

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: The Stockton Creek Preserve Recreation and Resilience Enhancements Master Plan Project (SNC #1589-RT)

Project Location – Specific: Stockton Creek Preserve, surrounding Stockton Creek Reservoir adjacent to the northeast side of the town of Mariposa, off of Hwy 140.

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 (SFC), in partnership with the Mariposa Public Utilities District (MPUD), to complete planning activities towards potential future recreation enhancements and resource protections at the Stockton Creek Preserve. The SFC will complete the design, planning, and permitting documents necessary for potential future recreation and tourism infrastructure, enhance and protect natural and cultural resources, and develop a cohesive vision for multi-use recreation and interpretive elements throughout the Preserve. This may include studies necessary for California Environmental Quality Act compliance for roadway access and a parking lot adjacent to Highway 140, Americans with Disabilities Act accessible restrooms, shade structures, picnic tables, and associated amenities identified during the planning process. In addition, a cultural resources assessment and interpretive signage and elements plan may be incorporated into the master plan.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Sierra Nevada Conservancy

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

Exempt Status:

Statutory Exemption: Pub. Resources Code, Section 21150 and CEQA Guidelines, Section 15262; Feasibility and Planning Studies

Categorical Exemption: CEQA Guidelines, Section 15306; Information Collection

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project is Statutorily Exempt under Pub. Resources Code, Section 21150 and CEQA Guidelines, Section 15262 Feasibility and Planning Studies, as the project only involves planning studies for possible future actions, which the Sierra Nevada Conservancy Board has not approved, adopted, or funded; there is no legally binding effect on later activities. The project is also Categorical Exempt under Section 15306 Information Collection because it consists of basic data collection and resource evaluation activities, which do not result in a disturbance to environmental resources.

The proposed activities are for information gathering purposes and are part of a study leading to an action, which a public agency has not yet approved, adopted, or funded. This project does not fall within any exceptions to the categorical exemption. The SFC will collect data, conduct environmental analysis, and complete designs for potential future recreation improvement and resource protection projects on the Preserve.

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: 6/1/2023 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.