

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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

PROJECT TITLE	Vallecito Conservation Camp Drainage Project		
PROJECT LOCATION	T3N, R13E, Portion of Section 24 MDBM	COUNTY	Calaveras
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The CAL FIRE Vallecito Conservation Camp is in southern Calaveras County, near the community of Vallecito. During heavy precipitation events, the cut-slope behind the dormitories sluffs off and fills the drainage ditch diverting water into the dorms. The project will entail the shaping of the cut-slope to eliminate perched sediment; defining the inside ditch at the base of the cut slope; outsloping and rocking the road between the inside ditch and the dormitories; grading and rocking an existing road above the cut-slope; and defining the inside ditch above the upper road. Excavated material will be stabilized onsite or incorporated into existing roadway. Guniting may be used on the cut slope to help stabilize the slope. The project area is approximately 2,100 feet in elevation. Vegetation surrounding the project area consists of a mixture of native oaks, pines and various planted species. The project area itself has been developed.

EXEMPTION STATUS

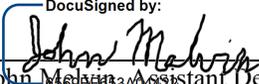
- Categorical Exemption Type and Section: Class 4 15304- Minor Alterations to Land
- Statutory Exemption (state code section):
- Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
- Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
- Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

This project fits under portions of 15304- Minor Alterations to Land. A query of the CNDDDB did not reveal the presence of any sensitive species within the project area, and no sensitive species were observed during site visits. An archaeological records check and survey were conducted, and no cultural resources were discovered within the project area. The project area is located away from watercourses.

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 the CAL FIRE Tuolumne-Calaveras Unit Headquarters in San Andreas.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

DocuSigned by:

John Mahrin, Assistant Deputy Director Date 4/19/2023
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection