

E202010000133

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

**To:**  Office of Planning and Research  
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113

Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk/County Recorder  
County of Fresno  
P.O. Box 766  
Fresno, CA 93712

**From:**  Westlands Water District  
P.O. Box 6056  
Fresno, CA 93703

**FILED**  
APR 09 2020 TIME 8:24am  
FRESNO COUNTY CLERK  
By *Jessica Munoz* DEPUTY  
Jessica Munoz

**Project Title:** Westlands Water District's Metering and Advanced Metering Infrastructure Network, and Ground Elevation Benchmark Network Project

**Project Applicant:** Westlands Water District

**Project Location – Specific:** District-wide, located in western Fresno and Kings County. See Figures 1 and 2.

**Project Location – City:** N/A

**Project Location – County:** Fresno, Kings

**Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:**

The objective of the project is to replace up to 275 existing privately-owned groundwater meters that may not be properly functional with District-owned magnetic meters capable of telemetry to provide accurate reading of groundwater pumped by water users and give the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) the capability in the future to remotely monitor the groundwater pumped from water users within the Subbasin to sustainably manage groundwater. The project will also include the benchmarking up to 15 monuments to enhance the Subbasin's understanding of the cause and effect of subsidence in subsidence prone areas along the San Luis Canal as part of Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) development. The project will reduce data gaps in the Subbasin, enhance the GSA's ability to monitor and report sustainability indicator objectives, groundwater storage, and subsidence. The project compliments actions proposed in the GSP to reduce data gaps and is a key tool to implement projects and management actions in the Subbasin.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Westlands Water District

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Westlands Water District.

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**Exempt Status: (check one)**

- 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. State type and section number: Existing Facilities, §15301; Information Collection, §15306
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

**Reasons why project is exempt:**

The meter replacement and benchmark network is basic data collection and research for information gathering purposes, it is categorically exempt under Section 15306 – Information Collection. Furthermore, the meter replacements are on existing facilities, it is categorically exempt under Section 15301 – Existing Facilities.


**Lead Agency**

**Contact Person:** Russ Freeman

**Area Code/Telephone/Extension:** (559) 241-6241

**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  NO

Signature:  Date: 3/25/2020 Title: Deputy General Manager Resources

Signed by Lead Agency     Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_

Reference: Sections 21108(b), 21152(b), Public Resources Code.

**Governor's Office of Planning & Research**

**MAY 05 2020**

**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**

State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife  
**2020 ENVIRONMENTAL FILING FEE CASH RECEIPT**  
 DFW 753.5a (REV. 12/01/19) Previously DFG 753.5a

RECEIPT NUMBER: <b>E202010000133</b>
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER (if applicable)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

LEAD AGENCY <b>WESTLANDS WATER DISTRICT</b>	LEAD AGENCY EMAIL	DATE <b>04/09/2020</b>
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COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING <b>FRESNO COUNTY</b>	DOCUMENT NUMBER <b>E202010000133</b>
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PROJECT TITLE  
**METERING & ADVANCED METERING INFRASTRUCTURE NETWORK & GROUND ELEV**

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME <b>WESTLANDS WATER DISTRICT</b>	PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL	PHONE NUMBER
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PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS <b>PO BOX 6056</b>	CITY <b>FRESNO</b>	STATE <b>CA</b>	ZIP CODE <b>93703</b>
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PROJECT APPLICANT (Check appropriate box)

Local Public Agency     School District     Other Special District     State Agency     Private Entity

CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:

<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Impact Report (EIR)	\$3,343.25	\$	<u>0.00</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND)	\$2,406.75	\$	<u>0.00</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Regulatory Program (CRP) document - payment due directly to CDFW	\$1,043.75	\$	<u>0.00</u>

- Exempt from fee
- Notice of Exemption (attach)
- CDFW No Effect Determination (attach)
- Fee previously paid (attach previously issued cash receipt copy)

<input type="checkbox"/> Water Right Application or Petition Fee (State Water Resources Control Board only)	\$1,136.50	\$	<u>0.00</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County documentary handling fee	\$50.00	\$	<u>50.00</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION		\$	<u>0.00</u>

PAYMENT METHOD:

- Cash     Credit     Check     Other 032447

TOTAL RECEIVED \$ 50.00

SIGNATURE <b>X</b> <i>Jessica Munoz</i> Jessica Munoz	AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE Jessica Munoz Deputy Clerk
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COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING <b>FRESNO COUNTY</b>	DOCUMENT NUMBER <b>E202010000133</b>	

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FRESNO COUNTY  
CLERK'S OFFICE  
BRANDI L. ORTH

2221 KERN STREET  
FRESNO, CA 93721

Finalization 2020026010  
04/09/2020 08:12am  
TB jmuoz

Fee Title                      Count

1. EIR  
EIR Administrative Fee

Document ID                      Amount

DOC# E202010000158      50.00  
Time Recorded 08:12 am

Total                              50.00

Payment Type                      Amount

Check tendered                      50.00  
# 032447  
Amount Due                              0.00

Thank You  
Please Retain This Receipt  
For Your Records

E202010000158

E202010000133

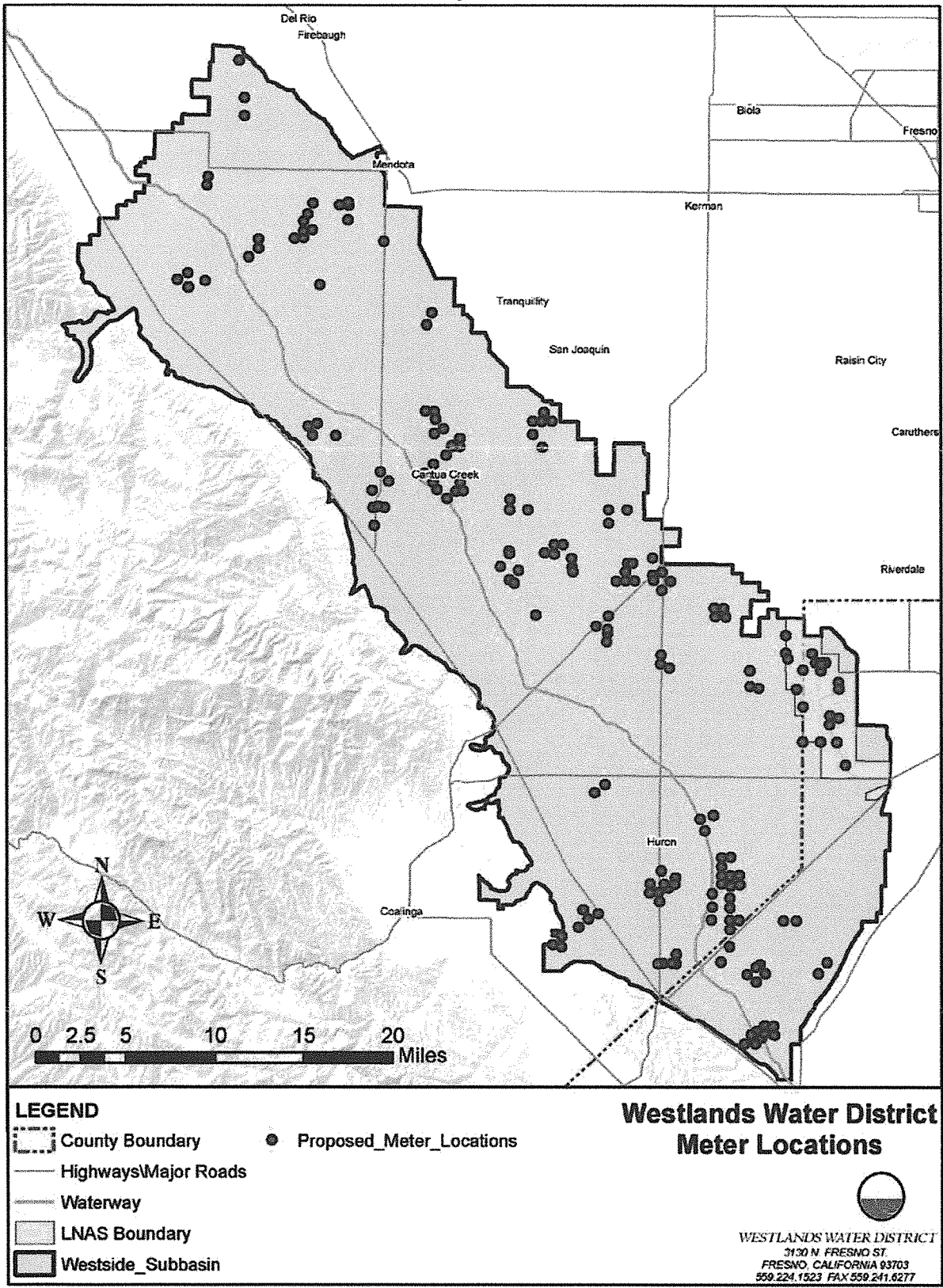


Figure 1: Westlands Water District Meter Locations

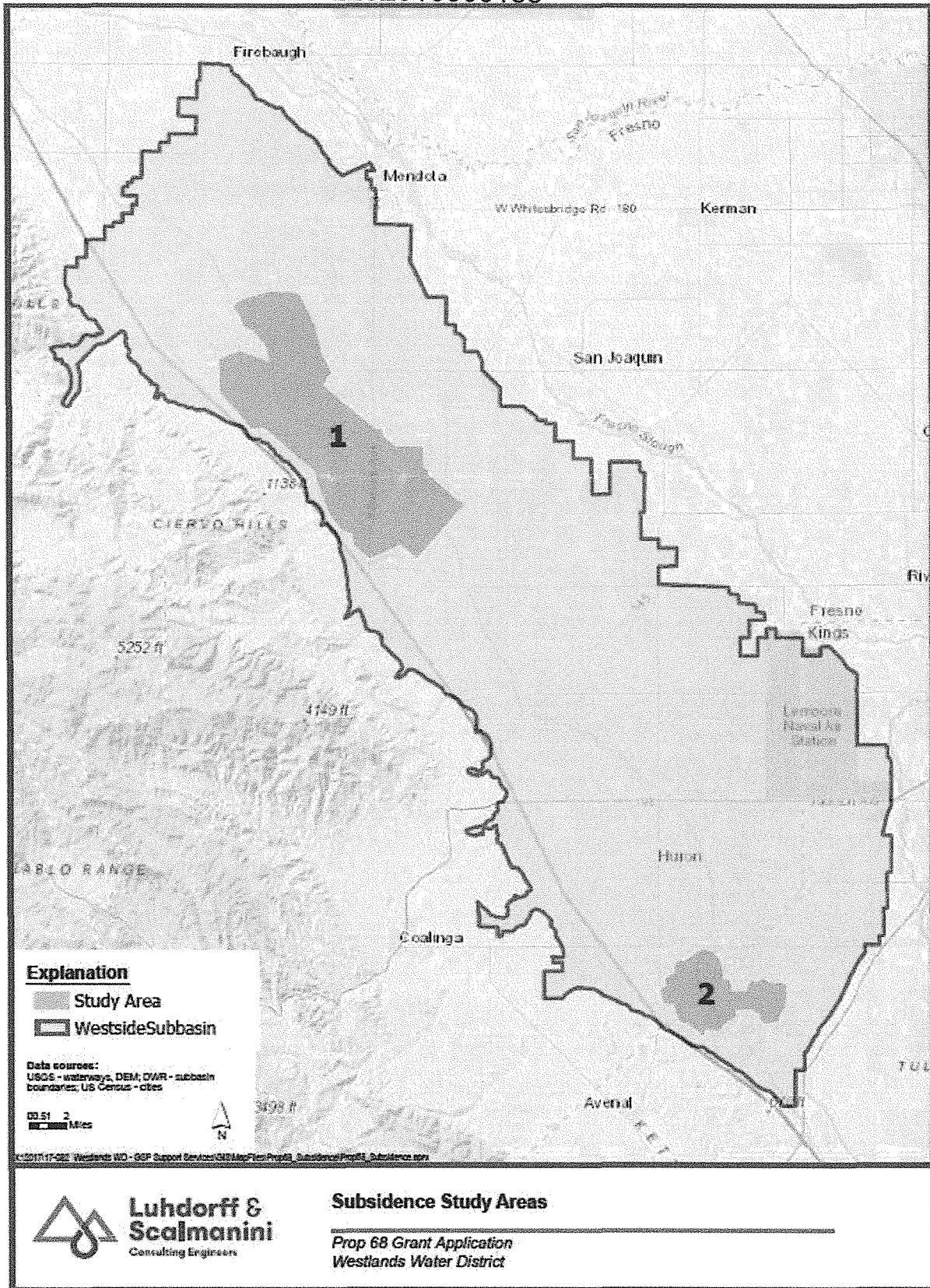


Figure 2: Subsidence Study Areas