



State of California
The Natural Resources Agency
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	FWS Forestry Services California, LLC, "McKinney Fire Reforestation" – Story, Beardsley & Tweed		
PROJECT LOCATION	Near Klamath River, CA; Privately owned timberland within portions of the Klamath River Watershed (specifically within McKinney Creek Planning Watersheds). Horse Creek USGS Quad Legal Description: Portions of T46N R09W Sec 16, 28, 33 and 34; T45N R09W Sec 04 MDBM	COUNTY	Siskiyou
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	Shannon Johnson		
ADDRESS	P.O. Box 944260 Sacramento, CA 92444-2460	PHONE	916-902-9345

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

CAL FIRE will provide funding to expedite priority restoration measures in high severity burn areas on 430 acres of privately owned timberland (owned by three individuals, Mike Story, Barbara Beardsley and Steve Tweed and managed by JM Forestry LLC) within proximity of the communities of Klamath River and Horse Creek. Funding supports the broader goal of post-fire recovery, and forest health and resiliency. CAL FIRE funding, as it relates to on the ground treatments, will focus entirely upon tree and woody debris removal (chipping, mastication, piling, burning or transportation), site preparation, control of competing vegetation, tree planting, and post planting vegetation control. The project supports a local workforce within a census designated priority population. In addition to the short-term benefit of restoring and reforesting severely burned forested acres, implementation of the project would promote resilience in the natural ecosystem services, such as overall watershed improvements through improved regulation of surface runoff and groundwater infiltration, increased uptake of carbon dioxide, provide for slope stabilization, and restoration of lost forest-based habitat for species that rely upon these environments.

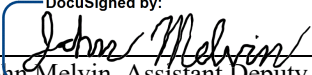
EXEMPTION STATUS

- Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class
- 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

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 forested habitat destroyed by the McKinney 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).

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

DocuSigned by:

 John Melvin, Assistant Deputy Director Date 1/31/2024
 Resource Management
 California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection