



## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

**TO:**  Office of Planning and Research  
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121  
Sacramento, CA 95814

County Clerk / County of Mono  
PO Box 237  
Bridgeport, CA 93517

**FROM:** Mono County Department of Public Works  
PO Box 457  
Bridgeport, CA 93517

**Project Title: Conway Ranch Conservation Easement**

**Project Applicant: Mono County**

**Project Location – Specific: Hwy 167 and US 395**

**Project Location - City: Lee Vining, Mono City**

**Project Location - County: Mono**

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:** This project involves the conveyance of a Conservation Easement over approximately 806 acres of County-owned land commonly known as the Conway and Mattly Ranches. The Easement would clarify and formally establish conservation values and best management practices for the protection of those values, as well as setting maximum limits on future development of the property.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Mono County

**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: 15307, ACTIONS BY REGULATORY AGENCIES FOR PROTECTION OF NATURAL RESOURCES; 15308, ACTIONS BY REGULATORY AGENCIES FOR PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT; 15317, OPEN SPACE CONTRACTS OR EASEMENTS

Statutory Exemptions. State code number: 15262

**Reasons why project is exempt:** This project would create a Conservation Easement for the purposes of clarifying and formally establishing future management practices on the Conway and Mattly Ranch, in order to ensure that conservation values of the property will be maintained in perpetuity. The action is covered in several exemption classes described below:

Class 7 consists of actions taken by regulatory agencies as authorized by state law or local ordinance to assure the maintenance, restoration, or enhancement of a natural resource where the regulatory process involves procedures for protection of the environment.

Class 8 consists of actions taken by regulatory agencies, as authorized by state or local ordinance, to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of the environment where the regulatory process involves procedures for protection of the environment.

Class 17 consists of the establishment of agricultural preserves, the making and renewing of open space contracts under the Williamson Act, or the acceptance of easements or fee interests in order to maintain the open space character of the area.

Additionally, CEQA Section 15004(b)(2)(A) relating to the Time of Preparation for CEQA documents applies here, as preferred sites for development have been identified and future use has been conditioned on CEQA compliance.

**Lead Agency Contact Person:** Tony Dublino

**Area Code/Telephone/Extension:** (760) 932-5453

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: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

- Signed by Lead Agency
- Signed by Applicant