

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

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

From: (Public Agency):
MENDOCINO COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
115 EAST SMITH ST., UKIAH, CA 95482

County Clerk

County of:
MENDOCINO
501 LOW GAP RD., UKIAH, CA 95482

(Address)

Project Title: North Bay Forest Improvement Program - Ratcliff

Project Applicant: Ann Nichols

Project Location - Specific:

APN: 142-040-29, Section 2, T11N, R16W

Project Location - City: Gualala Project Location - County: Mendocino

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:
Approximately 2.0 acres are to be treated. *Project objective is compliment a recently developed and adjacent a shaded fuel break, to protect residence, and provide a defensible fire line and staging area for emergency personnel. * Low slopes and stable soils make the site suitable for mastication equipment. Mastication treatment will target suppressed trees less than or equal to 8 inches diameter at breast height (DBH), along with dense brush and ladder fuels. Cutting and mastication shall occur simultaneously, with residues mulched to a depth no greater than 4 inches and kept away from the boles of residual trees. Larger trees may be removed where doing so supports treatment objectives and the development of desired stand structure.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: MENDOCINO COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: DON RATCLIFF

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 Alterations to Land
Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

Reasons why project is exempt:

This project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption under CEQA Guidelines Section 15304, Minor Alterations to Land. The exemption applies to fuel management activities within 100 feet of roads, including mastication, pruning, and understory thinning to reduce hazardous fuels. The project is exempt because the planned activities meet the definition of "forestry" in Public Resources Code §753, and have been reviewed and approved by a Registered Professional Forester in consultation with experts from other pertinent fields. These experts have attested that the activities proposed in this project will only have the potential for impacts that are, at most, less than significant to the environment, with adequate measures provided to avoid 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 Resource Conservation District.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Adam Coleman Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (707) 462-3664 Ext. 102

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: [Signature] Date: 3/16/2026 Title: Forestry Project 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:

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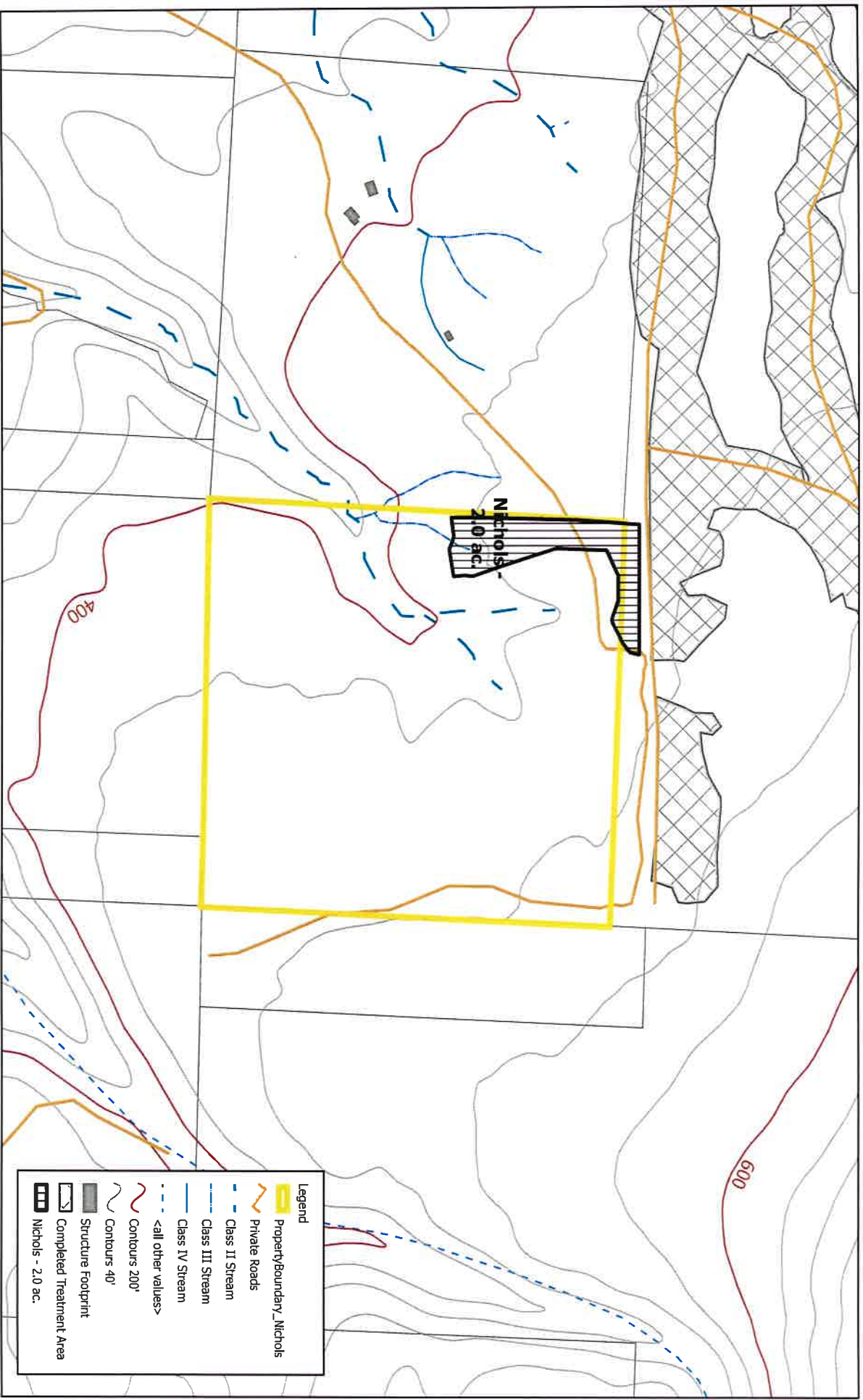
Sail Rock Ltd/Ann Nichols Trust

Client: Ann Nichols - c/o Sail Rock

Property Size: 192 ac.

Location: Gualala

Map: Treatment



Disclaimer Language
Maps prepared for informational purposes only. Image depicts a combination of publicly available data and observations made of on-the-ground conditions at the time of the site visit. No liability is assumed for the accuracy of the information or data displayed. All lines are approximate.

Scale is 1:4,800

1 inch = 400 feet

01/23/2026