

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: Colusa

546 Jay Street

Colusa, California 95932

From: (Public Agency): Colusa County Resource Conservation District

100 Sunrise Blvd., Suite A3

Colusa, California 95932

(Address)

Project Title: Davis Ranches West Mural Barn Habitat Restoration

Project Applicant: Colusa County Resource Conservation District

Project Location - Specific:

Davis Ranches, 39.13274, -121.95084

Project Location - City: Colusa

Project Location - County: Colusa

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

See attached Notice of Exemption.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Colusa County Resource Conservation District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Colusa County Resource Conservation District

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 33, Section 15333
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

See attached Notice of Exemption

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Liz Harper Price

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 530-473-9346

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: [Signature] Date: 8/13/24 Title: Executive Director

▪ 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: _____

ENDORSED

FILED

AUG 13 2026



COLUSA COUNTY
Resource Conservation District

CRISTY JAYNE EDWARDS
COLUSA COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER

**CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT
NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

To: Colusa County Clerk & Recorder
546 Jay Street
Colusa, California 95932

From: Colusa County Resource Conservation District
100 Sunrise Blvd., Suite A3
Colusa, California 95932

Project Title: Davis Ranch West Mural Barn Habitat Restoration

Project Location (Specific): Davis Ranches, 39.13274, -121.95084

Project Location (City and County): 7681 Sycamore Slough Rd, Colusa, CA 95932 in Colusa County

Project Summary: Restoring former cultivated orchard land to oak and shrub woodland habitat. Hedgerows will be established along the former orchard boundary. The hedgerow will include native trees and shrubs to support pollinators and birds while providing a buffer from agricultural operations. Additional native grasses and forbs will be planted throughout the interior of the restoration area. The project will be approximately 0.35 acres of hedgerows established along the former orchard plot, and 3.26 acres of native grass and forbs, with sporadic oaks and shrubs planted throughout. This project will enhance habitat throughout the working landscape by diversifying an area that has been predominantly non-native invasive weeds in the years following the removal of the orchard. Hedgerow and grass and forb plantings will include species native to California and maintained for a minimum of 10 years. The maintenance plan includes invasive weed removal, mowing native grasses, and pruning plants to maintain farming operations.

"Colusa County RCD will use funds to implement a portion of the Davis Ranch Carbon Farm Plan. This project will restore an area of a former cultivated orchard that is located in close proximity to Sycamore Slough off the Sacramento River that flows west towards the Colusa Basin Drain and Colusa Wildlife Refuge. This is an important wildlife corridor; the project funds will go toward the RCD providing an implementation design and habitat restoration supplies (irrigation, plants, tree tubes, etc). Plant species selected will focus on pollinators and monarchs, among other large species such as wood ducks, giant garter snakes, and other important riparian and wetland species. The project will take place on land from a maintenance road that runs along active agricultural property.

For the habitat restoration of the former cultivated orchard, the RCD will first work on project management; putting together a written plan, species list, implementation design. Species of types and amounts will be selected from a local native nursery that is within the project site. Site preparation will include light earth moving such as moving the farm road and disking the ground. The invasive weeds will be treated prior to planting. CCRCD will recommend mulch, tree tubes and other methods to increase plant survivability. A simple irrigation system will be established with drip line and tied into an existing system. During and after the implementation of the project, the RCD will conduct bimonthly site visits, taking photos for documentation, and recommending best practices for maintaining hedgerows based on the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Conservation Practice Standards (CPS). Throughout the implementation process, the RCD will work with the farm to develop the project design, plant selection, and best management practices for the hedgerow.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Colusa County Resource Conservation District

Name of Agency Carrying Out Project: Colusa County Resource Conservation District in partnership with Davis Ranches, 7681 Sycamore Slough Rd, Colusa, Ca, 95932

Exempt Status (Class and Guidelines Section):

Categorical Exemption:

Class 33(Small Habitat Restoration Projects), CEQA State Guidelines, Section 15333: Allows for small habitat restoration projects that do not exceed 5 acres in size and are constructed for the purpose of maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of habitat for fish, plants, or wildlife provided that:

- a. There would be no significant adverse impact on endangered, rare or threatened species or their habitat pursuant to Section 15065.
- b. There are no hazardous materials at or around the project site that may be disturbed or removed.
- c. The project will not result in impacts that are significant when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects."

Reasons Why Project is Exempt:

Class 33: The project involves the establishment of a hedgerow and native grass and forb plantings as a means of restoring a formerly cultivated orchard that was removed over five (5) years ago. The area restored includes approximately 0.35 acres of hedgerow and 3.26 acres of native grasses and forbs, totaling approximately 3.61 acres. This project will harm no endangered, rare, or threatened species, instead will create beneficial habitat. This project will enhance habitat throughout the working landscape by diversifying an area that has been predominantly invasive weeds in the years following the removal of the orchard. No hazardous materials will be disturbed and/or removed. This project will not negatively affect current habitat and has the potential to encourage other landowners along the waterway to establish native habitat.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Elizabeth Harper Price

Phone: (530) 473-9346

Signature:



Date:

8/13/2026

Title:

Colusa County RCD Executive Director

Date Received or filing at OPR: