

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

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

From: (Public Agency): Heather Davis, Director
Campus and Environmental Planning
255 Cousteau Pl, University of California, Davis, CA 95618

County Clerk
County of:

(Address)

Project Title: UC Nature Climate Monitoring Tower

Project Applicant: University of California, Davis

Project Location - Specific:

3373 Sackett Lane

Project Location - City: Winters

Project Location - County: Yolo

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

UC Nature (formerly the UC Natural Reserve System) proposes to install a temporary climate monitoring tower at the Sackett Ranch property. The project includes installation of a 30-foot-tall metal tower on a 3-foot by 3-foot by 3-foot concrete pad, three stabilization wires anchored to 1-foot by 1-foot by 1-foot concrete footings approximately 15 feet from the tower, a solar panel, and a weatherproof enclosure containing monitoring and communications equipment. No trees would be removed. Construction is anticipated to occur in summer 2026 and would take approximately one week. Upon removal of the tower, the site would be restored and revegetated with native plant species.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: University of California, Davis

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: University of California, Davis

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: Class 1 (15301), Class 3 (15303)
Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

Reasons why project is exempt:

The construction of new, small structures qualifies as exempt under Exemption Class 3 of the Guidelines for the Implementation to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This exemption applies to the construction and installation of new, small facilities or structures. In addition, the licensing of land for research use qualifies as categorically exempt under Exemption Class 1 of the Guidelines for the Implementation of CEQA. This exemption applies to the operation, repair, permitting, leasing, licensing, maintenance or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, or mechanical equipment, involving negligible or no expansion of an existing use. None of the exceptions for application of a categorical exemption apply to this project.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Heather Davis Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 530-752-6043

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: DocuSigned by: Heather Davis Date: 6/1/2026 Title: Director of Campus & Environmental Planning

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: