

Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 212
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: Sierra Nevada Conservancy
11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205
Auburn, CA 95603

County Clerk
County of: Butte
155 Nelson Avenue
Oroville, CA 95965-3411

Project Title: Forbestown Forest Resilience Project

Project Location – Specific: Private lands along Forbestown Ridge within the Forbsetown Ridge Planning Area - SNC 1343

Project Location - City: Clipper Mills, CA

Project Location - County: Butte

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) would provide funding to the Butte County Fire Safe Council to create forest resilience on a minimum of 219 acres within the wildland-urban interface (WUI) of the greater Forbestown Ridge Planning Area in the community of Clipper Mills. The project aims to prevent catastrophic wildfire by restoring forest ecosystems from overstocked conditions through forest thinning on multiple private properties. Thinning treatments would include manual and mechanical treatment activities and biomass chipping. The project is a priority as the Forbestown Ridge is one of the three remaining ridges in Butte County that have not endured catastrophic wildfire and because of its proximity to the Merry Mountain Village Homeowners Association in the WUI.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Butte County Fire Safe Council

Exempt Status:

Categorical Exemption. CEQA Guidelines Section 15304

Reasons why project is exempt:

The Forbestown Forest Resilience Project is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15304, Class 4, which consists of 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. The minor land alterations proposed by the project consist of forestry treatments to improve forest health and resilience. The project was reviewed and would not result in significant adverse effects on the environment or any exceptions to the exemption.

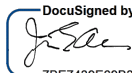
Lead Agency

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: 7/15/2021 Title: Deputy Executive officer

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.