



California Department of Fish and Wildlife Region 1 Environmental Review Report for an Exempt Project

Note: This report form is intended for use by California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) staff to document a limited environmental impact analysis supporting the filing of a notice of exemption document for a proposed CDFW Wildfire Resiliency project. Although the project appears to fit within the descriptions for allowable categorical exemptions, this report presents CDFW's review for possible exceptions that would preclude finding the project to be categorically exempt as discussed in CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2. This report will be filed with the CEQA administrative record for this project to document the environmental impact analysis conducted by CDFW.

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Project Name: Dutch Flat Wildlife Area Hazardous Fuel Reduction Project
Project Number: NA
Program Type: NA
CAL FIRE Unit: Modoc Lassen
County: Modoc
Acres: 120
Legal Location: Portions of Sections 23, 24, 25, & 26, T40N, R08E, MDB&M
Name of USGS 7.5' Quad Map(s): Halls Canyon
Project Vicinity Map Attached Project Location Map Attached Photos Attached

Other Public Agency Review or Permit Required:

Would the project result in:	YES	NO
Alterations to a watercourse (DFW - Lake and Stream Alteration Agreement)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Conversion of timberland (CAL FIRE - Conversion Permit or Exemption)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Demolition (Local Air District - Demolition Permit)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Soil disturbance over 1 acre (RWQCB - SWPPP)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fill of possible wetlands (404 Permit - USACE)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other: A smoke Management Plan, Burn Permit, and an Encroachment Permit will be required.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Discuss any above-listed topic item checked Yes and consultation with agencies:

Project Description and Environmental Setting (describe the project activities, project site and its surroundings, its location, and the environmental setting):

The project area is located approximately 6.5 air miles northwest of Adin, CA in Modoc County.

The entire project area is within the 2017 Cone Fire perimeter. The impacts of the fire resulted in nearly 100% mortality of the pine and juniper trees on the Dutch Flat Wildlife Area, which now represent an unhealthy accumulation of hazardous fuels that present a safety hazard to visitors and would contribute to uncharacteristic fire behavior should another fire happen on the area.

The project area is at the base of the slope of Ryan Ridge. Dutch Flat Creek, an intermittent fish bearing stream and tributary to Rush Creek, meanders through the site, and ephemeral drainages cross through the site from the southwesterly hillslope, intersecting with Dutch Flat Creek. A wet meadow, approximately 20 acres in size, is present on the north side of the property, between Dutch Flat Creek and Dutch Flat Road. Elevations range from 4550' to 4660'. Slopes generally range from flat to ~17%, the majority of the site being flat to gently sloping.

The project is designed to reduce post fire woody debris consisting of standing and downed dead trees.

Project activities will entail cutting down the remaining standing dead trees, and using equipment to pile woody debris that will be pile burned on site.

Pile burning will be conducted during favorable climatic conditions in compliance with a burn permit and smoke management plan. Burn piles will be established in open areas in order to avoid damage to residual trees. Equipment trails constructed on slopes in excess of 5% will have waterbreaks installed pursuant to the specifications described below under Hydrology and Water Quality.

Environmental Impact Analysis

Aesthetics

- This topic does not apply to this project and was not evaluated further.
 This topic could apply to this project, and results of the assessment are provided below:

The project area is located about seven miles northwest of the town of Adin, on Dutch Flat Road, which provides access to the wildlife area and surrounding US Forest Service land that is also utilized by the public for recreation. The surrounding area was also burned in the 2017 Cove Fire, which was over 30,000 acres in size and was a dense conifer forest prior to the high severity burn, that killed nearly all live vegetation. Forest Service lands adjacent to the Wildlife Area have already been treated with woody debris removal, and the Dutch Flat Wildlife Area still contains significant woody debris from the fire, which deters from visual aesthetics. The project is expected to result in an overall improvement in visual resources after the fuel load of dead woody debris is reduced.

Agriculture and Forest Resources

- This topic does not apply to this project and was not evaluated further.
 Yes No Would any trees be felled? If yes, discuss protection of nesting birds, if necessary.
 Yes No Would the project convert any prime or unique farmland?
 Yes No Would the project result in the conversion of forest land or timberland to non-forest use?
 This topic could apply to this project, and results of the assessment are provided below:

Trees to be felled are standing dead and do not provide habitat for wildlife species. Healthy, live trees will not be felled, and trees utilized for nesting will not be felled.

There are no known active raptor nests within or near the project area.

There are no portions of this project that would constitute Timber Operations under the California Forest Practice Rules. No land conversions or changes in land use will occur as a result of the project.

No healthy, mature, scenic trees will be removed pursuant to CEQA 15304.

No negative impacts to Agriculture or Forest Resources are expected from this project.

Air Quality

- This topic does not apply to this project and was not evaluated further.
 Yes No The local Air Quality Management District guidelines for dust abatement and other air quality concerns were reviewed for this project.
 This topic could apply to this project, and results of the assessment are provided below:

According to the California Air Resources Board (CARB), the Modoc County Air Pollution Control District is currently designated within "attainment" of California's standards related to Particulate Pollution (PM 2.5) and Ozone (ppm).

The proposed project will not result in a significant amount of ground disturbance; therefore, project activities will not result in air quality impacts associated with dust. Smoke emissions may result from pile burning, and insignificant exhaust will result associated with the use of equipment used for piling, fire engines, and chain saws.

When pile burning is conducted, we will expect smoke emissions from those piles. Burning will not be conducted on “no burn days”, when wind is expected to exceed ten miles per hour, or when inversion layers are located below 8000’ elevation. Given the overall small area of this project any smoke from pile burning will be insignificant to regional air quality.

Exhaust emissions should not result in detectable impacts to air quality.

Potential adverse impacts to air quality are not anticipated given the nature of the project as described above.

Biological Resources

- This topic does not apply to this project and was not evaluated further.
- Yes No Will the project potentially effect biological resources?
- Yes No Was a current CNDDDB review completed? Results discussed below:
- Yes No Was a biological survey of the project area completed? Results discussed below:
- This topic could apply to this project, and results of the assessment are provided below:

A query of the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) was conducted on February 8, 2024. Scoping was conducted within the Crank Mountain, Happy Camp Mountain, Washington Mountain Donica Mountain, Halls Canyon, Adin Pass, Lookout, Big Swamp, and Adin USGS 7.5’ Quad maps to determine the potential occurrence of State or Federally listed plant and animal species (including state candidate species) and any California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Species of Special Concern within or directly adjacent to the project area. According to the CNDDDB the following listed and Species of Special Concern animal species are known to occur within the scoping area: American goshawk, bald eagle, greater sage-grouse, greater sandhill crane, Modoc sucker, Pit River brook lamprey, Swainson’s hawk, Western bumblebee, and Western pond turtle. Listed plant species in the 9 quad area include Bogg’s Lake hedge hyssop (*Gratiola heterosepala*), Greene’s tuctoria (*Tuctoria greenei*), and slender Orcutt grass (*Orcuttia tenuis*). CNPS species observed at the site include long-haired star tulip (*Calochortus longebarbatus* var. *longebarbatus*) and Modoc County knotweed (*Polygonum polygaloides* ssp. *esotericum*).

Botanical Resources

Prior to the 2017 Cove Fire, the site was generally dominated with an overstory of Ponderosa pine and Jeffrey pine, with significant juniper tree presence in the meadow area. The fire appears to have killed off the juniper, and there are many fir and pine saplings around 2 to 3 feet tall, which are growing back in after the fire.

A full floristic botanical survey was conducted in 2023, and several knotweed plants were observed in seasonally wet areas that were determined to key out closest to Modoc County knotweed, a CNPS 1B.3 ranked plant. Long-haired star tulip, a CNPS 1B.2 ranked plant was not observed during the 2023 botanical survey, but was observed in the meadow in 1983 and 1996.

Impacts to the plant habitat areas, stream corridors, and meadow, will be minimized as these resources will be flagged with equipment exclusion zones prior to operations, which will include limited entry into the meadow for equipment, and exclusion from stream zones and other wet areas where Modoc County knotweed has been observed.

Wildlife Resources

Potentially present wildlife species of concern are discussed as follows:

Western Bumblebee

The western bumble bee is currently a California Endangered Species Candidate. Its range spans the western US and southern Canada. The western bumble bee has three basic habitat requirements: suitable nesting sites for the colonies, nectar and pollen from floral resources available throughout the duration of the colony period (spring, summer and fall), and suitable overwintering sites for the queens (Jepson et al. 2014). Nests occur primarily in underground cavities such as old squirrel or other animal nests and in open west-southwest slopes bordered by trees, although a few nests have been reported from above-ground locations such as in logs among railroad ties

(Hobbs 1968, MacFarlane et al. 1994, Plath 1922, Thorp et al. 1983, all cited in Jepson et al. 2014). Bumble bees require plants that bloom and provide adequate nectar and pollen throughout the colony's life cycle, which is from early February to late November (although the actual dates likely vary by elevation). Very little is known about the hibernacula, or overwintering sites (Jepson et al. 2014). Select nectar plants include buckwheat, thistle, clover, sweet clover, star thistle, ceanothus, geranium, lupine, blackberry, and rabbit brush. They inhabit mountain meadows, open grassy areas, urban parks and gardens, chaparral, and shrub areas from sea level to over 6500 feet in elevation. They nest underground and are frequent nectar robbers of long-corolla flowers.

One observation of Western bumblebee has been recorded in CNDDDB from 1979, in the vicinity of Adin Pass, along Highway 299, southwest of Alturas. While the project is located in the historic range for Western bumble bee, the project area is not in the current range for this species. Due to the project being outside of the current range for this species, the project is not expected to result in impacts.

Pit-Klamath Brook Lamprey

The Pit – Klamath brook lamprey (*Entosphenus lethophagus*) is a Species of Special Concern found in California only in the Pit River system, in low-gradient reaches of clear, cool rivers and streams with sand-mud bottoms or edges. This species has not been found in Dutch Flat Creek. The project is not expected to result in impacts to Pit - Klamath brook lamprey because they are not known to occupy Dutch Flat Creek, which is an intermittent stream, and also because the stream will not be impacted by operations.

Modoc Sucker

Modoc sucker (*Catostomus microps*) is a State Endangered species found in tributary streams of the Upper Pit River. They occupy large, shallow, muddy-bottomed pools and can be found in perennial and intermittent streams. They spawn in riffle areas. Observations were most recently recorded for Dutch Flat Creek in 2012, and they are presumed present.

To protect water quality, a 50-foot equipment avoidance zone (EAZ) will be applied to Dutch Flat Creek. Heavy equipment will not cross Dutch Flat Creek at any time. Ephemeral watercourses that meander through the site and empty to Dutch Flat Creek will be protected with a 10-foot equipment avoidance zone (EAZ). Heavy equipment will only cross ephemeral watercourses when dry.

Western Pond Turtle

Western pond turtle (*Emys marmorata*) is a California Species of Special Concern. Habitat includes ponds, marshes, rivers, streams, and irrigation ditches, usually with aquatic vegetation, at elevations below 6000 feet. It requires basking site and suitable upland habitat for egg laying, such as sandy banks or grassy open fields, within ½ kilometer from water for egg laying.

There are two observations of Western pond turtle recorded for the 9-quadrant area, both of which are in Ash Creek, at the Ash Creek Wildlife Area. Watercourses on the property are ephemeral to intermittent, and do not provide adequate habitat for Western pond turtle.

Bald Eagle

Bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) is a State Endangered Species that nests in large, old growth or dominant live trees with open branches, especially Ponderosa pine, near waters such as lakes and rivers. The project area is in the middle of a 30,772-acre high intensity wildfire burn area from 2017, and does not contain habitat for bald eagle nesting as there are not many live Ponderosa pine or other large trees in the vicinity.

