# Notice of Determination

**Appendix D**

**To:**

☐ Office of Planning and Research

*U.S. Mail:* P.O. Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

*Street Address:* 1400 Tenth St., Rm 113, Sacramento, CA 95814

☒ County Clerk
County of: Tulare
Address: 221 S. Mooney Blvd
Visalia, CA 93291

**From:**
Public Agency: Lower Tule River Irrigation Distr
Address: 357 E. Olive Avenue
Tipton, CA 93272
Contact: Eric Limas
Phone: (559) 686-4716

Lead Agency (if different from above):

Address: 357 E. Olive Avenue
Tipton, CA 93272
Contact: Eric Limas
Phone: (559) 686-4716

***SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code.***

State Clearinghouse Number (if submitted to State Clearinghouse): 2025060167

Project Title: Poplar Basin

Project Applicant: Lower Tule River Irrigation District

Project Location (include county): southwest of Porterville, Tulare County

Project Description:

See attached Project Description

FILED
TULARE COUNTY
AUG 14 2025
ASSESSOR / CLERK-RECORDER
BY:

This is to advise that the Lower Tule River Irrigation District (☒ Lead Agency or ☐ Responsible Agency) has approved the above described project on 8/12/2025 (date) and has made the following determinations regarding the above described project.

1. The project [☐ will ☒ will not] have a significant effect on the environment.
2. ☐ An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
   ☒ A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures [☒ were ☐ were not] made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan [☒ was ☐ was not] adopted for this project.
5. A statement of Overriding Considerations [☐ was ☒ was not] adopted for this project.
6. Findings [☐ were ☒ were not] made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

This is to certify that the final EIR with comments and responses and record of project approval, or the negative Declaration, is available to the General Public at:
Lower Tule River Irrigation District, 357 E. Olive Ave, Tipton, CA 93272

Signature (Public Agency): _____ Title: General Manager

Date: 8/12/2025 Date Received for filing at OPR: _____

Authority cited: Sections 21083, Public Resources Code.
Reference Section 21000-21174, Public Resources Code.

Revised 2011

## PROJECT TITLE

Poplar Basin Project

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The new 40-acre recharge basin facility is comprised of two (2) 20-acre basins and would include a new turnout connection from the District's Casa Blanca Ditch on the southern end of the property and approximately 100 feet of pipeline. The basin would generally be rectangular shape surrounded by lands in agricultural production. There are two existing turnouts and a check structure along the Casa Blanca Ditch running along the southern border of the Area of Potential Effect (APE). Overhead electricity lines run along the northern border of the APE with an existing power pole near the northeast corner of the APE.

### CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

Construction of the proposed Project is expected to be completed in four to six months with construction access off of Scranton Avenue/Avenue 136. The Project parcel has been cleared of orchards and would be cleared of any other vegetation and debris. The proposed Project includes mobilization, site preparation, and berm construction surrounding the basin; earthwork and structures placement; Project turnout, piping, and inter-basin and basin outfall structures. New berm construction would be less than six feet, measured from the exterior toe to the top of the new levee. After construction completion, performance testing and demobilization would occur. Any soils that cannot be reused in construction or balanced onsite would be exported offsite to a District-owned property or willing taker(s) of the soil.

### EQUIPMENT

Construction equipment would likely include, but not be limited to, the following types:

- Excavators;
- Graders;
- Skid steers;
- Loaders;
- Hauling trucks;
- Bulldozers;
- Concrete pump truck;
- 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 will require temporary staging and storage of materials and equipment. Staging areas would be located onsite within the identified APE.

### OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

The District's operation of the basin 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).