



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): Weaver Basin, Oregon Fire, and Little Browns Creek Areas		
PROJECT LOCATION	Trinity County, California. Little Browns Creek: Township 33N Range 9W Section 20, 19 (MDM). Weaver Basin: Township 34N, Range 10W, sections 14, 23, 24, 27, 34, and 36 (MDM); Township 33N, Range 10W, sections 1, 2 (MDM); Township 33N, Range 9W, section 6 MDM; Township 34N, Range 9W, sections 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34 (MDM). Oregon Fire: Township 33N Range 9W Section 6; Township 33N R10W Section 1, 2 (MDM)	COUNTY	Trinity
LEAD AGENCY	Trinity County Resource Conservation District (the District)		
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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, site prep, planting, mastication, and pile and broadcast burning in the Weaver Basin and Little Browns Creek areas of 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 350 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 be 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. In previously burned areas, treatments may include site preparation and tree planting.

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 "Oregon Fire Salvage and Reforestation" Decision Memo filed by Shasta-Trinity National Forest; the "Weaverville Community Forest Fuels and Recreation Project, Phase 1" Decision Memo filed by Shasta-Trinity National Forest; and the "Little Browns Creek Fuels Reduction" EA filed by Bureau of Land Management Redding Field Office.



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DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING



Kelly Sheen
District Manager



Date