

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

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

From: (Public Agency): Sonoma Resource Conservation District
1221 Farmers Lane, Suite F
Santa Rosa, CA 95405

County Clerk

County of: Sonoma

(Address)

Project Title: Montini Open Space Preserve Prescribed Burn

Project Applicant: Sonoma Resource Conservation District

Project Location - Specific:

4th St. West at Haraszthy, Sonoma CA 95476

Project Location - City: Sonoma

Project Location - County: Sonoma

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Montini Open Space Preserve is a 88-acre park located in and owned by the City of Sonoma. The preserve has 1 1/2-miles of trails that are open to the public, with access at two locations 4th Street West and Haraszthy Drive, and at Field of Dreams on 1st Street West. It is located within the Sonoma Creek watershed. The proposed project involves a 17-acre prescribed broadcast burn. Existing trails will be used as containment lines. The Valley of the Moon Trail will serve as the western and northern containment lines, the Spotted Fawn Trail will act as the eastern containment line, and the Holsten Hill Trail will serve as the southern containment line. The project area has already been prepared for prescribed fire, so no additional tree felling is required. The prescribed burn is scheduled for June 2025, with completion no later than July 4th. Operational limitations for watercourses shall include a no operation buffer without clearance from a qualified Registered Professional Forester or qualified biologist determining non-presence of species listed under the Federal or State Endangered Species Act.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Sonoma Resource Conservation District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Mason Lewis/ Sonoma Valley 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));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: 15304 Minor Alteration to Land
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project is exempt because the planned activities meet the definition of "forestry" in PRC§753, and have been reviewed and approved by a Registered Professional Forester in consultation with experts from other pertinent fields who have attested that the activities proposed in this project will only have the potential for at most impacts that are less than significant to the environment, having provided adequate measures for avoidance of sensitive environmental resources. Project activities will not involve the removal of healthy, mature, or scenic trees, and will not result in a substantial alteration of the current function of the land. Project specific analysis is on file at the RCD.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Jason Wells, RPF #3014 Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 707-769-1448 x107

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: *Christine Krum* Date: 5/15/2025 Title: Executive Director

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: _____

This notice was posted on 05/15/2025
and will remain posted for a period of thirty days
through 06/15/2025

Deva Marie Proto, County Clerk
BY: *M. J. Damon*
Mary Damon, Deputy Clerk

Doc No.49-05152025-188

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