



State of California  
The Natural Resources Agency  
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

|                         |  |               |                |
|-------------------------|--|---------------|----------------|
| <b>PROJECT TITLE</b>    | Ben Lomond Camp Landscape Construction Project                   |               |                |
| <b>PROJECT LOCATION</b> | Portions T9S, R3W, Rancho San Vicente, MDBM                      | <b>COUNTY</b> | Santa Cruz     |
| <b>LEAD AGENCY</b>      | California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) |               |                |
| <b>CONTACT</b>          | Andrew Hubbs   |               |                |
| <b>ADDRESS</b>          | 6059 Highway 9<br>Felton, CA 95018                               | <b>PHONE</b>  | (831) 335-6794 |

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The project will create decorative landscape features directly adjacent to the main office of the Ben Lomond Conservation Camp. The finished features will consist of a koi pond, a replica (non-functioning) 1800's era water tower and water wheel, and a combination split rail fence and three foot high rock wall surrounding the site. The following is a brief description of each feature:

- The koi pond will be somewhat circular in shape: 21 feet at its widest point and approximately 32" at its greatest depth. A liner will be installed in the pond with decorative rock placed around the perimeter and at several locations within the pond. Koi and aquatic plants will be added upon completion of the water feature.
- A small-scale replica of a 1800s era water tower and water wheel will be constructed (each on opposite sides of the pond). The water tower will be 16 feet high and 6 x 6 feet at the base, anchored to four concrete piers. The water wheel will be 10 feet in diameter, anchored to two concrete piers. A small pump will move water through a closed system to lift water to the top of the wheel and create wheel movement.
- A three foot high rock wall will be constructed around the pond, water tower and water wheel. In addition, a split rail fence will be built on one side of the pond, opposite the office building, nearest the parking lot.

Excavated material from the pond will be spread out along the edge of a nearby sidewalk and handball court to better align their surfaces with the adjacent ground level.

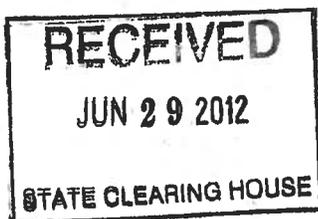
**EXEMPTION STATUS**

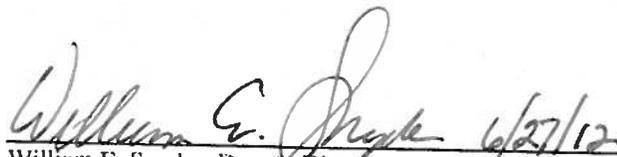
- Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 3 & 11 §15303 New Construction of Small Structures & §15311 Accessory Structures
- Statutory Exemption (state code section):
- Ministerial (§21080(b)(1): 15268)
- Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3): 15269(a))
- Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4): 15269(b)(c))

**REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT**

This project is consistent with the Class 3 Categorical Exemption (Title 14 CCR §15303 – New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures) and Class 11 (Title 14 CCR §15311 – Accessory Structures); both of these exemptions include projects that consist of construction of small facilities and structures, as is the case with landscape feature proposed this project. Field review by CAL FIRE staff confirmed that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. The Department has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, or to utilities and service systems. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at San Mateo-Santa Cruz Unit Headquarters, 6059 Highway 9, Felton, CA 95018.

**DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING**



  
 William E. Snyder, Deputy Director      Date  
 California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection