

**State of California
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
1416 Ninth Street
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

PROJECT TITLE: Russian River Sector Roadside Fuel Reduction

LOCATION: Armstrong Redwoods State Natural Reserve
Austin Creek State Recreation Area
Fort Ross State Historic Park
Salt Point State Park
Sonoma Coast State Park

COUNTY: Sonoma

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: Project will reduce ground, ladder, and dead & dying fuel loads within 100-200 feet of roads and trails in five (5) State Parks in Sonoma County utilizing mechanized and manual equipment to achieve enhanced ingress and egress during an emergency response and to create areas of reduced fuel loads that can be used as control lines for future prescribed fires. Actions to achieve fuel reduction include:

- on the uphill side of trees greater than 11" DBH (diameter at breast height, or 4.3 feet above ground), remove limbs to a height of 15';
- reduce downed and dead material;
- selectively remove seedlings, saplings and poles less than 11" DBH;
- create spacing between shrubs and trees (2x the shrubs height); and
- remove dead and dying trees greater than 11" DBH while maintaining 1 – 10 snags per acre.

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

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: Sonoma Mendocino Coast District

EXEMPT STATUS:

X Categorical Exemption Class: 4 Sections: 15304

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: The project consists of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water and/or vegetation which do not involve the removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes and is included as "resource management projects" in the Department of Parks and Recreation's list of exempt activities, in accordance with CCR § 15300.4.

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Original Signature on File
Terry Bertels, District Superintendent

January 3, 2020
DATE