

Notice of Exemption

21-2023-066

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044
County Clerk County of: Marin
Marin Civic Center
3501 Civic Center Dr., Suite 234,
San Rafael, CA 94903

From (Public Agency):
City of San Rafael
1400 Fifth Ave.
San Rafael, CA 94901

FILED

APR 25 2023

SHELLY SCOTT
MARIN COUNTY CLERK

Project Title: San Rafael Zone Fire Road Vegetation Clearance Phase 2 Project By Deputy

Project Applicant: City of San Rafael

Project Location - Specific: Fire Roads within the City of San Rafael, Marinwood CSD-owned open space, and unincorporated San Rafael.

Project Location - City:
City of San Rafael

Project Location - County:
Marin County

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The purpose of the proposed project is to improve fire roads throughout the City of San Rafael. Treating 3.9 miles of roads and improving the vegetation treatment along an additional 12 miles of identified roadways would ensure safer evacuation for recreationalists and better access for first responders and emergency vehicles. The proposed project would also reduce heat, flame, ember, and smoke impingement on fire roads in the event of an approaching wildfire.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: City of San Rafael

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: City of San Rafael

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));
[X] Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: 15304(i). Minor alterations to land for fuel management activities. 15301. Existing facilities maintenance and minor alterations for vegetation removal along roadways.
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 and Section 15301, Class 1, for Existing Facilities. 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. A Class 1 exempt project consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing

POSTED 4/25/23 TO 5/25/23

public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use. The proposed project would involve vegetation thinning along fire roads throughout the San Rafael Zone. A Notice of Exemption (NOE) was filed in August 2021 for the San Rafael Zone Fire Roads: Vegetation Removal and Enhancement Project that approved the treatment of 12 miles of fire roads. The proposed project would treat vegetation along 3.9 miles of additional fire roads, and would include herbicide treatment for the approved (12 miles) and proposed (3.9 miles) roadways up to 100 feet from the road edge. The scope of the proposed project shown in Figure 1 is consistent with a minor alteration to the condition of the vegetation along the fire roads and maintenance of the existing roadways.

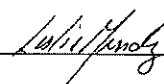
Additionally, no healthy, mature, scenic trees would be removed; no work would take place within sensitive habitat, including wetlands or waterways; and no ground disturbance, such as excavation, would take place. There are no facts or circumstances specific to this project that would support an exception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

**Lead Agency Contact Person:**  
Alicia Giudice, City of San Rafael

**Area Code/Telephone/Extension:**  
(415) 485-3092

**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: 4/24/23 Title: Planning Manager

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 Project Location

