

# Notice of Exemption

21-2023-254

**To:** Office of Planning and Research  
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

**From (Public Agency):**  
Southern Marin Fire District  
28 Liberty Ship Way

County Clerk County of: Marin  
Marin Civic Center  
3501 Civic Center Dr., Suite 234,  
San Rafael, CA 94903

Sausalito, CA 94965

**FILED**

NOV 01 2023

SHELLY SCOTT  
MARIN COUNTY CLERK  
BY:           , Deputy

**Project Title:** Southern Marin Zone Shoreline Evacuation Clearing Project

**Project Applicant:** Southern Marin Fire District

**Project Location – Specific:** The proposed fuel break would be located along Shoreline Hwy in Tamalpais Valley

**Project Location – City:**  
Mill Valley, California

**Project Location – County:**  
Marin County

**Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:**

The purpose of the proposed project is to establish and maintain a defensible space zone along the thoroughfare, Shoreline Hwy, located in the Tamalpais Valley residential hillside communities, surrounded by high fire danger zones. These communities are located along steep slopes, where any wildfire would rapidly escalate, and fire suppression activities would be challenging due to limited road access. By creating a buffer between Shoreline Hwy and encroaching vegetation, the proposed project would extend evacuation times for the community, slow fire intensity, and provide firefighters better access to the fire's edge if a wildfire were to occur.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Southern Marin Fire District

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Southern Marin Fire District

**Exempt Status (check one):**

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Common Sense Exemption (Sec. 15061(b)(3));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: 15304(i). Minor alterations to land for fuel management activities
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Reasons why project is exempt:**

The project is categorically exempt under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15304, Class 4 for Minor Alterations to Land. A Class 4 exempt project consists of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes. The proposed project would involve vegetation reduction activities within 100 feet of structures along the perimeter of the Homestead and Tamalpais Valley residential hillside communities. The scope of the proposed project is consistent

POSTED 11/1/23 TO 12/1/23

with a minor alteration to the condition of the vegetation along the Homestead and Tamalpais Valley communities shown in Figure 1.

Additionally, no healthy, mature, scenic trees would be removed; no work would take place within sensitive habitat, including wetlands or waterways; and no ground disturbance, such as excavation, would take place. There are no facts or circumstances specific to this project that would support an exception to the categorical exemption. No exceptions listed under Section 15300.2 apply.

**Lead Agency Contact Person:**


**Area Code/Telephone/Extension:**

Madison Mead

415-388-8184

**If filed by applicant:**

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes   
No

Signature:  Date: 10/30/2023 Title: Fire Inspector

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.  
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR:  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Figure 1 Fuel Reduction Area**

**Map for Tamalpais Community Service District (TCSD)  
Fuel Reduction Project: "Tam Valley Evacuation Route Clearing"  
CalFire Grant Application: 19-FP-MRN-1041  
Approximate Project Area**

