MARIN COUNTY PARKS
PRESERVATION · RECREATION

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

FILING REQUESTED BY AND WHEN FILED, RETURN TO:

Marin County Parks and Open Space District
1600 Los Gamos Drive, Suite 275, San Rafael, CA 94903
www.parks.marincounty.gov
(415) 473-6387

FILED

08/31/2026

SHELLY SCOTT
MARIN COUNTY CLERK
By A.Oxlaj Arevalo **Deputy**
21-2026-144

To: Marin County Clerk
3501 Civic Center Drive, Suite 234
San Rafael, CA 94903

DATE: **August 27, 2026**

PROJECT TITLE: **HERON HILL HAZARD MITIGATION**

PROJECT LOCATION: Heron Hill Open Space Preserve, San Rafael, Marin County, CA

ASSESSOR'S PARCEL: 180-231-05, 180-231-06

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of the Project: The proposed project is to improve public safety by removing risk-prone non-native trees along public roadways, power lines, and in the defensible space. The project area is a former house site in unincorporated Santa Venetia, bound by North San Pedro Road to the north, approximately 4 acres in size. The project area is characterized as a non-native forest type consisting of trees planted along the road, former driveway, and surrounding a concrete slab where the former house was demolished including eucalyptus, planted in windrows, Monterey pine *(Pinus radiata)*, atlas cedar *(Cedrus atlantica)*, and acacia *(Acacia ssp.)*. Understory species include French broom *(Genista monspessulana)* and poison oak *(Toxicodendron diversilobum)*. A seasonal pond created by the construction of North San Pedro Road is located at the edge of the road.

The proposed project would remove the non-native hazardous trees in the project area. Native trees would only be removed if identified as a fall hazard. There would be no restriction on diameter for invasive non-native or hazardous native tree removal. Herbicide would be applied to invasive species after cutting, either as a cut-stump or spray treatment. Work would be largely manual with chainsaws. Tracked or wheeled chippers, and a skidsteer, may be used in areas with adequate access. Material would be disposed of by chipping on-site or hauling away. Project implementation would begin in Fall 2026 and would be implemented as-needed based on tree assessments conducted by arborists or Marin County Open Space District (MCOSD) staff. Access for project implementation would be from North San Pedro Road and Heron Hill Fire Road. The proposed project would be implemented by contractors and funded by Measure A Wildfire Fuel Reduction.

MCOSD would implement appropriate Best Management Practices (BMPs) consistent with the MCOSD's Road and Trail Management Plan and Vegetation Biodiversity Management Plan including bird nesting surveys if project implementation occurs between February 1 and August 31, to ensure that no trees with active nests or rookeries would be removed and bat surveys yield negative results. All tree removal BMPs would be implemented. All tools, equipment, and clothing would be clean and free of dirt and vegetative material and treated with a 10 percent bleach solution after working to reduce the spread of sudden oak death. Implementation of the proposed project would not affect wetlands and/or surface waters including creeks, streams, lakes, San Pablo Bay or the seasonal pond. The invasive target trees do not occur in the vicinity of the seasonal pond and all cut or chipped material left on-site would be left outside of this area. No regulatory permit authorizations would be required because implementation of the proposed project would not affect jurisdictional waters or special-status species or habitats.

Public Agency Approving Project: Marin County Open Space District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out the Project: Chris Chamberlain, Director and General Manager

Reasons for Exemption: The MCOSD has reviewed the project along with its environmental setting and has determined it to be categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act under the following section of the California Administrative Code:

Section 15304: Minor Alterations to Land: The proposed project consists of fuel management activities to reduce the existing fuel load. Best Management Practices would be implemented and for these reasons, implementation of the proposed project would not impact endangered, rare, or threatened plant or wildlife species. The proposed project would

POSTED 8/31/2026 **TO** 9/30/2026

not result in erosion or sedimentation of surface waters because no work would occur adjacent to surface waters. The project area is not located within a state scenic highway and given the vegetation that would remain within the project area, implementation of the proposed project would not negatively affect scenic resources. The project area is not located on a hazardous waste site pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5. Implementation of the project would not affect historical buildings or other historical resources. Fuel reduction activities in the project area during the past 5 years includes removal of non-native invasive French broom and brush mastication. In consideration of these past fuel reduction activities relative to the existing environmental setting, implementation of the proposed project would not result in cumulative impacts or result in a significant effect to the environment due to unusual circumstances.

Lead Agency Contact Person:

Michelle Julene, Senior Regulatory Open Space Planner
Marin County Parks and Open Space District
Email: Michelle.Julene@MarinCounty.gov
Office Cell: 415.444.6740

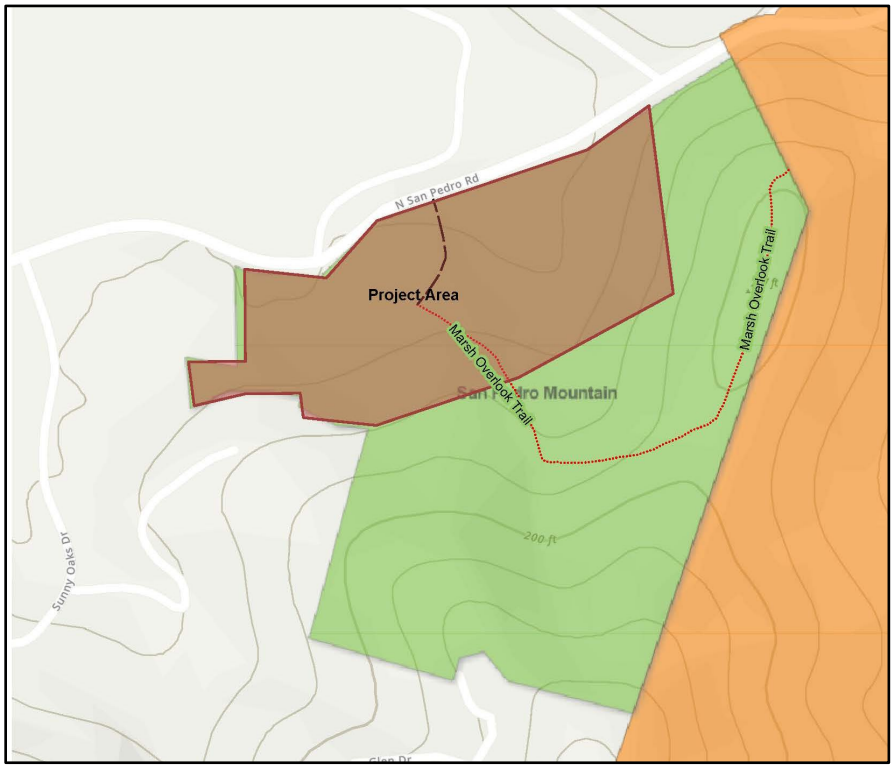
MARIN COUNTY PARKS
PRESERVATION · RECREATION

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION – LOCATION MAP

HERON HILL OPEN SPACE PRESERVE – HAZARD MITIGATION

August 27, 2026







State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife

2026 ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FILING FEE CASH RECEIPT

DFW 753.5a (REV. 01/01/26) Previously DFG 753.5a

Print | StartOver | Save

RECEIPT NUMBER:
21 — 08/31/2026 — 144

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER *(If applicable)*

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

LEAD AGENCY	LEAD AGENCY EMAIL	DATE
MARIN COUNTY PARKS & OPEN SPACE		08/31/2026

COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING	DOCUMENT NUMBER
Marin	

PROJECT TITLE

HERON HILL HAZARD MITIGATION

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME	PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL	PHONE NUMBER
MARIN COUNTY PARKS & OPEN SPACE		(415) 473-6387

PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
1600 LOS GAMOS DR STE 275	SAN RAFAEL	CA	94903

PROJECT APPLICANT *(Check appropriate box)*

☑ Local Public Agency ☐ School District ☐ Other Special District ☐ State Agency ☐ Private Entity

CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:

☐ Environmental Impact Report (EIR)	$4,227.50	$	0.00
☐ Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND)	$3,043.75	$	0.00
☐ Certified Regulatory Program (CRP) document - payment due directly to CDFW	$1,437.25	$	0.00

☑ Exempt from fee

- ☑ Notice of Exemption (attach)
- ☐ CDFW No Effect Determination (attach)

☐ Fee previously paid (attach previously issued cash receipt copy)

☐ Water Right Application or Petition Fee (State Water Resources Control Board only)	$850.00	$	0.00
☑ County documentary handling fee		$	0.00
☐ Other		$	

PAYMENT METHOD:

☐ Cash ☐ Credit ☐ Check ☐ Other **TOTAL RECEIVED** $ 0.00

SIGNATURE	AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE
X	MARIN COUNTY CLERK, A.OXLAJ AREVALO, SR. DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK

State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife

2026 ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FILING FEE CASH RECEIPT

DFW 753.5a (REV. 01/01/26) Previously DFG 753.5a

NOTICE

Each project applicant shall remit to the county clerk the environmental document filing fee before or at the time of filing a Notice of Determination (Pub. Resources Code, § 21152; Fish & G. Code, § 711.4, subdivision (d); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 753.5). Without the appropriate fee, statutory or categorical exemption, or a valid No Effect Determination issued by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), the Notice of Determination is not operative, vested, or final, and shall not be accepted by the county clerk.

