

Notice of Exemption

2019038335

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

(Address)

County Clerk
County of Sierra
100 Courthouse Square
Downieville, CA 95936

Project Title: Sierra Buttes/Lakes Basin Properties Fuel Reduction Project (SNC #1070)

Project Location - Specific:

The project is located in Sierra County, generally surrounded by the Tahoe National Forest, and centered at approximately 39°36'51.31"N and 120°39'59.85"W.

Project Location - City: North of Sierra City

Project Location - County: Sierra

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy would provide \$167,200 in funding to the Sierra County Land Trust for creation of a 300-foot wide shaded fuel break on 69 acres centered along Butcher Ranch Road. The proposed fuel break ties in with upper elevation meadows of Butcher Ranch, Robinson Cow Camp, and an un-named meadow near Holmes Cabin to effectively form a 3-mile fuel break adjacent to forested areas and the water, recreation, and habitat-rich Sierra Buttes/Gold Lakes Basin to the east. The project will reduce wildfire risk in the immediate Packer Saddle and Lakes Basin area, surrounding public and private forest lands, and nearby small communities. The project site and surrounding area is used heavily by recreationists.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Sierra County Land Trust

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));
[X] Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: 15304: Minor Alterations to Land
Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project would result in minor alterations to the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation associated with forestry activities on 69 acres, including thinning of vegetation and trees in an area with a high percentage of brush species and shade-tolerant tree species. Hand crews will complete work on steep slopes and in aesthetically sensitive areas while masticators will be used elsewhere. The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) reviewed the project and determined that it is exempt from the requirements for preparation of a Timber Harvest Plan pursuant to 14 CCR § 1038(j). The project incorporates all environmentally-protective features required by CAL FIRE.

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:

[Handwritten Signature]

Date:

3/14/2019

Title:

A.E.O.

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR:

MAR 14 2019

Revised 2005

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE