



Notice of Exemption

Trinity County Resource Conservation District

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

PROJECT TITLE	Northern Trinity County Forest Resilience Partnership (3100600): Lake Forest and Reading Indian Creek Areas		
PROJECT LOCATION	Trinity County, California. Lake Forest: Sections 3,4,7, & 8, T34N, R8W, MDM; S 1, 14, 22, 34, & 36, T35N, R9W, MDW; S 6, 7, 8, 17, 18, 19, & 30, T35N, R9W, MDM	COUNTY	Trinity
	Reading-Indian Creek: T 32N, R 8W, S 30; T 32N, R 9W, S 18, 25- 28, 30, 33, 34; and T 32N, R 10W, S 12, MDM		
LEAD AGENCY	Trinity County Resource Conservation District (the District)		
CONTACT	Chris Cole, Program Manager 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) plans to implement fuels reduction and forest resilience treatments in the form of manual thinning and piling, mastication, and pile and broadcast burning in the Lake Forest and Reading Indian Creek areas in 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, returning the county's forests to a healthy condition, and reintroducing good fire to the landscape. Fuel Reduction treatments will be strategically implemented in overstocked stands in or near the WUI that will contribute to community protection based on topography and historical fire patterns. The project will be implemented on land managed by the Bureau of Land Management and United States Forest Service and includes treatments on approximately 1,150 acres over 3-5 years.

The prescription includes hand thinning and mastication of small diameter (less than 10" DBH) conifers and shrubs. 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 bucked and piled, lopped and scattered, or masticated depending on topography and fuel conditions. These treatments will be followed with pile and/or broadcast burns to maintain or improve forest stand conditions.

EXEMPTION STATUS

- Categorical Exemption Type/Section:
- Statutory Exemption (state code section): SB 901
- 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 Senate Bill 901: It is a fuel reduction project intended to reduce the risk of high-severity wildfire, located on federal land, and covered by completed NEPA documents. NEPA compliance is under the "Lake Forest Fuels Project" Decision Memo prepared by Shasta-Trinity National Forest and the "Reading-Indian Creek Oak Woodland Restoration" Environmental Assessment prepared by the Bureau of Land Management Redding Field Office.



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DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

Kelly Sheen
District Manager

Date