

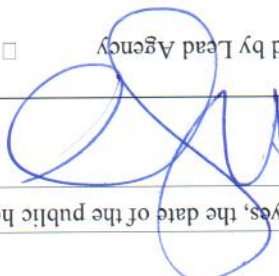
NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Office of Planning and Research P. O. Box 3044, Room 113 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Clerk of the Board of Supervisors or County Clerk County of: San Bernardino
FROM:	Inland Empire Resource Conservation District 25864-K Business Center Drive Redlands, CA 92374	Agency)

1.	Project Title:	City of Yucaipa Fire Department Chipper Program
2.	Project Applicant:	Inland Empire Resource Conservation District
3.	Project Location – Identify street address and cross streets or attach a map showing project site (preferably a USGS 15' or 7 1/2' topographical map identified by quadrangle name):	Wildwood Canyon Corridor and Pisgah Peak Range (Northern and Eastern area in Oak Glen, Western State Avenue E Canyon and Southern area in Wildwood State Park) and private properties within the communities of Oak Glen and Yucaipa
4.	(a) Project Location – City:	Oak Glen and Yucaipa, California
	(b) Project Location – County:	San Bernardino County
5.	Description of nature, purpose, and beneficiaries of Project:	IERCD will provide funding to purchase a heavy-duty chipper for the City of Yucaipa Fire Department. The chipper will provide chipping for community projects as part of the City of Yucaipa and the Community of Oak Glen curbside chipping program. The program aims to reduce fuel hazards for multiple fuel reduction projects in the high and very-high fire hazard severity zones. The City of Yucaipa Fire Department will facilitate these events to reduce and/or eliminate unburnt fuels that could cause wildfires in the future in the high fire hazard severity zones. The purchase of the chipper will increase the capacity to serve residents impacted by the El Dorado and Apple fires by managing hazardous fuels and supporting cleanup from the subsequent mudslides that carried significant vegetation onto private properties.
6.	Name of Public Agency approving project:	Inland Empire Resource Conservation District
7.	Name of Person or Agency undertaking the project, including any person undertaking an activity that receives financial assistance from the Public Agency as part of the activity or the person receiving a lease, permit, license, certificate, or other entitlement of use from the Public Agency as part of the activity:	Inland Empire Resource Conservation District
8.	Exempt status: (check one)	
	(a) Ministerial project:	<input type="checkbox"/>
	(b) Not a project:	<input type="checkbox"/>
	(c) Emergency Project:	<input type="checkbox"/>

<p>13. Was a public hearing held by the lead agency to consider the exemption? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>12. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>11. If filed by applicant: Attach Preliminary Exemption Assessment (Form "A") before filing. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>Telephone: (909) 283-7779</p>	
<p>Lead Agency Contact Person: Mandy Parkes, District Manager</p>	
<p>9. Reason why project was exempt:</p> <p>(d) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Class 1 - §15301 Existing Facilities</p> <p>(e) <input type="checkbox"/> Declared Emergency.</p> <p>(f) <input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Exemption. State Code section number:</p> <p>(g) <input type="checkbox"/> Other. Explanation:</p> <p>State CEQA Guidelines, §15301 - Existing Facilities: this project is also exempt from CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines § 15301, which applies to a project that "consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use." The project will serve to assist with funding the purchase of a heavy-duty chipper to conduct maintenance of the existing landscape and reduce unburnt fuels that could cause future wildfires in the high fire hazard severity zones.</p> <p>State CEQA Guidelines, §15304 - Minor Alterations to Land: The Project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines § 15304, which applies to minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of mature, scenic trees except for forestry and agricultural purposes. This exemption includes fuel management activities within 100 feet of a structure to reduce the volume of flammable vegetation, provided that the activities will not result in the taking of endangered, rare, or threatened plant or animal species or significant erosion and sedimentation of surface waters.</p> <p>This project consists of the removal of unburned vegetation surrounding the private properties in the Yucipa and Oak Glen Communities. Fuel management will be conducted within 100 feet of sensitive infrastructures that include homes. Thus, these minor alterations to the land and vegetation to remove hazardous and unburned vegetation to reduce the risk of fire do not require environmental review and are exempt pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines section 15304.</p> <p>Finally, there are no unusual circumstances, environmentally sensitive areas, cumulative impacts, or other significant effects that could otherwise make these exemptions inappropriate pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines section 15300.2.</p>	

If yes, the date of the public hearing was: November 9th, 2023

Signature:  _____
Date: 11-9-23
Title: District Manager

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Date Received for Filing: _____

(Clerk Stamp Here)

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21100, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, 21152.1, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.