

**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:** Stonebridge Preserve: Establishment of Burke's Goldfields Project (Project)

**Project Location:** The Project will take place at two populations of Burke's goldfields (*Lasthenia burkei*) in Sonoma County (California Natural Diversity Database Element Occurrences 19 and 25). Project field activities will occur at Stonebridge Preserve (SP), a 14-acre site located adjacent to and east of the proposed Stonebridge residential subdivision at 2220 Fulton Road in Santa Rosa, CA (38.475372, -122.764517) and Alton Lane Mitigation Site (ALMS), a 41-acre site in Santa Rosa, CA (38.472636, -122.776787). Project greenhouse activities will occur at the Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation plant nursery (Nursery) at 900 Sanford Road, Santa Rosa, CA 95401 (38.426207, -122.820750).

**Project Description:** The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) is issuing a permit to David Jacobson [Permit No. 2081(a)-21-010-RP] pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 2081(a) for a project to create occupied habitat for Burke's goldfields as compensatory mitigation required by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) for impacts of the proposed Stonebridge residential subdivision on suitable Burke's goldfields habitat as protected under the Federal Endangered Species Act. The USFWS performance criterion is a density of 4,000 plants per 0.1 acre after five years. The Project includes the collection of Burke's goldfields seeds from donor sites (ALMS and SP) by either a vacuum method that consists of raking and collecting soil by vacuum after seeds have dropped, or a seed-bulking method where flowering heads containing seeds are hand-collected and planted in a greenhouse to increase the total seed number. With either method, Burke's goldfields seeds are mixed with soil and that mixture is used to inoculate created, enhanced, or restored pools at SP. All soil at SP that is likely to contain Burke's goldfields seed has been mapped and will be salvaged in summer 2022. Salvaged soil will be stored onsite until late summer or early fall 2022, when it will be used to inoculate the recipient pools at SP. The donor and recipient sites will be monitored annually for five years. Permittee will supply CDFW with a long-term management plan for activities beyond five years.

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

**Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** David Jacobson, Woodside Holdings

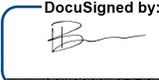
**Exempt Status:**

- Ministerial;
- Declared Emergency;
- Emergency Project;
- Categorical Exemption. Type and section number: Sections 15306 and 15307, Classes 6 and 7

**Reasons why project is exempt:** The Project will consist of population monitoring and basic data collection, and will facilitate the enhancement and recovery of the California endangered Burke's goldfields by attempting to establish additional self-sustaining populations of the species within its historic range. The permit issued by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for the Project includes measures to ensure that existing populations of Burke's goldfields are not impacted, and that re-introduced populations are adequately protected.

**Lead Agency Contact Person:** Raffica La Rosa

Area Code/Telephone/ Extension: (916) 206-4502

**Signature:** 

**Date:** 2/10/2022

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Isabel Baer, Native Plant Program Manager

Signed by Lead Agency

Date Received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_