

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: White-Rayed Pentachaeta and San Mateo Woolly Sunflower Investigations to Develop a Plant Propagation Protocol (Project)

Project Location: The Project will take place on San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Peninsula Watershed lands, including: (1) "The Triangle" which is bordered by Edgewood Road, Cañada Road, and the Junipero Serra Freeway (I-280) at (37.464034, -122.294426), (2) north of Lower Crystal Springs Reservoir at (37.555144, -122.391892), (3) along Crystal Springs Reservoir access road at (37.549849, -122.404816), and (4) along Crystal Springs Road from Skyline Boulevard to Merner Road. Leaf tissue for genetic analysis will be deposited at the UC Davis DNA Sequencing Facility for analysis. Greenhouse propagation for the development of the propagation protocol will take place at the UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife is issuing permit 2081(a)-20-006-RP pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 2081(a) for a project that will include the following components: (1) collection of seed from wild populations the endangered plant white-rayed pentachaeta (*Pentachaeta bellidiflora*) and the endangered plant San Mateo woolly sunflower (*Eriophyllum latilobum*) for the purpose of testing seed germination and developing a propagation protocol, (2) collection of leaf tissue from wild populations of white-rayed pentachaeta and San Mateo woolly sunflower for genetic sequencing at the UC Davis DNA Sequencing Facility, and (3) possible ex-situ conservation of white-rayed pentachaeta and San Mateo woolly sunflower plants and/or seeds at a facility in California that has been permitted by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to conduct such activities.

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

Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Angelica Maria Saucedo, University of California, Davis – Arboretum and Public Garden

Exempt Status:

- Ministerial;
- Declared Emergency;
- Emergency Project;
- Categorical Exemption. Type and section number: Sections 15306 and 15307, Classes 6 and 7

Reasons why project is exempt: The Project will facilitate the recovery of state-listed endangered plant species by investigating seed germination of the species and establishing plant propagation protocols that may be used for reintroducing the plants back into their historical ranges in the future. The permit issued by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for the Project includes measures to ensure that existing populations of the species will not be impacted.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Jeb Bjerke

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Signature:  Isabel Baer, Native Plant Program Manager **Date:** 4/21/2020

Signed by Lead Agency Date Received for filing at OPR: _____