

Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. 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: Conservation Genomics of California *Limnanthes* (Project)

Project Location: The Project will be conducted at several locations throughout Marin, Mendocino, Napa, Riverside, San Diego, San Mateo, and Sonoma counties. Tissue samples and voucher collections from the Project will be deposited at the University of California Botanical Garden at Berkeley and the Jepson Herbarium, respectively. Additionally, DNA extraction and genetic analyses of the collected tissue samples will be conducted at the California Conservation Genomics Project (CCGP) Mini Core facility at University of California Los Angeles (UCLA).

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife is issuing a permit to Vanessa Handley [Permit No. 2081(a)-21-002-RP] pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 2081(a) for a project to include range-wide sampling of several *Limnanthes* species, *L. douglassii* ssp. *sulphurea*, *L. alba* ssp. *parishii*, and *L. vinculans*, which are listed as endangered under the California Endangered Species Act, and *L. bakeri* which is listed as rare under the Native Plant Protection Act. Project activities will require collection of one gram of fresh leaf or stem tissue from several plants per collection site for each of the target taxa. The collected samples will be placed in paper envelopes and immersed in silica granules. DNA will be extracted from the collected tissue samples robotically and whole genome libraries will be produced following the plexWell library protocol at the CCGP Mini Core facility at UCLA. The resulting genomic data will be analyzed and made available to the public. A single voucher specimen will be collected from each *Limnanthes* species per site and deposited at the Jepson Herbarium at the University of California, Berkeley.

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

Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Dr. Vanessa Handley, Project Scientist, University of California Botanical Garden

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 consists of basic data collection and research to help maintain species of California *Limnanthes*. The Project will increase scientific knowledge of the species by providing baseline data to help manage rare and endangered species. The permit issued by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for the Project includes measures to ensure that existing populations of *Limnanthes* species are not negatively impacted by the Project.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Raffica La Rosa

Area Code/Telephone/ Extension: (916) 206-4502

Signature: _____
Isabel Baer, Native Plant Program Manager

Date: _____

Signed by Lead Agency

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____