

# Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

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  
(Address)

County Clerk  
County of: Calaveras  
891 Mountain Ranch Road  
San Andreas, CA 95249

Project Title: Pine Ridge- Summit Fuelbreak Maintenance Project (SNC1284) (SCH 2020090227)

Project Location – Specific:  
Southeast of Portola, CA, West of Sierra Valley, East of Gold Mountain Resort Community

Project Location - City: southeast of Railroad Flat, CA in central Calaveras County; Lat-Long: 38.313894 -120.452274  
Project Location - County: Calaveras

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy will provide grant funding to the Calaveras County Resource Conservation District to implement the Pine Ridge-Summit Fuelbreak Maintenance Project. The project would implement fuel reduction to maintain a 144-acre, six-mile-long fuelbreak constructed in 2015 during the Butte Fire. Fuel treatments would remove ladder fuels, thin existing stands, and improve vegetation diversity by removing dominant and codominant species. Vegetation removal would be conducted by hand crews, with chainsaws, pruning saws, mechanical chippers, and masticators. Vegetation debris would be loped and scattered by hand along steep slopes, and piles would be burned. The project is proposed by the Calaveras County Resource Conservation District. Fuelbreak maintenance would protect the nearby Blue Mountain communities and support a regional fuel break system. California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection filed a NOE under Class 4, 15304 Minor Alterations to Land in September 2020 (SCH 2020090227)

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Calaveras County Resource Conservation District

Exempt Status: Categorical Exemption: 15304 Minor Alterations to Land

Reasons why project is exempt:

Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15304, Class 4, minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of mature, scenic trees except for forestry and agricultural purposes are exempt from CEQA. The minor land alterations proposed by the project consist of forestry treatments to reduce hazardous fuels and improve forest health. The project has been reviewed and would not result in significant adverse effects.

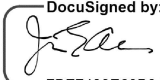
Lead Agency

Contact Person: Shannon Ciotti

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (530) 906-7345

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

DocuSigned by:  
  
 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 3/3/2022 Title: Chief Deputy Executive Officer  
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Signed by Lead Agency: Yes

Signed by Applicant: No

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code. Date received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_  
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.