

**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:** Wildlife Habitat and Community Resilience on Working Lands – Roots #7

**Project Applicant:** Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB)

**Project Location – Specific: APN(s)**

The 4-acre project will be implemented in a riparian area of a winery vineyard (APN: 003-090-32) within the Gill Creek Slough of the Mokelumne River Watershed in San Joaquin County.

**Project Location – City:** Acampo

**Project Location – County:** San Joaquin

**CEQA Region:** Unincorporated

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Benefits of Project:**

The overall goal of this project is to enhance riparian system functioning and ecological value for wildlife and pollinators while engaging the local community in conservation. The project will increase native plant species abundance and diversity to improve and expand habitat value for a diversity of birds, mammals, amphibians, and other wildlife. Initial project phases will remove target invasive plant species, including Himalayan blackberry, from impacted riparian areas using a variety of proven non-herbicide restoration methods. The revegetation of native plant species within riparian slough areas will ensure that plant species selected will maximize survivorship, ecological, and cultural benefits. Above ground temporary irrigation will be installed where deemed necessary to improve plant establishment when slough lacks adequate water resources.

**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 §15333 - small habitat restoration projects
- 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 the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of habitat for fish, plants or wildlife not to exceed five acres in size.

**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:** 4/24/2024

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:**