

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: Modoc
204 S. Court Street, Suite 106
Alturas, CA 96101

Project Title: South Warner Wilderness Fire Restoration Project – SNC1371

Project Location – Specific: Over 70,200 acres of public lands encompassing the entire South Warner Wilderness within the Modoc National Forest

Project Location - City: Alturas

Project Location - County: Modoc

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project: The Sierra Nevada Conservancy would provide funding for planning surveys and monitoring as well as NEPA analysis including evaluations for archaeology, wildlife, aquatics, botany, and fire and fuels leading to a decision notice. The South Warner Wilderness Fire Restoration Project proposes to use adaptive management activities such as low intensity fire, primitive hand tools, and will utilize and reflect the traditional cultural management practices of the indigenous peoples of the area including but not limited to low intensity prescribed burns, ladder fuels reduction, juniper reduction, aspen restoration, and grassland restoration within the over 70,200 acres of the South Warner Wilderness. Implementation of the project would result in restoring fire back into the ecological system promoting resilience, adaptability and preservation of the wilderness infrastructure and resources.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: USDA Forest Service, Modoc National Forest

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 State CEQA Guidelines. This project involves only planning studies for possible future actions which the Sierra Nevada Conservancy Board 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.

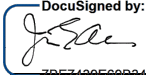
Lead Agency

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: _____
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Date: 6/3/2022

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.