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Inyo-Mono Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP)

The Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone Reservation recently began participating in the planning meetings for the development of the Inyo-Mono Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP). On October 29, 2009, the LPPSR Environmental & Air Quality Department staff members attended a meeting in Bishop, CA to become familiar with the IRWMP and to obtain more information on the process for Proposition 84 funding.

As a stakeholder in the process, LPPSR's participation in the Inyo-Mono IRWMP process will allow for the development of a proposal specific to our community needs that will be included in the complete funding proposal packet for Prop 84. LPPSR's next step is to identify a project(s) that will address the requirements of the guidelines for funding as well as the Inyo-Mono Integrated Regional Water Management Plan. LPPSR's Environmental & Air Quality Department plans to work with the Owens Valley Indian Water Commission (OVIWC) in identifying a project(s) that will benefit the community's goals/objectives and needs as recognized for this opportunity. Below is some basic information about the IRWMP for Inyo-Mono Counties.



Prop 84, Chapter 2, and Proposition 1E, Article 4 (Integrated Regional Water Management [IRWM] Grant Program), is administered by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and provides funding for projects that assists local public agencies to meet long term water needs of the state including the delivery of safe drinking water and the protection of water quality and the environment. DWR is currently in the initial phases of the funding implementation. Projects that are funded from Prop 84 include safe drinking water, water quality and supply, flood control, waterway and natural resource protection, water pollution and contamination control, state and local park improvements, public access to natural resources, and water conservation efforts.

WHAT IS AN INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN (IRWMP)?

An IRWMP is a voluntary non-regulatory planning document that identifies broadly-supported goals/objectives pertaining to water resources management. It is a conduit for funding for critical water management project needs, it is informed by the various pre-existing plans in the region and it is implemented by a united regional community. An IRWMP relies upon specific and focused local and subregional planning efforts for its foundation, and investigates a broad spectrum of water resources including water supply, flood management, water quality, environmental restoration, recreation, land use, environmental justice, stakeholder involvement, and far-reaching community and statewide interest.

BENEFITS OF INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER PLANNING

There are many benefits to integrated regional water planning which include the encouragement of a broad, long-term perspective, identification of broad benefits, costs, and tradeoffs, the promotion of sustainable resource management, and increases in regional self-sufficiency and regional drought preparedness. It also advocates for the use of open forums that will include all communities, promotion of coordination and collaboration among local agencies and governments, the use of sound science, best data, and local knowledge of water resources and management. Integrated regional planning will also allow for the collaborated efforts to strengthen regional clout, reduction in conflict, and increase in benefits across the region and may also decrease the costs for individual agencies.

PAST AND CURRENT INYO-MONO IRWMP EFFORTS

Efforts that have taken place consist of identifying and convening water resource stakeholders from across the region, including tribes. Identifying and finalizing the geographic boundaries for the IRWMP, including tribal lands; drafting and finalizing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the IRWMP, as well as the development of a Planning Grant Proposal to enable the IRWM plan to be developed. Most recent efforts comprise of the approval of the Inyo-Mono Integrated Regional Water Management Plan.

NEXT STEPS

The Department of Water Resources is set to have the Draft Guidelines for the planning and implementation grants out in December 2009, the Final Guidelines out in February 2010, and the funds available in May/June 2010. In order to compete in the first round of implementation funding, the IRWM group needs to have its plan written and approved before the first round of funding is available. LPPSR's Environmental & Air Quality Department will provide assistance on a needed basis and in the meantime, will begin preparing our project proposal as well as continue to attend the planning meetings.







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Environmental Department News

* Cynthia Naha, Water Program Coordinator * Janice McRoberts, GAP Coordinator



85 monitors, 5 televisions, 24 universal power supply (UPS), 29 computers (towers), 1 type-writer, 4 stereos, 1 cell phone, 59 keyboards, 4 VCR's, 30 printers, 6 scanners, 12 hard drives, 1 hugh server, 4 boxes of cables/speakers







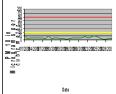












——24 Hour PM 10 levels

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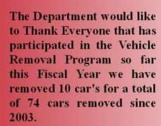


















On November 21st, the LPPSR Environmental Department hosted the Second Annual E-Waste Collection Event. The Department worked with 7K Computers Inc. based out of Palmdale, CA. E-waste is a popular, informal name for electronic products nearing the end of their "useful life". Many of these products can be reused, refurbished, or recycled. Unfortunately, electronic discards is one of the fastest growing segments to our nation's waste stream. Listed on the flyer are the items collected. This year the Department did open the event to the entire Community of Lone Pine.



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2009

> MEET AT THE ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT

> > 10:00 A.M.

We will be picking up litter on:

Teya * Zucco * Goodwin * Haiwee*
Pa ha-Vitch * E-Sha * Substation
Burkhardt * Quing-Ah

Please Help Keep Your Reservation Litter Free

2010
Inyo County Landfill
Household Hazardous Waste

Collection Events

March 6, 2010 June 5, 2010 September 18, 2010 December 11, 2010

Events are conducted on Saturdays 9:00AM- 12:00PM

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Air Quality Department News

* Mel O. Joseph, Environmental Director * Justin Raglin, Air Quality Coordinator

Climate Registry

The LPPSR Air Quality Department will be developing a reservation wide greenhouse gas inventory in 2010. To facilitate this work, the LPPSR Air Quality Department will join the Climate Registry. The Climate Registry is "a nonprofit collaboration of North American states, provinces, territories and tribes that sets consistent and transparent standards to calculate, verify and publicly report greenhouse gas emissions into a single registry. The Registry supports both voluntary and mandatory reporting programs and provides comprehensive, accurate data to reduce greenhouse gas emissions."

The Climate Registry will provide the technical tools necessary to develop a greenhouse gas inventory using universally approved calculation and verification procedures. The goal of the greenhouse gas inventory is to produce an accurate baseline greenhouse gas emissions level for the reservation. In an effort to make the inventory as accurate as possible, the LPPSR Air Quality Department will be requesting the help of all departments, consortia, organizations, and households on the reservation. Voluntary disclosure of energy and fuel consumption will help ensure an accurate greenhouse gas inventory. The LPPSR Air Quality Department is not interested in the cost or price paid for energy and fuel; rather only in the amount of energy and fuel used. The LPPSR Air Quality Department encourages participation and appreciates your assistance in developing a greenhouse gas inventory for the Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone Reservation. If you are interested in providing data for the inventory please contact the Air Quality Department at: 760-876-4690.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



Owens Lake Update

The current Phase 7 dust control construction project is proceeding. The LADWP's contractor, Barnard Construction, expects to complete the 9.2 square miles of Shallow Flooding dust controls by April 1, 2010. Upon completion, there will be 39 square miles (25,000 acres) of dust control measures on the lake bed.

Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District (District) staff is working with LADWP staff and consultants on methods to reduce water use, while not jeopardizing dust control. When Phase 7 work is complete, the LADWP will be using about 95,000 acre feet of water per year on the lake bed. The District is confident that there are opportunities to significantly reduce existing water demands. The most obvious is to refine the current Shallow Flooding dust control measures so that it uses the least amount of water to control dust emissions. Tests are being designed to do this.

One of the ways the LADWP may be able to save water is to replace flooded areas with solar panel arrays. District staff is working with LADWP staff and consultants to develop solar panel configurations that would control dust, reduce the amount of water used on the lake bed and generate renewable power. Although very expensive, the solar idea may significantly change the way dust is controlled on portions of Owens Lake.

There has been much activity related to the LADWP's Moat & Row project. The approved Owens Lake dust control plan (2008 SIP) allows the LADWP to construct up to 3.5 square miles of experimental Moat & Row dust controls at their own risk. The SIP required any Moat & Row controls to be constructed by October 1, 2009. LADWP staff and consultants worked for the last two years to design the Moat & Row project, prepare an EIR and get the necessary approvals from the California Department of Fish & Game and the California State Lands Commission. It has been a difficult undertaking and many obstacles caused them to miss their October 1, 2009 deadline. However, the LADWP requested and received a variance from the District Hearing Board on September 25th that provides them with an additional year to complete Moat & Row dust controls. However, the variance has conditions. The LADWP is required to provide 3.5 square miles of temporary dust controls using tilling within the Phase 7 project area. The tilled area will be flooded by April 2010, when the Phase 7 work is complete. In addition, the LADWP is required to implement dust controls on two additional square miles of lake bed that have been identified as continuing to cause dust problems. These controls will be implemented in about 3 years. STAY TUNED!

Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone Reservation Environmental and Air Quality Department

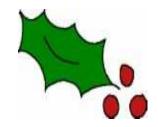
PO Box 747 1101 E-Sha Lane Lone Pine, CA 93545

Phone: 760-876-4690 Fax: 760-876-4682 Email: envdept@lppsr.org



"The Earth is a spiritual presence that must be honored, not mastered"

-Native American belief





The Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone Reservation/Lone Pine Fire Safe Council Christmas Tree Recycling event offers a hassle free way to recycle your tree and give something back to our environment. Starting on December 26th, you can either drop off your Christmas tree at the Environmental & Air Quality Department located at 1101 E-Sha Lane, or you can call 760-876-4690 to have your tree picked up.

Once the trees are collected, they are chipped and spread around tribal dirt parking areas, helping to reduce PM dust emissions. To date, 286 trees have been recycled since the event begin in 2004. LPPSR also works with the Inyo County Landfill by picking up trees brought to the landfill for disposal. Happy Holidays!