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CEQA # 10084



State of California - The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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

FROM: Department of Parks and Recreation
303 Big Trees Park Road
Felton, CA 95018

PROJECT TITLE: Ajo Nuevo Burn Piles

LOCATION: Ajo Nuevo State Reserve

COUNTY: San Mateo

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:

Burn debris consisting of invasive woody species from 12 scattered groves in over approximately 256 acres Ajo Nuevo State Reserve to protect and restore natural resources. Work will cut and remove vegetation to create a minimum of 12" wide control lines then set a moderate intensity backing fire using drip torches. Work will also set traffic controls so that vehicles traveling on State Highway One will either be stopped or required to reduce speed through the area depending on visibility and a burn permit will be obtained from the Bay Area Air Pollution Control District and prescribed burning will be initiated on a designated burn day. After the prescribed burn is completed, park staff will closely monitor the results and implement control strategies as needed to remove exotic plants. Subsequent control strategies will be evaluated in a separate environmental document. To protect historic fence posts within the project area fuel will be scraped away in order to exclude them from the burn.

PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT: California Department of Parks and Recreation

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: Santa Cruz District

EXEMPT STATUS:

Categorical Exemption

Class: 4

Section: 15304

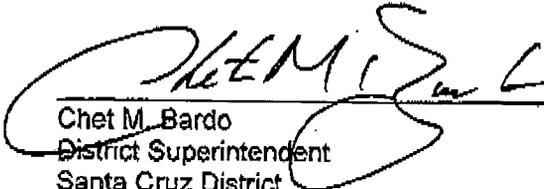
REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT:

Project consists of minor alteration in condition of land and vegetation that does not involve the removal of healthy, mature scenic trees except for forestry purposes and is included as "prescribed burns to restore native vegetation, reduce fuel loads and control invasive exotic or alien species" in the Department of Parks and Recreation's list of exempt activities in accordance with CCR Section 5300.4.

CONTACT: Victor Roth
Santa Cruz District

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Chet M. Bardo
District Superintendent
Santa Cruz District

JUNE 4, 2012
DATE

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