

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

State of California  
The Natural Resources Agency  
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>	Trinity Community Protection & Landscape Resilience Phase 2 Grant: Restoration (USDA Forest Service)		
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>	All or portions of sections 4-10, 15-22, and 28-33 in T. 34 N., R. 8W.; sections 4-8, 17 and 18 in T. 33 N., R. 8 W.; section 1 in T. 33 N., R. 9 W.; and sections 1-4, 2, 9-16, 21-26, 35 and 36 in T. 34 N., R. 9 W. & sections 15, 16, 18-21, and 29 in T. 27 N, R. 11 W; Mount Diablo Meridian.	<b>COUNTY</b>	Trinity
<b>LEAD AGENCY</b>	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
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**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

CAL FIRE would provide funding to The Watershed Research & Training Center in areas that burned to conduct reforestation/tree planting, site prep for planting and biomass removal and utilization. Pre-planting site prep work includes hand thinning, mastication, lop and scatter, hand piling, pile burning, and biomass removal of competing vegetation (mostly brush and dead standing trees). In one area, fuels reduction will occur to establish a shaded fuelbreak. These treatments will reduce wildfire risks to local resources and community members, promote native plant and wildlife species, and improve forest resiliency.

**EXEMPTION STATUS**

- Categorical Exemption Type and Section: Class
- Statutory Exemption (state code section): Public Resources Code Section 4799.05(d)(1)
- Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
- Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
- Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

**REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT**

CEQA does not apply to fuel reduction projects undertaken on federal lands to reduce the risk of high severity wildfire that have been reviewed under the NEPA, if the primary role of a state or local agency is providing funding or staffing for those projects. The proposed project was reviewed in its entirety under three separate NEPA documents: the Pettijohn Late-successional Reserve Habitat Improvement and Fuels Reduction Project Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision signed in March 2013; the August Fire Restoration Project Phase 1 Environmental Assessment and Decision Notice signed in September 2021; and the Trough Fire Recovery Project Decision Memo signed in August 2009.

**DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING**

DocuSigned by:

6/22/2022

John Melvin, Assistant Deputy Director  
Resource Management  
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

Date