PLACER COUNTY CLERK
CEQA FILING COVER SHEET

THIS SPACE FOR CLERK'S USE ONLY

Complete and attach this form to each CEQA Notice filed with the County Clerk

TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY

Project Title

2022 Temporary Water Transfer of Pre-1914 Water Rights Water to the Santa Clara Valley Water District and consortium of State Water Contractors

Check Document being Filed:

- ( ) Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
- (●) Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) or Negative Declaration (ND)
- ( ) Notice of Exemption (NOE)
- ( ) Other (Please fill in type):

22-147

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE PLACER
COUNTY CLERK ON June 2, 2022
Posted June 2, 2022 **Removed** _____
Returned to agency on _____
DEPUTY C. Wheeler C. Wheeler

Filing fees are due at the time a Notice of Determination/Exemption is filed with our office. For more information on filing fees and No Effect Determinations, please refer to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 753.5.

Notice of Determination

Appendix D

To:

☐ Office of Planning and Research

U.S. Mail: P.O. Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

Street Address: 1400 Tenth St., Rm 113, Sacramento, CA 95814

☒ County Clerk
County of: Placer
Address: 2954 Richardson Drive
Auburn, CA, 95603

From:
Public Agency: San Juan Water District
Address: 9935 Auburn Folsom Road
Granite Bay, CA 95746
Contact: Greg Zlotnick
Phone: 916-791-6933

Lead Agency (if different from above):

Address:

Contact:
Phone:

SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code.

State Clearinghouse Number (if submitted to State Clearinghouse): 2022040400

Project Title: 2022 Temporary Water Transfer of Pre-1914 Water Rights Water to the Santa Clara Valley Water District and consortium of State Water Contractors

Project Applicant: San Juan Water District

Project Location (include county): Contra Costa, Placer, Sacramento, Solano counties

Project Description:
SJWD would transfer up to 4,302 acre-feet of water that it will not otherwise deliver to its wholesale customer agencies Citrus Heights Water District and Fair Oaks Water District as a result of additional pumping and use of groundwater in those districts. The water thus made available for transfer is a portion of SJWD's pre-1914 water rights water, which would be transferred to the Santa Clara Valley Water District and a consortium of State Water Contractors, including the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Kern County Water Agency, Alameda County Water District, Napa County FC & WCD, Kings County Water District, Palmdale Water District, Dudley Ridge Water District, Zone 7 Water Agency, Central Coast Water Authority, and Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency, through State Water Project facilities of the California Department of Water Resources.

This is to advise that the San Juan Water District has approved the above
(☒ Lead Agency or ☐ Responsible Agency)

described project on May 31, 2022 (date) and has made the following determinations regarding the above described project.

1. The project [☐ will ☒ will not] have a significant effect on the environment.
2. ☐ An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
   ☒ A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures [☐ were ☒ were not] made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan [☐ was ☒ was not] adopted for this project.
5. A statement of Overriding Considerations [☐ was ☒ was not] adopted for this project.
6. Findings [☐ were ☒ were not] made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

This is to certify that the final EIR with comments and responses and record of project approval, or the negative Declaration, is available to the General Public at:
San Juan Water District, 9935 Auburn Folsom Road, Granite Bay, CA 95746

Signature (Public Agency): Paul Helmke Title: General Manager

Date: June 2, 2022 Date Received for filing at OPR:

Authority cited: Sections 21083, Public Resources Code.
Reference Section 21000-21174, Public Resources Code.

Revised 2011

RESOLUTION NO. 22-12

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SAN JUAN WATER DISTRICT ADOPTING A CEQA NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR A TEMPORARY WATER TRANSFER TO THE SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT AND A CONSORTIUM OF STATE WATER CONTRACTORS, AND RELATED ACTIONS

WHEREAS, as part of a regional water transfer proposed to be conducted by several American River water agencies, the District proposes to temporarily transfer up to 4,302 acre-feet (AF) of its pre-1914 water rights water to the Santa Clara Valley Water District and a consortium of State Water Contractors for their use during 2022 as described in the *Initial Study 2022 Temporary Water Transfer of Pre-1914 Water Rights Water to Santa Clara Valley Water District and a Consortium of State Water Contractors*, dated April 16, 2022 (the "Initial Study"), which is available at the District office (the "Project") and on the District web page;

WHEREAS, the District provides wholesale water service to customers in northeastern Sacramento County and southeastern Placer County including using its pre-1914 water rights water supplies with an 1853 priority, which have been quantified and are made available on a perpetual, no-cut basis by the United States Bureau of Reclamation under a 1954 settlement contract;

WHEREAS, the transfer water will be released from Folsom Dam, conveyed to the Delta via the American and Sacramento Rivers, pumped into the Department of Water Resources' (DWR) North Bay Aqueduct through the Barker Slough Pumping Plant and the California Aqueduct at the Harvey O. Banks Pumping Plant, and delivered to the Buyers via SWP facilities;

WHEREAS, the Fair Oaks Water District (FOWD) and the Citrus Heights Water District (CHWD), wholesale customers of the District, will pump additional groundwater in lieu of receiving surface water from the District that they would normally purchase to serve its customers;

WHEREAS, the increased groundwater pumping by CHWD and FOWD to serve its customers will occur within existing historical baselines and in accordance with all applicable requirements of an adopted Groundwater Sustainability Plan and conjunctive use accounting framework administered by the Sacramento Groundwater Authority (SGA);

WHEREAS, the District has prepared the Initial Study for the Project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act and CEQA Guidelines (collectively "CEQA");

WHEREAS, the Initial Study concluded that the Project will not have a significant effect on the environment;

WHEREAS, the District therefore proposed a CEQA Negative Declaration for the Project, and a notice of intent to adopt a negative declaration was circulated for public review

and comment in accordance with CEQA requirements;

WHEREAS, the District has considered the comments received in response to the notice of intent; and

WHEREAS, the District General Manager has recommended that the Board of Directors adopt the Negative Declaration, authorize the filing of a CEQA Notice of Determination, and approve the Project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the San Juan Water District as follows:

1. **Negative Declaration.** The Board hereby adopts the attached Negative Declaration for the Project pursuant to CEQA. The Board has reviewed the proposed Project, Initial Study, comments received on the proposed negative declaration, and other documents and information from District staff. On the basis of this information and the whole record before the District, the Board hereby finds and determines as follows:

a. The Initial Study and Negative Declaration reflect the District's independent judgment and analysis;

b. There is no substantial evidence, in light of the whole record before the District, that the Project may have a significant effect on the environment.

c. The District received comments on the proposed negative declaration from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), has considered those comments and has concluded that those comments do not present substantial evidence to support a fair argument that the Project may have a significant environmental impact for the following reasons:

i) Concern regarding potential groundwater impacts. The commenters' concerns related to potential impacts of the Project on groundwater conditions are well taken but addressed by the fact that the groundwater to replace the transferred surface water will be pumped from existing CHWD and FOWD municipal wells that have been constructed to meet all required standards and will be operated within historical baseline pumping amounts and in accordance with the applicable adopted Groundwater Sustainability Plan and water accounting framework that accounts for CHWD's and FOWD's conjunctive use efforts related to surface water supplied by the District. Moreover, the Project will include conditions for certification of groundwater wells, a monitoring, measurement and mitigation plan, and accounting in accordance with the DWR and United States Bureau of Reclamation December 2015 "Water Transfer White Paper", which conditions are intended to address any unreasonable effects on fish, wildlife, or other instream beneficial uses and the overall economy and environment of the county from which the water is being transferred as provided in Water Code section 1810(d).

2. **Location and Custodian of Documents.** The Initial Study, documents referred to in the Initial Study, notice of intent to adopt a negative declaration, Negative Declaration, and other documents concerning the Project are on file and available for public review at the

District office at 9935 Auburn Folsom Road, Granite Bay CA 95746. The District General Manager at this address is the custodian of the documents that constitute the record of proceedings upon which the decision in this matter is based.

3. **Project Approval.** The Board hereby approves the Project and authorizes the District General Manager to proceed with Project implementation, subject to applicable contracts, laws and regulations.

4. **Notice of Determination.** The Board hereby authorizes and directs the General Manager to prepare, sign and file a CEQA Notice of Determination with the County Clerks in Sacramento, Placer, Solano, and Contra Costa Counties and with the State Clearinghouse within five days from the date of the adoption of this resolution, and to pay the applicable California Department of Fish and Game CEQA fee.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the San Juan Water District on the 31st day of May 2022 by the following vote:

AYES: Costa, Miller, Rich, Tobin, Zamorano
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

KENNETH H. MILLER
President, Board of Directors

Attest:

TERI GRANT
Secretary

SAN JUAN WATER DISTRICT
NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act and CEQA Guidelines, the San Juan Water District hereby adopts a Negative Declaration for the following project:

PROJECT TITLE: 2022 Temporary Water Transfer of Pre-1914 Water Rights water to the Santa Clara Valley Water District and a consortium of State Water Contractors.

PROJECT PROPONENT AND LEAD AGENCY: San Juan Water District
9935 Auburn Folsom Road, Granite Bay, CA 95746

Contact: Greg Zlotnick, Water Resources Manager, 916-791-6933

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

As part of a regional water transfer proposed to be conducted by several American River water agencies, San Juan Water District (SJWD) is proposing to temporarily transfer up to 4,302 acre-feet (AF) of its pre-1914 water right water supplies to provide supplemental water supplies to the Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD) and a consortium of State Water Contractors (SWC), including the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Kern County Water Agency, Alameda County Water District, Napa County FC & WCD, Kings County Water District, Palmdale Water District, Dudley Ridge Water District, Zone 7 Water Agency, Central Coast Water Authority, and Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency (collectively the "Buyers").

SJWD provides wholesale water service to customers in northeastern Sacramento County and southeastern Placer County. SJWD's pre-1914 water right water supplies have an 1853 priority date and have been quantified. The water supplies are made available to SJWD on a perpetual, no-cut basis by the United States Bureau of Reclamation under a 1954 settlement contract.

Fair Oaks Water District (FOWD) and Citrus Heights Water District (CHWD), wholesale customers of SJWD, will pump groundwater in lieu of receiving surface water from SJWD that CHWD and FOWD would normally purchase to serve its customers. That foregone surface water constitutes the water being transferred ("transfer water") to the Buyers. The increased groundwater pumping by CHWD and FOWD to serve its customers will occur within existing historical baselines and in accordance with all applicable requirements of an adopted Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP), and conjunctive use accounting framework, administered by the Sacramento Groundwater Authority (SGA).

SCVWD and SWC member agencies in the SWC buyer consortium manage and operate facilities for the distribution of SWP water to customers in their respective service areas. SCVWD is primarily an urban water supplier, but it also serves some agricultural lands in southern Santa Clara County. SCVWD is normally reliant upon imported State Water Project (SWP) and federal Central Valley Project (CVP) water for approximately half of its water supplies. However, in 2022 SCVWD's SWP allocation is only 5% and its CVP allocation is only enough to meet minimum public health and safety needs. SWC members in the buyer consortium depend on imported SWP water for various portions of their normal water supply portfolios.

