

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: Office of Planning and Research
1400 – 10th Street, First Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

From: CA Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
1301 U Street, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95818

Project Title: CA Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Higgins Corner Fire Station Replacement

Project Location – 23036 W. Hacienda Drive

Project Location – City: Grass Valley

Project Location – County: Nevada

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire) seeks to acquire an approximately 7.05 net acre parcel of land located at the southwest corner of West Hacienda Drive at the intersection of Combie Road in the unincorporated area of Grass Valley, Nevada County. The acquisition will provide vacant land in Grass Valley which will accommodate construction of a two-engine fire station and ancillary facilities, associated equipment and Cal Fire personnel. Future actions, including development of the property, will undergo complete environmental review as required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Jerry Leong, Capital Outlay Lands Analyst, Department of Forestry and Fire Protection 916-445-0577.

EXEMPT STATUS: California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15061(b)(3): General Rule/Common Sense Exemption

Reason Why Project Is Exempt: The acquisition activity is exempt under the “general rule” or “common sense” exemption at California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15061, subdivision (b)(3). The common-sense exemption states a project is exempt from CEQA if “the activity is covered by the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA.” The land acquisition agreements that transfer the ownership to the State do not have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Any future approval of any use of the site is conditioned upon full CEQA compliance per California Code of Regulations, Title 14 Section 15004, Subdivision (b)(2)(B), which states prior to completion of CEQA compliance regarding the use of a site, “agencies may designate a preferred site for CEQA review and may enter into land acquisition agreements when the agency has conditioned the agency’s future use of the site on CEQA compliance.”

Contact Person: Jennifer Parson, Senior Environmental Planner, Environmental Services Unit, Department of General Services (916) 376-1604

Date Received For Filing:

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

SEP 04 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Matthew Reischman, Assistant Deputy Director Date
Resource Protection and Improvement
Department of Forestry and Fire Protection