Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
P.O. Box 3044, 1400 Tenth Street, Rm. 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Habitat Conservation Planning Branch
Native Plant Program
P.O. Box 944209
Sacramento, CA 94244-2090

Project Title: Powdery Mildew Research Activities Involving California State-Listed Plants (Project)

Project Location: Project collection activities will take place at wild populations of state-listed plants in California.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife is issuing a California Endangered Species Act (CESA) and Native Plant Protection Act (NPPA) scientific, educational, or management permit pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 2081, subdivision (a), and California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 786.9, subdivision (c) to Ryan C. Donnelly (Permit No. 2081(a)-25-014-RP) for a project investigating powdery mildew (Family Erysiphaceae) fungal relationships in California. The Project may collect, store, and export dried plant material from plants designated as rare pursuant to the NPPA and plants designated as endangered, threatened, or candidate species pursuant to CESA that exhibit signs of powdery mildew. A single whole plant may be collected from small annual species if the population numbers support collection, or collection may involve a small sample of plant tissue or stem material from larger perennial species. Collected plant material will be pressed and dried using a plant press before being exported to North Carolina State University for powdery mildew fungal analysis, taxonomic evaluation, and long-term storage.

California Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Ryan C. Donnelly, Colibri Ecological Consulting

Exempt Status:

- ☐ Ministerial;
- ☐ Declared Emergency;
- ☐ Emergency Project;
- ☒ Categorical Exemption. Type and section number: Section 15306, Class 6

Reasons why project is exempt: The project consists of basic data collection and research that will facilitate research on host-specific fungal relationships of powdery mildew and state-listed plants in California. The permit issued by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for the Project includes measures to ensure that existing populations of California state-listed plants are adequately protected.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Joanne Heraty Area Code/Telephone/ Extension: (916) 594-4574

Signature: DocuSigned by: 36A908S13DB6442... **Date:** 10/23/2025

Isabel Baer, Native Plant Program Manager

☐ Signed by Lead Agency Date Received for filing at OPR: _____