

Notice of Completion & Environmental Document Transmittal

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SCH #

Project Title: Fresno Irrigation District's Recharge Basin Phase II Project

Lead Agency: Fresno Irrigation District Contact Person: Laurence Kimura
Mailing Address: 2907 S. Maple Ave Phone: (559) 233-7161
City: Fresno Zip: 93725 County: Fresno

Project Location: County: Fresno City/Nearest Community: see attached Project Description
Cross Streets: see attached Project Description for cross streets and additional location information Zip Code:
Longitude/Latitude (degrees, minutes and seconds): 36 ° 43 ' 03.87" N / 119 ° 46 ' 08.29" W Total Acres: 154 total
Assessor's Parcel No.: see attached Project Description Section: Twp.: Range: Base: MDMB
Within 2 Miles: State Hwy #: Waterways:
Airports: NA Railways: NA Schools:

Document Type:

- CEQA: [ ] NOP [ ] Draft EIR NEPA: [ ] NOI Other: [ ] Joint Document
[ ] Early Cons [ ] Supplement/Subsequent EIR [ ] EA [ ] Final Document
[ ] Neg Dec (Prior SCH No.) [ ] Draft EIS [ ] Other:
[X] Mit Neg Dec Other:

Local Action Type:

- [ ] General Plan Update [ ] Specific Plan [ ] Rezone [ ] Annexation
[ ] General Plan Amendment [ ] Master Plan [ ] Prezone [ ] Redevelopment
[ ] General Plan Element [ ] Planned Unit Development [ ] Use Permit [ ] Coastal Permit
[ ] Community Plan [ ] Site Plan [ ] Land Division (Subdivision, etc.) [X] Other: Recharge Basins

Development Type:

- [ ] Residential: Units Acres
[ ] Office: Sq.ft. Acres Employees [ ] Transportation: Type
[ ] Commercial: Sq.ft. Acres Employees [ ] Mining: Mineral
[ ] Industrial: Sq.ft. Acres Employees [ ] Power: Type MW
[ ] Educational: [ ] Waste Treatment: Type MGD
[ ] Recreational: [ ] Hazardous Waste: Type
[ ] Water Facilities: Type MGD [X] Other: Recharge Basins

Project Issues Discussed in Document:

- [ ] Aesthetic/Visual [ ] Fiscal [ ] Recreation/Parks [ ] Vegetation
[ ] Agricultural Land [ ] Flood Plain/Flooding [ ] Schools/Universities [ ] Water Quality
[ ] Air Quality [ ] Forest Land/Fire Hazard [ ] Septic Systems [ ] Water Supply/Groundwater
[X] Archeological/Historical [ ] Geologic/Seismic [ ] Sewer Capacity [ ] Wetland/Riparian
[X] Biological Resources [ ] Minerals [ ] Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading [ ] Growth Inducement
[ ] Coastal Zone [ ] Noise [ ] Solid Waste [ ] Land Use
[ ] Drainage/Absorption [ ] Population/Housing Balance [ ] Toxic/Hazardous [ ] Cumulative Effects
[ ] Economic/Jobs [ ] Public Services/Facilities [ ] Traffic/Circulation [X] Other: TCR

Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Designation:

General Plan Designation of Agricultural and are all zoned AE (Exclusive Agriculture)

Project Description: (please use a separate page if necessary)
Please see attached Project Description.

## Reviewing Agencies Checklist

Lead Agencies may recommend State Clearinghouse distribution by marking agencies below with and "X".  
If you have already sent your document to the agency please denote that with an "S".


- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Resources Board                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Office of Historic Preservation          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boating & Waterways, Department of             | <input type="checkbox"/> Office of Public School Construction                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> California Emergency Management Agency         | <input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Recreation, Department of                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> California Highway Patrol                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Pesticide Regulation, Department of                 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caltrans District #6                | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Utilities Commission                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans Division of Aeronautics               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regional WQCB #5                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans Planning                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Resources Agency                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Central Valley Flood Protection Board          | <input type="checkbox"/> Resources Recycling and Recovery, Department of     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coachella Valley Mtns. Conservancy             | <input type="checkbox"/> S.F. Bay Conservation & Development Comm.           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Commission                             | <input type="checkbox"/> San Gabriel & Lower L.A. Rivers & Mtns. Conservancy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Colorado River Board                           | <input type="checkbox"/> San Joaquin River Conservancy                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation, Department of                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Santa Monica Mtns. Conservancy                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corrections, Department of                     | <input type="checkbox"/> State Lands Commission                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Delta Protection Commission                    | <input type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Clean Water Grants                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education, Department of                       | <input type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Water Quality                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy Commission                              | <input type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Water Rights                                 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fish & Game Region #4               | <input type="checkbox"/> Tahoe Regional Planning Agency                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food & Agriculture, Department of              | <input type="checkbox"/> Toxic Substances Control, Department of             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forestry and Fire Protection, Department of    | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Resources, Department of                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Services, Department of                |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services, Department of                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Air Pollution Control District</u>        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Housing & Community Development                | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Native American Heritage Commission |  |

