

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 212
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: Lead Agency
Sierra Nevada Conservancy
11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205
Auburn, CA 95603

Project Title: (RFFCP2022) WIP Capacity Subgrant - Sierra Nevada Alliance (1739-RFFCP).

Project Location – Specific: General communication, outreach, and planning activities across all or part of 24 counties within Sierra Nevada Conservancy’s service area.

Project Location - City: No city, general outreach and planning activities only.

Project Location - County: All or part of 24 counties within Sierra Nevada Conservancy’s Region or service area.

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) would provide funding to the Sierra Nevada Alliance (Grantee) to participate in the Tribal Capacity Building Program (Project). The Tribal Capacity Building Program is a part of the Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program focusing on capacity building efforts to improve forest health and fire resiliency. The Grantee would partner with SNC to provide technical assistance to tribal organizations helping them to develop the skills to identify, prioritize, plan, raise funds for, and execute forest health and fire resiliency projects; no projects have yet been identified. The Project’s proposed activities would include delivery of workshops and training sessions, participating in meetings, and engaging with subcontractors to provide one-on-one technical support. The Project’s purpose would be to provide technical assistance to Tribal Capacity Building Program participants, helping them to lead or participate in priority programs and activities that advance tribal efforts that could potentially improve forest health and fire resiliency, facilitate greenhouse gas emissions reductions, and/or increase carbon sequestration in forests in California’s Sierra-Cascade Region. Further no specific future implementation project or projects have yet been identified.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Project Applicant / Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:

Jenny Hatch
Sierra Nevada Alliance
P.O. Box 7989, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96158
(530)542-4546

Exempt Status:

Common Sense Exemption – CEQA Guidelines, Section 15061, subd. (b)(3) and

Statutorily Exempt under Pub. Resources Code, Section 21102 (Feasibility and Planning Studies) and CEQA Guidelines, Section 15262.

Reasons why project is exempt:

These activities are exempt under the commonsense exemption under Section 15061, subd. (b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines which states that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question This funding will support capacity building efforts including the delivery of workshops and training sessions, participating in meetings, and providing technical assistance for early-stage planning and prioritization of currently unidentified, potential future projects related to forest health and fire resiliency. They are early-stage planning activities; no specific projects have yet been identified, nor have they been approved, adopted, or funded. There will be no ground or resource disturbance. Therefore, it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment. Additionally, the project would be statutorily exempt under Pub. Resources Code, section 21102 and CEQA Guidelines, section 15262 exempting feasibility and planning studies as the activity involves planning studies for possible future actions which the Sierra Nevada Conservancy Board has not approved, adopted, or funded. Further, there is no legally binding effect on later activities.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Mary Akens

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 530-450-5177

If filed by applicant: N/A

- 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: Angela Avery

Title: Executive Officer

Date: 1/16/2025

Signed by Lead Agency: Yes

Signed by Applicant: No

Date received for filing at OPR: _____

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