

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 212
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: (Public Agency) Sierra Nevada Conservancy
11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205
Auburn, CA 95603

(Address)

County Clerk
County of: Placer
2954 Richardson Drive
Auburn, CA 95603

Project Title: Nyack Fuels Reduction and Infrastructure Protection Project – Phase 1 – SNC1401

Project Location – Specific: Within a 3-mile corridor south of Interstate Highway 80 (I-80) from the Yuba Gap freeway exit at the north end, west towards Casa Loma and along the North Fork of the American River on the American River Ranger District of the Tahoe National Forest.

Project Location - City: Near rural communities of Alta, Baxter, and Casa Loma Project Location - County: Placer

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project: The Sierra Nevada Conservancy would provide funding for Phase 1 of the Nyack Fuels Reduction and Infrastructure Protection Project which would implement a minimum of 725 acres of hazardous fuels reduction involving a combination of hand thinning and mastication to reduce wildfire risk around important ingress and egress routes and improve forest health and structure with a three-mile corridor south of I-80 immediately adjacent to the North Fork of the American River. The project would also reduce wildfire risk immediately around the North Fork Campground, North Fork American River, private properties in the rural communities of Alta, Baxter and Casa Loma, the Blue Canyon Airport, and immediate infrastructure along I-80.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: National Forest Foundation in partnership with the Tahoe National Forest

Exempt Status: Statutory Exemption: Public Resources Code Section 4799.05(d)(1)

Reasons why project is exempt: CEQA does not apply to prescribed fire, thinning, or fuel reduction projects undertaken on federal lands to reduce the risk of high-severity wildfire that have been reviewed under NEPA if the primary role of a state or local agency is providing funding or staffing for those projects. The Sierra Nevada Conservancy would provide funding to conduct fuel reduction activities on a minimum of 725 acres of federal lands within the Tahoe National Forest. The actions to be undertaken by this project were reviewed in their entirety pursuant to NEPA through the Nyack Vegetation, Wildlife Habitat, and Fuels Management Categorical Exclusion and associated Decision Memo in accordance with 36 CFR 220.6(f) that was made available on March 3, 2020.

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: 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.