Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk
County of: Merced
2222 M Street
Merced, CA 95340

From: (Public Agency): Merced County DPW
715 Martin Luther King Jr. Way
Merced, CA 95340
(Address)

2026-EIR-006
FILED
January 14, 2026
MATT H. MAY
COUNTY CLERK
By Lisa M. Dolzan
Deputy Clerk

Project Title: Washington Road over Eastside Bypass Bridge Emergency Retrofit Project (Project)

Project Applicant: Merced County Department of Public Works (County)

Project Location - Specific:

Along Washington Rd; 4 miles west of the CA State Route 59 intersection.

Project Location - City: El Nido Project Location - County: Merced

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Washington Road over Eastside Bypass bridge (Bridge) has been closed since May 2023 due to settlement at Piers 9 through 17. The County will rehabilitate the Bridge to its as-built condition and reinforce failing supports. The Project will construct new supports adjacent to existing supports, raise the bridge to its as-built elevation, then remove the existing supports. The channel will be dry during construction. Work will be conducted within the existing County right of way and is anticipated to be complete in one construction season. The existing bridge deck will be treated with methacrylate.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Merced County

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Merced County Department of Public Works

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));
- ☐ Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Section 15301, Class 1(c). Existing Facilities
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

Reasons why project is exempt:

The Project will restore an existing Bridge structure to its as-built condition with no expansion of former use. The County has determined the Project will not have a significant effect on the environment. No right-of-way is required.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Alvaro Buenrostro Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (209) 385-7601

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature: Date: 01/08/2026 Title: Supervising Engineer

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR:

State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife

2026 ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FILING FEE CASH RECEIPT

DFW 753.5a (REV. 01/01/26) Previously DFG 753.5a

Print | StartOver | Save

RECEIPT NUMBER:
24-01/14/2026-0006

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER *(If applicable)*

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

LEAD AGENCY	LEAD AGENCY EMAIL	DATE
MERCED COUNTY DPW		01/14/2026

COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING	DOCUMENT NUMBER
MERCED COUNTY	2026-EIR-006

PROJECT TITLE

WASHINGTON ROAD OVER EASTSIDE BYPASS BRIDGE EMERGENCY RETROFIT PROJECT (PROJECT)

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME	PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL	PHONE NUMBER
MERCED COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS (COUNTY)		

PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
715 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. WAY	MERCED	CA	95340

PROJECT APPLICANT *(Check appropriate box)*

☒ Local Public Agency ☐ School District ☐ Other Special District ☐ State Agency ☐ Private Entity

CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:

☐ Environmental Impact Report (EIR)	$ 4,227.50	$
☐ Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND)	$ 3,043.75	$
☐ Certified Regulatory Program (CRP) document - payment due directly to CDFW	$ 1,437.25	$
☒ Exempt from fee		
☒ Notice of Exemption (attach)		
☐ CDFW No Effect Determination (attach)		
☐ Fee previously paid (attach previously issued cash receipt copy)		
☐ Water Right Application or Petition Fee (State Water Resources Control Board only)	$ 850.00	$
☒ County documentary handling fee	$ 50.00	$ 50.00
☐ Other		$

PAYMENT METHOD:

☐ Cash ☐ Credit ☐ Check ☒ Other **TOTAL RECEIVED** $ 50.00

SIGNATURE	AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE
X Lea Holguin	Lea Holguin Deputy Clerk

ORIGINAL - PROJECT APPLICANT | COPY - CDFW/ASB | COPY - LEAD AGENCY | COPY - COUNTY CLERK | DFW 753.5a (Rev. 01/01/26)

MATT H. MAY
MERCED
County Clerk - Recorder
2222 M STREET
MERCED, CA 95340
(209) 385-7627

Public Works

Finalization No.: 202601168
Cashier: clerk2
Register: REC-COUNTER03
Date/Time: 01/14/2026 03:12 PM

Description	Fee
NOE	
Document No.:	2026-EIR-006
Transaction Time:	03:12 PM
Transaction Fee:	$50.00
Transaction Total:	$50.00
Total Amount Due:	$50.00
Total Paid	
House Charge:	$50.00
Amount Due:	$0.00