

Notice of Determination

To: Office of Planning and Research
PO Box 3044, 1400 Tenth Street, Room 222
Sacramento, CA 95812

From: University of California, Santa Cruz
1156 High Street
Santa Cruz, CA, 95064
Erika Carpenter, Principal Environmental Planner
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**Subject: Filing of Notice of Determination
in Compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resource Code.**

State Clearinghouse Number: 2019012052

Project Title: Wildfire Vegetation Management Project

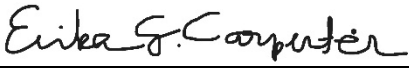
Project Location: University of California, Santa Cruz (UC Santa Cruz) on the Main Residential Campus, part of which is located in the California Coastal Zone.

Project Description: UC Santa Cruz proposes to implement vegetation treatments on up to 2,017 acres, of which 274 acres are in the California Coastal Zone, on the Main Residential Campus in Santa Cruz County. UC Santa Cruz has prepared a Project-Specific Analysis and Addendum (PSA/Addendum) for the project as a later activity covered by the California Vegetation Treatment Project (CalVTP) Program Environmental Impact Report (EIR). UC Santa Cruz Main Residential Campus and the surrounding area have experienced a legacy of intensive land uses paired with a subsequent period of lack of disturbance. This has resulted in very high forest densities, significant accumulations of live and dead fuels, significant changes to wildlife habitats, shifts in historic pathways of ecological succession, lowered biodiversity, and heightened fire risk to developed communities. The proposed treatment types are ecological restoration, wildland-urban interface (WUI) fuel reduction, and maintenance of existing fuel breaks (shaded and non-shaded). The proposed treatment activities consist of manual vegetation treatments, mechanical vegetation treatments, prescribed burning (broadcast burning, pile burning, and cultural burning), targeted herbicide application, and prescribed herbivory (predominantly with goats or sheep). The objectives of the proposed project broadly are to steward natural resources in a manner that aligns with campus values of biodiversity, resiliency, sustainability, traditional ecological knowledge, unique campus integrity, and the overall academic mission. The specific goals of the proposed project are to establish ecosystem and campus community resilience while promoting biodiversity as well as restore degraded habitats and protect sensitive resources including valuable coastal ecosystems.

This Notice of Determination is to advise that UC Santa Cruz (Lead Agency) has approved the above-described project on February, 24, 2026 and has made the following determinations related to the PSA/Addendum:

1. The project will have a significant effect on the environment.
2. The Wildfire Vegetation Management Project PSA/Addendum to the CalVTP Program EIR (SCH# 2019012052) was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. The CalVTP Program EIR sufficiently analyzes and addresses potential environmental impacts from the project, and the project will not trigger any of the criteria requiring additional CEQA review pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15162. The project will not result in new significant impacts or a substantial increase in the severity of the significant environmental impacts identified in the CalVTP Program EIR.
 - a. The elements of the proposed project that would be implemented in treatment areas within the CalVTP treatable landscape are within the scope of the CalVTP Program EIR consistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15168(c)(2), as documented in the PSA.
 - b. The elements of the proposed project that would be implemented in areas outside the CalVTP treatable landscape and revisions to standard project requirements and a mitigation measure from the CalVTP Program EIR would not result in the occurrence of any of the conditions described in State CEQA Guidelines Section 15162 calling for preparation of a subsequent EIR; therefore, an Addendum has been adopted to address these changes to the program.
4. Mitigation measures and standard project requirements from the CalVTP Program EIR were made a condition of the approval of the project; no new project-specific mitigation measures are required.
5. A mitigation monitoring and reporting program was adopted by UC Santa Cruz for this project.
6. A statement of overriding considerations was adopted by UC Santa Cruz for this project, which reaffirmed the previous statement of overriding considerations in the CalVTP Program EIR.
7. Findings were made pursuant to the provisions of State CEQA Guidelines Section 15091.

This is to certify that the Wildfire Vegetation Management Project PSA/Addendum to the CalVTP Program EIR and record of project approval are available to the general public at UC Santa Cruz Campus Planning Department, 1156 High Street, Barn G, Santa Cruz, CA 95060 or online at <https://ppdo.ucsc.edu/campus-planning/environmental-planning/>]. The custodian of these documents is Erika Carpenter, Principal Environmental Planner. Please contact Erika Carpenter at escarpen@ucsc.edu or (831) 212-0187 to arrange document viewing.

Signature:  Title: Principal Environmental Planner Date: February 24, 2026