

**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:** Kim Cruz

**Project Title:** Santa Rosa Hills

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

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

454-120-042, 454-190-001, 454-190-002 and 454-190-003

**Project Location – City:** N/A

**Project Location – County:** Riverside

**CEQA Region:** S. CA

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

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Oswit Land Trust for a cooperative project with the California Natural Resources Agency to acquire in fee 165± acres of land in the San Jacinto Mountain foothills for the protection of Riversidian sage scrub, Diegan coastal sage scrub, woodland and riparian habitats, and federally listed species such as the coastal California gnatcatcher and San Bernardino kangaroo rat, and to expand connectivity with nearby conserved lands including the San Bernardino National Forest, located one mile east of the city of Hemet in unincorporated Riverside County. WCB Project Tracker ID 2023062.

**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: Section 15313, Class 13 & Section 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

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**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