

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION



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

PROJECT TITLE	Pauma Band of Luiseño Indians, “Reviving Tribal Wildfire Resiliency”		
PROJECT LOCATION	Pauma Band of Mission Indians’ Reservation, 3.363917, -116.953404	COUNTY	San Diego County
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
LEAD AGENCY CONTACT	Shannon Johnson, Staff Chief PO Box 944246, Sacramento, CA 94244-2460 shannon.johnson@fire.ca.gov	PHONE	530-338-8197
PROJECT PROPONENT	Pauma Band of Luiseño Indians		
PROJECT PROPONENT CONTACT	Cliff Devers, Vice Chair 1010 Reservation Road, Pauma, CA 92061 cdevers@pauma-nsn.gov	PHONE	760-892-4501

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

CAL FIRE would provide funding to the Pauma Band of Luiseño Indians to implement tribal wildfire resilience treatment activities on up to 110 acres within the Pauma Band of Mission Indians’ Reservation in San Diego County to manage their ancestral lands. Treatments include manual and mechanical, including mastication, fuel reduction treatments, pre-burn site preparation activities, prescribed burning, including cultural burning, and herbicide application. These treatments aim to serve California Native American Tribes and advance wildfire resilience, forest health, and cultural use of fire.

EXEMPTION STATUS

- Categorical Exemption Type and Section: Class
- Statutory Exemption (state code section): Public Resources Code Section 4799.05(e)

REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

Pursuant to Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 4799.05(e), CEQA does not apply to projects funded by the Nature-Based Solutions Tribal Program, or the tribal cultural burn and tribal wildfire funding authorized by Schedule (2) of Item 3540-101-0001 of Section 2.00 of the Budget Act of 2021, as added by Section 46 of Chapter 240 of the Statutes of 2021. This subdivision only applies to projects carried out on lands subject to the jurisdictional control or the ownership of a California Native American tribe, as defined in Section 21073. The proposed project was reviewed in its entirety and determined to meet the requirements of PRC 4799.05(e).

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

DocuSigned by: John Melvin, Assistant Deputy Director Resource Management California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection	5/1/2025 _____ Date
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