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## **NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY AND INTENT**

Notice is hereby given that an Initial Study of Environmental Impact and a Draft Negative Declaration of Environmental Impact have been prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and are available for public review for the following application:

**General Plan Amendment No. 2009-02/Inyo County**  
**2009 Housing Element Update**

The General Plan Housing Element is required pursuant to California Government Code Section 65580 et seq., and works to provide housing for all of Inyo County's residents. Periodic updates to the Element are required, and the deadline for the next update is August 31, 2009. The State is required to identify a regional housing needs assessment for the County; 567 units have been allocated for the planning period, including 457 units in unincorporated areas. The Update incorporates this requirement, new demographic information, and other revised regulations. Policy changes proposed include the following: allowing flexibility for locating residential care facilities; incorporating reasonable accommodation provisions to provide a means for persons with disabilities to request exceptions to zoning and building regulations; allowing second units ministerially in all residential zones; allowing both supportive and transitional housing types in all residential zones; and allowing for permanent emergency shelters as a permitted use in at least one zone.

**The 30-day review period for this Draft Negative Declaration of Environmental Impact begins on June 18 and expires on July 17, 2009.** During this period the public may make comments on the Initial Study and Negative Declaration. Inyo County is not required to respond to any comments received after the close of the review period. Written comments and all questions should be addressed to the Inyo County Planning Department, P. O. Drawer L, Independence, CA 93526; or faxed to (760) 878-0382; or emailed to [inyoplanning@inyocounty.us](mailto:inyoplanning@inyocounty.us).

The Planning Commission is tentatively scheduled to hold a public hearing regarding the project on July 22, 2009. The Board of Supervisors is expected to hold a hearing subsequently in August. Please contact the Planning Department to verify hearing dates. Properties within the County are not known to be, but may be, on lists compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5.

Copies of the Initial Study, Draft Negative Declaration of Environmental Impact, and the draft updated Housing Element are available for review at the Inyo County Planning Department (168 N. Edwards Street, Independence), all Inyo County Public Libraries, and on the Inyo County Planning Department's website (<http://inyoplanning.org/>).