

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: Kurt Malchow

Project Title: Building Wildlife Habitat and Community Resilience on Working Lands - Roots 157

Project Applicant: Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB)

Project Location – Specific: APN(s)
 004-130-0050, 003-120-0010; Mount Diablo Base and Meridian (MDBM) Township 9N, Range 20E, portions of Section 24; T9N, R21E, portions of Section 19

Project Location – City: Markleeville, CA

Project Location – County: Alpine County

CEQA Region: Unincorporated

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Benefits of Project:
 This ~20-acre project is on a property in Alpine County in non-industrial forestland that burned in the 2015 Washington Fire. The project area (and surrounding landscape) has converted to shrub-dominated habitat. The goal of this project is two-fold: to increase diversity of habitats by planting native trees which have difficulty establishing in a shrub-dominated landscape on their own, and to increase resiliency of the habitat diversity to future fires by breaking up fuel structure (through the site preparation for tree planting areas). This project will be innovative in that it will not involve the use of herbicides, but manual labor will be used to maintain tree plantings in the scope of this project and beyond. Tree establishment will be planned specifically to improve wildlife habitat, planning for future climate scenarios where less trees may be expected on the landscape and tree establishment sites may be dependent on north facing slopes or favorable soil conditions. (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: (CCR Section §15304): minor alterations to land
 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 minor alterations to land and vegetation, and therefore fit within the CCR Section 15304 exemptions.

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:** 4/23/2025

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:
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