

State of California – The Natural Resource Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814FROM: Department of Parks and Recreation
PO Box 2006
Eureka, CA 95502-2006

PROJECT TITLE: Grasshopper Trail Prescribed Burn and Prairie Restoration

LOCATION: Humboldt Redwoods State Park COUNTY: Humboldt

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: Conduct seasonal prescribed burns on multiple small prairies (totaling 115 acres) on Grasshopper Peak in Humboldt Redwoods State Park to control brush and trees encroaching on the prairies, reduce prairie loss, and restore historic ecosystem function. Work will:

- Use hand tools to remove or reduce fuel from around improvements such as pit toilets, signs, and culverts;
- Prior to ignition, use chain saws to cut down conifer trees encroaching within or along the prairie edge to reduce fire intensity potential;
- Conduct prescribed burns in the fall after at least one (1) precipitation event or just prior to the predicted season-ending precipitation event; or
- Alternatively, burn prairies in winter or spring during short periods of dry weather; and
- Use an integrated weed management plan to control invasive, non-native plants including teasel, thistle species, jubata grass, and Himalaya blackberry. Work will:
 - Manually remove vegetation and either leave on site to decompose naturally or burn by prescribed fire;
 - Manually cut and bag seed/flower heads and take offsite prior to fall burning; and
 - Treat resprouting and newly germinating non-native plants in late winter or spring as follows: jubata grass with diluted Habitat® (Imazapyr) (2.6oz/gal) + Methylated Seed Oil (MSO) (COMPETITOR®) (0.5oz/gal) and thistle species and teasel with diluted Milestone® (Aminopyralid) (0.375oz/gal) + MSO (0.5oz/gal).

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

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: North Coast Redwoods District

EXEMPT STATUS:

 Categorical Exemption

Classes: 1 and 4

Sections: 15301 and 15304

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: Project consists of maintenance and minor alterations of existing public facilities and topographic features, involving no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination and the minor public alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation, which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry and agricultural purposes, 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 § 15300.4.

CONTACT: Shannon Dempsey
North Coast Redwoods District


PHONE NO.: (707) 445-5344

EMAIL: shannon.dempsey@parks.ca.gov

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

AUG 30 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE



Victor Bjelajac
Superintendent, North Coast Redwoods District
8/30/2019
DATE