

CEQA # 13684
District Project # 2022-007



State of California – The Natural Resources Agency
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
Bay Area District
845 Casa Grande Road
Petaluma, CA 94954

PROJECT TITLE: Lower Sonoma Mountain Prescribed Understory Burns

LOCATION: Jack London State Historic Park **COUNTY:** Sonoma

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: Conduct a prescribed broadcast burn in the forest understory and grassland areas within the boundaries of Jack London State Historic Park to control encroaching woody vegetation in grasslands as well as to manage fuels to mitigate the spread of sudden oak death in understory areas. All burns will follow an approved burn plan, under the supervision of a State Park’s burn boss or other approved burn boss in cooperation with the Sonoma-Lake-Napa unit of CalFire. Work will:

- Use the Mountain Trail Fire Road as a boundary along with other trails and fire lines, when necessary.
- If needed, fire lines will be limited to a maximum width of 4 feet and will be created by removing vegetation and duff down to mineral soil; and
- Cut, mow and chip vegetation along roads and trails.
- Identify and fell any snags threatening control lines; and
- As needed, post signage along public access routes to advise the public on detour routes.

Burns will occur during appropriate environmental conditions in fall, winter, or spring seasons when conditions align with environmental prescriptions in the burn plan and will be timed as to not affect adjacent vineyards and sensitive crops. For spring burns, nesting bird surveys will occur within two weeks prior to the targeted burn date. Pre-burn cultural surveys will occur as necessary by a State Parks Archaeologist and actions will be taken to protect any sensitive areas.

PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT: California Department of Parks and Recreation

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: California Department of Parks and Recreation, Bay Area District

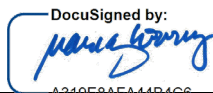
EXEMPT STATUS:

Categorical Exemption *Class:* 1, 4 *Section:* 15301, 15304

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: Project consists of the operation, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities or topographical features and minor public or private alterations in the condition of land and/or vegetation which does not involve the removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes, and is included as “Prescribed burns to restore native vegetation, reduce fuel loads, and control invasive exotic or alien species” and “Resource management projects” in the Department of Parks and Recreation’s list of exempt activities in accordance with CCR § 15300.4.

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Maria Mowrey, District Superintendent, Bay Area District

8/26/2022

DATE