

Notice of Exemption

2019038336

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 Plumas
520 Main Street Room 102
Quincy, CA 95971

(Address)

Project Title: Quincy Watershed Improvement Project (SNC #1081)

Project Location - Specific:

The approximately 665-acre project area is located within the upper Feather River watershed in Plumas County. The project area is bound by the town of Quincy to the north and the 2017 Minerva Fire footprint to the south-southwest. The eastern border of the project area abuts Soper-Wheeler logging company lands. Landowners within the project site include the Plumas National Forest and American Valley Community Service District.

Project Location - City: south of Quincy Project Location - County: Plumas

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy would provide funding in the amount of \$99,997 to the Plumas Audubon Society to complete a CEQA and NEPA study for fuels reduction via hand thinning, piling, and underburning. Initial planning will require wildlife, archaeology, soils, botany, and forestry surveys in addition to preparation of NEPA and CEQA documents. This planning phase is the first step towards initiating a fuels reduction project within the Wildland Urban Interface near the town of Quincy.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Plumas Audubon Society

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 completing resource surveys and preparation NEPA and CEQA documents that evaluate future possible actions. Future fuel reduction 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: 3/14/19 Title: ACS

- Signed by Lead Agency
Signed by Applicant

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

MAR 14 2019

Revised 2005