

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: Magalia Forest and Wildfire Resilience Project (SNC #1547)

Project Location – Specific:

Butte County within the Butte Creek Watershed and adjacent to the 2018 Camp Fire burn scar around the community of Magalia, north of Paradise, Ca.

Project Location – City: Magalia.

Project Location - County: Butte

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) will provide funding to the Butte County Fire Safe Council to implement forest thinning on a minimum of 262 acres of private lands adjacent to the 2018 Camp Fire burn scar. The project will improve forest health and reduce the risk to the community and water resources from damage if another wildfire were to occur in the project vicinity. The project will connect to other nearby forest-resilience projects that are being implemented in Butte County. Fuel-thinning activities will include mastication, hand thinning and chipping, pile burning, broadcast burning, and grazing.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Butte 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 Magalia Forest and Wildfire Resilience Project 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 forest thinning by removing overcrowded trees and achieving 70% canopy cover. Tree removal would occur for forestry purposes to improve fire resilience, reduce potential for erosion, and protect water resources in the event of a wildfire. Butte County filed a Notice of Exemption pursuant to Section 15304 in November 2022. None of the exceptions to the categorical exemption apply to the project.

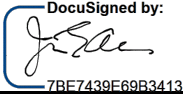
Lead Agency

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:  _____
DocuSigned by:
7BF7439F69B3413

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.