

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)

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

A. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Entitlement: Piru Fuel Bed, Fire Roads and Fuel Break Maintenance

Applicant: Ventura County Fire Protection District

Address: 165 Durley Ave, Camarillo

Phone: 805 388-4584

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JAMES B. BECKER
Assistant County Clerk and Recorder
By: _____, Deputy

Location:

County: Ventura

The project is bordered on the north by the Ventura County line, on the south by the Oakridge Fuel Bed, on the east by the Ventura County line and on the west by the Fillmore Fuel Bed.

Assessor Parcel No(s): See map

Project Description: The Piru 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: US Fish and Game Upper Hopper Canyon Fire Road (access to Ranch) approx 4 miles with access from Burson Ranch Road out of Fillmore. Hopper Canyon Road approx 6 miles with access from Telegraph Road from the south, Toms Canyon Ranch Road from the west. Holser Canyon Road approx 2.85 miles with access from Piru Canyon and San Martinez oil field at Loma Verde Motorway. Lechler Canyon Fire Road approx 3.52 miles with access from Piru Dam and East Holser Road. Burson Ranch Road approx 10 miles with access from Foothill/Tietsort and Goodenough Road. Fillmore East Fire Road/Fuel Break approx 5.71 miles with access from Hwy 126 at Texaco Rd, Pole Creek and S & G Ranch Road. Pole Creek Fire Road approx 2 miles with access from Hwy 126 in Fillmore north to Satellite St, and 4th St from the west. Hopper Ranch Fire Road approx 1.2 miles with access from US Fish and Game Upper Canyon Fire Road from the north, Tom's Canyon Ranch Road from the south. Fairview Canyon Fire Road approx .75 miles with access from Telegraph Road from the south. Grimes Canyon Ranch approx 6 miles with access from Hwy 23 south of Fillmore bottom

canyon. Waring Canyon Fire Road approx .65 miles with access from Center Street. Modelo Canyon Fire Road approx 2.1 miles with access from Piru Canyon Road. Lime Canyon Fire Road approx 4.25 miles with access from Dominguez Canyon Road from the north and Piru Canyon road from the east. Blanchard Canyon Fire Road approx 5.8 miles with acces from Piru Canyon Road. 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 Piru 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: B. Ripley
Captain Brendan Ripley
Pre-Fire Planner
Wildland Division