

# 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: San Diego  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

From: (Public Agency): \_\_\_\_\_  
Resource Conservation District of Greater San Diego C o  
11769, Waterhill Road, Lakeside, CA 92040

(Address)

Project Title: Volcan Mountain Nature Center Forest Resilience Project

Project Applicant: Volcan Mountain Foundation

Project Location - Specific:

Volcan Mountain Foundation Nature Center, eastern San Diego County (near the town of Julian)

Project Location - City: \_\_\_\_\_ Project Location - County: San Diego

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The project will improve forest resilience by enhancing montane habitat and reducing combustible materials and restoring more natural, lower intensity fire regimes through the application of seven treatments. It will remove encroaching chaparral vegetation and restore with native conifer and hardwood species. Further restoration will occur on approximately 40 acres with native tree species to expand montane forest habitat. The project will also address infestation by the gold spotted oak borer within the project area. The project is designed to benefit CA spotted owl, purple martin, Townsend's big-eared bat, and montane forest habitat.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Resource Conservation District of Greater San Diego County

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Resource Conservation District of Greater San Diego 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: \_\_\_\_\_
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: Public Resources Code section 21080.56, Statutory Exemption for Restoration Projects (SERP)

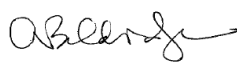
Reasons why project is exempt:

The project is exempt because it meets the four criteria defined by SERP: it is exclusively to conserve, restore, protect, or enhance CA native fish and wildlife and their habitat; it may have public benefits incidental to the project's purpose; it will result in long-term net benefits to climate resiliency, biodiversity, and sensitive species recovery and includes ongoing management; and construction activities are related to habitat restoration.

Lead Agency Ann Baldrige Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 619-562-0096  
Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

**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: 11/15/23 Title: Executive Director

Signed by Lead Agency  Signed by Applicant

