

Notice of Exemption

2019038334

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 Nevada
950 Maidu Avenue, Suite 210
Nevada City, CA 95959

(Address)

Project Title: Independence Lake Forest Health & Resiliency (SNC #1069)

Project Location - Specific:

The project location is The Nature Conservancy's Independence Lake Preserve (Preserve) in Sierra and Nevada Counties. The Preserve covers 2,300 acres and is surrounded by the Tahoe National Forest. The Preserve is approximately 17 miles north of Truckee and 12 miles south of Sierraville.

Project Location - City: northeast of Truckee Project Location - County: Nevada and Sierra Counties

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy would provide funding in the amount of \$99,688 to The Nature Conservancy to continue planning for a forest restoration and fire resiliency project at its Independence Lake Preserve in Sierra County and Nevada County. The proposed project will involve completing the necessary planning for mechanical thinning and prescribed burning of approximately 1,659 acres of mixed conifer forest on the Preserve. The planning work would include preparation of a Timber Harvest Plan, Prescribed Fire Burn Plan, GIS mapping, and other supporting needs.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: The Nature Conservancy

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 preparation of a Timber Harvest Plan, Prescribed Fire Burn Plan, GIS mapping, and other supporting needs associated with planning for a forest restoration and fire resiliency project. Forest management actions 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. EXECUTIVE DIR.
Governor's Office of Planning & Research

- Signed by Lead Agency
Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR: MAR 14 2019

Revised 2005