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Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research
PO Box 3044, 1400 Tenth Street, Rm 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Habitat Conservation Planning Branch
Native Plant Program
P.O. Box 944209
Sacramento, CA 94244-2090

Project Title: Green Biome Institute Activities Involving State-listed Plants (Project)

Project Location: Project activities will take place at the Green Biome Institute at California State University East Bay, located at 25800 Carlos Bee Boulevard, Hayward, CA 94542, and Project collection activities will take place at wild populations of state-listed plants in California.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) is issuing a permit (No. 2081(a)-20-012-RP) to the Green Biome Institute at California State University East Bay pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 2081(a). The Green Biome Institute's activities involving state-listed species include: (1) collection of voucher specimens; (2) collection and storage of small amounts of plant tissue including leaves, flowers, and fruit for genetic sequencing and analysis; (3) cryopreservation and storage of cell cultures; and (4) monitoring wild plant populations.

California Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Green Biome Institute, California State University East Bay

Exempt Status:

- ☐ Ministerial;
- ☐ Declared Emergency;
- ☐ Emergency Project;
- ☒ Categorical Exemption. Type and section number: Sections 15306 and 15307, Classes 6 and 7

Reasons why project is exempt: The Project will facilitate the recovery of state-listed plant species by collecting information on populations via voucher specimen collection to deposit in herbaria. Conservation of state-listed plants will also be achieved through genetic sequencing and analyses of plant species. The permit issued by CDFW for the Project includes measures to ensure that existing populations of state-listed plants are not impacted.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Cherilyn Burton Area Code/Telephone/ Extension: (916) 206-0411

Signature: DocuSigned by: 36A9B0313DBB4142... *Isabel Baer, Native Plant Program Manager* **Date:** 12/22/2020

☐ Signed by Lead Agency Date Received for filing at OPR: _____