

NOTICE OF CEQA EXEMPTION

To: Shasta County Clerk
1643 Market St.
Redding, CA 96001

From: Western Shasta RCD
6270 Parallel Rd,
Anderson, CA 96007
(530) 365-7332

Date: July 9, 2022

Project Title: Shingletown WUI Fuel Treatments Project

Project Location:

Mount Diablo Base & Meridian (MDBM), Township 30N, Range 1W, portions of Sections 1-3, 10-15, & 23-24; T30N, R1E, portions of Section 1-30; T30N, R2E, portions of Sections 1-24 & 27-30; T30N, R3E, portions of Sections 3-10 & 16-20; T31N, R1W, portions of Sections 11-16 & 21-36; T31N, R1E, Sections 1-36; T31N, R2E, Sections 1-36; T31N, R3E, portions of Sections 4-9, 15-22, & 27-34; T32N, R1E, portions of Sections 35-36; T32N, R2E, portions of Sections 31-36; and T32N, R3E, portions of Sections 31 & 32

Project Description:

The project will implement fuel reduction activities to improve the protection of homes, communities and public and private lands from fire while protecting environmental, natural and cultural resources. The project area is an 11,000 acre fuels reduction project in strategic locations within the Shingletown, CA Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) in Shasta County, CA generally located along the Highway 44 corridor from Inwood on the west, Viola on the east, and Manton on the south (*See Project Vicinity and Project Area Maps*). The WUI is an area where human habitation is mixed with areas of flammable wildland vegetation, and the area includes over 2,000 habitable structures. All treatments will occur within the State Responsibility Area (SRA) for fire response with the majority of the project area being Very High Hazard Fire Severity Zone. The target fuels are brush, and small and suppressed trees that act as ladder fuels that allow wildfires to move from the forest floor to the tree canopy making the fire harder to control.

Much of the thinning activity and tree removal will be conducted under California Forest Practice Exemptions. The balance of the treatment activities, including the mastication of brush and small trees, hand treatments of brush and small trees, prescribed fire (broadcast and pile burning) and emergent brush follow-up treatments will be conducted under this Notice of Exemption (NOE).

Exempt Status (Guidelines Section and Class): Categorical Exemption:

15304, which exempts minor alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes.

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Reasons Why Project is Exempt:

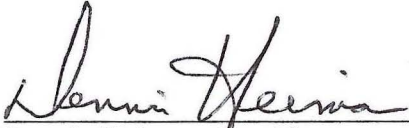
The Western Shasta Resource Conservation District (WSRCD) has reviewed the environmental/specialists' reports prepared by Registered Professional Foresters and other specialists and has determined that the project's implementation will result in multiple benefits, including restoration of the forest, watershed, and wildlife habitat. There will be no significant adverse impacts on endangered, rare, or threatened species or their habitats. There are no hazardous materials at or around the project site. The project will avoid all archeological resource sites. The project will not result in cumulatively significant impacts. The Project will have no significant adverse effect on the environment.

Public Agencies that will be involved with the project:

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
Western Shasta Resource Conservation District

Lead Agency Contact Person:

Maureen Teubert, District Manager
Western Shasta Resource Conservation District
(530) 365-7332 x202

Signature: 
Dennis Heiman, President
Western Shasta Resource Conservation District


Date: 27 July 2022

ATTEST:

I, Sharon McBroom, Clerk of the Board of Directors, Western Shasta Resource Conservation District, do hereby certify that the Western Shasta Resource Conservation District approved this Notice of Exemption on the 27 day of July, 2022 by the following vote:

Ayes: 6
Noes: 0

Abstentions: 0
Absent: 0


Sharon McBroom, Clerk of the Board of Directors
Western Shasta Resource Conservation District