American Goshawk

American goshawk (*Accipiter atricapillus*) is a California Species of Special Concern. They are forest raptors that inhabit and require large stands of mature, closed canopy forest. They occur from sea level to near tree line. They prey on small birds and mammals such as squirrels and chipmunks. Nesting habitat includes north-facing slopes near water. It is generally thought that this species is very sensitive to disturbance. There are several observations of goshawk in the 9-quadrant area, however there is no nesting habitat for this species in or near the project area due to the 2017 fire.

Greater Sage Grouse

Greater sage grouse (*Centrocercus urophasianus*) is a California species of special concern, found in the northeastern great basin. Habitat is restricted to flat and rolling terrain vegetated by sagebrush that it uses for food and shelter. They are found in abundance in habitat that includes a mix of sagebrush scrub, grassland or wet meadow, and water. Males gather at strutting areas (leks) in late winter and early spring. Leks are located on patches of bare ground surrounded by medium-canopy sagebrush stands. Nesting occurs in fairly open stands of sagebrush. Observations of sage grouse in the 9 quad area are all in basin sage brush scrub habitats. The project area does not contain the habitat requirements for sage grouse as there is no sage brush in the project area, resulting from the fire. Additionally, there are no observations of past presence of greater sage grouse in or near the project area.

Greater Sandhill Crane

Greater sandhill crane (*Antigone canadensis tabida*) is a State Threatened and Fully Protected species. Greater sandhill cranes nest in wetland habitats in northeastern California, and winter in the Central Valley. They prefer grain fields which are used as communal roost sites. Irrigated pastures are used as loafing sites. Within the 9-quad area, there are several observations of greater sandhill crane in irrigated areas and near wet areas of Ash Creek Wildlife Area. There are no observations of greater sandhill crane in or near the project area.

Swainson’s Hawk

Swainson’s hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) is a State Threatened species. Swainson’s hawk utilizes grasslands with scattered trees, juniper-sage flats, riparian areas, savannahs and agricultural or ranch lands with groves or lines of trees. Observations of Swainson’s hawk are generally along highway corridors where pastures and irrigated fields cover large areas. The project area is up in a forest habitat type away from pastures and irrigated fields, and there are no observations of Swainson’s hawk in or near the project area.

Cultural Resources/Tribal Cultural Resources

- This topic does not apply to this project and was not evaluated further.
- Yes No Was a current archaeological records check completed? Results discussed below:
- Yes No Was a CDFW staff or contract archaeologist consulted? Results discussed below:
- Yes No Was an archaeological survey of the project area completed? Results discussed below:
- Yes No Will the project effect any historic, archaeological or tribal cultural resources?
- This topic could apply to this project, and results of the assessment are provided below:

A current archaeological records check was completed by the consulting Registered Professional Forester on January 30, 2024, and the records check results indicated the presence of archaeological resources within or directly adjacent to the project area.

An archaeological survey was conducted at the site in January 2024 by the consulting Registered Professional Forester, which included everything on the west side of Dutch Creek. No additional resources were discovered during the survey. Resources areas indicated in the records check that were located within the project boundaries were flagged by the RPF for ground disturbance avoidance.

Energy

- This topic does not apply to this project and was not evaluated further.
- This topic could apply to this project, and results of the assessment are provided below:

Geology and Soils

- This topic does not apply to this project and was not evaluated further.
- This topic could apply to this project, and results of the assessment are provided below:

The proposed project will not result in significant adverse impact to slope stability or soil productivity due to the following conditions and project parameters:

- The project area does not contain any unstable slopes.
- Seasonal watercourses (Dutch Flat Creek) will be protected with a 50-foot equipment avoidance zone (EAZ). Heavy equipment will not cross Dutch Flat Creek at any time.
- Ephemeral watercourses that meander to the site will be protected with a 10-foot equipment avoidance zone (EAZ). Heavy equipment will only cross ephemeral watercourses when dry.
- Slopes do not exceed 20% within the project area.

Equipment trails constructed on slopes in excess of 5% which have exposed bare soils will have waterbreaks installed pursuant to the specifications described below:

Maximum Distance Between Waterbreaks

On slopes less than 10%, install waterbreaks no more than 300 feet apart.
On slopes between 11% to 25%, install waterbreaks no more than 200 feet apart.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

- This topic does not apply to this project and was not evaluated further.
- Yes No Would the project generate significant greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions?
- Yes No Would these GHG emissions result in a significant impact on the environment? Discuss below:
- Yes No Would the project conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases? Discuss below:

Greenhouse Gas Emissions will result from exhaust associated with the use of chainsaws, log piling equipment, and transport vehicles, and from pile burning. The project is 120 acres which is very small in scope and not likely to produce measurable GHG emissions which could result in adverse cumulative impacts on a global scale. Furthermore, treatment activities will be limited to a short time frame and will not lead to long term increases in GHG emissions. In terms of net GHG emissions ensuing from cut vegetation, the probable result is known through the scientific principles of the carbon cycle which explains that CO₂ is released through decay or burning and then sequestered from the atmosphere and the soil as plants absorb CO₂ in order to grow and conduct photosynthesis. The improved growing conditions resulting from the proposed treatment should increase the sites remaining trees ability to carry out photosynthesis and therefore sequester carbon at a higher rate. Furthermore, by reducing the likelihood of catastrophic wildfire this project has the potential to reduce the substantial increase in short term emissions from wildfire.

Hazards and Hazardous Materials

- This topic does not apply to this project and was not evaluated further.
- This topic could apply to this project, and results of the assessment are provided below:

State Water Resources Control Board GeoTracker was consulted on February 9, 2024, and there are no open water quality cleanup sites in or near the project area. The closest site is about 7.5 miles southeast, at the Haydel Hill Mine located east of Adin, where sediment to groundwater was a concern. The site was cleaned up and closed in 1997. The Department of Toxic Substances Control EnviroStor database was also consulted on February 9, 2024, and no sites were identified in or near the project area.

Potential hazards to the public, hand crews, and equipment operators could result from the implementation of this project. Hazards to hand crews could result from pile burning or from the use of chainsaws.

All necessary precautions will be implemented to ensure personnel safety including the proper use of personal protective equipment and appropriate training associated with the proper use of chainsaws. Crews will not be

allowed to use tools or conduct work beyond their level of training. Pile burning will only be conducted during safe climatic conditions in accordance with State and County Regulations.

The hazardous materials being utilized for this project include diesel, gasoline, oil and other fluids associated with motorized equipment. Equipment used on this project will not be serviced in locations which could allow oil or fuel to contaminate soil or pass into a watercourse.

The project is not likely to result in adverse impacts created by hazardous conditions or hazardous materials.

Hydrology and Water Quality

- This topic does not apply to this project and was not evaluated further.
 Yes No Will the project potentially affect any watercourse or body of water?
 This topic could apply to this project, and results of the assessment are provided below:

Dutch Flat Creek meanders through the property, and is an intermittent stream that supports a population of State Endangered Modoc sucker, a type of fish that occupies both perennial and intermittent streams. To protect water quality, a 50-foot equipment avoidance zone (EAZ) will be applied to Dutch Flat Creek. Heavy equipment will not cross Dutch Flat Creek at any time.

Ephemeral watercourses that flow through the site and empty to Dutch Flat Creek will be protected with a 10-foot equipment avoidance zone (EAZ). Heavy equipment will only cross ephemeral watercourses when dry. If water is present at time of operations at specified equipment crossing, a log spittler crossing will be installed. Upon completion of operations, the log spittler crossing will be removed.

Land Use and Planning

- This topic does not apply to this project and was not evaluated further.
 This topic could apply to this project, and results of the assessment are provided below:

Mineral Resources

- This topic does not apply to this project and was not evaluated further.
 This topic could apply to this project, and results of the assessment are provided below:

Noise

- This topic does not apply to this project and was not evaluated further.
 This topic could apply to this project, and results of the assessment are provided below:

This project is located in a relatively remote area, surrounded by Forest Service land. While chain saw and equipment use is expected to result in temporary noise at the site, noise is not expected to impact any sensitive receptors as there are no residential or other sound sensitive uses at or directly adjacent to the site.

Population and Housing

- This topic does not apply to this project and was not evaluated further.
 This topic could apply to this project, and results of the assessment are provided below:

Public Services

- This topic does not apply to this project and was not evaluated further.
 This topic could apply to this project, and results of the assessment are provided below:

Recreation

- This topic does not apply to this project and was not evaluated further.

This topic could apply to this project, and results of the assessment are provided below:

Public recreation at the Dutch Flat Wildlife Area includes wildlife viewing, hunting, and fishing. Rabbit, quail and blue grouse may be present for hunting. The Dutch Flat Wildlife Area will be temporarily closed during operations including felling of dead trees, piling of logs, and pile burning activities. Closures are expected to be less than two months in duration. There will be no significant detrimental long-term impacts to recreation.

Transportation and Traffic

This topic does not apply to this project and was not evaluated further.

This topic could apply to this project, and results of the assessment are provided below:

Utilities and Service Systems

This topic does not apply to this project and was not evaluated further.

This topic could apply to this project, and results of the assessment are provided below:

Wildfire

This topic does not apply to this project and was not evaluated further.

This topic could apply to this project, and results of the assessment are provided below:

This project is designed to lessen the effects of wildfire, as pile burning will reduce fuels. Any pile burning of vegetation will be done pursuant to a valid burn permit.

Changes Made to Avoid Environmental Impacts:

Burning will not be conducted on “no burn days”, when wind is expected to exceed ten miles per hour, or when inversion layers are located below 8000’ elevation.

To protect water quality, a 50-foot equipment avoidance zone (EAZ) will be applied to Dutch Flat Creek. Heavy equipment will not cross Dutch Flat Creek at any time. Ephemeral watercourses that meander through the site and empty to Dutch Flat Creek will be protected with a 10-foot equipment avoidance zone (EAZ). Heavy equipment will only cross ephemeral watercourses when dry. If water is present at time of operations at specified equipment crossing, a log spittler crossing will be installed. Upon completion of operations, the log spittler crossing will be removed.

Impacts to the stream corridors and meadow will be minimized as these resources will be flagged with equipment exclusion zones prior to operations, which will include limited entry into the meadow for equipment and exclusion from stream zones and other wet areas where Modoc County knotweed has been observed.

Archaeological resource areas have been flagged as equipment avoidance zones (EAZ). Equipment operators will be instructed to avoid ground disturbing impacts in these flagged areas.

Equipment used on this project will not be serviced in locations which could allow oil or fuel to contaminate soil or pass into a watercourse.

The Dutch Flat Wildlife Area will be temporarily closed to the public during pile burning activities.

Hand crews will be required to use personal protective equipment and will not be allowed to use tools or conduct work beyond their level of training or comfort level.

Mandatory Findings of Significance:	YES	NO
(a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? "Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probably future projects.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

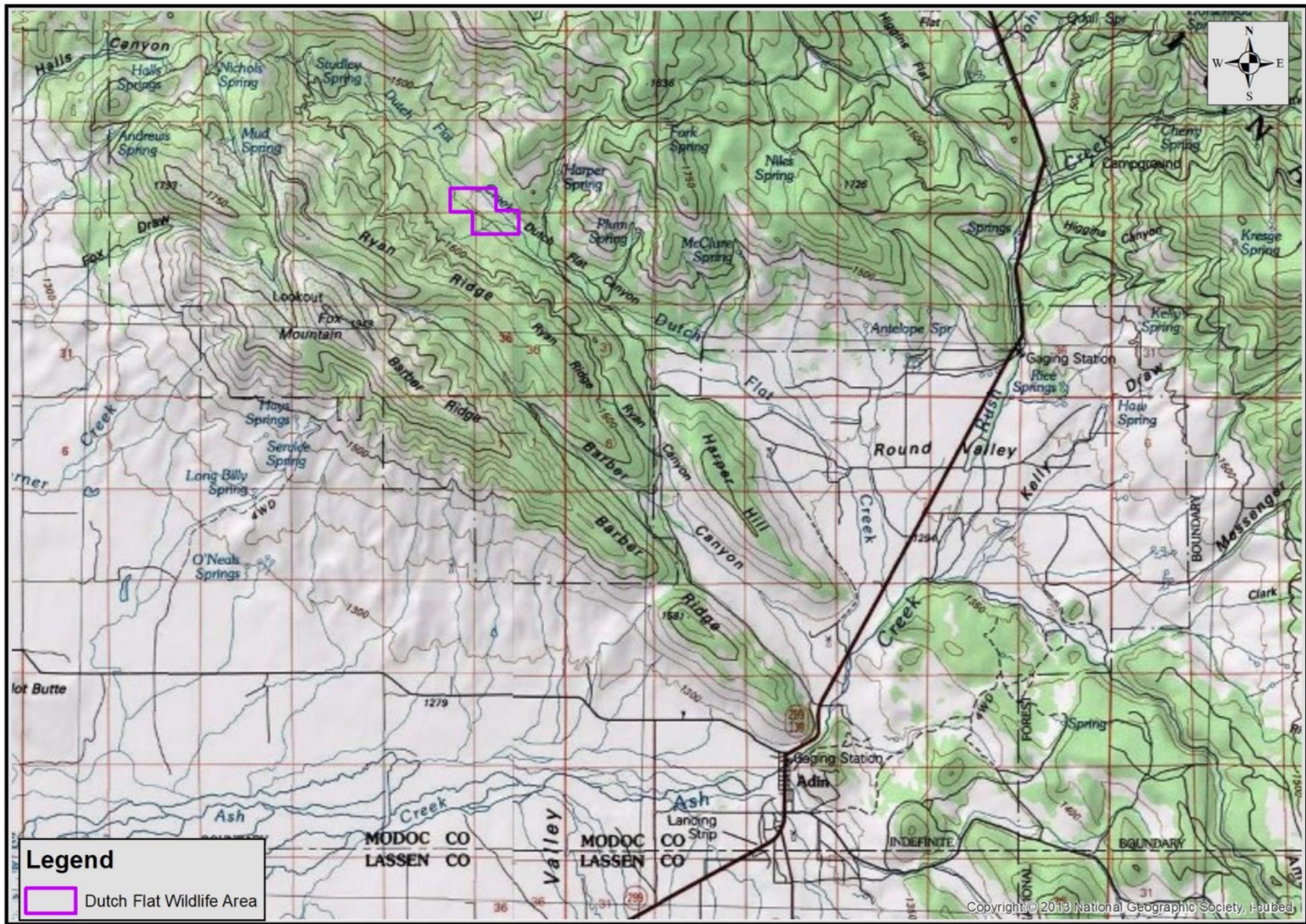
Justification for Use of a Categorical Exemption (discuss why the project is exempt, cite exemption number(s), and describe how the project fits the class):

The proposed project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption under CEQA Guidelines Section 15304 and 15308. Section 15304, Class 4 consists of minor alterations of vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, or scenic trees on public or private land. The project involves removal of dead woody debris only. Section 15308, Class 8 consists of actions taken by regulatory agencies for maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of the environment. The project would allow for maintenance and protection of the environment. The project would not result in construction activities or environmental degradation.

Conclusion:

After assessing potential environmental impacts and evaluating the description for the various classes of categorical exemptions to CEQA, CDFW has determined that the project fits within one or more of the exemption classes and no exceptions exist at the project site which would preclude the use of this exemption. CDFW considered the possibility of (a) sensitive location, (b) cumulative impact, (c) significant impact due to unusual circumstances, (d) impacts to scenic highways, (e) activities within a hazardous waste site, and (f) significant adverse change to the significance of a historical resource. A notice of exemption will be filed at the State Clearinghouse.

After assessing potential environmental impacts and evaluating the description for the various classes of categorical exemptions to CEQA, CDFW has determined that the project does not fit within the description for the various exemption classes or has found that exceptions exist at the project site that precludes the use of a categorical exemption for this project. Additional environmental review will be conducted and the appropriate CEQA document used may be a negative declaration or a mitigated negative declaration.



