

Filed in County Clerk's Office

Jesse Salinas
Yolo County - Clerk-Recorder

57-04182025-045

04/18/2025
FISH
Pages: 5
Fee: \$ 50.00

By klopez, Deputy



COUNTY RECORDER

Filing Requested by:

Yolo County Resource Conservation District

Name

221 West Court Street Suite 1

Address

Woodland, CA 95695

City, State, Zip

Notice of Exemption

To:

Yolo County Clerk-Recorder
625 Court Street, Room B-01
Woodland, CA 95695
meyer@yolorcd.org

From:

Yolo County Resource Conservation District
221 West Court Street, Suite 1
Woodland, CA 95695

Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

Project Title: Eucalyptus Grove Fuel Reduction and Grassland Broadcast Burn – Rumsey, CA

Project Location – Specific: Manzanita Ave and O’Leary Lane Rumsey, CA Parcel ID: 060241003000, 060241004000

Project Location – City: Rumsey, CA

Project Location – County: Yolo

Description of nature and purpose of the Project: This prescribed fire and fuels reduction and project is part of a larger Rumsey Buffer project around the town of Rumsey, CA. The project site contains a large and dense non-native eucalyptus grove and an adjacent open oak shrubland/grassland, totaling approximately 25 acres. To manage fuels, Yolo County Resource Conservation District, in partnership with the CAL FIRE Brooks station staff and local fire agencies, will implement a low-intensity broadcast burn in the grassland area and will thin the eucalyptus grove to open up the canopy and create vertical distance between trees.

Prescribed Fire in Annual Grassland

The broadcast burn is expected to occur in late spring or early summer 2025 (depending on ideal burn conditions) and may re-occur in the following season to adequately address the invasive weed presence. The 15-acre burn unit will be designed with the goal of managing invasive weeds/non-native annual grasses and yellow starthistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*) to improve conditions for native grasses and other grassland species. A broader goal for the burn will be improving community wildfire resilience through raised awareness and training about prescribed fire as a land management tool.

Historically, this grassland area was primarily tamarisk (*Tamarix spp.*) and was treated by the

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landowner and other entities with herbicides, then the dead plants were piled and burned, and the site was disked and seeded with native grasses. Although it was seeded with native grasses in 2007, most of the species' composition of the grassland area is non-native annual grasses and thistles. To promote biodiversity as well as further expand the Rumsey Buffer project, the Yolo County RCD will introduce a low-intensity broadcast burn, as outlined by a Burn Plan that will be prepared under the guidance and reviewed by a California State Certified Burn Boss. Low to moderate intensity fire results in levels of disturbance that are beneficial to California native ecosystems and the species that comprise them. Any trees nearby the project boundary are not expected to be impacted by low-intensity broadcast burning. The burn unit's containment lines will be existing disk lines created by the landowner and large mowed strips around the perimeter of the unit.

Trained staff from Yolo County RCD will prepare CAL FIRE burn permits and Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District permitting and will implement the burn alongside local fire protection districts and local community members.

Fuels Reduction of Eucalyptus Grove

Thinning of the eucalyptus grove will occur in the fall or early winter season of 2025 (or in subsequent years), to avoid nesting bird season and bat pup season. Eucalyptus trees are non-native, weedy trees with bark and oils that are highly flammable. This grove poses a risk to the town of Rumsey, CA and reducing fuels in the grove will reduce the likelihood of catastrophic wildfire. Thinning and reduction of ladder fuels in the eucalyptus grove will be performed by CAL FIRE. Felling of trees will be minimal and any removed trees will be smaller than twelve inches in diameter at breast height (DBH). Stumps of cut eucalyptus trees will immediately be treated with herbicide by Yolo County RCD staff, certified by the California Department of Pesticide Regulation. Yolo County RCD or other qualified operator will be on-site to operate a chipper to chip any fuels. The chipper will be parked on the solid ground (gravel driveway) and fuels and small trees will be dragged or moved to the chipper.

A Qualified Biologist with experience in conducting planning-level and species-specific surveys in the area, conducted a biological reconnaissance survey at the project site. Based on the results of the biological survey of both units, the project will not cause significant adverse impact to special status species with likelihood to occur near the project site.

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

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

Exempt Status:

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Class 4, Minor Alterations to Land CEQA Guidelines § 15304

Statutory Exemptions. State code number _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project has been designed with input from a qualified biologist to avoid impact to special status species. The project site contains a non-native eucalyptus grove and an adjacent predominantly non-native annual grassland, both of which serve little to no habitat value for special status plants or animals in the region. Additionally, larger trees, more suitable for nesting, are not proposed for removal. All eucalyptus species are prone to and adapted to wildfire. The thinning of this grove will help protect the town of Rumsey, CA by limiting or slowing the spread of potential wildfire. Removing small trees within the eucalyptus grove could also promote native species that provide habitat for native flora and fauna. Additionally, low to moderate intensity prescribed fires results in levels of disturbance that are beneficial to California native grasslands and the species that comprise them. Any trees within the prescribed fire boundary are not expected to be impacted by low-intensity broadcast burning.

The project meets the requirements of Class 4 Categorical Exemption (minor alterations to land) Section 15304. Project implementation will result in alterations to the land that are best described as minor in scope, that will not significantly impact the aesthetic of the property, or biological and/or cultural resources, and that do not involve the removal of mature, scenic trees for any purpose. No exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a "Notice of Exemption" for this project. It has been concluded that no significant adverse environmental impacts would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forest resources, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, energy, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use and planning, mineral resources, noise, populations and housing, public services, recreation, transportation and traffic, utilities and service systems, or wildfire.

Lead Agency Contact: Heather Nichols

Phone: (530) 661-1688 ext. 3

If filed by Applicant:

Attach a certified document of exemption finding

Has a notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature (Lead Agency):



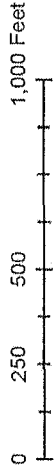
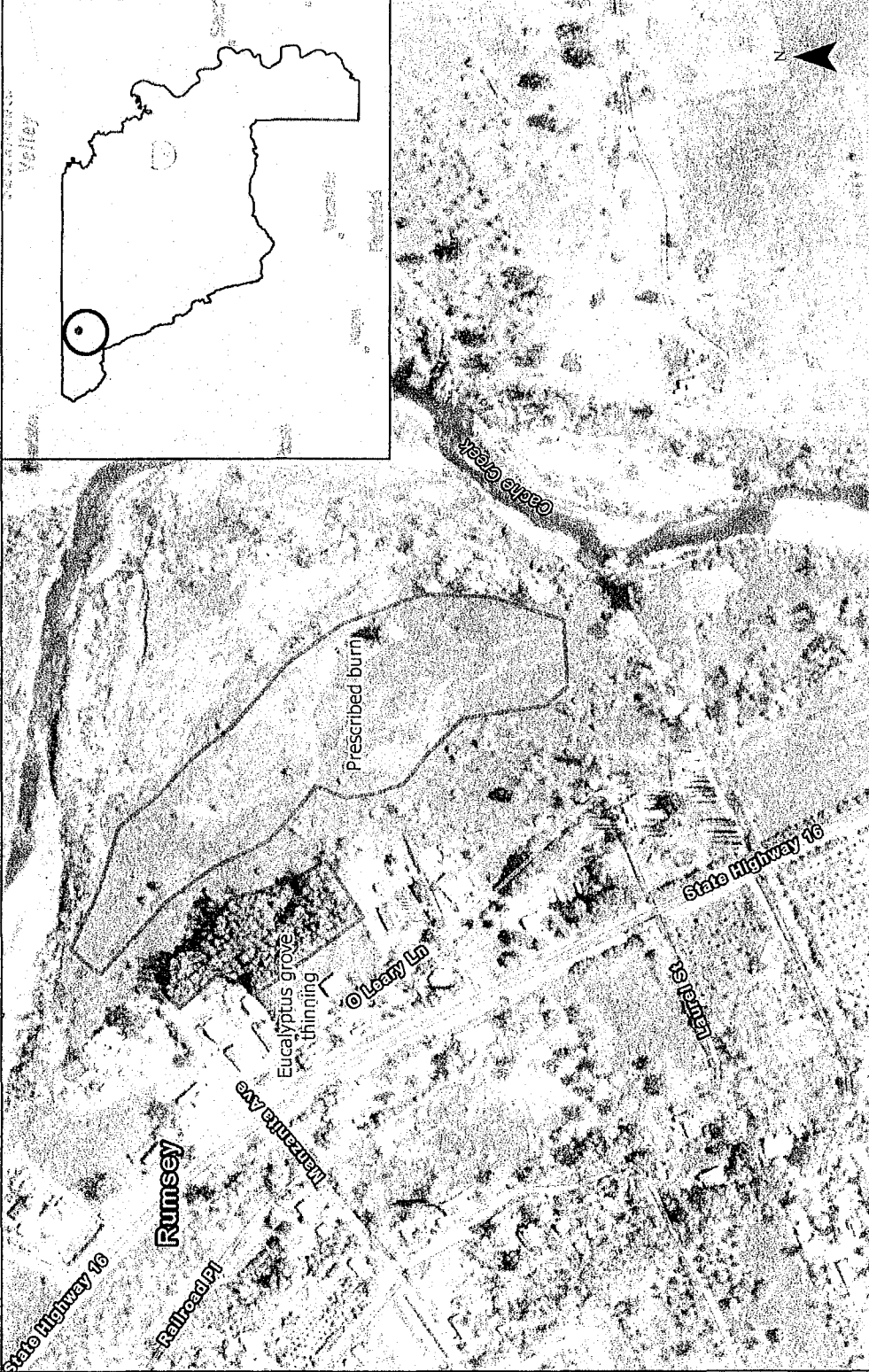
Date:

4/18/2025

Name/Title:

Heather Nichols, Executive Director

McCloskey Fuels Reduction Project



Fuels Reductions Projects



State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife
2025 ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FILING FEE
CASH RECEIPT
 DFW 753.5a (REV. 01/01/25) Previously DFG 753.5a

RECEIPT NUMBER: 57-04182025-045
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER (If applicable)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

LEAD AGENCY YOLO COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION	LEAD AGENCY EMAIL meyer@yolorcd.org	DATE 04/18/2025
COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING YOLO		DOCUMENT NUMBER

PROJECT TITLE
 EUCALYPTUS GROVE FULE REDUCTION AND GRASSLAND BROADCAST BURN-RUMSEY, CA

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME HEATHER NICHOLS	PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL meyer@yolorcd.org	PHONE NUMBER (530) 661-1688
PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS 221 WEST COURT STREET	CITY WOODLAND	STATE CA
		ZIP CODE 95695

PROJECT APPLICANT (Check appropriate box)

Local Public Agency
 School District
 Other Special District
 State Agency
 Private Entity

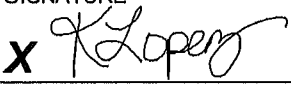
CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:

<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Impact Report (EIR)	\$4,123.50	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND)	\$2,968.75	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Regulatory Program (CRP) document - payment due directly to CDFW	\$1,401.75	\$ _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exempt from fee		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of Exemption (attach)		
<input type="checkbox"/> CDFW No Effect Determination (attach)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee previously paid (attach previously issued cash receipt copy)		
<hr/>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Water Right Application or Petition Fee (State Water Resources Control Board only)	\$850.00	\$ _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County documentary handling fee		\$ 50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Other		\$ _____

PAYMENT METHOD:

Cash
 Credit
 Check
 Other

TOTAL RECEIVED \$ 50.00

SIGNATURE 	AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE Karla Lopez, Deputy County Clerk-Recorder
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State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife
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PROJECT APPLICANT NAME HEATHER NICHOLS	PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL meyer@yolorcd.org	PHONE NUMBER (530) 661-1688
PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS 221 WEST COURT STREET	CITY WOODLAND	STATE CA
		ZIP CODE 95695

PROJECT APPLICANT (Check appropriate box)

Local Public Agency School District Other Special District State Agency Private Entity

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