



## Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District Finding of Exemption

**Project Title:** Transfer of 617 acre-feet of Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District (“TLBWSD”) 2024 State Water Project Water to Empire West Side Irrigation District (“EWSID”)

**Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:** TLBWSD will transfer 617 acre-feet of its State Water Project Table A Water on behalf of Westlake Farms, Inc, a landowner in TLBWSD, to Tachi Farms, LLC, a landowner in EWSID. This proposed transfer is to provide Tachi Farms, LLC access to State Water Project Table A until the permanent transfer is finalized. No lands will be fallowed as a result of the transfer and no additional groundwater will be pumped. The lands have been actively farmed in the past.

**Entity or Person Undertaking Project:** Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District  
Jacob Westra  
1001 Chase Avenue  
Corcoran, CA 93212  
559-992-4127

**Recommendation:** Staff, having undertaken and completed a review of this project for CEQA compliance, has determined that this project does not require further environmental assessment because:

- 1. The proposed action does not constitute a project (Guidelines, section 15378).
- 2. This project is a ministerial project (Guidelines, sections 15369, 15268).
- 3. The project is an emergency project (Guidelines, sections 15269, 15359).
- 4. The project is categorically exempt (Guidelines, Article 19, sections 15300-15329)  
A. Applicable Exemption Class: 1
- 5. No foreseeable impacts on the environment (Guidelines, section 15061(b)(3)).
- 6. Statutory Exemption (CA Water Code 1729).

**Brief statement of reasons why project is exempt:** Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District has determined that there are no foreseeable environmental impacts. Further, the transfer is categorically exempt under CEQA since it involves the use and operation of an existing facility (CEQA Guidelines 15301).

**Name of Lead Agency:** Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District

**Date:** January 30, 2024

  
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Jacob Westra, General Manager