



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

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

2019038029

PROJECT TITLE Re-Occurring Prescribed Fire Training AEU/Sutter Hill

PROJECT LOCATION CAL FIRE's Sutter Hill Station, Sutter Hill, CA
Township 6N; Range 11E; Sec. 18, MDBM , Amador City **COUNTY** Amador
Quad

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

CONTACT Thomas J. Tinsley, Unit Forester - Forester II

ADDRESS CAL FIRE's Amador-El Dorado-Sacramento Unit **PHONE** 530-647-5203
2840 Mount Danaher Road, Camino, CA 95709

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project involves field training exercises for CAL FIRE and cooperating Amador County Fire Department employees to improve proficiency for planning and administering prescribed fire operations and to reduce fuel hazards around CAL FIRE's Sutter Hill Station. A total of approximately 8 acres of annual grasses and brush shall be treated on state property in an area which has been burned multiple times over the years under a Categorical Exemption (CE) which expired in 2018. Minimal soil disturbance will occur. No watercourses exist on or adjacent to the proposed project. No known occurrences or habitat of threatened, rare or endangered species occur in or adjacent to the project area. No activity will take place on any steep pitches over 50% in slope or when soils are saturated. The proposed area shall be maintained using similar treatments weather and burning prescription windows permitting in the future. The AEU Environmental Coordinator will survey the project area each year prior to training to confirm the presence or absence of threatened and/or endangered species.

- EXEMPTION STATUS**
- Categorical Exemption Type and Section: Class 4 15304
Minor Alterations to land
 - Statutory Exemption (state code section):
 - Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
 - Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
 - Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

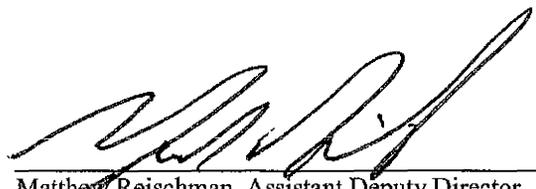
This project fits under the description for a Class 4 (Minor Alterations to Land) Categorical Exemption to CEQA. CALFIRE staff conducted an environmental review to confirm that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. This review included an on-the-ground field inspection by the Unit Forester, and consultation with a CALFIRE State Archaeologist familiar with the property. The Department has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, or to utilities and service systems. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at AEU Unit Headquarters in Camino.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

MAR 04 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE


Matthew Reischman, Assistant Deputy Director Date 3/1/19
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection