

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

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

From: (Public Agency): Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
P.O. BOX 944246
Sacramento, CA 94244

County Clerk
County of: N/A

(Address)

Project Title: Estrada Ranch Conservation Easement

Project Applicant: California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

Project Location - Specific:

Approximately 7 air miles north of the town of Watsonville, CA

Project Location - City: Corralitos Project Location - County: Santa Cruz

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

GRANTING OF FUNDING FOR PURCHASE OF A 1,204 ACRE CONSERVATION EASEMENT ON PRIVATE PROPERTY. THE PURPOSE OF THE CONSERVATION EASEMENT IS PERMANENT PROTECTION OF THE PROPERTY TO ENSURE THAT IT REMAIN A WORKING FOREST WITH NO CONVERSION TO NON-FOREST USE AND NO SUBDIVISION OCCUR AT ANY TIME IN THE FUTURE. CONSERVES FOREST, SOIL, AND WATER RESOURCES, WILDLIFE HABITAT, OPEN SPACE, AND SCENIC VIEWSHED QUALITIES OF THE PROPERTY. THE CONSERVATION EASEMENT FOR THE ESTRADA RANCH CONSERVATION EASEMENT IS BEING PURCHASED BY CALIFORNIA RANGELAND TRUST WITH GRANT FUNDING PROVIDED BY CAL FIRE TO CONSERVE WORKING FOREST LANDS, SOIL AND WATER RESOURCES, AND WILDLIFE HABITAT IN CALIFORNIA.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Peter Leuzinger, Forest Legacy Program Manager, CAL FIRE

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: Class 17 and 25
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

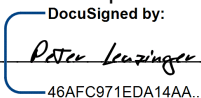
Reasons why project is exempt:

Class 17 (Open Space Contracts or Easements) and Class 25 (Transfer of Ownership and Interest in Land to Preserve Existing Natural Conditions and Historical Resources). Field review by CAL FIRE staff confirmed that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. The Department has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at CAL FIRE's headquarters at: 1416 9th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814.

Lead Agency
Contact Person: Peter Leuzinger Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 916-723-3651

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: 10/30/2024 Title: Forest Legacy Program Manager

■ 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: _____