

**Notice of Exemption**

**To:** Office of Planning and Research  
State Clearinghouse  
1400 Tenth Street, Room 113  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**From:** Department of Fish and Wildlife  
**Wildlife Conservation Board**  
P.O. Box 944209  
Sacramento, CA 99244-2090

**County Clerk (County of):** N/A

**Attention:** Amy Henderson

**Project Title:** MDLT Seed Bank Expansion

**Project Applicant:** Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB)

**Project Location – Specific: APN(s)**

601-221-43

60124 29 Palms Hwy, Joshua Tree

**Project Location – City:** Joshua Tree

**Project Location – County:** San Bernardino

**CEQA Region:** S. CA

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Benefits of Project:**

The project is a seed bank expansion project which includes increasing capacity to collect, process, and store seed; conduct research and develop protocols to be shared with the larger conservation community; create an inventory of California desert seed for use in restoration projects throughout the region; and develop and implement outreach and education materials to further the public's knowledge of the importance of native plants and seed banking, located on MDLT-owned lands. WCB Project Tracker ID: 2023037

**Public Agency Approving Project:** Department of Fish and Wildlife, WCB

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out the Project:** Rebecca J. Fris, Acting Executive Director, WCB

**Exempt Status: (Check One)**

- Ministerial (Sec. 15268):
- Declared Emergency [Sec. 15269 (a)]:
- Emergency Project [Sec. 15269 (b) and (c)]:
- Categorical Exemption. State Section number and type: 15061(b)(3) – Review for Exemption
- Statutory Exemptions, State code Number:
- Other:

**Reasons why this project is exempt:**

This project is not subject to CEQA as it is the collection of native seeds on private property. Therefore, it can be shown with certainty that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment.

**Lead Agency Contact Person:** Rebecca J. Fris

**Area Code/Telephone Extension:** (916) 212-5637

**If filed by applicant:** 1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.  
2. Has a notice of exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project?  Yes, (by this notice)  No

**Signature:** DocuSigned by: *Rebecca J. Fris* **Title:** Acting Executive Director **Date:** 5/31/2023

Signed by Lead Agency  Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.  
Reference: Section 21108, 21152, 21152.1, Public Resources Code

**SCH #:**  
**Posted Date:**  
**Date Received for Filing at OPR:**