



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

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	California Deer Association Forest Health Grant: Implementing Landscape-Scale Restoration and Reforestation in Klamath National Forest		
PROJECT LOCATION	Klamath National Forest, Gooseneck Ranger District: Located within the Horsethief Creek, Lough Lake, Lower Butte Creek, Prather Creek, and Upper Butte Creek 6th field watersheds. The project is directly west and north of the community of Bray and is approximately eight miles south of Macdoel: Township 44 North, Range 1 West, Sections 2-10, 15-21; Township 45 North, Range 1 West, Sections 15, 17, 20-23, 26-30, 32-35; Township 44 North, Range 2 West, Sections 1-3, 10-14, 23; Township 45 North, Range 2 West, Sections 8, 9, 15, 16, 22-27, 34, 35, Mount Diablo Meridian	COUNTY	Siskiyou
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

CAL FIRE would provide funding to the California Deer Association to conduct juniper fuels reduction, which includes hand or mechanical felling and piling, pile burning, and/or chip and haul for biomass utilization. Junipers over 30 inches in DBH will be left on site to recruit wildlife habitat. Furthermore, the project includes Tennant Fire Reforestation of ponderosa pine dominant stands that were severely impacted by the June 2021 Tennant Fire within the Harlan Project area. Site preparation of the treatment area will be completed mechanically or by hand treatment leaving the largest snags on site to recruit wildlife habitat. Tree seedlings will be planted by hand across the treated acres using planting densities determined by site conditions. 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 the Harlan Project NEPA Environmental Assessment and Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact signed on 2/9/21 and the Harlan Project Supplemental Information Report signed on 1/14/22.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

DocuSigned by:

John Melvin

10/19/2022

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John Melvin, Assistant Deputy Director

Date

Resource Management
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection