

**Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District
Notice of Exemption**

2019120610

To: County Clerk State Clearing House
County of Kings State of California
Kings County Gov. Center 1400 10th Street
Hanford, CA 93230 Sacramento, CA 95814

From: Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District, 1001 Chase Avenue, Corcoran, CA 93212

Project Title: Common Landowner Transfer of up to 10,000 AF of TLBWSD 2020 State Water Project Water to Kern County Water Agency.

Project Location – Specific: Kern County Water Agency Service Area

Project Location – City: Bakersfield

Project Location – County: Kern

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project: The Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District (Tulare Lake) will transfer up to 10,000 AF of its 2020 State Water Project Water to Kern County Water Agency for the JG Boswell Co. who farms in both districts. The transfer will be completed in 2020. This proposed transfer is designed to enable the JG Boswell Co. to better manage its respective water supplies. No lands will be fallowed as a result of the transfer and no additional groundwater will be pumped. The lands have been actively farmed in the past.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District, Kern County Water Agency, and the Department of Water Resources.

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District

Exempt Status:

- ☐ Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- ☐ Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- ☐ Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- ☒ Categorical Exemption (Sec. 15301);
- ☒ Statutory Exemption (CA Water Code 1729)

Governor's Office of Planning & Research
DEC 24 2019
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE


Reasons why project is exempt: Tulare Lake has determined that there are no foreseeable environmental impacts, because both lands have been actively farmed, no new land has been developed, no additional groundwater will be pumped, and there is no physical change associated with this project. The single year transfer is also exempt from CEQA under Water Code Section 1729. Further, the transfer is categorically exempt under CEQA since it involves the use and operation of an existing facility (CEQA Guidelines 15301).

Lead Agency Contact Person: Jacob Westra

Telephone: 559-992-4127

If filed by applicant

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes



Signature

December 23, 2019

Date

Assistant General Manager

Title

Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District Finding of Exemption

Project Title: Common Landowner Transfer of up to 10,000 AF of TLBWSD 2020 State Water Project Water to Kern County Water Agency.

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project: The Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District (Tulare Lake) will transfer up to 10,000 AF of its 2020 State Water Project Water to Kern County Water Agency for the JG Boswell Co. who farms in both districts. The transfer will be completed in 2020. This proposed transfer is designed to enable the JG Boswell Co. to better manage its respective water supplies. No lands will be fallowed as a result of the transfer and no additional groundwater will be pumped. The lands have been actively farmed in the past.

Entity or Person Undertaking Project: Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District
Jacob Westra
1001 Chase Avenue
Corcoran, CA 93212
559-992-4127


Recommendation: Staff, having undertaken and completed a review of this project for CEQA compliance, has determined that this project does not require further environmental assessment because:

- _____ 1. The proposed action does not constitute a project (Guidelines, section 15378).
- _____ 2. This project is a ministerial project (Guidelines, sections 15369, 15268).
- _____ 3. The project is an emergency project (Guidelines, sections 15269, 15359).
- X 4. The project is categorically exempt (Guidelines, Article 19, sections 15300-15329)
A. Applicable Exemption Class: 1
- X 5. No foreseeable impacts on the environment (Guidelines, section 15061(b)(3)).
- X 6. Statutory Exemption (CA Water Code 1729).

Brief statement of reasons why project is exempt: Tulare Lake has determined that there are no foreseeable environmental impacts. The single year transfer is also exempt from CEQA under Water Code Section 1729. Further, the transfer is categorically exempt under CEQA since it involves the use and operation of an existing facility (CEQA Guidelines 15301).

Name of Lead Agency: Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District

Date: December 23, 2019



Jacob Westra, Assistant General Manager