

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

NAPA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING BUILDING & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
1195 THIRD STREET, SUITE 210
NAPA CA 94559

To: Office of Planning and Research
PO Box 0334
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

Napa County Clerk
900 Coombs St
Napa, CA 94559

PROJECT TITLE: Kirk Vineyard Conversion

PERMIT(S): Agricultural Erosion Control Plan #24-00010-ECPA

PROJECT LOCATION - SPECIFIC: The project is located approximately 5 miles northeast of the Town Yountville (approximately 2.75 miles east of Rector Reservoir) within the Rector Reservoir Drainage which is with the larger Rector Reservoir Sensitive Domestic Watershed, approximately 0.75 miles northeast of the sites private access from its intersection with Soda Canyon Road, on an approximate 10-acre parcel (APN 032-500-012, 3497 Soda Canyon Road) within the Foss Valley area of Napa County, California (Zoning: Agricultural Watershed).

PROJECT LOCATION – CITY (NEAREST): YOUNTVILLE

PROJECT LOCATION - COUNTY: NAPA

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Conversion to vineyard of approximately 3.25 acres (±1.86 net vine acres) of gently sloping (slopes typically ±5% to ±9% with an average slope of ±7%) chaparral, ruderal grassland and other previously disturbed land, and oak woodland, installation and maintenance of erosion control measures associated with vineyard development, the replanting of Holly-leaf Ceanothus (*Ceanothus purpureus*) (a minimum of 36 individuals covering ±0.1-acres), and the permanent preservation of at least 0.75-acres of oak woodland and associated vegetation canopy cover and 0.15-acres of Holly-leaf Ceanothus habitat. The project applicant has prepared an Agricultural Erosion Control Plan (ECPA) as required by Napa County Code (Chapter 18.108, "Conservation Regulations").

NAME OF PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING PROJECT: Napa County Department of Planning, Building & Environmental Services

NAME OF PERSON OR AGENCY CARRYING OUT PROJECT: Christopher J. Kirk ETAL c/o Christopher Kirk

ADDRESS: 391 Carl Street, San Francisco CA 94117

PHONE: (650) 455-0736


EXEMPT STATUS (CHECK ONE):

- Ministerial [Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268];
- Declared Emergency [Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a)];
- Emergency Project [Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15268(b)(c)];
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: **Class (Type): 4 Section #: 15304**
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number:
- General Rule: [Sec.15061(b)(3)]

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: Project is the grading, earthmoving activities and installation and maintenance of erosion control measures associated with the conversion of 3.25-acres of chaparral, ruderal grassland and other previously disturbed land, and oak woodland to vineyard on lands with a slope of less than 10%, which includes the recontouring of previously disturbed earth. The conversion project would avoid streams and ephemeral drainages, and wetlands. The conversion project would also not adversely affect, biological resources, scenic resources, cultural resources, or substantially interfere with wildlife movement. It has been demonstrated through project modeling that the conversion would not result in increases in soil loss or runoff above existing conditions or result in increases in local off-site stream flows or sediment levels. As demonstrated in the Project's Water Availability Analysis the project would not result in reductions in groundwater recharge or groundwater levels in that potential groundwater recharge is anticipated to be ±7.81 acre-feet annually and the proposed project in addition to the site's exiting groundwater uses is anticipated to be ±2.97 acre-feet annually. Finally, there are no known or mapped geologic hazards or other unusual circumstances associated with this project or the site that would cause it to have a significant effect on the environment (see project file in the office of the Napa County Department of Planning, Building and Environmental Services for the documentation supporting these conclusions).

LEAD AGENCY CONTACT PERSON: Donald Barrella, Principal Planner
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PHONE: (707) 299-1338

Signature:  Date: February 26, 2025 Title: Principal Planner
Donald Barrella

- Signed by Lead Agency
- Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR: / / .