



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>E202210000315</b>
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER (if applicable)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

LEAD AGENCY <b>JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT</b>	LEAD AGENCY EMAIL	DATE <b>10/26/2022</b>
COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING <b>FRESNO COUNTY</b>	DOCUMENT NUMBER <b>E202210000315</b>	

PROJECT TITLE  
**JAMES BYPASS BASINS STORAGE AND RECHARGE PROJECT**

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME <b>JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT</b>	PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL	PHONE NUMBER <b>(559) 693-4356</b>
PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS <b>8749 9TH STREET, P.O. BOX 757</b>	CITY <b>SAN JOAQUIN</b>	STATE <b>CA</b>
		ZIP CODE <b>93660</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 type="checkbox"/> Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND)	\$2,548.00	\$	<u>0.00</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 \$ 50.00

SIGNATURE <b>X</b> 	AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE <b>Cierra Loera Deputy Clerk</b>
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  Check   
  Other

TOTAL RECEIVED \$ 50.00

SIGNATURE <b>X</b> 	AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE <b>Cierra Loera Deputy Clerk</b>
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County of Fresno  
Clerk's Office  
James A. Kus

Elections Department  
(559) 600-8683

Clerk Services Department  
(559) 600-2575

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Finalization 2022022127  
10/26/2022 02:50 PM  
CCR572887 Cloera

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Description	Fee
EIR Administrative Fee	
Time Recorded: 2:50 PM	
Recording Fee:	\$50.00
Total Amount Due	\$50.00
Total Paid	
Credit Card #204247974	\$50.00
Amount Due	\$0.00

E-002-10000315

THANK YOU  
PLEASE KEEP FOR REFERENCE

Notice of Exemption

E20221000315

Appendix E

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

County Clerk
County of Fresno
2220 Tulare Street
Fresno, CA 93721

FROM: James Irrigation District
8749 9th Street
P.O. Box 757
San Joaquin, CA 93660

FILED
OCT 26 2022
TIME 2:53pm

Project Title: James Bypass Basins Storage and Recharge Project

Project Location - Specific:

The proposed project is located within the James Bypass primarily in Section 34, T15S, R17E M.D.B.&M. and Fresno County APN 030-12, Latitude: 36.583815°, Longitude: -120.105988°.

FRESNO COUNTY CLERK
DEPUTY

Project Location - City: N/A Project Location - County: Fresno

Description of Project:

The proposed project entails the construction of a check structure on the James Bypass auxiliary channel (easterly), a turnout off the channel to existing Basin No.2, upgraded metering to existing Basin No.1, additional earthwork in Basin No.3 and the northeasterly channel embankment, and a booster pump for recovery of water for in-lieu recharge for James ID. Improvements will be constructed in phases, with the check structure as the first phase.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: James Irrigation District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: James Irrigation District

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: Section 21080(b)(4); CEQA Guidelines Section 15269(c)

Reasons why project is exempt:

Governor's Drought Executive Order N-7-22 Action 13: Groundwater Recharge Projects: Flood Managed Aquifer Recharge, DWR Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant Program. Project is a Flood Managed Aquifer Recharge project and has funding from the Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant Program. "Self-Certification for Groundwater Recharge Project Eligibility" form requested by the Department of Water Resources has been submitted through the link at https://water.ca.gov/Water-Basics/Drought Drought, and is attached.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Manny Amorelli Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (559) 693-4356
General Manager

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: [Signature] Date: 10/20/22 Title: General Manager
Name: Manny Amorelli

Signed by Lead Agency  Signed by Applicant

Date Received for Filing at OPR:

E202210000315



## Self-Certification for Groundwater Recharge Project Eligibility, Executive Order N-7-22

Consistent with the March 28, 2022 Drought Executive Order N-7-22 Action 13, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) developed this self-certification form to allow local agencies to submit their proposed recharge projects to DWR that the project is eligible for the CEQA suspension. After reviewing the information submitted via this self-certification form, DWR will review and may concur. A list of activities eligible for the CEQA suspension is maintained on DWR's website at: <https://water.ca.gov/Water-Basics/Drought>.

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Entities carrying out a proposed recharge project that may meet the objectives of Executive Order N-7-22 Action 13 should complete this self-certification form as soon as possible to initiate DWR's review and potential concurrence that the project is eligible for the CEQA suspension. Please submit one self-certification form for each individual project. For questions, please email [SGMPS@water.ca.gov](mailto:SGMPS@water.ca.gov).

Excerpt from Executive Order N-7-22, Action 13:

*With respect to recharge projects under either Flood-Managed Aquifer Recharge or the Department of Water Resources Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant Program occurring on open and working lands to replenish and store water in groundwater basins that will help mitigate groundwater conditions impacted by drought, for any (a) actions taken by state agencies, (b) actions taken by a local agency where the Department of Water Resources concurs that local action is required, and (c) permits necessary to carry out actions under (a) or (b), Public Resources Code, Division 13 (commencing with section 21000) and regulations adopted pursuant to that Division are hereby suspended to the extent necessary to address the impacts of the drought. The entities implementing these directives shall maintain on their websites a list of all activities or approvals for which these provisions are suspended. (<https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/March-2022-Drought-EO.pdf>)*

1. Please provide a short description of the proposed recharge project in which you are seeking a CEQA suspension, demonstrating how it is consistent with Executive Order N-7-22, Action 13 (include historical land use and current land use on the proposed project location):

The James Irrigation District (JID) James Bypass Basins Storage and Recharge Project entails the construction of a check structure on the existing James Bypass auxiliary channel (easterly), a new turnout off the channel to existing Basin No.2, upgraded metering to existing Basin No.1, and additional earthwork in existing Basin No.3 and the northeasterly channel embankment, and a new booster pump for recovery of water for in-lieu recharge for James ID. The project is primarily located in Section 34, T15S, R17E M.D.B.&M. and Fresno County APN 030-12-16ST.

As the project is downstream of existing James Weir, the proposed check structure will provide a point of control on the auxiliary channel as well as allowing the control of the water surface to enable an increase in flow into Basin No.2 and in the future to Basin No.3. The check structure will allow water to pond for recharge in the auxiliary channel that does not presently occur. The proposed turnout will allow increased flow capacity to fill Basin No.2 and with the check structure allow smaller and shorter duration flood flows to be quickly captured and recharged. The proposed booster pump will provide recovery of water from Basin No.2 for in-lieu recharge instead of only dedicated recharge. Currently the lower third of storage in Basin No.2 cannot be recovered by the lower flow gravity connection to existing Basin No.1. JID previously installed control structure on the channel inlet that make the proposed project possible.

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2. Please describe the anticipated benefits and the basis of those benefits from implementing the proposed recharge project (in acre-feet/year or estimated volume of water, if possible):

The average annual project yield for 31 days of water availability from the James Bypass is estimated at 1,770 AF as estimated from historic hydrology and infiltration of 0.5 ft/day. The yield for the project components is as follows:

- Basin 2 at 1,670 AF
- Auxiliary Channel at 100 AF, and
- Future Basin 3 at 300 AF once removal of 2-foot of material occurs.

3. Please identify the category this proposed recharge project would fall under (multiple answers can be selected):

- Flood Managed Aquifer Recharge  
 DWR Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant Program

4. Please identify which of the objectives the proposed recharge project meets as described in the Executive Order (multiple answers can be selected):

- Project is on **Open Lands** (which are those lands that are native or largely undeveloped from agricultural or industrial practices. These lands could include flood bypasses, natural areas, wildlife preserves, or existing managed wetlands.)  
 Project is on **Working Lands** (which are those lands that have been previously developed for agricultural or other industrial practices. These lands could include active or fallowed agricultural lands, gravel and sand operations, open storage fields, or other similar working lands.)

5. Please identify which of the objectives the proposed recharge project meets as described in the Executive Order (multiple answers can be selected):

- Project will help **mitigate groundwater conditions impacted by the drought** (To mitigate groundwater conditions impacted by drought, projects should include the replenishment of groundwater resources to the subsurface, especially shallow aquifers, for the purpose of storage, temporary or otherwise. Drought impacts to groundwater conditions would include lowering of groundwater levels that may have occurred due to lack of natural recharge or groundwater pumping that may especially impact shallow aquifers.)

6. What funding sources are supporting the proposed recharge project? (Please list all local, state, federal, private or public funding sources).

The initial components for Phase 1 (planning, design and check structure construction) are planned to be funded from Proposition 68, the Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) grant program and local agency funds. Funding for future construction phases is unknown at this time.

7. Please provide the estimated project start date:

03/01/2022

8. Please provide the estimated project end date or date project can be considered operational:

03/31/2025

E202210600315

9. Please identify if the proposed recharge project requires a new water right permit to be issued by the State Water Board under their Groundwater Storage Water Rights Permitting process. If an existing water right is being used, please provide the permit number under the 'Other' category (For more information, visit: [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water\\_issues/programs/applications/groundwater\\_recharge/](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/applications/groundwater_recharge/)):

- No new water right is needed; already have existing water rights or agreements for this proposed recharge project
- Need a temporary water right for this recharge project (180 days)
- Need a temporary water right for this recharge project (1 to 5 years)
- Need a streamlined permit for a standard water right
- Need a standard water right for this recharge project
- Kings River Water Association Licenses 11517-11522

10. When do you anticipate your proposed recharge project will be ready for construction phase (i.e., shovel ready)?

07/01/2024

11. Are there other permitting requirements necessary to carry out the proposed recharge project. If so, please describe.

Permits and approvals may include US Army Corps of Engineers, 404 Permit; Central Valley Flood Protection Board (CVFPB), Encroachment Permit; Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), Stream Bed Alteration Agreement; and Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), Section 401 Water Quality Certification.

12. Please describe if there are any anticipated water quality or other environmental impacts associated with the proposed recharge project (if so, please describe the mitigation measures that will be taken to remedy or offset those impacts):

None

13. Please provide the name of the Local Agency implementing the proposed recharge project:

James Irrigation District

14. Please provide a Project Manager Point of Contact First and Last Name:

Manny Amorelli, General Manager

15. Please provide a Project Manager Point of Contact Email and Phone Number:

mamorelli@jamesid.org  
(559) 693-4356

E20221000315

16. Please identify the groundwater basin in which the proposed recharge project will be located. If possible, please provide the proposed project location coordinates (latitude, longitude). (For more information, visit:

<https://sgma.water.ca.gov/webgis/index.jsp?appid=gasmaster&rz=true>):

Kings Subbasin  
Latitude: 36.583815°, Longitude: -120.105988°

17. Please provide the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) and Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) or Alternative to a GSP that the proposed recharge project is associated:

James GSA Groundwater Sustainability Plan  
Coordination agreement with other GSA's in the Kings Basin

18. Please provide any additional information you would like to include in your Self-Certification Form:

None