



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

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	Prado Staging Resurfacing		
PROJECT LOCATION	Prado Conservation Camp, 14467 Central Ave, Chino, CA 91710 Section 00 T02S R08W SBPM	COUNTY	San Bernardino County
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	Carol Snow, Unit Environmental Scientist		
ADDRESS	3800 N. Sierra Way San Bernardino, CA 92405	PHONE	(909) 881-6993

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The property is primarily surrounded by developed land, including Ruben S. Ayala Park and Chaffey College's Chino Campus, as well as remnant agriculture plots. The project site, located in the eastern portion of the facility, has been previously disturbed, and is frequently used for active staging. The ground cover type within the project site consists exclusively of landscaped lawn with scattered ornamental trees; there is no native habitat within the project site. The goal of this project is to improve the functionality of the PCC compound to serve as a regional staging ground in the event of large wildfire or other natural disaster events. Resurfacing of the project site will improve conditions for staging events, which will in turn facilitate a more effective emergency response. Project activities will primarily consist of leveling and spreading of fill material. Leveling the area will take minimal effort due to the existing flat topography. In addition, several trees, previously identified by the BDU Unit Forester as hazardous or otherwise unhealthy and appropriate for removal, will be felled and new trees will be planted. In areas where fill material (primarily asphalt grindings) is not spread, new lawn will be installed following leveling. Irrigation will be installed in association with the tree plantings and lawn. All work will utilize CAL FIRE equipment and will be implemented by CAL FIRE crews. Fill material will be provided has been provided by the California Department of Transportation; this partnership will allow CAL TRANS to dispose of excess material from nearby paving projects. Project implementation is expected to begin immediately upon approval. Maintenance will occur as necessary and primarily consist of redistributing surface material following staging events and regular lawn/tree upkeep. Heavy equipment (i.e., dozers and tractor) and fill material will be staged onsite, within and/or adjacent to the project site in existing improved areas. Offsite travel expected for project implementation would consist of the transportation of equipment. No offsite improvements are necessary for project implementation.

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

The project meets the requirements of Class 4 Categorical Exemption (Minor alterations to land) Section 15304. Project implementation will result in alterations to the land that are best described as minor in scope, that will not significantly impact the aesthetic of the property, or biological and/or cultural resources, and that do not involve the removal of mature, scenic trees for any purpose. No exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a "Notice of Exemption" for this project. It has been concluded that no significant adverse environmental impacts would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forest resources, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, energy, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use and planning, mineral resources, noise, populations and housing, public services, recreation, transportation and traffic, utilities and service systems, or wildfire. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the CALFIRE staff is kept on file at CAL FIRE's San Bernardino Unit Headquarters in San Bernardino, CA.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

Matthew Reischman

8/19/2021

Matthew Reischman Date
Deputy Director of Resource Management
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection