

Notice of Exemption

2019038333

Form D

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

From: (Public Agency) Sierra Nevada Conservancy
11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205
Auburn, CA 95603

County Clerk
County of Calaveras
891 Mountain Ranch Road
San Andreas, CA 95249

(Address)

Project Title: South Fork Mokelumne River Watershed Restoration Phase 4 Planning (SNC #1068)

Project Location - Specific:

The 557-acre project site is located on private lands and lands owned by Calaveras County Water District (CCWD) that span the South Fork Mokelumne River and three tributaries: Independence Gulch, Wet Gulch, and Humbug Gulch. The project area is roughly bound by State Route 26 to the north, Independence Road to the south, Deardorff Road to the west, and Cemetery Road and Blizzard Mine Road to the east. The communities of Sandy Gulch, Wilseyville, Independence, Rail Road Flat, Glencoe, and West Point are less than a mile from the project.

Project Location - City: South of Sandy Gulch Project Location - County: Calaveras

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy would provide funding in the amount of \$89,125 to the Calaveras Healthy Impact Product Solutions to complete CEQA analysis for removal of hazardous fuel and thinning of the overstocked fir forest on 557 acres of private lands and CCWD-owned lands adjacent to a 912-acre Bureau of Land Management fuels reduction project. Planning work will include cultural resource, botany, and wildlife surveys. Additionally, a silvicultural survey will be conducted by a Registered Professional Forester who will develop a site plan for the treatment of each parcel included in the project area. All survey data will contribute to preparation of a CEQA document.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Calaveras Healthy Impact Product Solutions

Exempt Status: (check one)

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Section 15306, "Information Collection"
Statutory Exemptions. State code number: Section 15262, "Feasibility and Planning Studies"

Reasons why project is exempt:

This is a planning project involving the preparation of environmental compliance documents; it does not involve physical alterations to the environment. Specific actions include cultural resource, botany, wildlife, and silvicultural surveys and preparation of a CEQA document. Future forest management activities have not been approved, and the completion of these environmental documents will not have a legally binding effect on future activities.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Shannon Ciotti Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (530) 823-4689

If filed by applicant:

- 1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature: [Signature] Date: 3/14/2019 Title: Asst. Dir. of Planning & Research

- Signed by Lead Agency
Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR: Governor's Office of Planning & Research

MAR 14 2019

Revised 2005