

## Notice of Exemption

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**To:**

Office of Planning and Research  
[CEQA Submit](#)

**From:**

Department of Fish and Wildlife  
South Coast Region  
3883 Ruffin Road  
San Diego, CA 92123



**Project Title:** Lower Topanga State Park Arundo Removal and Restoration Project (Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-LAN-34792-R5)

**Project Location (Los Angeles County):** The project is located in Topanga State Park along South Topanga Canyon Boulevard, approximately ¼ mile north of the Pacific Coast Highway, in the City of Topanga, Los Angeles County, California; Assessor’s Parcel Number (APN) 4448-002-902. The project site is located along the western bank of Topanga Creek, at coordinates 34.044774, -118.580669.

**Project Description:** The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-LAN-34792-R5, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to the California Department of Parks and Recreation.

The project is limited to removal of Arundo (*Arundo donax*), follow up treatments of Arundo, and planting/seeding of native plants. Removal of Arundo will occur over an approximate 20-acre area within Topanga State Park. Arundo will be cleared using hand tools. Following cutting, hand tools will be used to remove rhizomes to the fullest extent possible. Cut and/or dug Arundo will be removed from the project area and disposed of off site. Areas that are topographically restrictive and do not allow for rhizome removal will be treated with herbicide via the cut and paint method. Follow-up treatment will be conducted over 5 years.

After removal, crews will plant willow stakes, sycamore trees, mulefat, and native understory plants consistent with the surrounding community. These plantings will be supported through hand-watering on a tapered regime. No digging or planting will take place within ordinary high-water mark of the stream channel. No in-water work will occur. Aluminum foot bridges may be employed as needed to cross the channel. Project area will be stabilized as needed using silt fencing, coconut rolls, and/or sandbags to prevent soil erosion.

**Public Agency Approving Project:** CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

**Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project:** David West, California Department of Parks and Recreation

**Exempt Status:**

- Statutory Exemption.
- Categorical Exemption. Type – Class 1 California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15301  
Type – Class 4 California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15304

**Reasons why project is exempt:** Project consists of activities to maintain or minor alterations of existing facilities or topographical features. Project consists of minor alterations in the condition of land and/or vegetation that does not include removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry and agricultural purposes.

**CDFW Contact Person:** Christian Romberger, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist), (562) 292-6365, [christian.romberger@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:christian.romberger@wildlife.ca.gov)

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Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 9/16/2024

Victoria Tang, Environmental Program Manager

Date received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_