



**BIG BEAR MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY AND NOTICE OF INTENT (NOI) TO ADOPT A
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR
BIG BEAR LAKE FISH HATCHERY**

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines, the Big Bear Municipal Water District (District) prepared a Draft Initial Study / Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) to identify and evaluate the environmental impacts of the Big Bear Lake Fish Hatchery project.

Project Title: Big Bear Lake Fish Hatchery

Project Location: The project will be located on a vacant, disturbed approximately 1.25-acre parcel located adjacent to the west side of the District office. The site was formerly a recreational vehicle park.

A proposed 4-inch water supply pipeline is to be horizontally drilled subsurface, from an existing City well, located near Big Bear Boulevard and Knickerbocker Lane, approximately 3,600 linear feet under the exposed lakebed, approximately 100 feet from the high water line, 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 to grow approximately 157,000 pounds per year of fish to stock Big Bear Lake and reduce the reliance on purchased fish from private and State hatcheries. All trout raised in the facility will be from sterilized triploid eggs to prevent breeding with native species down-stream and eliminate spawning of stocked fish. The District's fish hatchery facility will be enclosed in an insulated building up to 100-foot by 150-foot located on the former RV park adjacent to the District's office. Inside the building, the facility will contain varying tank sizes, up to 25-foot in diameter, a recirculating aquaculture system (RAS), pump and treatment area, and incubator room. The facility will also have necessary office space for staff and possibly a public viewing option. The project could also create a new water service line by horizontally drilling the line from an unused City of Big Bear Lake Department of Water and Power well to the fish hatchery.

Environmental Review and Public Comment: The circulation of the Initial Study /Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration and is to encourage written public comments. Interested persons can review the Draft IS/MND at <http://www.bbmwd.com/> and at the Big Bear Municipal Water District, 40524 Lakeview Drive, Big Bear Lake, CA 92315. If unavailable on the web site, a hard copy of the document may be obtained by telephoning the Big Bear Municipal Water District at (909) 866-5796 or by emailing James Bellis at jbellis@bbmwd.net to request an alternative to the electronic version of the document published on the District's website.

The public comment period starts **November 8, 2018** and ends on **December 7, 2018 at 5:00 PM**. Please submit comments to:

Email to: mstephenson@bbmwd.net – or - Fax (909) 866-6485 attention to:

Mike Stephenson, General Manager

Big Bear Municipal Water District, 40524 Lakeview Drive, P.O. Box 2863, Big Bear Lake, CA 92315

Public Hearing: A public hearing will be held on **December 20, 2018** during the District's regular Board meeting to consider adoption of the Final MND. In advance of the hearing date, Staff will distribute a separate notice regarding that hearing.