



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

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	Clear Lake Environmental Research Center Forest Health Grant: Lake County Fire Resilience Phase I – Mendocino National Forest		
PROJECT LOCATION	Mendocino National Forest, Upper Lake Ranger District: Located about 11 miles southeast of the town of Upper Lake, California, in the foothills to the east and northeast of Lucerne, Glen Haven, and Clearlake Oaks along the north and northeast shoreline of Clear Lake. The project is entirely within the Mendocino National Forest and Berryessa-Snow Mountain National Monument.	COUNTY	Lake
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

CAL FIRE would provide funding to the Clear Lake Environmental Research Center to conduct reforestation and fuel reduction treatments, including mechanical and/or hand treatment, pre-commercial and commercial thinning, mastication, cut-and-pile, and prescribed fire on portions of the burned 288,000 acres of Mendocino National Forest lands within the Ranch Fire perimeter. These treatments will reduce wildfire risks to local resources and community members, promote native plant and wildlife species, and improve forest resiliency.

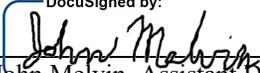
EXEMPTION STATUS

- 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, reforestation, & habitat restoration projects undertaken, in whole or in part, 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 NEPA North Shore Restoration Project Environmental Assessment and Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact signed on October 14, 2022.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

DocuSigned by:

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

1/27/2023

Date