

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 MP 275.56 Double Overchute Cleaning

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

Project Location – Specific:

Overchute: 35°02'14.7"N 119°02'50.7"W

Inlet: 35°02'12.9"N 119°02'51.7"W

WRPP Spoil Pile Site: 35°02'17.7"N 119°00'52.1"W

WRPP: 35°01'54.3"N 119°00'27.1"W

Project Location – City: Mettler

Project Location – County: Kern

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

San Joaquin Field Division plans to remove sediment and debris from overchute 275.56 of the State Water Project. To do this work, a skid steer, bulldozer, loader, and/or excavator will be used to remove sediment and debris from the overchute and inlet area. A water truck will be used to control dust. A dump truck will be used to transport sediment and debris approximately 2 miles away to the Wheeler Ridge Pumping Plant (WRPP) spoil site. At the spoil site, all sediment will be spread out and compacted. Equipment will be stored overnight at the WRPP. This work is necessary to prevent flooding and damage to critical infrastructure. Work is estimated to take three weeks to complete. All work will take place within the DWR right-of-way.

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: 07/22/26

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: _____