

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

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

<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>	San Luis Obispo Unit (SLU) Paso Robles Air Attack Base (PRAAB) Barracks Installation		
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>	Paso Robles Municipal Airport 4912 Wing Way, Paso Robles, CA 93446	<b>COUNTY</b>	San Luis Obispo
<b>LEAD AGENCY</b>	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
<b>CONTACT</b>	Jonathan Gee, Forestry Assistant II		
<b>ADDRESS</b>	CAL FIRE San Luis Obispo Unit 1150 Laurel Lane Suite 175 San Luis Obispo, CA 93401	<b>PHONE</b>	(805) 528-2160

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The San Luis Obispo Unit needs to provide a permanent structure for firefighter and Department staff at the Paso Robles Air Attack Base (PRAAB) in Paso Robles, California. The project involves the installation of an approximately 4,500 square foot barracks located at Paso Robles Municipal Airport, Paso Robles, CA 93446. The proposed building location lies on an undeveloped area next to the existing structures at the PRAAB. The project area is a previously disturbed site consisting of artificial fill and gravel void of any native vegetation and routinely disked for dryland farming operations. A new concrete pad will be poured to act as a foundation to the new AAB Barracks and a parking lot will be paved. The footprint of the concrete pad will be approximately 4,500 square feet. Prior to laying new concrete, the ground will be leveled to ensure the quality of the foundation. In addition to the new concrete pad, minimal ground disturbing activities will occur to facilitate sewer connections to the building. The sewer line will require approximately 75' of trenching and will be roughly 24" deep and 18" wide. Trench spoil will be mounded adjacent to the trench and immediately backfilled/compacted. Utility connections will utilize the existing conduit in place from the existing AAB buildings. All ground disturbing activities will occur within the perimeter of the existing disturbed site. Installation activities are anticipated to take approximately 300 working days to complete. Less than one acre of soil will be disturbed, and areas will be backfilled to original grade, which will prevent any change in drainage pattern.

**EXEMPTION STATUS**

- Categorical Exemption Type and Section: Class 3 §15303 New Construction
- 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 under portions of one class of Categorical Exemptions listed in the CEQA Guidelines – 14CCR §15303: Class 3 (New Construction or Conversion of Small Structure). Most of the project activities would occur within previously disturbed areas. The areas where new ground disturbing activities might occur are limited and are minor in scope. These areas were carefully inspected for environmental concerns. The activities will not result in the taking of endangered, rare, or threatened plant or animal species, or create sedimentation to surface waters.

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, 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, energy, wildfire, transportation or traffic, or to utilities and service systems. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at CAL FIRE's San Luis Obispo Unit Resource Management Office at 880 Manzanita Drive, Los Osos, CA 93402.

**DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING**

DocuSigned by:

7/26/2022

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