

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: Kurt Malchow

Project Title: Sierra Meadows Program: Climate Smart Meadow Restoration - Murphy Ranch Fencing Project

Project Applicant: Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB)

Project Location – Specific: APN(s)

Project site is a 27 acre meadow in Tuolumne County with annual and perennial grasses and surrounded by oak woodland. APN: 062-010-038

Project Location – City: Tuolumne

Project Location – County: Tuolumne

CEQA Region:

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Benefits of Project:

The meadow at Murphy Ranch is in a degraded condition due to unauthorized and unregulated grazing by cattle trespassing from the surrounding Stanislaus National Forest. This project will protect the meadow from grazing impacts by repairing an existing 3,300 feet of fencing and modifying it to be wildlife-friendly and constructing up to 4,850 feet of new, wildlife-friendly fencing. The new fencing will either run along the perimeter of the meadow (option 1) or will encompass the meadow and a small area of the surrounding oak woodland (option 2) to reduce time and cost. Reducing grazing impacts on the meadow while a restoration design is developed and implemented will protect native plants and cultural resources and support use of the meadow habitat by pollinators and wildlife.

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: CCR Section §15304 Minor Land Alterations
- Statutory Exemptions, State code Number:
- Other:

Reasons why this project is exempt:

WCB has determined that the objectives of enhancement and restoration of wildlife and pollinator habitat, and the implementation activities as designed for this project, will result in minor alterations to land and vegetation, and therefore fit within the CCR Section 15304 exemptions.

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: 3/26/2024

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: