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H. DAVID NAHAI,  
*Chief Executive Officer and General Manager*

**Date:** November 3, 2009

**To:** Interested Parties

**Subject: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY/NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT  
AN INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION  
FOR THE PROPOSED AD HOC YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO HABITAT  
ENHANCEMENT PLAN**

The City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) is proposing to implement the Ad Hoc Yellow-billed Cuckoo Habitat Enhancement Plan at Baker and Hogback Creeks, located in Inyo County, California. As the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the LADWP has prepared an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) which evaluates the potential environmental effects of the proposed project.

### **Project Location**

The proposed enhancement projects are located at two sites within Inyo County, the Baker Creek site and the Hogback Creek site. The 1,411-acre Baker Creek habitat area is located along Baker Creek and Giroux Ditch approximately 1.5 miles west of Big Pine. The 111-acre Hogback Creek habitat area is located at the northwest corner of the Alabama Hills, west of U.S. Highway 395 and between the towns of Independence and Lone Pine.

### **Project Description**

LADWP proposes to implement the Ad Hoc Yellow-billed Cuckoo (YBC) Habitat Enhancement Plan at Baker and Hogback Creeks. The goal of implementing the Ad Hoc Yellow-billed Cuckoo Habitat Enhancement Plan is to maintain and/or improve habitat conditions at Baker and Hogback Creeks to potentially increase the population of YBC in California. The proposal provides for the planting and establishment of riparian vegetation; grazing practices that are compatible with riparian vegetation; continued recreational use of the sites with safeguards for resource protection; and, a suite of monitoring and adaptive management protocols to guide the enhancement plans over the life of the project.

**Water and Power Conservation ... a way of life**

111 North Hope Street, Los Angeles, California 90012-2607 Mailing address: Box 51111, Los Angeles 90051-5700  
Telephone: (213) 367-4211 Cable address: DEWAPOLA

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**Public Review Period:** The IS/MND is being made available for public review for a period of 30 days beginning November 3, 2009 and concluding December 4, 2009. The electronic version of the IS/MND may be viewed on line at <http://www.ladwp.com/envnotices>. Printed copies of the IS/MND are also available for review at the following locations:

LADWP  
111 North Hope Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
Attn: Ms. Irene Paul  
(213) 367-3509

LADWP  
300 Mandrich Street  
Bishop, CA 93514  
Attn: Ms. Paula Hubbard  
(760) 873-0237

Bishop Branch Library  
210 Academy Street  
Bishop, CA 93514  
Attn: Reference Section  
(760) 873-5115

**Comments on the IS/MND must be received in writing no later than 5:00 p.m.,  
December 4, 2009 and sent to:**

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power  
Environmental Assessment and Planning  
Attention: Ms. Irene Paul  
111 North Hope Street, Room 1044  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Comments may also be faxed to Ms. Paul at (213) 367-4710.

All comments received related to issues discussed in the IS/MND will be included in the final package that is forwarded to the Board of Water and Power Commissioners for final consideration.

If you have any questions regarding the IS/MND, please contact Ms. Irene Paul at (213) 367-3509.