In July through November of 2022, the transfer water will be released from the base of Folsom Dam in Sacramento County into the lower American River, will flow through the Sacramento River and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta to DWR's North Bay Aqueduct (NBA) in Solano County in the north Delta and the Harvey O. Banks pumping plant in Contra Costa County in the south Delta, where it would be pumped into the SWP's NBA and California Aqueduct respectively for delivery by DWR to the buyers. Some of the transfer water may be temporarily stored in San Luis Reservoir for later delivery to an individual Buyer's service area.

For more information concerning the project, see the *Initial Study; 2022 Temporary Water Transfer of Pre-1914 Water Rights water to the Santa Clara Valley Water District and State Water Contractors* (the "Initial Study"), which is available for review and copying during regular business hours at the SJWD office at 9935 Auburn Folsom Road, Granite Bay, CA 95746.

PURPOSE OF AND NEED FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT

The purpose and need for the proposed water transfer is to facilitate efficient delivery and re-allocation of water between a willing seller and willing buyers under California law, subject to the Buyers' water service contracts with the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) that allows use of SWP facilities for delivery of non-Project water. The Buyers have been advised of significant deficits in their SWP water allocations for municipal, industrial, and irrigation uses in 2022 (traditional uses within their service areas).

SJWD is making up to 4,302 acre-feet of its pre-1914 water rights water available for transfer to the Buyers because the CHWD and FOWD, wholesale customers of SJWD, are able to provide groundwater substitution water for use in the CHWD and FOWD service areas respectively instead of otherwise receiving the water that SJWD will temporarily transfer in 2022. This water transfer will help offset the impacts of significant water shortages in the Buyers' service areas. SJWD has the right to transfer its pre-1914 water right water under Water Code section 1706, which permits a change in the place of use, purpose of use or point of diversion or rediversion, as long as the transfer would not injure another party that has a legal right to that water. Moreover, SJWD will comply with all requirements under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). DWR is required to facilitate the transfer of

transfer at the outlet at the base of Folsom Dam as opposed to delivering it to SJWD at the municipal intake in the dam. In fact, there may be incidental benefit to the environment from the additional 4,302 acre-feet of transfer water being released to flow down the American River that would normally otherwise be diverted to SJWD at the municipal and industrial water intake on the upstream face of Folsom Dam.

- There are no significant direct, indirect, or cumulative impacts from implementation of the proposed project in 2022. The coordination among agencies in the American River watershed to facilitate this transfer will not result in cumulative impacts from this project.

- There are no construction-related activities related to the proposed project. No ground will be disturbed that may impact historical, cultural, archaeological, or paleontological resources. Moreover, no tribal resources registered with California's Historical Registry will be changed in any way as a result of this project.

- The project would not change water or wastewater infrastructure or significantly alter water or wastewater system operations for the Buyers, SJWD, CHWD, and FOWD.

- The project would not substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, reduce the number or restrict the range of a special-status species, or eliminate important examples of California history or prehistory.

- The project would not achieve short-term environmental goals to the disadvantage of long-term environmental goals.

- The project would not have environmental effects that are individually limited but cumulatively considerable.

- The project would not have environmental effects that would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly.

- This Negative Declaration reflects the independent judgment of the Lead Agency (SJWD).

In accordance with Section 21082.1 of CEQA, SJWD has independently reviewed and analyzed the Initial Study and Negative Declaration for the proposed project and finds that the Initial Study and Negative Declaration reflect the independent judgment of SJWD. Based on a review of project impacts above, it is anticipated that there will be no significant environmental impacts as a result of this project. Therefore, no mitigation is required, and the project is hereby approved.

May 31, 2022

Paul Helliker

Paul Helliker, General Manager
San Juan Water District

INITIAL STUDY

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

1. Project title: 2022 Temporary Water Transfer of Pre-1914 Water Rights water to the Santa Clara Valley Water District and a consortium of State Water Contractors.
2. Lead agency name and address: San Juan Water District located at: 9935 Auburn Folsom Road Granite Bay, CA 95746.
3. Contact person and phone number: Greg Zlotnick, Water Resources Manager; (916) 791-6933; gzlotnick@sjwd.org
4. Project location: The San Juan Water District (SJWD) provides wholesale water service to customers in northeastern Sacramento County and southeastern Placer County. SJWD will temporarily transfer a portion of its pre-14 water rights to the Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD) and a consortium of State Water Contractors (SWC), including the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Kern County Water Agency, Alameda County Water District, Napa County FC & WCD, Kings County Water District, Palmdale Water District, Dudley Ridge Water District, Zone 7 Water Agency, Central Coast Water Authority, and Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency (collectively the "Buyers"). SCVWD and SWC are collectively the "Buyers". SCVWD manages and operates facilities for the distribution of water to its customers, and SWC member agencies do the same. Transfer water will be released from Folsom Dam, conveyed to the Delta via the American and Sacramento Rivers, pumped into the California Aqueduct through the Department of Water Resources' (DWR) Harvey O. Banks Pumping Plant and into DWR's North Bay Aqueduct, and delivered to the Buyers via SWP facilities.
5. Project sponsor's name and address:
   San Juan Water District located at: 9935 Auburn Folsom Road Granite Bay, CA 95746.
6. General plan designation: Not applicable.
7. Zoning: Not applicable
8. Description of project: As part of a regional water transfer proposed to be conducted by several American River water agencies to provide supplemental water supplies to the Buyers during 2022, SJWD will temporarily transfer up to 4,302 acre-feet of its pre-1914 water rights water supplies that have been quantified and are made available on a perpetual, no-cut basis by the United States Bureau of Reclamation under a 1954 settlement contract. The water demands that would otherwise be served by SJWD's delivery of this surface water to its wholesale customers Fair Oaks Water District (FOWD) and Citrus Heights Water District (CHWD) will instead be satisfied by increased groundwater pumping by FOWD and CHWD to serve their respective retail customers. That pumping will occur within existing historical baselines and the requirements of an adopted Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) administered by the Sacramento Groundwater Authority (SGA), which is the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the GSP pursuant to California's Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. The transfer water will be delivered to the buyers by DWR using existing SWP facilities from July through November 2022. However, the transfer water may be temporarily stored in San Luis Reservoir for later delivery to an individual Buyer's service area. The Buyers and the American River water seller agencies ("Sellers"), through the auspices of the Sacramento Regional Water Authority, have entered into an agreement to undertake the regional transfer that includes the SJWD component described in this initial study.
9. Surrounding land uses and setting: Briefly describe the project's surroundings. The San Juan Water District provides wholesale water service to approximately 150,000 customers in northeastern Sacramento County and southeastern Placer County. The service area is primarily suburban and semi-rural. The Buyers include a primarily urban purveyor supplying the water needs for most of

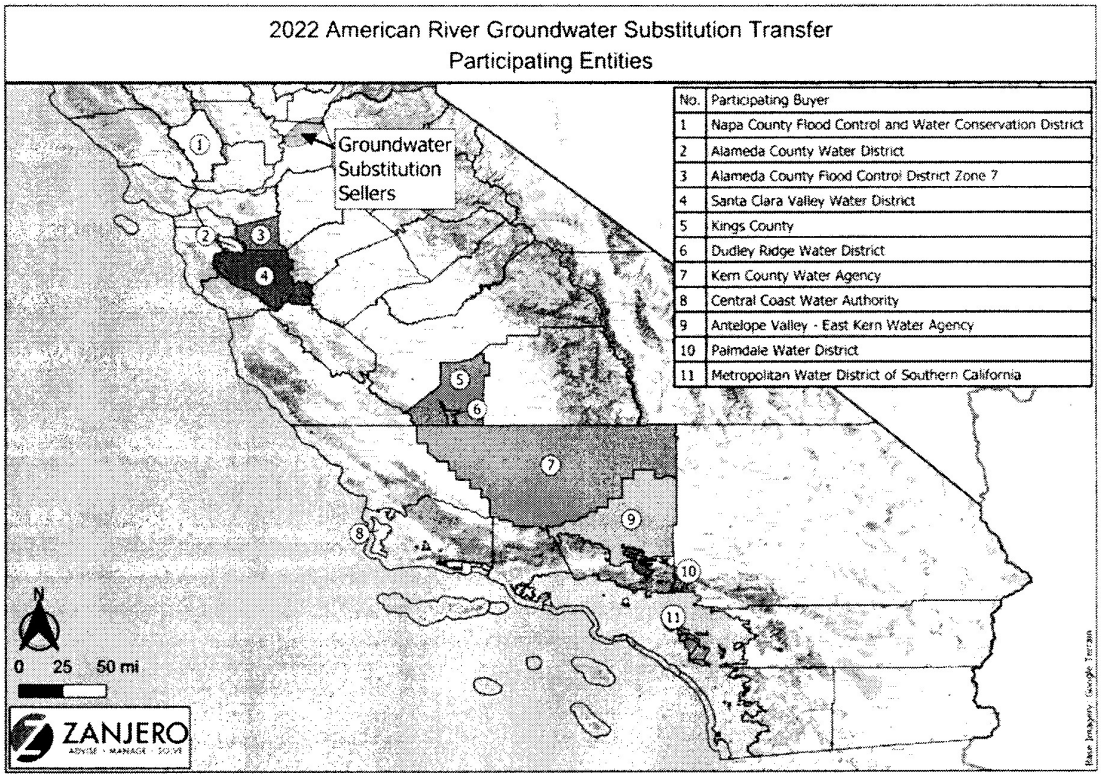
Santa Clara County, and SWC member agencies who serve urban and/or agricultural water within the State Water Project (SWP) service area.

10. Other public agencies whose approval is required (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement.):
    (a) The Buyers (see Figure 1);
    (b) The California Department of Water Resources (DWR, for a conveyance agreement to use SWP facilities);
    (c) The United States Bureau of Reclamation (to approve a change in the point of delivery of SJWD transfer water supplies);
    (d) Groundwater pumpers: CHWD and FOWD.

11. Have California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area requested consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1? If so, is there a plan for consultation that includes, for example, the determination of significance of impacts to tribal cultural resources, procedures regarding confidentiality, etc.?

    No Native American tribe has requested consultation on a project in this area to the lead agency under Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1.

Figure 1: Buyer Locations



ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact," as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

☐ Aesthetics	☐ Agriculture / Forestry Resources	☐ Air Quality
☐ Biological Resources	☐ Cultural Resources	☐ Energy
☐ Geology/Soils	☐ Greenhouse Gas Emissions	☐ Hazards & Hazardous
☐ Hydrology/Water Quality	☐ Land Use / Planning	☐ Materials Mineral
☐ Noise	☐ Population / Housing	Resources
☐ Recreation	☐ Transportation	☐ Public Services
☐ Utilities / Service Systems	☐ Wildfire	☐ Tribal Cultural Resources
		☐ Mandatory Findings of Significance

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 proponent. A MITIGATED 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] April 16, 2022

Signature *Date*

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

1. A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors, as well as general standards (e.g., the project would not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project- specific screening analysis).
2. All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
3. Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. "Potentially Significant Impact" is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
4. "Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level.
5. Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
   a) Earlier Analyses Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
   b) Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
   c) Mitigation Measures. For effects that are "Less than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated," describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
6. Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.
7. Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.
8. This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's environmental effects in whatever format is selected.
9. The explanation of each issue should identify:
   a) the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
   b) the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significant

I. AESTHETICS. Except as provided in Public Resources Code Section 21099, would the project:

	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b)	Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c)	In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d)	Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion

a-d. The proposed project entails water that would otherwise be diverted into SJWD's Municipal and Indutrial service intake being left in the American River during July through November of 2022. The Buyers will accept delivery of up to 4,302 acre-feet of SJWD pre-14 water right transfer water at the base of Folsom Dam and control the water as it flows down the American River to the Sacramento River and across the Delta to the SWP's North Bay Aqueduct and the Harvey O. Banks pumping plant, where DWR will pump the water into SWP facilities for subsequent delivery to the various Buyers' SWP service areas in Santa Clara and other Counties within the SWP service area. This project does not involve construction of any additional structures or facilities. Therefore, the proposed project would not affect views to or from any scenic vista. There would be no changes to the visual character of the area. The project would not create any new sources of light and glare. The volume of water would add approximately 10.14 to 16.25 cubic feet per second (cfs) to flows in the lower American River during the transfer period. Flow rates in the lower American River during the summer months of 2022 are expected to fluctuate from 550 to 1000 cfs. This increase in flow rate resulting from the transfer is estimated to be only a 1.6 – 2.9 percent increase in flows at the most and thus would not be aesthetically noticeable. Therefore, ***no impact*** would occur.

II. AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESOURCES. In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:

	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b)	Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c)	Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code Section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code Section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code Section 51104(g))	☐	☐	☐	☒
d)	Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e)	Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion

a-b. The water SJWD is transferring does not currently serve prime farmland or any other agricultural lands of significance. The transfer of water to the Buyers will aid in the retention of agricultural uses by helping to provide adequate water for existing agriculture serviced by water supplies delivered by Santa Clara Valley Water District and other SWC member agencies. The project will not conflict with agricultural zoning or existing Williamson Act properties. Therefore, ***no impact*** would occur.

c-e In addition, the project will not impact any forest land or result in the loss of forest land in any way as the water supply that is the subject of this transaction is not applied or related to any forest land resources. Therefore, ***no impact*** would occur.

III. AIR QUALITY. Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management district or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:

	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b)	Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c)	Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d)	Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion

a. The project does not involve any changes to current air district regulations or plans as those plans are prepared under the guidance of the California Air Resources Board (https://ww2.arb.ca.gov). Water will be transferred from SJWD to the Buyers using existing SWP facilities and is intended to help mitigate water supply shortages being experienced by the Buyers during 2022. No additional infrastructure will be required to accomplish this goal and use of SWP facilities to transport the water will still result in less use of such facilities than the maximum historical use. Other than the electrical energy used to pump the water (compared to normal operations) from the Banks Pumping Plant into the California Aqueduct, the conveyance of the water is by gravity in existing facilities. As such, no air quality plan is impacted in any region engaging in this transaction. Therefore, ***no impact*** would occur.

b-d. The project is a temporary transfer of surface water that would otherwise be diverted and treated by SJWD and delivered to CHWD and FOWD for municipal use by their retail customers. The project would result in a decrease of electrical energy use by SJWD, with resulting commensurate decreases in emissions from sources of power supplied to the California electricity grid. The reduction will be achieved because the United States Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) will release the transfer water by gravity from Folsom Dam instead of pumping it from the pipeline used to convey water from the dam to SJWD's water treatment plant. The project does involve increased pumping of groundwater, with related use of electricity to power municipal groundwater wells by CHWD and FOWD. The decrease in SJWD's power use is expected to largely offset increased power use by CHWD and FOWD. That increased pumping and the electricity required to power the pumping will be generated by existing facilities operated in accordance with applicable federal, state and local air quality standards, and therefore would not violate any air quality standard. Should the potential for a violation of local air quality permit requirements or standards arise, CHWD and FOWD will either take measures to mitigate such emissions or suspend

pumping until pumping can be restored without the potential for violating any air quality standard, thus potentially reducing the amount of water to be transferred. The project will not have an effect on air quality standards, criteria pollutants, or sensitive receptors. In addition, objectionable odors will not be created due to the incremental increase in water amounts flowing from the point of delivery to the new temporary place of use. Therefore, ***no impact*** would occur.

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES. Would the project:

	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b)	Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c)	Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means.	☐	☐	☐	☒
d)	Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e)	Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f)	Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion

a. The project involves the temporary transfer of water from SJWD via Folsom Dam, the American River, the Sacramento River, the Delta, and State Water Project (SWP) facilities to the Buyers' respective service areas. This water will be transferred consistent with all regulatory requirements the SWP must currently satisfy, including the requirements of the salmonid and smelt biological opinions and Decision 1641 applicable to Delta operations, and in compliance with all applicable existing regulatory requirements pertaining to American River flow requirements to avoid any impacts either directly or habitat modifications on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species. Flows derived from this project will

augment the flows in the American River and Sacramento River watersheds. Therefore, ***no impact*** would occur.

b, c. This project will not cause disturbance of any riparian or sensitive habitat as no changes to the natural and built environment will occur as a result of the project and any increase in flows in the lower American River, Sacramento River and Delta will be minimal and well within historical summer flow patterns. No wetlands will be disturbed as a result of this project. Therefore, ***no impact*** would occur.

d. All environmental regulations that specify minimum flow requirements and operational constraints for listed fish and other considerations will be met. The transferred water will be in addition to these flows and thus not effect flows already provided to satisfy operational requirements in place for the lower American River during July, August September, October and November. To the extent that there is any perceptible change, the minor increase in flows downstream of Folsom Dam may provide an incremental benefit to fisheries and wildlife in the lower American River, Sacramento River and Delta, and may result in a small net positive effect to water users between Folsom Dam and the the SWP pumping plants in the Delta. Any increase in flows also will be within normal variations for summer flows on the affected reaches of the American and Sacramento Rivers and the Delta. Therefore, ***no impact*** would occur.

e, f. The project will not interfere with any established Habitat Conservation Plan or conflict with tree preservation or other local ordinances and policies. The project is exempt from Sacramento County's water export policy under County Ordinance section 3.40.090(C) which exempts water agencies, like SJWD, providing water service in two counties. Therefore, ***no impact*** would occur.

