

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 212
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: Department of General Services
707 3rd Street
West Sacramento, CA 95605

Project Title: Sonoma Ecology Center SDC Vegetation Management

Project Location – Specific: Sonoma Developmental Center

Project Location – City: Eldridge

Project Location – County: Sonoma

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

DGS will contract with Sonoma Ecology Center (SEC) to perform weed management for fire and biodiversity at the former Sonoma Developmental Center (SDC) campus, to include removal of invasive flammable plants from up to 5 acres of land within 300 feet of the edge of the campus or within 200 feet of fire roads, retaining desirable, less-flammable native vegetation. SEC will use best practices to prevent invasion by other weeds and perform periodic reconnaissance of road/trail system to remove fallen trees to ensure emergency access.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Department of General Services

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Gerald McLaughlin, DGS-RES-AMB, (916)375-4009

Exempt Status:

Categorical Exemption §15301(h) Existing Facilities; §15333 Small Habitat Restoration Projects

Reasons Why Project is Exempt:

This project seeks to restore native vegetation populations while reducing fire load at the former SDC campus. Management activities will be performed without the use of heavy equipment or major soils disturbance, and without the use of pesticides. Section 15301 subsection (h) includes the maintenance of existing landscaping and native growth. Section 15333 consists of projects not to exceed 5 acres in size to assure the maintenance of habitat for native populations. The State has confirmed no exceptions to the exemptions apply.

Contact Person: Jim Martone, Branch Chief, Asset Management Branch, DGS-RES-AMB

Telephone Number: (916) 376-1816

Signature:

X

Date Signed by Lead Agency