



2020070411

**AG + OPEN SPACE**  
SONOMA COUNTY

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

**PROJECT TITLE:** Dutch Bill Creek Regional Park Acquisition (portion of Torr west of Main St.)

**PROJECT LOCATION:** west of Main Street in Monte Rio, CA

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

Provide acquisition funding to the County of Sonoma toward the purchase of 315.88 acres to be part of Torr Regional Park & Open Space Preserve. As a condition of funding, a conservation easement and recreation conservation covenant over the property will be conveyed to the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District to preserve the open space, natural and scenic values of the property and provide access to the general public for recreational and educational uses. The District will also provide funding to Sonoma County for operation and maintenance of the property and to plan for and develop initial public access improvements, for which a future master plan and CEQA analysis will be completed.

**PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING PROJECT:** **Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District**  
747 Mendocino Avenue, Suite 100  
Santa Rosa, CA 95401-4850

**PUBLIC AGENCY CONTACT:** Louisa Morris Acquisition Specialist  
707-565-1537

**EXEMPT STATUS:**

- Ministerial (Section 15073)
- Declared Emergency (Section 15071(a))
- Emergency Project (Section 15071(b) & (c))
- Categorical Exemption** pursuant to Section(s) 15378 & 15317, title 14, of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).
- Statutory Exemption** pursuant to Section 21080.28 of the Public Resources Code.

**REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT:**

Guidelines §§ 15061(b)(3)—Common Sense Exemption; 15313—Wildlife Conservation Exemption; 15316—Acquisition of Land to Create Park; 15317—Open Space Contracts or Easements; and Public Resources Code section 21080.28. The District's acceptance of the conservation easement and recreation covenant are exempt from CEQA because the purpose of the transaction is to preserve the natural condition of the property including

THIS NOTICE OF EXEMPTION IS BEING FILED BY THE PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT.

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

William J. Keene, General Manager  
Ag + Open Space

**Jul 21 2020**