

## Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

**To:** Office of Planning and Research  
P.O. Box 3044, Room 212  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

**From:** Sierra Nevada Conservancy  
11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205  
Auburn, CA 95603

**To:** Nevada County Clerk-Recorder  
Office  
950 Maidu Avenue, Suite 210  
Nevada City, CA 95959

Project Title: 'Inimim Forest Restoration Project – Phase 3 (SNC1507)

Project Location – Specific: Bureau of Land Management property on the San Juan Ridge in Nevada County, about 4 miles north of Nevada City and 3.5 miles east of the community of North San Juan, in the South Yuba River watershed. Project center at approximately 39.343766, -121.012278.

Project Location - City: Approx. 3.5 mi east of North San Juan.

Project Location - County: Nevada

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy would provide funding for the Yuba Watershed Institute to implement understory, ladder, and canopy fuels reduction treatments on approximately 300 acres of the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) 'Inimim Forest. The purpose of the project is to improve landscape-level forest resilience to wildfire, drought, and bark beetles and to improve safety for residents and fire personnel in the event of a wildfire. Activities may include hand cut and pile, hand cut and track chip, mechanical mastication, biomass harvest, and invasive plant removal.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Yuba Watershed Institute

Exempt Status:

Statutory Exemption: Public Resources Code Section 4799.05, subd. (d)(1)

Reasons why project is exempt:

CEQA does not apply to prescribed fire, reforestation, habitat restoration, thinning, or fuel reduction projects, or to related activities included in the project description, undertaken, in whole or in part, on federal lands to reduce the risk of high-severity wildfire that have been reviewed under the federal National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 if the primary role of a state or local agency is providing funding or staffing for those projects. The Sierra Nevada Conservancy would provide funding to conduct fuel reduction activities on federal lands on BLM's 'Inimim Forest. The proposed activities were reviewed in their entirety under NEPA in the 'Inimim Forest Restoration Project

Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). The final Decision Record for the EA/FONSI was signed by the BLM on January 2, 2020.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Mary Akens

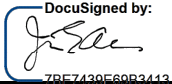
Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 530-450-5177

**If filed by applicant: N/A**

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.

2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project:

Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Signature:  Date: 3/2/2023 Title: Chief Deputy Executive Officer

Signed by Lead Agency: Yes

Signed by Applicant: No

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code. Date received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_

Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.