

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To:	Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation Attn: State Clearinghouse 1400 Tenth Street Sacramento, California 95814	From:	Department of Water Resources Water Management P.O. Box 942836 Sacramento, California 94236-0001
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Project Title	Conveyance of Non-Project Water to Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District (SWP #26007)
Location- Specific	From O'Neill Forebay to Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District's (Tulare) turnout(s) in Reach 8C and/or Reach 8D of the State Water Project's California Aqueduct
Location- County	Kings County
Description of Activity	SWP #26007 provides for the conveyance of up to 82,204 acre-feet of Central Valley Project (CVP) water (Non-Project Water) to Tulare under Article 55 of Tulare's Water Supply Contract with DWR. This Non-Project Water consists of up to 20,000 acre-feet of Lower Tule River Irrigation District's (Lower Tule's) 2026 San Joaquin River Restoration Program Recapture water, up to 31,102 acre-feet of Lower Tule's 2026 Cross Valley Contract water, and up to 31,102 acre-feet of Pixley Irrigation District's 2026 Cross Valley Contract water acquired by Tulare. This Non-Project Water will be made available by the United States Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) to DWR at O'Neill Forebay for subsequent delivery by DWR to Tulare through February 28, 2027 for use in the CVP place of use. If Tulare is unable to take full delivery of the Non-Project Water by February 28, 2027 under this Agreement, Tulare may store such water in San Luis Reservoir for later delivery to its service area by December 31, 2027.
Name of Public Agency Approving or Carrying out Activity	Tulare (Local agency), DWR (State agency), Reclamation (Federal agency)
Exempt Status	<input type="checkbox"/> Ministerial <input type="checkbox"/> Declared Emergency <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Project <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Categorical Exemption: Class 1; CEQA Guidelines Section 15301, existing facility <input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Exemption: California Water Code Section 1729
Reasons why activity is exempt	a. State Water Project long-term water supply contract includes provisions for conveyance of non-project water to SWP contractors. b. The project is a water management operation using only existing facilities. c. The project will not support new development or a change in land use.

	d. The project does not establish a new permanent source of water supply.
Responsible Agency Contact Person	Patrick Luzuriaga Telephone: 916-820-7778

Signature: <i>Molly White</i> _____ Molly White Assistant Division Manager, Water Management Division of Operations and Maintenance State Water Project	Date: 3/17/2026 _____
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