

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS
FOR THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
COLLEGE LAKE INTEGRATED RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PROJECT**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) has been completed for the proposed College Lake Integrated Resources Management Project (Project) and is on file with the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency (PV Water) at 36 Brennan Street, Watsonville, California and available for public review between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Paper copies of the Draft EIR are also available for review at Watsonville Public Library, Watsonville Public Library - Freedom Branch, and Monterey County Library - Pajaro Branch. Electronic copies of materials incorporated by reference in the Draft EIR are available for review at PV Water's office. The Draft EIR can also be accessed online at <https://www.pvwater.org/college-lake-project>.

Project Description: Throughout much of the Pajaro Valley Groundwater Basin, groundwater levels have declined as a result of long-term groundwater overdraft. Overdraft conditions result in seawater intrusion, groundwater quality degradation, and groundwater storage depletion. The primary purposes of the Project are to help balance the groundwater basin, prevent further seawater intrusion, and meet water supply needs in PV Water's service area by developing College Lake as a water storage and supply source. The Project is located in the City of Watsonville and Unincorporated Santa Cruz County. Project components include a weir structure and intake pump station, a water treatment plant, and an approximately 5.5-mile-long pipeline to convey water from the water treatment plant to the City of Watsonville Recycled Water Facility and to PV Water's Coastal Distribution System. On average, the Project would generally supply approximately 1,800 to 2,300 acre-feet per year of water to growers in the Pajaro Valley. Project construction is estimated to occur over approximately 18 months beginning in 2022.

Environmental Resources and Impacts: The Draft EIR finds that the Project would result in significant or potentially significant environmental impacts related to surface water, groundwater, and water quality; biological resources; geology and soils; hazards and hazardous materials; transportation and traffic; cultural resources; and aesthetics, and recommends the implementation of feasible mitigation measures to either avoid or reduce impacts to a less-than-significant levels. The Draft EIR also determines that Project implementation would have significant and unavoidable impacts related to the conversion of Important Farmland to non-agricultural use and exceedance of construction noise standards during Project construction even with implementation of mitigation measures. None of the Project components are on sites listed under Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.

Public Comment Period: NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that this Notice of Availability of the Draft EIR commences a public comment period beginning on April 17, 2019. Written comments on the Draft EIR will be accepted at PV Water's office until the close of the public comment period at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, June 7, 2019. Commenters are advised to mail written comments postmarked on or before June 7, 2019 to:

**Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency
ATTN: Brian Lockwood, General Manager
36 Brennan Street
Watsonville, California 95076**

Comments can also be submitted via email to eir@pvwater.org before the end of the comment period deadline.

To ensure that the public and agencies have an opportunity to ask questions and submit written comments related to the Draft EIR, two public meetings will be held on Wednesday, May 1, 2019. The public meetings will be held from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. and 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in the City of Watsonville Civic Plaza Community Room at 275 Main Street, Fourth Floor, Watsonville, California. Meeting facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities. Requests for special accommodations or translation services should be directed to Laura Taay no later than April 26, 2019 by calling 831-722-9292 x 11 or e-mailing taay@pvwater.org.