NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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

PROJECT TITLE	Los Robles Road Access Improvement		
PROJECT LOCATION	Portions of T10S, R1W, Section 34, MDBM	**COUNTY**	Santa Cruz
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	Andrew Hubbs		
ADDRESS	6059 Highway 9 Felton, CA 95018	**PHONE**	(831) 335-6794

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This is a joint agency project utilizing Soquel Fire Protection District staff and hand crews from Ben Lomond Conservation Camp to improve emergency egress/ingress along Los Robles Road. Low-lying limbs, leaning trees and shrubs currently obstruct portions of the roadway. Crews will remove trees, shrubs and limbs obstructing access within 20 feet or less of the road edge. Cut material less than 8 inches in diameter will be chipped and broadcast back on site; larger material will be cut into manageable lengths and left on site. No trees larger than 12 inches DHB will be removed. Invasive species treated having mature seed will be cut and laid within exiting areas of infestation, lopped to a height of 12 inches or less. It is anticipated this project will be conducted during the spring and early summer months of 2013.

EXEMPTION STATUS

- [x] Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4 §15304 Minor Alterations to Land
- [ ] 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

The work proposed is a minor alteration to vegetation which does not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees and is consistent with Categorical Exemption Class 4 - Minor Alterations to Land. No activity is proposed that is listed as a limitation under CCR 15300.2 (a-f).

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

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APR 02 2013
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