

**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 STED  
JAMES B. BECKER  
Assistant County Clerk and Recorder  
By: \_\_\_\_\_, Deputy

**A. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

**Entitlement:** Thousand Oaks Fuel Bed, Fire Roads and Fuel Break Maintenance

**Applicant:** Ventura County Fire Protection District

**Address:** 165 Durley Ave, Camarillo

**Phone:** 805 388-4584

FILED  
DATE: JUN - 8 2009  
JAMES B. BECKER  
Assistant County Clerk and Recorder  
By: F. Ocampo, Deputy

**Location:**

**County:** Ventura

The project is bordered on the north by the South Mountain/Oakridge Fuel Beds, on the south by the Malibu Fuel Bed, on the east by Oakridge Fuel Bed and on the west by Highway 126.

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

**Project Description:** The Thousand Oaks 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: Ventu Park Fire Road approx 2 miles with access from Ranch Road. Hill Canyon Fire Road approx 2.3 miles with access from Rancho Conejo and Hill 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:**

**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 Thousand Oaks 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