

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: Wildlife Habitat and Community Resilience on Working Lands – Roots #31

Project Applicant: Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB)

Project Location – Specific: APN(s)
 APN(s) 117-510-038, 117-510-039. The project area is located 6 miles east of Susanville, in Lassen County. The project area is cropland.

Project Location – City: Susanville

Project Location – County: Lassen

CEQA Region: Unincorporated

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Benefits of Project:

The overall goal of this project is to enhance wildlife habitat through restoration and historical floodplain function to the property. This ~9.63-acre project consists of installing 7,120 feet of buried 18" PVC mainline for irrigation water conveyance. This 7,120 feet is part of a larger project, of approximately 25,000 feet. The efficiency gained by converting from open dirt ditches to buried PVC mainline will allow the landowner to mostly eliminate water loss during conveyance to the farm fields. The water savings from converting from open ditch to pipe lead to more acres (nearly 400) staying wetter for longer in the season, extending the period of high biological productivity later into the year. This should result in a longer irrigation season, which benefits numerous species that utilize shallow water and green, growing fields for feeding and cover. Additionally, eliminating open ditch conveyance reduces erosion during out-of-bank flood events. It also allows the irrigation regime to mimic historical floodplain function, which will provide invertebrates and vegetative forage for wildlife later in the year compared to current conditions. Specifically, these food resources would be provided for species raising broods in or near the fields and for fall migrants, as well as mammalian species. (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: Class 4 exemption (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:** Acting Executive Director **Date:** 5/29/2025

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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