



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

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

2019048074

PROJECT TITLE	Highway 36 East Fuels Reduction Project		
PROJECT LOCATION	Within the ROW of the North and South sides of Highway 36 East. T27N R3W, Sec. 2,11, T28N R3W, Sec. 25,30,36, T28N R2W, Sec 2,3,4,8,17,18,19, T28N R1W, Sec. 5,6 MDB&M	COUNTY	Tehama
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	Dawn Pedersen, Unit Forester, Tehama-Glenn Unit		
ADDRESS	604 Antelope Blvd. Red Bluff, CA 96080	PHONE	(530) 528-5106

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Tehama-Glenn Unit of CAL FIRE is proposing to construct a fuel break within the Caltrans right-of-way along both sides of Highway 36 E from mile post 45.4 to mile post 58.18 east of the city of Red Bluff, CA. Using CAL FIRE crews, engines, equipment and hand tools, excess trees 10 inches in diameter and under will be felled and disposed of by burning or chipping. Preference for trees to be left within the project area will be oak, pine and juniper trees that will have their branches pruned up to 8' above ground level resulting in a minimum live crown cover of 50% in densely canopied areas. Brush will also be cut piled and burned or chipped. Annual grasses located between the roads edge and private property fence lines will be burned. The goal of this project is to remove unnatural levels of ladder fuels, improve tree spacing and health and remove annual grass growth at the highways edge. Fuel breaks such as this one proposed have proven to be effective in controlling the many small fires that originate from this highway and help to provide protection to the many residential homes and ranch lands located along its length. The fuel break will be installed each year after the annual grasses have cured and cease to grow for the remainder of the year. The project begins at Stice road and ends at the bridge that crosses Payne's Creek, totaling 13 miles in length (each side of the highway) and encompassing 259 acres. Elevations within the project area range from is 300 feet to 900 feet. The terrain is characterized as being located on flat to rolling slopes. Vegetation is grass dominated oak woodland. Several class III watercourses/gulches intersect the project area. Payne's Creek, a class I watercourse is adjacent to project area. No ground disturbing activities will be allowed within 75' of these features. Work is subject to weather, but anticipated to begin in late May and be completed within 16 days annually.

EXEMPTION STATUS

- Categorical Exemption Class 4 § 15304(i)– 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 portions of Class 4 Section 15304 (c) & (f) – Minor alterations to Land
 Field review by CAL FIRE staff confirmed that no exceptions apply that would preclude the use of a notice of exemption for this project. The Department has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland or 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 or traffic, or to utilities and service systems. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at CAL FIRE's Tehama-Glenn Unit Headquarters.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

APR 04 2019

4/4/19

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Mathew Reischman, Asst. Deputy Director
 California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

Date