

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION



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

PROJECT TITLE	Sierra Institute for Community and Environment - Moonlight Fire Fuels Reduction in Owl and Goshawk Habitats Project (USFS)		
PROJECT LOCATION	Mt. Hough Ranger District; T27N, R10E, sections 33 and 35, T26N, R11E, Sections 29-30, T26N, R10E, Section 34, T25N, R10E, Sections 2-3, 10-11, 15.	COUNTY	Plumas
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

CAL FIRE would provide funding to the Sierra Institute for Community and Environment to conduct prescribed burning treatments, including pile burning, on the Plumas National Forest. These treatments aim to aid habitat restoration efforts to remaining habitat within and adjacent to the Moonlight Fire footprint which destroyed late-successional, old forest habitat. These treatments will also address post-fire forest recovery, reduce wildfire risks to local resources and community members, promote native plant and wildlife species, and improve forest resiliency.

EXEMPTION STATUS

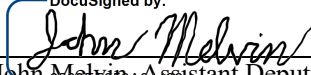
- Categorical Exemption Type and Section: Class
- Statutory Exemption (state code section): Public Resources Code Section 4799.05(d)(1)
- Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
- Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
- Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

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 Plumas National Forest Moonlight Fire Fuels Reduction in Owl and Goshawk Habitats Project NEPA Decision Memo, signed September 28, 2017. NEPA coverage for this project is up to 1,123 acres, with initial treatments at 250 acres.

The NEPA records of project approval is available to the General Public at:
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=51753&exp=overview>

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

DocuSigned by:  John Melvin, Assistant Deputy Director Resource Management California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection	1/9/2025 Date
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