



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

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>	Alpine Village Fuel Reduction		
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>	T11N, R19E, S35, MDBM	<b>COUNTY</b>	Alpine
<b>LEAD AGENCY</b>	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
<b>CONTACT</b>	Erin Duprey		
<b>ADDRESS</b>	Amador – El Dorado Unit 2840 Mount Danaher Rd Camino, CA. 95709	<b>PHONE</b>	(530) 647-5293

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed 15-acre project is located within the community of Woodfords, California, and is bound by State Route 88 and 89, Barber Road, the West Carson River, and an unnamed diversion ditch. The project area is dominated by native sagebrush habitat of California Wildlife Habitat Relationship (CWHR) Shrub Size 3 and Canopy Closure M. The proposed project will reduce the continuity of sagebrush in effort to reduce hazardous fuel loading and arrangement such that the flame length, intensity, rate of spread, and duration of potential wildfire is reduced. The proposed project will 1) utilize mechanical mastication to reduce the extent of sagebrush on site, targeting 85-90% of the sage for mastication, 2) leave remaining sagebrush in a discontinuous, mosaic arrangement at least 15 feet from the dripline of any conifer such that residual shrubs will not contribute to horizontal or vertical fuels, and 3) prune the existing Jeffrey Pine 5" DBH and greater present within the project area to a minimum height of 10 feet as measured from the lowest live green limb to the top of the surface fuels. Live riparian hardwood and other riparian species will be retained and left unaltered.

### EXEMPTION STATUS

- Categorical Exemption Type and Section: Class 4 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 Categorical Exemption: 15304 Minor Alterations to Land (Class 4) which allows minor alteration of vegetation including fuel management activities to reduce volume of flammable vegetation, provided the activities do not result in the taking of endangered, rare, or threatened plant/animal species or cause significant erosion and sedimentation of waters. The pruning of residual trees will be restricted to those that reduce the vertical and horizontal continuity of fuels, and/or provide for improved ingress/egress in the event of wildfire. The proposed project has been designed to protect hydrology and water and soil resources to prevent significant erosion or sedimentation of waters. The project, as designed, is consistent with the use of a Categorical Exemption.

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 or 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, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation or traffic, utilities and service systems or to wildfire. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at Cal Fire Camino headquarters.

### DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

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*John Melvin*  
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2/23/2023

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