

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: Sierra Buttes O’Gara-Currens Parcels 33, 34 Acquisition (SNC #1597-LC)

Project Location – Specific: Two undeveloped parcels 1.3 miles east of Loganville, 0.4 miles north of Sierra City, APNs 008-120-033, 008-120-034.

Project Location - City: Sierra City

Project Location - County: Sierra

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy would provide funding for the Sierra County Land Trust (SCLT) to purchase fee title of 40 acres of scenic recreational land located on the southwestern side of the Sierra Buttes. The two parcels are forested, undeveloped vacant land. The Tahoe National Forest is adjacent to the project area to the north and east and makes up much of the general area to the west and northwest. The property is located within the North Fork Yuba River watershed, on a mountainous slope topped by the Sierra Buttes that forms the visible northern backdrop to Sierra City in Sierra County. The open space will be maintained to protect the viewshed of the Pacific Crest Trail and Sierra City, and the SCLT will manage the site for public use consistent with surrounding U.S. Forest Service lands. The SCLT’s goal for the southwestern side of the Sierra Buttes is to protect properties directly above the Sierra City urban area, making them available for public access, while ensuring protection of this high-elevation upper watershed site. As part of the acquisition, the SCLT will create a baseline conditions report and long-term management and monitoring plan.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Sierra County Land Trust

Exempt Status:

Categorical Exemption: Section 15325 Transfers of Ownership of Interest in Land to Preserve Existing Natural Conditions and Historical Resources

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project is categorically exempt from the provisions of CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15325 Transfers of Ownership of Interest in Land to Preserve Existing Natural Conditions and Historical Resources, which consists of the transfers of ownership of interests in land in order to preserve open space, habitat, or historical resources. The intent of this acquisition is to conserve the open space and natural conditions on the property. The SNC has independently reviewed the project and determined that no exception under Section 15300.2 applies.

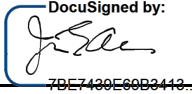
Lead Agency

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.