

**Notice of Exemption**

**Appendix E**

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

County Clerk  
County of: Sonoma  
585 Fiscal Dr., Ste 103  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

From: (Public Agency): Sonoma County  
Department of Agriculture/Weights & Measures  
133 Aviation Blvd., Ste 110, Santa Rosa, CA 95403

(Address)

Project Title: Permit ACO26-0005

Project Applicant: Dutton Ranch Corp, PO Box 48 Graton, CA 95444

Project Location - Specific: 14640 Morelli Ln

Project Location - City: Sebastopol

Project Location - County: Sonoma

**Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:**

The project is to replant 8.55 acres of vineyard. The applicant does not seek changes in the ministerial standards set in Chapter 36 of the Sonoma County Code and the Best Management Practices and Technical Report Guidelines for New Vineyard and Orchard Development, Vineyard and Orchard Replanting, and Agricultural Grading and Drainage (VESCO).

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Sonoma County Department of Agriculture/Weights & Measures

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Jeff Carlton, Dutton Ranch Corp

**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: \_\_\_\_\_
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: \_\_\_\_\_


**Reasons why project is exempt:**

The review of permit applications and the issuance of permits pursuant to Chapter 36 of the Sonoma County Code are ministerial actions, except in one situation not applicable here. The Sonoma County Agricultural Commissioner has verified that this vineyard site development meets the ministerial criteria for approval set forth in Sonoma County Code 36.02.070.A.

Lead Agency  
Contact Person: Andy Casarez Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (707) 565-2371

**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: 02/24/2026 Title: AVCC

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 02/24/2026  
and will remain posted for a period of thirty days  
through 03/27/2026

**Doc No.49-02242026-048**

**Deva Marie Proto, County Clerk**  
BY:   
Garrie Anderson, Deputy Clerk