



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

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	San Lorenzo River Access Improvement Project		
PROJECT LOCATION	Portions of T10S, R2W, un-surveyed Rancho Zayanta, MDBM	COUNTY	Santa Cruz
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	Andrew Hubbs		
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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

CAL FIRE handcrews will conduct road brushing on a 1/2 mile segment of a two-track water pipeline access road near the San Lorenzo River. Only vegetation and woody material that inhibits emergency access will be cleared. No more than six feet from each side of the centerline of the road and ten feet in height above the road surface will be treated. The project area to be treated is approximately 1/2 acre in size. Within this area, downed material will be cleared, branches will be pruned and vegetation on the road edge will be cut. The project is located in the San Lorenzo River Flood Plain in the town of Felton. Trees in the area consist of typical riparian species, including sycamore, cottonwood, boxelder, willow and non-native acacia. Common shrubs include coyote brush, poison oak, blackberry and several non-native weeds. All material will be either lopped-and-scattered or chipped and left on site. The project will take place outside of nesting season, between the September 15 and February 1.

EXEMPTION STATUS

- Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4 §15304 Minor Alterations to Land
- Statutory Exemption (state code section):
- Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
- Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
- Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

The work proposed is a minor alteration to vegetation which does not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees and is consistent with Categorical Exemption Class 4 - Minor Alterations to Land. No activity is proposed that is listed as a limitation under CCR 15300.2 (a-f).

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 kept on file at San Mateo-Santa Cruz Unit Headquarters, 6059 Highway 9, Felton, CA 95018.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING



Duane Shintaku, Deputy Director Date 11/3/15
 California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection