



State of California  
The Natural Resources Agency  
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>	Cañada de los Osos Maintenance Burn		
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>	USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle: Gilroy Hot Springs Coordinates at 37.03464° N, -121.417437°W	<b>COUNTY</b>	Santa Clara
<b>LEAD AGENCY</b>	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
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<b>ADDRESS</b>	Santa Clara Unit 15670 Monterey Rd. Morgan Hill CA, 95037		

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) Santa Clara Unit is proposing broadcast burns on 57.5 acres of grassland on the Cañada de los Osos Ecological Preserve (CDLO). The CDLO Maintenance Burn project is a continuation of using prescribed fire to manage the landscape. The land has been managed with fire for the past 15 years with great success in reducing invasive plant species while promoting native plant species. The ecological preserve does not wish to use fuel treatments such as grazing and does not permit chemical treatments. Mowing has been used as a fuel treatment; however, the large amounts of residual thatch is undesirable because it suppresses the emergence of native grasses and forbs.

Implementation would be after grass fuels cure, preferably in the fall. Holding lines include the existing roads, and utilizing wet lines, mow lines, and black-lining. Weed whipping will be utilized as a protection measure around wooden infrastructure. Routine fire control training activities would include various hand firing devices in the designated burn blocks, mobile attack along existing service road, and progressive hose lay operations while in a controlled environment. All burning will be performed in accordance with terms and conditions of a burn permit issued by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District. Annual burns at this location are anticipated.

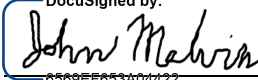
### EXEMPTION STATUS

- Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4 §15304 Minor Alterations to Land  
 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

CAL FIRE staff in SCU have reviewed the project and conclude that no exceptions stated in CCR 15300.2 apply to this project that would prevent the use of a "Notice of Exemption". No significant environmental impacts would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, energy, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, populations and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/ traffic, utilities and service systems, or to wildfire. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at CAL FIRE's Santa Clara Unit Headquarters, 15670 Monterey Rd. Morgan Hill CA, 95037.

### DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

DocuSigned by:  
  
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 John Melvin, Assistant Deputy Director Date  
 California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection 1/27/2023