

**Notice of Exemption****- 1 -****To:**

Office of Planning and Research  
 For U.S. Mail:  
 P.O. Box 3044  
 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

**From:**

Department of Fish and Wildlife  
 South Coast Region  
 3883 Ruffin Road  
 San Diego, CA 92123

**Street Address:**

1400 Tenth Street  
 Sacramento, CA 95814

**Project Title:** Conejo Recreation and Parks Vegetation Thinning Project (Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-VEN-26672-R5)

**Project Location (include county):** The Project is located at four Parks along Conejo Creek and unnamed tributaries to Conejo Creek, in the County of Ventura, State of California; including: Old Meadows Park, along an unnamed tributary to Conejo Creek, located at 1600 Marview Drive, Thousand Oaks, Ventura County, California 91362; Latitude 34.20192, Longitude -118.84734; Walnut Grove Park, along an unnamed tributary to Conejo Creek, located at 400 Windtree Ave., Newbury Park. 91320; Latitude 34.18430, Longitude -118.89672; Stagecoach Inn Park, along an unnamed tributary to Conejo Creek located at 51 Ventu Park Road, Newbury Park, 91302; Latitude 34.17646, Longitude -118.91137; and Sapwi Trails Community Park, along Conejo Creek, located at 2550 Avenida De Los Arboles, Thousand Oaks, 91362; Latitude 34.20780, Longitude -118.83907.

**Project Description:** The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement number EPIMS-VEN-26672-R5, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to the Conejo Recreation and Parks District.

The Project is limited to vegetation management activities along creeks for the purpose of fuel modification in Old Meadows Park, Walnut Grove Park, Stagecoach Inn Park, and Sapwi Trails Community Park. Activities at each park will consist of removal of deadwood, debris, and trimming of branches to thin the riparian canopy within each of the CRPD parks. Trimming of branches will prioritize removal of dead or dying branches on trees that are weakened by disease, insect, or drought stress. Invasive species and debris would be removed offsite to an acceptable local dumpsite and, where appropriate, native species debris would be chipped on-site, outside the drainages, and spread as mulch. Any vehicles required will be staged on the existing roads and will not enter the work areas. All work will be from dry land and crossing of streams will only be where absolutely necessary.

**Public Agency Approving Project:** CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

**Exempt Status:**

- Statutory Exemption.
- Categorical Exemption. Type – Class 4; California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15301

**Reasons why project is exempt:** The project is consistent with the requirements for a Class 4 exemption, which consists of minor alterations to the condition of the land, water or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, and scenic trees. This project consists of vegetation alterations for the purposes of reduction of fuels within the four public parks managed by the Conejo Recreation and Parks District. This project will not result in removal of healthy, mature, and scenic trees.

**CDFW Contact Person:** Audrey Kelly, Environmental Scientist, (805) 861-8475

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 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Date: 9/20/2022

Erinn Wilson-Olgin, Environmental Program Manager

Date received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_