

## Notice of Exemption

<b>To:</b> Office of Planning and Research State Clearinghouse 1400 Tenth Street, Room 113 Sacramento, CA 95814  <b>County Clerk (County of):</b> N/A	<b>From:</b> Department of Fish and Wildlife <b>Wildlife Conservation Board</b> P.O. Box 944209 Sacramento, CA 99244-2090  <b>Attention:</b> Kurt Malchow
<b>Project Title:</b> Sierra Foothill Forest Climate Resilience	
<b>Project Applicant:</b> Wildlife Conservation Board	
<b>Project Location – Specific: APN(s)</b>	
Estimated center of project area: Latitude 39.2712538 N, Longitude: -121.1152751 W. The project is in rural western Nevada City, north of the town of Rough and Ready and Highway 20. Lake Wildwood is to the west, and the South Yuba River is to the north of the project area.	
<b>Project Location – City:</b> Nevada City	
<b>Project Location – County:</b> Nevada	
<b>CEQA Region:</b> Unincorporated	
<b>Description of Nature, Purpose, and Benefits of Project:</b>	
The purpose of this project is to improve forest health and wildlife habitat by treating 625 acres of Sierra Nevada foothill forest through a combination of targeted hand-thinning and mastication of invasive species, shrubs and small trees; application of prescribed fire; planting of native species; and targeted herbicide application to increase duration between treatments. The native plant species will be selected based on their capability to withstand projected drought conditions under a changing climate. WCB Project Tracker ID: 2023029.	
<b>Public Agency Approving Project:</b> Department of Fish and Wildlife, WCB	
<b>Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out the Project:</b> Rebecca J. Fris, Acting Executive Director, WCB	
<b>Exempt Status: (Check One)</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ministerial (Sec. 15268):	
<input type="checkbox"/> Declared Emergency [Sec. 15269 (a)]:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Project [Sec. 15269 (b) and (c)]:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Categorical Exemption. State Section number and type:	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Statutory Exemptions, State code Number: Public Resources Code Section 21080.56	
<b>Reasons why this project is exempt:</b>	
The Project is statutorily exempt from CEQA pursuant to the Statutory Exemption for Restoration Projects (SERP), Public Resources Code section 21080.56, as a project that 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.	
<b>Lead Agency Contact Person:</b> Rebecca J. Fris	
<b>Area Code/Telephone Extension:</b> (916) 212-5637	
<b>If filed by applicant:</b> 1. Attach certified document of exemption finding. 2. Has a notice of exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, (by this notice) <input type="checkbox"/> No	
<b>Signature:</b> <small>DocuSigned by:</small> Rebecca J. Fris	<b>Title:</b> Acting Executive Director
<b>Date:</b> 8/25/2023	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Signed by Lead Agency	<input type="checkbox"/> Signed by Applicant
Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 21108, 21152, 21152.1, Public Resources Code	<b>SCH #:</b> <b>Posted Date:</b> <b>Date Received for Filing at OPR:</b>

ec: WCB Project Tracker  
WCB Board Meeting Folder