

**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:** Kim Cruz

**Project Title:** Western Riverside MSHCP Samrith

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

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

932-160-025

**Project Location – City:** N/A

**Project Location – County:** Riverside

**CEQA Region:** S. CA

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

The approval to subgrant a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Section 6 Acquisition grant and the allocation of a Wildlife Conservation Board grant to the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority, for a cooperative project to acquire 20± acres of land for the protection of critical habitat to bolster a wildlife movement corridor for special status species including mountain lion and coastal California gnatcatcher and to provide future wildlife oriented public use opportunities, located west of the city of Temecula in unincorporated Riverside County. WCB Project Tracker ID: 2023121.

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

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out the Project:** John P. Walsh, Deputy 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: Section 15313, Class 13 & Section 15325, Class 25
- Statutory Exemptions, State code Number:
- Other:

**Reasons why this project is exempt:**

Project involves the transfer of an ownership interest in land for conservation purposes and to preserve open space and habitat, including plant or animal habitats.

**Lead Agency Contact Person:** John P. Walsh

**Area Code/Telephone Extension:** (916) 539-8016

**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:

John Walsh

**Title:** Deputy Executive Director

**Date:** 2/16/2024

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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:**

ec: WCB Project Tracker  
WCB Board Meeting Folder