

Notice of Exemption

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| 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: Kurt Malchow |

Project Title: Building Wildlife-Friendly Resilience in Working Landscapes - Roots 162

Project Applicant: Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB)

Project Location – Specific: APN(s)
 This 4.82-acre habitat restoration project is located on a vineyard and olive orchard in near Escondido in San Diego County that has a small ephemeral creek running through it. APN: 2760232400.

Project Location – City: Escondido

Project Location – County: San Diego

CEQA Region: Unincorporated

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Benefits of Project:
 This 4.82-acre restoration project includes a number of beneficial wildlife activities including restoration of a ephemeral creek that runs through the property by physically removing invasive weeds and replanting with native species, establishing multiple areas for permanent native plant hedgerows and pollinator plantings, and placing Barn Owl boxes on the property to increase nesting habitat. (WCB Project Tracker ID: 2022065).

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

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out the Project: Rebecca J. Fris, 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: Class 33 Exemption CCR Section 15333 - Small habitat restoration projects
 Statutory Exemptions, State code Number:
 Other:

Reasons why this project is exempt:
 WCB has determined that the objectives of enhancement and restoration of wildlife and pollinator habitat, and the implementation activities as designed for this project, will result in the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of habitat for fish, plants or wildlife not to exceed five acres in size.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Rebecca J. Fris

Area Code/Telephone Extension: (916) 212-5637

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: Signed by: *Rebecca J. Fris* **Title:** Deputy Executive Director **Date:** 1/29/2025

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

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| 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: |
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