



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

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RECEIPT NUMBER:
24-03/23/2026-0039

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER (if applicable)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

LEAD AGENCY MERCED COUNTY PLANNING DEPT	LEAD AGENCY EMAIL	DATE 03/23/2026
COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING MERCED COUNTY	DOCUMENT NUMBER 2026-EIR-039	

PROJECT TITLE
MINOR MODIFICATION TO HARDIN RANCH SURFACE MINE FOR SALMONID RESTORATION PROJECT

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME SCOTT WILLIAMS	PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL	PHONE NUMBER (209) 385-7654
PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS 2222 M STREET	CITY MERCED	STATE CA
		ZIP CODE 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 X	AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE Vyionnie Nunez Deputy Clerk
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FILED**March 23, 2026****Notice of Exemption**

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: Merced County
2222 M Street
Merced, CA 95340

MATT H. MAY
COUNTY CLERK

By 
Deputy Clerk

Project Title: Minor Modification to Hardin Ranch Surface Mine for Salmonid Restoration Project

Project Applicant: Scott Williams

Project Location: Located on the west side of Snelling Road, 0.5 miles north of Robinson Road in the Snelling area, identified as Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 043-080-007

Project City: Snelling

Project County: Merced County

Project Description:

A request to modify Conditional Use Permit No. CUP01-021 to amend the Reclamation Plan to describe seasonal salmonid habitat which may occur along the Merced River at a previously surface mined site (Hardin Ranch, Mine ID# 91-24-0043) related to an adjacent salmonid habitat restoration project (herein referred to as Habitat Project). The Habitat Project areas that overlap with the Reclamation Plan boundary and the reclamation area would be seasonally inundated for a minimum of two weeks every other year during the spring salmonid rearing period (January to June) and provide habitat for juvenile salmonids. The proposed end use of grazing originally described in the Reclamation Plan would remain and no additional activities not already described in the Reclamation Plan would occur.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: County of Merced, Community & Economic Development Department

Name of Person or Agency Carrying out Project: Ricardo Mercado, Planner I

Exempt Status:

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 145269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Section 15304 ("Minor Alterations to Land") and Section 15333 ("Small Habitat Restoration Projects")
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____
- Other _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

No substantial impacts or changes would occur that were not already anticipated in the environmental studies conducted for Conditional Use Permit No. CUP01-021. The area would be seasonal inundated and provide suitable habitat for juvenile salmonids. Minor alterations in land, water, and vegetation would remain unchanged from the approved Reclamation Plan.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Ricardo Mercado, Planner I

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (209) 385-7654 ext. 4424

Signature & Date:

Ricardo Mercado Digitally signed by Ricardo Mercado
Date: 2026.03.20 11:28:40 -07'00'

Title: Planner I

Date
Received
for filing:

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