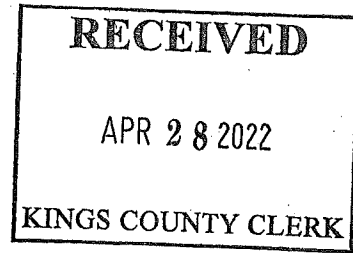


NOTICE OF EXEMPTION



To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk/County Recorder
County of Kings
1400 W. Lacey Boulevard
Hanford, CA 93230

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

Project Title: Rules and Regulations Section 1.1, 1.2, 1.4, 1.10, 1.13 through 1.16, and 1.18 through 1.21 for the Groundwater Allocation Program and Use of Groundwater Allocation within the Westside Subbasin

Project Applicant: Westlands Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency (WWD GSA)

Project Location – Specific: District-wide, located in western Fresno and Kings Counties. See Figure 1.

Project Location – City: N/A

Project Location – County: Fresno, Kings

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Rules and Regulations Sections adopted by the WWD GSA govern implementation of the GSP's Projects and Management Actions. The Rules and Regulations Sections 1.1, 1.2, 1.4, 1.10, 1.13 through 1.16, and 1.18 through 1.21 will inform landowners and groundwater users on the administration of metering, groundwater recharge projects, variance, appeals, and the groundwater allocation program.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: WWD GSA

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: WWD GSA

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 Exemptions. CEQA Guidelines §15061(b)(3), §15307 & §15308
- Statutory Exemptions. Water Code §10728.6

Reasons why project is exempt:

The rules and regulations were adopted as part of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) implementation and is statutorily exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") per Water Code §10728.6. Because the adoption of the rules and regulations will not have any significant impact on the environment under the commonsense exemption, it is categorically exempt under CEQA Guidelines §15061.b(3). The adoption of the rules and regulations are actions taken by the WWD GSA as authorized by the SGMA for the protection of natural resources and the environment, which is categorically exempt under §15307, §15308, and §15378 of the CEQA Guidelines.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Jose Gutierrez

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (559) 241-6215

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: 4/28/22 Title: Chief Operating Officer

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.

