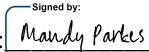


**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>TO: <input type="checkbox"/> Office of Planning and Research<br/>P. O. Box 3044, Room 113<br/>Sacramento, CA 95812-3044</p>              | <p>FROM: Inland Empire Resource Conservation<br/>(Public District<br/>Agency) 25864-K Business Center Drive<br/>Suite K<br/>Redlands, CA</p> |
| <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County Clerk County of San Bernardino<br/>222 West Hospitality Lane<br/>San Bernardino, CA 92415</p> |  |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Project Title:  | Oak Glen Tree of Heaven Removals  |
| 2. Project Applicant:  | Inland Empire Resource Conservation District  |
| 3. Project Location – Identify street address and cross streets or attach a map showing project site (preferably a USGS 15’ or 7 1/2’ topographical map identified by quadrangle name):  | 9611 Oak Glen Road, Building 10<br>Oak Glen, CA 92399   |
| 4. (a) Project Location – City:  | Oak Glen  |
| (b) Project Location – County:   | San Bernardino County   |
| 5. Description of nature, purpose, and beneficiaries of Project:   | IERCD was contracted by the Wildlands Conservancy for the removal of the invasive species, tree of heaven ( <i>Ailanthus altissima</i> ), at the Oak Glen Preserve in Oak Glen. Tree of Heaven has been classified as a moderate invasive plant that can quickly spread and push out native species. IERCD will be removing tree saplings using hand tools such as hand saw and loppers. The exposed cut stumps will then be treated with herbicide using the “cut stump method”. This project will help limit and/or stop the spread of the invasive plant into other parts of the preserve. |
| 6. Name of Public Agency approving project:  | Inland Empire Resource Conservation District  |
| 7. Name of Person or Agency undertaking the project, including any person undertaking an activity that receives financial assistance from the Public Agency as part of the activity or the person receiving a lease, permit, license, certificate, or other entitlement of use from the Public Agency as part of the activity: | Inland Empire Resource Conservation District; Wildlands Conservancy   |
| 8. Exempt status: (check one)  |   |
| (a) <input type="checkbox"/> Ministerial project.  |   |
| (b) <input type="checkbox"/> Not a project.  |   |
| (c) <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Project.  |   |
| (d) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Categorical Exemption.<br>State type and section number:   | Class 4 – State CEQA Guidelines, §15304 Minor Alteration to Land<br><br>Class 8 – State CEQA Guidelines, §15308 Action by Agencies for the Protection of the Environment  |
| (e) <input type="checkbox"/> Declared Emergency.   |   |
| (f) <input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Exemption.<br>State Code section number:  |   |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| (g) <input type="checkbox"/> Other. Explanation:  |  |
| 9. Reason why project was exempt:   | <p>The Project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines § 15304, which consists of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry and agricultural purposes. For this project, the District will be removing and disposing tree saplings and treating the cut stumps with herbicide resulting in minor alterations to the environment.</p> <p>Additionally, the Project is exempt pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines § 15308 which applies to actions taken by agencies to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of the environment. The purpose of the project is to remove the invasive plants to maintain and protect the health of the environment. By removing the tree saplings, the District will be able to limit and/or prevent the further spread of tree of heaven in the preserve.</p> <p>None of the exceptions under State CEQA Guidelines section 15300.2 apply here. Notably, there will be little to no cumulative impacts for this project. Further, for this project, initial biological assessments will be conducted to ensure that living trees and sensitive species will not be damaged. The project will not result in any significant impacts on the environment because it is not located in a particularly sensitive environment nor are there any unusual circumstances. The project will not result in damage to any scenic resources within a state scenic highway, and the project is not located on a hazardous waste site or any other site included on a list compiled pursuant to Government Code section 65962.5. The project will not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.</p> |
| 10. Lead Agency Contact Person:   | Mandy Parkes, District Manager   |
| Telephone:  | (909) 283-7779   |
| 11. If filed by applicant: Attach Preliminary Exemption Assessment (Form "A") before filing. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |
| 12. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>   |  |
| 13. Was a public hearing held by the lead agency to consider the exemption? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/><br>If yes, the date of the public hearing was: September 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2024 |  |

Signature:  Date: 9/24/2024 Title: District Manager

Signed by Lead Agency       Signed by Applicant

Date Received for Filing: \_\_\_\_\_

(Clerk Stamp Here)

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21100, Public Resources Code.  
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.