

## 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> Amy Henderson

**Project Title:** Mohave Ground Squirrel Management Actions - Augmentation

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

**Project Location – Specific: APN(s)**  
 The Project will take place within the range of the Mohave ground squirrel within approximately 1.7 million acres.

**Project Location – City:** Cities within the range include Boron, Ridgecrest, California City and Randsburg

**Project Location – County:** Inyo, Kern, Los Angeles and San Bernardino

**CEQA Region:** S. CA

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Benefits of Project:**  
 The Project will address the development of effective, standardized, and statistically rigorous detection and survey methods for Mohave ground squirrel (MGS). A comprehensive range-wide population monitoring program is necessary to provide critical information for MGS conservation and management. The Project will implement a 2-year pilot study of a novel sampling and modeling methodological combination to estimate MGS demographic parameters that are needed for conservation and management. Using the pilot study data, a long-term, range-wide monitoring program for MGS will be designed. WCB Project Tracker ID: 2025077 & 2023086.

**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: 15306, Class 6 Information Collection  
 Statutory Exemptions, State code Number:  
 Other:

**Reasons why this project is exempt:**  
 Project involves the long-term monitoring of MGS, and consists of basic data collection and research which will not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource.

**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:** 7/1/2025

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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