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### **ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT**

## The mediating role of environmental emotions in transition from knowledge to sustainable behavior toward exploit groundwater resources in Iran's agriculture Aliakbar Raeisi<sup>a1</sup>, Masoud Bijani<sup>b\*2</sup>, Mohammad Chizari<sup>c3</sup>

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#### ABSTRACT

The excessive use of groundwater resources has created numerous environmental consequences in Iran. Many water experts believe that this crisis can be overcome by fostering sustainable environmental behavior (SEB) in the utilization of groundwater resources and increasing the farmers' environmental knowledge (EK), attitude (EA) and emotions (EE). The purpose of this study was to investigate "transforming from EK to SGBR through the analysis of the mediating role of EE in Iran's agriculture". This research is placed within the category of quantitative and applied research that was carried out via a survey technique. In terms of data analysis, the present study falls within the category of descriptive-correlation and causal-relational studies. All the wheat producing farmers of Sistan and Baluchestan Province (SBP) as a clear example of critical condition of groundwater resources in Iran (N=168873) constituted the statistical population of the study whom 384 participants

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