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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: Propagation of Western lily (*Lilium occidentale*) for the Table Bluff Ecological Reserve Coastal Prairie Restoration Project (Project)

Project Location: The Project will take place at the following locations in Humboldt County, California: (1) Table Bluff Ecological Reserve (TBER) (40.69496, -124.26955), which is a property owned and managed by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW); (2) the Mattole Restoration Council (MRC) Nursery in Petrolia (40.32233, -124.28228); and (3) the Wiyot Native Plant Nursery at Table Bluff Reservation (40.69075, -124.25469).

Project Description: CDFW is issuing a California Endangered Species Act and Native Plant Protection Act permit pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 2081(a) and California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 786.9, subdivision (c) to MRC (Permit No. 2081(a)-24-013-RP) for a project to collect western lily seed at TBER for the purpose of propagating and amplifying plant bulbs and providing seed material for the Table Bluff Ecological Reserve Coastal Prairie Restoration Project led by CDFW.

The Permittee may collect seed in the fall from 2025-2027. Up to thirty percent of the available seed output may be collected annually with a portion to be used for greenhouse propagation and the remainder to be direct seeded into experimental restoration plots and suitable habitat areas within TBER. Once collected, seed may be stored in paper bags and refrigerated over winter or germinated immediately at the MRC Nursery and/or at the Wiyot Native Plant Nursery with the goal of propagating at least 300 plants during the term of the permit. Propagules will be used to amplify western lily plant bulbs for TBER restoration activities that are expected to begin in March of 2025 and continue through the spring of 2029.

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

Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Christina Cortez, Nursery Manager, Mattole Restoration Council

Exempt Status:

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

Reasons why project is exempt: The Project will facilitate the recovery of California endangered western lily within its historic range. The permit issued by CDFW for the Project includes measures to ensure that existing populations of western lily are adequately protected.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Joanne Heraty Area Code/Telephone/ Extension: (916) 594-4574

Signature: DocuSigned by: 36A908313DB6442... *Isabel Baer, Native Plant Program Manager* **Date:** 11/6/2024

☐ Signed by Lead Agency Date Received for filing at OPR: _____