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)

A. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:


   Applicant: Ventura County Fire Protection District

   Address: 165 Durley Ave, Camarillo

   Phone: 805 388-4584

   Location:

   The project is bordered on the north by Hwy 150, on the south by Hwy 126, on the east by
   Hwy 150 and on the west by Highway 33

   Assessor Parcel No(s): See map

   Project Description: The Ventura 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: Salt Marsh
   Fire Road approx 6.15 miles with access from Wheeler Canyon, Hwy 150 Santa Paula
   Ojai Rd. Sloan Fire Road approx 7.7 miles with access from Aliso Canyon. Willoughby
   Fire Road approx 3 miles with access from Salt Marsh Fire Road, Wheeler Canyon
   Fire Road, and Aliso Canyon (Sloan Ranch). Sulphur Mountain Fire Road approx 9
   miles with access from Hwy 33, Hwy 150, Willet Camp Road and various utility roads.
   Lion Canyon Fire Road approx 3 miles with access from Skunk Ranch Road, Ojai
   Santa Paula Road and various utility roads. Arroyo Verde Fuel Break approx 4.2
   miles. Grant Park Fuel Break approx 3 miles. 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:

B. 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 Ventura 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:  

[Signature]

Captain Brendan Ripley  
Pre-Fire Planner  
Wildland Division