



State of California  
 The Natural Resources Agency  
 California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>	Alma Helitack Base Relocation Project		
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>	158 Cody Road, Mountain View, California 94035	<b>COUNTY</b>	Santa Clara
<b>LEAD AGENCY</b>	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
<b>CONTACT</b>	Christina Snow, Senior Environmental Planner		
<b>ADDRESS</b>	Technical Services 1131 S Street Sacramento, California 95811	<b>PHONE</b>	916-324-1639

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The Alma Helitack Base (HB), currently located at 19650 Santa Cruz Highway in Los Gatos, is in the process of expanding operations. A new site has been located within the existing Moffett Federal Airfield (MFA) in Mountain View, California. Phase 1 includes a lease for space within Hanger N211 (3,160 sf). Apparatus Bay N248 would be used to store the Heli-tender vehicle and associative maintenance equipment with 3,000 square feet. Personnel needs will be partially addressed with existing office spaces within the Hanger N211. There are two vacant offices R176 and R178 (218 sf each) and these will be used by the pilots, crew members, and mechanics for varying logistical coordination requirements. Approximately 15 personnel on average (26 maximum) will utilize the site. No construction activities are being proposed for Phase 1 and existing utilities onsite will be utilized. Phase 2 consists of the installation of two prefabricated support modular trailers (1,440 square feet and 2,100 square feet respectively). Phase 3 consists of the installation of two barracks trailers (1,900 square feet each). All work being proposed will be on disturbed and developed land. Project activities are anticipated to commence in December 2020 and last approximately six months.

**EXEMPTION STATUS**

- Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 1/Section 15301, Existing Facilities and New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures and Class3/Section 15303
- 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**

The project meets the requirements of a CEQA Article 19, Public Resources Code, Sections 15301 and 15303, covering Class 1 (use of existing hangar and office space) and Class 3 (four new modular buildings) categorical exemptions. The proposed activities involve the leasing of existing facilities and the installation of four modular buildings. The project is proposed within a developed area.

Field review by CAL FIRE staff confirmed that no exceptions apply (Section 15300.2) which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. The Department has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, energy, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, utilities and service systems, or wildfire. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at CAL FIRE Technical Services and Alma Helitack Base, 19650 Santa Cruz Highway, Los Gatos, California 95033, Attn. Environmental Coordinator.

**DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING**

11/9/2020

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