

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: Michael Shaw

Project Title: Sweetwater Ridge

Project Applicant: Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB)

Project Location – Specific: APN(s)

049-240-006

Project Location – City: Los Banos

Project Location – County: Merced

CEQA Region: N. CA

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Benefits of Project:

To acquire 560± acres for the the protection of riparian woodlands, wetlands, native grasslands and vernal pools located at the southeastern border of the San Luis National Wildlife Refuge and bordered to the north by the Mariposa Slough and the west by the San Joaquin River in Merced County. WCB Project Tracker ID: 2023168.

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 and Section 15325, Class 25
- Statutory Exemptions, State code Number:
- Other:

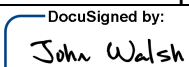
Reasons why this project is exempt:

Project involves the acquisition of land for wildlife conservation 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:  **Title:** Deputy Executive Director **Date:** 2/16/2024

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: