

# Notice of Exemption

## Appendix E

**To:** Office of Planning and Research  
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk

County of: Santa Barbara

1100 Anacapa St

Santa Barbara, CA, 93101

**From: (Public Agency):** Central Coast Water Board  
895 Aerovista Place  
San Luis Obispo, CA, 93401

(Address)

Project Title: Wild Farmlands Foundation Watershed Habitat Repair and Stewardship

Project Applicant: Wild Farmlands Foundation

Project Location - Specific:

1980 US-101, Gaviota, CA 93117

Project Location - City: Gaviota Project Location - County: Santa Barbara

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

Wild Farmlands Foundation, in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), proposes to conserve, restore, protect, or enhance, and assist in the recovery of California native fish and wildlife, and the habitat upon which they depend. The Project will improve and restore freshwater wetland and riparian habitat, increase groundwater recharge, and stabilize sediment while maintaining the property's current grazing operation activities. The Project is designed to benefit California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*), southwestern pond turtle (*Actinemys pallida*), and migratory birds as well as other native wildlife. The project includes sediment removal from two ponds, native re-vegetation, and grazing management.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Central Coast Water Board

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Ed Seaman

Exempt Status: **(check one):**

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: 14 CCR Section 15307
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project is categorically exempt from CEQA under the Class 7 exemption per the CEQA guidelines because the work performed, in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), will assure the restoration, and enhancement of a natural resource.


The proposed project will benefit California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*), southwestern pond turtle (*Actinemys pallida*), and migratory birds as well as other native wildlife. In addition, the work will be limited to restoration activities and will not involve new construction of structures. Therefore, the project can be considered exempt from the need for full CEQA review.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: April Woods Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (805) 549-3332

**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 No

Signature:  Digitally signed by Phillip Hammer  
Date: 2026.05.04 16:41:31 -0700' Date: 5/4/26 Title: Senior Environmental Scientist

Signed by Lead Agency      Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.  
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_