

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION
Coachella Valley Water District
Post Office Box 1058
Coachella, California 92236

County Clerk
County of Riverside
Post Office Box 751
Riverside, CA 92502

County of Imperial
Imperial County Clerk/Recorder
940 West Main Street, Suite 202
El Centro, CA 92243

State Clearinghouse
Office of Planning and Research
Post Office Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County of San Diego
Recorder/County Clerk's Office
1600 Pacific Highway, Suite 260
Post Office Box 121750
San Diego, CA 92112-1750

Project Title: Adoption of Replenishment Assessment Charge Rates for Fiscal Years 2026-2027 for the East Whitewater River, West Whitewater River and Mission Creek Subbasin

Project Location: Within the Coachella Valley Water District's Service Area

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) manages three groundwater replenishment programs for the groundwater basins that underlie the Coachella Valley. Of the three Replenishment Assessment Charge (RAC) programs, CVWD and the Desert Water Agency jointly manage the Mission Creek Subbasin and the western portion of the Whitewater River Subbasin. CVWD independently manages the eastern portion of the Whitewater River Subbasin. Imported water is used to recharge these groundwater basins; and groundwater RACs are assessed on all groundwater producers who use more than 25 acre-feet of water in any given year. The funds collected are used to pay for specific costs and charges associated with importing water and recharging the groundwater basins.

The 2026/2027 Engineer's Report on Water Supply and Replenishment Assessment describes the condition of the groundwater supplies, the need for replenishment, recommendations for replenishment programs, and the RAC for each of the three Areas of Benefit (AOB) managed by CVWD within the Coachella Valley in Riverside County. This report was presented to CVWD's Board of Directors on April 28, 2026, in accordance with Chapter 7, Sections 31630 through 31639 of the California Water Code.

On May 27, 2026, CVWD's Board of Directors approved levying a RAC fee change for the West Whitewater River Subbasin AOB, East Whitewater River Subbasin AOB, and Mission Creek Subbasin AOB for fiscal year (FY) 2026-2027.

Lead Agency Approving Project and Contact: Coachella Valley Water District; Ivory Reyburn, Water Resources Program Supervisor / Phone: (760) 398-2651

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION (Continued)
Coachella Valley Water District

Exempt Status:

- Not a project:** State CEQA Guidelines §15378
- Review for Exemption/Common Sense Exemption:** State CEQA Guideline §15061(b)(3)
- Ministerial:** (Pub. Res. Code §21080(b)(1); State CEQA Guideline §15268)
- Declared Emergency:** (Pub. Res. Code §21080(b)(3); State CEQA Guideline §15269(a))
- Emergency Project:** 15269(b)
- Statutory Exempt:** State CEQA Guidelines § 15273
- Categorically Exempt:** State CEQA Guidelines: §

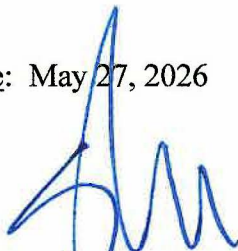
Reasons why project is exempt:

State CEQA Guidelines §15061(b)(3) (Review for Exemption) states an activity is covered by the commonsense exemption where CEQA applies only to a project and where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility the activity may have a significant effect on the environment.

State CEQA Guidelines §15273 (Rates, Tolls, Fares, and Charges) statutory exemption allows for the establishment and modification of rates, tolls, fares and charges by a public agency for the purpose of 1) meeting operating expenses, including employee wage rates and fringe benefits, (2) purchasing or leasing supplies, equipment, or materials, (3) meeting financial reserve needs and requirements, (4) and obtaining funds for capital projects necessary to maintain service within existing service areas.

Environmental Contact Person: Carlos Huerta, CVWD Environmental Resources Analyst, Phone (760) 398-2651

Date: May 27, 2026



Sylvia Bermudez
Clerk of the Board

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

File: 1012.3; 0643.5; 0643.6; 0643.3