### Local Public Review Period (to be filled in by lead agency)

Starting Date April 3, 2024 Ending Date May 2, 2024

### Lead Agency (Complete if applicable):

Consulting Firm: <u>Provost &amp; Pritchard Consulting Group</u>	Applicant: <u>Fresno Irrigation District</u>
Address: <u>455 W Fir Avenue</u>	Address: <u>2907 Maple Avenue</u>
City/State/Zip: <u>Clovis, CA 93611</u>	City/State/Zip: <u>Fresno, CA 93725</u>
Contact: <u>Briza Sholars</u>	Phone: <u>(559) 233-7161</u>
Phone: <u>(559) 449-2700</u>	

Signature of Lead Agency Representative:  Date: 4/1/2024

Authority cited: Section 21083, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 21161, Public Resources Code.

## Project Title

Recharge Basin Phase II Project

## Lead Agency Name and Address

Fresno Irrigation District  
2907 South Maple Avenue  
Fresno, CA 93725-2218

## Contact Person and Phone Number

### Lead Agency Contact

Laurence Kimura  
Chief Engineer  
(559) 233-7161  
LKimura@fresnoirrigation.com

## CEQA Consultant

Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group  
Briza Sholars, Senior Planner/Environmental Project Manager  
(559) 449-2700

## Project Location

The Project would be located within the Central San Joaquin Valley of California, in the western unincorporated jurisdiction of Fresno County. The centroid for all three basin sites is 36°43'03.87" N, 119°46'08.29" W. The Project consists of three separate recharge basin facilities totaling 154 acres at the following locations:

**Table Error! No text of specified style in document.-1: Basin Location Information**

Basin	Acres	Location	Assessor's Parcel Number (APN)	Township/Range/Section T/R/S
Krum Basin	54 acres	Near the intersection of N. Hayes Avenue and W. McKenzie Avenue	326-040-23S	T14S/R19E/03
Laub Basin	80 acres	Near the intersection of S. Marks Avenue and W. American Avenue	035-300-41S	T15S/R19E/01
Crossland Basin	20 acres	Near the intersection of De Wolf Avenue and East Butler Avenue	313-410-025 and -026	T14s/R21E/12

## General Plan Designation and Zoning – Onsite and Surrounding Land Uses

All three basin sites as well as the immediate surrounding areas have a General Plan Designation of Agricultural and are all zoned AE (Exclusive Agriculture).

## Surrounding Land Uses and Setting

The general vicinity of the Project sites consist of farmland and scattered residential and vacant land uses typical to rural areas in the Central Valley. Properties directly surrounding the Project sites are currently in use for agriculture, including vines and tree crops. The District is located on the Valley floor east of the Coast Ranges and west of the Sierra Nevada Mountain Range. The topography of each basin site is relatively

flat. The elevation for the Krum Basin site ranges between 258-262 feet above mean sea level (MSL). The elevation for the Laub Basin site ranges between 256-259 feet above MSL. The Crossland Basin site ranges between 337-340 feet above MSL.

All three sites contain or are adjacent to existing District canal facilities that the proposed basins would tie into as a part of this Project.

## **Project Description**

The District is proposing to construct three recharge basins in Fresno County within the boundary of the District. The Project would assist the District in expanding its groundwater recharge efforts. The three basins proposed would range in size from 20 to 80 acres (154 acres in total). The Project Area of Potential Affect (APE) for biological and cultural surveys is identified as 154 acres.

The proposed benefits of all three basins includes recharge, new storage of floodwater, providing new habitat for waterfowl and to assist the District to maintain its commitments to the Kings River fisheries management program by providing place for fish management water to be diverted in dry years. These basins are all in a critical location for the District to perform recharge and would capture and use storm and flood water supplies available to the District.

The following components would be consistent at each basin site:

- Basin depth would be up to 20 feet below ground surface.
- Up to two monitoring wells,
- Metering stand and flow meter,
- Perimeter fencing- cattle fence,
- Excavation would be balanced onsite or exported offsite, as needed,
- Up to two recovery wells and discharge pipeline to deliver ~5 cubic feet per second to adjacent existing FID infrastructure (canal or pipeline).
- Maximum berm height of 6 feet measured from the lowest point at the downstream toe of the berm to its maximum storage elevation, which is typically the spillway crest.

Specific details that are unique to each recharge basin are outlined below.

### **Krum Recharge Basin:**

The Project includes construction of a new 54-acre recharge basin, including earthwork and structures located near the intersection of N. Hayes Avenue and W. McKenzie Avenue, identified as APN 326-040-23S in Fresno County. The property is currently vacant and clear of vegetation. The District owns the conveyance canal, Houghton No. 78, crossing the Project site. The Project would provide approximately 220 AF of flood water surface storage and recharge approximately 1,320 AF/year annual average. The Project includes the following construction components that would connect to Houghton No. 78 Canal which exists to the south.

- Basin outlet structure.
- Two existing well sites that would be properly abandoned or used for monitoring wells.
- The concrete structure below ground surface would be removed.
- Access is off Hayes Avenue.

### **Laub Recharge Basin**

The Project includes construction of a new 80-acre recharge basin including earthwork and structures located near the intersection of S. Marks Avenue and W. American Avenue, identified as APN 035-300-41S in Fresno County. The land has been previously cleared of vines and the APE would extend along the east side of the Central No. 23 District-owned canal. The Project would provide approximately 300 AF of flood water surface storage and recharge approximately 1,800 AF/year annual average. The Project includes the following construction components that would connect to Central Canal No. 23 which is existing to the west.

- Basin outlet structure.
- Access would be off Marks Avenue.

### **Crossland Recharge Basin**

The Project includes construction of a new 20-acre recharge basin including earthwork and structures, located near the intersection of De Wolf Avenue and East Butler Avenue, identified as APNs 313-410-025 and -026, in Fresno County. The Project site has been cleared and is vacant. The APE is located south of the Hansen No. 29 Canal. The Project would provide approximately 80 AF of flood water surface storage and recharge approximately 480 AF/year annual average. The Project includes the following construction components that would connect to Hansen No. 29 Canal which exists to the north.

- Basin outlet structure.
- Access would be off DeWolf Avenue and the Hansen Canal.

### **Construction**

Construction of each of the basin sites is anticipated to be completed over approximately six months. The Project parcels have been and/or would be cleared of vegetation, fencing, structures, and other debris. The Project includes mobilization, site preparation, berm construction surrounding the basins; earthwork and structures placement; Project turnout(s), metering stands, diversion check structures, intrabasin and basin outfall structures. New berm construction would not exceed six feet, measured from the exterior toe to the top of new levee. For the canal connections to the proposed basins, FID would cut a notch (less than 50-ft wide) in the existing canal wall, insert a pipeline, and put up one outlet structure, pre-cast concrete ideally or cast in place into canal. The Project may include ponds/cells within the basins separated by berms. After construction completion, performance testing and demobilization would occur.

### **Equipment**

Construction equipment would likely include the following equipment used during construction:

- Excavators,
- Backhoes,
- Graders,
- Skid steers,
- Loaders,
- Hauling trucks,
- Scrapers,
- Sheep's foot compactors (Large and Small dependent on area conditions),
- D9 dozer,
- large tractor and large discing unit,

- Water trucks supplying water for dust control and conditioning soil for compaction, and
- Large watercannon and hoses.

Post-construction activities would include system testing, commissioning, and site clean-up. Construction would require temporary staging and storage of materials and equipment. Staging areas would be located onsite.

### **Operation and Maintenance**

Each of the proposed basin sites include construction of a recovery well and monitoring wells to assist the District with monitoring and managing the groundwater recharge basins and levels. The District's operation of the basins would be consistent with the District's other similar facilities in that groundwater conditions would be monitored to minimize negative impacts on the surrounding areas (such as nearby wells, crops, and septic systems).