

## 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:** Femmons Meadow Restoration Maintenance Project

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

**Project Location – Specific: APN(s)**  
 Upper & Lower Femmons Meadows make up a 6.4 acre meadow complex off Forest Route 3N01 in the Groveland Ranger District of Stanislaus National Forest. APNs: 052-210-004, 052-210-001.

**Project Location – City:** N/A

**Project Location – County:** Tuolumne

**CEQA Region:** Unincorporated

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Benefits of Project:**  
 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 fencing repair around the perimeter of the meadow, invasive plant removal, native seed dispersal, placement of large woody debris on the meadow surface, and encroaching conifer removal. Repairing the currently nonfunctional livestock enclosure fence will prevent cattle from damaging sensitive restoration sites. 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. Placement of large woody debris will help to slow and spread sheet flows across the meadow. Small conifer removal within and around the perimeter of the meadow will prevent the loss of meadow habitat and will help to mitigate the drying trend observed in the meadow. (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: 15301 (existing structures), 15304 (minor alterations to land)  
 Statutory Exemptions, State code Number:  
 Other:

**Reasons why this project is exempt:**  
 The fencing component of this project is exempt under CCR Section 15301 because it will restore the existing fence line to a functional status and will not expand the footprint of the fence. The remaining project activities are exempt under CCR Section 15304 due to the non-invasive habitat restoration practices implemented in the project.

**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:** *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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