



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

CEQA ID #11053

2014118001

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: Vegetation Management Fall Creek Truck Trail

LOCATION: Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park COUNTY: Santa Cruz

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:

Remove vegetation along the Fall Creek Truck Trail located at Henry Cowell Redwood State Park to reduce fuel loads and break up the fuel continuity to slow the rate of spread and intensity of surface fires should one occur, maintain the road clearance, improve road access for emergency vehicles and improve and provide increased ability for fire suppression personnel to control a wildfire, mitigating the threat of spreading into the surrounding communities. Work will:

- Remove or break up concentrations of dead surface fuels within fifty (50) feet on both sides of the truck trail;
- Thin trees to achieve ten (10) to twenty (20) feet spacing along the roadway;
- Prune trees up to ten (10) feet to raise the canopy;
- Remove tree and branches to achieve a sixteen (16) foot vertical clearance above the roadway;
- Remove up to seventy (70) percent of the brush cover, creating islands of brush varying in height and size.

State Park's specifications for fuel break construction document will be used as reference when conducting this work. Work may be done using any California State Park approved methods including, but not limited to lop and scatter, chipping, pile burning, mastication, etc. utilizing hand and power tools as necessary to complete the project.

No ground disturbance activities will take place under this project. An environmental scientist will pre-designate any sensitive areas or vegetation types that shall be avoided. A nesting bird survey will be done in advance of all vegetation clearance activities when they occur between February 1st and August 15th.

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 the condition of land and vegetation that do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry purposes and is included as "resource management projects" and "prescribed burns to restore native vegetation, reduce fuel loads" in the Department of Parks and Recreation's list of exempt activities, in accordance with CCR 15300.4.

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Chet Bardo
District Superintendent
Santa Cruz District

DATE

November 3, 2014

