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EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT			03/14/2024
COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING			DOCUMENT NUMBER
ALAMEDA			24 - 086
PROJECT TITLE	•		
LOST RIDGE FUEL REDUCTION PROJECT			
	<u></u>		
PROJECT APPLICANT NAME	PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL		PHONE NUMBER
BRIAN HOLT			(888) 544-2334
PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS	СПУ	STATE	ZIP CODE
2950 PERALTA OAKS COURT	OAKLAND	CA	94605
PROJECT APPLICANT (Check appropriate box)			
✓ Local Public Agency School District	Other Special District	☐ State A	gency Private Entity
CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:			
☐ Environmental Impact Report (EIR)	s.	4,051.25 \$	0.00
☐ Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND)			0.00
☐ Certified Regulatory Program (CRP) document - payment due di			0.00
☑ Exempt from fee			
✓ Notice of Exemption (attach)			
☐ CDFW No Effect Determination (attach)			
☐ Fee previously paid (attach previously issued cash receipt copy)			
			0.00
☐ Water Right Application or Petition Fee (State Water Resources Control Board only) \$850.00			50.00
☑ County documentary handling fee		\$.	50.00
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ALAMEDA COUNTY CLERK REC 1106 MADISON STREET 2ND OAKLAND, CA 94607 800-329-0961

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ALAMEDA COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER 1106 MADISON STREET OAKLAND, CA 94607 (510)272-6362

ISSUED TO:

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

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MELISSA WILK County Clerk-Recorder Deputy: Sandy H

*ENVIRONMENTAL DECLARATION

(CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME CODE SECTION 711.4)

LEAD AGENCY NAME AND ADDRESS

East Bay Regional Park District 2950 Peralta Oaks Court Oakland, CA 94605 FOR COUNTY CLERK USE ONLY

ENDORSED FILED ALAMEDA COUNTY

MAR 1 4 2024

FILE NO: 24-086

CLASSIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT:

(PLEASE MARK ONLY ONE CLASSIFICATION)

- 1. NOTICE OF EXEMPTION / STATEMENT OF EXEMPTION
- [x] A STATUTORILY OR CATEGORICALLY EXEMPT
 - \$ 50.00 COUNTY CLERK HANDLING FEE
- 2. NOTICE OF DETERMINATION (NOD)
- [] A NEGATIVE DECLARATION (OR MITIGATED NEG. DEC.)
 - \$ 2,916.75 STATE FILING FEE
 - \$ 50.00 COUNTY CLERK HANDLING FEE
- [] B ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR)
 - \$ 4.051.25 STATE FILING FEE
 - \$ 50.00 COUNTY CLERK HANDLING FEE
- 3. OTHER:

A COPY OF THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED AND SUBMITTED WITH EACH COPY OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL DECLARATION BEING FILED WITH THE ALAMEDA COUNTY CLERK.

BY MAIL FILINGS:

PLEASE INCLUDE FIVE (5) COPIES OF ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS AND TWO (2) SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPES.

IN PERSON FILINGS:

PLEASE INCLUDE FIVE (5) COPIES OF ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS AND ONE (1) SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPES.

ALL APPLICABLE FEES MUST BE PAID AT THE TIME OF FILING.

FEES ARE EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2024

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: ALAMEDA COUNTY CLERK

Married Told Control

CHEROGRE

ACCOUNT NAME OF THE OWNER.



2950 PERALTA OAKS COURT • OAKLAND • CALIFORNIA • 94605-0381 • T: I-888-EBPARKS • F: 510-569-4319 • TRS RELAY: 711 • EBPARKS ORG

March 13, 2024

Alameda County Clerk 1106 Madison Street Oakland, CA 96607 ENDORSED FILED ALAMEDA COUNTY

MAR 1 4 2024

MELISSA WILK, County Clerk By Deputy

SUBJECT:

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE:

Lost Ridge Fuel Reduction Project

LEAD AGENCY/
APPLICANT:

East Bay Regional Park District

Attn: Drake Hebert 2950 Peralta Oaks Ct.

Oakland, CA 94605 Telephone: 888-544-2334

PROJECT LOCATION: The project is located in Anthony Chabot Regional Park, APN 084-140000100, near the park's group campground. The project would be 2.5 acres in and adjacent to the park's Lost Ridge Group Campground and between Lost Ridge Trail and Quail Trail (see Figure 1: Project Location Map). The project is located outside, but adjacent to, areas permitted under the EBRPD's existing fuels management plan, the Wildfire Hazard Reduction and Resource Management Plan (WHRRMP) identified Recommended Treatment Areas (RTAs), but within Calfire's State Responsibility Area (SRA).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: East Bay Regional Park District (Park District) proposes to perform fuels management work in Anthony Chabot Regional Park near the Lost Ridge Group Campground. The proposed project would both improve the defensible space around an existing Park District campground and service roads. The proposed project would remove approximately 603 eucalyptus trees in a 2.5-acre area surrounding the service road (see Figure 1: Project Location). The tree removal work would include 218 trees less than 6" diameter at breast height (DBH), 207 trees between 6"-12" DBH, 130 trees between 12"-24" DBH, 43 trees between 24"-36" DBH, and 5 trees greater than 36" DBH. Native oaks, madrones, and native shrubs would not be removed, and any core scrub habitat would likewise be protected. The trees within the project area have been specifically identified for removal to reduce the fire hazard related to drought-related tree mortality. The eucalyptus will be treated to prevent the recruitment of new eucalyptus trees in the Wildland Urban Interface area, which are a highly flammable non-native species and are considered a fire hazard in defensible space projects. The project is a necessary emergency fire hazard mitigation response to the widespread mortality of tree species.

The trees will be felled by forestry harvester equipment and chainsaw. Small debris will be masticated in place with a tracked masticator, while large debris will be forwarded to a landing and processing site nearby in the park. Logs will be processed on-site using a carbonator. Carbonators use a blower powered by a low emission diesel engine to create a counter-flow combustion to heat biomass in a low oxygen environment, resulting in the production of biochar. The

Board of Directors

carbonator is being used to process biomass materials from approximately 580 acres of decadent eucalyptus plantations in the park over a 2.5-year period.

As a standard avoidance and minimization measure included as part of the project, a nesting bird survey and a general wildlife and habitat assessment will be conducted prior to start of work activities. The survey would identify active and probable nests, special status species presence, and any sensitive habitat features. Nests and resources would be flagged with construction tape prior to start of activities. Buffers for the respective nests and species would be adhered to during work. If listed species are likely to be present, a biological monitor qualified to monitor for the species would be present during work.

Access will be from the Lost Ridge Group Camp Road. The work is scheduled to begin in mid-April or beyond, 2024, and is expected to take approximately 2-3 weeks, at eight hours per day, five days per week. The work will be performed by a tree contractor and overseen by the East Bay Regional Park District Fire Department.

DETERMINATION: EBRPD has reviewed the project and determined it to be categorically exempt under the Class 4 Exemption for Minor Alterations to Land, the Class 7 Exemption for Actions Protecting Natural Resources, and the Class 8 Exemption for Actions Protecting the Environment:

- Section 15304 Class 4 Minor Alterations to Land: The Class 4 exception applies to "minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve the removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes." The project would remove dead or dying trees in a 2.4-acre area in and around the Lost Ridge Group Campground. The District has determined that this is a minor removal of vegetation in Anthony Chabot Regional Park, and the District as a whole. Therefore, the project is exempt under Class 4.
- Section 15307 Class 7 Actions By Regulatory Agencies For Protection of Natural Resources: The Class 7 exception allows public agencies to take actions that would protect natural resources. The project would remove dead trees that, if left untreated, present a clear fire danger to the surrounding park and community. The removal of the trees would reduce fuel load, and therefore fire intensity should a wild fire spread through the area. Additionally, the creation of defensible space near the Lost Ridge Trail, the Quail Trail, and the Lost Ridge Campground would help fight a fire should one occur. An uncontrolled wildfire in Anthony Chabot Regional Park could destroy the natural resources of the park. The adjacent Lake Chabot serves as a standby emergency water supply for the East Bay Municipal Utilities District (EBMUD). A fire in the area could cause uncontrolled erosion and siltation into the lake due to the loss of groundcover, jeopardizing this emergency water supply. Removal of the trees and disposal of biomass will lessen the risk of devastating wildfire, protecting Anthony Chabot Regional Park's natural resources. Therefore, the project is exempt under Class 7.
- Section 15308 Class 8 Actions by Regulatory Agencies for the Protection of the Environment: The Class 8 exception allows public agencies to take actions that would benefit the environment. The project would remove dead and dying trees that otherwise untreated present a clear fire danger to the surrounding park. The surrounding parklands serve as habitat for wildlife and plant species. The adjacent Lake Chabot serves as a standby emergency water supply for EBMUD, as well as habitat for waterfowl, fish, and other animals and plants in the surrounding park. While fire can be good and natural for some ecosystems, this most often applies to low ground fires which clear the forest floor of debris. Dead and dying trees allow the fire to climb into the tree canopy and make wildfires more dangerous and more challenging to control. An uncontrolled wildfire in this Regional

Park would have the potential to destroy the habitat used by these species, and the removal of dead and dying standing fuels and the disposal of their biomass serves to lessen the likelihood of wildfire, protecting the environment (U.S Department of Agriculture, 2003). Therefore, the project is exempt under Class 8.

Brian Holt

Signed by: Brian Holt Chief of Planning/GIS bholt@ebparks.org



Figure 1: Project Location Map

References

U.S Department of Agriculture (2003). Influence of Forest Structure on Wildfire Behavior and the Severity of Its Effects.

Signature: Brian Holt (Mar 13, 2024 18:03 PDT)

Email: bholt@ebparks.org

AC Lost Ridge NOE

Final Audit Report 2024-03-14

Created: 2024-03-13

By Annamarie Guerrero (AGuerrero@ebparks.org)

Status: Signed

Transaction ID: CBJCHBCAABAA0A3ZksBFE-S-8nKMgvCOUW85jdQOXPPJ

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