

Notice of Exemption

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

From: (Public Agency) Honey Lake Valley RCD
1516 Main Street, Suite A
Susanville, CA 96130

County Clerk

County of: Lassen County Clerk
220 S Lassen Street, Annex
Susanville, California, 96130

Project Title: Mountain Meadows Forest Health and Watershed Restoration #8GG23627

Project Location – Specific:

The project footprint is within Lassen County and will conduct post fire recovery work on approximately 3,303 acres of privately owned timberland within portions of the North Fork of the Feather River watershed (specifically within portions of the Mountain Meadows Creek, Moonlight Pass, and Cooks Creek Planning Watersheds). Work will include site preparation, pre-planting treatment of competing vegetation, mechanical site preparation, and sowing and planting of seedlings. The target condition for the treated areas is to have well stocked forests established that are resilient to future natural disturbances such as wildfire, endemic and exotic pests, drought, and increased temperatures. Legal Location of T28N R09E Sections 25 and T28N R10E Sections 9, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34

Project Location - City: Westwood, CA Project Location - County: Lassen County

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

CAL FIRE would provide funding to expedite priority restoration measures in high severity burn areas on approximately 3,303 acres of privately owned timberland (owned by RRF Westwood LLC and managed by W. M. Beaty & Associates) within proximity to the community of Westwood. Funding supports the broader goal to reforest approximately 18,000 acres burn at a high severity in the Dixie Fire footprint. Funding provided through the Forest Health Program will focus entirely on treatment of fire killed trees by chipping or mastication, herbicide application, and purchase and planting of seedlings. The project supports a year-round local workforce, enabling continued operations of wood processing facilities, while improving forest health, watershed conditions, and reducing fuel loads near the communities of Westwood and Clear Creek.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: The Honey Lake Valley Resource Conservation District (HLVRCD)

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: RRF Westwood LLC

Exempt Status:

Statutory Exemptions. State code number: Public Resources Code Section 21080(b)(3) and 14 CCR Section 15269(a)

Reasons why project is exempt:

Pursuant to CEQA Section 21080(b)(3) and CEQA Guidelines Section 15269(a) a project is exempt from CEQA when it “maintain[s], repair[s], restore[s]... property or facilities damaged or destroyed as a result of a disaster in a disaster stricken area in which a state of emergency has been proclaimed by the Governor pursuant to the California Emergency Services Act, commencing with Section 8550 of the Government Code.” Implementation of the project would restore forested landscapes, restore carbon sequestration capacity of targeted forested landscapes, restore and increase capacity as it relates to above and below ground carbon storage, and restore forest habitat destroyed by the Dixie Fire. The action is therefore exempt from CEQA because it would restore property damaged or destroyed as a result of a disaster for which a state of emergency was proclaimed, pursuant to CEQA Section 21080(b)(3) and CEQA Guidelines Section 15269(a).

Public Agencies that will be involved with the project:

Honey Lake Valley Resource Conservation District
California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Lead Agency Contact Person:

Kelsey Siemer, District Manager
Honey Lake Valley Resource Conservation District
530-260-0067

Signature:  _____

Date: 4/24/2025

Jesse Claypool, Chairman
Honey Lake Valley Resource Conservation District

ATTEST:

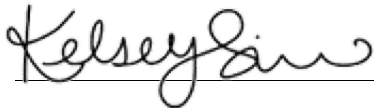
I, Kelsey Siemer, Clerk of the Board of Directors, Honey Lake Valley Resource Conservation District, do hereby certify that the Honey Lake Valley Resource Conservation District approved this Notice of Exemption on the 24th day of April, 2025 by the following vote:

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Abstentions: 0

Absent: 1

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Kelsey Siemer, Clerk to the Board of Directors
Honey Lake Valley Resource Conservation District