



**State of California – The 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
1416 Ninth Street
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

PROJECT TITLE: Topanga Creek Arundo Removal Project (CWPP)
LOCATION: Topanga State Park
COUNTY: Los Angeles

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: This project comprises the restoration of a heavily impacted reach of Lower Topanga Creek via removal of approximately 5 acres of invasive giant reed (*Arundo donax*) from the lower Topanga Creek watershed followed by re-establishment of native vegetation, including five years of follow-up treatment to ensure complete eradication of the invasive arundo in the area. Work will be completed via hand crews wielding hand tools, as well as the use of herbicide in areas where hand removal is not safe or possible. No heavy equipment will be used. Work will be conducted outside of nesting bird season and will occur prior to or avoid rain events. Follow-up treatments following the same methodology will continue biannually for five years. Willow stakes and planting of native plants mimicking the surrounding native mosaic will be employed in cleared areas to expedite re-establishment of native plants.

Further information regarding the project, as well as measures to be implemented to avoid impacts, may be obtained by contacting the Environmental Coordinator listed below.

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

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: Angeles District

EXEMPT STATUS:

- Declared Emergency (Section 15269(a))
 Emergency Project (Section 15269(b) and (c))
 Statutory Exemption (Section)
 Categorical Exemption

Class: 4

Section: 15304

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: No potential for significant impacts to the environment is anticipated in compliance with CEQA §15300.2. If the project is implemented as indicated within the CDPR Project Evaluation Form, including conditions provided by CDPR staff, then it is exempt under §15304 – Minor Alteration to Land. The action falls under the Departmental List of Exempt activities according to CEQA §15300.4 as:

Class: 4: Section 15304 – Minor Alterations to Land

- *Resource Management Projects*

CONTACT: David West, Environmental Coordinator
Angeles District
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DocuSigned by:

Lori Harrod

Lori Harrod

Acting District Superintendent
Angeles District

6/20/2023

DATE