Attachment A

Agency: Triangle T Water District
Drought Executive Order N-7-22, Action 13
Self-Certification Form

BACKGROUND: *Consistent with the March 28, 2022 Drought Executive Order N-7-22 Action 13, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) developed this self-certification form to allow local agencies to submit their proposed recharge projects to DWR and that the project is eligible for the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) suspension. After reviewing the information submitted via this self-certification form, DWR will review and may concur. A list of activities eligible for the CEQA suspension is maintained on DWR's website at: https://water.ca.gov/Water-Basics/Drought.*

INSTRUCTIONS: *Entities carrying out a proposed recharge project that may meet the objectives of Executive Order N-7-22 Action 13 should complete this self-certification form as soon as possible to initiate DWR's review and potential concurrence that the project is eligible for the CEQA suspension. Please submit one self-certification form for each individual project. For questions, please email SGMPS@water.ca.gov.*

1. **Please provide a short description of the proposed recharge project in which you are seeking a CEQA suspension, demonstrating how it is consistent with Executive Order N-7-22, Action 13 (include historical land use and current land use on the proposed project location):**
   The proposed pipeline would build approximately 1.52-miles of 27" PVC pipeline and would convey purchased surface water to lands within the Inter Basin Coordination Committee's Subsidence Priority Area. The surface water would originate from the Central California Irrigation District's Poso Canal and would be used for recharge or to irrigate cropland (in-lieu pumping) within and outside Triangle T Water District (TTWD). There would also be an approximately 30-acre regulating regulator. The Poso Extension pipeline will be metered and TTWD keep permanent records of all surface water deliveries which will verify the volume of groundwater replaced with surface water.

   With boosting from the regulating reservoir, the pipeline extension has a capacity of 20 cubic feet per second (cfs) and would provide surface water access to approximately 3,800-acres of irrigated farmland that currently does not have access to surface water. These lands primarily utilize groundwater pumped beneath the Corcoran Clay, which is known to cause subsidence.

   The pipeline extension would also deliver surface water to a dedicated 35-acre recharge pond. Initial testing indicates the recharge pond will have a recharge rate of 0.75 AF/A per day. During the months of January through April, when there is typically floodwater in the system, the recharge basin would recharge 2,000 AF.

   The two groundwater wells that will be see a reduction in pumping are located adjacent to Road 4 in Madera County at 37° 1'59.89"N / 120°28'26.17"W and 37° 2'23.02"N / 120°28'37.69"W.

   The Project is located within Census Block Group 60039000202. This Census Block Group is classified as an SB 535 Disadvantaged Community and is an Environmentally Disadvantaged community per the CalEnviroScreen 3.0 tool.

2. **Please describe the anticipated benefits and the basis of those benefits from implementing the proposed recharge project (in acre-feet/year or estimated volume of water, if possible):**
   The 20 cfs Poso Pipeline Extension Project would provide approximately 8,000-acre feet per year (AFY) of purchased surface water to farmland that primarily utilizes groundwater from the deep aquifer. This surface water would replace 8,000 AFY of deep aquifer pumping, the primary cause of subsidence.

3. **Please identify the category this proposed recharge project would fall under (multiple answer can be selected):**
   ☒*Flood Managed Aquifer Recharge (selected option).*
   ☒*DWR Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant Program (selected option).*
   ☐*Other.*

4. **Please identify which of the objectives the proposed recharge project meets as described in the Executive Order (multiple answers can be selected):**
   ☐*Projects is on Open Lands (which are those lands that are native or largely undeveloped from agricultural or industrial practices. These lands could include flood bypasses, natural areas, wildlife preserves, or existing managed wetlands.)*
   ☒*Project is on Working Lands (which are those lands that have been previously developed for agricultural or other industrial practices. These lands could include active or fallowed agricultural lands, gravel and sand operations, open storage fields, or other similar working lands.) (selected option).*

5. **Please describe how the proposed recharge project meets the following objectives as described in the Executive Order:**
   ☒*Project will help mitigate groundwater conditions impacted by the drought (To mitigate groundwater conditions impacted by drought, projects should include the replenishment of groundwater resources to the subsurface, especially shallow aquifers, for the purpose of storage, temporary or otherwise. Drought impacts to groundwater conditions would include lowering of groundwater levels that may have occurred due to lack of natural recharge or groundwater pumping that may especially impact shallow aquifers.) (selected option).*

6. **What funding sources are supporting the proposed recharge project? (Please list all local, state, federal, private or public funding sources).**
   SGMA Implementation Round 1 Agreement Number 4600014697.

7. **Please provide the estimated project start date:**
   12/01/2022.

8. **Please provide the estimated project end date or date project can be considered operational:**
   03/31/2025.

9. **Please identify if the proposed recharge project requires a new water right permit to be issued by the State Water Board under their Groundwater Storage Water Rights Permitting process. If an existing water right is being used, please provide the permit number under the 'Other' category (For more information, visit: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/applications/groundwater_recharge/):**

   ☒*No new water right is needed; already have existing water rights or agreements for this proposed recharge project. (selected option).*

   ☐*Need a temporary water right for this recharge project (180 days).*

   ☐*Need a temporary water right for this recharge project (1 to 5 years).*

   ☐*Need a streamlined permit for a standard water right.*

   ☐*Need a standard water right for this recharge project.*

   ☐*Other.*

10. **When do you anticipate your proposed recharge project will be ready for construction phase (i.e. shovel ready)?**
    06/01/2023.

11. **Are there other permitting requirements necessary to carry out the proposed recharge project. If so, please describe.**
    There will be permits required to cross the Eastside Bypass. The final design is not complete, however the pipeline will be horizontally drilled, trenched, or attached to a bridge to cross the Eastside Bypass. We have begun discussions with the Lower San Joaquin Levee District and the will help guide the final design.

12. **Please describe if there are any anticipated water quality or other environmental impacts associated with the propose recharge project (if so, please describe the mitigation measures that will be taken to remedy or offset those impacts):**
    There are no other environmental impacts other than those that might occur from crossing the Eastside Bypass. The Lower San Joaquin River Levee District will lead the permitting of the crossing.

13. **Please provide the name of the Local Agency implementing the proposed recharge project:**
    Triangle T Water District.

14. **Please provide a Project Manager Point of Contact First and Last Name:**
    Sarah Woolf.

15. **Please provide a Project Manager Point of Contact Email and Phone Number:**
    sarahwoolf@me.com; (559) 341-0174.

16. **Please identify the groundwater basin in which the proposed recharge project will be located. If possible, please provide the proposed project location coordinates (latitude, longitude). (For**

more information, visit:
https://sgma.water.ca.gov/webgis/index.jsp?appid=gasmaster&rz=true):
Basin Number: 5-022.
Basin Subbasin Number: 5-022.05.
Basin Name: San Joaquin Valley.
Basin Subbasin Name: San Joaquin Valley – Chowchilla.

37°1'5.97"N
120°28'25.47"W

17. **Please provide the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) and Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) or Alternative to a GSP that the proposed recharge project is associated:**
https://www.maderacountywater.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/1.-Chowchilla_GSP_Edits_2022_Tracked_Changes.pdf

18. **Please provide any additional information you would like to include in your Self-Certification Form:**
None.

In signing this self-certification form, I understand that the Department of Water Resources will rely on this signed certification form to determine if a concurrence with the Drought Executive Order N-7-22, Action 13 is granted for the project described and that false and/or inaccurate representations in this self-certification form may result in the invalidation of the CEQA suspension.

Furthermore, I understand that by receiving concurrence from the Department of Water Resources concerning eligibility for the CEQA suspension outlined in EO N-7-22, DWR makes no claims, promises, or guarantees about the project feasibility, benefits claimed from the completed project, adequacy of the project, potential environmental impacts of the construction activities or completed project, and expressly disclaims liability for project performance, environmental impacts during and after construction, project construction disturbances, unmitigated environmental impacts post-construction, or project failures.

Original document signed by Sarah Woolf on 4/29/2023.

Name of Authorized Representative	Signature	Date

Title	Agency