



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

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>	Fernwood Fuels Reduction		
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>	Section 28 T06N, R03E - Humboldt Base & Meridian	<b>COUNTY</b>	Humboldt
<b>LEAD AGENCY</b>	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
<b>CONTACT</b>	Jason Butcher - SRA VMP Forester		
<b>ADDRESS</b>	Humboldt - Del Norte Unit 118 S. Fortuna Blvd. Fortuna, CA 95540	<b>PHONE</b>	707-726-1258

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project will reduce fire hazard through removal of excess vegetation at the former Fernwood CDF fire station and later Monterey x Knobcone Seed Orchard site. One half to two thirds of shrubs and small diameter trees comprising ladder fuels will be removed. Generally, trees 8" dbh and larger will be retained except where such trees represent a safety concern. Residual trees or isolate shrubs will be spaced approximately 15 – 20 feet apart. Retained trees will be pruned to a height of 6 to 10 feet to reduce ladder fuels. Trees designated as hazard trees will be flagged for safety, these trees will be felled and bucked and either left in place or masticated. Site treatments will use an excavator style masticator and/or hand crews with chainsaws. Material cut will be chipped on site, piled for burning, or lopped and scattered.

### EXEMPTION STATUS

- Categorical Exemption Type and 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

This project fits within the descriptions of a Class 4 Categorical Exemptions described in CEQA Guidelines (14 CCR §15304) pertaining to Existing Facilities and Minor Alterations to Land. This project will not have a significant effect on the environment and is exempt from the provisions of CEQA.

Field review by CAL FIRE staff confirmed that no exceptions apply that 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 or 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 or traffic, utilities and service systems, or to wildfire. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at CAL FIRE Humboldt – Del Norte Unit, 118 Fortuna Blvd., Fortuna, CA 95540.

### DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

DocuSigned by:

12/13/2021

  
John Melvin, Assistant Deputy Director Date  
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection