

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: Hazardous Fuels Reduction

Project Applicant: Ventura County Prescribed Burn Association

Project Location - Specific:

12123 Mountain Lion Rd., Ojai

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

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Ventura County Prescribed Burn Association (VCPBA) plans to conduct thinning, brushing, and pile burning on Mama Tree Farm in Ojai. The purpose of this project is to reduce dead woody fuels and vegetation (predominantly toyon) growing under mature oak canopy to reduce risk of catastrophic wildfire and fire-harden mature oak trees. Dead vegetation and dead wood will be pile burned. Ventura County Fire Department will inspect piles prior to burning. Beneficiaries of this project include residents of Mama Tree Farm and all neighboring residents. VCPBA will acquire a burn permit from Ventura air quality control board, prior to burning piles.

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 minor brushing, thinning, and pile burning to protect keystone species (oaks) from dying off. This project will reduce the risk of fire spread, protecting communities of people and ecosystems. 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: _____