

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 212
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: Sierra Nevada Conservancy
11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205
Auburn, CA 95603

Project Title: Miller Ranch Conservation Easement Acquisition SNC1432-LC

Project Location – Specific: 2761 Ben Hur Rd, Mariposa, CA 95338. APN 018-080-0060.

Project Location - City: Mariposa

Project Location - County: Mariposa

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy would provide funding for the Sierra Foothill Conservancy to purchase an 857+/- conservation easement on the Miller Ranch Property, 12 miles south of the town of Mariposa. Specific actions include completing a phase one environmental assessment report, baseline documentation report, long-term management plan, and a legal review of all acquisition documents. The conservation easement will assure that the property remains a working ranch landscape. The acquisition is within the Sierra Foothill Conservancy's Mariposa Madera Focus Area, a landscape-scale conservation strategy creating a network of large foothill ranches.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Sierra Foothill Conservancy

Exempt Status:

Categorical Exemption: Class 17 Section 15317 Open Space Contract or Easements

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project is categorically exempt from the provisions of CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15317 Open Space Contract or Easements (Class 17) which consists of the establishment of agricultural preserves, the making and renewing of open space contracts under the Williamson Act, or the acceptance of easements or fee interests in order to maintain the open space character of the area. The project solely consists of the placement of a conservation easement on the property for the purpose of maintaining a working ranch landscape. SNC has independently reviewed the project and determined that no exception under Section 15300.2 applies.


Lead Agency

Contact Person: Mary Akens

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 530-450-5177

If filed by applicant: N/A

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project:
Yes ___ No ___

Signature:  Date: 12/12/2022 Title: Chief Deputy Executive Officer

Signed by Lead Agency: Yes

Signed by Applicant: No

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code. Date received for filing at OPR: _____

Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.