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CEQA # 14281
District Project # 2024-09

State of California – The Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Department of Parks and Recreation
Bay Area District
845 Casa Grande Road
Petaluma, CA 94954

PROJECT TITLE: Grassland Prescribed Burns

LOCATION: Sugarloaf Ridge State Park **COUNTY:** Sonoma

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: Project proposes prescribed broadcast burns in grassland areas of Sugarloaf Ridge State Park, with small inclusions of hardwood and chaparral, with a goal to manage fuels, reduce fire risk, and control the invasive species yellow star thistle. All prescribed burns will be conducted in accordance with an approved burn plan under the direction and supervision of State Parks or other approved burn boss in cooperation with CAL FIRE.

Crews will:

- Install fireline;
- Mow, cut, and mulch vegetation for burn piles;
- Construct handlines to a maximum width of 4-feet;
- Install control lines; and
- Fell dead trees and cut back vegetation that may threaten control lines.

PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT: California Department of Parks and Recreation

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: Bay Area District

EXEMPT STATUS:

☒ Categorical Exemption *Class:* 1 & 4 *Section:* 15301 & 15304

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: Project consists of the operation, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond current levels and minor public or private alterations in the condition of land and/or vegetation which does not involve the removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes, and is included as "Prescribed burns to restore native vegetation, reduce fuel loads, and control invasive exotic or alien species" and "Resource management projects" in the Department of Parks and Recreation's list of exempt activities in accordance with CCR § 15300.4.

CONTACT: Caitlin Powers
Bay Area District

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Maria Mowrey, District Superintendent, Bay Area District
5/13/2025

DATE