

2019048311

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044
County Clerk
County of:

From: (Public Agency): Caltrans, District 2
1657 Riverside Drive
Redding, CA 96001
(Address)

Project Title: Encroachment Permit 02-18-N-LT-0451

Project Applicant: California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

Project Location - Specific:

The proposed project is located in Tehama County on State Route (SR) 36 from post mile 45.40 to 58.18.

Project Location - City: Project Location - County: Tehama

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Tehama-Glenn Unit of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) proposes to construct a fuel break along both sides of SR 36 in Tehama County from post mile 45.40 to 58.18. The fuel break would be completely within the State's right-of-way and would encompass approximately 259 acres. 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 edge of the highway. Using hand crews, engines, equipment, and hand tools, excess trees up to 10 inches in diameter would be felled and disposed of by burning or chipping. Oak, pine, and juniper trees would be retained and have their branches pruned up to 8 feet above the ground, resulting in a minimum live crown cover of 50 percent in densely canopied areas. Brush would also be cut, piled, and burned/chipped. Annual grasses between the edge of pavement and private property fence lines would be burned. The fuel break would be installed each year after the annual grasses have cured and stopped growing. Work is anticipated to begin in late-May and would be completed within 16 days annually.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Caltrans for issuance of encroachment permit

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

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: Minor Alterations to Land, Section 15304
Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

Reasons why project is exempt:

CAL FIRE has determined the project to be categorically exempt in accordance with Section 15304 (Minor Alterations to Land) Class 4 (i) - Minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes. Examples include fuel management activities within 30 feet of structures to reduce the volume of flammable vegetation, provided that the activities will not result in the taking of endangered, rare, or threatened plant or animal species or significant erosion and sedimentation of surface waters. This exemption shall apply to fuel management activities within 100 feet of a structure if the public agency having fire protection responsibility for the area has determined that 100 feet of fuel clearance is required due to extra hazardous fire conditions.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Emiliano Pro Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (530) 225-3174

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: Date: 4/15/19 Title: Env. Branch Chief - R1

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: Government's Office of Planning & Research

APR 15 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE