



ROSEDALE - RIO BRAVO

—WATER STORAGE DISTRICT—

849 Allen Road • P. O. Box 867 • Bakersfield, California 93302-0867 • (661) 589-6045 • FAX (661) 589-1867

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

Draft Environmental Impact Report

Date: January 24, 2008
To: Responsible Agencies, Trustee Agencies, Interested Parties
Lead Agency: Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District
Project Title: Strand Ranch Integrated Banking Project
State Clearinghouse No.: 2007041080

The Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District (Rosedale), in consultation with Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD), has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to assess the potential environmental effects of the Strand Ranch Integrated Banking Project. Rosedale has established a 45-day review period that begins **January 24, 2008** and ends **March 10, 2008**.

Project Description: Rosedale and IRWD propose to develop groundwater banking facilities on the Strand Ranch for use by both districts. Strand Ranch is located in unincorporated Kern County approximately six miles west of the City of Bakersfield. Facilities would be constructed to recharge and recover up to 17,500 acre-feet per year (afy) for IRWD. When not in use by IRWD, the facilities could also be used by Rosedale to serve its existing commitments. IRWD would be provided a cumulative maximum banking allotment (maximum storage capacity) within Rosedale's existing Groundwater Storage, Banking, Exchange, Extraction & Conjunctive Use Program of 50,000 af. All groundwater banking facilities on the Strand Ranch would be owned by IRWD and operated and maintained by Rosedale for the duration of the proposed project.

Document Availability: The Draft EIR is available for review on IRWD's web site (www.irwd.com) and at the following libraries:

Beale Memorial Library
701 Truxton Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Heritage Park Regional Library
14361 Yale Avenue
Irvine, CA 92604

Public Review and Comments: Pursuant to Section 21091 of the Public Resources Code, the Draft EIR will be available for public review during the 45-day review period, which ends on **March 10, 2008**. Comments on the Draft EIR should be sent to:

Hal Crossley, General Manager
Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District
849 Allen Road
P.O. Box 867
Bakersfield, CA 93302

Public Meeting: A public meeting on the proposed Strand Ranch Integrated Banking Project will be held as follows:

Wednesday, February 20, 2008
1:30 PM
Kern County Water Agency
3200 Rio Mirada Drive
Bakersfield, CA 93308

Deadline: All comments on the Draft EIR must be submitted in writing to Hal Crossley at Rosedale at the address shown above by **5:00 PM on March 10, 2008**.