

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

State of California  
The Natural Resources Agency  
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>	Hemet-Ryan Air Attack Base		
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>	4710 W Stetson Avenue, Hemet, CA 92545	<b>COUNTY</b>	Riverside
<b>LEAD AGENCY</b>	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
<b>CONTACT</b>	Christina Snow	<b>PHONE:</b>	916-324-1639
<b>ADDRESS</b>	1131 S Street, Sacramento, CA 95811		

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The project consists of leasing 2,400 sf of building space for the expansion of operations at the Hemet-Ryan Air Attack Base (AAB). The buildings are located on the AAB at 4710 West Stetson Avenue, Hemet, CA 92545. The Hemet-Ryan AAB is located on a civil airport that is also used for civil purposes, Civil Air Patrol Meetings, and is home to the Riverside County Sheriff's Department aviation unit and Mercy Air Ambulance.

Tenant improvements include offices, Pilot rooms, training space, showers, and bathrooms to accommodate administrative and operational support of CALFIRE air operations. The number of staff that will be using the new facilities is approximately 30 persons consisting of firefighters, engineers, fire captains, air tanker pilots, helicopter pilots, aircraft mechanics, and aircraft support teams.

The new lease will run concurrently with the existing lease for a term of 50 years.

**EXEMPTION STATUS**

- Categorical Exemption §15301 Existing Facilities; Class 1  
 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**

The project is consistent with the Class 1 Categorical Exemption, Title 14 CCR§15301, Existing Facilities. Class 1 consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, *leasing*, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or not expansion of existing or former use.

The new lease is within existing developed buildings. No significant impacts would occur. CAL FIRE staff has concluded that no significant environmental impact 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, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, utilities and service systems, or wildfire. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at the CAL FIRE office located at 1131 S Street, Sacramento, California 95811.

**DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING**

DocuSigned by:  
*John Melvin*  
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7/24/2023

John Melvin, Assistant Deputy Director Date  
Resource Protection and Improvement  
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection