

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: _____

From: (Public Agency): City of Laguna Beach

505 Forest Avenue

Laguna Beach, CA 92651

(Address)

Project Title: Berns Canyon Preserve Invasive Weed Management

Project Applicant: Laguna Canyon Foundation and Orange County Conservation Corps

Project Location - Specific:

10 Phillips St., Laguna Beach, CA 92651

Project Location - City: Laguna Beach Project Location - County: Orange

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

Laguna Canyon Foundation (LCF) and the Orange County Conservation Corps (OCCC) will be collaborating for the maintenance of LCF's Berns Canyon Preserve (DeWitt Property) projects through the Nature Based Solutions Grant. This work will result in the enhancement and maintenance of projects around the DeWitt property while educating multiple OCCC crews on natural history, principles of ecology and ecological restoration practices. The scope of work will involve remedial plant installation on existing projects, mechanical (i.e. hand-removal, line-trimmers) and cultural (i.e. mulch) weed management and trail maintenance around the project site. An emphasis will be on utilizing OCCC work to perform non-chemical weed management to minimize herbicide use at this project site while maximizing habitat values and educational opportunities for the community.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Conservation Corps

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Laguna Canyon Foundation and Orange County Conservation Corps

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: CCR 15301h, CEQA Section 15333
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

Project involves existing landscaping/native growth, as per CCR 15301h. Project involves maintenance of native vegetation in an area of less than 5 acres (CEQA Section 15333).

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Jennifer Savage, AICP Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 949-715-1141

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: Jennifer Savage Date: 5 Sept 2024 Title: Sr. Management Analyst

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: _____