



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT
Notice of Exemption

To: [X] Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044
[X] County Clerk, County of Contra Costa

From: East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservancy
Department of Conservation and Development
30 Muir Road
Martinez, CA 94553
(925) 655-2909

Project Title: Knightsen Wetland Restoration Project

Project Applicant: East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservancy

Project Location: 8831 Byron Hwy, Brentwood, CA, Contra Costa County, APNs 020-171-001 and 020-172-004

Lead Agency: East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservancy, Department of Conservation and Development, 30 Muir Road, Martinez, CA 94553

Contact Person: Abigail Fateman (925) 655-2908

Project Description: The Knightsen Wetland Restoration project, when constructed, will restore the ranch to high quality habitat for special status species. The ecological benefits will extend beyond target species in the East Contra Costa County HCP/NCCP, as the project will also support migratory birds and Delta species. There are also anticipated Delta water quality benefits. This is a large restoration effort that includes reconnecting this parcel to Delta tidal flows. The project is in the planning and design phase with a current action of accepting grant funding from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Wildlife Conservation Board for early implementation actions.

Name of Person or Agency Carrying out Project: East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservancy (925) 655-2909

Exempt Status:

- Ministerial Project (Sec. 21080[b][1]; 15268)
Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080[b][3]; 15269[a])
Emergency Project (Sec. 21080[b][4]; 15269[b][c])
Categorical Exemption (Sec.)
General Rule of Applicability (Sec. 15061[b][3])
Other Statutory Exemption (Sec. 21080.56)

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project is exempt for the following reasons: (1) The Project is being implemented to conserve, restore, and protect HCP/NCCP covered species and habitat and to achieve HCP/NCCP biological goals and objectives; (2) the Project site will be protected in perpetuity by a conservation easement, ensuring long-term benefits for climate resiliency, biodiversity, and species recovery; (3) the Project will be implemented in accordance with the HCP/NCCP, which includes measures to minimize or avoid environmental impacts and ensures the Project site will be managed and monitored in perpetuity; and (4) all Project construction activities will advance the habitat restoration objectives of the Project.

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 [] No

Signature: [Handwritten Signature] Date 12/19/23 Title: Executive Director

[X] Signed by Lead Agency [] Signed by Applicant

AFFIDAVIT OF FILING AND POSTING

I declare that on [] I received and posted this notice as required by California Public Resources Code Section 21152(c). Said notice will remain posted for 30 days from the filing date.

Signature

Title

Applicant

Name
Address
Phone

Department of Fish and Wildlife Fees Due

- [] De Minimis Finding - \$0
[X] County Clerk - \$50
[] Conservation and Development - \$25

Total Due: Receipt #:

