

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO:

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

FROM:

Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency
34274 State Highway 16
Woodland, CA 95695

Yolo County Clerk
625 Court Street, Suite B01
Woodland, CA 95695

Project Title: Entering into Memorandum of Understanding related to Reclamation District 108's Acquisition of Yolo County Property

Project Applicant: Reclamation District 108

Project Location: Yolo County Assessor's Parcel Nos: 056-030-001-000, 056-090-008-000, 056-030-002-000, 056-100-001-000, 056-040-001-000, 056-100-002-000, 056-040-002-000, 056-100-003-000, 056-040-003-000, 056-100-004-000, 056-050-002-000, 056-100-005-000, 056-050-003-000, 056-110-001-000, 056-050-004-000, 056-110-003-000, 056-050-005-000, 056-110-004-000, 056-060-002-000, 056-140-001-000, 056-060-003-000, 056-150-001-000, 056-060-004-000, 056-150-002-000, 056-070-005-000, 056-150-021-000, 056-080-003-000, 056-150-022-000, 056-080-006-000, 056-150-005-000, 056-090-001-000, 056-150-006-000, 056-090-003-000, 056-150-007-000, and 056-090-004-000, hereinafter referred to as the Property.

Project Location--County: Yolo

Description of Project: Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency would enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Yolo County and Reclamation District (RD) 108 related to RD 108's acquisition of title to the Property, that being approximately 7,500 acres adjacent to the RD 108's boundaries, and associated water rights.

Public Agency Approving the Project: Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency (YSGA), Reclamation District 108, and Yolo County (County)

EXEMPT STATUS:**Statutory Exemption:**

Acquisition of Interest in Land By a Public Agency—Public Resources Code section 21080.28(a)

Categorical Exemptions

Class 25: Transfers of Ownership in Land to Preserve Existing Natural Conditions—Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15325(c)

Class 1: Existing Facilities – Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15301

Common Sense Exemption—including Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15061(b)(3)

Reasons Why the Project Is Exempt:

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) proposed to enter into various agreements with the current Owner of the Property to acquire the use of certain water rights associated with the Property for instream uses, and on February 10, 2026, filed a Notice of Exemption related to those agreements. The County and YSGA filed litigation challenging the sufficiency of said Notice of Exemption, among other things. Subsequently it was proposed that RD 108 acquire the Property from the current Owner after DWR enters into those agreements. Under a purchase agreement and related closing documents, the subject of a separate Notice of Exemption filed by RD 108, RD 108 will acquire title to the Property, including its associated water rights, subject to then existing encumbrances and easements. The property is presently utilized primarily for agricultural purposes. To assist with resolution of the litigation brought by the County and YSGA, the parties have agreed to an MOU to provide additional assurances to the County and YSGA that RD 108 will operate the Property in such a way to avoid impacts to local water supplies, groundwater resources, habitat, and the economy.

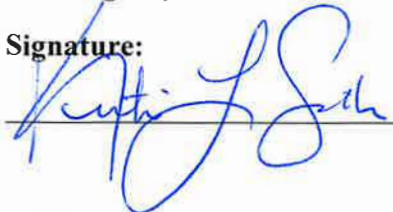
Facilitated by entering into the MOU, RD 108's acquisition of the Property will allow the Property to continue existing agricultural uses, prevent encroachment of development into floodplains and preserve open space, and additionally may allow for restoration of some of the lands to natural conditions. Public agency transactions and funding for these purposes are statutorily exempt from CEQA. Any future change in use of the Property and its associated water rights is contingent and uncertain as to type, location, timing, scale, and operational characteristics, and subject to subsequent planning and policy decisions by separate decisionmakers. Because these fundamental project elements are unknown or subject to future determination, any environmental analysis at this time would be unduly speculative. CEQA compliance is required prior to any changes in land uses or approval of water transfers. Entering into the MOU and RD 108's acquisition of the Property involves no expansion of existing use and will not have any significant impact on the environment.

The Project does not contribute to cumulative environmental impacts because it maintains existing conditions and does not increase the intensity of use; there are no unusual circumstances associated with the Project or its location that will result in a significant impact; the Project will not result in damage to scenic resources within a state scenic highway as none are located in the Property and the Project maintains existing conditions; the Project is not located on a hazardous waste site; and the Project will not have a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource or otherwise impact biological, cultural or other sensitive resources.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Jordon Navarrot

Phone: 530.437.2221

Signature:



Date: 5/27/26

Title: General Manager

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