



**COUNTY OF LAKE**  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT  
Planning Division  
Courthouse - 255 N. Forbes Street  
Lakeport, California 95453  
Telephone 707/263-2221 FAX 707/263-2225

**FILED**

**December 1, 2023**

JENAVIVE HERRINGTON

COUNTY CLERK  
LAKE COUNTY

By     Ka      
Deputy clerk

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

**TO:** County Clerk Office of Planning & Research  
County of Lake 1400 Tenth Street  
Lakeport, CA 95453 Sacramento, CA 95814-3044

**FROM:** Lake County Community Development Dept.  
255 North Forbes Street  
Lakeport, CA 95453

**PROJECT TITLE:** Soda Bay Corridor Hazard Tree Removal Project

**PROJECT LOCATION:** Soda Bay Road/Point Lakeview Road County Easements  
Soda Bay Rd. Milepost 6.20 to milepost 12.77  
Pt. Lakeview Dr. Milepost 0.45 to 6.68

**APN(s):** All trees are located within the County ROW, but the associated APNs are: 008-029-09, 010-007-33, 010-007-36, 010-007-49, 010-007-57, 010-027-06, 010-027-12, 012-066-14, 012-066-71, 012-066-72, 044-382-02, 044-532-05, 044-532-06, 044-532-16, 045-144-01

**COUNTY:** Lake

**DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT:**

The purpose of this project is to improve public safety and evacuation route readiness by removing hazardous trees and adjacent understory shrub mitigation along 13 miles of Point Lakeview Road and Soda Bay Road (referred to as the Soda Bay Corridor) in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) on CalFire State Responsibility Area (SRA) lands. All identified hazard trees are within the County of Lake right-of-way, roadside easement. Hazard trees are defined as trees that are dead, dying, exhibiting significant defects and/or pose an imminent threat to public safety.

The Soda Bay Corridor has been adversely impacted by a prolonged drought, which has resulted in the loss and degradation of many large, drought weakened, native knobcone pines and non-native gray pines. These trees are highly flammable, and many are presently leaning toward the roadway. These trees are now contributing to the fuel load near this critical infrastructure, which is a primary ingress and egress for a large number of residential communities along the Soda Bay Corridor. The intent of this project is to decrease the threat of these weakened and dead trees



## **COUNTY OF LAKE**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

**Planning Division**

Courthouse - 255 N. Forbes Street

Lakeport, California 95453

Telephone 707/263-2221 FAX 707/263-2225

from inhibiting the critical evacuation route in a time of need and lessen the contribution to fuel load along this vulnerable corridor, as to reduce the threat of and during a significant wildfire event.

This project proposes the cutting and removal of approximately 100 hazard trees along the corridor by a licensed contractor. The removed wood will be delivered to an off-site location for disposal. The trees have been mapped and photographed.

There will be no disturbance of known rare, threatened or endangered species or significant cultural resources.

**NAME OF PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING PROJECT:** Lake County Community Development Department

**NAME OF PERSON OR AGENCY CARRYING OUT PROJECT:** County of Lake Department of Public Works (DPW) is the agency carrying out the project. Clear Lake Environmental Research Center (CLERC); a Lake County based 501c3 nonprofit organization, has been contracted by the County to coordinate the implementation of the project.

**EXEMPT STATUS:**

Categorical Exemptions – Section 15301(c) Maintenance of existing highways and streets, and street trees and Section 15304(i) Minor Alterations to Land

**REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT:**

This hazardous tree removal project meets the criteria for the Categorical Exemptions Section 15301(c) Maintenance of existing highways, streets and street trees and Section 15304(i) Minor Alterations to Land.

Project activities will be accomplished through the use of hand crews and hand tools, and stumps will not be removed or disturbed, thereby resulting in no soil disturbance. There will be no disturbance of known rare, threatened or endangered species or significant cultural resources. All trees felled will be removed from the site.

The project will remove dead and dying trees from within the roadway easement in the Soda Bay Corridor; thereby removing materials that could serve as fuels for future wildfires while reducing the immediate threat to roadways and the public.



## COUNTY OF LAKE

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Planning Division

Courthouse - 255 N. Forbes Street

Lakeport, California 95453

Telephone 707/263-2221 FAX 707/263-2225

The Lake County Community Development Department finds that this project complies with the intent and direction of the "Categorical Exemptions Section 15301(c) Maintenance of existing highways, streets and street trees and Section 15304(i) Minor Alterations to Land" and is thereby exempt from the provisions of CEQA.

**CONTACT PERSON:** Katherine Schaefers

**TELEPHONE NUMBER:** 707-263-2221

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

Title: Resource Planner

**Date:** December 1, 2023





State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife  
**2023 ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FILING FEE**  
**CASH RECEIPT**  
 DFW 753.5a (REV. 01/01/23) Previously DFG 753.5a

**Print**    **StartOver**    **Finalize&Email**

RECEIPT NUMBER:  
 17-12/01/2023-106  
 STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER (If applicable)

**SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.**

LEAD AGENCY LAKE COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	LEAD AGENCY EMAIL	DATE 12/01/2023
COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING LAKE COUNTY	DOCUMENT NUMBER 2023-152	

PROJECT TITLE  
  
 SODA BAY CORRIDOR HAZARD TREE REMOVAL PROJECT

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME LAKE COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL	PHONE NUMBER
PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS 255 N FORBES ST	CITY LAKEPORT	STATE CA
		ZIP CODE 95453

**PROJECT APPLICANT** (Check appropriate box)

Local Public Agency     School District     Other Special District     State Agency     Private Entity

**CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:**

Environmental Impact Report (EIR)    \$ 3,839.25 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND)    \$ 2,764.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Certified Regulatory Program (CRP) document - payment due directly to CDFW    \$ 1,305.25 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Exempt from fee

Notice of Exemption (attach)

CDFW No Effect Determination (attach)

Fee previously paid (attach previously issued cash receipt copy)

---

Water Right Application or Petition Fee (State Water Resources Control Board only)    \$ 850.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

County documentary handling fee    \$ 50.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **50.00**

Other    \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT METHOD:**

Cash     Credit     Check     Other 2458    **TOTAL RECEIVED** \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **50.00**

SIGNATURE  <b>X</b> <i>KA</i>	AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE  Deputy County Clerk
-------------------------------------	--

