

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk

County of: San Bernardino

385 North Arrowhead Avenue

San Bernardino, CA 92415

From: (Public Agency): Big Bear Municipal Water District
40524 Lakeview Dr, PO Box 2863
Big Bear Lake, CA 92315

(Address)

Project Title: Big Bear Lake Invasive Carp Removal

Project Applicant: Big Bear Municipal Water District

Project Location - Specific:

Big Bear Lake, reservoir (34°15'19.86"N 116°55'45.2"W)

Project Location - City: Big Bear Lake, Big Bear City, Fawnskin Project Location - County: San Bernardino

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

This project is the removal of the invasive *Cyprinus carpio* from Big Bear Lake to improve natural aquatic habitat and water quality throughout the reservoir. The common carp is well known for degrading water quality and destroying native aquatic habitat through its feeding behavior where the fish disturbs the bottom of the reservoir. The recreating public on Big Bear Lake are the primary beneficiaries of this project and downstream users of the water released from Big Bear Lake are secondary beneficiaries.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Big Bear Municipal Water District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Big Bear Municipal Water District

Exempt Status: **(check one):**

- ☐ Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- ☐ Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- ☐ Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- ☒ Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Section 15308: Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of the Environment
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

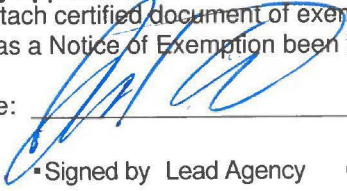
This project is categorically exempt under Class 8, Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of the Environment (14 CCR § 15308) as the removal of the invasive species *Cyprinus carpio* from Big Bear Lake will aid in the restoration of water quality in Big Bear Lake. The common carp is well-documented as an ecosystem engineer, causing damage to native aquatic habitats while also degrading water quality by disturbing lake-bottom sediments. The removal of common carp from Big Bear Lake constitutes a restoration of the environment where the regulatory process involves procedures for protection of the environment. No construction activities will take place under this project.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Jared Cheek Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 1 (909) 866-5796

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes ☐ No ☒

Signature:  Date: 06/10/2026 Title: General Manager

☒ Signed by Lead Agency ☐ Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____

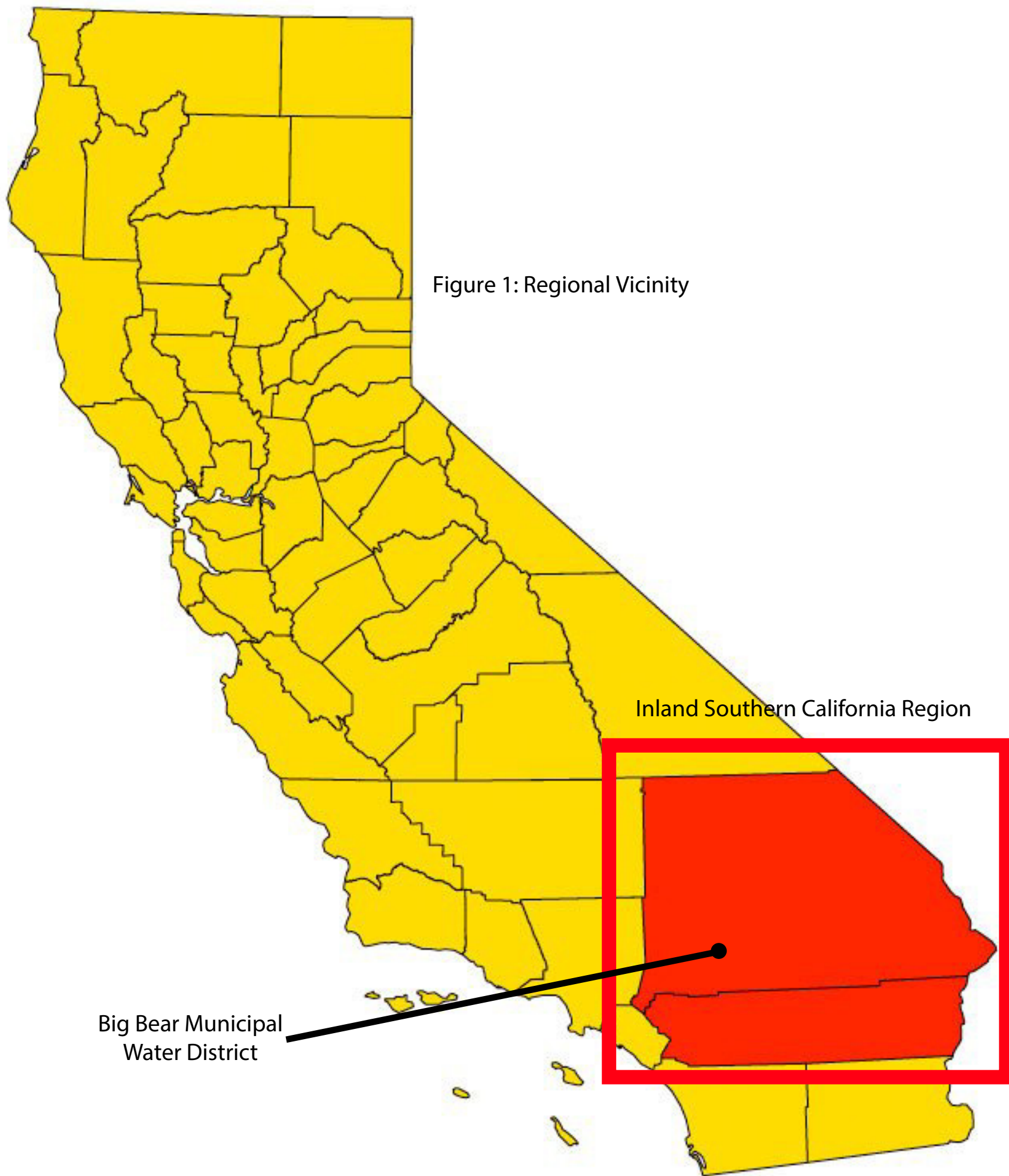


Figure 1: Regional Vicinity

Inland Southern California Region

Big Bear Municipal
Water District



Project Area

Stanfield
Cutoff