



State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife  
**2022 ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FILING FEE**  
**CASH RECEIPT**  
 DFW 753/5a (REV. 01/01/22) Previously DFG 753.5a

RECEIPT NUMBER: <b>24-2022-063</b>
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER (if applicable) <b>2022050049</b>

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

LEAD AGENCY <b>LE GRAND-ATHLONE WATER DISTRICT</b>	LEAD AGENCY EMAIL	DATE <b>06/21/2022</b>
COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING <b>MERCED COUNTY</b>	DOCUMENT NUMBER <b>24-2022-063</b>	
PROJECT TITLE <b>LE GRAND-ATHLONE WATER DISTRICT MERCED IRRIGATION DISTRICT CANAL INTERTIE PROJECT</b>		

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME <b>LE GRAND-ATHLONE WATER DISTRICT</b>	PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL	PHONE NUMBER <b>(559) 665-7070</b>
PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS <b>P.O. BOX 127</b>	CITY <b>CHOWCHILLA</b>	STATE <b>CA</b>
		ZIP CODE <b>93610</b>

PROJECT APPLICANT (Check appropriate box)

Local Public Agency   
  School District   
  Other Special District   
  State Agency   
  Private Entity

CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:

<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Impact Report (EIR)	\$3,539.25	\$	<u>0.00</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND)	\$2,548.00	\$	<u>2,548.00</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Regulatory Program (CRP) document - payment due directly to CDFW	\$1,203.25	\$	<u>0.00</u>

- Exempt from fee  
 Notice of Exemption (attach)  
 CDFW No Effect Determination (attach)  
 Fee previously paid (attach previously issued cash receipt copy)

<input type="checkbox"/> Water Right Application or Petition Fee (State Water Resources Control Board only)	\$850.00	\$	<u>0.00</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County documentary handling fee	\$50.00	\$	<u>50.00</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Other		\$	<u>0.00</u>

PAYMENT METHOD:

- Cash   
  Credit   
  Check   
  Other

TOTAL RECEIVED \$ 2,598.00

SIGNATURE <b>X</b>	AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE <b>Lea Z. H. Holguin Deputy Clerk</b>
-----------------------	--

**Notice of Determination**

**Appendix D**

**To:**

Office of Planning and Research  
U.S. Mail: Street Address:  
P.O. Box 3044 1400 Tenth St., Rm 113  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 Sacramento, CA 95814

County Clerk  
County of: Merced  
Address: 2222 M Street  
Merced, CA 95340

**From:**

Public Agency: Le Grand-Athlone Water District  
Address: P.O. Box 127  
Chowchilla, California, 93610  
Contact: Phil Janzen, President  
Phone: (559) 665-7070

Lead Agency (if different from above):  
Le Grand-Athlone Water District  
Address: P.O. Box 127  
Chowchilla, California, 93610  
Contact: Phil Janzen, President  
Phone: (559) 665-7070

**SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code.**

State Clearinghouse Number (if submitted to State Clearinghouse): 2022050049

Project Title: Le Grand-Athlone Water District Merced Irrigation District Canal Intertie Project

Project Applicant: Le Grand-Athlone Water District, P.O. Box 127, Chowchilla, CA 93610

Project Location (include county): unincorporated Merced County

Project Description:

See attached Project Description

2022 JUN 21 PM 2:06  
MERCEDES COUNTY CLERK  
DEPUTY  
FILED

This is to advise that the Le Grand-Athlone Water District has approved the above  
( Lead Agency or  Responsible Agency)

described project on June 16, 2022 and has made the following determinations regarding the above  
(date)  
described project.

- 1. The project [ will  will not] have a significant effect on the environment.
- 2.  An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.  
 A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
- 3. Mitigation measures [ were  were not] made a condition of the approval of the project.
- 4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan [ was  was not] adopted for this project.
- 5. A statement of Overriding Considerations [ was  was not] adopted for this project.
- 6. Findings [ were  were not] made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

This is to certify that the final EIR with comments and responses and record of project approval, or the negative Declaration, is available to the General Public at:

Le Grand-Athlone Water District, 216 Robertson Boulevard, Chowchilla, CA 93610

Signature (Public Agency): Phil Janzen Title: President

Date: June 16, 2022 Date Received for filing at OPR:

Authority cited: Sections 21083, Public Resources Code.  
Reference Section 21000-21174, Public Resources Code.

DATES POSTED  
FROM: 6/22/22  
TO: 7/21/22 Revised 2011

MERCED COUNTY CLERK

## Project Location

The Le Grand-Athlone Water District (LGAWD or District) plans to construct the Le Grand-Athlone Water District Merced Irrigation District Canal Intertie Project (Project). The proposed Project is located within Merced County, California, approximately 110 miles southeast of Sacramento from its northern most point and 140 miles northwest of Bakersfield from its southern most point. This is a linear Project starting at the existing MID canal facilities approximately 1.8 miles northeast of the Town of Planada and continues south approximately 14.5-miles through agricultural, grazing, and open lands, ending approximately one mile north of the Chowchilla River. Table 1 below identifies the Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs) associated with properties involved with this Project.

**Table 1. APNs within Project APE**

068200009000	068030083000	053290021000	067010030000	053290020000
068190013000	068030047000	053290019000	068010001000	067010033000
068190005000	068030028000	053290018000	068010012000	068230057000
068200001000	068030090000	053290024000	068010010000	068030095000
068130041000	068030026000	053250014000	068010025000	068122009000
068130040000	068030089000	053150038000	068030024000	068122008000
068130006000	068010028000	053150040000	068030063000	068290020000
068130023000	068010016000	053150010000	068030086000	068290017000
068130005000	068010014000	053150009000	053100020000	068290011000
068030087000	068010027000	053150007000	053100038000	068290010000
068030069000	068010020000	053250003000	053100065000	068290009000
068030070000	068010026000	053100039000	053250002000	068290006000
068030051000	053290022000	053100030000	053250013000	068290013000
068030082000	053290016000	053100047000	053290017000	

## Latitude and Longitude

The centroid of the Project area is 37° 14' 16" N and 120° 13' 50" W.

## General Plan Designation & Zoning

The Project is located in a rural part of Merced County and designated for the following land uses:

- A – Agriculture*
- FP – Foothill Pasture*

In addition, the Project is zoned for the following:

- A-1 – General Agriculture*
- A-2 – Exclusive Agriculture*

## Description of Project

LGAWD Board of Directors in a joint effort with MID proposes to construct the Project. MID's canal system provides the primary conveyance of surface water in the Merced Subbasin and is the Project's water source. The Project will construct a critical piece of infrastructure to help LGAWD, and the larger Merced Groundwater Subbasin, become more sustainable through reduced reliance on groundwater pumping. The Project includes improvements, rehabilitation, and expanding the existing MID canal capacity for approximately

9.8 miles and constructing approximately 4.9 miles of new canal and pipeline infrastructure from MID Booster Lateral #3 to LGAWD. The total Project are of potential effect is approximately 320 acres.

The Project would be completed in three phases. Phase 1 would result in the construction of a new intertie canal from Mariposa Creek to Dutchman Creek. Phase 2 would result in the expansion of existing canal facilities from a point of the MID Le Grand Canal approximately 1.8 miles northeast of Planada and run 9.8 miles south to the MID Booster Lateral #3 at Mariposa Creek. Phase 3 would result in the construction of a new LGAWD pump station immediately south of Dutchman Creek and a new buried pipeline that would cross under the Sante Fe Railroad continuing on private property until it reaches Earl Road. At this point an open canal would connect to the pipeline and run to a point approximately one mile north of the Chowchilla River, completing the Project. Phases 1 and 3 would result in approximately 4.9 miles of new canal/pipeline facilities. The new canal would create a way for flood flows to be captured, recharged, or used for agricultural demands in LGAWD that would otherwise be lost, introducing a new surface water supply source. The Project would cross Owens, Mariposa, Little Deadman, Deadman, and Dutchman Creeks. To cross these creeks, the Project would result in the construction of multiple new canal siphon structures. In addition, the Project would construct numerous new culverts under existing roadways that the Project would cross, as well as jack and bore activities to install steel casing under the Santa Fe Railroad. Where the Project would cross roadways, a partial lane-split road closure would be used to maintain through traffic during construction.

The Merced Subbasin is considered to be in critical overdraft and the Project would decrease reliance on groundwater pumping, energy consumption, and subsidence in the southern Merced Subbasin, while creating a new surface water supply, optimizing recharge, and also providing direct benefits to underrepresented Communities in the Le Grand-Athlone area and the southern Merced Subbasin. Construction of Phases 1 and 3 would last approximately 18 months and have a crew of 8-10 workers, while Phase 2 would last approximately 18 months with a crew of 4-10 workers. Project activities are summarized below:

**Phase 1 and 3:**

- *Replacement of Booster Pump #3 station*
- *Construction of new lined canal*
- *Construction of new earth canal*
- *Installation of new 63" Cement Mortar Lined and Coated Steel Pipe*
- *Construction of new canal inverts*
- *Construction of new canal banks*
- *Installation of new 84" CL III Rubber Gasketed Reinforced Concrete Pipe (RGRCP)*
- *Installation of new 72" CL III RGRCP*
- *Installation of new 84" RGRCP Siphons*
- *Installation of new 72" RGRCP Siphons*
- *Construction of a new LGAWD turnout*
- *Construction of a new spill structures with Creek turnouts*
- *Construction of a new pump station*
- *Jack and bore activities, installing steel casing beneath Sante Fe Railroad*
- *Installation of air vents*
- *Installation of air release valves*
- *Construction of new canal drop structure*

**Phase 2:**

- *Enlargement of earth lined canal*
- *Construction of new canal inverts*
- *Removal of 72" Corrugated Metal Pipe, replaced with 84" CL III RGRCP*
- *Enlargement of concrete lined canal, removal and replacement activities*
- *Enlargement of concrete lined earth canal*
- *Installation of new inverts*

- *Installation of new 72" CL III RGRCP*
- *Removal of culverts*
- *Installation of new 60" CL III RGRCP*
- *Installation of new 36" canal turnouts*
- *Excavation and re-sloping of canal bank slopes for canal enlargement*
- *Removal and replacement of farm bridges*

## **Site and Surrounding Land Uses and Setting**

The Project located in the northern San Joaquin Valley section of the Central Valley and is bounded by Sierra Mountain Range and foothills to the east, Coastal Mountains to the west, with Highway 140 to the north, with some smaller towns and the City of Fresno to the south. The Project runs parallel, east of Highway 99. The Project is characterized by gently rolling terrain and flat areas. There are a number of creeks that run near or through the area and include Owens, Mariposa, Little Deadman, Deadman, and Dutchman Creeks. The Project area is dominated by agriculture uses such as row crops and orchards, as well as grazing lands with minor, rural, single-family residences surrounding the Project.