



Notice of Exemption

Trinity County Resource Conservation District

Post Office Box 1450 · 30 Horseshoe Lane · Weaverville, CA 96093-

PROJECT TITLE	Middle Trinity Fuels Reduction Phase I: Junction City		
PROJECT LOCATION	The project is located in the Junction City park and dump along State Hwy 299 in Junction City, Trinity County, California. T33N, R10W, sections 7 and 18, MDBM.	COUNTY	Trinity
LEAD AGENCY	Trinity County Resource Conservation District (The District)		
CONTACT ADDRESS	Bethany Llewellyn, Program Manager, bllewellyn@tcrd.net P.O Box 1450, Weaverville, CA 96093	PHONE	530-623-6004

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Trinity County Resource Conservation District (the District) plans to implement fuels reduction activities along State Highway 299 and in the Junction City dump and park area in Trinity County, CA. This 140-acre area is owned by the County of Trinity and stewarded by the North Fork Grange. This project is an integral part of the District’s landscape strategy aimed at protecting Trinity County communities from future catastrophic wildfire events and returning the landscape to a healthy, less hazardous state. Project objectives include: reducing the risk of catastrophic wildfire, stimulating the growth of woody shrubs, oaks, and conifers, increasing water yields, encouraging the return of native grasses by reducing non-native invasive plants, and reducing conifer encroachment into the oak woodland and grassland areas.

Fuel Reduction treatments will include hand thinning of small diameter (less than 10” DBH) trees and shrubs, chipping of woody debris with a tracked or tow-behind chipper, hand piling of slash, mechanical thinning of small diameter trees (less than 10” DBH) and shrubs with a tracked masticator, prescribed fire including pile burning, jackpot burning, and broadcast burning, prescribed fire prep work including digging hand line to mineral soil, and hand pulling of invasive plants. Emphasis will be placed on eliminating the continuity of surface and ladder fuels. Some sub canopy trees may be removed to break up vertical continuity to dominant trees as well as to raise the canopy base height, which will reduce future fire intensity. The project will be maintained in perpetuity using similar treatments. Project design elements, including limitations on treatments near watercourses or culturally sensitive areas, will prevent environmental impacts. All prescribed fire will take place under a Smoke Management Plan approved by the North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District.

EXEMPTION STATUS

- Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4 § 15304 Minor Alterations to Land
- 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

It has been determined that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. This project is consistent with the requirements stated in Section 15304; Minor Alterations to land, and will have no significant environmental impacts to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, or to utilities and service systems.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING



 KELLY SHEEN, DISTRICT MANAGER