

# Notice of Exemption

**To:**  Office of Planning and Research State  
State Clearinghouse  
1400 Tenth Street, Room 113  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**From:** Department of Fish and Wildlife  
**WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD**  
P.O. Box 944209  
Sacramento, CA 99244-2090

**County Clerk (County of):** N/A

**Attention:** Judah Grossman

**Project Title:** Yosemite Area Forest Restoration, Phase 2, Project ID: 2020139

**Project Applicant:** Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB)

**Project Location - Specific:** Yosemite National Park and the community of Yosemite West approximately 5 miles west of El Portal.

**Project Location – Nearby city:** El Portal

**Project Location - Counties:** Mariposa

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:** This project will enhance forest health and reduce hazardous fuels through selective thinning activities on approximately 2,153 acres of mixed conifer forest.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Department of Fish and Wildlife, WCB

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** John P. Donnelly, Executive Director, WCB

**Exempt Status:** (Check One)

- Ministerial (Sec. 15268):
- Declared Emergency [Sec. 15269 (a)]:
- Emergency Project [Sec. 15269 (b) and (c)]: Actions to prevent and mitigate an emergency.
- Categorical Exemption. State Section number and type: 15301 Existing Facilities and 15304 Minor Alterations to Land.
- Statutory Exemptions, State code Number: PRC Section 4799.05(d)

**Reasons why project is exempt:**

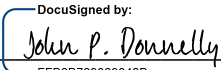
The portion of the project to be conducted in Yosemite National Park is on federal land. Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 4799.05, subdivision (d), CEQA does not apply to prescribed fire, thinning, or fuel reduction projects undertaken on federal lands to reduce the risk of high-severity wildfire that have been reviewed under the federal National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), under specified circumstances. On February 7, 2020, the Secretary of the California Natural Resources Agency certified that the exemption in Public Resources Code Section 4799.05 should remain in effect. NEPA review for the work to be conducted under the project has been completed through Final Yosemite Fire Management Plan Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Record of Decision (ROD) prepared by Yosemite National Park and signed on August 1, 2004. The proposed activities are within the scope of the EIS and ROD. The portion of the project to be conducted in the community of Yosemite West entails prevention and mitigation of an emergency, maintenance of existing facilities, and minor alterations to land and vegetation.

**Lead Agency Contact Person:** John P. Donnelly

**Area Code/Telephone/Extension:** (916) 445-0137

**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 (by this notice)  No

Signature:  \_\_\_\_\_  
DocuSigned by:  
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Date: 2/25/2021

Title: Executive Director

## Notice of Exemption

Signed by Lead Agency  Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.  
Reference: Section 21108, 21152, 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

**Date received for Filing:**

cc: WCB Binder  
WCB surname  
Chron