



State of California
The Natural Resources Agency
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE Point Arena Forest Fire Station Hazard Tree Removal

PROJECT LOCATION CAL FIRE Mendocino Unit Point Arena Forest Fire Station grounds.
Address: 410 School St., Point Arena, CA 95468. **COUNTY** Mendocino
Legal Description: SW 1/4 of Sec. 12; T12N, R17W; MDB & M

LEAD AGENCY California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

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|----------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project involves the felling and removal of seven non-native Monterey pine trees located on the grounds of the CAL FIRE Point Arena Forest Fire Station (FFS) property. The trees pose a hazard to life safety and property infrastructure due to crown extension above public use areas. The trees have multiple tops and many dead limbs. Falling limbs and debris currently impact the FFS parking lot. The trees are exposed to the prevailing coastal wind and in a windstorm event may fall onto classrooms located on an adjacent high school campus. The trees will be removed by felling them onto the FFS property. Organic debris created from tree felling will be chipped and distributed on site. No heavy equipment will be used for this project. Trunks and large branches will be cut into firewood and removed from the site.

EXEMPTION STATUS

- Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4; 15304 Minor Alterations to Land
- Statutory Exemption (state code section):
- Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
- Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
- Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

The proposed project will not have a significant effect on the environment. The removal of a small cluster of hazard trees will result in only minor surface vegetation and soil disturbance. The California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDDB) was searched and no rare, threatened or endangered plant or animal species were identified that will be negatively impacted by this project. The CAL FIRE Area Archaeologist has been consulted and has determined that this project is exempt from further archaeological review.

Field review by CAL FIRE staff confirmed that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. The Department has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, or to utilities and service systems. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at CAL FIRE Mendocino Unit, Resource Management, 17501 N. Highway 101, Willits, CA 95490, Attn. Environmental Coordinator.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

RECEIVED

MAR 20 2013

STATE CLEARING HOUSE

William E. Snyder, Deputy Director Date 3/18/13
 California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection