

Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District Finding of Exemption

Project Title: Common Landowner Transfer of up to 4,497 a.f. of TLBWSD 2022 State Water Project Water to Kern County Water Agency

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project: The Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District (TLBWSD) will transfer up to 4,497 a.f. of its 2022 State Water Project Water to Kern County Water Agency (KCWA) for Sandridge Partners Inc. who farms in both districts. The transfer will be completed in 2022. This proposed transfer is designed to enable both KCWA and TLBWSD water users to better manage their respective water supplies. No lands will be fallowed as a result of the transfer and no additional groundwater will be pumped. The lands have been actively farmed in the past.

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).
- 4. The project is categorically exempt (Guidelines, Article 19, sections 15300-15329)
A. Applicable Exemption Class: 1
- 5. No foreseeable impacts on the environment (Guidelines, section 15061(b)(3)).
- 6. Statutory Exemption (CA Water Code 1729).

Brief statement of reasons why project is exempt: TLBWSD has determined that there are no foreseeable environmental impacts. The single year transfer is also exempt from CEQA under Water Code Section 1729. Further, the transfer is categorically exempt under CEQA since it involves the use and operation of an existing facility (CEQA Guidelines 15301).

Name of Lead Agency: Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District

Date: April 20, 2022



Ethan Warren, Resource Analyst