



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

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>	8GG22622; FWS Forestry Services California, LLC, McKinney Fire Reforestation: Acer Klamath Forest		
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>	Near Klamath River, CA; Privately owned timberland within portions of the Klamath River Watershed (specifically within portions of the Collins Creek, Dona Creek McKinney Creek East Mill Creek, Barkhouse Creek, Quigley's Cove, and Lower Humbug Creek Planning Watersheds).	<b>COUNTY</b>	Siskiyou
	Legal Description: Portions of T45N, R09W, sections 3, 5, 9, 11, 15, and 21; T46N, R07W, section 19; T46N, R09W, sections 9, 15, 17, 19, 21, 27, 29, 31, 33, and 35; and T46N, R10W, sections 23 and 25; MDBM		
<b>LEAD AGENCY</b>	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
<b>CONTACT</b>	Shannon Johnson		
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	Sacramento, CA 92444-2460		

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

CAL FIRE will provide funding to expedite priority restoration measures in high severity burn areas on 6,931 acres of privately owned timberland (owned by Acer Klamath Forests, LLC and managed by FWS Forestry Services California, 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.

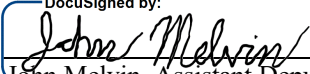
### EXEMPTION STATUS

- 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 4/25/2024  
 Resource Management  
 California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection