



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

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	PDC Fuels Reduction and Training		
PROJECT LOCATION	T22S R28E Sections 5 and 6 MDBM	COUNTY	Tulare
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	David Shy; david.shy@fire.ca.gov		
ADDRESS	1968 S Lovers Ln Visalia CA, 93621	PHONE	559-827-5513

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project is located 1 mile east of the City of Porterville. The project will consist of fuels reduction and training in a valley oak woodland. The goal of this project is to provide a training location for the engines and firefighter hand crews in the Tulare Unit. This training will include the limbing of ladder fuels (at or below 15ft) and decreasing the horizontal continuity of fuels, and handline construction (4ft and below), followed by pile burning and prescribed fire to increase the resiliency of the valley oak woodland habitat to wildfire. The dominate overstory trees are Valley Oaks (*Quercus lobata*), a shrub layer of a mix of native and non-native species: elderberry (*Sambucus mexicana*), *Baccharis salicifolia*, and *Ailanthus altissima*), and the herbaceous layer is a mix of native annual wildflowers and non-native grasses. The Class 4 Campbell-Moreland Ditch is a name historic feature and will have a 50ft heavy equipment buffer, there is an existing road within 50ft that heavy equipment (e.g., fire engine, crew bus) can operate on.

EXEMPTION STATUS

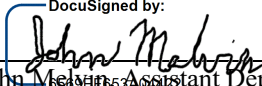
- Categorical Exemption Type and Section: Type and Section:
Class 4 CCR §15304 – Minor
Alterations to Land
- Statutory Exemption (state code section):
- Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
- Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
- Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

This project fits under the Categorical Exemption as described under 14CCR §15304 Minor Alteration to Land. CNDDDB, archeological and field reviews have been conducted for this project. No significant environmental impact is anticipated from this project.

Field review by CAL FIRE staff confirmed that no exceptions apply that would preclude the use of a notice of exemption for this project. The Department has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, energy, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, populations and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/ traffic, utilities, and service systems, or to wildfire. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at 1968 S Lovers Ln, Visalia CA, 93621.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

DocuSigned by:

 John Mahan, Assistant Deputy Director Date
 California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

12/27/2022