

Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 212
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: (Public Agency) Sierra Nevada Conservancy
11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205
Auburn, CA 95603

County Clerk
County of

(Address)

Project Title: Revenant Fuel Reduction Project

Project Location - Specific:

The project is located in the Eldorado National Forest near the unincorporated community of Quintette in El Dorado County.

Project Location - City: Quintette

Project Location - County: El Dorado County

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) would provide funding to the U.S. Forest Service, Eldorado National Forest to implement forest fuel reduction treatments on 700 acres of land in the Eldorado National Forest. These treatments include follow-up tractor piling of surface fuels in 700 acres mechanically thinned as part of this project. As a secondary treatment, it would also remove biomass that was yarded to landings through commercial and non-commercial mechanical thinning treatments on 500 acres, and transport it to a biomass energy generation facility. These treatments will improve forest health across the project area to effectively reduce the risk of large potentially damaging wildfires.

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:

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 would provide funding to the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) to reduce forest fuels on 700 acres of federal land. The project activities have been analyzed by the U.S. Forest Service pursuant to NEPA in the Quintette Fuel Reduction Project Environmental Assessment (EA) and Decision Notice/Finding of No Significant Impact in 2007. In July 2019, the USFS prepared a Supplemental Information Report to evaluate changed conditions since the completion of the EA, consistent with the Forest Service Handbook, which determined that the analysis and decision in the EA remains sufficient and valid.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Andrea N. Williams, PMP Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (530) 823-4682

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: [Handwritten Signature] Date: 9/10/19 Title: Deputy Executive Officer

Signed by Lead Agency Date received for filing at OPR:
Signed by Applicant