

**Notice of Exemption****Appendix E**

**To:** Office of Planning and Research  
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk

County of: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**From:** (Public Agency): Sierra Nevada Conservancy  
11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205  
Auburn, CA

(Address)

Project Title: King Fire Restoration Project

Project Applicant: Eldorado National Forest

**Project Location - Specific:**

The project area is located in the central Sierra Nevada mountain range north of Pollock Pines, California and east of Foresthill, California. Centered near 38°57'36.5"N 120°31'17.6"W.

Project Location - City: North of Pollock Pines Project Location - County: Placer & El Dorado

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

See attached page.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: U.S. Forest Service, Eldorado National Forest

**Exempt Status: (check one):**

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: \_\_\_\_\_
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: Public Resources Code Section 4799.05(d)(1)

Reasons why project is exempt:

See attached page.

**Lead Agency**

Contact Person: Jamie Sammut Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (530) 823-4688

**If filed by applicant:**

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project?  Yes  No

Signature:  Date: 9/10/19 Title: Deputy Executive Officer

Signed by Lead Agency  Signed by Applicant

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.  
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: **SEP 10 2019**

**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of the Project:**

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy will provide funding to the U.S. Forest Service, Eldorado National Forest, to complete forest fuel reduction activities in areas affected by the 2014 King Fire. This project will include forest fuel reduction, including the management of shrubs and dead trees. Project treatments will involve initial fuel reduction activities on approximately 1,810 acres, including skidding and piling of large material and mastication or piling of small material. The secondary treatments on these acres will include shrub control on 1,515 acres and biomass removal on 251 acres. These activities will reduce the risk of high-severity wildfire and support forest restoration on the Eldorado National Forest, promoting forest health and resiliency during future wildfire events.

**Reasons why Project is exempt:**

CEQA does not apply to prescribed fire, thinning, or fuel reduction projects undertaken on federal lands to reduce the risk of high-severity wildfire that have been reviewed under the federal NEPA if the primary role of a state or local agency is providing funding or staffing for those projects. SNC will obtain funding from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and provide it to the U.S. Forest Service to reduce forest fuels on 1,810 acres of federal land in the Eldorado National Forest. The project activities have been analyzed by the U.S. Forest Service pursuant to NEPA. A NEPA Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was prepared for the project and a Record of Decision was signed by the Eldorado National Forest on September 2, 2015. Proposed project activities were evaluated in the NEPA EIS.