



State of California
 The Natural Resources Agency
 California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

2019070459

PROJECT TITLE	Bottle Rock Road Roadside Fuel Reduction		
PROJECT LOCATION	Portions of T13N R9W Sec. 25,36, T12N R9W Sec. 1, T12N R8W Sec. 6,7,18,19,20,28,29,33, T11N R8W Sec. 3,4,10, MDB&M	COUNTY	Lake
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	Ben Nicholls	PHONE	707-576-2089
ADDRESS	2210 West College Ave Santa Rosa, CA 95421		

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING (DESCRIBE THE PROJECT ACTIVITIES, PROJECT SITE AND ITS SURROUNDINGS, ITS LOCATION, AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING):

Bottle Rock Road is the main connection between the communities of Cobb and Kelseyville, in Lake County California. A shaded fuel break along this corridor will reduce the risk of wildfire, and in the event of a fire, provide a safer escape route for the public. A shaded fuel break is proposed to be constructed along Bottle Rock Road from starting at State Route 29 in Kelseyville to Highway 175 in Cobb. The vegetation type consists of trees and shrubs interspersed with grassy oak woodland areas. Dominant species include Douglas-fir (*pseudotsuga menziesii*), valley oak (*quercus lobata*), coast live oak (*quercus agrifolia*), California bay laurel (*umbellularia californica*), madrone (*arbutus menziesii*), coyote brush (*baccharis pilularis*) and manzanita (*arctostaphylos* spp.). There are scattered gray pine (*pinus sabiniana*) and ponderosa pine (*pinus ponderosa*) in the area as well.

Bottle Rock Road is approximately 10 miles long and work will consist of removal of brush, shrubs, and small trees up to 6" in diameter by hand crews. Some areas along the road may be masticated for initial treatment and later for maintenance. Cut material will be chipped or piled and burned for disposal. The maximum distance of treatment will be 100' from the edge of the pavement. Primarily 50' above the road and 100' below. Brush, shrubs and small trees will be removed to eliminate fire ladder fuels and increase spacing between tree crowns. The reduced fuel zone will lessen the chance of a wildfire starting and increase the likelihood of crews being able to extinguish the fire. Pacific Gas & Electric is seeking landowner permission on eight of the ten miles of Bottle Rock Road to complete a 30' fuel break under the powerlines, which would tie into the proposed fuel break.

- Categorical Exemption Type/Section: **Class 4** Pursuant to §15304, 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 within the above-listed Categorical Exemption listed in the CEQA Guidelines. Field review by CAL FIRE staff confirmed that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. CAL FIRE has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/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/traffic, or to utilities and service systems. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at Sonoma-Lake-Napa Unit Headquarters, 1199 Big Tree Road, St. Helena, CA. 94574.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

JUN 14 2019

Governor's Office of Planning & Research STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Matthew Reischman
 Matthew Reischman, Assistant Deputy Director Date
 California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection 6/11/19

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