



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

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

2020010178

PROJECT TITLE	Seeds for Ecological and Environmental Development (S.E.E.D.)		
PROJECT LOCATION	Los Angeles; Section 11, T1S, R13W, SBBM.	COUNTY	Los Angeles County
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	Henry Herrera, Regional Urban Forester		
ADDRESS	23300 Castle Street Riverside, CA 92518	PHONE	(951)320-6125

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project is located on private property known as Flat Top Park in the Montecito Heights neighborhood of the City of Los Angeles. The project goal is to plant 200 native trees and shrubs (coast live oak, California walnut, toyon, Mexican elderberry, canyon silktassel) as part of restoring the area with native plant species. The project area is comprised of 38 acres of undeveloped open space primarily comprised of non-native grasses, non-native invasive trees (tree of heaven) and some native vegetation such as California walnut trees, coast live oak trees and various coastal sage shrub and chaparral species. Each tree will have a biodegradable cocoon, surrounding the tree base, filled with water. All planting activities will be completed using volunteers, North East Trees Inc. staff and other community based volunteer groups. Hand tools will be used to plant the trees. The project elevation is approximately 700'. All vehicles will remain on existing roads. The project will be ongoing until all work is completed.

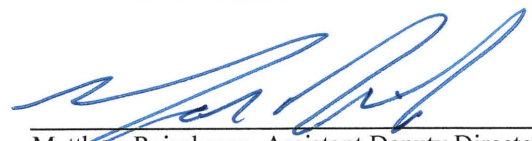
EXEMPTION STATUS

- Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4 §15304 Minor Alterations to Land
- 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

This project fits under the Class 4 (Minor Alterations to Land) Categorical Exemption to CEQA. Class 4 is described as a "minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes." This project as proposed is to plant trees and does not remove healthy, mature, or scenic trees. Field review by CAL FIRE staff confirmed that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. The Department has concluded that no significant environmental impacts will occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, populations and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, or to utilities and service systems. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at CAL FIRE's Headquarters in Sacramento.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

 1/9/20
 Matthew Reischman, Assistant Deputy Director Date
 California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

JAN 14 2020

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE