

**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:** American Valley Community Services District Hazardous Fuel Reduction (SNC #1567)

**Project Location – Specific:**

The project is located south and directly adjacent to the town of Quincy in Plumas County. The project will take place on 169 acres of American Valley Community Service District (CSD) land.

**Project Location – City:** Quincy

**Project Location - County:** Plumas

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

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) will provide funding to the Plumas County Fire Safe Council to implement the American Valley CSD Hazardous Fuel Reduction project, which will implement hazardous fuels reduction and forest-health-related activities on approximately 169 acres within the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) adjacent to downtown Quincy. The project will enhance and expand on other nearby projects, which will provide a nearly continuous fuel reduction around the community of Quincy. The project will reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire, increase success of fire-suppression efforts, reduce risk of loss, improve forest health and promote resilience, protect watershed values, increase wildfire preparedness for the surrounding community, and protect critical infrastructure including the water tanks that deliver water to all of downtown Quincy. Methods to reduce fuels will remove trees less than 14 inches in diameter-at-breast-height (DBH) and include hand thinning, hand piling, pile burning, and chipping. In areas within the Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District burn restriction zone, chipping instead of burning will be utilized.

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

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Plumas 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 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 reducing fuel loads in the forest by hand thinning, hand piling, pile burning, and chipping of trees with less than 14-inch DBH. Environmental protective design features have been incorporated into the project and resource surveys have been conducted to ensure none of the exceptions to the categorical exemption apply to the project.

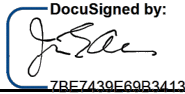
**Lead Agency**

**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.