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## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO:  **County Clerk**  
County of Ventura  
800 South Victoria Ave., L#1210  
Ventura, CA 93009

FROM: **Ventura County**  
Fire Protection District  
165 Durley Ave  
Camarillo, CA 93010

**Office of Planning and Research**  
1440 Tenth Street, Room 121  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
*(Only if State discretionary approval is required)*

JUN - 9 2009 POSTED  
JAMES B. BECKER  
Assistant County Clerk and Recorder  
By: \_\_\_\_\_, Deputy

**A. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

**Entitlement:** Oak Ridge Fuel Bed, Fire Roads and Fuel Break Maintenance

**Applicant:** Ventura County Fire Protection District

**Address:** 165 Durley Ave, Camarillo

**Phone:** 805 388-4584

FILED  
JUN - 9 2009  
DATE: JAMES B. BECKER  
Assistant County Clerk and Recorder  
By: **F. Ocampo**, Deputy

**Location:**

**County:** Ventura

The project is bordered on the north by the Santa Clara River, on the south by the Simi Fuel Bed, on the east by the Los Angeles/Ventura County Line and on the west by Highway 23

**Assessor Parcel No(s):** See map

**Project Description:** The Oak Ridge fuel bed, fire roads and fuel breaks provide a fire access and defensible space for the communities contained within the project location. The following are fire roads and fuel breaks within the fuel bed: Happy Camp Fire Road approx 11 miles with access from Broadway Rd, Campus Park, and Torry Oil Facility. Rocky Peak Fire Road approx 5.7 miles with access from Santa Susana Pass Rd, Las Lajas Canyon Rd, and Browns Canyon Rd (L.A. County). Middle Ridge Fire Road approx 16.6 miles with access from Happy Camp Fire Road, #10 Canyon, and Tapo Canyon (Quarry). Brea Canyon Fire Road an Fuel Break approx 10 miles with access from Scarab Fire Road and View Line Drive. #10 Fire Road approx 6 miles with access from Hwy 126. #2 Canyon Fire Road approx 3 miles with access from Hwy 118 College Parkway. Scarab Fire Road approx 5.6 miles with access off Los Alamos Canyon and Middle Ridge Fire Roads. Las Lajas Canyon Fire Road approx 4 miles with access off Evening Sky and Rocky Peak Fire Road. Marr Ranch Fire Road approx 4.2 miles with access from Texas Ave and Tapo Canyon Road. Salt Creek Fire Road approx 1.7 miles with access from Tapo Canyon, Ten Canyon Road and LA County. Los Alamos Fire Road and Fuel Break approx 4.2 miles with access from Los Alamos Canyon and Middle Ridge Fire Roads. Edison Fire Road approx 5.2

miles with access from Happy Camp Fire Road and Torrey Canyon Oil Facility. Johnson Motor Way Fire Road approx 1.8 miles with access off Rocky Peak Fire Road. Edison to Torrey Canyon Fire Road to Hwy 126. The existing fire road systems are not all weather roads and require annual maintenance. Existing fire road systems will be maintained by the use of heavy equipment which could include dozer, road grader and back hoe. In addition to the grading of the road surface, all drainage systems will be maintained in working order and configured to reduce adverse environmental impacts. Brush adjacent to and impacting the road systems and fuel breaks shall be maintained to desired levels using some or all of the following methods. Dozing, hand cutting and chipping, mechanical mowing, cut stack and pile burning, discing, and grazing.

**B. CONTACTS:**

**Public Agency Approving Project:** Ventura County Fire Protection District

**Contact Person:** Captain Brendan Ripley

**Telephone No.:** 805 388-4589

**C. EXEMPT STATUS: (Check One)**

- Ministerial (Sec. 15268)
- Emergency Project (Sec. )
- Categorical Exemption (Sec. 15301)  
Type: **Class 1;**§15301 Existing Facilities


The proposed project is not located in a hazardous or critical environmental resource area (Classes 3, 4, 5, 6, and 11), there are no significant adverse cumulative impacts, and there are no unusual circumstances which would cause significant effects.

- No Impact: (Sec. 15061 [b][3])
- Other Statutory Exemption (Sec. )

**D. STATEMENT OF REASON TO SUPPORT EXEMPT FINDING:**

The Fire Road and Fuel Break system contained within the Oak Ridge Fuel Bed has been in existence for 40+ years. Exemption falls within the maintenance component of the CEQA Statute. Heavy equipment will be used for maintenance, brushing, and to achieve proper height and clearance for all fire roads and fuel breaks. The remainder of work will be accomplished by hand utilizing chain saws, and other hand equipment.

**DATE OF PROJECT APPROVAL:**

Prepared by:   
Captain Brendan Ripley  
Pre-Fire Planner  
Wildland Division