

**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

**Project Title:** Bullskin Ridge Fuel Break (SNC #1528)

**Project Location – Specific:**

The proposed project is located in the community of Oak Run, in Shasta County, along a private logging road that runs on the ridge from Bullskin County Road to Phillips County Road, locally known as Bullskin Ridge. The legal description is Sections 16, 15, 10, 11, 12, T35N, R1W MDBM. The community of Oak Run is 1-1.5 miles to the south.

**Project Location – City:** Oak Run, CA

**Project Location - County:** Shasta

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:**

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) will provide funding to implement a shaded fuelbreak to protect the Oak Run community on Sierra Pacific Industries (SPI) and other private timberlands. The purpose of the proposed project is to utilize biomass thinning, mastication, sawlog harvest, and pruning of leave trees to create a shaded fuelbreak along Bullskin Ridge. Bullskin Ridge is a major ridge to the north of the community of Oak Run and would provide a key anchor point to protect the community of Oak Run, the Oak Run Creek watershed, and many homes on either side of the ridge. The total acreage for the fuelbreak is approximately 300: 178 acres on SPI lands and 122 acres on other private, non-industrial timberlands. Herbicide treatment will only be implemented on SPI property. Follow-up mastication will be utilized in lieu of herbicides for the private, non-industrial timberlands.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Sierra Nevada Conservancy

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Shasta County Fire Safe Council

**Exempt Status:**

**Categorical Exemption:** State CEQA Guidelines Section 15304 (Class 4), minor alterations to land

**Reasons why project is exempt:**

The Bullskin Ridge Fuel Break is categorically exempt from the provisions of CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15304 (Class 4). Class 4 is applicable to projects that consist of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation, which do not involve removal of mature, scenic trees except for forestry and agricultural purposes. The minor alterations to vegetation proposed by the project involve forestry treatments to establish a shaded fuelbreak on private lands. Live

tree removal would only occur to create a fuelbreak that would protect the community and the adjacent mixed-age conifer forest habitat. The project will comply with the Forest Practice Rules per Title 14, California Code of Regulations, Chapters 4, 4.5, and 10, California Forest Practice Rules of 2023. None of the exceptions to the categorical exemption apply to the project.

**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:** 6/1/2023

**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.