

# Notice of Exemption

# Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research  
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: (Public Agency): California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
3602 Inland Empire Blvd, Suite C-220  
Ontario, CA 91764

County Clerk

County of: \_\_\_\_\_

(Address)

Project Title: Fuel Reduction and Invasive Species Management

Project Applicant: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Project Location - Specific:

**Santa Rosa Plateau Ecological Reserve**

Project Location - City: Murrieta Project Location - County: Riverside

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

At the Santa Rosa Plateau Ecological Reserve (SRPER), 120 acres of the Hidden Valley Management Unit and an additional 6.27 acres adjacent to the Hines management unit will be ignited under a prescription fire Spring of 2020. The California Department of Forestry and Fire (CAL FIRE) will implement the burn within the grasslands adjacent to planned treatment areas that are within the SRPER Vegetation Management Plan. The goal for the project at the SRPER aims to promote native species biodiversity, reduce fuel loads or non-native annual grasses within native grasslands, and control invasive species. The portions of the approved unit and the additional portion of the Hidden Valley Management unit will reduce fuel loads that have accumulated within the grassland units for 23 years. The purpose of the additional acreage to the Hines unit is to reduce fuel loads within the grasslands and control the spread of yellow starthistle (Centaurea solstitialis) into adjacent wild lands.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Exempt Status: (check one):

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: \_\_\_\_\_
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: \_\_\_\_\_

Class 4 Minor Alterations to Land (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §15304), Class 7 Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of Natural Resources (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §15306)


Reasons why project is exempt:

Fuel management activities are exempted under Class 4 (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §15304, subs. (i).) CDFW is performing this action under Class 7 to prevent the spread of invasive species and to promote growth and recruitment of native species, this is needed to protect natural resources (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §15307).

Lead Agency  
Contact Person: Richard Kim Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (760) 922-6783

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project?  Yes  No

Signature:  Date: April 8, 2020 Title: Senior Environmental Scientist

Signed by Lead Agency  Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.  
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_