

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

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

From: (Public Agency): Department of Water
Resources, San Joaquin Field
Division
4201 Sabodan Street, Bakersfield, CA 93313

County Clerk

County of: _____

(Address)

Project Title: 2026 DEPP Dredge Work and Sump Maintenance

Project Applicant: Department of Water Resources, San Joaquin Field Division

Project Location – Specific:

DEPP: 35°42'43.31"N 120° 0'39.43"W

DEPP Sump: 35°42'34.26"N 120° 0'35.89"W

Project Location – City: Lost Hills

Project Location – County: Kern

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

San Joaquin Field Division plans to dredge the Devil's Den Pumping Plant (DEPP) forebay, repair erosions, and remove vegetation and sediment from the DEPP sump.

To complete the dredging activity, DWR staff will attach a Toyo pump to a crane. The crane will lower the pump into the DEPP forebay. The pump will then transfer water, mud, and silt through a hose and into the DEPP sump. This work is anticipated to take two weeks to complete.

To complete erosion repairs, a dump truck will bring in fill material. A backhoe will fill and compact erosions. A water truck will be used to control dust and aid in compaction.

To complete vegetation and sediment removal from within the DEPP sump, a backhoe, grader, long reach excavator, skid steer, front loader, and dozer will be used. A dump truck will transport sediment to the DEPP spoil site, and a water truck will be used to control dust and aid in compaction.

Dredging activities will take place in November 2026. This work is necessary to maintain the forebay and to continue to make water deliveries.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Water Resources (DWR)

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: DWR- Operations & Maintenance

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:

15301 (b)

☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

This project consists of maintenance activities that support the function of the California Aqueduct and water delivery within the State Water Project.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Elizabeth Maldonado

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 661-858-5662

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: Elizabeth Maldonado Date: 6/10/2026 Title: Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist)

☒ 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: _____