

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION



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

**PROJECT TITLE** Pauma Band of Luiseño Indians, “Reviving Tribal Wildfire Resiliency” – Pauma Indian Reservation

**PROJECT LOCATION** Pauma Mission Reserve; T9S, R1W, Sections 23-25      **COUNTY** San Diego

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

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 Sacramento, CA 94244-2460

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

CAL FIRE would provide funding to the Pauma Band of Luiseño Indians to conduct mechanical and manual fuel reduction treatments that use a combination of traditional ecological knowledge and modern techniques to reintroduce fire in key areas to improve forest health, increase fire resiliency in southern California, and promote pre-European settlement conditions. These treatments aim to serve California Native American Tribes and advance wildfire resilience, forest health, and cultural use of fire while promoting native plant and wildlife species.

**EXEMPTION STATUS**

- Categorical Exemption    Type and Section:
- Statutory Exemption (state code section):    Public Resources Code Section 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**

CEQA does not apply to fuel reduction, reforestation, & habitat restoration projects undertaken, in whole or in part, on federal lands to reduce the risk of high severity wildfire that have been reviewed under the NEPA, if the primary role of a state or local agency is providing funding or staffing for those projects. The proposed project was reviewed in its entirety under the "Pauma Forest Management Plan", signed March 15, 2018, and “Finding of No Significant Impact” Forest Management Plan for the Pauma Band of Luiseño Indians, signed January 24, 2016.

**DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING**

DocuSigned by:  John Melvin, Assistant Deputy Director Resource Management California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection	10/17/2024 _____ Date
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