

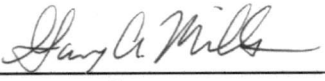
The activities are regulatory actions authorized by state law and carried out to maintain, restore, enhance, and protect natural resources and the environment. The County will ensure that activities are conducted consistent with applicable CDFA protocols, the CDFA Statewide Plant Pest Prevention and Management Program Final Program Environmental Impact Report, and applicable CDFA management practices and mitigation measures. The Project does not include construction activities or any relaxation of regulatory standards that would allow environmental degradation.

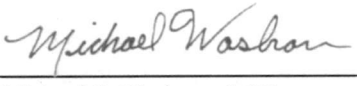
The County has further determined that none of the exceptions to the use of categorical exemptions set forth in CEQA Guidelines §15300.2 apply. The Project would not result in a significant cumulative impact, would not result in a significant effect due to unusual circumstances, would not damage scenic resources within an officially designated State Scenic Highway, is not located on a hazardous waste site listed pursuant to Government Code §65962.5, and would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

Environmental Assessment Officer: Reed Schenke, P.E., RMA Director/EAO

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: County of Tulare

Project Planner/Representative: Christopher P. Greer, Assistant Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer **Telephone:** (559) 624-3350

Signature:  Date: Aug 18, 2026 Title: Chief Planner
Gary A. Mills Environmental Planning Division

Signature:  Date: Aug 18, 2026 Title: Associate RMA Director, Designee
Michael G. Washam, A.C.E.

☒ Signed by Lead Agency

Date submitted to the LCI: _____

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Fee Exempt per Government Code Section 6103

To: ☒ Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

☒ Tulare County Clerk
Room 105, Courthouse
221 South Mooney Blvd.
Visalia, CA 93291

Lead Agency: County of Tulare c/o Resource Management Agency
5961 S. Mooney Blvd.
Visalia, CA 93277 (559) 624-7000
Attn: gmills@tularecounty.ca.gov and jwillis@tularecounty.ca.gov

FILED TULARE COUNTY
AUG 19 2026
ASSESSOR / CLERK-RECORDER BY:
DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING AT TULARE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE

Applicant(s): Tulare County Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer
4437 South Laspina Street, Ste. A
Visalia, CA 93274 (559) 684-3350

Project Title: CDFA Nursery Inspection Program FY 26/27

Project Location - Specific: Tulare County

Project Location- Section, Township, Range: Countywide

Project Location - City: Tulare County, CA **Project Location - County:** Tulare

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: The County is considering entering into an Agreement with the State of California Department of Food & Agriculture (CDFA) to provide funding for the County of Tulare Agricultural Commissioner's Office to offset costs of providing and continuing the Nursery Inspection Program that is responsible in preventing the introduction and spread of agricultural pests through nursery stock and protect County agriculture and the consumer against economic losses resulting from the sale of inferior, defective, or pest-infested nursery stock. This agreement may require the County to mitigate or remediate infestation or infested nursery stock.

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))
- ☐ Common Sense Exemption: CEQA Guidelines 15061(b)(3);
- ☒ Categorical Exemption: CEQA Guidelines Section 15307 Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of Natural Resources and CEQA Guidelines Section 15308 Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of the Environment

Reasons why project is exempt:

The Project is categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15307 and §15308, Class 7 and Class 8, Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of Natural Resources and the Environment. The Project consists of the County's approval and implementation of an agreement with the California Department of Food and Agriculture to fund and continue the Tulare County Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer's Nursery Inspection Program for FY 2026/2027. The program provides regulatory inspections, sampling, issuance of hold notices, follow-up inspections, sanitation procedures, and related pest prevention and management activities intended to prevent the introduction and spread of agricultural pests through nursery stock and to protect agricultural resources and consumers from economic losses associated with inferior, defective, or pest-infested nursery stock.