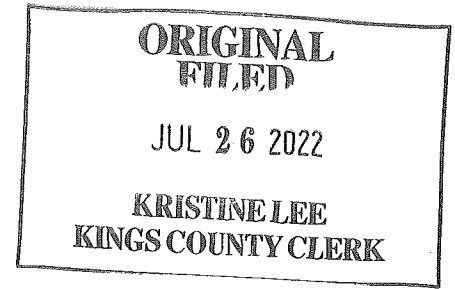


NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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
Hanford, CA 93230

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



Project Title: Tiered Pumping Allocation within the Westside Subbasin

Project Applicant: Westlands Water District, Serving as the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (WWD)

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 Tiered Pumping Allocation is an effort to optimize the sustainable yield and reduce the risk of undesirable results within the Westside Subbasin. The primary objective of the Tiered Pumping Allocation is to develop a funding source for Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) substitute water to the Subsidence Prone Areas (SPA). Secondary benefits include reducing groundwater pumping in the SPA, increasing groundwater levels in the SPA, and redistributing groundwater pumping to other areas of the Subbasin outside the SPA to reduce the level of drawdown within the SPA.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: WWD

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: WWD

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) and 15378.
- Statutory Exemptions.

Reasons why project is exempt:

The Tiered Pumping Allocation will not have any significant impact on the environment, so the Project is categorically exempt under CEQA Guidelines §15061(b)(3). WWD, as authorized by the SGMA, approved the Project for the protection of natural resources and the environment, which is categorically exempt from CEQA under §15378 of the CEQA Guidelines.


Lead Agency

Contact Person: Russ Freeman

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (559) 241-6241

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: 7/25/2022 Title: Deputy General Manager Resources

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____

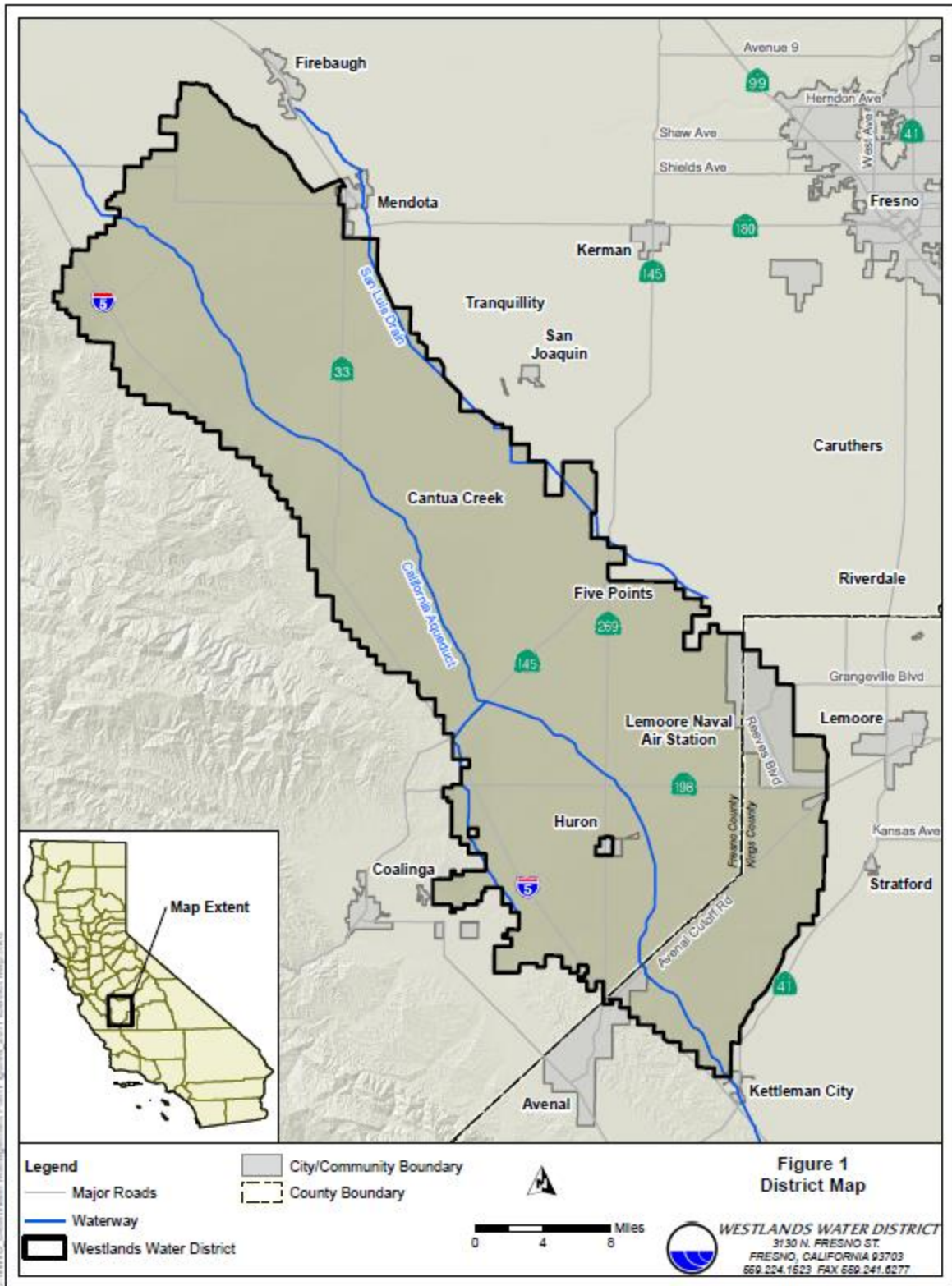
Reference: Sections 21108(b), 21152(b), Public Resources Code.

GOVERNMENT CODE
SECTIONS 6103 and 27383

6103 Neither the state nor any county, city, district, or other political subdivision, nor any public officer or body, acting in his or her official capacity on behalf of the state, or any county, city, district, or other political subdivision, shall pay or deposit any fee for the filing of any document or paper, for the performance of any official service, or for the filing of any stipulation or agreement that may constitute an appearance in any court by any other party to the stipulation or agreement. This section does not apply to civil jury fees or civil jury deposits. This section does not apply to the State Compensation Insurance Fund or where a public officer is acting with reference to private assets or obligations that have come under that officer's jurisdiction by virtue of his or her office, or where it is specifically provided otherwise. No fee shall be charged for the filing of a confession of judgment in favor of any of the public agencies named in this section.

No fee shall be charged any of the public agencies named in this section to defray the costs of reporting services by court reporters. Such fees shall be recoverable as costs as provided in Section 6103.5. (*Amended by Stats. 2008, Ch. 218, Sec. 2. Effective January 1, 2009.*)

27383 No fee shall be charged by the recorder for services rendered to the State, to any municipality, county in the State or other political subdivision thereof, except for making a copy of a paper or record. (*Added by Stats. 1955, Ch. 488.*)



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 Date: 8/27/2015