V. CULTURAL RESOURCES. Would the project:

	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to § 15064.5?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b)	Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to § 15064.5?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c)	Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion

a-c. CEQA provides that a project may cause a significant environmental effect where the project could result in a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical or cultural resource (Public Resources Code, Section 21084.1). CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5 defines a "substantial adverse change" in the significance of a historical resource to mean "physical demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration of the resource or its immediate surroundings such that the significance of an historical resource would be materially impaired" (CEQA Guidelines, Section 15064.5[b][1]). There is no historical resource impacted by this transfer. As such, there are no archaeological sites impacted by this transfer. The project involves the temporary transfer of water through existing waterways and existing man-made canals. There are no human remains interred outside of dedicated cemeteries or other cultural resources affected as there will be no ground disturbance in this project. Therefore, ***no impact*** would occur.

VI. ENERGY. Would the project:

	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b)	Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion

a-b. The project will reduce energy use for San Juan Water District and the United States Bureau of Reclamation by releasing the water by gravity from Folsom Reservoir rather than delivering the water to pump stations necessary for water conveyance into SJWD's facilities. There may be minor increases in energy consumption through groundwater pumping in CHWD and FOWD to deliver water to meet customer demands. Net energy consumption resulting from the project is anticipated to be zero. There are no state or local plans associated with renewable energy or energy efficiency that would be impacted by the project. Therefore, ***no impact*** would occur.

VII. GEOLOGY AND SOILS. Would the project:

	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving	☐	☐	☐	☒
	i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map, issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.	☐	☐	☐	☒
	ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	☐	☐	☐	☒
	iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	☐	☐	☐	☒
	iv) Landslides?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b)	Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c)	Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d)	Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e)	Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f)	Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion

a-f. The proposed temporary water transfer would involve the release of water from Folsom Dam into existing waterways for pumping and delivery via existing SWP conveyance facilities. Groundwater to replace the transferred surface water will be pumped from existing CHWD and FOWD municipal wells that have been constructed to meet all required standards and will be operated within historical baseline pumping amounts in accordance with the applicable adopted GSP and SGA's water accounting framework that records CHWD's and FOWD's conjunctive use efforts in relation to

surface water supplied by SJWD. No new facilities, and therefore no ground disturbance, drilling, or excavation, would be required for this temporary transfer. There are no geologic features or paleontological resources that would be in any way impacted by this project since no ground disturbance with this project. Therefore, ***no impact*** would occur.

VIII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS. Would the project:

	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b)	Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion

a, b. In 2020, DWR adopted the DWR Climate Action Plan-Phase I: Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Plan (GGERP), which details DWR's efforts to reduce its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions consistent with Executive Order S-3-05 and the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (Assembly Bill (AB) 32). DWR also adopted the Initial Study/Negative Declaration prepared for the GGERP in accordance with the CEQA Guidelines review and public process. Both the GGERP and Initial Study/Negative Declaration are incorporated herein by reference and are available at: (https://water.ca.gov/Programs/All-Programs/Climate-Change-Program/Climate-Action-Plan) . The GGERP provides estimates of historical (back to 1990), current, and future GHG emissions related to operations, construction, maintenance, and business practices (e.g. building-related energy use). The GGERP specifies aggressive current and 2045 emission reduction goals and identifies a list of GHG emissions reduction measures to achieve these goals.

DWR specifically prepared its GGERP as a "Plan for the Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions" for purposes of CEQA Guidelines §15183.5. That section provides that such a document, which must meet certain specified requirements, "may be used in the cumulative impacts analysis of later projects." Because global climate change, by its very nature, is a global cumulative impact, an individual project's compliance with a qualifying GHG Reduction Plan may suffice to mitigate the project's incremental contribution to that cumulative impact to a level that is not "cumulatively considerable." (See CEQA Guidelines, § 15064, subd. (h)(3).)

DWR and agencies using DWR facilities that were analyzed in the GGERP may rely on the GGERP in the cumulative impacts analyses of later project-specific environmental documents. "An environmental document that relies on a greenhouse gas reduction plan for a cumulative impacts analysis must identify those requirements specified in the plan that apply to the project, and, if those requirements are not otherwise binding and enforceable, incorporate those requirements as mitigation measures applicable to the project." (CEQA Guidelines § 15183.5, subd. (b)(2).)

The proposed project will use SWP facilities and power resources to convey and/or store water. The energy associated with the operation of these facilities will likely result in the emission of GHGs. However, DWR, as part of the analysis provided in the GGERP, has fully described and analyzed the potential for GHG emissions from operations associated with use of SWP facilities by other agencies to convey and/or

store water and has committed to overall near-term and long-term GHG emissions reductions that will ensure that no significant environmental impact will occur as a result of DWR's emissions.

Based on the analysis provided in the DWR GGERP, GHG emissions associated with the use of SWP facilities for this project will not constitute a cumulatively considerable contribution to atmospheric levels of GHG emissions and are therefore, less than significant.

The project includes the temporary transfer of surface water that would otherwise be diverted, treated and delivered by SJWD to its wholesale customers CHWD and FOWD. CHWD and FOWD will temporarily increase groundwater pumping to meet their demands that would otherwise be met with the SJWD-provided treated surface water supply. There will be both reduced use of electricity at SJWD's facilities and increased use of electricity at CHWD and FOWD groundwater pumping facilities, but any increases in GHG emissions associated with power supplied to meet these changes in electricity usage will be neutral or insignificant. The project does not conflict with any plan for the reduction of GHG. Therefore, ***no impact*** would occur.

IX. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS. Would the project:

	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b)	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c)	Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d)	Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code § 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e)	For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f)	Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒
g)	Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion

a-g. The project only involves the transport and pumping of water through existing facilities, waterways and canals. No hazardous chemicals will be utilized as a result of the project. The project is not located within two miles of a hazardous materials site, school or airstrip. The project will not expose people or structures to risk due to wildfires. Therefore, ***no impact*** would occur.

X. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY. Would the project:

	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b)	Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c)	Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:	☐	☐	☐	☒
	i) result in a substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;	☐	☐	☐	☒
	ii) substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite;	☐	☐	☐	☒
	iii) create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or	☐	☐	☐	☒
	iv) impede or redirect flood flows?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d)	In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e)	Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion

a, b, e. SJWD will transfer for export high-quality surface water from the American River of the same type collected to storage in Folsom Reservoir and already released from Folsom Dam by Reclamation for export and Delta water quality improvement. The groundwater pumped by CHWD and FOWD to support the transfer meets all state drinking water standards. As result, this project will not violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements and appropriate water quality monitoring will be incorporated in the implementation of this project by CHWD, FOWD and DWR. The proposed groundwater pumping by CHWD and FOWD to replace the surface water temporarily transferred will use locally available groundwater resources consistent with existing long-term regional groundwater management and conjunctive

use programs, as well as an adopted GSP. The proposed pumping by CHWD and FOWD to support SJWD's transfer of surface water is consistent with the GSP, basin management objectives, and the SGA accounting framework, and therefore would not adversely impact the groundwater basin. SJWD has obtained a determination of consistency with the GSP from SGA, the GSA that prepared the GSP and monitors basin conditions. Most important, SJWD has been delivering surface water to CHWD and FOWD for over 60 years, which has helped stabilize and increase groundwater levels in the North American Groundwater Basin (Basin). Since the mid-1990s, groundwater elevations in the Basin have stabilized and recovered due to these efforts and, in some cases, elevations continue to increase due in part to SJWD's conjunctive use program under which CHWD and FOWD use more surface water in lieu of pumping groundwater to meet their retail demands.

As described above, SJWD's proposed 2022 water transfer would comply with Water Code section 1745.10 because CHWD's and FOWD's pumping of groundwater to permit SJWD to make surface water available for transfer is consistent with the adopted GSP. In addition, the proposed transfer complies with Water Code Section 1745.11 because the groundwater used to serve customer demands in order to make transferrable surface water available to the Buyers is groundwater generated by recharge through SJWD's operation of its wholesale conjunctive use program, with CHWD and FOWD. Only wells that have been approved by DWR will be used to make transferrable surface water available for the proposed temporary transfer. As a condition of participating in the proposed transfer CHWD and FOWD have developed groundwater monitoring, reporting, and mitigation plans, approved by DWR, which will ensure that the proposed transfer does not result in any unreasonable and adverse impacts to the groundwater basin or third parties. Therefore, ***no impact*** would occur.

c. The project will rely on releases from Folsom Dam, averaging about 10.14 to 16.25 cfs from July through November of 2022. This flow rate is 1.6 to 2.9% of the flow rate in the American River under existing flow management conditions. No noticeable alteration to the river will occur as a result of this project. There will also be no impact to local drainage or contribution to erosion in the area. No flooding, impacts to stormwater drainage, or any land-based pollutant will be impacted by the project. In addition, no flow in the lower American River derived from this project will impede or redirect any potential flood flow because the increase in flows is negligible and flood events do not normally occur in the months when this transfer will occur. The quantity of groundwater pumped is part of regional conjunctive use strategies and SJWD, CHWD and FOWD have helped maintain groundwater quality in the SJWD wholesale service area and have limited migration of groundwater contaminants from any contaminant locations through collective management and monitoring of conjunctive use actions. Therefore, ***no impact*** would occur.

d. Neither the SJWD nor the Buyers' service areas are located within an area that would be affected by a seiche, tsunami, or mudflow, and the project will not contribute to an increased risk of same. Therefore, ***no impact*** would occur.

XI. LAND USE AND PLANNING. Would the project:

	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Physically divide an established community?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b)	Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion

a-b. The project would not divide an established community due to the fact that no changes to the built environment will occur. No conflict will occur with any land use plan or habitat conservation plan since water will be conveyed within existing operational criteria that comply with all applicable land use and environmental laws, regulations, permits and approvals through existing facilities and streams, including Folsom Dam, the American River, the Sacramento River, the Delta, and existing SWP pumping facilities, canals and pipelines. Therefore, ***no impact*** would occur.

XII. MINERAL RESOURCES. Would the project:

	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be a value to the region and the residents of the state?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b)	Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion

a, b. The project will utilize the existing Folsom Reservoir, Folsom Dam, American River, Sacramento River, Delta, and SWP facilities. No land will be disturbed by this project. As a result, no known mineral resources of regional, State, or local importance will be involved in or affected by implementation of this project. Therefore, ***no impact*** would occur.

XIII. NOISE. Would the project result in:

	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b)	Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c)	For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion

a-b. No construction will occur as part of the project. Noise levels would remain consistent with existing levels occurring during operations of CHWD's and FOWD's municipal wells, and DWR's SWP facilities used to pump, convey and deliver the transfer water. Therefore, ***no impact*** would occur.

c. The project is not located within an airport land use plan or in the vicinity of a private airstrip. Therefore, ***no impact*** would occur.

