



State of California – The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 222
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Department of Parks and Recreation
Angeles District
1925 Las Virgenes Road
Calabasas, CA 91302-1909

PROJECT TITLE: Topanga Arundo Removal Phase II (21.22.A21)
LOCATION: Topanga State Park
COUNTY: Los Angeles

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:

The California Conservation Corps will remove Arundo (*Arundo donax*) along Topanga Creek in Topanga State Park. The project will treat Arundo patches along three miles of Topanga Creek. This invasive plant has negative impacts on habitat for several listed species: southern steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*), tidewater goby (*Eucyclogobius newberrii*), and western pond turtle (*Emys marmorata*). Most of this stretch of Topanga Creek is southern steelhead habitat that supports the healthiest population of this species in the Santa Monica Mountains. The removal would also benefit bird populations in the riparian corridor by allowing native trees and shrubs to replace these harmful invasive plants.

Further information regarding the project, as well as measures to be implemented to avoid impacts, may be obtained by contacting the Environmental Coordinator listed below.

PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT: California Department of Parks and Recreation
NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: Angeles

EXEMPT STATUS:

- Declared Emergency (Section 15269(a))
- Emergency Project (Section 15269(b) and (c))
- Statutory Exemption (Section)
- Categorical Exemption *Class 1, Section 15301 – Existing Facilities*
Class: 4 Section(s): 15304 – Minor Alterations to Land

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT:

No potential for significant impacts to the environment is anticipated in compliance with CEQA §15300.2.

If the project is implemented as indicated within the CDPR Project Evaluation Form, including conditions provided by CDPR staff, it is exempt under the Departmental List of Exempt Activities established under the authority of CEQA §15300.4 as:

- Class: 1 Section(s): 15301 – Existing Facilities*
- Class: 4 Section(s): 15304 – Minor Alterations to Land*

CONTACT: Noa Rhse, Environmental Scientist
California Department of Parks & Recreation
Angeles District
1925 Las Virgenes Road
Calabasas, CA 91302-1909

PHONE NO.: 310-699-1711

EMAIL: Danielle.Lefer@parks.ca.gov

Jerry West, Acting District Superintendent, Angeles District

3/10/22

Date