

Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, 1400 Tenth Street, Rm. 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Habitat Conservation Planning Branch
Native Plant Program
P.O. Box 944209
Sacramento, CA 94244-2090

Project Title: Population Genetics of *Lupinus* (Project)

Project Location: The Project will take place at four locations in California. Lassics lupine (*Lupinus constancei*) will be collected from the lower slopes of Black Lassic Mountain near Blocksburg in Humboldt County (California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) Element Occurrence (EO) 1; 40.34049, -123.54355). Milo Baker's lupine (*Lupinus milo-bakeri*) will be collected adjacent to CA Highway 162, one mile east of Covelo in Mendocino County (CNDDDB EO 2; 39.81693, -123.23563). Father Crowley's lupine (*Lupinus padre-crowleyi*) will be collected along North Fork Big Pine Creek, five miles west of Big Pine in Inyo County (CNDDDB EO 2; 37.13323, -118.45135). Tidestrom's lupine (*Lupinus tidestromii* var. *tidestromii*) will be collected in Sonoma County at Goat Rock State Park in Jenner (CNDDDB EO 17; 38.44392, -123.12595). Collected voucher specimens will be stored at the UCSB Herbarium, housed at the Cheadle Center, and at the Missouri Botanical Garden located at 4344 Shaw Boulevard, St. Louis, MO (38.61340, -90.25937). DNA extraction and sequencing will be conducted at the College of Sciences of Lisbon University (Faculdade de Ciências da Universidade de Lisboa) in Portugal.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife is issuing a California Endangered Species Act and Native Plant Protection Act scientific, educational, or management permit (Permit No. 2081(a)-23-016-RP) pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 2081(a) and California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 786.9, subdivision (c) to Cheadle Center for Biodiversity and Ecological Restoration (Cheadle Center) for a project to collect plant tissue and voucher specimens for genomic analyses to infer evolutionary relationships of *Lupinus* in North America. Project activities will reevaluate the taxonomy of Lassics lupine, Milo Baker's lupine, Father Crowley's lupine, and Tidestrom's lupine to inform the morphological and ecological diversification of the taxa, and how reproductive isolation evolves in California. Tissue sampling and voucher collection activities are expected to initiate in the summer of 2024 and conclude in October 2024. Approximately one centimeter square area of leaf tissue will be collected from two individuals per population, from two populations, for a total of four tissue samples per species. Two voucher specimens are expected to be collected from Milo Baker's lupine, Father Crowley's lupine, and Tidestrom's lupine populations. Specimens of Lassics lupine will be vouchered by photograph only.

California Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Dr. Gregory Wahlert, Assistant Researcher, Cheadle Center

Exempt Status:

- Ministerial;
- Declared Emergency;
- Emergency Project;
- Categorical Exemption. Type and section number: Section 15306, Class 6

Reasons why project is exempt: The Project consists of basic data collection and research that will inform conservation of Lassics lupine, Milo Baker's lupine, Father Crowley's lupine, and Tidestrom's lupine. The permit issued by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for the Project includes measures to ensure that existing populations are not detrimentally impacted by research activities.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Joanne Heraty

Area Code/Telephone/ Extension: (916) 594-4574

DocuSigned by:



Signature:

Isabel Baer, Native Plant Program Manager

Date: 5/10/2024

Signed by Lead Agency

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____