

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 IV**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 replacement of 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: 2026051.

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: Sections 15302, 15303, and 15304
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions, State code Number:
- ☐ Other:

Reasons why this project is exempt:

Project consists of the replacement and reconstruction of existing structures and facilities at the same site and with substantially the same purpose, the new construction of a limited number of new structures, and minor alterations in land, water, and vegetation on an existing officially designated wildlife management area which results in improvement of habitat for wildlife.

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***Title:** Deputy Executive Director**Date:**

5/29/2026



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:**