## **Notice of Exemption**

To: ☑ Office of Planning and Research State Clearinghouse 1400 Tenth Street Sacramento, CA 95814	From: Department of Fish and Wildlife WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD Mailing address: P.O. Box 944209 Sacramento, CA 94244-2090
County Clerk (County of): N/A  Project Title: Peninsular Bighorn Sheep-Recovery Lan	Attention: Jasen Yee and Acquisition, Mesquite Ridge
Project Applicant: Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB)	
<b>Project Location – Specific:</b> South Side of W. Mesquite Avenue, West of Belardo Road, City of Palm Springs, Riverside County, Portions of APNs 513-300-046 and 513-300-048	
Project Location - City: Palm Springs	Project Location - County: Riverside
CEQA Region: S. CA	
<b>Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:</b> The project involves a subgrant to Oswit Land Trust to acquire approximately 29± acres of core desert alluvial fan habitat that's supports the protection and preservation of habitat linkages and corridors for the endangered Peninsular bighorn sheep and other threatened and endangered species covered under the Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Communities Conservation Plan, located along the lower elevations of the San Jacinto mountains. WCB Project Tracker ID: 2021122.	
Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Department of Fish and Wildlife, WCB	
Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: John P. Donnelly, Executive Director, WCB	
Exempt Status: (Check One)  Ministerial (Sec. 15073): Declared Emergency [Sec. 15071 (a)]: Emergency Project [Sec. 15071 (b) and (c)]: Categorical Exemption. State Section number and type: Section 15313, Class 13 and Section 15325, Class 25 Statutory Exemptions, State code Number: Public Resources Code 21080.28. Acquisition of an interest in Land by a Public Agency.	
<b>Reasons why project is exempt:</b> 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 P. Donnelly	Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (916) 205-4730
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: John P. Donnelly Date:	/2022 Title: Executive Director
⊠ 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.	

ec: WCB Project Tracker WCB Board Meeting Folder