

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION



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

**PROJECT TITLE** Save the Redwoods League, “Giant Sequoia National Monument Restoration and Stewardship Project”

**PROJECT LOCATION** Western Divide Ranger District; Sequoia National Forest **COUNTY** Tulare

**LEAD AGENCY** California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

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 Sacramento, CA 94244-2460

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

CAL FIRE would provide funding to Save the Redwoods League to reduce hazardous fuel loading that has potential to increase the severity of wildfire in the future for Giant Sequoia groves within the Windy Fire footprint on the Sequoia National Forest in Tulare County. Treatments include manual and mechanical fuels reduction and biomass removal, broadcast and pile burning, hazard tree abatement, reforestation, and meadow restoration. These treatments will 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))

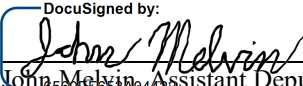
**REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT**

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 Sequoia National Forest NEPA Windy Fire Restoration Project Environmental Assessment and Decision Notice-Finding of No Significant Impact, signed December 28, 2023. NEPA coverage for this project is 16,977 acres, with initial treatments at 1,097 acres.

The NEPA record of project approval is available to the General Public at:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=62403&exp=overview>

**DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING**

DocuSigned by:  John Melvin, Assistant Deputy Director Resource Management California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection	3/4/2025 Date
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