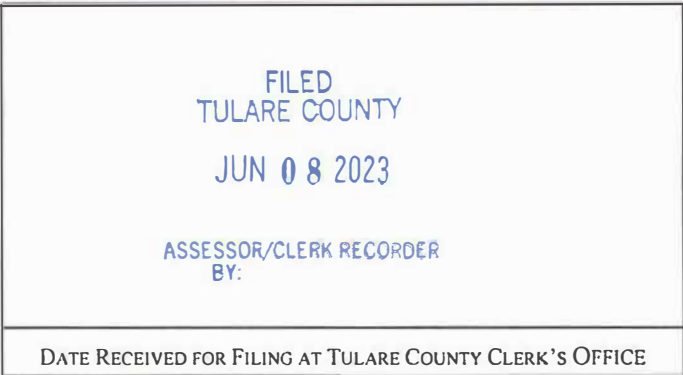


Notice of Exemption

Fee Exempt per Government Code Section 6103

- To: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814
- Tulare County Clerk
Room 105, Courthouse
221 South Mooney Boulevard
Visalia, California 93291



Lead Agency: Tulare County Resource Management Agency
5961 South Mooney Blvd.
Visalia, Ca 93277
Attn: hguerra@tularecounty.ca.gov and jwillis@tularecounty.ca.gov

Applicant(s): County of Tulare c/o Tulare County Fire Department
835 S. Akers St. Ph: 559-802-9800
Visalia, CA 93277

Project Title: Lewis Hill Roadside Prescribed Fire Project.
Project Location - Specific: Unincorporated area between Frazier Valley and Lewis Hill in Tulare County, CA,
Project Location- Section, Township, Range: See Project Location Map, Attachment "A", incorporated herein by reference
Project Location - City: N/A **Project Location - County:** Tulare


Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: The Lewis Hill roadside prescribed fire project will eliminate vegetation along the roadway that pose an imminent fire threat. This area was selected due to the proximity to private property, traffic volume, fire history, and the ability to collaborate efforts across interested parties (Tulare County Roads, Tulare County, and Cal Fire). The proposal satisfies the objectives in the Tulare County Community Wildfire Protection Plan as well as the Tulare Cal Fire Unit Fire Plan. The scope of this project will be vegetation that exists along Road 252 (Plano St.) 25 feet on either side of the pavement on either side of the road from East Reid Ave to Ave 196 (approx. 3.6 miles). The public benefit will be that this project would remove a threat to life, property, and the environment. A project area map is included herein at Attachment "A".

- Exempt Status:** *(check one)*
- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
 - Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
 - Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(c));
 - General Rule: CEQA guidelines 15061 (b)(3)
 - Categorical Exemption: CEQA Guidelines Class 1 Section 15301 Existing Facilities (c)**
 - Statutory Exemptions:

Reasons why project/activity is exempt: The proposed project is excluded or exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) on the grounds that the project is consistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 Class 1, Existing Facilities (c) As noted above, as there is an imminent fire threat, this area was selected due to the proximity to private property, traffic volume, fire history. Further, the project is consistent with Tulare County Community Wildfire Protection Plan as well as the Tulare Cal Fire Unit Fire Plan. Therefore, the application of CEQA Section 15301 is applicable and appropriate for this project.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: County of Tulare, Resource Management Agency

Project Planner/Representative: Jeffrey McLaughlin, Deputy Fire Chief **Area Code/Telephone:** 559-802-9802

Signature:  Date: 6/06/23 Title: Chief Environmental Planner
 Hector Guerra

Signature:  For Reed Schenke, P.E. Date: 6.06.23 Title: Environmental Assessment Officer
 Annon Beck for RMA Director

X Signed by Lead Agency

Submitted for filing at OPR/SCH on: _____

Lewis Hill

