



# Notice of Exemption

## Trinity County Resource Conservation District

Post Office Box 1450 · 30 Horseshoe Lane · Weaverville, CA 96093-1450

**PROJECT TITLE** Trinity County Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project - Phase 2, Weaverville Area (3100701)

**PROJECT LOCATION** Weaverville, Trinity County, California. T33N, R10W, portions of sections 11, 13, 14, and 24 (Humboldt Base and Meridian). **COUNTY** Trinity

**LEAD AGENCY** Trinity County Resource Conservation District (The District)

**CONTACT** Chris Cole, Program Manager [ccole@tcrd.net](mailto:ccole@tcrd.net) **PHONE** 530-623-6004  
**ADDRESS** P.O Box 1450, Weaverville, CA 96093

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The Trinity County Resource Conservation District (the District) plan to implement fuels reduction activities in the form of hand thinning and roadside chipping on an approximately 823-acre footprint associated with this project along Highway 299, Democrat Gulch, and nearby roads in Weaverville, Trinity County, CA. This project is an integral part of the District’s landscape strategy aimed at protecting Trinity County communities from future catastrophic wildfire events and returning the landscape to a healthy, less hazardous state. Fuel Reduction treatments will be strategically implemented along roadsides and adjacent to habitable structures and critical infrastructure to protect the life and property of residents of Weaverville as well as to provide safe evacuation routes and ease of firefighter access and suppression efforts. The project area includes portions of many different private landowners within the WUI, and our objective is to treat ≤100 acres over a 3-5 year period. Topography is mostly gentle (15%-45%) throughout much of the project area, with some steeper areas farther from South Fork Road, and elevations range from approximately 2000’-3000’.

The prescription includes hand thinning of small diameter (less than 10” DBH) conifers and shrubs that are adjacent to habitable structures, critical infrastructure, and/or roadways and driveways. Emphasis will be placed on eliminating the continuity of surface and ladder fuels. Some sub canopy trees may be removed to break up vertical continuity to dominant trees as well as to raise the canopy base height, which will reduce future fire intensity. Cut materials will be bucked and carried to the chipper whenever feasible and then chipped and broadcasted on site. Any remaining material that cannot be chipped will be lop-and-scattered on site.

**EXEMPTION STATUS**

- Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4 § 15304  
Minor Alterations to Land
- Statutory Exemption (state code section):
- Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
- Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
- Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

**REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT**

It has been determined that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. This project is consistent with the requirements stated in Section 15304; Minor Alterations to land, and will have no significant environmental impacts to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, or to utilities and service systems.

**DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING**



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Kelly Sheen  
District Manager 3-1-22