

California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) - Wildlife Branch  
Authorizations and Conditions for Scientific Collecting Permit (SCP)

Entity

The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation (EID-210530001)  
Principal Investigator: Richard G. Hatfield (SC-210530002)

Authorizations and conditions based on your online SCP application entitled "California Bumble Bee Atlas" received by the Department on March 25, 2021, on file with the [CDFW Wildlife Branch](#).

**Capture and release** and **sacrifice** of the Franklin's bumble bee (*Bombus franklini*), Western bumble bee (*Bombus occidentalis*), Obscure bumble bee (*Bombus caliginosus*), Crotch bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*), Morrison bumble bee (*Bombus morrisoni*), Suckley's cuckoo bumble bee (*Bombus suckleyi*) and other bees (Order Hymenoptera; **excluding Threatened, Endangered, CESA Candidate and other Terrestrial & Vernal Pool Invertebrates of Conservation Priority**) is authorized in accordance with the conditions below. See also Condition # 1, below.

Permitted activities are restricted to the following geographic areas in California:

- a. Statewide, **only when conducting surveys as part of the California Bumble Atlas project**. Activities outside of this project require a separate SCP.

**Other Permits:**

You shall obtain and maintain during the term of this SCP any federal permit(s) and/or other state permit(s) required to conduct the activities authorized herein. Although the provisions of the federal permit(s), other state permit(s) and this SCP may vary, the more restrictive conditions prevail. Copies of your federal permit(s) or other research-related permits (e.g., State Parks, landowner access agreements), and any amendments, shall be provided to the Department contacts (see below), and the names of all authorized sub-permittees shall be provided for the permit(s).

You shall carry all required documents, permits and MOUs, along with your SCP, with you while conducting all authorized activities.

**Department Contacts:**

The primary Department contact for this terrestrial wildlife permit is the Wildlife Branch SCP coordinator (Chad Hirano, Environmental Scientist, [Chad.Hirano@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Chad.Hirano@wildlife.ca.gov), 916-539-6321).

The Department contact for the authorized conservation priority bees is Dr. Hillary Sardiñas (Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist), [Hillary.Sardinas@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Hillary.Sardinas@wildlife.ca.gov)).

**Conditions to Scientific Collecting Permit  
S-210530001-21053-001**

**1. When a Memorandum of Understanding is needed**

Intentional take or possession of species listed as Threatened, Endangered, or Candidate under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA), or intentional take or possession of Fully Protected species, is not authorized without a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) from the Department on which you are specifically named.

Intentional take (e.g., capture, sacrifice) of the **Western bumble bee (*Bombus occidentalis*)**, **Crotch's bumble bee (*B. crotchii*)**, **Suckley's Cuckoo bumble bee (*B.***

**suckleyi) and/or Franklin's bumble bee (*B. franklini*)**, CESA Candidate species, requires a CESA MOU or letter permit authorization and is not authorized solely by this SCP.

After the California Fish and Game Commission makes a final finding, published in the California Regulatory Notice Register, regarding whether the petitioned action to add the **Western bumble bee, Crotch's bumble bee, Suckley's bumble bee, and Franklin's bumble bee** to the list of threatened or endangered species under CESA is warranted, these species will either be added as a species authorized by this SCP, or a CESA MOU may be required should the species become listed under CESA.

To apply for a State MOU, contact the CDFW Terrestrial Wildlife Research MOU Coordinator, Justin Garcia ([Justin.Garcia@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Justin.Garcia@wildlife.ca.gov)), for study proposal requirements.

## 2. **When additional authorization on your SCP is needed**

Intentional take of Federally-listed species is not authorized without a valid federal permit **and** additional written authorization from the Department on which you are specifically named or otherwise authorized.

Except as authorized above, intentional capture of non-target [Terrestrial and Vernal Pool Invertebrates of Conservation Priority \(TICP\)](#) (list dated June 12, 2017) or other non-target wildlife requires an amendment to your SCP. See also Condition #1, above.

For the purpose of this permit, non-target wildlife includes animals other than the Franklin's bumble bee, Western bumble bee, Obscure bumble bee, Crotch bumble bee, Morrison bumble bee and Suckley's cuckoo bumble bee (authorized TICP bumble bees) and bees not designated as conservation priority.

Incidentally-captured individuals of non-target wildlife taxa shall be released at the capture site immediately, once identified, without further handling, unless otherwise authorized for activity(ies) on that species or subspecies in this permit, or state MOU.

You can find a list of species and subspecies designated as Threatened, Endangered, Candidate, or other special status invertebrates in the Department's Special Animals List at the following link: <http://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=109406&inline=1>.

Marking of any species requires special authorization by the Department.

## 3. **Location of Field Activities**

Your field activities may be located in a special status natural community or in an area that provides habitat for a non-target special status plant or animal. It is your responsibility to determine whether or not implementation of your field activities could have potential adverse impacts to a listed or special status plant or animal or special status natural community. To minimize potential impacts, compile relevant biological information in the general study area prior to conducting field activities or research. Generally, identify vegetation and habitat types occurring in your study area based on biological and physical properties of the site and surrounding ecological subregion<sup>1</sup>, unless a larger assessment area is appropriate. Conduct a [Rarefind or CNDDDB Quick Viewer](#) search and check with other reliable resources for known occurrences of special status plants, animals, or natural communities at the site before conducting your research. Contact the Wildlife Branch SCP Coordinator

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<sup>1</sup> [U.S. Forest Service Ecological Subregions of California](#)

([Chad.Hirano@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Chad.Hirano@wildlife.ca.gov)) if non-target special status plant or animal species are likely to be encountered or are being handled or disturbed.

You shall check with the landowner to determine if any other researchers are permitted to conduct activity(ies) in the same site or area. Prior to entering CDFW lands to conduct the activity(ies) described herein, you shall first receive additional written authorization from the Reserve Manager. See also SCP [Standard Condition E & D](#).

#### 4. **Prior to Conducting Field Activities**

Prior to conducting field activities pursuant to this permit, notification shall be submitted to the Department Wildlife Branch SCP Coordinator ([Chad.Hirano@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Chad.Hirano@wildlife.ca.gov)), Hillary Sardiñas ([Hillary.Sardinas@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Hillary.Sardinas@wildlife.ca.gov)) and Department Regional contacts (see Condition # 11, below), in an electronic format, at least 14 days prior to conducting activities. See also [Standard Condition F](#).

Any separate written authorizations that you receive from the Department for activities shall become conditions of your SCP and shall remain attached to the SCP at all times while conducting the research (including hard copies of authorizations received via email).

#### 5. **Protocol for Disinfecting Equipment**

To reduce the likelihood of disease transmission, you shall employ the decontamination protocols using methods that are effective against diseases, such as *Nosema bombi*. When moving between sampling locations (both within and between counties), decontaminate collection equipment using bleach or ethanol. UV light (sunlight) may also be used. For nets or other mesh sampling materials soak in a 20% bleach solution for 20 minutes and rinse with water or launder with bleach. Spray non-mesh equipment with ethanol or dilute bleach. To enhance effectiveness of sanitation treatments, ensure bleach is new and has not been degraded by sunlight.

#### 6. **Bees**

You shall make a reasonable effort to coordinate with any other researchers who may be conducting research on the authorized TICP bumble bees in the same locations to avoid impacts to local populations.

##### **a. Capture and Release**

You may survey for the authorized TICP bumble bees and other bees (***excluding Threatened, Endangered, CESA-Candidate, and non-target bees of conservation priority***) using appropriate methods to avoid incidental injury or mortality to the bees and non-target species. Surveys shall be conducted in accordance with the most recent survey guidelines for the bees (i.e., Pacific Northwest Bumble Bee Atlas: Participant Handbook 2020).

You may not intentionally survey for federally- or CESA-listed bees without being so authorized on a federal recovery permit and/or CESA MOU (see Condition #1, above).

Live capture and release is the preferred method for gathering invertebrate data when feasible. The authorized methods of capture for bees are: hand, hand net, sweep net and vial,.

Any habitat element (e.g., downed logs, vegetation) moved to survey for bees shall be placed back exactly where they were found to avoid negative impacts on habitat conditions.

Bees may be handled when necessary to facilitate identification, measuring, photographs, or collection of voucher specimens. Any handling shall be conducted in an expedient manner

(generally within ten minutes). You may use ice to cool bees to facilitate handling. Allow bees to warm up again in a shaded area.

All bees captured shall be released at the site of capture unless that location puts them in imminent danger, in which case they shall be carefully moved and released in nearby suitable habitat, preferably within 50 feet of the original locality; except as otherwise authorized for collecting voucher specimens (see Condition #6b and #6c, below).

**b. Sacrifice**

Sacrifice of the authorized TICIP bumble bees (**excluding Threatened, Endangered or CESA-Candidate species, and non-target bees of conservation priority**) is authorized as needed for taxonomic identification not otherwise obtainable in the field or by non-lethal methods.

You or someone present should have the expertise to distinguish listed and conservation priority species or subspecies using field techniques.

You may not sacrifice bumble bees within the range of Franklin's bumble bee, Western bumble bee, Suckley Cuckoo bumble bee or Crotch bumble bee without the expertise to distinguish the species by use of field methods or by avoiding the specific combination of their habitats and geographic ranges.

Lethal take of non-target bees on the [California Terrestrial and Vernal Pool Invertebrates of Conservation Priority \(TICIP\)](#) list (17 pages dated June 2017) shall be reasonably avoided or limited.

Total take shall be spread geographically and across various seasons, over three (3) study years (2021-2024), to the greatest extent possible, to avoid impacts to local populations, and in consideration of environmental factors such as extended drought conditions, take by other researchers, threats to the population(s), and cumulative impacts facing bees at the collection site(s). Rare species and subspecies shall receive special consideration in this regard.

The totals are cumulative and shall not be exceeded by the combined efforts of other researchers associated with the study.

Collection limits do not apply for bees or other terrestrial invertebrates not considered CDFW Invertebrates of Conservation Priority (e.g., Yellow head bumble bee (*Bombus flavifrons*)), as those taxa are exempt from the requirements of this SCP.

**c. Lethal Collection Limits**

Sacrifice should only occur outside the queen flight periods of the TICIP bumble bee species (Table 1).

**i. Directed take (sacrifice):**

- o 10 individuals (worker, or male) from each of the authorized TICIP bumble bee species per year, including candidate bumble bees (excluding *B. franklini* and *B. sukleyi*), with a total of 30 per species over the 3-year permit.

**ii. Accidental take (sacrifice):**

- o Additional take over the above collection limits shall be reported immediately and activities in the vicinity (within 2 miles from the sampling location) shall cease until direction is provided by the Department contact.

- Take of *B. franklini* is not authorized. In the event that one or more Franklin's bumble bees are identified in a sample, all lethal survey activities shall cease within 2 miles of the capture location.
- The Department recognizes that the identification process for bee specimens can occur months after sampling has occurred (see Condition #8, below). If you discover that additional incidental take of priority bee species has occurred, you shall immediately report it to Dr. Hillary Sardiñas ([Hillary.Sardinas@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Hillary.Sardinas@wildlife.ca.gov)).

**d. Non-Target Wildlife**

Incidentally-captured individuals of non-target TICP invertebrates and other wildlife taxa shall be released at the capture site immediately, once identified, without further handling.

**e. Incidental Injury or Mortality**

You shall report any incidental injury or mortality of a listed, candidate, or conservation priority invertebrate to Chad Hirano ([Chad.Hirano@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Chad.Hirano@wildlife.ca.gov)) and Hillary Sardiñas ([Hillary.Sardinas@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Hillary.Sardinas@wildlife.ca.gov)) within three (3) days, and you shall provide a written report of the incident within ten (10) days via email.

**7. Salvage**

You may salvage bees incidentally killed during permitted activities or encountered dead in the field, as specified below. There is no limit to the number of salvaged bees.

Prior to salvaging TICP specimens, photograph the specimen to document the condition. Salvaged specimens of CESA-listed, CESA-Candidate, and TICP species require disposition instructions from the Department (contact Dr. Hillary Sardiñas, [Hillary.Sardinas@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Hillary.Sardinas@wildlife.ca.gov)). Preserve the specimen(s) using standard museum practices including proper identification and data (see labeling requirements below), or place in a freezer if unsure how to preserve. Federally-listed species require authorization and disposition instructions from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service).

After contacting Dr. Sardiñas within three (3) days of encountering a TICP species, you shall provide a report within ten (10) working days, via email, describing the collection location of the specimen including GPS coordinates and datum, date and time the specimen was encountered, name of observer/collector, and details regarding the specimen including condition of carcass, possible or probable cause of death, and any other relevant information or observation notes. Photographs of the specimen and the salvage locale shall also be provided to Dr. Sardiñas.

**8. Disposition and Labeling of Specimens**

You shall securely label each collected specimen with the following information: (a) date of collection; (b) location of the specimen (GPS coordinates and datum); (c) species name (if known); (d) unique identification number; (e) physical condition; (f) cause of mortality, if known; (g) name and affiliation of the person who collected the specimen; and (h) the permit number(s) and expiration date(s) under which the specimen was collected.

All suitable specimens sacrificed or salvaged, intentionally or incidentally, shall be donated to a public scientific or educational institution (preferably in California) for research or teaching collections after identification (e.g., Entomology Research Museum, University of California, Riverside, CA; California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, CA; Essig Museum of Entomology, University of California, Berkeley, CA).

You may transport bees across state lines to the Oregon State Arthropod Collection (Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR) or other depositories approved by the Department contact, only when adhering to other state, federal, or local laws or ordinances.

All TICIP bees need to be identified from samples annually, in time to be included in the annual report due January 31 (see Condition #10, below). In some cases, accidental mortality may not be discovered until specimens are identified by a bee taxonomist. The permittee and/or taxonomists shall take an initial look through samples to identify TICIP bees, in order to include this information in the annual report.

To validate the specimens were collected pursuant to this permit, a copy of the [Transfer of Possession – Chain of Custody form \(DFW 1379c\)](#) shall accompany any salvaged specimens when transferred to another person or entity.

## 9. **Plants**

Terrestrial plants are exempt from the requirements of a SCP. However, a SCP does not authorize take or possession of a plant listed as [rare, threatened, endangered, or a candidate species](#) pursuant to the Native Plant Protection Act (NPPA) or the California Endangered Species Act (CESA). To obtain a [Voucher Collecting Permit](#) to collect state-listed plants for identification purposes, or to apply for a [scientific, educational or management](#) permit for state-listed plants, please visit the [CDFW Native Plant Program webpage](#) and/or email [nativeplants@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:nativeplants@wildlife.ca.gov). A property owner's permission is necessary to collect plant species. You may need a permit to work in the vicinity of state-listed plants even if you are not collecting them.

## 10. **Reporting Requirements**

Abstracts, reports, and other publications shall be submitted to the Wildlife Branch SCP Coordinator ([Chad.Hirano@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Chad.Hirano@wildlife.ca.gov)) and the Department contact(s) noted below, in an electronic format (such as a pdf file), which is the preferred format.

If no activities were conducted with any or all species authorized under the SCP during the previous year of your permit, you shall state this in writing in your annual report and/or MWR form.

### **a. Annual Report(s) for Bumble Bees of Conservation Priority:**

You are required to submit an annual report to the Department contact ([Hillary.Sardinas@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Hillary.Sardinas@wildlife.ca.gov) and [Chad.Hirano@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Chad.Hirano@wildlife.ca.gov)), in an electronic format, describing the results and significant findings of your research on the authorized bees on the CDFW Terrestrial and Vernal Pool Invertebrates of Conservation Priority (TICIP) list.

The annual reports shall be submitted on or before **January 31<sup>st</sup>** of the year following each year of research. The reports shall follow standard scientific format (Title, Date, Author(s) and Affiliation(s), Introduction, Study Area (with map), Methods, Results, Discussion, and Literature Cited). Photographs may be included as needed, or as an Appendix.

