

Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research

From: (Public Agency) Honey Lake Valley County RCD
P.O. Box 3044, Room 212

170 Russell Ave,
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

Susanville, CA 96130

County Clerk

County of: Lassen County Clerk
220 S Lassen Street, Annex
Susanville, California, 96130

Project Title: Dixie West Post Fire Recovery #8GG22628

Project Location – Specific:

The project footprint is within Lassen County and will conduct post fire recovery work on approximately 4,958 acres of privately owned timberland within portions of the North Fork of the Feather River watershed (specifically within portions of the Hamilton Branch, Jennie Creek, Lower Robbers Creek, Star Lake, and Upper Robbers Creek Planning Watersheds). Work will include site preparation, pre-planting treatment of competing vegetation, sowing and planting of seedlings, and planting of native plant seed for habitat improvement. The target condition for the treated areas is to have well stocked forests established that are resilient to future natural disturbances such as wildfire, endemic and exotic pests, drought, and increased temperatures.

Project Location - City: Westwood, CA

Project Location - County: Lassen County

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

CAL FIRE would provide funding to expedite priority restoration measures in high severity burn areas on approximately 4,958 acres of privately owned timberland (owned by RRF Westwood LLC and managed by W. M. Beaty & Associates) within proximity to the community of Westwood. Funding supports the broader goal to reforest approximately 18,000 acres burn at a high severity in the Dixie Fire footprint. Funding provided through the Forest Health Program will focus entirely on dead tree removal in the form of chips (66,915 tons), herbicide application, purchase and planting of seedlings, and native plant seeding. The project supports a year-round local workforce, enabling continued operations of wood processing facilities, while improving forest health, watershed conditions, and reducing fuel loads near the communities of Westwood and Clear Creek.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: The Honey Lake Valley Resource Conservation District (HLVRCD)

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: RRF Westwood LLC

Exempt Status:

Statutory Exemptions. State code number: Public Resources Code Section 21080(b)(3) and 14 CCR Section 15269(a)

Reasons why project is exempt:

Pursuant to CEQA Section 21080(b)(3) and CEQA Guidelines Section 15269(a) a project is exempt from CEQA when it "maintain[s], repair[s], restore[s]... property or facilities damaged or destroyed as a result of a disaster in a disaster stricken area in which a state of emergency has been proclaimed by the Governor pursuant to the California Emergency Services Act, commencing with Section 8550 of the Government Code." Implementation of the project would restore forested landscapes, restore carbon sequestration capacity of targeted forested landscapes, restore and increase capacity as it relates to above and below ground carbon storage, and restore forest habitat destroyed by the Caldor Fire. The action is therefore exempt from CEQA because it would restore property damaged or

destroyed as a result of a disaster for which a state of emergency was proclaimed, pursuant to CEQA Section 21080(b)(3) and CEQA Guidelines Section 15269(a).

Public Agencies that will be involved with the project:

Honey Lake Valley Resource Conservation District
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
California Regional Water Quality Control Board
CAL FIRE

Lead Agency Contact Person:

Kelsey Siemer, District Manager
Honey Lake Valley Resource Conservation District
530-257-7271

Signature: 

Date: 9/28/2023

Jesse Claypool, Chairman
Honey Lake Valley Resource Conservation District

ATTEST:


I, Kelsey Siemer, Clerk of the Board of Directors, Honey Lake Valley Resource Conservation District, do hereby certify that the Honey Lake Valley Resource Conservation District approved this Notice of Exemption on the 28th day of September, 2023 by the following vote:

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Abstentions: 0

Absent: 1



Kelsey Siemer, Clerk of the Board of Directors
Honey Lake Valley Resource Conservation District