

**HUMBOLDT COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

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

From: Humboldt County Resource
Conservation District
5630 South Broadway
Eureka, CA 95503

Humboldt County Clerk-Recorder
825 5th St.; 5th floor
Eureka, CA 95501

Project Title: Greater Willow Creek Wildfire Resilience Project

Project Location – Specific: Willow Creek, CA

Project Location – County: Humboldt County

Lead Agency: Humboldt County Resource Conservation District

Lead Person: Jill Demers **Email:** jill@hcrd.org **Telephone:** 707-442-6058 x5

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The project will maintain defensible space around structures and critical infrastructure and along public access routes through the strategic treatment of hazardous fuels/ vegetation. The project is intended to reduce the likelihood that life or property will be lost in the case of wildfire, both because structures and roadsides will be less likely to ignite and because firefighters will have more opportunity to safely deploy and stage their resources. Treatments will vary based on conditions present and location- specific objectives but will generally include removing excess vegetation, including brush and small diameter trees, to increase horizontal spacing and eliminate vertical continuity of fuels. Hazardous fuels treatments will include: chipping, lop and scattered, or pile and burn. Roadside fuels reduction will generally occur up to 100 feet from either side of the road for a total width of 200'. Defensible space will occur within 300' of existing structure and critical infrastructure.

Exempt Status: (check one)

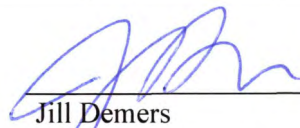
- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080 (b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Section 15304, Class 4
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

Reasons why project is exempt:

The proposed project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption under CEQA Guidelines Section 15304. Pursuant to Section 15304, Class 4 consists of minor public or private alterations of vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees. The project involves removal of small diameter understory trees and brush species to reduce the vertical and horizontal continuity of forest fuels. The trees being removed are in a suppressed state and are not considered healthy.

Review by Humboldt County Resource Conservation District staff confirmed that no exceptions apply that would preclude the use of a notice of exemption for this project. No significant adverse effects were identified during the evaluation process.

Date Received / Posted Through



Jill Demers
Executive Director

5/1/2024

Date

Humboldt County Resource Conservation District