

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: James Croft

Project Title: Imperial Wildlife Area Wetland Restoration, Phase III (Change of Scope)

Project Applicant: Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB)

Project Location – Specific: APN(s)
 Imperial Wildlife Area, Wister Unit, 8700 Davis Road, Niland, CA 92257

Project Location – City: Niland

Project Location – County: Imperial

CEQA Region: S. CA

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Benefits of Project:
 The project will complete wetland restoration at the Wister Unit of the Imperial Wildlife Area by removal of invasive salt cedar and the water delivery ditches in which it grows. The open ditches will be replaced with piped water infrastructure to deliver water to wetland units. New levees, islands, swales, and water control structures will be installed within the wetland units to allow for the most efficient use of water supplies and to provide high quality habitat for migratory birds. WCB Project Tracker ID: 2026005.

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: Public Resources Code sections 15302, 15303, 15304
 Statutory Exemptions, State code Number:
 Other:

Reasons why this project is exempt:
 Project consists of of replacement or reconstruction of existing facilities located on the same site and having substantially the same purpose, construction and location of limited numbers of new structures or facilities, and minor public alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation.

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: DocuSigned by: John Walsh for Rebecca Fris **Title:** Deputy Executive Director **Date:** 3/2/2026

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:
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