



State of California – Natural Resources Agency  
 DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE  
 South Coast Region  
 3883 Ruffin Road  
 San Diego, CA 92123  
[www.wildlife.ca.gov](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov)

**GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor**  
**CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director**



To:  
 Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation  
[CEQA Submit](#)

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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**Project Title:** Once Upon a Watershed at the West Campus Preserve (Request No. 1652-2025-081-001-R5)

**Project Location (Ventura):** The Project is located on an unnamed tributary, locally referred to as West Campus Creek, within the City of Ojai. The Project is located at approximate coordinates 34.424832, -119.296671, Assessor's Parcel Number 032-007-007.

**Project Description:** Pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 1652, the California Department of fish and Game has approved the Once Upon a Watershed at the West Campus Preserve (1652-2025-081-001-R5) submitted by David White of Once Upon a Watershed and Concerned Resource Environmental Workers.

The Project will improve habitat through native plant restoration and invasive plant control. The species likely to benefit from this Project include, but are not limited to, State – Listed Crotch's bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*), Federally - and State – Listed southern California steelhead (*Onchorhynchus mykiss*), and Federally – Listed California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*).

The Project will extend the West Campus Creek riparian corridor through the removal of non-native grassland that will be subsequently planted with native tree and understory species. Non-native plants will also be removed adjacent to the streambed to provide more water availability and increased surface flow. Planting will occur in the Project area with native plants and seed sourced from local nurseries. Debris and trash will also be removed throughout the riparian area, including extraction of debris that is buried. The Project area is 0.166 acres and 426 linear feet.

**Public Agency Approving Project:** CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

**Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project:**

David White  
 Once Upon a Watershed and Concerned Resource Environmental Workers  
 370 West Baldwin Rd, Ojai CA 93023  
 (805) 390-0747  
[david@onceuponawatershed.org](mailto:david@onceuponawatershed.org)

**Exempt Status:**

- Statutory Exemption.
- Categorical Exemption. Type – Class (33); California Code of Regulations, title 14, section (15333)


**Reasons why project is exempt:** Class 33 consists of small projects not to exceed 5 acres in size to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of habitat for fish, plants, or wildlife.

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

1652-2025-081-001-R5

July 14, 2025

**CDFW Contact Person:** Christian Romberger, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist), (562) 292-6365, [christian.romberger@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:christian.romberger@wildlife.ca.gov)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  Date: 7/14/2025

Erinn Wilson-Olgin, Regional Manager

Date received for filing at LCI: