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

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	Patridge Pines Community Hazardous Fuels Reduction		
PROJECT LOCATION	Legal: T42N R09W Sections 5,6,7,8; T42N R10W Section 1; T43N R09W Sections 31 and 32, and T43N R10W Section 36	COUNTY	SISKIYOU
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	Jeremy Ravenscroft		
ADDRESS	1809 Fairlane Road	PHONE	(530) 842-3516
	Yreka, CA 96097		

## **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

Vegetation treatments are proposed for approximately 200 acres within the community of Partridge pines. Treatments include mechanical and manual treatments up to 100ft on each side of main ingress and egress roads of the community, as well as private driveways. The objective of the project is to utilize and expand existing shaded fuel breaks on adjacent private timberlands, and to reduce hazardous fuels to increase safety for evacuation and reduction of risk for human caused fire starts. The vegetation is predominately mixed conifer forest with ladder fuels, and large fields of manzanita and ceanothus brush. There are no fish bearing streams within the project treatment area. The treatment prescription guidelines will include the manual thinning and removal of vegetation less than 10-inch diameter (dbh) to provide approximately 15 – 20 feet spacing between trees. Leave trees will be limbed to a minimum of 8 – 12 feet above the ground, as appropriate. Treated fuels slash will be hand piled, masticated or chipped. All masticated or chipped material will be dispersed and spread evenly no deeper than approximately 4-6 inches. Slash Treatment will include the strategic removal of brush and all ladder fuels and creation of defensible space. There will be no prescribed fire, neither pile burning or broadcast burning throughout the project area. This project includes long term fuel reduction and hazard tree removal as needed.

Exe/	MPTION STATUS
	Categorical Exemption Type and Section: Class 4, §15304
	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**

This project fits under Class 4, §15304, Minor Alterations of Land, Categorical Exemption to CEQA

Field review by CAL FIRE staff confirmed that no exceptions apply that would preclude the use of a notice of exemption for this project. The Department has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, energy, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, populations and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/ traffic, utilities and service systems, or to wildfire. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at CAL FIRE Siskiyou Unit Headquarters located at 1809 Fairlane Road in Yreka.

**DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING** 

5/21/2024

George Morris III – Northern Region Chief California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Date