CEQA Notice of Exemption

To: County Clerk
County of San Luis Obispo
1055 Monterey Street, Room D120
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

From: Upper Salinas-Las Tablas
Resource Conservation District
5905 Capistrano Ave. Suite F
Atascadero, CA 93422

The project or activity identified below is determined to be exempt from further environmental review requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970, as defined in the State and County Guidelines for the implementation of CEQA.

Project Title: Willow Creek Conservancy Wildfire Risk Reduction

Project Applicant: Upper Salinas – Las Tablas Resource Conservation District (US-LT RCD)
5905 Capistrano Ave. Suite F Atascadero, CA 93422

Project Location: 1380 Willow Creek Road, Paso Robles, San Luis Obispo County

Project Description: The Upper Salinas-Las Tablas Resource Conservation District (USLT RCD) will work with Cal Fire and the Salinan Tribe to reduce fuel loads within the Property by conducting cultural and prescribed burns in grasslands.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: US-LT RCD

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: US-LT RCD

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: CEQA Guidelines Section 15304
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

Reasons why project is exempt:

US-LT RCD is proposing the qualification of exemption from a comprehensive CEQA analysis under the Class 4 category for minor alterations to land. This project involves the preparation and implementation of prescribed and cultural burns to improve fire resiliency, eliminate invasive grasses/forbs, reduce risks to first responders during a wildfire, and preserve the ecological integrity of the property. The burns will be less than 10 acres, low in complexity, and will be overseen by a qualified party. Burn operations will be low-intensity fires conducted in a manner that follows all guidelines. The burn will result in combustion of fine fuels and coyote brush and will not threaten the forest ecosystem. No significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland /timberland, air quality, biological resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, utilities and service systems, or to wildfire. Benefits include fuel reduction to improve fire resiliency, reduce wildfire risk in a very high fire hazard severity zone, and provide cultural and traditional benefits to the Salinan tribal members.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Spencer Gordon, US-LT RCD
Phone: 805-460-7272
Email: Spencer@us-ltrcd.org

Signature: Drew Loganbill **Date:** 12/4/2025

Drew Loganbill, US-LT RCD Executive Director