

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

<b>TO:</b> Office of Planning and Research 1400 – 10 <sup>th</sup> Street, Room 212 Sacramento, CA 95814	<b>FROM:</b> California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) Office of Facility Planning, Construction and Management 9838 Old Placerville Road, Suite B, Sacramento, CA 95827
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**PROJECT TITLE:** Fuel Management Reduction/Seasonal Wildfire Training

**PROJECT LOCATION(S):** California State Prison, Solano (SOL), 2100 Peabody Road, Vacaville, CA 95687 and California Medical Facility (CMF), 1600 California Drive, Vacaville, CA 95696. Both state correctional facilities are located within Solano County.

**Description Of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries Of Project:** The CDCR fire department that jointly provides fire/emergency response services to SOL and CMF will undertake, in coordination with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), fuel reduction measures on generally vacant state-owned land bordering the west and southwest of the two correctional facilities. The subject measures will be conducted in (1) flat to gently sloping areas close to prison support facilities and perimeter fences, and (2) the slopes of the adjacent ridge that ends at the edge of the state property. The former area contains seasonal grassland that poses a wildfire threat to the nearby correctional facilities and local residential areas. The grassland is predominately non-native weed species; no sensitive habitats occur within the area to be treated. The second area consists of moderate to steep slopes descending from the end of the ridgeline that borders Lagoon Valley. This area contains a combination of mature oak woodlands and annual grasses. The woodlands contain only sparse understory. No wetlands, waterways, or sensitive species are present in the areas to be treated. Fuel reduction activities will be managed to assure protection of the oak and other species of native trees/vegetation on the hillsides.

The combined area to be treated has a low potential for unrecorded historic/pre-historic resources; the two existing historic structures within the treatment areas will be protected.

Two existing unpaved fire access/security patrol roads situated on the hillside will provide primary access for the fuel reduction activities on the end of the ridge. These roads provide access over the top of the ridge and through the middle elevation of the oak woodland. Other constructed firebreaks are also present on the hillside within the oak woodlands. Existing paved/unpaved roads provide access to the lower grassland areas adjacent to the prison grounds.

The fuel reduction activities will be coordinated with the SOL/CMF fire department, CAL FIRE, and local fire agencies to provide pre-wildfire season training and emergency response coordination; the session will also have the benefit of reducing the potential for uncontrolled fires this summer and fall. Local air management districts will be contacted prior to the initiation of training activities; erosion control measures, where necessary, will be implemented following completion of the fuel reduction activities.

**Name Of Public Agency Approving Project:** CDCR Fire Protection Unit, SOL/CMF

<b>Name Of Person Or Agency Carrying Out Project:</b>	Jason DeWitt, Chief, SOL/CMF Fire Protection Unit California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
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**EXEMPT STATUS:**

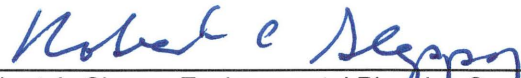
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
<input type="checkbox"/>	Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Categorical Exemption Class 4 (Sec. 15304 (J) Fuel Reduction Activities)

**Reason Why Project Is Exempt:** The subject fuel reduction management activities will provide increased safety to the on-going operation of two state correctional facilities and adjacent residential areas. The areas to be treated do not contain sensitive/rare plant and/or wildlife species; post fuel reduction treatment will include, where necessary, erosion control measures to prevent significant erosion and sedimentation of local surface waters. Appropriately-spaced fuel clearance zones will be established and maintained for all structures, the perimeter security fences, administrative buildings, and training areas of the two correctional facilities.

**Contact Person:**  
**Telephone No.:**

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**Date Received For Filing:**



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Office of Facility Planning, Construction, and Management  
California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

**MAY 15 2020**

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