



### NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

**TO:** Office of Planning and Research  
1400 Tenth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**FROM:** Department of Parks and Recreation  
Santa Cruz District  
303 Big Trees Park Road  
Felton, CA 95018

**PROJECT TITLE:** Big Basin Trails Fire Recovery Project - San Jose Conservation Corps

**LOCATION:** Big Basin Redwoods State Park

**COUNTY:** Santa Cruz

**DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:** Project consists of clearing dead and hazardous trees, wood debris, ladder fuels, and vegetation growth at Big Basin Redwoods State Park to clear trails affected by the 2020 CZU Lightning Fire Complex, allowing for visitor use. Work will:

- Use hand and mechanical tools (gas and electric chainsaws, pole saws, and hedge trimmers) to lop and scatter vegetation located in steep topography, leaving materials to decompose;
- Stack and pile woody debris to be burned at a later date; and
- Use a Grip hoist to remove downed large trees.

State Park staff will identify and mark all hazard trees to be removed as well as flagging sensitive plant species to be left undisturbed. Bird surveys will be performed prior to all clearing activities.

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

**NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT:** Santa Cruz District

**EXEMPT STATUS:**

Categorical Exemption

*Class:* 1 & 4

*Section:* 15301 & 15304

**REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT:** Project consists of the operation, 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 or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees and is included 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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**X Chris Spohrer**

Chris Spohrer  
District Superintendent