

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

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

From: (Public Agency): California Department of Fish and Wildlife
1701 Nimbus Rd
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

County Clerk

County of: _____

(Address)

Project Title: Snake Marsh Restoration Project

Project Applicant: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Project Location - Specific:

Cosumnes River Ecological Reserve - Arno Unit. Central coordinates: 38.32607, -121.1

Project Location - City: Near Galt, CA

Project Location - County: Sacramento

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Project is designed to benefit giant garter snake (*Thamnophis gigas*) and other freshwater marsh species. The Project site supports a genetically important population of giant garter snake. However, due to issues related to unreliable and insufficient hydrology, chronic and intense drought, and an infestation of invasive Uruguayan water primrose (*primrose, Ludwigia hexapetala*) there has been a precipitous decline of the giant garter snake population in Snake Marsh. To address this, the Project will restore and enhance 343 acres of degraded perennial aquatic habitat by increasing hydrologic resiliency and by controlling primrose, supporting the continued survival of this unique population of giant garter snake. See attached Statutory Exemption for Restoration Projects Concurrence document.

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

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: California Department of Fish and Wildlife Conserved Lands Program

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: _____
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: PRC Section 21080.56

Reasons why project is exempt:

The Project meets the qualifying criteria set forth in Public Resources Code section 21080.56, subdivisions (a) to (d), as described in the attached CDFW Director Concurrence. Specifically, (1) the Project is exclusively to conserve, restore, protect, or enhance, and assist in the recovery of California native fish and wildlife, and the habitat upon which they depend; or is exclusively to restore or provide habitat for California native fish and wildlife; (2) the Project may have public benefits incidental to the Project's fundamental purpose; (3) the Project will result in long-term net benefits to climate resiliency, biodiversity, and sensitive species recovery; and includes procedures and ongoing management for the protection of the environment; and (4) Project construction activities are solely related to habitat restoration.

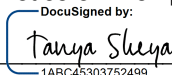
Lead Agency

Contact Person: Sidney Fulford

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 916-212-3062

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:  Date: 3/20/2025 Title: Env. Program Manager

- Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____