

**Notice of Determination**

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**To:**

**Office of Planning and Research**

*U.S. Mail:*

P.O. Box 30441400

Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

*Street Address:*

Tenth St., Rm 113

Sacramento, CA 95814

**From:**

**Public Agency:** Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

**Address:** P.O. Box 94426, Sacramento, CA 92444-2460

**Contact:** Shannon Johnson

**Phone:** (916) 902-9345

**Lead Agency (if different from above):** Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County

**Address:** 820 Bay Avenue, Suite 136, Capitola, CA 95010

**Contact:** Angie Richman

**Phone:** (831) 205-3581

**SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resource Code.**

**State Clearinghouse Number:** 2019012052

**Project Title:** Lockhart-Zayante Vegetation Treatment Project

**Project Location:** Santa Cruz County

**Project Description:** The California Department of Forestry and Fire Prevention (CAL FIRE) would be providing funding to help implement vegetation treatments on approximately 1,619 acres of State Responsibility Area (SRA) Lands between Zayante Creek and Lockhart Gulch in central Santa Cruz County. The Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County has prepared a Project-Specific Analysis (PSA) and addendum for the project as a later activity covered by the California Vegetation Treatment Project (CalVTP) Program Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Lockhart-Zayante Vegetation Treatment Project. The proposed treatment types (fuel break and ecological restoration) and treatment activities (prescribed burning, mechanical treatments, manual treatments, prescribed herbivory, and herbicide application) are consistent with those evaluated in the CalVTP Program EIR. Maintenance treatments would involve the same vegetation treatment types and activities used in the initial treatments. The purpose of these treatments is to promote forest and watershed health, reduce fuel load, and demonstrate efficacy of climate beneficial prescriptions.

This is to advise that CAL FIRE ( Lead Agency  Responsible Agency) has approved the above-described project on October 10, 2024, and has made the following determinations regarding the above-described project:

1. The project will have a significant effect on the environment.
2. A Program Environmental Impact Report (CalVTP Program EIR) was previously prepared (SCH# 2019012052) pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. A Project Specific Analysis (PSA) and Addendum was prepared for the Lockhart-Zayante Vegetation Treatment Project. This analysis determined the project is within the scope of the CalVTP Program EIR and consistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15168(c)(2).
4. The CalVTP Program EIR sufficiently analyzes and addresses potential environmental impacts from the project, and the project will not trigger any of the criteria requiring additional CEQA review pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15162. The project will not result in new significant impacts or a substantial increase in the severity of the significant environmental impacts identified in the CalVTP Program EIR.
4. Mitigation measures and standard project requirements from the CalVTP Program EIR were made a condition of the approval of the project; no new project specific mitigation measures are required.
5. The implementation of applicable CalVTP Program EIR mitigation measures and standard project requirements will be monitored and reported pursuant to the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program that was adopted for this project.
6. The previous statement of overriding considerations in the CalVTP Program EIR was reaffirmed and adopted for this project by CAL FIRE.
7. Findings were made pursuant to the provisions of State CEQA Guidelines Section 15091.

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Dated Received for filing at OPR:

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21087, Public Resources Code.

Reference: Sections 21000-21174, Public Resources Code.

This is to certify that the Lockhart-Zayante Vegetation Treatment Project PSA and Addendum record of project approval for the CalVTP Program EIR are available to the public on the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection webpage with the environmental documentation associated with individual approved CalVTP projects: <https://bof.fire.ca.gov/projects-and-programs/calvtp-homepage-and-storymap/>.

DocuSigned by:  
  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
John Melvin, Assistant Deputy Director  
Resource Management  
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

Date: 10/15/2024

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Dated Received for filing at OPR:

Authority cited: Sections 21082 and 21087, Public Resources Code.  
Reference: Sections 21000-21174, Public Resources Code.