XIV. POPULATION AND HOUSING. Would the project:

	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b)	Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion

a-b. SJWD's temporary transfer of water is part of a larger regional transfer of water from other American River water agencies to the Buyers to aid the Buyers during water shortage conditions in 2022 resulting from drier than normal hydrological conditions drastically reducing their allocations of imported surface water provided by the SWP to 5%. The temporary transfer is not anticipated to contribute to population growth in the receiving region due to the fact that the Buyers will be using this temporary (one-year) supply to mitigate shortages in their SWP water supply that is dedicated to serving existing needs. The temporary supply provided by SJWD and other sellers is not a reliable, long-term supply that could serve as a basis for long-term water needs planning and management by the Buyers and is intended only to relieve a shortage in supplies necessary to serve existing demands. Infrastructure already exists for the project, so no persons or housing will be displaced. Therefore, ***no impact*** would occur.

XV. PUBLIC SERVICES. Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any of the public services.

	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Fire protection?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b)	Police protection?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c)	Schools?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d)	Parks?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e)	Other public facilities?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion

a-e. The temporary water supplies provided by SJWD and other sellers are being transferred to Buyers as a dry-year supplemental supply and do not represent an increase in the amount of water supplies or capacity in the SWP normally available to Buyers. As a result, no change is required to the built environment to accomplish the project. For the same reasons, additional police, fire, school or park services will not be required to accomplish the transport of water. No public facilities will be affected as the proposed transfer will be conducted using only existing capacity in the SWP's pumping and conveyance facilities that is available due to a reduction in DWR's water allocations to the Buyers. Therefore, ***no impact*** would occur.

XVI. RECREATION.

	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b)	Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion

a-b. The project does not include, and would not contribute to the increased use of, recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities. Therefore, ***no impact*** would occur.

XVII. TRANSPORTATION. Would the project:

	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b)	Conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines § 15064.3, subdivision (b)?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c)	Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d)	Result in inadequate emergency access?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion

a-d. The project will be conducted within existing stream channels and use existing facilities that are not dedicated to transportation uses. Section 15064.3 notes that "vehicle miles is the most appropriate measure of transportation impacts" and subsection (b) identifies criteria for analyzing transportation impacts. Since no changes will occur to any transportation systems, the project is consistent with the applicable CEQA Guidelines. In addition, there will be no changes to geometric design of any transportation design feature or change any emergency access. As a result, the project will not affect traffic or transportation in any manner. Therefore, ***no impact*** would occur.

XVIII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code § 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:

	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or	☐	☐	☐	☒
b)	A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code § 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code § 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion

a-b There are no known tribal cultural resources that are implicated through this project. The transfer of SJWD's surface water supplies will minimally change operational patterns and decision-making with existing facilities. The transferred surface water supplies will minimally increase flows in the lower American River, Sacramento River, and Delta so as to not cause any additional land inundation or other land-use change that would not otherwise occur through normal operations of the Bay-Delta water system. The California Register of Historical Resources (https://ohp.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21238) lists cultural resources in California pursuant to Public Resources Code § 5024.1. There would be no changes through this transfer to any listed historical resource. In addition, San Juan Water District is unaware of any resource not listed in the Register that would be impacted by this project and have significance to a California Native American tribe. Therefore, ***no impact*** would occur.

XIX. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS. Would the project:

	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b)	Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c)	Result in a determination by the waste water treatment provider, which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d)	Generate solid waste in excess of state or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e)	Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion

a-e. Water temporarily transferred to the Buyers' service areas will be used to meet agricultural and urban demands that otherwise would have insufficient water supplies available in 2022 due to a dry winter and consequent reduction in available SWP supplies. For instances where the transferred water is treated and served to municipal customers, the generation of wastewater will result. This wastewater, however, would be consistent with expected flows under normal water supply conditions for each Buyer and would not require the expansion of capacity in any water or wastewater treatment plant. All existing wastewater facilities will continue to be operated by the Buyers consistent with all wastewater treatment standards and requirements. The pumping of additional groundwater by CHWD and FOWD to make the SJWD surface water available for temporary transfer will use existing municipal wells routinely used by CHWD and FOWD as part of its normal water system operations. Nothing in this project will generate any additional solid waste that would differ from existing local standards and expectation. Nothing in this project will require development or design of additional water distribution facilities or wastewater facilities. Last, the water supplies delivered to the Buyers are to meet an immediate deficit caused by emergency drought conditions in California. Therefore, ***no impact*** would occur.

XX. WILDFIRE. If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project:

	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b)	Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c)	Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d)	Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion

a-d. The project would temporarily deliver surface water resources derived from SJWD's pre-1914 appropriative water rights to Buyers for use in their service areas and CHWD and FOWD, SJWD wholesale customer agencies, would use groundwater in lieu of surface water to serve their respective retail customers. The project would not impact any Buyer's adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan or any similar plan in SJWD, CHWD, and FOWD service areas as water services would be maintained. There would be no other impacts related to wildfire conditions in the state of California with this project, including any furthering of pollutant concentrations or distribution, any change in infrastructure or other items that might exacerbate wildfire risk, or any changes that would expose people to additional wildfire risks because system operations would remain relatively unchanged through the project duration. Therefore, ***no impact*** would occur.

XXI. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE.

	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b)	Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.)	☐	☐	☐	☒
c)	Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion

a-c. The project would not result in any significant impacts associated with the CEQA mandatory findings of significance. Based on the analysis provided in this Initial Study, the temporary water transfer between SJWD and the Buyers would not substantially degrade or reduce fish or wildlife species or habitat, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal ccomunity, substantially restrict the range of a rare or endanged plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods in California's history or pre-history. The project would not result in significant cumulative impacts, or cause adverse effects on humans or the environment. The temporary groundwater substitution transfer that is the subject of this project would not change the water system operations individually or cumulatively that would cause a significant impact to the environment, people, historical resources, cultural resources, or Native American tribes. Therefore, ***no impact*** would occur.