

**Notice of Exemption**

**To:** Office of Planning and Research  
PO 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:** Post-fire Reproductive Output of *Deinandra minthornii* (Project)

**Project Location:** The Project will take place at the Santa Susana Field Laboratory property, which is a former industrial research and development facility located on a 2,668-acre portion of the Simi Hills in Simi Valley, California. The Santa Susana Field Laboratory property is located approximately seven miles northwest of the community of Canoga Park, and approximately 30 miles northwest of Downtown Los Angeles. In November 2018, nearly 80 percent of the Santa Susana Field Laboratory property burned in the Woolsey Fire. Plant parts collected as part of the Project will be exported to the Oregon State University Seed Lab in Corvallis Oregon for cleaning and analysis.

**Project Description:** The California Department of Fish and Wildlife is issuing a permit to Dr. Victoria Wojcik pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 2081(a) for a project to understand how reproductive output of *Deinandra minthornii*, a state-listed rare plant species, is impacted immediately after fire and in the post-fire regeneration period. The Project will require the annual collection of between 12 and 15 *Deinandra minthornii* floral heads from each of eight sampling locations on the Santa Susana Field Laboratory property between late October and early November. Seed collection will occur from 2019 to 2022. Floral heads will be clipped using gardening shears and put into labeled paper bags. The Project is expected to result in the collection of approximately 800-1000 seeds from the Santa Susana Field Laboratory property per year. Floral heads and their seeds will be sent to the Oregon Seed Lab for cleaning and analysis. A tetrazolium (TZ) test will be conducted on the seeds at the Oregon Seed Lab to determine the proportion of live seed from each sampling location based on dehydrogenase activity, regardless of seed dormancy. The test can be performed in 24 to 48 hours. Seeds and other floral parts sent to the Oregon Seed Lab will be disposed of after analysis.

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

**Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Dr. Victoria Wojcik, Research Director, Pollinator Partnership

**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 scientific research that may provide information that will be beneficial for conservation of a rare plant species. The permit issued by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for the Project includes measures to ensure that existing populations of *Deinandra minthornii* will not be impacted.

**Lead Agency Contact Person:** Jeb Bjerke

Area Code/Telephone/ Extension: (916) 651-6594

**Signature:**

  
Isabel Baer, Native Plant Program Manager

**Date:**

Oct 29, 2019

Signed by Lead Agency

Date Received for filing at OPR:

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

OCT 30 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE