

**State of California  
Department of Parks and Recreation**

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

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

**FROM:** Department of Parks and Recreation  
750 Hearst Castle Rd  
San Simeon, CA 93452

**PROJECT TITLE: Hearst Castle Forest and Fuels Management**

**LOCATION:** Hearst San Simeon State Historical Monument      **COUNTY:** San Luis Obispo County

**DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:** Reduce and remove heavy vegetation in the transitional landscape surrounding Hearst Castle at Hearst San Simeon State Historical Monument to reduce the hazardous fuel loads and to improve emergency access, the project will:

- Use chainsaws to remove dead and/or diseased trees, as well as non-historic or non-native trees
- Chip and recycle or create burn piles for cut limbs or other small vegetation;
- Haul off the larger sections of the felled trees for either green waste disposal or a firewood program; and
- Use heavy machinery to complete minor grading to improve the existing fire road that was constructed during the Chimney Fire.

All work will comply with the US Migratory Bird Act, the California Public Resources Code, the California Coastal Act, and San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District regulations.

**PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT:** California Department of Parks & Recreation

**NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT:** San Luis Obispo Coast

**EXEMPT STATUS**

Categorical Exemption      Class:      4      Section: 15304

**REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT:**

This 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 and agricultural purposes.

**CONTACT:** Doug Barker, District Environmental Coordinator  
San Luis Obispo Coast District

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**Dan Falat, District Superintendent**

**DATE** \_\_\_\_\_

*12/6/21*