



**ATTACHMENT TO NOTICE OF EXEMPTION
Black Lake Wetland Enhancement (Project)
(Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-SLO-28566-R4)**

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement Number EPIMS-SLO-28566-R4 (LSAA) pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1602 for The Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County's Black Lake Wetland Enhancement Project (Project). The Project is located within the greater Guadalupe-Nipomo Dune Complex (GNDC), west of Highway 1, south of the City of Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo County, California; Section 00, Township 12 North, Range 34, 35, and 36 East; US Geological Survey 7.5 Minute Quad Arroyo Grande; Assessor's Parcel Numbers 075-261-005, 075-261-006, 091-141-013, and 075-301-015; GPS coordinates 35.057699, -120.603186.

The Project includes activities related to the enhancement of perennial Black Lake, a coastal dune freshwater pond. Activities include the removal of sediment and recontour of banks, treatment of invasive vegetation, and revegetation with special status native plant species. The Project is designed to reverse the effects of sedimentation and hydrophytic vegetation overgrowth to replenish subsurface recharge, thereby preventing habitat conversion to upland characteristics. This Project will directly aid in the recovery of two listed plant species, marsh sandwort (*Arenaria paludicola*) and La Graciosa thistle (*Cirsium scariosum* var. *loncholepis*) and will indirectly support other native resident and transient species that occur within the GNDC.

CDFW approved the LSAA relying on the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Statutory Exemption for Restoration Projects (SERP) (Cal. Pub. Res. Code, § 21080.56). Evidence in support of that determination is set forth in the County of San Luis Obispo's February 15, 2023, CEQA SERP Lead Agency Determinations for the Project and the CDFW's CEQA SERP Concurrence Number 21080.56-2023-021-R4. The Project falls within the SERP because the Project meets all of the following conditions: (1) the Project is exclusively to conserve, restore, protect, or enhance, and assist in the recovery of California native fish and wildlife, and the habitat upon which they depend; or is exclusively to restore or provide habitat for California native fish and wildlife; (2) the Project may have public benefits incidental to the Project's fundamental purpose; (3) the Project will result in long-term net benefits to climate resiliency, biodiversity, and sensitive species recovery; and includes procedures and ongoing management for the protection of the environment; and (4) Project construction activities are solely related to habitat restoration.

The CDFW's CEQA SERP Concurrence Number 21080.56-2023-021-R4 for the Project provides more detailed information on the Project's SERP eligibility; that concurrence is available at the following CDFW webpage: <https://wildlife.ca.gov/Notices/CEQA>.