



MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Lead Agency: Big Bear Municipal Water District (District)
P.O. Box 2863
Big Bear Lake, CA 92315

Contact: Mike Stephenson, General Manager
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Project Title: Big Bear Lake Fish Hatchery

State Clearinghouse Number:

Project Location: The Big Bear Fish Hatchery will be located on a vacant, disturbed approximately 1.25-acre site located adjacent to the west side of the District office. The site was formerly a recreational vehicle park. A new proposed 4-inch water supply pipeline is scheduled to be horizontally drilled from an existing City of Big Bear Lake Department of Water and Power (BBLDWP) well located near Big Bear Boulevard and Knickerbocker Lane, approximately 3,600 linear feet under the exposed lakebed, to the fish hatchery site.

Project Description: The District proposes to construct a fish hatchery on 1.25 acres of District-owned property adjacent to its District office for the purpose of growing approximately 157,000 pounds per year of fish for the District stock Big Bear Lake in an effort to reduce the reliance on purchased fish from private and State hatcheries. The fish hatchery facilities will be an enclosed hatchery up to 100-foot by 150-foot insulated building located on the former RV park adjacent to the District's office.

The hatchery will be used to grow the initial stock, after which the smaller fish will be released into the adjacent stream or lake, or transported to the existing fish cages situated around the Big Bear Lake Marina where the fish will continue to grow until catchable size. The facility's target stocking amount is approximately 157,000 pounds per year is based on the historic number of trout stocked in Big Bear Lake by the CDFW prior to 2011.

As part of the project, a new proposed 3,600 foot 4-inch water pipeline to be horizontally bored from an existing unused BBLDWP well located at Veterans Park, near the intersection of Big Bear Boulevard and Knickerbocker Road, under the currently exposed shoreline, to the fish hatchery site.

Finding: The Big Bear Municipal Water District's decision to implement this proposed project is a discretionary decision or "project" that requires evaluation under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Based on the information in the project Initial Study, District has made a determination that a Mitigated Negative Declaration is be the appropriate environmental determination for this project to comply with CEQA.

Initial Study: Copies of the Mitigated Negative Declaration/Initial Study are available for review at the District's office located at 40524 Lakeview Drive, Big Bear Lake, CA 92315. The proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration/Initial Study was circulated for public review and comment from November 8, 2018 to December 7, 2018.

Mitigation Measures: All mitigation measures identified in the Mitigated Negative Declaration/Initial Study are summarized and are proposed for adoption as conditions of the project. These measures will be implemented through a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program as part of the adoption of the Mitigated Negative Declaration/Initial Study.

Signature

Title

Date