

KAWEAH DELTA WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION
FOR THE MATHEWS RECHARGE BASIN PROJECT**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Kaweah Delta Water Conservation District (District) plans to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Mathews Recharge Basin Project (Project). The public hearing to consider the Project is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, June 3rd, 2025, at 9:00 am, in the District Board Room located at 2975 N Farmersville Blvd, Farmersville, CA 93223.

The Project includes construction of a multi cell recharge basin facility on an approximately 100-acre site with delivery from the St. John's River. The Project is located in Tulare County adjacent to the St. John's River on the north side of the City of Visalia. The Project would include a turnout and pump structure with a capacity for approximately 50 cubic feet per second. The proposed turnout facility would allow Mathews Ditch Company (MDC) to divert surface water from the St. John's River into the proposed basin area to increase groundwater storage. The Project would also include conservation space area that would be pedestrian accessible. Conservation space would be in the form of terraced grading within the basin cells with flatter side slopes (i.e. 6:1 or flatter) to facilitate plantings for native habitats and provide varying water depths such as areas with 3 feet of water depth, areas with 1.5 feet, and areas with 6-9 inches of water depth. There would also be graded dirt walking paths around and between the basin cells. The proposed facilities would be owned and operated by MDC.

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration has been prepared, describing the degree of possible environmental impacts of the proposed Project. The District has assessed the potential environmental impacts of this Project and has determined that they will be less than significant. Copies of the Initial Study and proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration are on file and available for public review at the District Board Room, 2975 N Farmersville Blvd, Farmersville, CA 93223. The public review period during which the District will receive comments on the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration will begin on April 23, 2025, and end on May 22, 2025. Comments should be in writing, and addressed to Ryan McKelvey at Provost & Pritchard, 400 E. Main Street, Suite 300, Visalia, CA 93291, or at rmckelvey@ppeng.com.

The site has been reviewed in accordance with Government Code Section 65962.5 and is not listed as a hazardous waste or materials site.