



## Notice of Exemption

**To:** County Clerk  
County of San Mateo

**From:** Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District  
5050 El Camino Real  
Los Altos, CA 94022

**Project Title:** Harrington Ranch Water Infrastructure Improvements

**Project Location:** The project is located in the La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve in unincorporated San Mateo County, approximately 0.3-mile northwest of the Sears Ranch Parking Area (APN 078-290-060).

**Address:** 900 Sears Ranch Road, La Honda, CA 94022

**County:** San Mateo

**Description of Project:** The Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (District) proposes water infrastructure improvements at the Harrington Grazing Unit in La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve (Preserve). The project would involve replacement of existing water infrastructure as well as minor upgrades through the installation of new equipment, including:

- Replacement of approximately 1,100 feet of 1.5-inch water line and associated connections and valves;
- Replacement of one cattle trough;
- Installation of new valves at existing troughs and water tanks;
- Installation of a wireless pump control system in existing water tanks and one solar pump and associated solar panel array at an existing well;
- Installation of one 5,000-gallon HDPE water storage tank adjacent to an existing water tank; and
- Installation of a galvanized steel fence enclosure (approximately 80 ft.) with gates at two locations.

Vehicles needed to install and deliver materials will access the site from a nearby existing rocked driveway across approximately 300 feet of open grazing land. Biological monitoring will be provided while equipment is driving on and off site. Installation of new and replacement materials is anticipated to take approximately 30 working days.

The Project location is shown in Attachment 1: Project Location Map.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Same

**Exempt Status:** The District has determined that the proposed Project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under Article 19, Sections 15302, 15303 and 15304 of the State CEQA Guidelines as outlined below:

**Section 15302 – Replacement or Reconstruction:** Class 2 exempts the replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced, including involving replacement of existing utility systems and/or facilities involving negligible or no expansion of capacity. The replacement of water lines, valves, and tanks will replace and not expand capacity of the existing infrastructure.



**Section 15303 – New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures:** Class 3 exempts the construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures; installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures; and the conversion of existing small structures from one use to another where only minor modifications are made in the exterior of the structure. This includes water and other utility extensions. The proposed Project includes limited installation of small new equipment for an existing agriculture well and minor modifications to connect to the existing water infrastructure system.

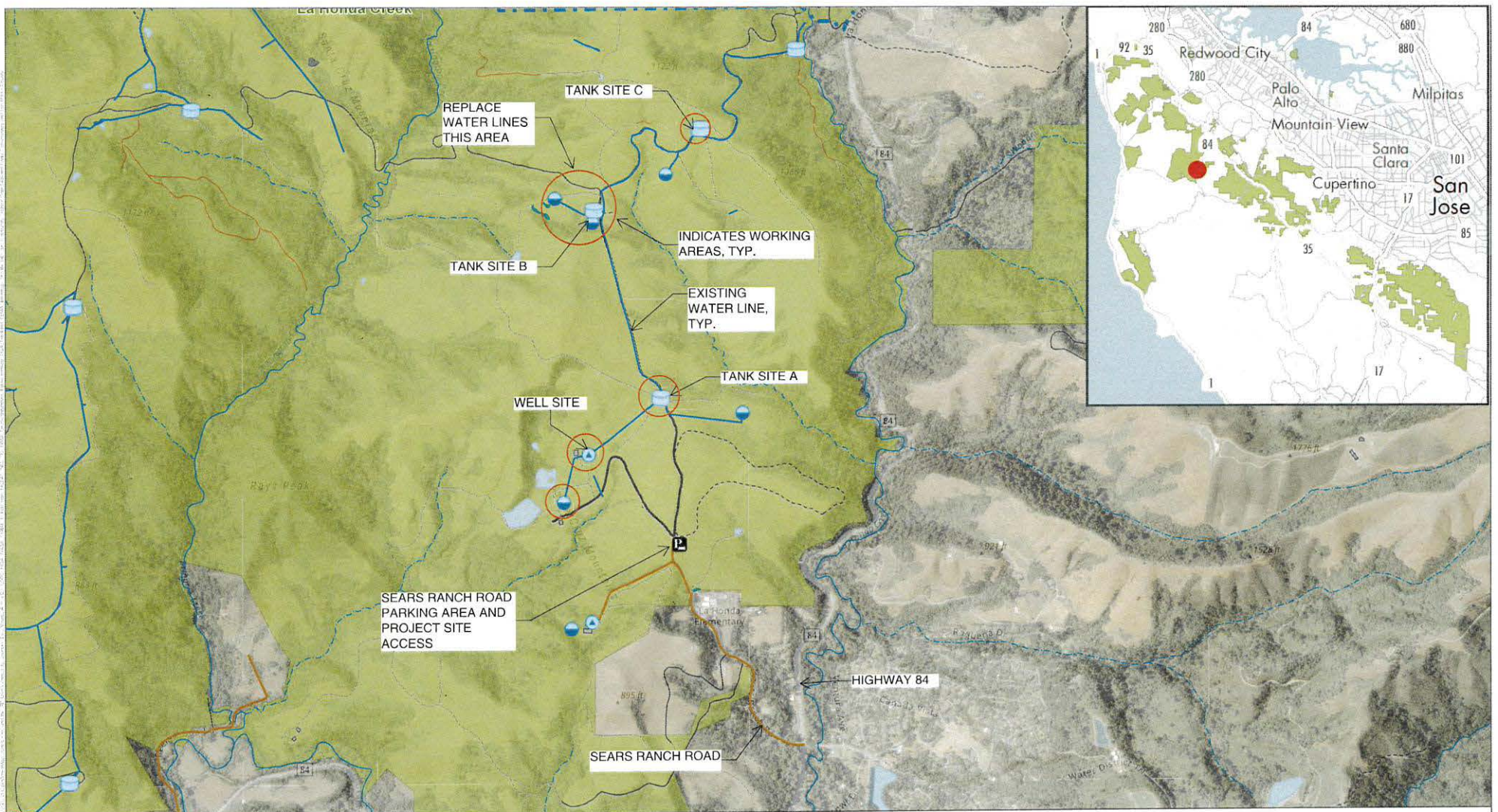
**Section 15304 – Minor Alterations to Land:** Class 4 exempts minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water or vegetation that do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees including minor trenching and backfilling where the surface is restored. The proposed Project will involve minor trenching that will be backfilled in order to replace waterlines to connect to existing infrastructure. The proposed Project will involve minor ground disturbance for the installation of the fence. The surface will be restored after installation.

**Lead Agency Contact Person:** Mattea Ottoboni, Planner II  
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650-772-3647  
Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District

**Attachments:** 1. Project Location Map

Signature:   
Scott Reeves, Engineering & Construction Manager

Date: 05/19/2026



**LA HONDA CREEK AGRICULTURAL WATER DEVELOPMENT PROJECT**

<p><b>Stream</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Perennial</li> <li>Intermittent</li> </ul> <p><b>Parking Location</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lot</li> </ul>	<p><b>Water Tank</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Active</li> </ul> <p><b>Water Trough</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Active</li> </ul>	<p><b>Well</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Active</li> </ul> <p><b>Water Distribution Line</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Active</li> </ul> <p><b>Building</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Present</li> </ul>	<p><b>Trail</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Paved Road</li> <li>Unpaved All-Season Road</li> <li>Unpaved Seasonal Road</li> <li>Trail</li> <li>Abandoned / Unmaintained Road</li> </ul>	<p>Abandoned / Unmaintained Trail</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coastside Protection Area</li> <li>District Boundary</li> <li>District Boundary</li> <li>County Boundary</li> </ul>	<p><b>Waterbody</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Active Pond</li> <li>Active Wetland</li> <li>Preserve Boundary</li> </ul>	<p>Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District 8/19/2025</p> <p><b>SHEET 1</b></p> <p>0.2 0.4</p>	
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ArcGIS Web AppBuilder | While the District strives to use the best available digital data, these data do not represent a legal survey and are merely a graphic illustration of geographic features.