

**ATTACHMENT B: NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

**TO:** Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Steve Mason, Administration and Operations Manager  
Planning and Development Department

The project or activity identified below is determined to be exempt from further environmental review requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970, as defined in the State and County Guidelines for the implementation of CEQA.

**APN(s):** Countywide

**Location:** Countywide

**Project Title:** Fish and Game Commission grant awards for education and fish and facilitating enforcement of Fish and Wildlife Code and regulations via a secret witness program.

**Project Description:**

The County Fish and Game Commission is funding three grants to local organizations. Two grants fund public education programs or events. The third is for the support of the CalTIP Rewards Committee by providing rewards to those who report wildlife crimes.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** County of Santa Barbara

**Exempt Status:** (Check one)

- Ministerial
- Statutory Exemption
- Categorical Exemption
- Emergency Project
- Declared Emergency
- Other

**Cite specific CEQA and/or CEQA Guideline Section(s):** 15061 (b)(3) and 15378(b)(4)

**Reasons to support exemption findings (attach additional material, if necessary):**

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Section 15061 (b)(3) states that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. CEQA Section 15378 (b)(4) defines a "Project" as not including the creation of government funding mechanisms. Award of Fish and Wildlife Commission grant funds is a proposed budget allocation, and thus is a governmental fiscal activity, which does not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant impact on the environment. There is no possibility that the approval of these three grants may have a significant effect on the environment.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Department/Division Representative Date

**Acceptance Date (date of final action on project):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date Filed by County Clerk:** \_\_\_\_\_

Note: A copy of this form must be posted at P&D 6 days prior to a decision on the project. Upon project approval, this form must be filed with the County Clerk of the Board and posted by the Clerk of the Board for a period of 30 days to begin a 35 day statute of limitations on legal challenges.

Distribution: Hearing Support Staff [for posting 6 days prior to action, and posting original after project approval]