



NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

2020070539

TO: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Department of Parks and Recreation
Santa Cruz District
303 Big Trees Park Road
Felton, CA 95018

PROJECT TITLE: Black Oak Woodland Forest Fuel Reduction

LOCATION: Castle Rock State Park Castle Rock SP **COUNTY:** Santa Cruz & Santa Clara

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: Conduct fuel reduction measures, under the direction of a State Park Environmental Scientist, in approximately 266 acres of grassland and black oak woodland ridgeline areas in Castle Rock State Park. The work aims to preserve the current extent of the rare black oak woodland habitat, increase fire resiliency, and reduce fuel continuity to limit fire intensity and spread. Staff will utilize mechanical equipment and hand crews. Work will involve the mechanical treatment of small trees and shrubs and the felling of hardwood and Douglas Fir trees by hand crews. Excess material will be removed or treated through burn piles, chippers, lopped and scattered, or other means.

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

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: Santa Cruz District

EXEMPT STATUS:

Categorical Exemption

Class: 4

Section: 15304

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: The project consists of 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, included as "resource management projects" and "prescribed burns to restore native vegetation, reduce fuel loads, and control invasive exotic species or alien species" in the Department of Parks and Recreation's list of exempt activities in accordance with CCR §15300.4.

CONTACT: Sheila Branon
Santa Cruz District

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

PHONE NO.: (831) 335-6385

EMAIL: sheila.branon@parks.ca.gov

Jul 29 2020

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Chris Spohrer
District Superintendent
Santa Cruz District

7/29/2020

DATE