

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: (Public Agency): Nevada County Resource Conservation District
113 Presley Way, Suite 1
Grass Valley, CA 95945

County Clerk
County of: Nevada

(Address)

Project Title: Nevada County Prescribed Burn Association, Burn Plan October 2024

Project Applicant: Nevada County Resource Conservation District

Project Location - Specific:

Numerous Locations across Nevada County, see table in the attached document (page 4)

Project Location - City: Nevada City Project Location - County: Nevada

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The project was funded by The United States Forest Service to increase the pace and scale of prescribed burning throughout the state to improve fire resilience and forest/community health. The project will serve as an opportunity to equip private landowners with the knowledge and skills to use prescribed burning as a fuels management tool, decrease fuel continuity, and reduce the probability of catastrophic wildfire. The proposed project benefits private landowners, suppression resources, and the ecological integrity of the state's forestlands. This site is a premier candidate for prescribed burning as it is a fire wise community with community members concerned about their property.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Nevada County Resource Conservation District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Nevada County Resource Conservation District

Exempt Status: (check one):

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Categorical Exemption, Class 4
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____


Reasons why project is exempt:

Nevada County RCD is proposing the qualification of exemption from a comprehensive CEQA analysis under the Class 4 category for minor alterations to land. The project involves a low intensity prescribed underburn to improve community fire resiliency, reduce risks to first responders during a wildfire, and preserve the ecological integrity of the property when a wildfire ignites. The project will equip private landowners with the knowledge and skills to use prescribed burning as a fuels management tool to reduce the probability of catastrophic wildfire. The proposed project benefits private landowners, neighbors, suppression agencies, local native plant and animal communities and the state's forest and rangeland resources. The burn plan will identify hazard mitigation tactics and ensure the conservation of ecological and cultural resources. Under the specified prescription, the burn will have low velocity and minimal heat, resulting in the combustion of fine fuels only and not threatening the forest ecosystem. The proposed project will not result in the taking of endangered, rare, or threatened plant or animal species or result in significant erosion and sedimentation of surface waters.

Lead Agency
Contact Person: Briana Bacon Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 530/798-5530

If filed by applicant:

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:  Date: 10/14/2024 Title: Vice Chair, NCO RCD Board

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

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

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____