

**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: Fresno / Tulare  
2221 Kern Street / 221 South Mooney B  
Fresno, CA 93721 / Visalia, CA 93291

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

Project Title: Grant Grove Big Stump Ecological Restoration Project, Phase One (SNC 1246)Project Applicant: Great Basin Institute

Project Location - Specific:

Treatments are centered at approximately 36°43'53.56"N and 118°59'27.24"W on the Sequoia Lake Conference of YMCA property on the N and NE side of Sequoia Lake

Project Location - City: Wilsonia, CA Project Location - County: Fresno and Tulare

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) would provide \$936,670 in funding for forest fuels treatments. Treatment activities would occur on 199 acres of a 704-acre site on private land around Sequoia Lake. The treatments would include mastication of heavy fuel loading, clearing ingress/egress, removal of previously decked logs, and prescribed broadcast burning. Treatment activities would comply with environmentally-protective measures required in a CAL FIRE-approved burn plan. A portion of the funding would also be used for hand thinning, site preparation for pile burning, and prescribed fire on 843 acres of federal lands that have been analyzed under NEPA.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Sierra Nevada ConservancyName of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Great Basin InstituteExempt Status: **(check one):**

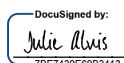
- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Section 15304, Class 4, Minor Alterations to Land
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project would result in minor alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation associated with forestry management activities, including prescribed broadcast burning. The project applicant has incorporated environmentally protective measures into the project. The proposed activities would improve the health and fire-resiliency of the site without materially changing the appearance, use, or environmental conditions of the project area. A portion of the funding would also be used for hand thinning, site preparation for pile burning, and prescribed fire on 843 acres of federal lands that have been analyzed under NEPA; however, CEQA does not apply to these activities pursuant to PRC Section 4799.05(d)(1).

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:  Julie Alwis Date: 6/4/2020 Title: Deputy Executive Officer

 Signed by Lead Agency  Signed by Applicant

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: \_\_\_\_\_