

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION



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

PROJECT TITLE	Bureau of Land Management, "Case Mountain Forest Health Project"		
PROJECT LOCATION	Township 17 South, Range 29 East, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian.	COUNTY	Tulare
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
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PROJECT DESCRIPTION
 CAL FIRE is providing funding to the Bureau of Land Management to conduct manual and mechanical fuel reduction treatments to maintain and improve the landscape while restoring areas heavily damaged by fire. Treatments include thinning, piling, pile burning, mastication, and removal of diseased, infested, or hazardous trees. These treatments will improve forest health, promote native plant and wildlife species, and improve forest resiliency while promoting long term carbon sequestration.

EXEMPTION STATUS

- Categorical Exemption Type and Section: Class
- 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 Bakersfield Field Office Bureau of Land Management NEPA Case Mountain Vegetation and Forest Health Plan Environmental Assessment/Initial Study and Finding of No Significant Impact, signed August 31, 2018. NEPA coverage for this project is 1,632 acres, with initial treatments at 621 acres.

The NEPA record of project approval is available to the General Public at:
https://eplanning.blm.gov/public_projects/nepa/94161/144811/178503/C060_2018_0030-EA_Case_Mountain_Vegetation_and_Forest_Health_Plan.pdf

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

DocuSigned by: John Melvin, Assistant Deputy Director Resource Management California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection	12/9/2024 Date
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