

CEQA # 13858
District Project # 2023-01



**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: Post-fire Restoration of Stern Ranch Cannabis Sites

LOCATION: Sugarloaf Ridge State Park

COUNTY: Sonoma

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: Project consists of the restoration and remediation of six (6) sites within Sugarloaf Ridge State Park that were used for illicit cannabis grows. The sites are within riparian areas at Bear Creek and Sonoma Creek tributaries in the Stern Ranch Management Unit. Initial remediation included removal of trash, fertilizers, and pesticides. Since this initial work, this area was impacted by the 2017 Nun Fire and the 2020 Glass Fire. Work will use hand tools to:

- Clean up and restore terraced areas to a natural gradient;
- Fill in any excavated pits; and
- Remove all materials used to divert spring waters, including woody debris, soil, and rocks.

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

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: Bay Area District

EXEMPT STATUS:

Categorical Exemption

Class: 1 & 4

Section: 15301 & 15304

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: Project consists of the repair, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond current levels and minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve the removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees, and is listed as "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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DocuSigned by:

Maria Mowrey, District Superintendent, Bay Area District

7/11/2023

DATE