

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: Alyssa Benedetti

Project Title: Van Arken Public Access Planning

Project Applicant: Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB)

Project Location – Specific: APN(s)

220-202-004-000, 220-202-001-000, 220-202-002-000, 220-191-007-000, 215-162-022-000, 215-162-018-000, 215-162-021-000, 215-162-020-000, 215-162-005-000, 215-162-004-000, 215-151-006-000, 215-151-001-000.

Project Location – City: Garberville

Project Location – County: Humboldt

CEQA Region: N. CA

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Benefits of Project:

This project will develop a Public Access Program on a 1,320-acre conservation easement held by Sanctuary Forest Inc. in the Mattole River headwaters. The property is surrounded by mostly private land in the center of the rural Whitethorn community and located near the highly visited King Range National Conservation Area and Lost Coast. Outcomes include a Recreation Management Plan; designs for trails (including ADA accessible amenities), wayfinding and interpretive signage (bilingual), and other amenities; and required environmental compliance that will lead to a shovel ready implementation project. WCB Project ID 2023144.

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

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out the Project: Rebecca J. Fris, 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:
 Statutory Exemptions, State code Number: Section 15262, Feasibility and Planning Studies
 Other:

Reasons why this project is exempt:

Project involves only planning for future activities.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Rebecca J. Fris

Area Code/Telephone Extension: (916) 212-5637

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: *Rebecca J. Fris* **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: