Guerrin's Ranch Fuels Reduction Project

1. Project Overview

	Proposed	Actual
Treated Acres	13.20	Project Not Finished
Start Date	05/01/2026	Project Has Not Started Yet
End Date	05/01/2028	Project Has Not Started Yet

Primary Project Objectives

Removal of vegetation for the creation of strategic fuel breaks as identified by approved fire prevention plans, including without limitation, CAL FIRE Unit Fire Plans or Community Wildfire Preparedness Plans,

Removal of vegetation for community defensible space,

Removal of vegetation along roadways, high-ways, and freeways for the creation of safer ingress and egress routes for the public and responders and/or to reduce roadside ignitions,

Maintenance of previously established fuel breaks or fuels modification projects

Anticipated cooperating agencies and/or resources

CALFIRE BEU/Monterey
Carmel Highlands Fire Protection District

2. Applicant Information

Name

Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District

Organization

Public Agency

3. Jurisdictional Information

Responsibility Area

State

CAL FIRE Unit

BEU

4. Commercial Component

Will this project generate revenue? - No

If yes, explain:

5. Acres by Treatment Type

Mechanical 13.2	**Manual** 0
Prescribed Herbivory 0	**Herbicide** 0
Pile Burning 0	**Broadcast Burning** 0
Cultural Burning 0	**Other** 0

Other Approved Activities

No Other Activities are approved for this project

6. Project Details

Description of Work

Mechanical treatment proposed involves mowing/mastication along roadsides previously identified by CALFIRE and Carmel Highlands FPD as primary fire roads/fuelbreak and adjacent areas of grassland that have become invaded by Genista, a highly flammable invasive brush species which threatens ecosystem type conversion.

To interrupt the growing cycle and reduce seeding opportunity, the treatment area may be mowed/masticated multiple times throughout the project period, and/or multiple times within the growing season. Initial treatment may require mastication to reduce bulk heavy fuels. Follow up treatments will be mowing to prevent/ slow regrowth.

Project will:

Reduce horizontal and vertical wildfire fuel continuity.

Promote recruitment of fire tolerant native perennial grasses.

Reduce encroachment of highly flammable non-native brush species.

Maintain portions of a previously identified fire road/strategic fuelbreak.

Project directly supports priorities in the Cal Fire San Benito – Monterey (BEU) unit fire plan (2024) and the Monterey county community wildfire protection plan (CWPP) by decreasing wildfire risk in high-threat WUI region and restoring ecosystem function.

Fuels Management

Work will use light weight equipment operated by trained operators under supervision of MPRPD Staff, CALFIRE, and/or Carmel Highlands FPD.

Horizontal fuels – fine grasses, shrubs (<8" DBH) and surface debris will be mowed/masticated or hand cut to improve existing roadside fuelbreaks and invaded areas of grazed grassland.

Tractor/skid-steer equipped with masticators and/or mowing decks will be used to mow area of Genista encroachment to a height of 6 inches.

Vertical fuels - A minimal amount of manual thinning may occur around individual native trees, up to 8ft.

Ground-based Equipment

Small tractor/skid-steer equipped with masticators and/or mowing decks will be used to mow area of Genista encroachment to a height of 6 inches.

A boom mounted excavator may be used to treat dense vegetation along existing roads.

Water tender may be kept available on site as add safety precaution against accidental ignition during mowing.

Heavy machinery will be minimized and will stay on established roads except under emergency situations.

No new roads will be built.

Slash Treatment

Woody debris/slash will be managed within the season that it is cut to prevent fuel buildup and to protect soils.

Slash will be masticated/mowed and left in place at an average depth of depth of less than 4 inches.

Any large logs encountered will be left in place as habitat.

Maintenance Plan

MPRPD will maintain the land through ongoing monitoring and retreatment.

Pasture area is enrolled in the current Palo Corona Conservation Grazing Program. MPRPD will maintain the land through ongoing grazing, monitoring, and retreatment as needed.

MPRPD staff will track vegetation recovery, invasive species control, and fuel loads annually to guide adaptive management.

Fire road/fuelbreak portion of the project is expected to require re-treatment (mechanical treatment) every 5-10 years, as needed. MPRPD will coordinate with CALFIRE and CHPFD for monitoring and retreatment.

7. Beneficial Fire Information

Burn Duration Estimate (Hours) -

Overnight Activity -

Impact on Smoke Sensitive Areas -

Burn Management

Smoke Sensitive Areas

Actions Taken

Public Notification

Guerrin's Ranch Fuels Reduction Project (461FA164-FCEA-403A-87BE-249A668D92DB) Operational Area

Project Name	Guerrin's Ranch Fuels Reduction Project
Suspension Project ID	461FA164-FCEA-403A-87BE-249A668D92DB
Applicant Organization	Government Agency
Project Status	Planned

Project Start Date	5/1/26, 12:00 PM
Project End Date	5/1/28, 12:00 PM
Project Operational Footprint Area (Acres)	13.00

(461FA164-FCEA-403A-87BE-249A668D92DB) Treatment Area

Suspension Project ID	461FA164-FCEA-403A-87BE-249A668D92DB
Treatment Status	Planned
Treatment Start Date	
Treatment End Date	
Primary Land Ownership Classification	Local
County Name	Monterey
Wildland-Urban Interface	WUI (auto populated)
Task Force Region	Central Coast
Suspension Objective	Strategic Fuel Break Creation

Treatment Area Footprint (Acres)	13.20
First Activity	Mastication
First Activity Acres	13.20
Second Activity	Mowing
Second Activity Acres	13.20

Joshua Carpenter

From: Mendez, Nicole@CNRA <nicole.mendez@resources.ca.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, April 7, 2026 4:31 PM
To: Joshua Carpenter
Subject: CalEPA/CNRA SECRETARIAL SUSPENSION AUTHORIZATION - Guerrin's Ranch Fuels Reduction Project
Attachments: Guerrin_s+Ranch+Fuels+Reduction+Project+Project_CDFW_Advisories.pdf; FINAL Fuels Reduction Authorization Guerrin's Ranch Project.pdf

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District,

Regarding Project ID: 461fa164-fcea-403a-87be-249a668d92db

Please refer to the attached letter of determination for the above-referenced project. Please note that prior to commencing project activities Applicant must submit a **Notice of Commencement** specifying the date activities will actually commence.

Of special note:

- Be advised that the **Statewide Fuels Reduction Environmental Protection Plan** (EPP) referenced in the attached approval letter was recently updated December 2025; please review the updated requirements and guidance.
- **CA Geological Survey**: No obvious geologic hazards were identified within your project area. However, we advise you review "Guide to determining the need for a licensed geologist" at https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5b1a93eb9772aeb4c16f32da/t/64a85eeb34b6e96f1d0b6925/1688755947490/4-CLFA_Guide+To+Determining+Need+For+A+Geologist.pdf for guidance in identifying potential unstable areas within your project boundary. Please note that per EPP Measure 4a, heavy equipment shall not be used on slides or unstable areas. If unstable areas or evidence of recent landslide movement is observed, you may contact us with geologic hazard concerns at fwgp@conservation.ca.gov.
- **CDFW**: See attached advisory.
- **Coastal Commission**
  1. Watercourses near the project area have historical records of special status amphibians, including Rana draytonii (California red-legged frog). Any biomass generated should not be left where it can enter watercourses, consistent with EPP BMP 4d.
  2. Some of these amphibian species may utilize upland habitat within the project area. Generated biomass (e.g., thatch, slash, chips) should not cover any burrows present that may be occupied. A qualified biologist should ensure areas are clear of these species before treatment begins, consistent with EPP BMP 3h.
  3. The project is described as grassland treatment. Mowing should be limited to grasslands. There are historic unprocessed records for the rare Ceanothus rigidus near the treatment area; treatments should flag and avoid these chaparral communities, consistent with EPP BMPs 3d & 3e.

4. There are nearby records of the rare plant Delphinium hutchinsoniae (Hutchinson's larkspur), as well as records of the rare butterfly Euphilotes enoptes smithi (Smith's blue butterfly), which would suggest the presence of Eriogonum spp. All special status plant species should be identified during the appropriate bloom season if necessary, flagged, and excluded from treatment, consistent with EPP BMPs 3d & 3h.
5. Treatment of broom should use appropriate containment measures to ensure that the species is not spread to adjacent areas, especially where native habitat is present, consistent with EPP BMP 8a.

Any questions related to your project should be directed to: **fuelsreductionsoe@resources.ca.gov**. Please reference your project name and project ID in your email. Thank you for your submission.

Nicole A. Mendez (she/her)
Deputy Director

CALIFORNIA NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY
715 P St, 20th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814

Twitter | Instagram | LinkedIn | YouTube
Sign up for our Agency newsletter, *The Buzz: News to Know*, and check out our blog, *NatureWorks.*

Date: March 17, 2026
Project No.: 461fa164-fcea-403a-87be-249a668d92db – Guerrin's Ranch Fuels Reduction Project

SECRETARIAL SUSPENSION AUTHORIZATION

BACKGROUND

On March 1, 2025, Governor Newsom proclaimed a state of emergency to exist in the State of California due to the catastrophic wildfire risks created by forest conditions across the state. It was extended by Executive Order N-38-25, signed on December 31, 2025. The Proclamation suspends state statutes, rules, regulations, and requirements that fall within the jurisdictions of the boards, departments, and offices within the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) and the California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) to the extent necessary for expediting certain critical fuels reduction projects. It requires individuals or entities who desire to conduct such activities under the suspension to request that the appropriate agency secretary, or the secretary's designee, make a determination that the proposed activities are eligible to be conducted under this suspension. (That determination is referred to herein as the "secretarial suspension authorization" or "suspension authorization.") The Secretary for CalEPA and the Secretary for CNRA must use sound discretion to ensure that the secretarial suspension authorization serves the purpose of accelerating critical fuels reduction projects, while at the same time protecting public health and the environment.

The Proclamation further provides that critical fuels reduction projects are eligible for a suspension authorization only if they are initiated and if they include as a primary objective at least one of the following activities ("permissible primary objective"): removal of hazardous, dead, and/or dying trees; removal of vegetation for the creation of strategic fuel breaks as identified by approved fire prevention plans, including without limitation CAL FIRE Unit Fire Plans or Community Wildfire Preparedness Plans; removal of vegetation for community defensible space; removal of vegetation along roadways, highways, and freeways for the creation of safer ingress and egress routes for the public and responders and to reduce roadside ignitions; removal of vegetation using cultural traditional ecological knowledge for cultural burning and/or prescribed fire treatments for fuels reduction; or maintenance of previously-established fuel breaks or fuels modification projects.

The Proclamation further requires that any activities performed under the suspension be in accordance with the State Environmental Protection Plan describing how such actions will balance expeditious fuels reduction and environmental protection. The Statewide Fuels Reduction Environmental Protection Plan was developed by CalEPA, CNRA, the California Air Resources Board, the California Coastal Commission, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) and Regional Water Quality Control Boards (each a Regional Water Board), the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, and the California Geological Survey, to apply to fuels reduction projects granted a secretarial suspension authorization. The EPP is appropriate for application to certain fuels reduction activities. It specifies methods

intended to allow the fuels reduction activities to continue without delay while still preserving the intent of the suspended laws and protecting the environment.

Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District (Applicant) has submitted a request for a suspension authorization (Application) on December 30, 2025. Applicant has included a description of the work, a description of treatment activities, a long term maintenance/retreatment plan and included a project map. The activities described in the Application are hereinafter referred to as the Project. The information contained in the Applicant's Application is hereby incorporated by reference.

CONDITIONS OF SUSPENSION AUTHORIZATION

The suspension of laws set forth below is conditioned on the following:

1. **Applicability:** This suspension authorization applies only to the Project. It does not apply to any activities not set forth in the Application. This suspension authorization does not alter any requirements imposed by any law not specifically identified herein, including local and federal laws, and any material modification of or departure from the Project described in your Application may independently trigger obligations under the state laws identified in this authorization.
2. **EPP:**
    - The Project must be conducted in conformance with the EPP. This suspension authorization is only valid to the extent the Applicant and individuals conducting Project Activities comply with the EPP. Failure to comply with the EPP, and with any applicable federal and non-suspended state and local environmental laws and regulations, may result in an enforcement action by CalEPA departments and/or CNRA departments.
    - Staff of the State Water Board, appropriate Regional Water Board, California Air Resources Board, California Coastal Commission, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, and the California Geological Survey will have the opportunity to inspect operations and verify proper implementation of best management practices and other measures set forth in the EPP. Inspections may occur throughout the life of the project and within eight months of filing a Notice of Completion to the State. Staff will ensure they provide reasonable notice to the applicant for all site visits. Applicant must work with staff to ensure access is granted.
    - The EPP may be amended at any time during planning or implementation of project activities. The Project must be conducted in conformance with the then-applicable EPP. If such amendment occurs, CNRA and CalEPA will notify all applicants of such changes.
3. **Qualified Responsible Party**:
    - All Project work must be conducted by or under the direction of a qualified responsible party, such as a Registered Professional Forester, Certified Rangeland Manager, qualified vegetation management contractor, qualified incident commander, certified arborist, certified burn boss and/or authorized cultural burner.
    - If no qualified responsible party was listed in the Application, or the Applicant substitutes a different or adds additional qualified party/parties, Applicant must submit a Notice of Qualified Responsible Party prior to commencement of on-the-ground work.

4. **Landowner Consent**: Applicant must have a legal entitlement to enter the property or consent of landowner of record.
5. **Commencement and termination of on-the-ground project activities:**
    - On the ground fuel project activities must commence no later than October 15, 2026.
    - Applicant must submit a Notice of Commencement to CalEPA, CNRA, and the applicable CAL FIRE unit prior to commencing on-the-ground project activities and specifying the date on which on-the-ground project activities will actually commence. Ideally, this will be the same date set forth in the Application. The Notice of Commencement must set forth the target completion date.
    - Operations should conclude no later than 2 years after commencement of on-the-ground project activities.
    - In the event operations will not conclude before the target completion date identified in the Notice of Commencement, Applicant must submit of a Notice of Amended Completion Date prior to the previously identified target completion date.
    - Applicant must submit a Notice of Completion promptly after on-the-ground work has been completed. The Notice of Termination will specify the date on which on-the-ground project activities concluded and identify the total acres treated.

SUSPENSION AUTHORIZATION BY CALEPA

I find that Applicant's Project is eligible for a suspension authorization because it was submitted by May 1, 2026, and has the permissible primary objective (or objectives) of removal of vegetation for the creation of strategic fuel breaks as identified by approved fire prevention plans, including without limitation, CAL FIRE Unit Fire Plans or Community Wildfire Preparedness Plans; removal of vegetation for community defensible space; removal of vegetation along roadways, high-ways, and freeways for the creation of safer ingress and egress routes for the public and responders and/or to reduce roadside ignitions; and maintenance of previously established fuel breaks or fuels modification projects. I further find that issuance of a suspension authorization in this case would serve the purpose of expediting critical fuels reduction activities and that Applicant's compliance with the EPP in conducting the Project will protect public health and the environment.

Based on the foregoing, I find that the Project is eligible to be conducted under the suspension authorized by the Proclamation. This suspension authorization, however, is conditioned on compliance with the conditions listed above. In the exercise of my discretion under the Proclamation, I hereby authorize the Project to proceed pursuant to the suspension of the following laws within the jurisdiction of the State Water Resources Control Board or appropriate Regional Water Board and the following laws within the jurisdiction of the California Air Resources Board:

- California Water Code, § 13160, and all regulations pursuant to that section; requires an applicant for a federal license or permit to conduct any activity which may result in any discharge to navigable waters to file an application for a water quality certification from the appropriate Regional Water Board or the State Water Board.
- California Water Code, § 13260, and regulations pursuant to that section; requires that any person discharging waste, or proposing to discharge waste, within any region that could affect the quality of waters of the state shall file with the appropriate Regional Water Board a report of the discharge.

- Cal. Code Regs., tit. 17, §§ 80100-80330; establishing smoke management guidelines for agricultural and prescribed burning.

Suspension Approved by:



March 18, 2026

Yana Garcia, Secretary
California Environmental Protection Agency **Date**

SUSPENSION AUTHORIZATION BY CNRA

I find that Applicant's Project is eligible for a suspension authorization because it was submitted by May 1, 2026, and has the permissible primary objective (or objectives) of removal of vegetation for the creation of strategic fuel breaks as identified by approved fire prevention plans, including without limitation, CAL FIRE Unit Fire Plans or Community Wildfire Preparedness Plans; removal of vegetation for community defensible space; removal of vegetation along roadways, high-ways, and freeways for the creation of safer ingress and egress routes for the public and responders and/or to reduce roadside ignitions; and maintenance of previously established fuel breaks or fuels modification projects. I further find that issuance of a suspension authorization in this case would serve the purpose of expediting critical fuels reduction activities and that Applicant's compliance with the EPP in conducting the Project will protect public health and the environment.

Based on the foregoing, I find that the Project is eligible to be conducted under the suspension authorized by the Proclamation. This suspension authorization, however, is conditioned on compliance with the conditions listed above. In the exercise of my discretion under the Proclamation, I hereby authorize the Project to proceed pursuant to the suspension of the following laws within the jurisdiction of the following agencies:

- California Fish and Game Code (FGC) § 86 where "Take" shall be avoided. Take is defined as to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill.
- FGC § 1600 et seq.; Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement, notification of significant alteration to stream channel, bank, or bed.
- FGC § 1900 et seq.; Native Plant Protection Act.
- FGC § 1927 et seq.; Western Joshua Tree Conservation Act.
- FGC § 2000; Taking is unlawful except as provided.
- FGC § 3503 and § 3503.5; Protection for bird nests and eggs and birds of prey.
- FGC § 3511; California Fully Protected Birds.
- FGC § 3513; California Migratory Bird Protection Act.
- FGC § 4700; California Fully Protected Mammals.
- FGC § 5050; California Fully Protected Reptiles and Amphibians.
- FGC § 5515; California Fully Protected Fish.
- FGC §§ 5650 and 5652; Deposition of deleterious material into waters of the state.
- FGC § 5901; Fish passage.
- FGC § 5937; Sufficient water for fish.
- FGC § 5948; Obstruction of streams.
- FGC §§ 2050-2115.5: California Endangered Species Act; prohibition of the take of any species of wildlife designated as endangered, threatened, or candidates for listing.

- Public Resources Code §§ 30000-30900: California Coastal Act
- Public Resources Code §§ 21000-21189.91: California Environmental Quality Act
- All regulations implementing the code sections identified above.

Suspension Approved by:



Wade Crowfoot, Secretary
California Natural Resources Agency

April 7, 2026
Date

Guerrin's Ranch Fuels Reduction Project

CDFW Biological Resources Advisories

1. (a) The Project has the potential to impact the following species and sensitive natural resources: the State and federally endangered foothill yellow-legged frog (*Rana boylii pop.6*); the State endangered seaside bird's-beak (*Cordylanthus rigidus ssp. littoralis*); the State threatened and federally endangered Monterey gilia (*Gilia tenuiflora ssp. arenaria*); the federally endangered Contra costa goldfields (*Lasthernia conjugens*) and Smith's blue butterfly (*Euphilotes enoptes smithi*); the State and federally threatened California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma californiense pop. 1*); the State threatened tricolored blackbird (*Agelaius tricolor*); the federally threatened California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*) and Monterey spineflower (*Chorizanthe pungens var. pungens*); the State rare Pacific Grove clover (*Trifolium polyodon*); the State candidate endangered western burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*) and western bumble bee (*Bombus occidentalis*); the federally proposed threatened monarch (*Danaus plexippus plexippus*) and southwestern pond turtle (*Actinemys pallida*); the California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR) 1B.1 Congdon's tarplant (*Centromadia parryi ssp. congdonii*), Eastwood's goldenbrush (*Ericameria fasciculata*), Fort Ord button-celery (*Eryngium montereyense*), Kellogg's horkelia (*Horkelia cuneata var. sericea*), legenere (*Legenere limosa*), Oregon meconella (*Meconella oregana*), Pajaro manzanita (*Arctostaphylos pajaroensis*), pink Johnny-nip (*Castilleja ambigua var. insalutata*), Santa Cruz clover (*Trifolium buckwestiorum*), vernal pool bent grass (*Agrostis lacuna-vernalis*), Yadon's rein orchid (*Piperia yadonii*); the CRPR 1B.2 Carmel Valley bushmallow (*Malacothamnus involucratus*), Carmel Valley malcothrix (*Malacothrix saxatilis var. arachoidea),* Fort Ord spineflower (*Chorizanthe minutiflora*), Hickman's onion (*Allium hickmanii*), hooked popcornflower (*Plagiobothrys uncinatus),* Hooker's manzanita (*Arctostaphylos hoockeri ssp. hookeri*), Hutchinson's larkspur (*Delphinium hutchinsoniae*), Jolon clarkia (*Clarkia jolonensis*), marsh microseris (*Microseris paludosa*), northern curly-leaved monardella (*Monardella sinuate ssp. nigrescens*), pine rose (*Rosa pinetorum*), sandmat manzanita (*Arctostaphylos pumila*), Santa Cruz microseris (*Stebbinsoseris decipiens*), Toro manzanita (*Arctostaphylos montereyensis*), twisted horsehair lichen (*Sulcaria spiralifera*), woodland woollythreads (*Monolopia gracilens*); and the CRPR 1B.3 bristlecone fir (*Abies bracteate),* Pinnacles buckwheat (*Eriogonum nortonii*), umbrella larkspur (*Delphinium umbraculorum*).

(b) CDFW advises the applicant contact the USFWS regarding federally listed species.

(c) Please refer to EPP Section 1(d) regarding identifying and marking sensitive resources prior to project commencement, and EPP Section 3 which includes BMPs for sensitive biological resources. There are several known sensitive biological resources within treatment areas and it is unclear if these areas can be fully avoided, per EPP Section 3(a) the applicant shall contact CDFW regarding location and avoidance of sensitive biological resources prior to project activities, please email R4Timber@wildlife.ca.gov.

2. Several project points are adjacent to or within 50-feet of intermittent streams. Heavy equipment shall not operate within the perennial stream buffer per EPP section 4(a) & (d); and Section 5(b), burn piles shall be placed in a manner to help prevent their entering surface water bodies per EPP 5(b).

3. Project activities may occur near or within potential California Tiger Salamander (CTS) habitat. Potential or known breeding habitat shall be protected with a minimum 250-foot no-disturbance buffer. Slash shall not be piled or scattered within known or potential CTS upland habitat.

4. Please be advised that future maintenance will be subject to the Fish and Game Code. Please contact CDFW at R4Timber@wildlife.ca.gov for future maintenance activities.

Joshua Carpenter

From: Green, Alyssa@Coastal <Alyssa.Green@coastal.ca.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2026 2:42 PM
To: Joshua Carpenter
Cc: Prahler, Erin@Coastal
Subject: Coastal Review - Guerrin's Ranch Fuels Reduction Project
Attachments: Guerrin's Ranch Fuels Reduction Project Letter.pdf

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

Coastal Commission staff recently reviewed your suspension request for mechanical treatment, mowing, and mastication along roadsides across approximately 13 acres in Carmel, Monterey County. Please see the attached letter describing our recommendations for implementation of Environmental Protection Plan measures in this project. This letter does not serve as authorization of the Request, and Commission staff are not requesting any changes to your application materials, but this letter describes the measures needed to carry out the project consistent with the Statewide Fuels Reduction Environmental Protection Plan (EPP) as it relates to coastal resource protection. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to our District staff.

Thank you,

Alyssa (Aly) Green
Wildfire Resilience Utility Planner
California Coastal Commission
Phone: (707) 377-7621
Preferred Pronouns: (They/Them)

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION
CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT
725 FRONT STREET, SUITE 300
SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060
PHONE: (831) 427-4863
EMAIL: CENTRALCOAST@COASTAL.CA.GOV
WEB: WWW.COASTAL.CA.GOV

3/25/2026

Joshua Carpenter
P.O. BOX 223340
Carmel, CA 93922

Sent electronically: carpenter@mprpd.org

Subject: **Guerrin's Ranch Fuels Reduction Project**

Dear Joshua Carpenter,

We are in receipt of the Fuels Reduction Suspension Request you submitted pursuant to Governor Newsom's March 1, 2025 State of Emergency Proclamation (SOE) at Guerrin's Ranch in Carmel, Monterey County. This letter does not serve as authorization of the Request, but describes the measures needed to carry out the project consistent with the Statewide Fuels Reduction Environmental Protection Plan (EPP) as it relates to coastal resource protection.

The fuels reduction project request consists of mechanical treatment, mowing, and mastication along roadsides across approximately 13 acres with the intent to manage invasive spread of broom (Genista). We recommend the following measures to ensure that the requested work adequately protects coastal resources, most notably potential environmentally sensitive habitat areas (ESHA). These measures are needed to comply with the EPP requirements related to coastal resources, and shall be carried out in addition to any other requirements of the EPP:

- Watercourses near the project area have historical records of special status amphibians, including *Rana draytonii* (California red-legged frog). Any biomass generated should not be left where it can enter watercourses, consistent with EPP BMP 4d.

- Some of these amphibian species may utilize upland habitat within the project area. Generated biomass (e.g., thatch, slash, chips) should not cover any burrows present that may be occupied. A qualified biologist should ensure areas are clear of these species before treatment begins, consistent with EPP BMP 3h.

- The project is described as grassland treatment. Mowing should be limited to grasslands. There are historic unprocessed records for the rare *Ceanothus rigidus* near the treatment area; treatments should flag and avoid these chaparral communities, consistent with EPP BMPs 3d & 3e.

- There are nearby records of the rare plant *Delphinium hutchinsoniae* (Hutchinson's larkspur), as well as records of the rare butterfly *Euphilotes enoptes smithi* (Smith's blue butterfly), which would suggest the presence of *Eriogonum spp*. All special status plant species should be identified during the appropriate bloom season if necessary, flagged, and excluded from treatment, consistent with EPP BMPs 3d & 3h.

- Treatment of broom should use appropriate containment measures to ensure that the species is not spread to adjacent areas, especially where native habitat is present, consistent with EPP BMP 8a.

- The request describes ongoing maintenance of the treatment areas. Please be advised that the suspension request does not authorize maintenance work in the future beyond the approval period specified by the suspension. Further authorizations will be required for work performed in the future.

- In addition to documentation requirements provided in the authorization letter you receive, the California Coastal Commission requests that photo documentation of treatment areas before and after treatment, as well as a final description of treatments completed, be submitted at the conclusion of the project. Reports and photos should be sent to CentralCoast@coastal.ca.gov.

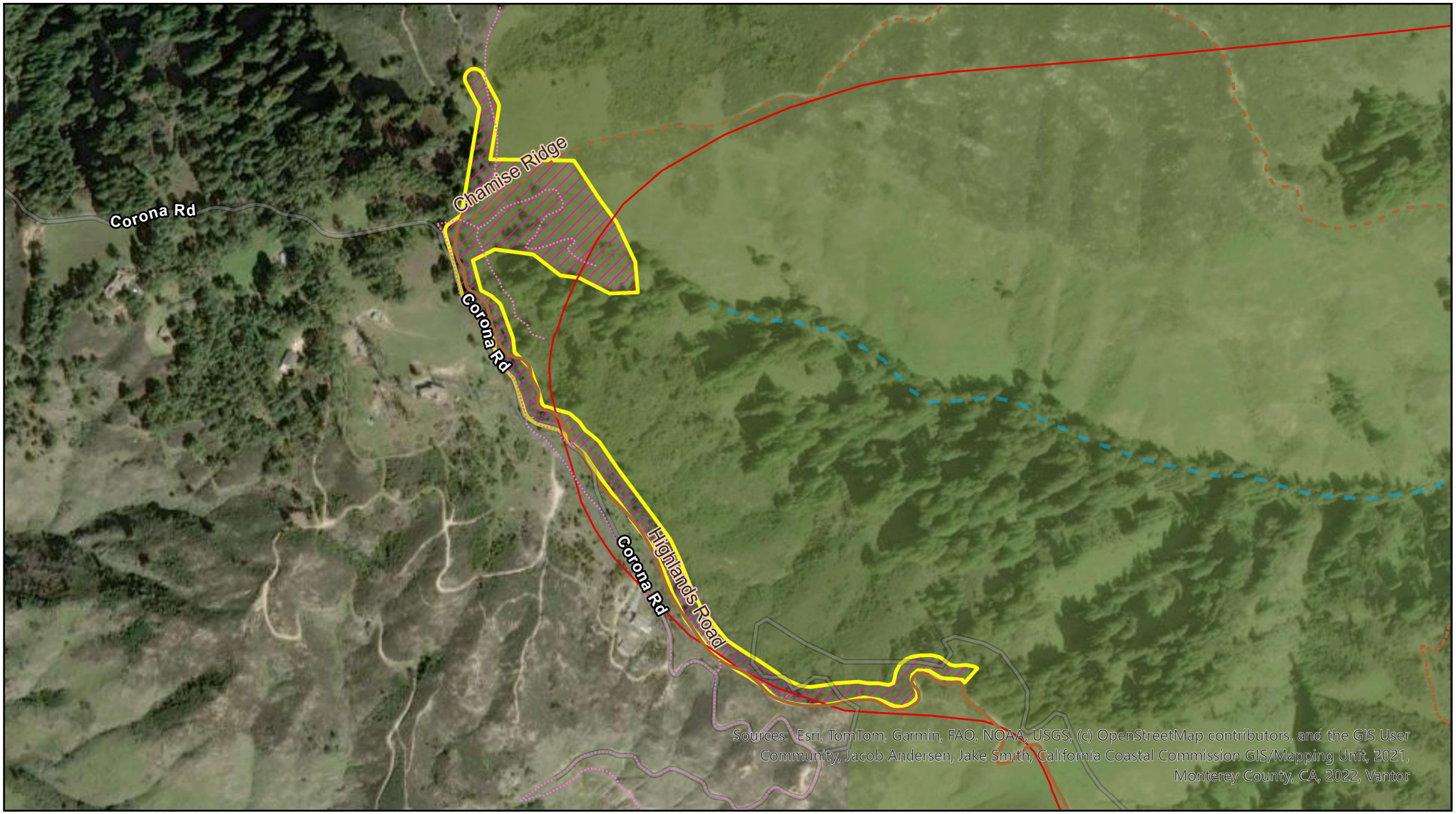
Additionally, current guidance for the SOE requires work to be completed within 2 years of initiation with limited exceptions. Continuation of this work beyond that timeline may require a coastal development permit. Correspondence with California Coastal Commission staff can help provide further details in the future. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Erin Prahler
Statewide Planning Manger
Statewide Planning Unit
California Coastal Commission

Guerrin's Ranch Fuels Reduction Project

Upper Right: 121°53'21"W 36°29'49"N



Legend

- Fuels Treatment Boundary
- MowingArea
- Coastal_Zone_Boundary
- Wetlands: Freshwater Emergent
- Perennial Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- MPRPD_LandHoldings

MPRPD_Roads_Trai

- Car/ Light-Duty SUV
- Pickup Truck / SUV
- RTV
- ATV
- No Vehicles
- Other

0 0.07 0.15 0.3 Miles

N

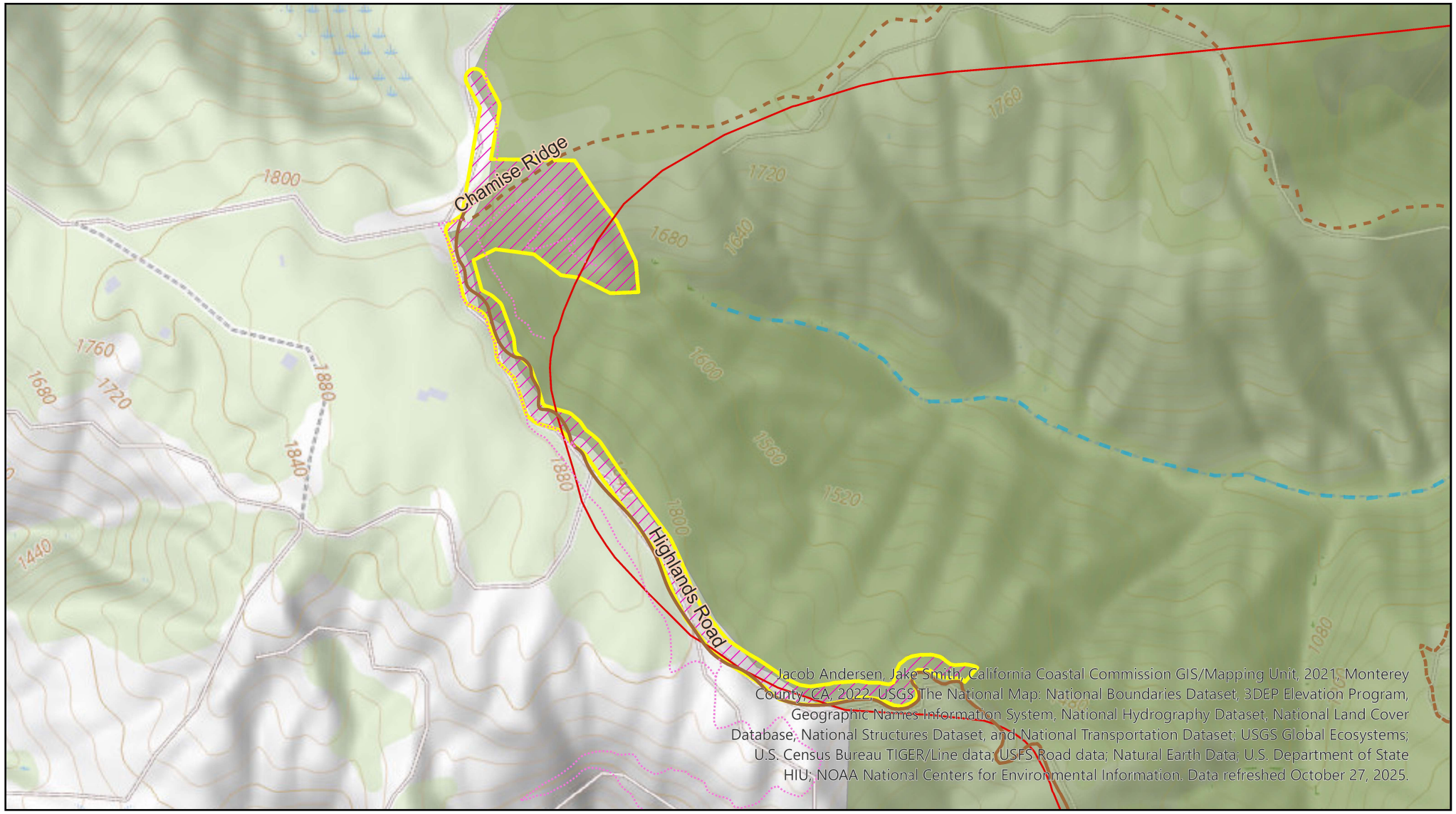
Author: Joshua Carpenter

Copy Write: 2026 MPRPD

No Know Slides were found within the Project Boundary.

Guerrin's Ranch Fuels Reduction Project

Upper Right: 121°53'21"W 36°29'49"N



Legend

- Fuels Treatment Boundary
- MowingArea
- Coastal_Zone_Boundary
- Wetlands: Freshwater Emergent
- Perennial Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- MPRPD_LandHoldings
- MPRPD_Roads_Trai
- Car/ Light-Duty SUV
- Pickup Truck / SUV
- RTV
- ATV
- No Vehicles
- Other

0 0.07 0.15 0.3 Miles

N

Author: Joshua Carpenter

Copy Write: 2026 MPRPD

No Known Slides were found within the Project Boundary.