

Notice of Determination

To:	From:	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Office of Planning and Research <i>U.S. Mail:</i> P.O. Box 3044 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044	Address: Contact: Phone:	Sacramento Headquarters 715 P Street Sacramento, CA 95814 Shannon Johnson, Staff Chief, Forest Health, Wood Products, and Bioenergy 916-902-9345
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***SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination
in compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resource Code.***

State Clearinghouse Number (if submitted to State Clearinghouse): 2019012052

Project Title: Western Klamath Landscape Fuels Reduction and Forest Health Project

Project Applicant: Mid Klamath Watershed Council

Project Location (include county): Western Klamath Mountains, including portions of western Siskiyou and eastern Humboldt counties

Project Description:

The Mid Klamath Watershed Council is proposing the Western Klamath Landscape Fuels Reduction and Forest Health Project (project) which would include vegetation treatments on 31,234 acres of private State Responsibility Area (SRA) lands in western Siskiyou and eastern Humboldt counties (project area). The project consists of ecological restoration and wildland-urban interface (WUI) fuel reduction treatment types and the proposed treatment activities are prescribed burning, mechanical treatments, and manual treatments. The CEQA lead agency is the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE); its discretionary approval is the issuance of Forest Health Grant funding to implement treatments within a portion of the project area. CAL FIRE has prepared a Project-Specific Analysis and Addendum (PSA/Addendum) for the project as a later activity covered by the California Vegetation Treatment Project (CalVTP) Program Environmental Impact Report (EIR). Mid Klamath Watershed Council is the "implementing entity" reflecting its role as the lead implementer of treatments.

The project consists of vegetation treatments in the western Klamath Mountains within and adjacent to the 1.2-million-acre planning area of the Western Klamath Restoration Partnership. The elevation of the project area ranges from approximately 400 to 7,200 feet. The current conditions in the project area include overstocked forests, dense shrublands, and meadows that have been degraded and as a result are experiencing conifer, hardwood, and shrub encroachment. Proposed treatments aim to increase biodiversity, ecosystem health, and climate resilience by recreating pre-suppression vegetation distribution to establish functioning, resilient, heterogeneous forests and meadows at multiple scales and process-based restoration through fire. Vegetation removed during implementation of the proposed treatments would be processed through mastication, chipping and scattering, piling and burning, and lopping and scattering. Invasive plant and noxious weed biomass would be treated onsite to eliminate seed and propagules or would be disposed of offsite at an appropriate waste collection facility to prevent reestablishment or spread of invasive plants and noxious weeds. Invasive plants and noxious weeds would not be chipped and spread, scattered, or mulched on site.

This is to advise that the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection **has approved the above**
(Lead Agency or Responsible Agency)

Described project on July 11, 2023 and has made the following determinations regarding the above-described project.
(date)

1. The project [will will not] have a significant effect on the environment.
2. The Western Klamath Landscape Fuels Reduction and Forest Health Project PSA/Addendum (SCH# 2019012052) was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. The CalVTP Program EIR sufficiently analyzes and addresses potential environmental impacts from the project, and the project will not trigger any of the criteria requiring additional CEQA review pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15162. The project will not result in new significant impacts or a substantial increase in the severity of the significant environmental impacts identified in the CalVTP Program EIR. The proposed project is within the scope of the CalVTP Program EIR consistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15168(c)(2), as documented in the PSA.
4. Mitigation measures and standard project requirements from the CalVTP Program EIR were made a condition of the approval of the project; no new project-specific mitigation measures are required.
5. The implementation of applicable CalVTP Program EIR mitigation measures and standard project requirements will be monitored and reported pursuant to the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program that was adopted for this project.
6. The previous statement of overriding considerations in the CalVTP Program EIR was reaffirmed and adopted for this project by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

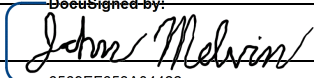
Dated Received for filing at OPR:

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21087, Public Resources Code.

Reference: Sections 21000-21174, Public Resources Code.

7. Findings were made pursuant to the provisions of State CEQA Guidelines Section 15091.

The Western Klamath Landscape Fuels Reduction and Forest Health Project PSA/Addendum and associated record of project approval are available to the general public at <https://www.fire.ca.gov/what-we-do/natural-resource-management/environmental-protection-program> or during normal business hours at CAL FIRE Sacramento Headquarters, 715 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814. The custodian of these documents is Andrea Williams, Senior Environmental Compliance Scientist at CAL FIRE; Andrea.Williams@fire.ca.gov.

DocuSigned by:
Signature (Public Agency):  Title: Assistant Deputy Director
Date: 7/11/2023 6569EF653A04422... Date Received for filing at OPR: