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Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse
1400 Tenth Street, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95814

From: **Wildlife Conservation Board**
P.O. Box 944209
Sacramento, CA 99244-2090

County Clerk (County of): N/A

Attention: David Dodds

Project Title: Mount Stakes

Project Applicant: Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB)

Project Location – Specific: APN(s)

Stanislaus County: 026-004-001, 026-004-009, 026-004-010, 026-004-011, 026-004-012, 026-004-013, 026-004-014
Santa Clara County: 070-08-011, 070-08-016, 070-13-020

Project Location – City: Patterson and San Jose

Project Location – County: Stanislaus and Santa Clara

CEQA Region: Northern

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Benefits of Project:

To consider the allocation for a grant to The Nature Conservancy to permanently protect 3,856± acres of land for the protection of chamise, manzanita, sagebrush, and oak savannah habitats, and migration corridors and linkages, and provide future wildlife-oriented public use opportunities. Located in Patterson in Stanislaus and Santa Clara Counties.

WCB Project Tracker ID: To 2024115.

Public Agency Approving Project: Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB)

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out the Project: John Walsh, 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: Section 15313, Class 13 & Section 15325, Class 25
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions, State code Number:
- ☐ Other:

Reasons why this project is exempt:

The Project involves the acquisition of land for wildlife conservation purposes and the transfer of an ownership interest in land to preserve open space and habitat, including plant or animal habitats.

Lead Agency Contact Person: John Walsh

Area Code/Telephone Extension: (916) 539-8016

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: DocuSigned by: John Walsh 3286244C820F47D... **Title:** Deputy Executive Director **Date:** 11/20/2026

☑ 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:

ec: WCB Project Tracker
WCB Board Meeting Folder