

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: Ventura County
Hall of Administration, Main Plaza
800 S. Victoria Ave., Ventura, CA 93009

From: (Public Agency):
Ventura County Resource Conservation District
PO Box 147, Somis, CA 93066
(Address)

Project Title: Prescribed Burns planned in Ventura County for 2025

Project Applicant: Ventura County Prescribed Burn Association

Project Location - Specific:

9458 and 8442 Santa Ana Rd, Ventura, and 2162 Baldwin Road, Ojai

Project Location - City: Ojai and Ventura Project Location - County: Ventura County

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Ventura County Prescribed Burn Association (VCPBA) plans to conduct 105.5-acres of prescribed burns in Ventura County in 2025. This project will reduce flammable fuel loads and help to mitigate the potential for future catastrophic wildfires in the area. The purpose of the project is to reduce fine fuel loads, dead woody fuel loads under native oak trees and reduce invasive species (i.e. yellow star thistle). Beneficiaries include the Ojai Valley Land Conservancy (OVLC), Birdsong Ranch LLC, and Taft Gardens. The Ventura County Fire Department supports and will be involved at each of these burns.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Ventura County Resource Conservation District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Ventura County Prescribed Burn Association

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: Minor alteration to land, Section 15304
Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

Reasons why project is exempt:

This project involves small acreage burns in non-native forblands (OVLC and Birdsong Ranch) and mixed non-native grassland + native oak woodlands (Taft Gardens). No impacts to hazardous or critical resources and no cumulative effects from successive projects will occur. The District finds that this project does not have the potential to significantly degrade environmental factors, such as aesthetics, agriculture/forestry, air quality, biological/cultural/tribal resources, geology/soils, greenhouse gases, hydrology/water quality, land use, minerals, noise, population, public services, recreation, transportation, or utilities and is therefore, categorically CEQA exempt.

Lead Agency
Contact Person: Kevin Mason Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (805)-764-5135

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: Kevin Mason Date: February 20, 2025 Title: Fire Preparedness Coordinator

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: