

## Notice of Exemption

Fee Exempt per Government Code Section 6103

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

**From:** CA Dept. of Water Resources  
1416 9th Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Lead Agency:** California Department of Water Resources (DWR)

**Project Title:** Statewide Groundwater Monitoring - Tule Subbasin Continuous Global Positioning System Installation Project

**Project Location City & County:** Tulare County

**Project Location – Specific:** The Project will occur in Tulare County, Tule Subbasin (5-022.13). The site is located approximately 3 miles south of Tulare, California, 3,000 feet northeast of the intersection of Road 112 and Avenue 184, and is adjacent south of Porter Slough Ditch (36.130964, -119.312837).

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:** In 2014, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act was signed into law requiring local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) to manage groundwater in their basins. GSAs have submitted Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs), from these data gaps have been identified. This Project will collect high-resolution measurements for subsidence monitoring through DWR's Statewide Groundwater Monitoring initiative and will help reduce the data gap.

The Project consists of installing a Continuous Global Positioning System monitoring station (station), which uses global navigation satellite system (GNSS) technology. The station will continuously measure the three-dimensional position at the site with the focus of monitoring for vertical movement; land subsidence. The station will require a total area of 20 feet x 40 feet. Of this area, a 10 feet x 10 feet area (GNSS antenna and brace legs), called the monument, and a 4 feet x 4 feet area (equipment box containing a modem and 90-watt solar panels) will make up the station. The total height of the monument (monitoring station with the GNSS antenna) is approximately six feet tall. The monitoring station may be placed in a 20 feet x 40 feet enclosure and/or bollards may be installed around the monitoring system.

Installation of the station will take up to one week. DWR or GSA staff may visit the station on a quarterly schedule to collect data. Operation and maintenance will be minimal and may consist of periodic servicing of equipment and replacing batteries as needed. Access to the station will be by existing paved and dirt roads.

Once installed, these facilities would become part of the GSA's monitoring program.

**Exempt/Suspend Status:**

Ministerial (§21080[b][1]; 15268)

Declared Emergency (Proclamation of a State of Emergency Due to Drought)

Emergency Project (Public Resources Code §21080[b][4]; California Code of Regulations §15269[c])

Categorical Exemption: 15306. Information Collection

Statutory Exemptions:

**Reasons Why Project Is Exempt:** Work activities will consist of installation of a CGPS. Project activities are covered under Categorical Exemption Class 6 Section 15306 (Data Collection) of the California Environmental Quality Act. No sensitive biological or cultural resources have been identified in the areas.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Department of Water Resources

**Contact Person:** Tad Bedegrew

**Telephone:**(916) 425-4394

**Signature:** Tad Bedegrew **Date:** 2/26/2024 **Title:** Senior Engineering Geologist

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by Applicant