

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

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

County Clerk
County of: _____

From: (Public Agency): _____

(Address)

Project Title: _____

Project Applicant: _____

Project Location - Specific:

Project Location - City: _____ Project Location - County: _____

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: _____

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: _____

Exempt Status: (check one):

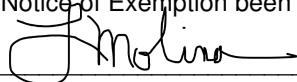
- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: _____
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

Lead Agency
Contact Person: _____ Area Code/Telephone/Extension: _____

If filed by applicant:

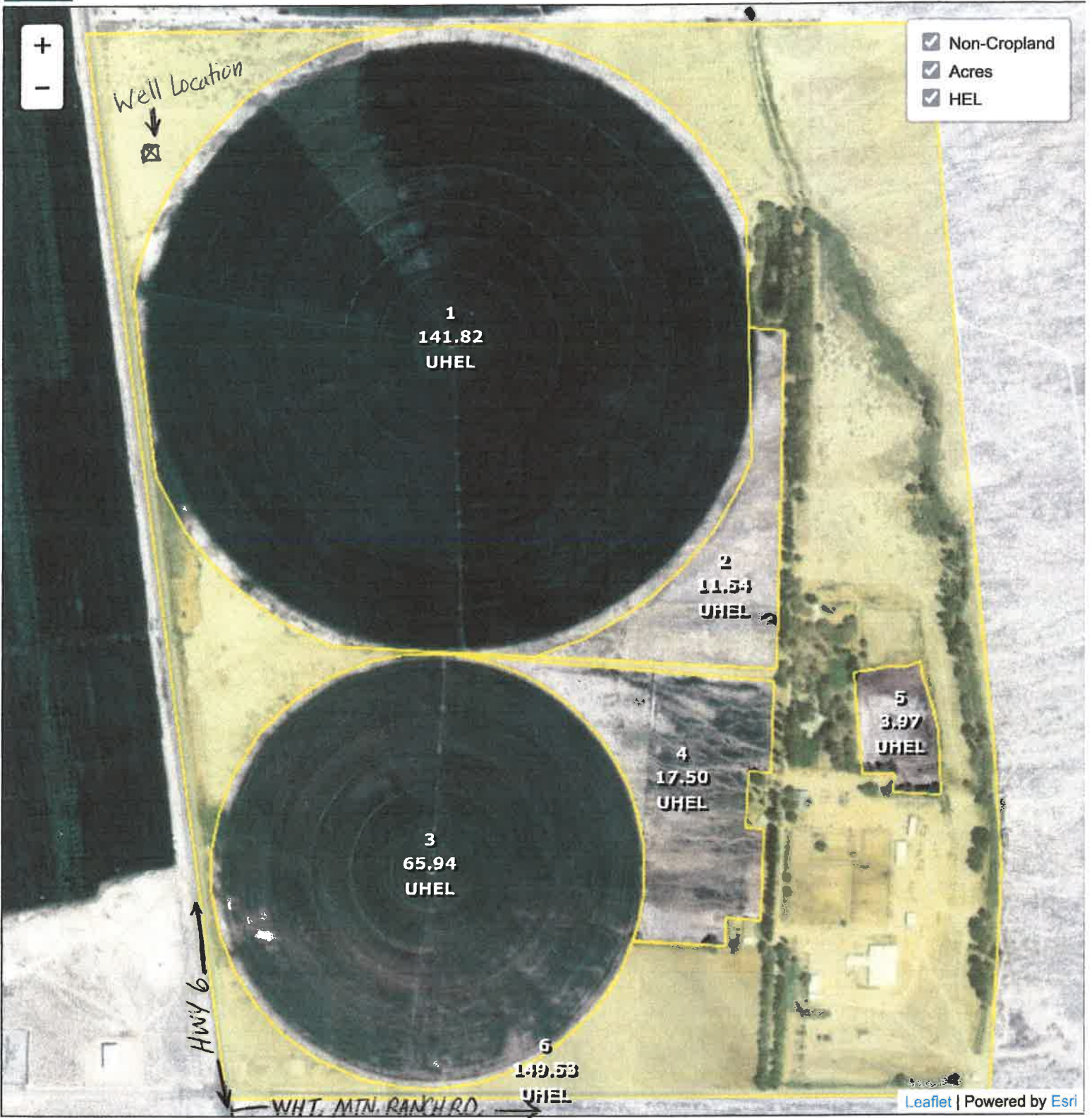
1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature:  _____ Date: _____ Title: _____

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____



Common Land Unit
 Cropland Non-cropland CRP

2022 Crop Year

Farm 159
Tract 175

Wetland Determination Identifiers

- Restricted Use
- ▼ Limited Restrictions
- Exempt from Conservation Compliance Provisions



Tract 1 of 1

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) maps are for FSA Program administration only. This map does not represent a legal survey or reflect actual ownership; rather it depicts the information provided directly from the producer and/or National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP) imagery. The producer accepts the data 'as is' and assumes all risks associated with its use. USDA-FSA assumes no responsibility for actual or consequential damage incurred as a result of any user's reliance on this data outside FSA Programs. Wetland identifiers do not represent the size, shape, or specific determination of the area. Refer to your original determination (CPA-026 and attached maps) for exact boundaries and determinations or contact USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

White Mountain Ranch Agricultural Well

Reasons Why Project is Exempt:

Mapping resources indicate the property to the west (APN 026-040-088) has a well on the north end of the property which appears to be over 4000' from the proposed well. According to Environmental Health records, the well on the property directly to the north (APN 026-040-009) is approximately 3000' from the proposed well. Based on a review of the State Water Resources Control Board's Low-Threat Underground Storage Tank Case Closure Policy, a 1,000-foot separation from active production wells to contamination plumes is considered to be sufficient separation to pose a low threat to human health, safety or the environment, and appropriate for no further action determination based on the groundwater-specific criteria specified. Further, this proposed well is within the key assumptions of modeling work by Santa Barbara County demonstrating that a new or replacement well located more than 1,000 feet from an existing well is not likely to interfere with the production of that well. The modeling is based on hypothetical water well drawdown using conservative yet anticipated values for transmissivity, storage coefficient, and anticipated pumping yields to support field grown agriculture commodities.

According to the Owens Valley Groundwater Basin Final Groundwater Sustainability Plan of Dec. 9, 2021 (see Appendix A, p. 7): *The hydrogeologic setting in the Fish Slough and Tri-Valley management area is dominated by volcanics and alluvial fan sediments which are typically not susceptible to subsidence. Groundwater levels in this area are showing chronic declines with rates observed to be about 0.15 feet/year (Fish Slough) and 0.49 – 1.86 feet/year (Tri Valley) and are thought to be historic lows for this management area. The groundwater extractions in this management area are distributed throughout the area rather than being concentrated in small zones, so the effects of subsidence, if any, may be more area wide. Despite one of the necessary factors being present, there is no direct instrumental evidence of subsidence in the management area. Consequently, the potential for subsidence is considered low.*