

Notice of Exemption

Fee Exempt per Government Code Section 6103

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

Tulare County Clerk-Recorder
Room 105, Courthouse
221 South Mooney Boulevard
Visalia, California 93291

<p>FILED TULARE COUNTY</p> <p>AUG 10 2020</p> <p>ROLAND P. HILL ASSESSOR/CLERK RECORDER BY:</p>
<p><i>Date filed by Tulare County Clerk-Recorder</i></p>

Lead Agency: Tulare County Resource Management Agency
5961 South Mooney Blvd.
Visalia, Ca 93277 (559) 624-7000
Attn: hguerra@co.tulare.ca.us

Applicant(s): County of Tulare Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer
4437 S. Laspina St.
Tulare, CA 93274 (559) 684-3350

Project Title: CDFA Glassy-winged Sharpshooter Control Program FY 20/21 & 21/22

Project Location - Specific: Throughout Tulare County, CA

Project Location- Section, Township, Range: N/A

Project Location - City: N/A

Project Location - County: Tulare

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: The Tulare County Board of Supervisors (on July 1, 2020) entered into an Agreement with the State of California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to provide funding for the County of Tulare Agriculture Commissioner's Office to offset costs of providing and continuing the pest management and detection program to detect and mitigate the presence of Glassy-winged Sharpshooter (GWSS). The continuation of this program is important in substantially reducing the population of GWSS in order to decrease the potential for the spread of Pierce's Disease. The detection and treatment of this invasive Pest is critically important to the agricultural industry within Tulare County and the State of California. Implementing the program as provided by CDFA (i.e., detect/identify/control new GWSS infestations through insect trapping, visual inspection and surveys) would mitigate the spread of the invasive GWSS Pest that threaten the Table Grape Industry. As such, the funds will result in a public benefit by supporting the actions necessary to mitigate the invasive GWSS Pest and protect the Table Grape Industry as noted above.

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));
- Common Sense Rule: CEQA guidelines 15061 (b)(3)
- Categorical Exemption Section 15308 Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of the Environment
- Statutory Exemptions:

Reasons why project is exempt: This action is consistent with CEQA Guidelines (California Administrative Code, Title 14, Division 6) Section 15061 (b)(3) that there is no possibility that the proposed grant activity may have a significant effect on the environment. Thus, Section 15061 (b)(3) is applicable and appropriate for this project. Further, CDFA certified a Final Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) Project No. 11001 for the Statewide Plant Pest Prevention and Management Program as an ongoing effort by CDFA to protect California's agriculture from damage caused by invasive plant species. As such, the use of Section 15308 Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of the Environment is appropriate and applicable.


Name of Public Agency Approving Project: County of Tulare, Resource Management Agency

Project Representative Christopher P. Greer, Assistant Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer

Telephone: 559-684-3350

Signature:  Date: 8/5/20 Title: Chief Environmental Planner

Hector Guerra

Signature:  Date: 8/5/20 Title: Environmental Assessment Officer

Reed Schenke, PE

RMA Director

Signed by Lead Agency

Date received for filing at OPR: N/A