

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

To: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

From: California Department of Water Resources
State Water Project Analysis Office
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1620
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with § 21108 of the Public Resources Code.

Project Title: Department of Water Resources Conveyance of up to 9,000 acre-feet of Central Valley Project Water to Kern County Water Agency. (SWPAO #21015)

State Clearinghouse Number: 2011061057

Lead Agency: Kern County Water Agency
PO Box 58
Bakersfield, CA 93302

Project Location: Kern County Water Agency (KCWA) is a State Water Project contractor located in Kern County. The State Water Project (SWP) includes facilities located throughout the State of California, including existing facilities that allow for delivery of water to KCWA service areas which includes member unit, Semitropic Water Storage District (SWSD). DWR's conveyance of Central Valley Project (CVP) water under this project takes place from O'Neill Forebay to KCWA's turnout(s) within Reaches 10A, 12E, and 13B via the California Aqueduct.

Project Description: DWR will convey up to 9,000 acre-feet of Non-Project Water to KCWA. This Non-Project Water is San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority's (Exchange Contractors) 2021 CVP water and will be made available by the United States Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) to DWR at O'Neill Forebay for subsequent delivery by DWR to KCWA's turnout(s), on behalf of its member unit, Semitropic Water Storage District (SWSD), for use in its service area within the CVP place of use. The delivery of Non-Project Water under this project shall be completed by February 28, 2022.

This is to advise that the California Department of Water Resources, as a Responsible Agency, has approved the above described project on July 12, 2021 and has made the following determinations:

1. The project **will not** have a significant effect on the environment.
2. Pursuant to CEQA, Exchange Contractors, as the lead public agency, jointly with the Bureau of Reclamation, prepared the Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (Final EIR/EIS), dated January 28, 2013, for the Water Transfer Program for the San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority, 2014-2038. DWR independently reviewed and considered this environmental documentation prior to approving this project. The project is within the scope of the Final EIR/EIS and no additional environmental review is required pursuant to CEQA Guidelines 15162.
3. Based on the analysis provided in the DWR Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Plan, GHG emissions associated with the movement of water through the State Water Project will not constitute a cumulatively considerable contribution to atmospheric levels of GHG emissions and are, therefore, less than significant.

4. Mitigation measures, as described in the Final EIR/EIS, were made a condition of approval of the Water Transfer Program for the San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority, 2014-2038. The Exchange Contractors, as the lead agency, are responsible for the implementation of the mitigation measures.
5. A statement of Overriding Considerations was not adopted by DWR for this project.
6. Findings were not made by DWR pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

DWR's decision and determination are based on the documents described herein, which are available for review at the office of:

San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority
541 H Street
Los Banos, CA 93635

Responsible Agency Contact Person: Patrick Luzuriaga, 916 820-7778

Signature: John Leahigh
John Leahigh

Date: 9/13/2021

Title: Water Operation Executive Manager, Division of Operation and Maintenance

Date Received for Filing at OPR: _____

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