

## 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:** Rackerby Jack Restoration Maintenance Project

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

**Project Location – Specific: APN(s)**  
 Project is a 4.8 acre site composed of two small slope wetlands within a forested landscape, located along Forest Route 1N79 in the Groveland Ranger District of Stanislaus National Forest. APN: 522-100-500.

**Project Location – City:** N/A

**Project Location – County:** Tuolumne

**CEQA Region:** Unincorporated

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Benefits of Project:**  
 Rackerby Jack is a 3 acre meadow composed of two small slope wetlands within a forested landscape, located in the Groveland Ranger District of Stanislaus National Forest. This project aims to move this previously restored meadow in the 2013 Rim Fire footprint towards a trend of ecological health that is self-sustaining through restoration maintenance activities. Primary actions of this project include maintenance of previously installed post-assisted log structures in the channel, invasive plant removal, native seed dispersal, placement of large woody debris on the meadow surface, and encroaching conifer removal. Reinforcement of post-assisted log structures will address headcuts and prevent further channel incision, which will improve the hydrologic function of the meadow and add complexity to the channel. Manually removing invasive plants and spreading appropriate native seeds will help to restore meadow-specific native plants to the area, which will stabilize vulnerable soils, and improve diversity and resilience of native plants that will benefit pollinators and wildlife in the area that depend on meadow forage for food and shelter. (WCB Project Tracker ID: 2022089).

**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 Sections 15333 (small habitat restoration)  
 Statutory Exemptions, State code Number:  
 Other:

**Reasons why this project is exempt:**  
 This project is exempt under CCR Section 15333 because the project aims to restore meadow habitat, which would benefit pollinators, wildlife, and plants. The project treatment does not exceed 5 acres in size or 500 linear feet of stream bank.

**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:** 5/15/2025

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