

## Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

**To:** Office of Planning and Research  
P.O. Box 3044, Room 212  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

**From:** Sierra Nevada Conservancy  
11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205  
Auburn, CA 95603

**To:** Plumas County Clerk-Recorder  
520 Main Street, Room 102  
Quincy, CA 95971

**Project Title:** Claremont Forest Resiliency Project (SNC 1632)

**Project Location – Specific:** Approximately 950 acres in Plumas National Forest, Mount Hough Ranger District, adjacent to the south side of the communities of Meadow Valley and Quincy, in the Feather River watershed. Project center at approximately - 120.945, 39.914 degrees.

**Project Location - City:** Adjacent to the south side of Quincy

**Project Location - County:** Plumas

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:** The Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) is funding the #1632 Claremont Forest Resiliency Project (Proposed Project) located in Plumas County adjacent to the communities of Meadow Valley and Quincy, the County seat. Situated in the Plumas National Forest (PNF), the project is in the Feather River watershed and borders the Middle Fork of the National Wild and Scenic Feather River. The Mule Deer Foundation (MDF) will work with the PNF to protect communities and wildlife habitat by completing an approximately 950-acre project that includes four separate strategically placed treatment units within a mosaic of units implemented by the United States Forest Service (USFS) and other adjacent landowners. The MDF's treatment units will accomplish fuels reduction and forest-health treatments utilizing activities which include but are not limited to mechanical thinning (including mastication), hand thinning, and piling, following a variable density thinning approach. Depending on available markets for biomass material at the time of removal, the material will either be transported to a biomass facility or piled and burned. The project is part of the PNF's 30,000-acre landscape-scale Claremont Forest Resiliency Project focused on reducing the risk of high-severity wildfire threat to communities and wildlife habitat, improving forest health, controlling non-native invasive species, and improving watershed conditions.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Sierra Nevada Conservancy

**Project Applicant / Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:**  
Mule Deer Foundation  
Chris Daunt, Conservation Forester  
159 Lawrence Street, Quincy, CA 95971  
530-400-2414

**Exempt Status:**

**Statutory Exemption:** Pub. Resources Code, section 4799.05, subd. (d)(1)

**Reasons why project is exempt:**

Public Resources Code, section 4799.05 statutorily exempts from CEQA projects for prescribed fire, reforestation, habitat restoration, thinning, or fuel-reduction projects, or to related activities included in the project description, undertaken, in whole or in part, on federal lands to reduce the risk of high-severity wildfire that have been reviewed under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) if the primary role of a state or local agency is providing funding or staffing for those projects. The SNC is funding the project to conduct fuels reduction and forest-health treatments in the PNF. The project was reviewed in its entirety under NEPA in the PNF Claremont Forest Resiliency Project Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impacts, with final Decision Notice for the EA/FONSI documents signed on April 7, 2023.

**Lead Agency**

**Contact Person:** Mary Akens

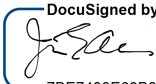
**Area Code/Telephone/Extension:** 530-450-5177

**If filed by applicant:** N/A

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project:

Yes\_\_ No \_\_

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

DocuSigned by:  
  
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Chief Deputy Executive Officer

**Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

3/7/2024

**Signed by Lead Agency:** Yes

**Signed by Applicant:** No

**Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code. Date received for filing at OPR:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.**