

## Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

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

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

**Project Title:** AB2551 Watershed Coordinator Grant – North East Subregion (SNC954-RFFCP)

**Project Location – Specific:** 12 miles southwest of the City of Alturas and south of Centerville Road (County Road 54), along Gatling Road. Project center at approximately -120.766, 41.271.

**Project Location - City:** Cal Pines,  
Rush Creek

**Project Location - County:** Modoc

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:** The Sierra Nevada Conservancy will provide funding for the Modoc Resource Conservation District to construct a shaded fuel break through roadside fuel reduction along 2 miles of Gatling Road. The goal of the project is to eliminate hazardous fuel loading that may pose a threat to local communities and infrastructure and help reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire. Vegetation treatment will be hand-thinning using chainsaws, chipping, and mastication within 100ft on each side of the un-paved road. CAL FIRE and contractor crews will thin trees to a minimum of 10'x10' spacing while targeting larger trees for retention. Small trees, shrubs, and other surface fuels will be pruned to eliminate ladder fuels and general fuel buildup. Material generated by this fuel treatment will be processed using a variety of practices including a 14" chipper, pile burning, and mastication.

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

**Project Applicant / Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:**  
Modoc Resource Conservation District  
Elyse Blaker, Executive Director  
530-233-4317

### **Exempt Status:**

**Categorical Exemption:** CEQA Guidelines Section 15304 Minor Alterations to Land

**Reasons why project is exempt:** The project is categorically exempt from the provisions of CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15304 (Class 4), which consists of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation, which do not involve the removal of mature, scenic trees except for forestry and agricultural purposes. The minor land alterations proposed by the project consist of forestry treatments along an existing permanent road to reduce hazardous fuels in order to protect communities in the wildland urban interface. The project has been

independently reviewed and considered by the SNC and the SNC has determined that none of the exceptions to the categorical exemption contained within CEQA Guidelines, Section 15300.2 are applicable.

**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:** Angela Avery

**Title:** Executive Officer

**Date:** 6/12/2024

**Signed by Lead Agency:** Yes

**Signed by Applicant:** No

**Date received for filing at OPR:** \_\_\_\_\_

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.  
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.