



## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

**PROJECT TITLE:** Oken Property Vegetation Maintenance

**PROJECT LOCATION:** The project is located within Coleman Creek, northeast of Gladstone Way in Rohnert Park's "G" Section and southwest of Petaluma Hill Road. APN 045-171-037 and 045-171-026. Please see attached map.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** In 1996, Gladstone Way residences experienced property damage from flooding events associated with Coleman Creek. The purpose of the proposed project is to clear vegetation that may be obstructing appropriate storm flow passage within Coleman Creek, and to support habitat restoration efforts within the riparian corridor. The work would involve thinning and trimming densely overgrown native willow and non-native Himalayan blackberry along a 100 foot section of the Coleman Creek stream channel while maintaining existing shade canopy (Project Site 1), and trimming non-native Himalayan blackberry along additional segments totaling 150 linear feet (Project Sites 2 and 3). Selective thinning techniques would be used in limbing up mature trees, removing down-ward growing branches and dead vegetation debris to create a "tunnel effect" for storm flow passage. Himalayan blackberry canes would be cut at just above ground level and removed from the stream channel. Best management practices would be employed to ensure that there are no impacts resulting in soil disturbance or tree mortality.

**PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING PROJECT:** Sonoma County Agricultural  
Preservation and Open Space District  
747 Mendocino Avenue, Suite 100  
Santa Rosa, CA 95401-4850

**PUBLIC AGENCY CONTACT:** Sheri Emerson, Stewardship Manager, (707) 565-7358

**EXEMPT STATUS:**

- ☐ **Ministerial** (Section 21080(b)(1); Section 15268)
- ☐ **Declared Emergency** (Section 21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
- ☐ **Emergency Project** (Section 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))
- ☒ **Categorical Exemption** pursuant to Section 15304 (Minor Alternations to Land)
- ☐ **Statutory Exemption**

**REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT:**

The project is exempt pursuant to Section 15304 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations because the project consists of minor alterations to vegetation growing within Coleman Creek which will result in improvement of storm flow passage. The project will not result in the removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees. The project will not result in an expansion of existing use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination.

THIS NOTICE OF EXEMPTION IS BEING FILED BY THE PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT.

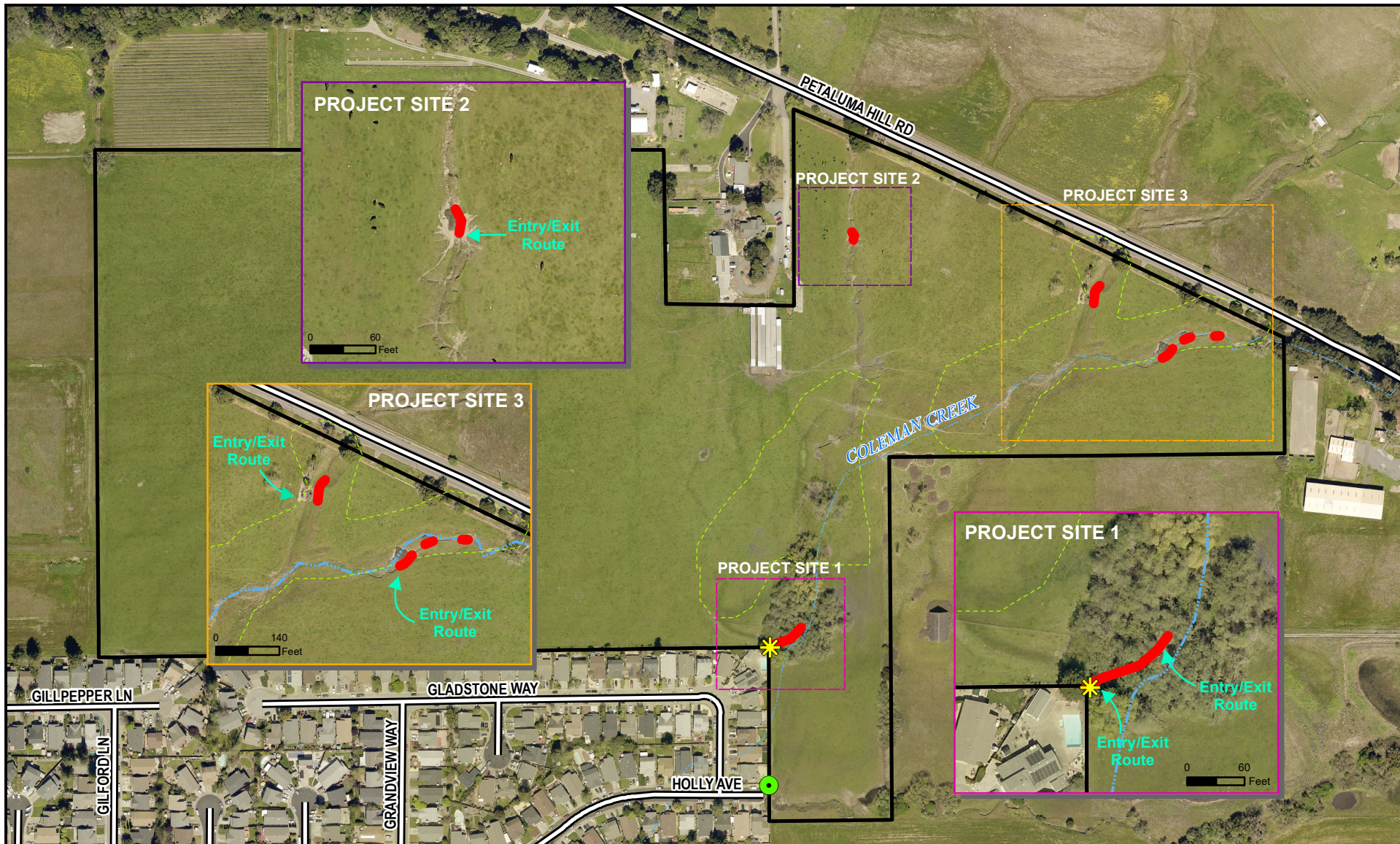


Caryl Hart (Apr 7, 2021 11:07 PDT)

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Caryl Hart, Interim General Manager  
SCAPOSD



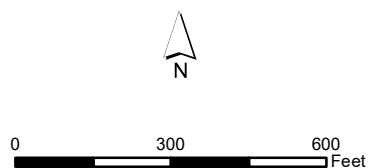


# Oken Property Vegetation Maintenance



**AG +  
OPEN  
SPACE**  
SONOMA COUNTY

Monitoring Date: Map Date: 4/1/2021  
Sources: Pictometry International & Sonoma County, Spring 2018 (aerial); Sonoma County GIS (roads, parcels); SCWA (streams).  
This map displays GIS data for illustrative purposes only and is not intended to depict definitive property boundaries or feature locations.



- Culvert
- Gate
- Intermittent Stream
- Street
- Project Area
- Approximate Seasonal Wetland
- Property Boundary









# Oken\_2021 Vegetation Maintenance\_NOE

Final Audit Report

2021-04-07

Created:	2021-04-06
By:	Sara Ortiz (Sara.Ortiz@sonoma-county.org)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAHLX55QHtDWs6IM_32rntiixVthLdNBOP

## "Oken\_2021 Vegetation Maintenance\_NOE" History

-  Document created by Sara Ortiz (Sara.Ortiz@sonoma-county.org)  
2021-04-06 - 4:43:48 PM GMT- IP address: 209.77.204.154
-  Document emailed to Caryl Hart (caryl.hart@sonoma-county.org) for signature  
2021-04-06 - 4:45:29 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Caryl Hart (caryl.hart@sonoma-county.org)  
2021-04-06 - 4:54:39 PM GMT- IP address: 66.220.13.38
-  Email viewed by Caryl Hart (caryl.hart@sonoma-county.org)  
2021-04-07 - 6:07:13 PM GMT- IP address: 66.220.13.38
-  Document e-signed by Caryl Hart (caryl.hart@sonoma-county.org)  
Signature Date: 2021-04-07 - 6:07:35 PM GMT - Time Source: server- IP address: 66.220.13.38
-  Agreement completed.  
2021-04-07 - 6:07:35 PM GMT