

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

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
25 County Center Drive, Suite 200
Oroville, CA 95965

Project Title: Feather Falls Post-Fire Project (SNC1286-RC)

Project Location – Specific: Feather Falls National Recreation Trail, Trailhead, and Campground in the Plumas National Forest

Project Location - City: Feather Falls Project Location - County: Butte County

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy will provide grant funding to the Mooretown Rancheria of the Maidu Indians of California (Mooretown) Cultural Department to conduct a comprehensive cultural resource survey of the Feather Falls National Recreation Trail, Trailhead, and Campground located on the Plumas National Forest in Butte County. Under a master stewardship agreement with the USDA Forest Service-Plumas National Forest, they will fill critical shortages in Forest Service capacities and provide cultural resource management training for tribal members. The North Complex fire burned Feather Falls Scenic Area destroying all 7.3 miles of trail, 3 bridges, the scenic overlook, the recreation facilities located at the trailhead and campground as well as causing 90-100% tree mortality. The results of this survey will inform future undertakings to protect cultural resources, mitigate hazard trees, remove subsequent hazardous fuels, reforestation, and restoration of recreation infrastructure.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Mooretown Rancheria of the Maidu Indians of California

Exempt Status: Statutory Exemptions. State code number: Section 15262 (Feasibility and Planning Studies)

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project is Statutorily Exempt under Section 15262, Feasibility and Planning Studies of the CEQA Guidelines. This project involves only the planning studies for possible future actions which the Sierra Nevada Conservancy has not approved, adopted, or funded. The project is also categorically exempt under CEQA Section 15306, Information Collection (Class 6) because it consists of basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. The proposed activities are for information gathering purposes, or as part of a study leading to an action which a public agency has not yet approved, adopted, or funded.

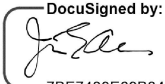
Lead Agency

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

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.