



Midpeninsula Regional
Open Space District

330 Distel Circle Los Altos, CA 94022

Notice of Exemption

To: County Clerk
County of Santa Clara

From: Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District
330 Distel Circle
Los Altos, CA 94022

Project Title: Solar Panel Installation at Skyline Field Office

Project Location: 21150 Skyline Blvd, Redwood City, CA 94062 at Skyline Ridge Open Space Preserve

City: Redwood City (Unincorporated)

County: Santa Clara

Description of Project: The Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (District) is proposing to install a grid-tie photovoltaic system at the Skyline Field Office (SFO) in Skyline Ridge Open Space Preserve (Preserve) (Attachment 1). The solar panel system will generate in-situ solar electricity and be integrated with the existing propane generator providing backup power to the Ranger and maintenance facility. The solar panels will be attached to the main office building rooftop. Other than minor trenching through the parking lot to connect the solar panels to the existing electrical grid, the project will not require any additional grading.

Due to the observed presence of roosting bats at the SFO, the solar panels will be installed at the end of the maternity roosting season in September. Prior to construction, the District will develop a bat exclusion plan, obtain approval from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and implement both temporary and permanent exclusion measures to limit future disturbances to the bat population. Construction is anticipated to be completed by December 31, 2021.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Same

Exempt Status: Categorical Exemption Guidelines Sections 15301, 15303, 15304

Reasons Why Project is Exempt: In accordance with the State CEQA Guidelines, the proposed project is categorically exempt from CEQA under the following sections:

Section 15301 – Section 15301 exempts the repair, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination. The installation of the new solar panels will involve minor modifications to the existing SFO roof to mount the solar panels and to the existing electrical infrastructure on the site to link the panels to the electrical grid. In conformance with this exemption, the installation of the solar panels will not expand use of the SFO.

Section 15303 – Section 15303 exempts new construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures and the installation of small new equipment and facilities, including the construction of new solar panels.

Section 15304 – Section 15304 exempts minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation, including minor trenching where the surface is restored, so long as the alterations do not

involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry and agricultural purposes. This exemption covers the minor trenching necessary to connect the solar panels and associated infrastructure to the electrical grid.

