

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

State of California
The Natural Resources Agency
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

PROJECT TITLE 5GA21134 High Sierra Front Country Fuel Break Phase 1

PROJECT LOCATION High Sierra Ranger District and Shaver Lake, CA

COUNTY Fresno County

LEAD AGENCY California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The National Forest Foundation proposes to request assistance from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) to perform prescribed pile burning within Creek Fire Ecological Restoration Project area. The prescribed pile burning will finalize the implementation of a continuous community fuel break. It will help to reduce significant fuel loading to stop or slow the potential spread of wildfire in the region, protecting a large network of rural communities and National Forest Resources.

EXEMPTION STATUS

- Categorical Exemption Type and Section: Class
- Statutory Exemption (state code section): Public Resource Code 4799.05(d)(1)
- Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
- Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
- Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

The California Environmental Quality Act does not apply to prescribed fire, thinning, or fuel reduction projects undertaken 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. This project fits under portions of the Creek Fire Ecological Restoration Project Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact written by the United States Forest Service, signed 2023-06-23 (<https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=60422&exp=detail>).

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

DocuSigned by:

David Fulcher

4/10/2024

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David Fulcher, Southern Region Chief Date
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection