

Notice of Determination

To: Office of Planning and Research
PO Box 3044, 1400 Tenth Street, Room 222
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County
820 Bay Avenue, Suite 136
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Angie Richman
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To: Santa Cruz County Clerk
701 Ocean Street, Room 520
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

**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 Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County (RCDSCC) proposes to implement vegetation treatments on up to 1,619 acres of land in central Santa Cruz County, including within the sandhills ecosystem. RCDSCC has prepared a Project-Specific Analysis (PSA) and Addendum to the Program Environmental Impact Report (Program EIR) for the California Vegetation Treatment Program (CalVTP) to evaluate if the proposed project is within the scope of the CalVTP Program EIR, consider the expansion of treatments outside the treatable landscape analyzed in the CalVTP Program EIR, consider revisions to standard project requirements and mitigation measures in the CalVTP Program EIR, and provide environmental information to RCDSCC in compliance with CEQA. Proposed treatment types are shaded fuel breaks and ecological restoration. Proposed treatment activities are manual vegetation treatments, mechanical vegetation treatments, prescribed burning, herbicide application, and prescribed herbivory. The Lockhart-Zayante Vegetation Treatment Project PSA/Addendum was prepared to evaluate the project as a later activity covered by the CalVTP Program EIR.

This Notice of Determination is to advise that the Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County (Lead Agency) approved the above-described project on August 21, 2024 and has made the following determination

For a PSA/Addendum to an EIR:

1. The project will have a significant effect on the environment.
2. Lockhart-Zayante Vegetation Treatment Project PSA/Addendum to the CalVTP Program EIR (SCH# 2019012052) was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. 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.
 - a. The elements of the proposed project that would be implemented in treatment areas within the CalVTP treatable landscape are within the scope of the CalVTP Program EIR consistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15168(c)(2), as documented in the PSA.
 - b. The elements of the proposed project that would be implemented in areas outside the CalVTP treatable landscape and revisions to two standard project requirements and one mitigation measure from the CalVTP Program EIR would not result in the occurrence of any of the conditions described in State CEQA Guidelines Section 15162 calling for preparation of a subsequent EIR; therefore, an Addendum has been adopted to address these changes to the program.
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. A mitigation monitoring and reporting program was adopted by RCDSCC for this project.
6. A statement of overriding considerations was adopted by RCDSCC for this project, which reaffirmed the previous statement of overriding considerations in the CalVTP Program EIR.
7. Findings were made pursuant to the provisions of State CEQA Guidelines Section 15091.

This is to certify that the Lockhart-Zayante Vegetation Treatment Project PSA/Addendum to the CalVTP Program EIR and record of project approval is available to the general public. Please contact Angie Richman at arichman@rcdsantacruz.org or (831) 464-2950 to arrange document viewing. The PSA/Addendum will be available at: <https://bof.fire.ca.gov/projects-and-programs/calvtp/environmental-documentation-for-approved-projects/>.

Signature:  Title: Board President Date: August 21 2024

James McKenna

Dated Received for filing at OPR:

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21087, Public Resources
Code. Reference: Sections 21000-21174, Public Resources Code.