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State of California – Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
Bay Delta Region
2825 Cordelia Road, Suite 100
Fairfield, CA 94534
(707) 428-2002
www.wildlife.ca.gov

***GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor***
***VALERIE TERMINI, Acting Director***

To:
Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
CEQA Submit

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

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**Project Title:** Webb Tract Wetland Restoration Project (Project), California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Restoration Management Permit Number RMP-2025-0014-R3 (RMP)

**Project Location (Contra Costa County):** The Project is located within the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta), in Contra Costa County, on Webb Tract, an island bound by the San Joaquin River to the north and east, Fisherman's Cut to the west, Old River to the southeast, and False River and Franks Tract to the south. The Project Area encompasses 3,842 acres of the island, focused on the eastern, western, and southern portions of the island, centered at Latitude 38.079478 N, Longitude -121.609376 W.

**Project Description:** On January 30, 2026, CDFW issued this RMP pursuant to section 1670 et seq. of the Fish and Game Code to the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (District). This Project will restore perennial emergent marsh, open water, and transitional wetland habitat within the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta island known as Webb Tract by creating a series of connected managed wetlands units which will provide quality habitat for Delta native species. CDFW has determined that the Project is a Qualifying Restoration Project pursuant to section 1671(d)(1) of the Fish and Game Code, and the Project is expected to result in a substantial, cumulative benefit to migratory waterfowl species, giant garter snake, western pond turtle, and tricolored blackbird. This notice is to advise that CDFW issued the above-described RMP on the date signed below.

**Public Agency Approving Project:**

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**

**Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project:**
Brenda Marines, Environmental Specialist
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
(213) 217-7902
bmarines@mwdh2o.com
Post Office Box 54153
Los Angeles, CA 90054

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**Exempt Status:**

☒ Statutory Exemption. Public Resources Code section 21080.56 (Statutory Exemption for Restoration Projects)

The Project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.56. Under Public Resources Code section 21080.1, subdivision (a), the lead agency is responsible for determining whether a project is exempt from CEQA, and that determination is final and conclusive on all persons, including responsible agencies. Notwithstanding Section 21080.1, subdivision (a), a lead agency's determination that a project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.56 is only valid if the exemption determination is made after the Director of CDFW has concurred with the lead agency's preliminary determination that the project meets certain qualifying criteria set forth in Public Resources Code section 21080.56, subdivisions (a) to (d), inclusive.

**Reasons why project is exempt:** On May 12, 2025, the District made a preliminary determination that the Project meets certain qualifying criteria set forth in Public Resources Code section 21080.56, subdivisions (a) to (d), inclusive. On July 22, 2025, the Director of CDFW concurred with the District's preliminary determination. On July 25, 2025, the District as CEQA lead agency made a final determination that the Project meets certain qualifying criteria set forth in Public Resources Code section 21080.56, subdivisions (a) to (d), inclusive, and the District determined that the Project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.56. CDFW, now acting as a CEQA responsible agency for the issuance of the RMP on January 30, 2026, is bound by the District's determination on July 25, 2025, that the Project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.56.

**CDFW Contact Person:** Desiree Dela Vega, Environmental Scientist, (707) 815-6856, desiree.delavega@wildlife.ca.gov.

*Signature:* DocuSigned by: Erin Chappell B77E9A621TEF486... *Date:* 1/30/2026

Erin Chappell, Regional Manager