that your entire correspondence—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your correspondence to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Dated: July 3, 2008.

**John F. Davis,**

*Deputy Regional Director, Mid-Pacific Region.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Bureau of Reclamation****Lake Casitas Resource Management Plan (RMP), Ventura County, CA**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and notice of public hearing.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), as the National Environmental Policy Act Federal lead agency, has made available for public review and comment the Lake Casitas draft EIS. The draft EIS describes and presents the environmental effects of the No-Action Alternative and two (2) Action Alternatives. A public hearing will be held to receive comments from individuals and organizations on the draft EIS.

**DATES:** Written comments on the draft EIS will be accepted on or before *September 26, 2008*.

A public hearing has been scheduled to receive oral or written comments regarding environmental effects. The hearing will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. on August 28, 2008 in Oak View, CA.

**ADDRESSES:** Send written comments on the draft EIS to Mr. Robert Epperson, Bureau of Reclamation, 1243 N Street, Fresno, CA 93721.

The public hearing will be held at Oak View Park and Resource Center, 555 Mahoney Avenue, Oak View, CA 93022.

Copies of the draft EIS may be requested from Mr. Robert Epperson, by writing to Bureau of Reclamation, 1243 N Street, Fresno, CA 93721; by calling 559-269-4518 (TDD 559-487-5933); or by e-mailing [repperson@mp.usbr.gov](mailto:repperson@mp.usbr.gov).

The draft EIS is also accessible from the following Web site: <http://www.usbr.gov/mp/casitas/docs/index.html>. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** Section for locations where copies of the draft EIS are available for public review.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Robert Epperson, Bureau of Reclamation, at 559-269-4518 (TDD 559-487-5933) or [repperson@mp.usbr.gov](mailto:repperson@mp.usbr.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The draft EIS documents the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects to the physical, biological, and socioeconomic environment that may result from various resource management alternatives at Lake Casitas.

The Lake Casitas draft EIS evaluates the existing resource management at Lake Casitas. The project purpose consists of: (1) Protecting the water supply and water quality functions of Lake Casitas; (2) protecting and enhancing the natural and cultural resources in the Plan area, consistent with federal law and Reclamation policies; and (3) providing recreational opportunities and facilities consistent with the original Lake Casitas project purposes, Reclamation policies, and state water policies.