

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Clerk of the Board
County of Santa Barbara
105 E Anapamu St
Santa Barbara CA 93101

FROM: Agricultural Commissioner's Office
263 Camino del Remedio
Santa Barbara CA 93110

The project identified below is determined to be exempt from further environmental review requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970, as defined in the State and County Guidelines for the implementation of CEQA.

Location: Mission Canyon on parcels 023-340-021; 023-051-034; 023-051-027; 023-051-020; 023-051-021; 023-051-011; & 023-051-013. Hollister Ranch on parcels 083-700-018 & 083-700-017. El Capitan Canyon Ranch on parcel 081-250-014

Project Title: USFS State & Private Forestry *Euphorbia terracina* Removal Project

Project Description: Removal of the invasive, non-native noxious weed *Euphorbia terracina*. The total net area of the project is approximately two acres.

Exempt Status: Section 15304, Minor Alterations to Land; Section 15307, Actions by Regulatory Agency for Protection of Natural Resources; and Section 15333, Small Habitat Restoration Projects

Reasons to support exemption findings: This project qualifies for an exemption because it does not involve the removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees; it assures the restoration and enhancement of a natural resource; the project is less than 5 acres in size; and there is no impact on listed species. *Euphorbia terracina* is an invasive, non-native California Code of Regulations § 4500 listed noxious weed that has the potential to become a serious rangeland weed pest. Beneficial impacts as a result of the weed removal and passive revegetation is anticipated. Best management practices have been incorporated and there shall be no use of heavy machinery. The measures chosen have been carefully planned to reduce the potential for short-term negative impact to insignificant. The Agricultural Commissioner is a regulatory agency and is conducting this project for the protection of natural resources.

Department Representative: _____



David Chang, Agricultural Program Specialist

Date: Jan. 2, 2014