



California Environmental Quality Act: Notice of Exemption

**To: Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
Electronic Filing**

From: The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
700 North Alameda Street
Los Angeles, California 90054-0153

Project Name: Webb Tract Rice Conversion Project Lease Agreement

Project Location - Specific: The project is located on Webb Tract, an island located in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta). Specifically, Contra Costa County Assessor Parcel Numbers: 026-070-001-8, 026-080-006-5, 026-080-009-9, 026-080-007-3, 026-080-008-1, 026-080-004-0, 026-008-005-7. See attached map.

Project Location - City: N/A (Unincorporated)

Project Location - County: Contra Costa County

Description of Project:

The project consists of a new agricultural lease agreement for rice farming purposes on a portion of Metropolitan’s fee owned Webb Tract property (approximately 2,159 gross acres). The lease agreement is for 10.5 years with one optional six-year extension for a maximum term of 16.5 years. Webb Tract has historically been farmed with wheat and various crops and has also been used for grazing. In addition to rice farming activities, the lease agreement will include vegetation management and other general maintenance activities, and recreational hunting within the leased parcels. The Rice Conversion Project is supported by a grant awarded to Metropolitan by the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy in June 2023.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

Exempt Status: (check as applicable)

- Ministerial (Public Resources Code §21080(b)(1); State CEQA Guidelines
- Declared Emergency (Public Resources Code §21080(b)(3); State CEQA Guidelines
- Emergency Project (Public Resources Code §21080(b)(4); State CEQA Guidelines
- Categorical Exemption, Class 1, State CEQA Guidelines §15301; Class 4, State CEQA Guidelines §15304
- Statutory Exemption (Public Resources Code §21080.56);
- Other, State CEQA Guidelines §15061(b)(3)

Reasons why project is exempt:

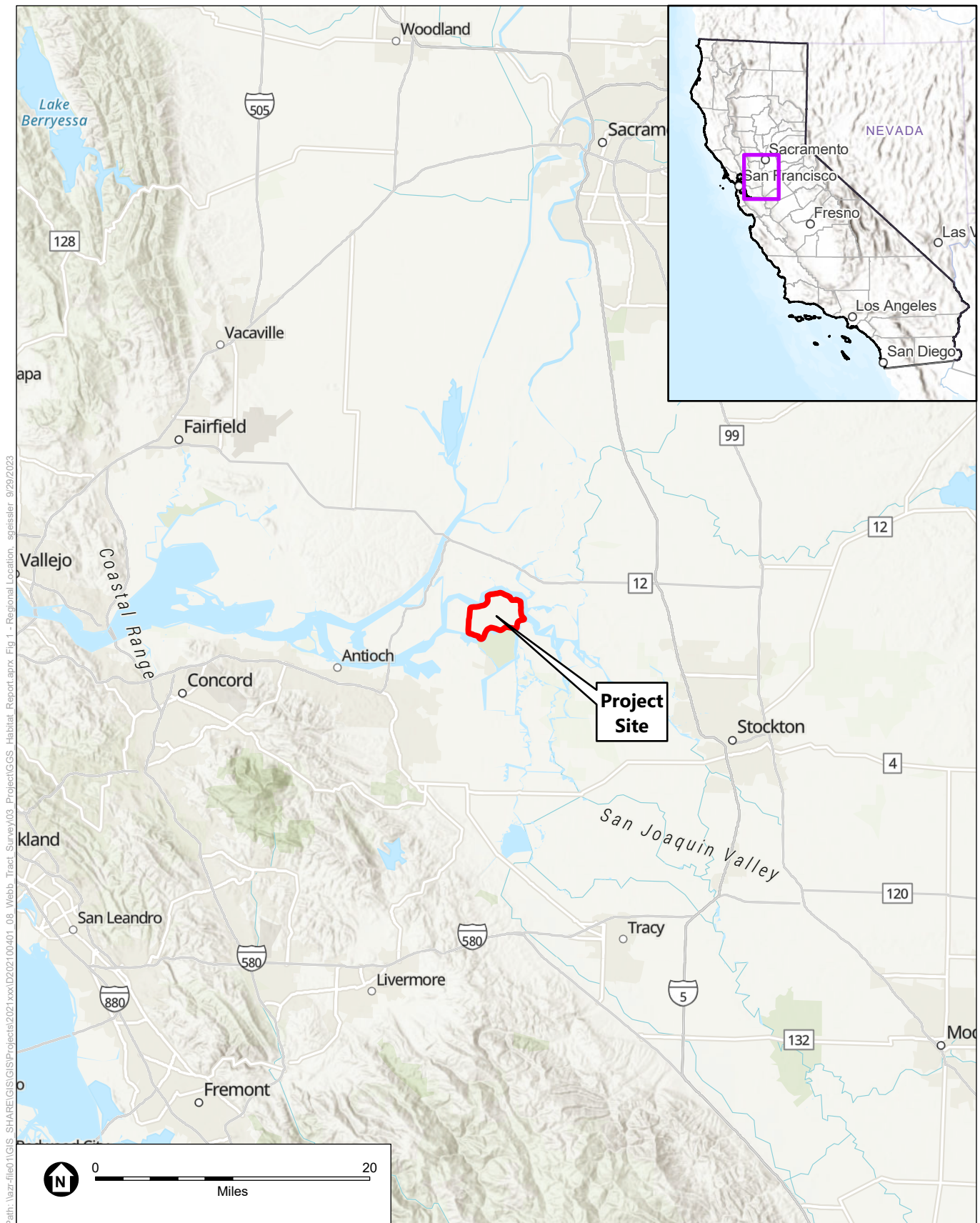
The proposed action is exempt from CEQA because the action consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographic features, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency’s determination. In addition, the proposed action consists of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation, which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for agricultural practices.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Brenda Marines at (213) 217-7902

Signature: Sean Carlson
Sean Carlson, Team Manager
Environmental Planning
The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

Date: August 20, 2025

Date received for filing:



SOURCE: ESA, 2023

Webb Tract Project

Figure 1
Regional Location



Certificate Of Completion

Envelope Id: 3AB4FBF2-2C78-4DFB-894E-D535AC922657	Status: Completed
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Document Pages: 4	Signatures: 2
Certificate Pages: 1	Initials: 0
AutoNav: Enabled	Envelope Originator:
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	Los Angeles, CA 90012
	csaito@mwdh2o.com
	IP Address: 144.166.55.173

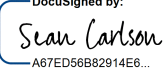
Record Tracking

Status: Original	Holder: Christine H Saito	Location: DocuSign
8/20/2025 10:34:20 AM	csaito@mwdh2o.com	

Signer Events

Sean Carlson
 scarlson@mwdh2o.com
 Team Mgr-Environ Planning
 Metropolitan Water District
 Security Level: Email, Account Authentication
 (None)

Signature

DocuSigned by:

 A67ED56B82914E6...
 Signature Adoption: Pre-selected Style
 Using IP Address: 107.127.56.37
 Signed using mobile

Timestamp

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 Viewed: 8/20/2025 10:40:58 AM
 Signed: 8/20/2025 10:41:16 AM

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Status

Timestamp

Agent Delivery Events

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Timestamp

Intermediary Delivery Events

Status

Timestamp

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Timestamp

Carbon Copy Events

Status

Timestamp

Brenda Marines
 BMarines@mwdh2o.com
 Security Level: Email, Account Authentication
 (None)

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Payment Events

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Timestamps