

October 26, 2005

To: State, County, Local Agencies, and Interested Parties

Subject: Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report,
Yellow-Billed Cuckoo Habitat Enhancement Projects at
Baker and Hogback Creeks in Inyo County

The City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) will be the lead agency for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the proposed implementation of the Yellow-Billed Cuckoo Habitat Enhancement Plans at Baker Creek and Hogback Creek.

The proposed project provides for the planting and establishment of riparian vegetation; grazing practices that are compatible with riparian vegetation, continued recreational use of the sites with safeguards for resource protection; and a suite of monitoring and adaptive management protocols to guide the enhancement plans over the life of the project.

The purpose of this Notice of Preparation (NOP) is to provide notification that LADWP will prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to assess potential adverse environmental impacts resulting from the implementation of the proposed project and to solicit information on the scope of the environmental analysis for the proposed project. The Draft EIR will include the topical content required by CEQA and will focus, as appropriate, on the environmental impacts determined within the enclosed Initial Study to be potentially significant. This approach is consistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15063 (c)(3)(A) relating to the purposes of an Initial Study, which includes focusing the EIR on effects determined to be potentially significant.

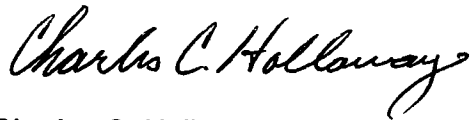
LADWP invites the views of interested parties and reviewing agencies regarding the scope and content of the environmental information to be included in the EIR, including any information that would be necessary to meet any statutory responsibilities related to the proposed project. Reviewing agencies may need to use the EIR prepared by LADWP when considering permits or other discretionary approvals for the project.

The project location, description, and CEQA Initial Study describing the potential effects for the proposed project, as they are presently understood, are contained in the enclosed materials.

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Comments focusing on your area of expertise, your agency's area of jurisdiction, or issues relative to the environmental analysis should be addressed to: Mr. Charles C. Holloway at 111 N. Hope Street, Room 1044, Los Angeles, CA 90012, or sent by fax to (213) 367-4710. The Initial Study and supporting documentation may also be viewed at this location or accessed via the Internet at <http://www.ladwp.com/ladwp/cms/ladwp004156.jsp>. Due to time limits imposed by State law, your response to this notice must be received by LADWP no later than 5:00 p.m. on December 1, 2005. Please include the name and telephone number of the contact person designated by your agency or organization. LADWP appreciates your interest and participation in the environmental review process.

Sincerely,



Charles C. Holloway
Supervisor of Environmental Assessment

11 TD:gc
Enclosures
c: Mr. Charles C. Holloway

bc: James B. McDaniel
Tom Erb
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