

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
 P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044
 County Clerk
 County of: _____

From: (Public Agency): California Natural Resources Agency
715 P Street, 20th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

 _____ (Address)

Project Title: Santa Rosa Hills, Acquisition II

Project Applicant: Oswit Land Trust

Project Location - Specific:

The southwest corner of the property is located at the intersection of Cactus Valley Road and Villacita Drive southeast of Hemet, California. Assessor's Parcel Numbers 469-110-09, -10, -12, -18, and -20.

Project Location – City: Hemet Project Location – County: Riverside

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

This project will acquire 642 acres of open space in an unincorporated area near the City of Hemet, Riverside County and within the San Jacinto Valley Area Plan of the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan. The project will protect, in perpetuity, a foothill area of the San Jacinto Mountains preventing future development and preserving coastal sage scrub, riparian, and chaparral habitats that support 13 sensitive status species including coastal California gnatcatcher, western spadefoot, Quino checkerspot butterfly, coast horned lizard, red-diamond rattlesnake, and Stephens’ kangaroo rat.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Natural Resources Agency

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Oswit Land Trust

Exempt Status: **(check one):**

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: 15325 Class 25; 15313 Class 13
- Statutory Exemptions. State Code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

Section 15325, Class 25: transfer of ownership of interests in land to preserve existing natural conditions and historical resources; requires no plan review. Section 15313, Class 13: Acquisition of lands for wildlife conservation purposes.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Ron Benny Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 916 902-6359

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 No

Signature: Andra Scharff Date: 1/29/2025 Title: Deputy Assistant Secretary

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code. Date received for filing at OPR: _____

Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code