

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: Alexa Dunn

Project Title: Happy Valley

Project Applicant: Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB)

Project Location – Specific: APN(s)

750-130-001, 750-130-002, 750-130-003, 750-130-004, 750-130-006, 750-130-007, 750-130-008, 750-130-009, 750-130-010, 750-130-011, 750-130-012, and 750-130-013

Project Location – City: Indio Hills

Project Location – County: Riverside

CEQA Region: S. CA

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Benefits of Project:

To consider the acceptance of a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Habitat Conservation Plan Land Acquisition grant and the approval to subgrant these federal funds to the Oswit Land Trust, and to consider a Wildlife Conservation Board grant to the Oswit Land Trust, for a project to acquire in fee 639± acres of land for the protection of federally listed species including the desert tortoise, located in the Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan and Natural Community Conservation Plan, located near Indio Hills in Riverside County. WCB Project Tracker ID: 2023078.

Public Agency Approving Project: Department of Fish and Wildlife, WCB

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out the Project: John P. Walsh, 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: Sections 15313, Class 13 & 15325, Class 25
- Statutory Exemptions, State code Number:
- Other:

Reasons why this project is exempt:

Project involves the transfer of an ownership interest in land for conservation purposes and to preserve open space and habitat, including plant or animal habitats.

Lead Agency Contact Person: John P. Walsh

Area Code/Telephone Extension: (916) 539-8016

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:
John Walsh **Title:** Deputy Executive Director **Date:** 5/29/2024

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:

ec: WCB Project Tracker
WCB Board Meeting Folder