

## 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: Upper Sacramento Headwaters Acquisition SNC1449-LC

Project Location – Specific: 2100 Deetz Road, between the cities of Weed and Mount Shasta, 3 miles west of Hwy 5. APNs 021-271-010, 021-271-020, 021-271-030.

Project Location - City: 6 mi northwest of the city of Mt. Shasta

Project Location - County: Siskiyou

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy would provide funding for the Siskiyou Land Trust to purchase the 320-acre Luginbuhl Ranch located near the community of Mt. Shasta in Siskiyou County, adjacent to lands managed by the Shasta-Trinity National Forest. The property is comprised of mixed conifer forest, mountain meadows, fens, springs, and streams, which provide source water to the Upper Sacramento River. The property is currently managed for agricultural and forestry values. The long-term intent of this project is for Siskiyou Land Trust to sustainably manage the property for agricultural and forestry values while protecting water sources and sensitive habitats, maintaining a resilient forest ecosystem that retains carbon, buffers the Upper Sacramento River from drought risks, and reduces wildfire risks to surrounding forests and communities. The SNC project would include completion of all due diligence to purchase the property for conservation, an environmental site assessment, cultural surveys, development of a management plan, transaction document development, and purchase of the property.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Siskiyou Land Trust

Exempt Status:

Categorical Exemption: Class 13 Section 15313 Acquisition of Lands for Wildlife Conservation Purposes, Class 25 Section 15325 Transfers of Ownership of Interest in Land to Preserve Existing Natural Conditions and Historical Resources

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project is categorically exempt from the provisions of CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15313 Acquisition of Lands for Wildlife Conservation Purposes (Class 13) which consists of the acquisition of lands for fish and wildlife conservation purposes including (a) preservation of fish and wildlife habitat, (b) establishing ecological reserves under Fish and Game Code Section 1580, and (c) preserving access to public lands and waters where the purpose of the acquisition is to preserve the land in its natural condition. The project is also categorically exempt pursuant to

CEQA Guidelines Section 15325 (Class 25) Transfers of Ownership of Interest in Land to Preserve Existing Natural Conditions and Historical Resources which consists of the transfers of ownership of interests in land in order to preserve open space, habitat, or historical resources. The intent of this acquisition is to conserve the wildlife habitat, water sources, and the forest ecosystem. SNC has independently reviewed the project and determined that no exception under Section 15300.2 applies.

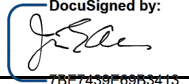
Lead Agency

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: 3/2/2023 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.