



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

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	Forbestown Fuel Reduction		
PROJECT LOCATION	Portions of Sections 14,15,16,17,22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 T19N R5E Sections 18, 19 T19N R6E MDB&M	COUNTY	Butte
PUBLIC AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	CALFIRE's BTU Office		
ADDRESS	176 Nelson Ave Oroville, Ca 95965	PHONE	530-538-7111 office

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project Description and Environmental Setting (Describe the project activities, project site and its surroundings, its location, and the environmental setting): The Hurlleton portion of the project is located within the Wildland Urban Interface community of Hurlleton. This project involves the hand clearing of brush, small trees (trees less than 10" in diameter) and dead woody debris (snags less than 10" in diameter), approximately 5-15% of the basal area present, in areas of Hurlleton Rd., and Black Bart Rd. to reduce the fire hazard and fuel loading along proposed escape routes. Fuel breaks shall be constructed adjacent to structures, and within 200' of public permanent and seasonal roads to reduce fuel loading along proposed escape routes, for a total of 182 acres. Fuels can be chipped, or lopped and scattered. This project is all hand cutting and removal, no alteration of the stream bed, bank or channel shall occur within this project area. The proposed work period (hand cutting, lopping, and chipping) for this project is scheduled for 2020. This project funded by CAL FIRE through the California Climate Investments Fire Prevention Program. The grant agreement number is 5GG17125 and the grantee is the Butte County Fire Safe Council.

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

The project is classified as a Categorical Exemption, Class 4, section 1504 minor alterations to land. The project consists of the hand clearing of brush, small trees (trees less than 10" in diameter) and dead woody debris (snags less than 10" in diameter) along major escape routes and travel ways within the area of Hurlleton Rd. and Black Bart Rd. to reduce fire hazard and create fuel breaks. Approximately 11% of the fuel break area within the project will be treating vegetation around habitable structures for fire safe clearance. Sensitive environments, unusual circumstances, scenic highway, historical resources or hazardous waste sites are not located within the project area. Thus, the project fits classification as a categorical exemption, Class 4, section 1504, minor alterations to land. Field review and office research conducted by Sierra Timber Services on behalf of Butte County Fire Safe Council and CAL FIRE confirmed that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. I have concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/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/traffic, or to utilities and service systems. Documentation of the environmental review complete by Sierra Timber Services on behalf of Butte County Fire Safe Council and CAL FIRE is kept on file at 1600 Feather River Blvd., Suite B, Oroville, Ca 95965 and CAL FIRE's BTU office, 176 Nelson Avenue, Oroville, Ca, 95965.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING



MATHEW REISCHMAN, ASSISTANT DEPUTY DIRECTOR
 California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

6/30/2020
 DATE