



NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Marin County Parks and Open Space District
3501 Civic Center Drive, Suite 260, San Rafael, CA 94903
www.marincountyparks.org
(415) 473-6387

FILED

03/07/2023

SHELLY SCOTT
MARIN COUNTY CLERK
By **J. Gilardi, Deputy**
21- 2023 -023

Marin County Clerk
3501 Civic Center Drive, Suite 255
San Rafael, CA 94903

Date: March 06, 2023
Project Title: MCNEARS BEACH PARK EUCALYPTUS REMOVAL PROJECT
Project Location: McNears Beach Park, 201 Cantera Way, San Rafael, California
Assessor's Parcel: 184-030-16 and 184-030-17

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of the Project: Marin County Parks (MCP) is proposing to implement a fire fuel reduction project along Cantera Way within McNears Beach Park within an approximate 0.6-acre area. The purpose of the proposed project is to reduce the risk of rapid wildfire spread and eliminate hazardous tree conditions along the road by removing approximately 50 invasive blue gum (*Eucalyptus globulus*), acacia (*Acacia* sp.), and pine (*Pinus* sp.) trees from the access road leading to the parking area. The existing stand of eucalyptus trees would be thinned but not completely removed. Eucalyptus would remain the dominant canopy type in the project area. The proposed treatment involves using mechanical tools including chainsaws as well as mechanized equipment such as skidsteers, backhoes, and/or woodchippers to remove vegetation from the project area. All plant material removed as part of the proposed project would be hauled off site for disposal or chipped and used within the park. The proposed project would be implemented in the spring of 2023 by a contracted licensed arborist. MCP would complete surveys for nesting birds and bats prior to project implementation. Implementation of the proposed project would occur within seven days of nesting bird and bat surveys yielding negative results. All tools, equipment, and clothing would be clean and free of dirt and vegetative material and treated with a 10 percent bleach solution after working to reduce the spread of sudden oak death. There are no structures or surface waters located within or immediately adjacent to the project area. At its nearest point to the project area, San Pablo Bay is approximately 220 feet from the project area at its nearest point. The proposed project would be funded by Marin County Parks Measure A.

Public Agency Approving Project: Marin County Parks and Open Space District.

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out the Project: Max Korten, Director and General Manager

Reasons for Exemption: The MCOSD has reviewed the project along with its environmental setting and has determined it to be categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act under the following section of the California Administrative Code:

Section 15304: Minor Alterations to Land: The proposed project consists of fuel management activities to reduce the volume of flammable vegetation with the purpose of reducing the risk of rapid wildfire spread. Best Management Practices would be implemented to ensure that nesting birds and bats are not impacted and to reduce the spread of sudden oak death consistent with the MCOSD's Vegetation Biodiversity Management Plan, and for these reasons, implementation of the proposed project would not impact endangered, rare, or threatened plant species. The proposed project would not result in erosion or sedimentation of surface waters because there are no surface waters located within or immediately adjacent to the project area and erosion control measures such as placement straw wattles on the short slope within the project area would be utilized if needed to prevent soil disturbance during the rainy season. The project area is not located within a state scenic highway. The existing stand of eucalyptus trees would be thinned but not completely removed. Eucalyptus would remain the dominant canopy type in the project area. Given the vegetation within the project area that would remain, implementation of the proposed project would not significantly affect scenic resources. The project area is not located on a hazardous waste site pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5. Implementation of the proposed project would not affect historical buildings or other historical resources. Fuel reduction activities in the project area during the past 5 years includes manual and mechanical removal of eucalyptus. In consideration of these past fuel reduction activities relative to the existing environmental setting, implementation of the proposed project would not result in cumulative impacts or result in a significant effect to the environment due to unusual circumstances.

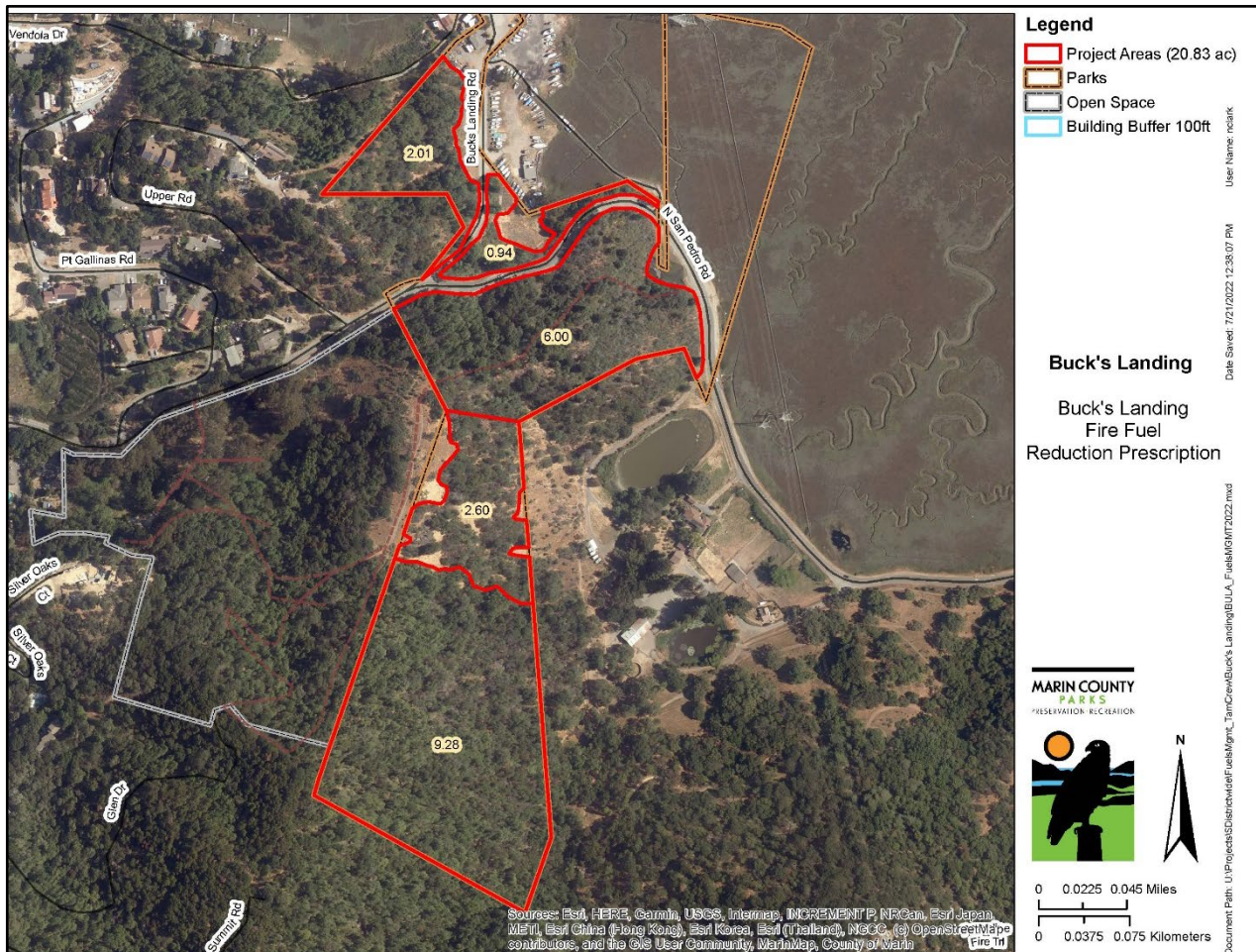
Lead Agency Contact Person:

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POSTED: 03/07/2023 TO: 04/07/2023



NOTICE OF EXEMPTION – PROJECT LOCATION
MCNEARS BEACH PARK EUCALYPTUS REMOVAL PROJECT
 March 06, 2023



Source of Graphics: Marin County Parks