

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 Butte
155 Nelson Ave
Oroville, CA 95965-3411

(Address)

Project Title: Cohasset Watershed Forest Resilience Project (SNC 1225)

Project Location - Specific:

The approximately 3,750-acre project area is located on the Cohasset Ridge in northeastern Butte County bordering on Tehama County. The project would take place on private land within the community of Cohasset. 39°55'45.0"N 121°43'16.3"W

Project Location - City: Cohasset Community Project Location - County: Butte

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy would provide funding in the amount of \$100,000 to the Butte County Fire Safe Council to develop a Forest Health Management Plan (FMP) for 3,750 acres, and CEQA environmental review for wildfire fuels treatments on a minimum of 862 acres. This FMP and environmental compliance would support future implementation of the Cohasset Watershed Forest Resilience Project with the goal of achieving healthy and resilient landscapes, erosion control, flood protection, water storage, and increased public safety by lessening the risk of severe wildfires around local communities and cultural sites.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Butte County Fire Safe Council

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: Section 15306, "Information Collection"
Statutory Exemptions. State code number: Section 15262, "Feasibility and Planning Studies"

Reasons why project is exempt:

This is a planning project involving the preparation of a forest management plan and environmental analysis documents; it does not involve physical alterations to the environment. Specific actions include public engagement, management planning, and preparation of a CEQA document that evaluates future possible actions. However, those actions have not been approved, and the completion of these planning activities will not have a legally binding effect on future activities.

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: [Signature] Date: 3/6/2020 Title: Deputy Executive Officer

- Signed by Lead Agency
Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR: Governor's Office of Planning & Research

MAR 10 2020

Revised 2005