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Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse
1400 Tenth Street, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95814

From: Department of Fish and Wildlife
Wildlife Conservation Board
P.O. Box 944209
Sacramento, CA 99244-2090

County Clerk (County of): N/A

Attention: Amy Henderson

Project Title: Joshua Tree Ethnobotanical Study

Project Applicant: Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB)

Project Location – Specific: APN(s)
Various APN(s) across the range of the western Joshua Tree in the Mojave Desert

Project Location – City: Various

Project Location – County: Inyo, Kern, Los Angeles, Mono, Riverside, San Bernardino

CEQA Region: S. CA

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Benefits of Project:

The project is an ethnobotanical study to research and document traditional ecological knowledge of the western Joshua tree by local Tribes. Results will be provided in a report to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for use in conserving and managing this iconic species. WCB Project Tracker ID: 2025105.

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
- ☑ Statutory Exemptions, State code Number: 15262 Feasibility and Planning Studies
- ☐ Other:

Reasons why this project is exempt:
The project consists of basic data collection and research which does not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. The project is statutorily exempt as it involves feasibility and planning studies for possible future actions.

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 1EAD9B041E6D478... **Title:** Deputy Executive Director **Date:** 11/24/2025

☑ 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

SCH #:
Posted Date:
Date Received for Filing at OPR:

ec: WCB Project Tracker
WCB Board Meeting Folder