NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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

PROJECT TITLE	California Forest Shared Stewardship Support Program Grant: Big Flat Vegetation and Fuels Management Project (USFS)		
PROJECT LOCATION	Smith River National Recreation Area, Six Rivers National Forest: Township 15 North, Range 2 East; and Township 15 North, Range 3 East; Humboldt Meridian.	**COUNTY**	Del Norte
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT ADDRESS	Shannon Johnson PO Box 944246 Sacramento, CA 94244-2460	**PHONE**	916-902-9345

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

CAL FIRE would provide funding to the USDA Forest Service to conduct multiple vegetation treatments, including mechanical thinning, biomass removal, prescribed burning, mastication, and hand and mechanical fuels work. 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 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 Big Flat Vegetation and Fuels Management Project NEPA Environmental Assessment and Decision Notice/Finding of No Significant Impact signed on 9/22/08. NEPA coverage for this project is 1,824 acres, with initial treatments at 199 acres.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

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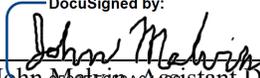
John Melvin, Assistant Deputy Director
Resource Management
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

4/26/2023

Date