



State of California  
The Natural Resources Agency  
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>	La Cima Conservation Camp Waste water Treatment Plant Project		
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>	15108 Sunrise Highway Julian, CA 92036 N1/2 of SW¼, Section 23, T14S, R4E, SBBM	<b>COUNTY</b>	San Diego
<b>LEAD AGENCY</b>	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
<b>CONTACT</b>	Pete Scully CAL FIRE – Monte Vista Headquarters		
<b>ADDRESS</b>	Pre-Fire/Resource Management Office 2249 Jamacha Rd El Cajon, CA 92019	<b>PHONE</b>	(619) 743-5530

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

This project proposes the removal of the existing 12,000 gallon per day (GPD) rated waste water treatment plant (WWTP), and the installation of a prefabricated 18,000 GPD rated WWTP and associated ancillary infrastructure at CAL FIRE's La Cima Conservation Camp. La Cima Camp is located at 15108 Sunrise Highway, approximately 4.25 miles southeast of the unincorporated community of Cuyamaca in San Diego County. The project site is located on Department of Parks and Recreation owned lands leased to CAL FIRE and consists of: A CAL FIRE/CDC office building, officer's sleeping quarters, inmate barracks, kitchen/mess hall, automotive shop, crew vehicle storage building, fuel house and warehouse and other small support structures. The surrounding environmental setting, located outside the project site, is moderately steep mountainous terrain covered in mixed montane chaparral with isolated stands of hardwood and coniferous trees. La Cima Camp is located in a rural area with controlled public access, and is accessed by a private road three miles from the Sunrise Highway. The site is not visible from any publicly accessible areas or private residences.

Project activities include:

- Removal and offsite disposal of the existing WWTP and adjacent support structures, including fence and shade structure by a certified licensed contractor. Debris to be transported to, and disposed of, at appropriate offsite facility in compliance with all applicable Federal, State and Local regulations as per contract specifications.
- Construction of approximately 2,500 square foot pad to accommodate placement of new WWTP and support structure. Grading will require approximately 2 foot cut and fill on a small portion of the pad site resulting in movement of approximately 1,500 cubic feet of soil.
- Saw cut and removal of 30 feet of existing concrete apron, and 50 feet of existing asphalt to a width of 18 inches to facilitate trenching for underground electric. Removed materials to be repurposed on site.
- Excavation of trenches: 985 feet in length, 18 inches wide and 36 inches deep to facilitate placement of 575 feet of 4 inch electrical conduit, 6 electrical wire pull boxes, and 410 feet of 4 inch sanitary sewer PVC pipe. Installation of conduit and plumbing, trench backfill, compaction and grading to preexisting elevations.
- Installation of two, 10,000 gallon fiberglass septic holding tanks into the area excavated during removal of existing WWTP and backfill and compaction to preexisting grade.
- Installation of two concrete pads, (1) 20 foot wide by 35 foot long by 4 inches thick and (1) 12 foot wide by 52 feet long by 6 inches thick.
- Construction of a 20 foot wide by 35 foot long wood frame building with water, electrical and sanitation on previously constructed cement pad.
- Placement of 10 foot wide by 50 foot long by 14 foot high prefabricated waste water treatment plant manufactured by "Purestream" with a rated capacity of 18,000 gallons per day on previously constructed cement pad.
- Installation and connection of all electrical sub panels and wiring, pumping mechanisms and mechanical apparatus to support installation and operation of WWTP.

Removal and disposal of existing plant will be by licensed contractor. All other work will be performed by CAL FIRE employees and camp crews using CAL FIRE equipment including hand operated tools, dozer, and a rental excavator.

**EXEMPTION STATUS**

- |                                     |                                               |                             |                                  |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Categorical Exemption                         | Type/Section: Class 3 and 4 | 15303, New Construction          |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Statutory Exemption (state code section):     |                             | 15304, Minor Alterations to Land |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)             |                             |                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))   |                             |                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c)) |                             |                                  |

**REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT**

This project is contained within the descriptions of two Categorical Exemptions listed in the CEQA Guidelines: Class 3 pertaining to new construction, and Class 4 pertaining to minor alterations to land. After completing an environmental analysis, the Department has determined this project will have no significant impact on the environment. This determination is based on field assessments, a CNDDB search, greenhouse gas emission calculations, and archaeological review completed by CAL FIRE Archaeological staff.

Field review by CAL FIRE staff confirmed that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. The Department has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, or to utilities and service systems. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is retained on file at CAL FIRE MVU Headquarters in El Cajon.

**DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING**

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

AUG 01 2016

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Helge Eng  
 Deputy Director, Resource Management  
 California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

8/1/16

Date