



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

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

**2019120209**

<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>	Jackson DSF Timber Stand Improvement		
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>	Jackson Demonstration State Forest	<b>COUNTY</b>	Mendocino
<b>LEAD AGENCY</b>	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
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**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The goal of the proposed project is to provide for maintenance of vegetation management work performed in conjunction with Timber Harvest Plans. This work will promote conifer regeneration and address competing woody vegetation and hardwoods. Activities conducted under this project will include: precommercial thinning of conifer species (hand felling of individual stems to increase light and growing space), hand felling of less than 11 in diameter competing noncommercial trees and vegetation, foliar herbicide applications, and frill herbicide applications.


**EXEMPTION STATUS**

- Categorical Exemption    Type and Section: 14 CCR 15304 Class 4 (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 will utilize manual methods to treat submerchantable tree species and nonmerchantable shrub species. No heavy equipment use is proposed under this project. No woody material will be commercialized or removed from the site in association with this project. There will not be any ground disturbance associated with this project. No overstory trees or trees with wildlife habitat value will be removed in association with this project. The goal of this project is to improve forest health, structure, composition, and growth through minor modification to the understory of existing stands, in order to promote the establishment of a new generation of conifers that will one day grow into the overstory. For these reasons this project will not have a significant effect on the environment and, qualifies for a categorical exemption under 14 CCR 15304 Class 4 (Minor Alterations to Land). Class 4 exemptions under this code section consist of "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." (14 CCR 15304) 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 1416 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Sacramento, CA 95814.

**DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING**

  
 Matthew Reischman, Assistant Deputy Director    Date  
 California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

DEC 09 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE