
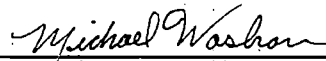


Project Planner/Representative: Christopher P. Greer, Assistant Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer **Telephone:** (559) 624-3350

Signature: 
Gary A. Mills

Date: 5/24/2025

Title: Chief Planner
Environmental Planning Division

Signature: 
Michael G. Washam, A.C.E.

Date: 05/27/2025

Title: Associate RMA Director, Designee

Signed by Lead Agency

Date submitted to the LCI: _____

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Fee Exempt per Government Code Section 6103

To: Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

Tulare County Clerk
Room 105, Courthouse
221 South Mooney Blvd.
Visalia, CA 93291

Lead Agency: County of Tulare c/o Resource Management Agency
5961 S. Mooney Blvd.
Visalia, CA 93277 (559) 624-7000
Attn: gmills@tularecounty.ca.gov and jwillis@tularecounty.ca.gov

Applicant(s): Tulare County Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer
4437 South Laspina Street, Ste. A
Visalia, CA 93274 (559) 684-3350

Project Title: CDFA Nursery Inspection Program FY 25/26

Project Location - Specific: Tulare County

Project Location - Section, Township, Range: Countywide

Project Location - City: Tulare County, CA **Project Location - County:** Tulare

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: On June 10, 2025, the Tulare County Board of Supervisors entered into an Agreement with the State of California Department of Food & Agriculture (CDFA) to provide funding for the County of Tulare Agricultural Commissioner's Office to offset costs of providing and continuing the Nursery Inspection Program that is responsible in preventing the introduction and spread of agricultural pests through nursery stock and protect County agriculture and the consumer against economic losses resulting from the sale of inferior, defective, or pest-infested nursery stock.

Exempt Status: (check one)

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Common Sense Exemption: CEQA Guidelines 15061(b)(3)
- Categorical Exemption: Public Resources Code Section 15307 Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of Natural Resources and 15308 Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of the Environment

Reasons why project is exempt: Class 7 consists of actions taken by regulatory agencies as authorized by state law or local ordinance to assure the maintenance, restoration, or enhancement of a natural resource where the regulatory process involves procedures for protection of the environment. Class 8 consists of actions taken by regulatory agencies, as authorized by state or local ordinance, to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of the environment where the regulatory process involves procedures for protection of the environment. The CDFA certified a Final Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) Project No. 11001 for the Statewide Plant Pest Prevention, and Management Program as an ongoing effort by CDFA to protect California's agriculture from damage caused by invasive plant species. Per a Memorandum of Understanding between CDFA and CACASA, the Nursery Inspection Program locates serious pests that may require eradication and/or quarantine action and using the most current USDA protocols. Eradication activities include issuing hold notices, destruction, delimitation/follow-up inspection and sampling, and sanitation procedures to detect new infestations of the pest. Activities described in this workplan qualify for the exemption to CEQA under Public Resources Code Section 21080(b)(4). The County will ensure all activities follow the CDFA Management Practices and Mitigation Measures. Beneficiaries include residents of Tulare County.

Environmental Assessment Officer: Reed Schenke, P.E., RMA Director/EAO

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: County of Tulare

FILED TULARE COUNTY
JUN 30 2025
ASSESSOR / CLERK-RECORDER BY:
DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING AT TULARE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE