

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

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

**From:** California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection – Technical Services & Engineering  
1131 S Street  
Sacramento, CA 95811

**Project Title:** CAL FIRE Acquisition of Rio Dell City Property APN 053-041-002-00 and 053-31-002-000  
**Project Location – Specific:** 410 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
**Project Location – City:** Rio Dell  
**Project Location – County:** Humboldt

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:** CAL FIRE seeks to acquire approximately 18 acres located at 410 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Rio Dell, CA Humboldt County. The acquisition will transfer ownership interests of land from the private ownership to the State of California under the jurisdiction of CAL FIRE. CAL FIRE is considering relocating of the Humboldt County Headquarters to this property, but CAL FIRE has not approved any development or use of the site. Future actions, including development of the property, will undergo complete environmental review as required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection  
**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** John Walsh, Capital Outlay Lands Analyst, Cal Fire

**Exempt Status:**

- Ministerial (§ 21080(b)(1); 15268)
- Declared Emergency (§ 21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
- Emergency Project (§ 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))
- Statutory Exemption [Click here to enter text.](#)
- Common Sense Title 14, Section 15061 (b)(3)

**Reasons Why Project is Exempt:**

The acquisition activity is exempt under the common sense exemption at California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15061, subdivision (b)(3). This exemption states, a project is exempt from CEQA “[w]here it can be seen that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA.” The land acquisition agreements that transfer the ownership to the State do not have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Any future approval of any use of the site is conditioned upon full CEQA compliance per California Code of Regulations, Title 14 Section 15004, Subdivision (b)(2)(A), which states prior to completion of CEQA compliance regarding the use of a site, “agencies may designate a preferred site for CEQA review and may enter into land acquisition agreements when the agency has conditioned the agency’s future use of the site on CEQA compliance.”

**Contact Person: Stephanie Coleman, Sr. Environmental Planner**  
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**John Melvin, Assistant Deputy Director      Date**  
**Resource Protection and Improvement**  
**California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection**