

# Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District Notice of Exemption

**To:** County Clerk  
County of Kings  
Kings County Gov. Center  
Hanford, CA 93230

State Clearing House  
State of California  
1400 10<sup>th</sup> Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**From:** Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District  
1001 Chase Ave., Corcoran, CA 93212

**Project Title:** Conveyance of 2021 SWP Water to Growers in Westlands Water District, San Luis Water District and Pleasant Valley Water District to Complete an Exchange of Surface Water Supplies.

**Project Location – Specific:** Service area of the Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District, Westlands Water District, San Luis Water District, and Pleasant Valley Water District.

**Project Location – City:** Corcoran      **Project Location – County:** Kings, Fresno, Merced

**Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:** Growers in Westlands Water District, San Luis Water District and Pleasant Valley Water District intend to purchase a total of up to 65,000 acre-feet of local surface water, which will be delivered into Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District. In exchange, a comparable amount of Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District's State Water Project water will be conveyed through the California Aqueduct and delivered to lands in Westlands Water District, San Luis Water District, and Pleasant Valley Water District. Water delivered into Fresno and Merced Counties, which is outside the SWP Place of Use, would be delivered under the 2021 Temporary Change in the Place of Use. The exchange will be completed in mid-2022.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District

**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 Existing Facilities);
- ☒ Statutory Exemption (CA Water Code 1729)

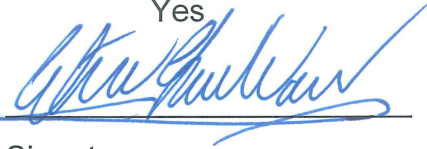
**Reasons why project is exempt:** The District has determined that there are no foreseeable environmental impacts. This single year delivery of SWP water is also exempt from CEQA under Water Code Section 1729. Further, the exchange is categorically exempt under CEQA since it involves the use and operation of existing facilities (CEQA Guidelines 15301).

**Lead Agency Contact Person:** Ethan Warren **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

April 27, 2021

Date

Resource Analyst

Title

## Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District Finding of Exemption

**Project Title:** Conveyance of 2021 SWP Water to Growers in Westlands Water District, San Luis Water District and Pleasant Valley Water District to Complete an Exchange of Surface Water Supplies.

**Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:** Growers in Westlands Water District, San Luis Water District and Pleasant Valley Water District intend to purchase a total of up to 65,000 acre-feet of local surface water, which will be delivered into the Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District. In exchange, a comparable amount of Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District's State Water Project water will be conveyed through the California Aqueduct and delivered to lands in Westlands Water District, San Luis Water District and Pleasant Valley Water District. Water delivered into Fresno and Merced Counties, which is outside the SWP Place of Use, would be delivered under the 2021 Order Approving the Temporary Change in the Place of Use. The exchange will be completed in mid 2022.

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

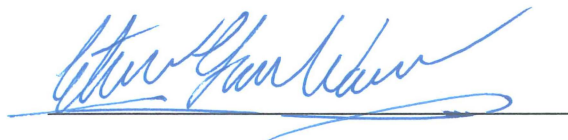
**Recommendation:** Staff, having undertaken and completed a review of this project for CEQA compliance, has determined that this project does not require further environmental assessment because:

- \_\_\_\_\_ 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:** The District has determined that there are no foreseeable environmental impacts. This single year delivery of SWP water is also exempt from CEQA under Water Code Section 1729. Further, the exchange is categorically exempt under CEQA since it involves the use and operation of existing facilities (CEQA Guidelines 15301).

**Name of Lead Agency:** Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District

Date: April 27, 2021

A handwritten signature in blue ink, written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and appears to read "Steve G. [unclear]".