

**Notice of Completion & Environmental Document Transmittal**

Mail to: State Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 (916) 445-0613  
 For Hand Delivery/Street Address: 1400 Tenth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

<b>SCH #</b>
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**Project Title:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 Lead Agency: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

**Project Location:** County: \_\_\_\_\_ City/Nearest Community: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cross Streets: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Longitude/Latitude (degrees, minutes and seconds): \_\_\_\_\_° \_\_\_\_\_' \_\_\_\_\_" N / \_\_\_\_\_° \_\_\_\_\_' \_\_\_\_\_" W Total Acres: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Assessor's Parcel No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Section: \_\_\_\_\_ Twp.: \_\_\_\_\_ Range: \_\_\_\_\_ Base: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Within 2 Miles: State Hwy #: \_\_\_\_\_ Waterways: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Airports: \_\_\_\_\_ Railways: \_\_\_\_\_ Schools: \_\_\_\_\_

**Document Type:**

CEQA: <input type="checkbox"/> NOP	<input type="checkbox"/> Draft EIR	NEPA: <input type="checkbox"/> NOI	Other: <input type="checkbox"/> Joint Document
<input type="checkbox"/> Early Cons	<input type="checkbox"/> Supplement/Subsequent EIR	<input type="checkbox"/> EA	<input type="checkbox"/> Final Document
<input type="checkbox"/> Neg Dec	(Prior SCH No.) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Draft EIS	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Mit Neg Dec	Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> FONSI	_____

**Local Action Type:**

<input type="checkbox"/> General Plan Update	<input type="checkbox"/> Specific Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Rezone	<input type="checkbox"/> Annexation
<input type="checkbox"/> General Plan Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Master Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Prezone	<input type="checkbox"/> Redevelopment
<input type="checkbox"/> General Plan Element	<input type="checkbox"/> Planned Unit Development	<input type="checkbox"/> Use Permit	<input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Permit
<input type="checkbox"/> Community Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Site Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Land Division (Subdivision, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

**Development Type:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Residential: Units _____ Acres _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation: Type _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Office: Sq.ft. _____ Acres _____ Employees _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Mining: Mineral _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial: Sq.ft. _____ Acres _____ Employees _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Power: Type _____ MW _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial: Sq.ft. _____ Acres _____ Employees _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Waste Treatment: Type _____ MGD _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Hazardous Waste: Type _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Recreational: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Water Facilities: Type _____ MGD _____	

**Project Issues Discussed in Document:**

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

**Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Designation:**

**Project Description:** (please use a separate page if necessary)

Note: The State Clearinghouse will assign identification numbers for all new projects. If a SCH number already exists for a project (e.g. Notice of Preparation or previous draft document) please fill in.

## 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".

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| <input 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 type="checkbox"/> Caltrans District # _____                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Utilities Commission                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans Division of Aeronautics            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regional WQCB # <u>5</u>                     |
| <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 type="checkbox"/> Fish & Game Region # _____                  | <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Air Pollution Control District</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Housing & Community Development             | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Native American Heritage Commission         |  |

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

Starting Date April 29, 2024 Ending Date May 29, 2024

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### Lead Agency (Complete if applicable):

Consulting Firm: <u>Provost &amp; Pritchard Consulting Group</u>	Applicant: <u>Caruthers Community Service District</u>
Address: <u>400 E. Main St., Ste 300</u>	Address: <u>PO Box 218</u>
City/State/Zip: <u>Visalia, CA 93291</u>	City/State/Zip: <u>Caruthers, CA 93609</u>
Contact: <u>Jarred Olsen</u>	Phone: <u>(559) 864-8189</u>
Phone: <u>(559) 636-1166</u>	

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Signature of Lead Agency Representative:  Date: 4/29/2024

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

# CHAPTER 2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

## 2.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

### 2.1.1 Project Title

West Side Water Storage Tank Project

### 2.1.2 Lead Agency Name and Address

Caruthers Community Services District  
PO Box 218  
Caruthers, CA 93609

### 2.1.3 Contact Person and Phone Number

#### Lead Agency Contact

David McIntyre  
District Manager  
(559) 864-8189

#### CEQA Consultant

Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group  
Jarred Olsen, Environmental Project Manager  
(559) 636-1166

### 2.1.4 Project Location

The Project is located in southern Fresno County, central California, approximately 168 miles southeast of Sacramento and 94 miles northwest of Bakersfield (see [Figure 2-1](#) and [Figure 2-2](#)). The Project site is located at the southeast corner of Caruthers Avenue and Benedict Avenue, west of Marks Avenue on Assessor's Parcel Number 041-280-89. The centroid of the Project site is 36°32'21.8"N 119°50'53.7"W.

### 2.1.5 General Plan Designation and Zoning

Project Area	General Plan Designation	Zoning District
ONSITE	R-A	R-A
ADJACENT LANDS	R-A	R-A

### 2.1.6 Description of Project

#### Project Background and Purpose

The Caruthers Community Services District (District) was formed in 1960 and is responsible for providing both water and sewer service to the unincorporated community of Caruthers in southern Fresno County.

The District's jurisdiction spans approximately 361 acres and includes a domestic water system presently serving approximately 721 residential connections, 33 commercial/industrial connections, and 4 landscape irrigation connections throughout the community.

Existing water supply facilities include two (2) active wells, Well Nos. 5 and 6, whose depths are 630 and 890 feet, respectively. Well No. 3 is available, but not in active service due to a concentration of ethylene dibromide and 1,2,3-trichloropropane (TCP) at levels exceeding the MCL. Well Nos. 5 and 6 both have arsenic levels in excess of the current MCL of 10 ppb, and Well No. 5 is now also out of compliance for TCP. Construction is nearly complete for an arsenic treatment facility at the Well No. 6 site to provide arsenic treatment for both existing wells. A pipeline has been constructed from Well No. 5 to the Well No. 6 site for the purpose of consolidating the treatment location. A storage tank has also been constructed, which will store treated water and allow for blending of raw water and treated water.

Currently, all of the active water supply sources are located on the east side of the District boundary, resulting in uneven flow and pressure distribution. This Project would be constructed on the west side to provide more even flow and pressure distribution. The water storage tank would be filled during low demand periods, and be available for distribution during high demands, providing improved water supply and pressure reliability.

The District water distribution system includes several dead-end runs and ranges from 4 inch to 12-inch water lines. The small water lines are old (constructed in the early 1960's, pipelines are steel) and have exceeded their anticipated useful life.

### **Project Description**

The West Side Water Storage Tank Project would construct a 500,000-gallon water storage tank whose dimensions would be approximately 22-feet high and 65-feet in diameter. Appurtenant infrastructure includes electrical equipment, on-site lighting, booster pumps, an emergency backup generator, seven-foot-tall slatted perimeter fencing, and a basin for stormwater and storage tank backwash purposes. The facility would replace the existing 6-inch water main in Caruthers Avenue between the western edge of the District and Marks Avenue to a 10-inch transmission main. In a second phase, improvements would include a groundwater well and a granulated activated carbon (GAC) treatment process to increase system reliability and redundancy, should a well on the east side of the District go offline and another source of clean, reliable water is needed.

### **Construction Schedule**

Construction of the Project is anticipated to be completed within nine months, which would include grading, site preparation, construction of a water tank and associated infrastructure, and connection to the existing distribution system. Completion of phase two is unknown at this time.

Generally, construction would occur between the hours of 7:00 am and 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. 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.

### **Equipment**

Construction equipment would likely include an excavator, drill rigs, backhoes, graders, skid steers, loaders, crane, and hauling trucks.

## Operation and Maintenance

Operation and maintenance of the facility would be performed by the existing maintenance staff.

### 2.1.7 Site and Surrounding Land Uses and Setting

**Table 2-1: Existing Uses, General Plan Designation, & Zone Districts of Surrounding Properties**

Direction from Project Site	Existing Use	General Plan Designation	Zone District
<b>NORTH</b>	Agriculture	Agriculture	AE-20 (Exclusive Agriculture)
<b>EAST</b>	Residential	Residential	R-A (Single-Family Residential, Agricultural)
<b>SOUTH</b>	Residential	Residential	R-A (Single-Family Residential, Agricultural)
<b>WEST</b>	Residential	Residential	R-A (Single-Family Residential, Agricultural)

### 2.1.8 Other Public Agencies Whose Discretionary Approval May Be Required

- State Water Resources Control Board
- County of Fresno

### 2.1.9 Consultation with California Native American Tribes

Public Resources Code Section 21080.3.1, *et seq.* (codification of Assembly Bill 52, 2013-14) requires that a lead agency, within 14 days of determining that it will undertake a project, must notify in writing any California Native American Tribe traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the project if that Tribe has previously requested notification about projects in that geographic area. The notice must briefly describe the project and inquire whether the Tribe wishes to initiate request formal consultation. Tribes have 30 days from receipt of notification to request formal consultation. The lead agency then has 30 days to initiate the consultation, which then continues until the parties come to an agreement regarding necessary mitigation or agree that no mitigation is needed, or one or both parties determine that negotiation occurred in good faith, but no agreement will be made.

The Lead Agency has not received any written correspondence from any Tribe pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080.3.1 requesting notification of the proposed project.