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State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife
2026 ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FILING FEE CASH RECEIPT
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24-10/02/2026-0122

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER (If applicable)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

LEAD AGENCY	LEAD AGENCY EMAIL	DATE
MERCED COUNTY COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT		10/02/2026
COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING	DOCUMENT NUMBER	
MERCED COUNTY	2026-EIR-122	
PROJECT TITLE		

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. CUP 25-009

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME	PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL		PHONE NUMBER
GODINHO DAIRY LP			
PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
2222 M ST	MERCED	CA	95340

PROJECT APPLICANT (Check appropriate box)

☒ Local Public Agency ☐ School District ☐ Other Special District ☐ State Agency ☐ Private Entity

CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:

☐ Environmental Impact Report (EIR) \$ 4,227.50 \$ _____
☐ Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND) \$ 3,043.75 \$ _____
☐ Certified Regulatory Program (CRP) document - payment due directly to CDFW \$ 1,437.25 \$ _____

☒ Exempt from fee **Preparation**

☒ Notice of Exemption (attach)

☐ CDFW No Effect Determination (attach)

☒ Fee previously paid (attach previously issued cash receipt copy)

☐ Water Right Application or Petition Fee (State Water Resources Control Board only) \$ 850.00 \$ _____
☒ County documentary handling fee \$ 50.00 \$ _____
☐ Other \$ _____

PAYMENT METHOD:

☐ Cash ☐ Credit ☐ Check ☐ Other

TOTAL RECEIVED \$ 0.00

SIGNATURE	AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE
X <i>Ralph Williams</i>	Ralph Williams Deputy Clerk



COMM
DEVELOP

2026-EIR-122

FILED

October 2, 2026

MATT H. MAY

COUNTY CLERK

By Ralph W. Lee
Deputy Clerk

Mark J. Mimms II
Director

2222 "M" Street
Merced, CA 95340
(209) 385-7654
(209) 726-1710 Fax
www.countyofmerced.com

Equal Opportunity Employer

DATE: October 2, 2026

TO: Interested Parties

FROM: County of Merced
Mark Hamilton, Planner III
Mark.Hamilton@countyofmerced.com
(209) 385-7654 ext. 4419

SUBJECT: Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report
Conditional Use Permit No. CUP25-009
("Godinho Dairy Expansion")

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

PROJECT: Conditional Use Permit No. CUP25-009

APPLICANT: Godinho Dairy LP

PROJECT LOCATION: The project site is generally located along Henry Miller Road between Wilson Road and Nantes Avenue in the Los Banos area, identified as Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APN's) 070-180-044, 070-180-045, 070-180-050, 070-201-010, 070-201-011, 078-180-028, 081-020-025, 081-020-026, 081-020-027, and 081-020-028.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: A request to expand the operation of the existing dairy facility by combining existing dairy and heifer facilities, expanding the herd size to 5,171 mature cows (4,000 milking and 1,171 dry) and 3,330 support stock to 7,000 mature cows (6,000 milking and 1,000 dry) and 7,000 support stock. The project proposes the addition of five (5) barns for animal housing totaling 428,080 square feet; a commodity barn of 20,100 square feet; a feed storage area of 219,170 square feet; and conversion of an existing tailwater pond into a wastewater retention pond. The project site is designated Agricultural land use in the General Plan and zoned A-1 (General Agricultural) and A-2 (Exclusive Agriculture).

The County is issuing this Notice of Preparation (NOP) pursuant to Section 15082 of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines with the intent to provide agencies, organizations, and interested parties with sufficient information about the proposed project and its potential environmental effects to provide meaningful input on the scope of the Environmental Impact Report.

PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD: October 7, 2026 – November 9, 2026

Merced County is the Lead Agency pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the proposed Godinho Dairy Expansion project. Merced County will prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed dairy expansion project as described in the prepared Initial Study for the Project. Merced County needs to know the views of interested people, agencies, and organizations as to the scope and content of the environmental information to be included in the EIR. Agencies should comment only on the environmental resources

Buildings and Safety Division
Dewayne Jones, Deputy

Economic and Castle Airport
Development Division
Vacant, Deputy

Environmental Health
Division
Amanda Duran, Deputy

Planning Division
Tom Navarro, Interim Deputy

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that are within the agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. The description, location, and the probable environmental effects of the proposed dairy expansion project are contained in the prepared Initial Study. Your agency will need to use the EIR prepared by Merced County when considering your permit or other approval for the Project.

The Notice of Preparation and Initial Study are available for review at the Merced County Clerk's Office located at 2222 M Street, 3rd Floor, Merced, CA 95340, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:30 AM and 4:30 PM; the Community of Economic Development Department located at 2222 M Street, 3rd Floor, Merced, CA 95340, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:30 AM and 4:30 PM; and on the County's website at www.countyofmerced.com/414/Environmental-Documents.

The Notice of Preparation and Initial Study are being circulated for a 30-day review period pursuant to State Law. Any person wishing to comment on the environmental document must submit their comments in written format either by mail or email prior to the close of business on **November 9, 2026, at 5:00 pm**. For further information regarding this project, please contact Mark Hamilton, Project Planner at (209) 385-7654 x 4419 or email at mark.hamilton@countyofmerced.com.

Please send all written correspondence to:

Merced County Community & Economic Development Department
Attn: Mark Hamilton
2222 M Street
Merced, CA 95340
Email: mark.hamilton@countyofmerced.com

Date: October 2, 2026

Mark Hamilton, Planner III

Signature: Mark Hamilton

CC: State Clearinghouse

Notice of Completion & Environmental Document Transmittal

Mail to: State Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 (916) 445-0613
 For Hand Delivery/Street Address: 1400 Tenth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

SCH #

Project Title: Godinho Dairy Expansion CUP25-009**Lead Agency:** Merced County**Contact Person:** Mark Hamilton**Mailing Address:** 2222 M Street**Phone:** (209) 385-7654**City:** Merced**Zip:** 95340**County:** Merced**Project Location:** County: Merced

City/Nearest Community: Los Banos

Cross Streets: Wilson Road/Henry Miller Avenue/Johnson Road

Zip Code: 93635

Longitude/Latitude (degrees, minutes and seconds): 37 ° 6 ' 16.19 " N / 120 ° 52 ' 6.62 " W Total Acres: 282

Assessor's Parcel No.: 070-180-044, 045, 050; 078-180-028, 081-020-025, -026, -027, -028

Section: 3

Twp.: 10 South

Range: 10 East

Base: MDBM

Within 2 Miles: State Hwy #: 165

Waterways: Santa Fe Canal

Airports: N/A

Railways: N/A

Schools: Lorena Falasco Elementary

Document Type:CEQA: ☒ NOP☐ Draft EIRNEPA: ☐ NOIOther: ☐ Joint Document☐ Early Cons☐ Supplement/Subsequent EIR☐ EA☐ Final Document☐ Neg Dec

(Prior SCH No.)

☐ Draft EIS☐ Other:☐ Mit Neg Dec

Other:

☐ FONSI**Local Action Type:**☐ General Plan Update☐ Specific Plan☐ Rezone☐ Annexation☐ General Plan Amendment☐ Master Plan☐ Prezone☐ Redevelopment☐ General Plan Element☐ Planned Unit Development☒ Use Permit☐ Coastal Permit☐ Community Plan☐ Site Plan☐ Land Division (Subdivision, etc.)☐ Other:**Development Type:**☐ Residential: Units _____ Acres _____☐ Office: Sq.ft. _____ Acres _____☐ Commercial: Sq.ft. _____ Acres _____☐ Industrial: Sq.ft. _____ Acres _____☐ Educational: _____☐ Recreational: _____☐ Water Facilities: Type _____ MGD _____

Employees _____

Employees _____

Employees _____

☐ Transportation: Type _____☐ Mining: Mineral _____☐ Power: Type _____ MW _____☐ Waste Treatment: Type _____ MGD _____☐ Hazardous Waste: Type _____☒ Other: Dairy and heifer ranch expansion**Project Issues Discussed in Document:**☒ Aesthetic/Visual☐ Fiscal☒ Recreation/Parks☒ Vegetation☒ Agricultural Land☒ Flood Plain/Flooding☒ Schools/Universities☒ Water Quality☒ Air Quality☒ Forest Land/Fire Hazard☒ Septic Systems☒ Water Supply/Groundwater☒ Archeological/Historical☒ Geologic/Seismic☒ Sewer Capacity☒ Wetland/Riparian☒ Biological Resources☒ Minerals☒ Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading☒ Growth Inducement☐ Coastal Zone☒ Noise☒ Solid Waste☒ Land Use☐ Drainage/Absorption☒ Population/Housing Balance☒ Toxic/Hazardous☐ Cumulative Effects☐ Economic/Jobs☒ Public Services/Facilities☒ Traffic/Circulation☐ Other:**Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Designation:**

General Plan: Agricultural. Zoning: A-1 & A-2 (General Agricultural)

Project Description: (please use a separate page if necessary)

Project sponsor seeks a CUP25-009 to combine the existing dairy and heifer facilities and expand them from 5,171 mature cows (4,000 milking and 1,171 dry) and 3,030 support stock to 7,000 mature cows (6,000 milking and 1,000 dry) and 7,000 support stock. The project proposes the addition of five (5) barns for animal housing totaling 428,080 square feet; a commodity barn of 20,100 square feet; a feed storage area of 219,170 square feet (concrete pad no building); and a new wastewater retention pond.

Note: The State Clearinghouse will assign identification numbers for all new projects. If a SCH number already exists for a project (e.g. Notice of Preparation or previous draft document) please fill in.

Revised 2010

Reviewing Agencies Checklist

Lead Agencies may recommend State Clearinghouse distribution by marking agencies below with an "X".
If you have already sent your document to the agency please denote that with an "S".

☒ Air Resources Board	☐ Office of Historic Preservation
☐ Boating & Waterways, Department of	☐ Office of Public School Construction
☐ California Emergency Management Agency	☐ Parks & Recreation, Department of
☐ California Highway Patrol	☒ Pesticide Regulation, Department of
☒ Caltrans District # 10	☒ Public Utilities Commission
☐ Caltrans Division of Aeronautics	☒ Regional WQCB # 5
☐ Caltrans Planning	☐ Resources Agency
☒ Central Valley Flood Protection Board	☒ Resources Recycling and Recovery, Department of
☐ Coachella Valley Mtns. Conservancy	☐ S.F. Bay Conservation & Development Comm.
☐ Coastal Commission	☐ San Gabriel & Lower L.A. Rivers & Mtns. Conservancy
☐ Colorado River Board	☐ San Joaquin River Conservancy
☒ Conservation, Department of	☐ Santa Monica Mtns. Conservancy
☐ Corrections, Department of	☐ State Lands Commission
☐ Delta Protection Commission	☐ SWRCB: Clean Water Grants
☐ Education, Department of	☒ SWRCB: Water Quality
☐ Energy Commission	☐ SWRCB: Water Rights
☒ Fish & Game Region # 4	☐ Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
☒ Food & Agriculture, Department of	☒ Toxic Substances Control, Department of
☐ Forestry and Fire Protection, Department of	☒ Water Resources, Department of
☐ General Services, Department of	
☒ Health Services, Department of	Other: _____
☐ Housing & Community Development	Other: _____
☒ Native American Heritage Commission	

Local Public Review Period (to be filled in by lead agency)

Starting Date October 7, 2026 Ending Date November 9, 2026

Lead Agency (Complete if applicable):

Consulting Firm: <u>ICF</u>	Applicant: <u>David Godinho</u>
Address: <u>980 9th Street, Suite 1200</u>	Address: <u>12710 S. Wilson Road</u>
City/State/Zip: <u>Sacramento/CA/95814</u>	City/State/Zip: <u>Los Banos/CA/93636</u>
Contact: <u>James Alcom</u>	Phone: <u>(209) 238-3151</u>
Phone: <u>(916) 231-7632</u>	

Signature of Lead Agency Representative: Mark Hamilton Date: 10/02/2026

Authority cited: Section 21083, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 21161, Public Resources Code.

Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal**Form F**

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #: _____

Project Title: Godinho Dairy Expansion Conditional Use Permit No. CUP25-009Lead Agency: Merced CountyContact Name: Mark Hamilton, Planner IIIEmail: Mark.Hamilton@countyofmerced.comPhone Number: (209) 385-7654Project Location: Los Banos
CityMerced County
County

Project Description (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences).

Project sponsor seeks a CUP25-009 to combine the existing dairy and heifer facilities and expand them from 5,171 mature cows (4,000 milking and 1,171 dry) and 3,030 support stock to 7,000 mature cows (6,000 milking and 1,000 dry) and 7,000 support stock. The project proposes the addition of five (5) barns for animal housing totaling 428,080 square feet; a commodity barn of 20,100 square feet; a feed storage area of 219,170 square feet (concrete pad no building); and a new wastewater retention pond. The Godinho Dairy is located on approximately 83.9 acres of an existing farm totaling approximately 282.4 acres in unincorporated Merced County. The dairy project site and associated heifer facilities are located north and south of Henry Miller Avenue at 12710 S. Wilson Road and 13140 Johnson Road in the Los Banos area of the County.

Identify the project's significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

The EIR will analyze the following issue areas:

Air Quality

Biological Resources

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Hydrology

Water Quality

Noise

Tribal Cultural Resources (If Necessary).

If applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

N/A

Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
California Department of Food and Agriculture

**GODINHO DAIRY EXPANSION CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO.
CUP25-009**

INITIAL STUDY AND ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION

SEPTEMBER 2026

INITIAL STUDY AND ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION

Project Title: Godinho Dairy Expansion Project Conditional Use Permit No. CUP25-009

Project Location: 12710 S. Wilson Road and 13140 Johnson Road Los Banos, CA 93635

Lead Agency Name and Address: Merced County
Community and Economic Development Department
2222 'M' Street
Merced, CA 95340

Contact Person and Phone Number: Mark Hamilton, Planner III
Phone: (209) 385-7654

General Plan Designation: Agricultural (Merced County General Plan)

Zoning: A-1, General Agricultural (Merced County Zoning)

1. INTRODUCTION AND PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Godinho Dairy LP (Applicant) proposes an expansion of an existing dairy facility in unincorporated Merced County, California. The proposed project involves a request for Conditional Use Permit (CUP) No. CUP25-009 to expand dairy operations through the construction of new dairy facilities and an increase in herd size. Proposed improvements include the construction of five (5) new barns for animal housing, a commodity barn, a feed storage area and a new wastewater retention pond.

The Godinho Dairy is located on approximately 83.9 acres of an existing farm totaling approximately 282.4 acres in unincorporated Merced County. The dairy project site and associated heifer facilities are located north and south of Henry Miller Avenue at 12710 S. Wilson Road and 13140 Johnson Road in the Los Banos area of the County. The project cropland application area consists of approximately 1,476 acres located on portions of 31 parcels. The project site is zoned General Agricultural (A-1) in the Merced County (County) municipal code and designated General Agricultural (A) in the 2030 Merced County General Plan (General Plan) (County of Merced 2013). Additional lands controlled by the Applicant and used for farming operations associated with the dairy are to the north, south and east of the project site.

The existing Godinho Dairy facility has operated since approximately 1975 and was historically used as a small dairy supporting about 300 milk cows and 500 total head. Although no Merced County permits are on file for the original animal confinement operation, several permits have been issued for onsite residences and facility improvements, including CUP2575 (1981) for a mobile home, AA00076 (2000) for second and third residences, and CUP19-006 (2020), which authorized expansion of the heifer dairy and brought the operation into compliance with state regulations by increasing herd capacity from 1,103 to 2,123 animal units. Following acquisition of the property in 2009, the applicant converted the site to a heifer-rearing operation. The former milking parlor was

demolished, and the facility no longer has the ability to milk cows. The existing heifer facility is regulated by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board and the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, both of which will rely on the County's environmental review in considering approvals associated with the proposed dairy and heifer facility expansion.

Conditional Use Permit No. CUP25-009 proposes to combine the existing dairy and heifer facilities and expand them from 5,171 mature cows (4,000 milking and 1,171 dry) and 3,030 support stock to 7,000 mature cows (6,000 milking and 1,000 dry) and 7,000 support stock. The project proposes the addition of five (5) barns for animal housing totaling 428,080 square feet; a commodity barn of 20,100 square feet; a feed storage area of 219,170 square feet (concrete pad no building); and a new wastewater retention pond. Existing building square footage to be removed is approximately 59,000 square feet. No amenities and no new improvements or services for utilities (i.e., water, power, natural gas, sanitary sewer) are proposed. Crops grown on site would continue to be used for dairy feed crops. Zoning on the site is A-1, General Agricultural.

The Merced County Community and Economic Development Department has determined that the proposed project may result in significant environmental effects and that preparation of an environmental impact report (EIR) is the appropriate level of environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15124, this chapter provides the information required of an EIR project description, including a description of the project's precise location and boundaries; a statement of the project's objectives; a description of the project's technical, economic, and environmental characteristics; a description of the intended uses of this EIR (including a list of the public agencies expected to rely on it in their decision-making processes); a list of the permits and approvals required to implement the project; and a summary of related environmental review and consultation requirements.

LOCATION

The active dairy facilities of Godinho Dairy are located on approximately 83.9 acres of an existing farm totaling approximately 282.4 acres in unincorporated Merced County (see Figure 1). The dairy project site and associated heifer facilities are located north and south of Henry Miller Avenue at 12710 S. Wilson Road and 13140 Johnson Road in the Los Banos area of the County. The project's location is within the central California region (see Figures 1 and 2). The active dairy facilities on the north side of Henry Miller Avenue are located on Merced County Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 070-180-044, 010-180-028, 170-180-045, and 070-201-010 and the associated heifer facilities on the south side of Henry Miller Avenue are located on APN 081-020-028. Additional parcels in the vicinity are used as cropland and for wastewater and manure application. The existing project cropland application area consists of approximately 1,476 acres located on portions of 31 parcels (see Figure 2 for the project location, Figure 3 for Merced County APNs and Figure 6 for land application areas). The project site is in Sections 3 and 34, Township 9 South, Range 10 East, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian; 37°06'18.98"N, 120°52'2.91"W.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

The existing active dairy facilities include approximately 1,171,940 square feet of roofed structures located on 282± acres of an existing farm. Existing dairy facilities are located on the north and south side of Henry Miller Avenue, east of Wilson Road and include the following:

- freestall barns and shades
- commodity barns
- calf barn
- residences
- shop
- loafing barns
- equipment yard
- scale
- exercise pens
- feed storage area
- milking parlor
- hospital milking parlor
- storage
- solids settling basins
- manure separating pad
- wastewater ponds
- dry manure storage area
- anaerobic digester
- tailwater pond
- mechanical separator

The project applicant currently operates a dairy facility under CUP 15-018 and heifer facility under CUP19-006 in Merced County. The existing dairy and heifer facilities house 5,171 mature cows (4,000 milking and 1,171 dry) and 3,030 support stock.

The existing dairy facility (APN 070-180-028) includes four freestall barns between 136,680 and 146,060 square feet, totaling approximately 562,800 square feet. The site includes four loafing barns totaling approximately 154,300 square feet, two commodity barns totaling 15,800 square feet, and a milking parlor (on APN 070-180-044), hospital milking parlor, storage (old milking parlor) and shop totaling 71,665 square feet. An existing residence is located along Wilson Road north of the scale and equipment yard. In addition to the milking parlor, APN 070-180-044 includes a manure separator pad, two solids settling basins, wastewater pond, and three residences along Wilson Road. APN 070-180-045 includes a dry manure storage area and anaerobic digester. APN 070-201-010 includes a tailwater pond.

The existing heifer facility (APN 081-020-028) includes two freestall barns and two loafing barns with sizes of approximately 99,680 square feet, 175,600 square feet, 38,860 square feet, and 51,375 square feet. An existing commodity barn is approximately 1,860 square feet. In total, the existing structures at the heifer facility comprise approximately 367,375 square feet of developed area, not including three existing residences. A mechanical solids separator and separator pad are currently installed and operating at the heifer facility (see Figure 4). A well is located on the northwest corner of the parcel. Development of these facilities removed a former area of open corrals and increased the developed area of the site by approximately six acres, located on cropped acreage managed by the Godinho Dairy. Grading was conducted for building pads and access roads, and approximately 15,000 cubic yards of fill were obtained from adjacent Godinho Dairy fields.

None of the existing buildings are located within 100 feet of the existing domestic wells on both sites. Several off-site residences are located within 1,000 feet of the existing heifer facilities; these distances reflect current conditions (see Figure 4 and Figures 7a through 7c).

Animal wastes from freestall and other concrete-surfaced areas are flushed to the on-site waste management system, while solid manure within corral areas is scraped. Liquid manure is directed to the wastewater storage ponds. Stormwater runoff from roofed areas is routed to adjacent fields. Wastewater is exported from the facility and applied to adjacent croplands.

Definition of the Project Site – For the purposes of this Initial Study, the “project site” refers to the area of active dairy facilities. The larger project also includes cropland associated with the dairy farm. Throughout this document, “project area” refers to all parcels that are part of the project, including the active dairy facilities and associated cropland.

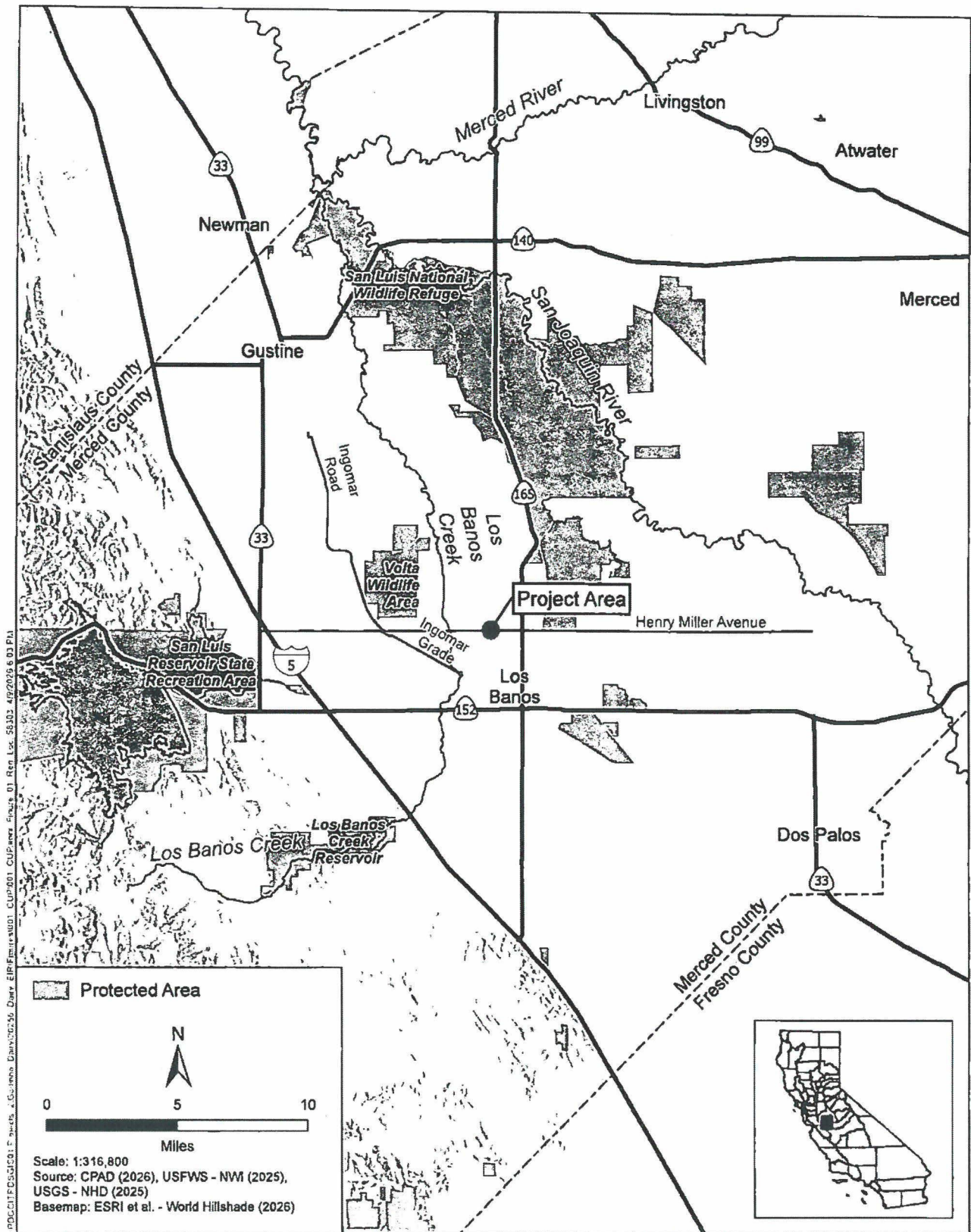
Solid manure that accumulates within corrals is removed twice per year. Dry manure is stockpiled on site at the existing dry manure storage area. Dry manure is used for bedding or sold and hauled off site for use as fertilizer and soil amendments. As reported in the Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) for the heifer ranch, liquid and solid manure are trucked and/or piped to adjacent and non-adjacent fields. All land application areas are managed and reported under the Godinho Dairy NMP (see Figures 6a through 6d). While the exact location of off-site cropland parcels may vary, the disposal of manure at off-site locations and the acreage necessary to properly dispose of manure liquids and solids are accounted for in the project NMP. Figure 9 illustrates the processes that occur at a heifer farm.

Both facilities rely on existing utilities, including domestic water, stormwater, and electrical services. The existing septic systems are not affected by current operations.

Operations at the dairy production facility occur year-round. The herd is milked twice daily, and milk is collected and transported off site each day. Activity is present on the site nearly 24 hours a day, with the milking parlor operating for approximately 20 hours each day.

Operations at the heifer facility occur during primary operating hours of 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. when animals are fed, and from 3:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. when feed is pushed back into feed racks. The facility employs two workers, with up to five individuals on site once per week during veterinarian checks.

A future well will be located on the north side of the heifer facility near Johnson Road and the existing residence. It will serve as the replacement well for the older domestic well, providing water for residences and drinking water for the herd. This well was previously permitted with CUP19-006 but has not yet been constructed.



\\P0001\GIS\Projects\2024\GIS\2024001\Map_V2\001_CIP_V2\Map_Figure 02 Project Location 50303_4217208_101.mxd

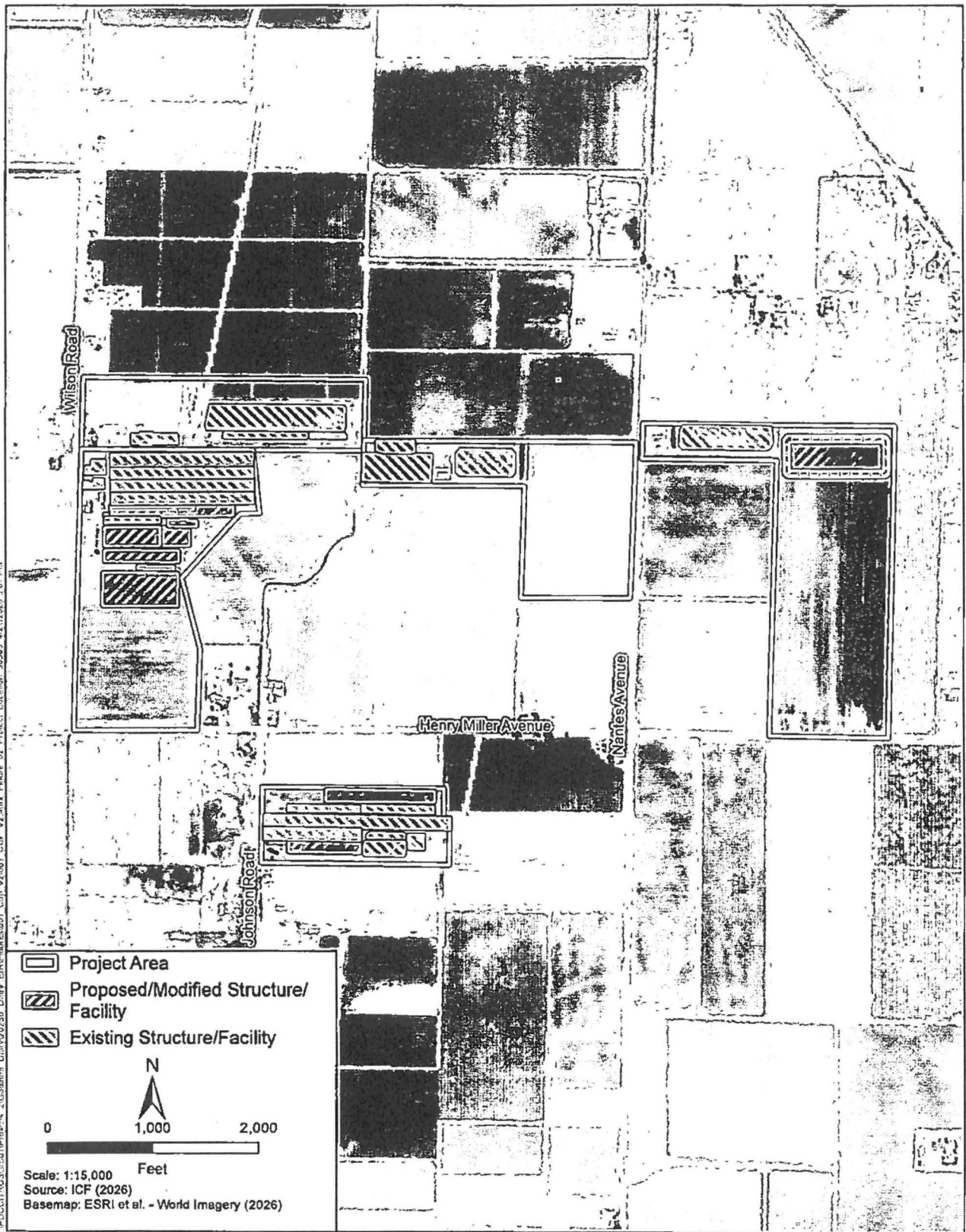


Figure 2
Project Location

DETERMINATION

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project applicant. A NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☒ I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.

I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Signature

Mark Hamilton

Date 10/2/2026

Mark Hamilton, Planner III
Merced County
Community and Economic Development Department

J

MATT H. MAY
MERCED
County Clerk - Recorder
2222 M STREET
MERCED, CA 95340
(209) 385-7627

Public

Finalization No.: 202627884
Cashier: re20
Register: REC-COUNTER07
Date/Time: 10/02/2026 02:38 PM

Description	Fee
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~~NOT~~ *Preparation*

Document No.:	2026-EIR-122
Transaction Time:	02:38 PM
Transaction Fee:	No Fee
Transaction Total:	No Fee

Total Amount Due:	\$0.00
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No Fee
Amount Due: \$0.00

THANK YOU
PLEASE KEEP FOR REFERENCE