WATER

COACHELLA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

Established in 1918 as a public agency

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD and Lead Agency) has prepared a Draft Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the Thousand Palms Channel Improvement Project from Sun City Shadow Hills Channel to the CVSC (Project) described below pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) State Guidelines §15000 et seq and CEQA-Plus federal requirements. Anyone desiring to comment on the IS/MND may do so in writing within the 30-day public review period, commencing February 28, 2025 and ending March 31, 2025.

<u>Project Title</u>: Thousand Palms Channel Improvement Project from Sun City Shadow Hills Channel to the CVSC

<u>Project Location</u>: The Project is located in the central portion of the greater Coachella Valley within the City of Indio, Riverside County, California. The Community of Bermuda Dunes, a Census-Designated Place, is located approximately 0.8 miles west of the Project. Access to the site is via Interstate 10 (I-10), Indio Boulevard, Madison Street, and Avenue 42. The Thousand Palms Channel runs south-southeast, intersecting Madison Street, Avenue 42, and I-10, before it converges with the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel (CVSC) at its southern extent.

Brief Project Description: The Project would include constructing the last conveyance facility intended to receive regional flood flows from the North Indio Hills and Thousand Palms areas. To this point, the Project would improve the Thousand Palms Channel from the Sun City Shadow Hills development located north of Madison Street to the confluence with the CVSC. The Project would improve approximately 5,750 feet of the existing Thousand Palms Channel. The Project would improve the existing earthen Thousand Palms Channel with concrete sidewalls, improve the Avenue 42 channel crossing with 10 side-by-side 14-foot by 9-foot box culverts as a single structure to allow stormwater flows underneath the roadway and limit overtopping, as well as improve the roadways of Avenue 42 and Madison Street where the channel crosses these roadways. Improvements to the roadways include vertical profile changes, repaving, shoulder improvements, and drainage improvements. The Project would help to meet the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) and CVWD's requirement for flood control and stormwater conveyance of regional flows into the CVSC. The stormwater flows would ultimately discharge into the Salton Sea.

Public Meeting: CVWD's Board of Directors will consider the Proposed Project at a publicly-noticed Board of Directors meeting scheduled for May 13, 2025. The Board Meeting will be held at CVWD's Steve Robbins Administration Building, located at 75-515 Hovley Lane East in Palm Desert, California, 92211. The meeting will also be streamed live on the District's website at:

http://www.cvwd.org/151/Board-Agendas

Members of the public may provide comments in-person at the meeting or via Zoom.

30-Day Document Review: The document may be reviewed online at:

https://www.cvwd.org/368/Environmental-Documents

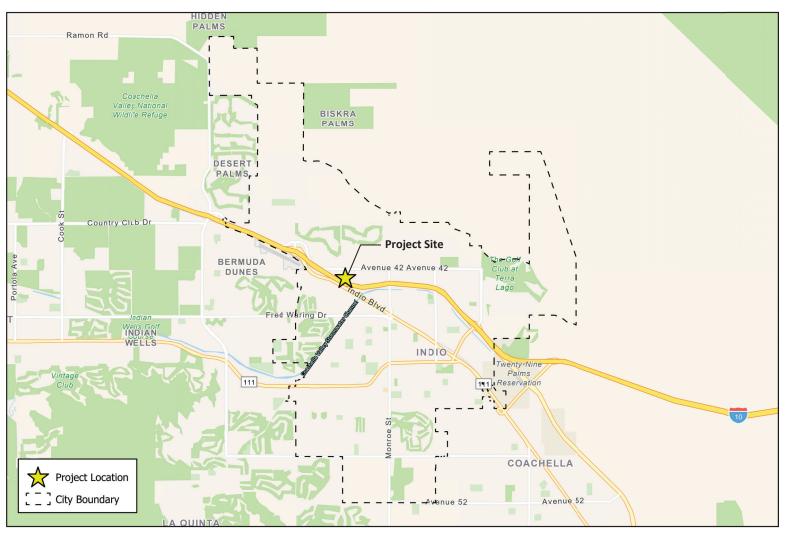
<u>Contact Person:</u> Written comments may be submitted to: Carlos Huerta, Environmental Resources Analyst, CVWD, 75-515 Hovley Lane East, Palm Desert, CA 92211, or emailed to: <u>chuerta@cvwd.org</u>.

William Patterson

Environmental Services Program Supervisor

February 28, 2025

Date



Source: ESRI, 2024

FIGURE 2-1: Regional Location Map Thousand Palms Channel Improvement Project







Source: Nearmap, 2024

FIGURE 2-2: Project Vicinity Map Thousand Palms Channel Improvement Project



