

**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:** Western Riverside MSHCP Johnson

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

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

465-100-037

**Project Location – City:** Hemet

**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 Acquisition grant and the approval to subgrant these federal funds to the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority (RCA), and to consider a Wildlife Conservation Board grant to RCA to acquire in fee 10± acres of land for the protection of federally listed species including San Jacinto Valley crowscale, spreading navarretia, and potentially vernal pool fairy shrimp, located in an area that supports a large, intact alkali vernal pool complex in the Western Riverside Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan area, in the city of Hemet in Riverside County. WCB Project Tracker ID 2023119.

**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

**Title:** Deputy Executive Director

**Date:** 5/29/2024

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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