

## Notice of Exemption

<b>To:</b> Office of Planning and Research State Clearinghouse 1400 Tenth Street, Room 113 Sacramento, CA 95814	<b>From:</b> Department of Fish and Wildlife <b>Wildlife Conservation Board</b> P.O. Box 944209 Sacramento, CA 99244-2090
<b>County Clerk (County of):</b> N/A	<b>Attention:</b> Kurt Malchow

**Project Title:** Wildlife Habitat and Community Resilience on Working Lands – Roots #154

**Project Applicant:** Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB)

**Project Location – Specific: APN(s)**  
 The project will be implemented in an oak woodland and riparian area located on a private cattle ranch (APN: 325-210-022) within the Deer Creek Watershed in Tulare County.

**Project Location – City:** California Hot Springs

**Project Location – County:** Tulare

**CEQA Region:** Unincorporated

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Benefits of Project:**  
 The overall goal of this 17-acre project is to enhance oak woodland and riparian system functioning and ecological value for wildlife. The project will increase native plant species abundance and diversity to improve and expand habitat value for a diversity of birds, mammals, amphibians, and other wildlife. The project will focus on the revegetation of native plant species to maximize survivorship, ecological, and cultural benefits. Above-ground planting berms and temporary irrigation will be installed where deemed necessary. The construction of livestock water trough and fencing infrastructure will protect restoration sites and sensitive areas. Structures for wildlife such as bird nest boxes, pond turtle basking rafts, and brush piles will also be installed to quickly increase available 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: 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 exemption.

**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:** DocuSigned by:  
Rebecca J. Fris **Title:** Deputy Executive Director **Date:** 12/20/2024

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	<b>SCH #:</b> <b>Posted Date:</b> <b>Date Received for Filing at OPR:</b>
--	---