Dutch Flat Wildlife Area Location Map

Figure 1. Location map.

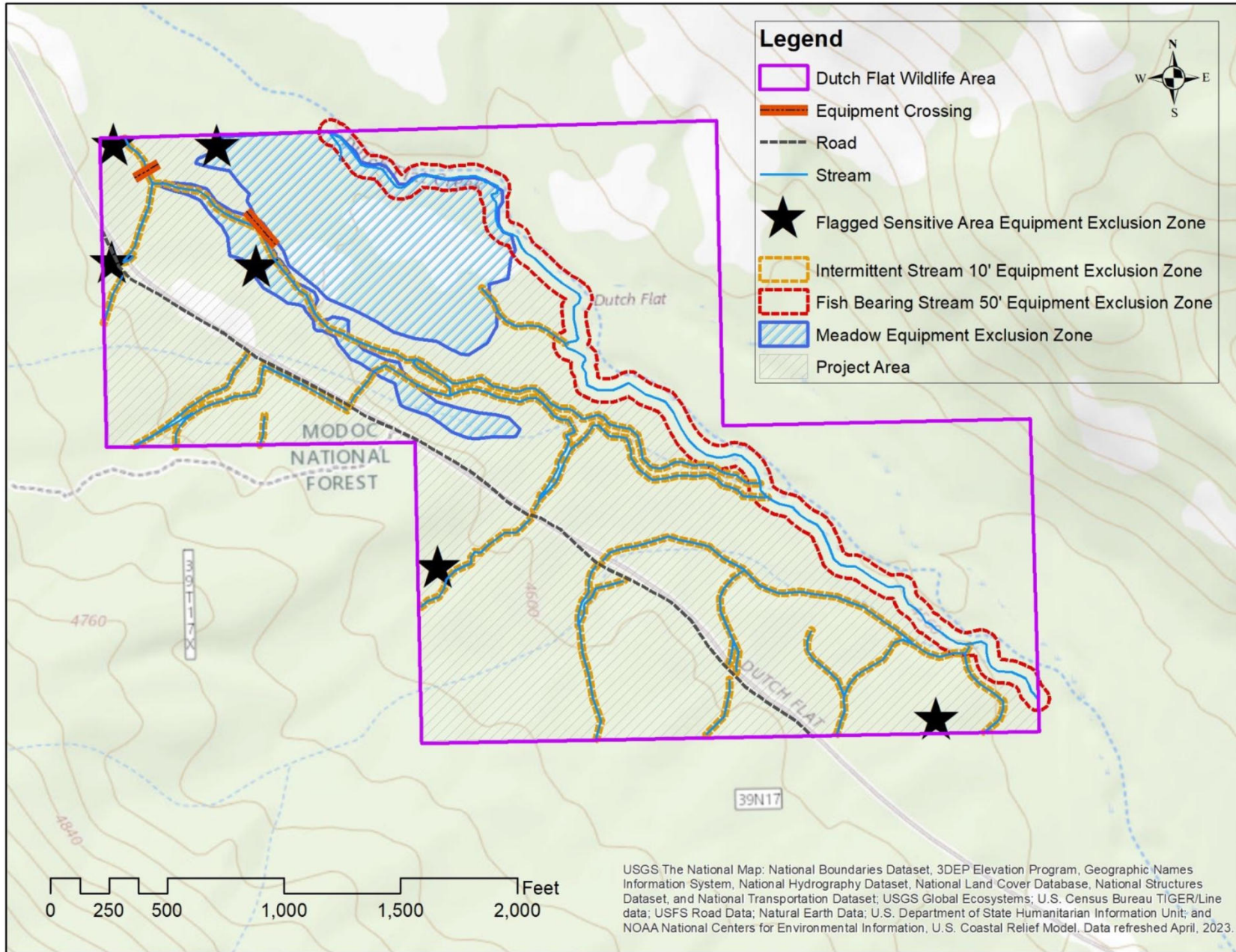


Figure 2. Project area vicinity map.