



County of Santa Cruz

Department of Community Development and Infrastructure

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NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: Clerk of the Board
Attn: Juliette Rezzato
701 Ocean Street, Room 500
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Project Name: Designation of Fire Hazard Severity Zones for Local Responsibility Areas

Project Location: Countywide

Assessor Parcel No.: Not applicable

Project Applicant: County of Santa Cruz

Project Description: Designation of Fire Hazard Severity Zones for Local Responsibility Areas (LRAs) within the unincorporated areas of County Service Areas 4 (CSA 4) and 48 (CSA 48), under the jurisdiction of the Santa Cruz County Fire Department.

Agency Approving Project: County of Santa Cruz

County Contact: Paola Echeverria Telephone No. (831)454-2709

Date Completed: May 1, 2025

This is to advise that the County of Santa Cruz Board of Supervisors has approved the above described project on _____, and found the project to be exempt from CEQA under the following criteria:

Exempt status: (check one)

- ☐ The proposed activity is not a project under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378.
- ☐ The proposed activity is not subject to CEQA as specified under CEQA Guidelines Section 15060 (c).
- ☒ The proposed activity is exempt from CEQA as specified under CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3).
- ☒ **Ministerial Project** involving only the use of fixed standards or objective measurements without personal judgment.
- ☐ **Statutory Exemption** other than a Ministerial Project (CEQA Guidelines Section 15260 to 15285).

Specify type:

☐ **Categorical Exemption**

Class 1

Reasons why the project is exempt:

Adoption of the State's Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ) is required by Government Code Section 51179(a). This section requires local jurisdictions to adopt FHSZ maps designating Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones in Local Responsibility Areas. Pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080(b)(1) and CEQA Guidelines Section 15002(i), this required action constitutes a ministerial action.

In addition, the common sense exemption applies as passage of this ordinance would not have reasonably foreseeable impacts on the environment.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Title: Environmental Coordinator

Revised 5/6/2025