

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk
County of: Santa Cruz

From: (Public Agency): Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County
820 Bay Avenue ste. 136
Capitola, Ca. 92010

(Address)

Project Title: Pollinator Plantings on Agricultural and Public Lands in Santa Cruz County

Project Applicant: RCD Santa Cruz County

Project Location - Specific:

Up to 15 sites on agricultural, private and public lands throughout Santa Cruz county

Project Location - City: Unincorporated Project Location - County: Santa Cruz

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

This project is assisting local landowners in planting native and non-native plants that will provide nectar sources for a variety of pollinator species, including late-flowering nectar plants essential for monarch population health. Plantings will be performed prior to the beginning of as well as during the rainy season and either directly seeded into native soil, transplanted from starts, or from propagules from existing adjacent populations. Certain plantings will be irrigated if infrastructure allows. The majority of the work will be executed using hand labor, but in some cases, when the plantings are very large, seeds might be drilled into the soil using equipment. Some amount of seedbed preparation (clearing, tilling, discing) may take place. When transplanting, holes will be excavated to the depth of the transplant. Where appropriate, the application of a natural mulch to cover disturbed soil will be highly encouraged when plants are tall enough.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Resource Conservation District (RCD) of Santa Cruz County

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: RCD of Santa Cruz County

Exempt Status: **(check one):**

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Sec. 15304 Class 4(b); Sec. 15333 Class 33
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:


None of the activities will have a significant effect on sensitive areas or resources. None of the projects will have a negative effect on protected species habitat and will not include wetlands restoration or disturbance. All of the projects have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment and therefore shall be exempt from the provisions of CEQA.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: James McKenna, Board President, RCD of Santa Cruz County Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 831-464-2950

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature:  Date: 10/4/2023 Title: President, Board of Directors

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____