COUNTY DOCUMENTARY HANDLING FEE

The county clerk may charge a documentary handling fee of fifty dollars ($50) per filing in addition to the environmental document filing fee (Fish & G. Code, § 711.4, subd. (e); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 753.5, subd. (g)(1)). A county board of supervisors shall have the authority to increase or decrease the fee or charge, that is otherwise authorized to be levied by another provision of law, in the amount reasonably necessary to recover the cost of providing any product or service or the cost of enforcing any regulation for which the fee or charge is levied (Gov. Code, § 54985, subd. (a)).

COLLECTION PROCEDURES FOR COUNTY GOVERNMENTS

Filing Notice of Determination (NOD):

- ☐ Collect environmental document filing fee or copy of previously issued cash receipt. *(Do not collect fee if project applicant presents a No Effect Determination signed by CDFW. An additional fee is required for each separate environmental document. An addendum is not considered a separate environmental document. Checks should be made payable to the county.)*
- ☐ Issue environmental document filing fee cash receipt to project applicant.
- ☐ Attach copy of environmental document filing fee cash receipt and, if applicable, previously issued cash receipt, to NOD.
- ☐ Mail environmental document filing fee for **CRP** document to CDFW prior to filing the NOD or equivalent final approval (Cal. Code Regs. Tit. 14, § 753.5 (b)(5)). The CRP should request receipt from CDFW to show proof of payment for filing the NOD or equivalent approval. Mail payment to address below made attention to the Cash Receipts Unit of the Accounting Services Branch.

If the project applicant presents a **No Effect Determination** signed by CDFW, also:

- ☐ Attach No Effect Determination to NOD *(no environmental document filing fee is due)*.

Filing Notice of Exemption (NOE) *(Statutorily or categorically exempt project (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §§ 15260-15285, 15300-15333))*

- ☐ Issue environmental document filing fee cash receipt to project applicant.
- ☐ Attach copy of environmental document filing fee cash receipt to NOE *(no environmental document filing fee is due)*.

Within 30 days after the end of each month in which the environmental document filing fees are collected, each county shall summarize and record the amount collected on the monthly State of California Form No. CA25 (TC31) and remit the amount collected to the State Treasurer. Identify the remittance on Form No. CA25 as “Environmental Document Filing Fees” per Fish and Game Code section 711.4.

The county clerk shall submit the documents below to CDFW on a monthly basis by mail or CDFW's File Transfer Portal (see below):

A photocopy of the monthly State of California Form No. CA25 (TC31)
CDFW/ASB copies of all cash environmental document filing fee cash receipts (including all voided receipts)
A copy of all CDFW No Effect Determinations filed in lieu of fee payment
A copy of all NODs and NOEs filed with the county during the preceding month
A list of the name, address and telephone number of all project applicants for which an NOD and NOE has been filed. If this information is contained on the environmental document filing fee cash receipt filed with CDFW under California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 753.5, subdivision (e)(6), no additional information is required.

DOCUMENT RETENTION

The county shall retain a copy of the environmental document filing fee cash receipt and all documents described above for at least 12 months.

RECEIPT NUMBER

The first two digits automatically populate by making the appropriate selection in the County/State Agency of Filing drop down menu.
The next eight digits automatically populate when a date is entered.
The last three digits correspond with the sequential order of issuance for each calendar year. For example, the first receipt number issued on January 1 should end in 001. If a county issued 252 receipts for the year ending on December 31, the last receipt number should end in 252. CDFW recommends that counties and state agencies 1) save a local copy of this form, and 2) track receipt numbers on a spreadsheet tabbed by month to ensure accuracy.

DO NOT COMBINE THE ENVIRONMENTAL FEES WITH THE STATE SHARE OF FISH AND WILDLIFE FEES.

For access to CDFW's File Transfer Portal, submit email to CEQA@wildlife.ca.gov (Subject line: [County name] FTP account).

Mail to:

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Accounting Services Branch
P.O. Box 944209
Sacramento, California 94244-2090