

## Notice of Exemption

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**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:** Western Lily (*Lilium occidentale*) Genetics Study (Project)

**Project Location:** The Project may occur at the following locations in Del Norte County: (1) Crescent City Marsh Wildlife Area (California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) Element Occurrence (EO) 28; (2) Point St. George (CNDDDB EO 25); (3) Table Bluff Ecological Reserve (CNDDDB EO 22); and (4) on private property referred to as the "Christensen Site" (CNDDDB EO 24). Leaf tissue samples will be transferred to the Northwest American Indian Coalition offices in Oregon prior to being exported to the Landscape Stewardship Collective facilities in Flagstaff, Arizona.

**Project Description:** The California Department of Fish and Wildlife is issuing a California Endangered Species Act and Native Plant Protection Act 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 Teresa Bird (Permit No. 2081(a)-26-005-RP) for a project that will collect small amounts of plant tissue for a western lily genetic study. Approximately 10-20 leaf tissue samples will be collected in the summer of 2026 from flowering individuals displaying normal morphotypes at each location depending on the size of the population. Up to 20 leaf tissue samples may also be collected from plants displaying phenotypic variation within a population. Every sample will be matched with a photo of the flowering individual, and a site label to compare field level morphotypes with genetic results. All leaf tissue collected will be silica-dried in the field prior to being transferred to the Landscape Stewardship Collective for DNA extraction and analysis. Resulting data will provide an understanding of the level of hybridization among western lily populations, relatedness and gene flow between populations, and genetic diversity to direct plant propagation projects and support species recovery.

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

**Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Teresa Bird, Botanist, Northwest American Indian Coalition

**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 genetic understanding of western lily, a state-listed endangered species. The permit issued by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for the Project includes measures to ensure that existing populations of western lily are not detrimentally impacted by research activities.

**Lead Agency Contact Person:** Joanne Heraty

Area Code/Telephone/ Extension: (916) 594-4574

**Signature:** 

Signature of Kevin Ponce  
Kevin Ponce, Native Plant Program Manager

**Date:** 5/20/2026

Signed by Lead Agency

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

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Kevin Ponce

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