



TOWN OF MAMMOTH LAKES
P.O. Box 1609, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546
Phone (760) 965-3630 | Fax (760) 934-7493
<http://www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov/>

Notice of Exemption

To: State Clearinghouse
Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, 1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk
County of Mono
P.O. Box 237
Bridgeport, CA 93517

Project Title: Lakes Basin Connector Trails

Project Location – Specific: Town of Mammoth Lakes; Mammoth Lakes Basin; (T4S, R27E, Sections 8 & 9)

Project Location – City: Mammoth Lakes

Project Location – County: Mono

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: (1) Reconstruct and Designate 2.5 miles of user-created multi-use, non-motorized trails identified as not adhering to sustainable design standards. Natural surface trails will be built to U.S. Forest Service, Trail Class 3, Pack and Saddle specifications; 18"- 48" wide, *non-wilderness*. (2) User-created trail rehabilitation and closure of about 3 miles of trails to discourage further use and minimize erosion. Rehabilitation measures can include naturalizing unauthorized trails by utilizing local downed woody materials and duff to scatter materials over trails and discourage continued use without soil disturbance or decompaction. It is anticipated that trail construction and improvement work will be implemented starting Spring of 2021 and into 2022. Project implementation and ongoing long-term maintenance will occur in partnership with the Town of Mammoth Lakes under authorization of the Mammoth Ranger District.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Town of Mammoth Lakes, Inyo National Forest

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Town of Mammoth Lakes

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): Guidelines Section 15304(a), Minor Alterations to Land
- Statutory Exemptions (State code number):

Reason why project is exempt: This project is categorically exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15304 which exempts projects consisting of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation and do not involve the removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes. Additionally, none of the exceptions set forth in CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 are present. The U.S. Forest Service has provided a Categorical Exclusion (NEPA) Decision Memo for this project as the land manager and project lead.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Joel Rathje, Trails Manager

Phone: (760) 914-1769

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: Joel Rathje

Date: April 23, 2021

Title: Trails Manager

- Signed by Lead Agency
- Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR: