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Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

Form F

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #: _____

Project Title: Groundwater Banking Partnership Project

Lead Agency: North Kern Water District

Contact Name: David Hampton

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Project Location: Nearest cities are Shafter/Wasco Kern
City *County*

Project Description (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences).

The proposed Project would include agreements made between the District and its groundwater banking partners to recharge the partners' water within the District's existing spreading grounds/recharge basins during wet- and moderately-wet years. These additional recharge volumes would increase the importation of water supplies for groundwater banking ("banked water"), which some portion would be returned to groundwater banking partners at a later time by proposed Project facilities. Proposed Project facilities would include: nine high-quality wells, with an average pumping capacity of 5.5 cubic feet per second; a total of 8.92 miles of pipeline; one existing well tie-in; and two discharge points to the Friant Kern Canal (FKC). The proposed Project facilities would be constructed and operated in two areas of the District's service area, referred to as Project Area 1 and Project Area 2, located in Kern County near the cities of Shafter and Wasco. Implementation of the proposed Project would improve District infrastructure and flexibility to allow for the return of previously banked water to District banking partners via the FKC.

Identify the project's significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

The Project would result in potentially significant impacts to biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, and hydrology and water quality. All potentially significant impacts would be reduced to less than significant levels with mitigation. Mitigation measures include: environmental awareness training for construction workers; focused surveys for burrowing owls and avoidance of loss of occupied burrows; focused surveys for nesting Swainson's Hawks and White-tailed Kites, and implementation of take avoidance plan for active nests; focused surveys for other nesting birds and buffers around nests; focused surveys and minimization measures for San Joaquin Kit Fox; addressing previously undiscovered historic properties, archaeological resources and tribal cultural resources; avoidance of undiscovered burials; avoidance of paleontological resources; and pre- and post-construction water quality monitoring.

If applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

N/A

Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, Construction Activities General Permit: Required for any project that disturbs more than 1 acre of soil. The proposed Project would temporarily disturb a maximum of 54.06 acres of land in Kern County. Under this permit, the County would need to develop a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP).

Kern County Environmental Health Services Department, Water Well Permit: Required for any project proposing to construct a well in Kern County.

San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control Board (S.J.V.A.P.C.D.), Dust Control Plan: Required for any project that disturbs more than 1 acre of soil.

United States Bureau of Reclamation, Land Use Authorization: Required for construction, operation, and maintenance of the pipelines across lands owned by the United States (U.S.) at 2 new discharge locations (MP 140.54, and 131.13) on the FKC.