The reports for authorized TICIP bumble bee surveys and research shall include, but not be limited to, the following information:

- i. The dates of field work, site name, and names of all personnel;
- ii. Date observed, captured, collected or sacrificed;
- iii. Number and location of bees observed or handled, including locations of bumble bee nests (GPS coordinates and datum);
- iv. A map depicting the locations of the survey/research site(s);
- v. A map indicating the locations of bee detections and/or locations where bees were captured and released;

- vi. Habitat description, soil type and other relevant nest characteristics, including photographs of sites where bees or their nests were detected;
- vii. Any information regarding movements and habitat use;
- viii. Estimates of population size, distribution, and relative density of bees, if feasible;
- ix. A description of the number, causes, and location of any incidental injuries or mortalities;
- x. The date and location of reposition of each salvable, injured, and vouchered specimen; and
- xi. Other pertinent observations made regarding the status or ecology of the bees, along with a description of known threats to the species and any management recommendations.

**b. Mandatory Wildlife Report (MWR) Form:**

You shall report all take of bees, including incidental take (e.g., capture) of non-target species, on the MWR form within 30 days of expiration of the permit.

When you submit the [MWR form](#), please reference your annual scientific reports for the bee research described above and any CNDDDB data that have been submitted to the Department. There is no need to repeat the more detailed information contained in your CNDDDB forms on the MWR form.

**c. Other Reports:**

For activities associated with this SCP, you shall also provide copies of abstracts you may prepare for any papers you present, or copies of any papers you prepare for popular articles or scientific journals, or copies of any periodic, annual, or final report that you prepare or assist in preparing for a client or other third party.

**d. California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB):**

For any Threatened, Endangered, Candidate, Fully Protected, Species of Special Concern or any other invertebrates considered "[Special Animals](#)" encountered and correctly identified (see the Department Special Animals list found here: <https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Data/CNDDDB/Plants-and-Animals>), you shall send occurrence data to the CNDDDB. You shall submit point data to the CNDDDB at least annually. You shall submit data using CNDDDB's Online Field Survey Form, which can be accessed here: <https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Data/CNDDDB>. If you cannot access the Online Field Survey Form or receive permission from the primary Department contact, data may also be submitted on the standard CNDDDB Field Survey Forms (<https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=25739&inline=1>), or in an electronic spreadsheet with an attached map depicting locations of observations (see <https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Data/CNDDDB/Submitting-Data>). Include known threats to the species in your submittal. A cross reference to your annual report(s) shall also be included.

**11. Regional Office Notification and Report Circulation**

In addition to the regional office notification requirement in Standard Condition F ([DFW 1379b](#)), you shall send notification to the regional biologists listed below for field activity(ies) in the county(ies) below. You should have a specific survey or study before conducting any activities authorized by this SCP, and notify the regional contact(s) prior to the start of each new survey and/or study. Submit electronic copies of any reports produced or required by this permit, within two weeks of completion, to the contact(s) listed below, as appropriate for the counties of your activities.

Region 1: Jennifer Carlson, [Jennifer.Carlson@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Carlson@wildlife.ca.gov), (530) 515-1382

Region 2: [R2CESA@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:R2CESA@wildlife.ca.gov), (916) 358-2900

Region 3: Robert Stanley, [Robert.Stanley@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Robert.Stanley@wildlife.ca.gov), (707) 339-6534

Region 4: David Hacker, [David.Hacker@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:David.Hacker@wildlife.ca.gov), (559) 417-2976

Region 5: Hans Sin, [Hans.Sin@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Hans.Sin@wildlife.ca.gov), (858) 467-4217



For Law Enforcement contacts, send notifications to the appropriate regional office email address (found here: <https://wildlife.ca.gov/Regions>).

## 12. **Standard Provisions**

The attached provisions shall also be followed: [Standard Conditions for All Scientific Collecting Permits \(Attachment #1: 2 pages dated July 01, 2017\)](#).

## 13. **List of Authorized Individuals**

All personnel independently conducting activity(ies) for your study(ies) shall carry a copy of this SCP and be named on your SCP List of Authorized Individuals (LAI; Attachment #2).

The Principal Investigator may request to change or add Authorized Individuals to be named on the LAI by submitting an SCP amendment application with the following information: a) name of the individual; b) species the individual will be working with; c) activities the individual will conduct; d) whether or not these activities will be conducted independently or under direct supervision (within three meters); and e) resumes/CVs and statements of qualifications that describe the individual's experience with the species, and experience with the methods to be employed in the study(ies). Letters of recommendation may also be required as supplemental information.

## 14. **Term**

This Entity SCP shall be in your possession while conducting the activities described above, and is valid through **July 28, 2024**.

You may use the [Specific Use SCP Amendment form](#) for any modifications to your research in the future.

Minor deviation from the stipulated terms and conditions may be authorized on a case-by-case basis when approved by the CDFW contact unless an amendment to this permit would be required.

Should you have any questions, please contact Chad Hirano ([Chad.Hirano@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Chad.Hirano@wildlife.ca.gov)) and/or Dr. Hillary Sardiñas ([Hillary.Sardinias@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Hillary.Sardinias@wildlife.ca.gov)).

**Table 1:** Approximate flight periods for queens of the 5<sup>+</sup> of the *Bombus* species listed on the Department's Terrestrial Invertebrates of Conservation Priority (TICP) list as described in Williams et al. 2014.

Common Name	Species name	Spring flight period	Fall flight period
Franklin's bumble bee	<i>Bombus franklini</i>	Late April – early June	September - October
Western bumble bee	<i>Bombus occidentalis</i>	February - March	October - November
Morrison bumble bee	<i>Bombus morrisoni</i>	Mid-March – mid-May	Mid-September – Nov.
Crotch bumble bee	<i>Bombus crotchii</i>	February - March	September - October
Obscure bumble bee	<i>Bombus caliginosus</i>	January - March	September – Nov.

\* Suckley's cuckoo bumble bee (*B. suckleyi*) is not included because its queens emerge in May and there is high potential their colonies may not be detected if sampling does not occur during the queen's flight period.

### Literature cited

Williams, PH, RW Thorp, LL Richardson, and SR Colla. 2014. *Bumble bees of North America: an identification guide*. Princeton University Press.

Thorp, RW, S Jepsen, SF Jordan, E Evans, and SH Black. 2010. Petition to list Franklin's bumble bee *Bombus franklini* (Frison), 1921 as an Endangered Species under the US Endangered Species Act.





State of California - Natural Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE  
Wildlife Branch  
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**GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor**  
**CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director**



October 18, 2022

RE: PERMIT FOR TAKE OF CROTCH'S BUMBLE BEE, FRANKLIN'S BUMBLE BEE, WESTERN BUMBLE BEE, AND SUCKLEY'S CUCKOO BUMBLE BEE DURING CESA CANDIDACY PERIOD AND REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Dear Scientific Collector,

You are receiving this letter because Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) records indicate you have been issued a Scientific Collecting Permit (SCP) authorizing take or possession of Crotch's bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*), Franklin's bumble bee (*Bombus franklini*), western bumble bee (*Bombus occidentalis occidentalis*), and/or Suckley's cuckoo bumble bee (*Bombus suckleyi*) for scientific, educational, or propagation purposes (Fish and Game Code, § 1002 and California Code of Regulations, Title 14, § 650).

The California Fish and Game Commission (Commission) determined listing these four bumble bee species as threatened or endangered pursuant to the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) "may be warranted" on June 12, 2019, which advanced all four species to candidacy. The Commission's determination was subsequently challenged in court, and candidacy was stayed during the ensuing litigation. A California Court of Appeal ultimately upheld the Commission's determination, the state Supreme Court declined to review the case, and on September 30, 2022 candidacy for all four species was reinstated.

As candidate species, Crotch's bumble bee, Franklin's bumble bee, western bumble bee, and Suckley's cuckoo bumble bee receive the same legal protection afforded to CESA-listed endangered or threatened species (Fish and Game Code, §§ 2074.2 & 2085). Unless authorized by the Department, it is illegal to import, export, take (hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill, or attempt to engage in any of these activities), possess, purchase, or sell the four candidate bumble bee species or any part or product thereof (Fish and Game Code, §§ 86, 2080, 2085).

An SCP no longer provides sole take authorization of Crotch's bumble bee, Franklin's bumble bee, western bumble bee, or Suckley's cuckoo bumble bee. However, the Department can issue a permit or memorandum of understanding (MOU) authorizing qualified researchers to import, export, take, or possess a CESA-candidate species for scientific, educational, or management purposes (Fish and Game Code, § 2081(a)).

When signed, this letter shall serve as a permit, pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 2081(a), authorizing continued take of Crotch's bumble bee, Franklin's bumble bee, western bumble bee, and/or Suckley's cuckoo bumble bee during their CESA candidacy period. All conditions of your SCP will continue to apply, along with the additional conditions below. If you agree to these conditions, please use DocuSign to sign this letter, then print and carry it with you, along with your SCP, in the field.

Please note that coverage pursuant to Section 2081(a) does not typically extend to "movement out of harm's way" associated with projects or activities that may cause incidental take. The Department typically provides take authorization for such activities under Incidental Take Permits (ITP) or Consistency Determinations (Fish and Game Code, §§ 2081, subdivision (b) & 2080.1), or other similar permits. Biological monitors who are only complying with the minimization and mitigation terms of such permits must receive approval from the Department Regional Office issuing the permit.

*Conserving California's Wildlife Since 1870*

Additional conditions for Crotch's bumble bee, Franklin's bumble bee, western bumble bee, and/or Suckley's cuckoo bumble bee during CESA candidacy

1. Any new activities require submission of a study proposal to the primary Department contact, and you must receive written authorization from the Department prior to commencing these activities.

Primary Department Contact

Justin Garcia, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist)

[Justin.Garcia@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Justin.Garcia@wildlife.ca.gov)

(916) 207-4957

2. Sacrifice, captivity, propagation, and translocation require prior written authorization from the primary Department contact before commencement.
3. Except as otherwise authorized in your SCP, the number of authorized Crotch's bumble bee, Franklin's bumble bee, western bumble bee, and/or Suckley's cuckoo bumble bees allowed to be seriously injured (i.e., compromising survival in the wild) or killed during permitted activities is zero (0) in any calendar year. In the event that the number of individuals allowed to be seriously injured or killed is exceeded during the performance of permitted activities, you shall:
  - a. Immediately notify the primary Department contact by telephone.
  - b. Immediately cease activities until reauthorized by the Department. After analysis of the circumstance of injury or mortality, the Department may revoke, amend, suspend or reauthorize this research.
  - c. A written report shall be sent to the primary Department contact in pdf format via email within 10 days of the mortality event.
  - d. In the written notification, you shall describe the circumstances that led to the injury or mortality. A description of recommended changes in methods that will be implemented to reduce the likelihood of such injury or mortality from happening again should be included, if appropriate. All injuries and mortalities shall also be summarized in the annual report that is subsequently submitted. When available, necropsy reports shall be submitted to the primary Department contact.

Request for information related to Crotch's bumble bee, Franklin's bumble bee, western bumble bee, and Suckley's cuckoo bumble bee


In response to their reinstatement as CESA candidates, the Department has re-initiated a status review for these four bees and continues to solicit data and comments on their potential listing as threatened or endangered. Specifically, the Department requests data and comments regarding the species' ecology, genetics, life history, distribution, abundance, habitat, the degree and immediacy of threats to its reproduction or survival, the adequacy of existing management, and recommendations for management.

The Department respectfully requests that data and comments be submitted before **December 15, 2022** to allow sufficient time to evaluate this information during the status review period. Please provide such data and comments to the Department by email at [wildlifemgt@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:wildlifemgt@wildlife.ca.gov) and include "Candidate bumble bee data" in the subject line. Comments may also be submitted by mail to California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Wildlife Diversity Program, Attn: CESA Conservation Unit, P.O. Box 944209, Sacramento, CA 94244-2090.

If you have any questions about this permitting change, please contact Justin Garcia, Research Authorizations Coordinator ([Justin.Garcia@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Justin.Garcia@wildlife.ca.gov), (916) 207-4957, or Hillary Sardiñas, Pollinator Coordinator ([Hillary.Sardinas@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Hillary.Sardinas@wildlife.ca.gov), (916) 387-5148. If you have any questions regarding the

status review or submission of data or comments, please contact the Department by email at:  
[wildlifemgt@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:wildlifemgt@wildlife.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:  
  
A09EE4A476F1455...  
Pete Figura

Environmental Program Manager  
Wildlife Diversity Program, Wildlife Branch

Accepted by: DocuSigned by:  
  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 10/26/2022  
A042EAE50500424...

Printed Name: Richard G. Hatfield

SCP #: S-210530001-21053-001

ec: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

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