



State of California  
 The Natural Resources Agency  
 California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

**2019070316**

<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>	Shadequarter Mastication Project		
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>	Sections 4, 5, 8, 9, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 26, 27 T16S, R28E and Section 32 T15S, R28E, MDB&M	<b>COUNTY</b>	Tulare
<b>LEAD AGENCY</b>	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
<b>CONTACT</b>	Len Nielson		
<b>ADDRESS</b>	CAL FIRE CSR Fresno 1234 E Shaw Ave, Fresno, CA 93710	<b>PHONE</b>	(559) 243-4126

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

This project is located 1 mile south east from Shadequarter Mountain, CA; 4 miles north from Three Rivers, CA; and 23 miles north east from Visalia, CA. The vegetation consists of stands of mixed chaparral, canyon live oak and Valley Oak woodlands. The project area is in the middle of the Foothill Woodland and Mixed Chaparral communities. Elevation ranges from approximately 1,000 – 4,200 feet. This proposed project will include treating Fire Control Roads using a masticator, roadside brushing, pile burning and existing road surface repair (roadbed grading). The fuel break will encompass a total of 305 acres, and will be up to 200 feet wide. Project specifics include mastication up to 100 feet on either side of the existing road. Where the slope is too steep for the heavy equipment the roadside brush clearing will be conducted by hand crews. Cut vegetation will be piled and burned on site when appropriate and on allowable burn days. Large mature trees will not be removed. This project will decrease the density of heavy chaparral and live oak thickets and will reduce existing fuel loads to create and maintain a safer fuel level providing greater defensible space for ingress and egress.

**EXEMPTION STATUS**

- Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4 §15304 Minor Alterations to Land
- Statutory Exemption (state code section):
- Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
- Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
- Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

**REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT**

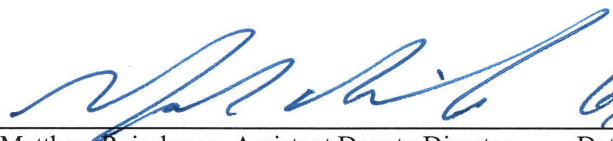
This project fits under portions of Class 4, § 15304 - Minor Alterations to Land Categorical Exemption to CEQA. Field review by CAL FIRE staff confirmed that no exceptions apply that would preclude the use of a notice of exemption for this project. The Department has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland or timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation or traffic, or to utilities and service systems. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at CALFIRE's Tulare Unit Headquarters 1968 South Lovers Lane, Visalia CA 93292.

**DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING**

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

**JUN 14 2019**

**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**

 6/11/19

Matthew Reischman, Assistant Deputy Director Date  
 California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection