

## **SUMMARY**

### **AN URGENCY ORDINANCE OF THE MENDOCINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS EXEMPTING THE REMOVAL OF CERTAIN DEAD, DISEASED OR HAZARDOUS TREES FROM DISCRETIONARY REVIEW IN THE COASTAL ZONE DURING THE LOCAL EMERGENCIES RELATED TO CLIMATE CHANGE AND TREE MORTALITY**

This urgency ordinance provides that Hazardous Tree Removal, as that term is defined in the ordinance, is exempt from discretionary review during the declared local emergencies related to tree mortality (declared on November 1, 2022) and climate change (which may be declared on December 19, 2023, prior to the adoption of this ordinance). Based on the facts recited and incorporated by reference into the ordinance, the ordinance will alleviate the effects of climate change and the threats from tree mortality, both of which present a serious threat to the public health and safety of the residents of Mendocino County. Trees subject to the ordinance may be removed by a property owner after the property owner submits an affidavit to the Department of Planning and Building Services. The ordinance would not apply to properties where the California Coastal Commission retains permit jurisdiction. The ordinance does not exempt removal of trees from the application of other laws, including but not limited to the Federal Endangered Species Act, the California Endangered Species Act or regulations of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CalFire).

The ordinance must be adopted on at least a 4/5 vote of the Board. As required by Government Code section 25131, the ordinance contains recitals and findings substantiating the need to adopt the ordinance on an urgency basis.