



Notice of Exemption

Trinity County Resource Conservation District

Post Office Box 1450 · 30 Horseshoe Lane · Weaverville, CA 96093-1450

PROJECT TITLE	Southern Trinity Resilience 2023		
	Ruth and Mad River, Trinity County, CA; T01N, R06E, Sections 20-22; 27-29; and 32-34. T02S R07E, Sections 10-15, 22-25, 26. T02S		
PROJECT LOCATION	R08E, Sections 19, 30-32. T03N R08E, Sections 5, 6, 8, 17 (Humboldt Base and Meridian).	COUNTY	Trinity
LEAD AGENCY	Trinity County Resource Conservation District (The District)		
CONTACT	Bethany Llewellyn, Program Manager, bllewellyn@tcrd.net	PHONE	530-623-6004 x220
ADDRESS	P.O Box 1450 Weaverville, CA 96093		

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Trinity County Resource Conservation District (the District) plans to implement fuels reduction activities in the form of hand thinning and roadside chipping on 20-30 acres within a 2,327-acre footprint on private lands in Mad River and Ruth, Trinity County, CA. This project is an integral part of the District's landscape strategy aimed at protecting Trinity County communities from future catastrophic wildfire events and returning the landscape to a healthy, less hazardous state. Fuel Reduction treatments will be strategically implemented along roadsides and adjacent to habitable structures and PG&E powerline infrastructure to protect the life and property of residents of Mad River and Ruth as well as to provide safe evacuation routes and ease of firefighter access and suppression efforts. The project area includes portions of many different private landowners within the WUI, and our objective is to treat approximately 20-30 acres over the summer 2023 season. Topography is mostly gentle (15%-45%) throughout much of the project area and elevations range from approximately 2200'-3000'.

The prescription includes hand thinning of small diameter (less than 10" DBH) conifers and shrubs that are adjacent to habitable structures, critical infrastructure, and/or roadways and driveways. Emphasis will be placed on eliminating the continuity of surface and ladder fuels. Some sub canopy trees may be removed to break up vertical continuity to dominant trees as well as to raise the canopy base height, which will reduce future fire intensity. Cut materials will bucked and carried to the chipper whenever feasible and then chipped and broadcasted on site. Any remaining material that cannot be chipped will be lop-and-scattered on site.

EXEMPTION STATUS

- Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4 § 15304
Minor Alterations to Land
- Statutory Exemption (state code section):
- Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
- Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
- Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

It has been determined that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. This project is consistent with the requirements stated in Section 15304; Minor Alterations to land, and will have no significant environmental impacts to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, or to utilities and service systems.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

Kelly Sheen, District Manager

06/26/2023

Date