



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

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

2020010177

**PROJECT TITLE** San Diego County Urban Forestry and Arbor Culture Project

**PROJECT LOCATION** San Diego County – Rancho Santa Fe at the Arroyo Preserve **COUNTY** San Diego

**LEAD AGENCY** California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

**CONTACT** Lynnette Short  
 CAL FIRE – Regional Urban Forester  
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 El Cajon, CA 92019

This project proposes to plant 450 native trees across seven non-contiguous parcels in a disturbed portion of the Arroyo Preserve, totaling approximately 4 acres. The Project is bounded by open space lands on all sides and is located within the southern half of Section 22 and the northern half of Section 27, Township 13 South, Range 3 West of the Rancho Santa Fe 7.5' USGS quadrangle. The seven planting areas are within existing dedicated open space adjacent to the San Deguito River and are mapped as "Public Lands and Dedicated Private Open Space" within the Lake Hodges Segment of the San Diego County MSCP Subarea Plan.

**EXEMPTION STATUS**

- Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 33 section 15333  
 Small Habitat Restoration Projects
- 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**

A CNDDDB and CNPS search of the area was conducted, as well as a site inspection by biological consultants to inspect existing conditions to determine if any sensitive species or habitats would be impacted by tree planting activities. It was determined that the project proposes no adverse impacts to endangered, rare or threatened species or their habitats, there are no hazardous materials at or around the project area, and the project will not result in significant cumulative impacts.

A Cultural resources records search was conducted, as well as a site survey by contracted archaeologist to adequately identify any cultural resources. No cultural resources were observed during the pedestrian survey, and it was concluded that the proposed tree planting project will have no adverse impact on the area.

The project qualifies as a Class 33 Categorical Exemption for Small Habitat Restoration Projects  
 Supporting Documentation attached.

**DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING**

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

JAN 14 2020

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

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 Matthew Reischman, Assistant Deputy Director Date  
 Resource Protection and Improvement  
 California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection