

# Notice of Exemption

**To:** Office of Planning and Research  
Post Office Box 3044, Room 113  
Sacramento, California 95812-3044

**From:** Central Coast Water Authority  
255 Industrial Way  
Buellton, CA 93427

Clerk of the Board  
County of Santa Barbara  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Room 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

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COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA  
CLERK OF THE  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**Project Title:** Central Coast Water Authority and Tule Basin Farms, LLC 2022 Dry Year Transfer

**Location – Specific:** Existing State Water Project (SWP) facilities to existing turnouts in Santa Barbara and Sutter Counties. The SWP includes facilities located throughout the State of California. The SWP is owned and operated by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), headquartered in Sacramento, California. Santa Barbara County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (SBCFCWCD) contracts with DWR for the delivery of SWP water to Santa Barbara County (SWP Contract). The Central Coast Water Authority (CCWA) has assumed responsibility for the SWP contract. CCWA is headquartered in Santa Barbara County and CCWA's service area is located in Santa Barbara County. Tule Basin Farms, LLC (TBF) is a California entity with water rights in Sutter County.

**Location – County:** Santa Barbara and Sutter Counties

**Description of Activity:** Due to prolonged drought conditions and low allocation of SWP "Table A Amount" for 2022, CCWA currently needs additional water supplies to supplement its 2022 supplies. TBF will make available for transfer to CCWA and other public agencies up to 3,000 acre-feet (AF) of water available because of its pumping of groundwater from transfer wells for irrigation in lieu of diverting surface water under its State Water Resources Control Board License 2840 (Application No. 10030). TBF's point of transfer will be its point of diversion on the West Borrow Pit of the Sutter Bypass. Delivery to CCWA's shall occur on or before December 31, 2022 at the delivery structures along the Coastal Branch Repayment Reach Nos. 35 and 38. All water delivered to CCWA shall be used entirely within CCWA's service area. The water will be conveyed through existing facilities from the point of transfer to the point of delivery pursuant to an agreement among TBF, DWR, SBCFCWCD and others providing for the conveyance and storage of the transfer water.

**Name of Public Agency Approving or Carrying Out Activity:** Central Coast Water Authority. Other approving agencies include: California Department of Water Resources, and Santa Barbara County Flood Control and Water Conservation District.

**Exempt Status:**

- Ministerial
- Declared Emergency
- Emergency Project
- Categorical Exemption
- Statutory Exemption (Not a Project Under CEQA)

**Reasons why activity is exempt:**

- a. The transfer will facilitate the delivery of water, using only existing facilities in Santa Barbara and Sutter Counties and is intended to meet existing uses of water and would not support new development or a change in land use. (14 Cal. Code Regs. §§ 15061(b)(3), 15301.)
- b. The transfer is entirely within the authorized SWP place of use.

Agency Contact Person: Ray Stokes

Telephone: (805) 688-2292

Signature: Ray A Stokes  
Ray Stokes

Date: 6-9-22

Title: Executive Director, Central Coast Water Authority

Date received for filing OPR: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Title: Central Coast Water Authority and Tule Basin Farms, LLC 2022 Dry Year Transfer  
Location - County: Santa Barbara and Sutter Counties  
Description of Activity: Due to prolonged drought conditions and low allocation of SWP, Table A Amount for 2022, CCWA currently needs additional water supplies to supplement its 2022 supplies. TBF will make available for transfer to CCWA and other public agencies up to 8,000 acre-feet (AF) of water available because of its pumping of groundwater from transfer wells for irrigation in lieu of diverting surface water under its State Water Resources Control Board License 2840 (Application No. 10030). TBF's point of transfer will be at the point of diversion on the West Bypass of the Sutter Bypass. Delivery to CCWA's staff occur on or before December 31, 2022 at the delivery structures along the Coastal Branch Reapportionment Reach No. 25 and 28. All water delivered to CCWA shall be used entirely within CCWA's service area. The water will be conveyed through existing facilities from the point of transfer to the point of delivery pursuant to an agreement among TBF, DWR, SBRCWCD and other providing for the conveyance and storage of the transfer water.

Name of Public Agency Approving or Carrying Out Activity: Central Coast Water Authority, Other approving agencies include California Department of Water Resources, and Santa Barbara County Flood Control and Water Conservation District.

- Exempt Status:
- Ministerial
  - Declared Emergency
  - Emergency Project
  - Categorical Exemption
  - Statutory Exemption (not a Project Under CEQA)

Reasons why activity is exempt:  
a. The transfer will facilitate the delivery of water, using only existing facilities in Santa Barbara and Sutter Counties and is intended to meet existing uses of water and would not support new development or a change in land use. (14 Cal. Code Regs. §§ 15001(b)(3), 15001.)  
b. The transfer is entirely within the authorized SWP place of use.