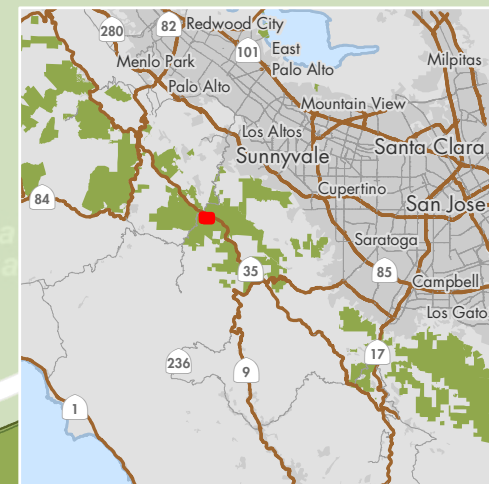
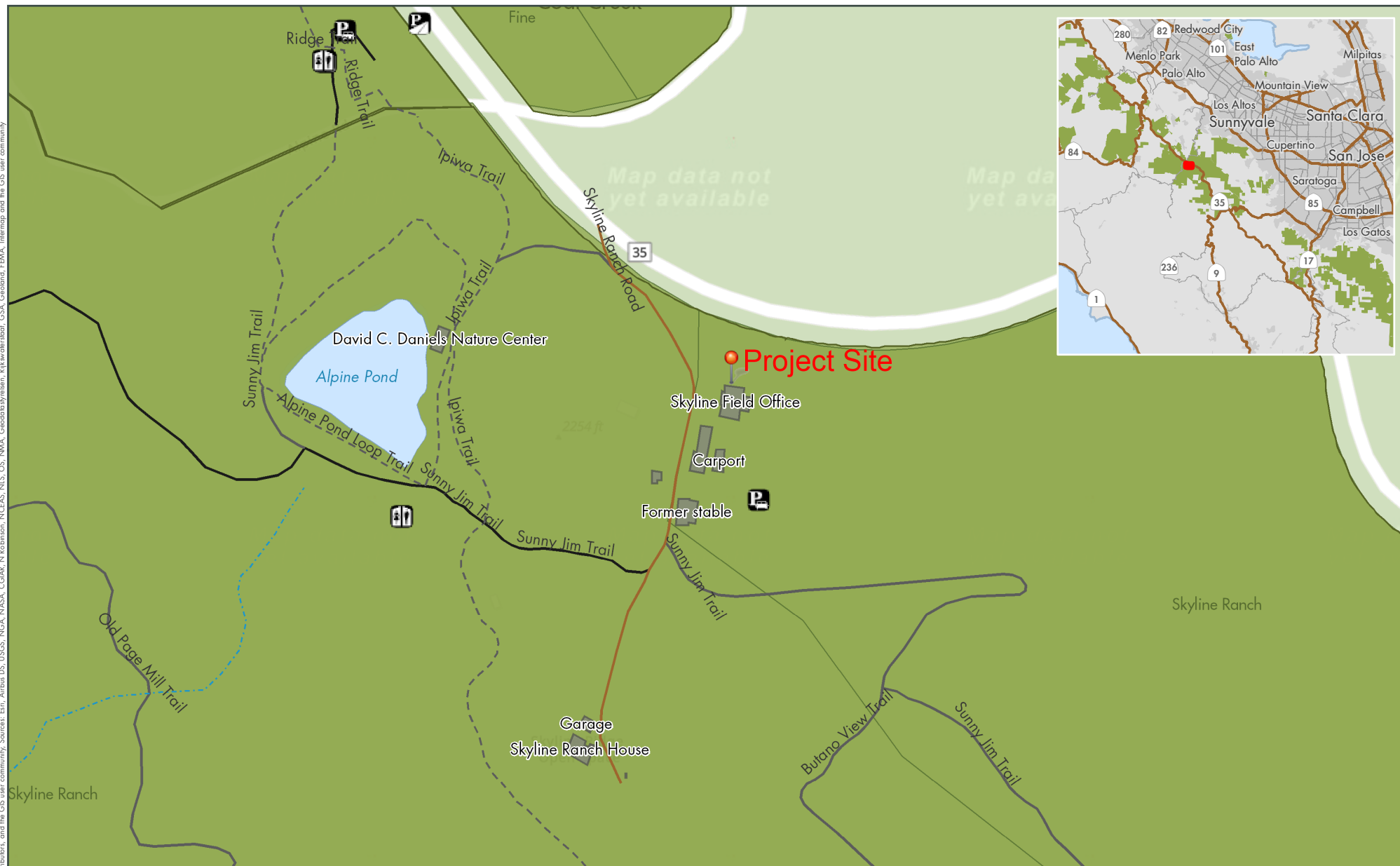
Lead Agency Contact Person: Craig Beckman, Skyline Area Manager
cbeckman@openspace.org
Telephone: (650) 691-1200

Attachments: Attachment 1: Skyline Field Office Area Map

Signature: _____
Brandon Stewart, Land and Facilities Manager

Date: _____

Data Source(s): Esri, HERE, Garmin, iCell, OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS user community. Sources: Esri, Airbus DS, USGS, NOAA, NASA, CGIAR, N. Robinson, NCEAS, NLS, OS, NMA, GeoDataSyracuse, Rijkswaterstaat, GSA, GeoLand, FEMA, Intermap and the GIS user community.



Attachment 1: Skyline Field Office

Points



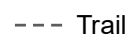
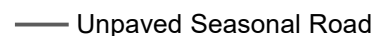
Parking Location



Building



Trail (classes)



MROSD Land



Midpeninsula Regional
Open Space District
(MROSD)
7/21/2021



mi
0 0.05 0.1

While the District strives to use the best available digital data, these data do not represent a legal survey and are merely a graphic illustration of geographic features.