



**THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

700 North Alameda Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012  
(213) 217-6000 <http://mwdh2o.com>

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**Notice of Exemption Submittal**

County Clerk: Ms. Kate Gordon, Director  
Office of Planning and Research  
State Clearinghouse  
1400 Tenth Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

Project Title:

Filing As: Lead Agency

Lead Agency

Contact: Enclosures: Original NOE  
Location Map

Comments: In accordance with Section 15062 of the State of California Guidelines for the California Environmental Quality Act, this NOE is provided for posting by your office for a period of 30 full calendar days.

Ref:



## California Environmental Quality Act: Notice of Exemption

**To:** Office of Planning and Research  
State Clearinghouse  
1400 Tenth Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

**From:** The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
P.O. Box 54153  
Los Angeles, California 90054-0153

**Project Name:** Adopt Resolution to Accept Grant Funding if Awarded for a Multi-Benefit Landscape Opportunity on Webb Tract

**Project Location - Specific:** Webb Tract is an island in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta region in Contra Costa County (See Map)

**Project Location - City:** North of Bethel Island **Project Location - County:** Contra Costa County

**Description of Project:** Metropolitan submitted an approximately \$20.9 million grant application to the Delta Conservancy to fund a three-year project term that includes two phase: design, environmental documentation, and permitting will occur in Phase 1. Upon approval of CEQA documentation by Metropolitan, Phase 2 will begin and would include construction of wetlands, rice fields and associated improvements on Webb Tract, as well as quantification of greenhouse gas emissions before and after construction to calculate the carbon credits realized from the project. This action allows Metropolitan's Board to adopt a resolution to accept the grant funds, if awarded. If the grant is awarded, staff will begin design, and environmental documentation to support the future project. Staff will complete further CEQA documentation before proceeding with Phase 2 construction.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

**Exempt Status:** (check as applicable)

- Ministerial (Public Resources Code §21080(b)(1); State CEQA Guidelines)
- Not a Project (Public Resources Code § 21065, State CEQA Guidelines § 15378)
- Declared Emergency (Public Resources Code §21080(b)(3); State CEQA Guidelines)
- Emergency Project (Public Resources Code §21080(b)(2); State CEQA Guidelines)
- Emergency Project (Public Resources Code §21080(b)(4); State CEQA Guidelines)
- Categorical Exemption, Class 6 Categorical Exemption (Section 15306)
- Statutory Exemption, State CEQA Guidelines §15262,
- Other, State CEQA Guidelines §15378(b)(4); §15378(b)(5)

**Reasons why project is exempt:** The proposed actions related to the grant application and acceptance of funds are not defined as a project under CEQA (Public Resources Code Section 21065, State CEQA Guidelines Section 15378) because they involve the creation of government funding mechanisms or other government fiscal activities which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment (Section 15378(b)(4) of the State CEQA Guidelines). In addition, the proposed actions are not defined as a project under CEQA because they involve organizational or administrative activities of governments that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment (Section 15378(b)(5) of the state CEQA Guidelines). If the grant funding is accepted, the proposed activities are categorically exempt under the provisions of CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines. The proposed actions consist of basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities, which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. These may be strictly for information gathering purposes, or as part of a study leading to an action which a public agency has not yet approved, adopted, or funded. Accordingly, the proposed actions qualify as a Class 6 Categorical Exemption (Section 15306 of the

State CEQA Guidelines). Additionally, the proposed actions are statutorily exempt under the provisions of CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines. The proposed actions involve feasibility or planning studies for possible future actions which the agency, commission or board has not yet approved, adopted or funded (Section 15262 of the State CEQA Guidelines).

**Lead Agency Contact Person:** Sean Carlson at 213-217-76276

**Signature:** Sean Carlson

**Date:** May 10, 2023

Team Manager  
The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

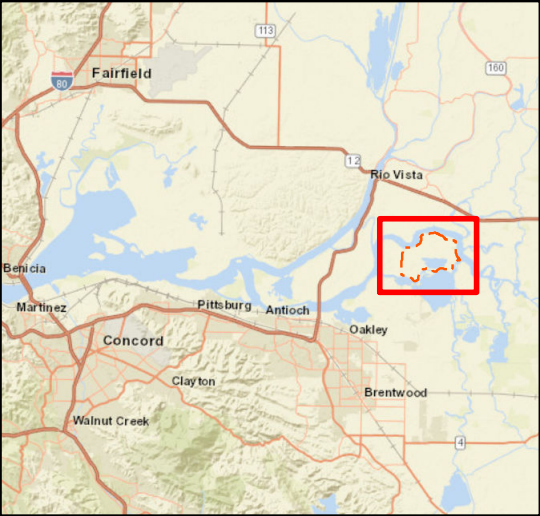
Date received for filing:



N:\Infrastructure\_Unit\Geodetics\_and\_Mapping\_Team\Projects\Special\_Requests\Minda\_Staley\GIS\Webb\_Tract\_Delta\_Exhibit.mxd [Printed 2/13/2023] - Photograph Date: Bing - Prepared by: Tom Bleicher (Geodetics & Mapping Team) - Checked by: Minda Staley - Job#: 61523-01-06



 Webb Tract



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