

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: Amy Henderson

Project Title: Joshua Tree Conservation Coalition and Monitoring

Project Applicant: Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB)

Project Location – Specific: APN(s)

Project takes place over the range of the western Joshua tree across six counties.

Project Location – City: Cities within range include Ridgecrest, Barstow, and Joshua Tree

Project Location – County: Inyo, Kern, Los Angeles, Mono, Riverside, and San Bernardino

CEQA Region: N. CA and S. CA

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Benefits of Project:

The Project consists of two programs: (1) form the Joshua Tree Conservation Coalition which will advise and inform on the best conservation practices for the western Joshua tree and (2) design a western Joshua tree population monitoring study to provide comprehensive baseline demographic data through long-term, range-wide monitoring. Both projects will inform the California Department of Fish and Wildlife as they prepare the Western Joshua Tree Conservation Plan per Section 1927.6 of the Western Joshua Tree Conservation Act. WCB Project Tracker ID: 2023241.

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: 15306, Information Collection
- Statutory Exemptions, State code Number: 15262, Feasibility and Planning Studies
- Other:

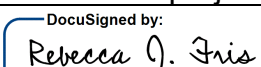
Reasons why this project is exempt:

The Project involves only feasibility and planning studies for possible future actions as well as collecting basic data collection, research, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource.

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:  **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: