## **Notice of Exemption**

To:

Office of Planning and Research For U.S. Mail: P.O. Box 3044 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

Street Address: 1400 Tenth Street Sacramento, CA 95814 From:

California Department of Fish and Wildlife Central Region 1234 E Shaw Avenue Fresno, CA 93710



Project Title: Santa Lucia Preserve – Beaver Dam Analog Project (Request No. 1652-2024-067-001-R4)

Project Applicant: Breanna Rodgers, Santa Lucia Conservancy

**Project Location:** The Project is located within an unnamed tributary to Las Gazas Creek, in the Santa Lucia Conservancy, within the City of Carmel, Monterey County, California; centered at coordinates 36.45904, -121.80464; Section 00, Township 17 South, Ranges 1 and 2 East; Assessor's Parcel Number 239-051-050-000.

**Project Description:** Pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1652, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife has approved the Santa Lucia Preserve – Beaver Dam Analog Project submitted by the Santa Lucia Conservancy, represented by Breanna Rodgers.

The primary purposes of the Project are habitat improvement, bank stabilization, and sediment control. The Project includes the installation of 32 low-tech process-based restoration structures within approximately 280 linear feet of an incised ephemeral stream. Structure types include post-assisted log structures and beaver dam analogs. Structures are expected to capture sediment and increase streambed elevation, thereby improving stream morphology. Though the Project will remove and utilize vegetation from within the riparian corridor, the Project is expected to improve water availability for natural recruitment of riparian vegetation. The extended stream hydroperiod is expected to enhance the suitability of habitat for amphibian breeding and metamorphosis.

Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: Santa Lucia Conservancy

**Exempt Status:** 

☐ Categorical Exemption. Type – Class 33 California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15333

**Reasons why project is exempt:** Class 33 consists of small projects not to exceed 5 acres in size to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of habitat for fish, plants, or wildlife.

**CDFW Contact Person:** Megan Rooney (Environmental Scientist), (559) 203-2792 or megan.rooney@wildlife.ca.gov.

Signature:  Docusigned by:  Signature:  Signature:	4/3/2024 Date:
Julie A. Vance, Regional Manager Region 4: Central Region	
Date received for filing at OPR:	<u> </u>