

Post Court House
POSTED 12/2/2019 - 1/9/2020 ~~KMZ~~

FILED

DEC - 2 2019

**MARIPOSA COUNTY
NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

KEITH M. WILLIAMS
MARIPOSA COUNTY CLERK

Karen M. Herman
KAREN M. HERMAN
Conservation District

**TO: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 12
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044**

**FROM: Mariposa County Resource Conservation District
PO Box 746 (5039 Fairgrounds Road)
Mariposa, CA 95338**

**TO: County Clerk, County of Mariposa
P.O. Box 247
Mariposa, CA 95338**

2020010141

Project Title: Greeley Hill Community Fuelbreak

Project Location – County/Specific: Project is located in Mariposa County on private lands along Smith Station Road - a County-maintained road - from the Tuolumne County line south to its intersection with Greeley Hill Road. Specifically, fuels reduction work will be conducted roughly within 200-foot distance of this County-maintained road threatened by dead or dying trees and highly-flammable ladder fuels.

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project: The Mariposa County Fire Safe Council's Greeley Hill Community Fuelbreak project is a Tree Mortality Hazard Mitigation Project in Tier 1 High Hazard zones on State Responsibility Area lands within Mariposa County. The work is critical to meet the public safety and tree disposal needs stemming from widespread tree mortality in the southern Sierra Nevada, and to complete the program of work (2016 Mariposa County Tree Mortality Hazard Mitigation Project) with the co-benefits that include protecting infrastructure and increasing public safety from debris flows and flooding damage due to high levels of biomass on erosive, fire damaged soils. The project also protects communities located within the Wildland Urban Interface.

The mitigation activities are needed based on a high density of dead and dying trees and highly-flammable ladder fuels which threaten powerlines, roads and evacuation corridors, critical community infrastructure and other existing structures. The project will benefit Mariposa County residents and visitors, Mariposa County business owners, the U.S. Forest Service, CAL FIRE and all emergency responders. The purpose of this project is to interrupt potential wildfire behavior by reducing the rate of spread and intensity of fire and to provide improved opportunities for fire crews to stop the fire spread. The project will provide an evacuation route for residents as well as a vital ingress-egress route for first responders under exigent circumstances and from which to make a fire defensible stand. The project will reduce the amount of hazardous fuels on approximately 25 acres of private land adjacent to County roads in the Wildland-Urban Interface area east of Greeley Hill, and is designed to protect the communities and critical infrastructure while also reducing the potential for fires to spread from developed areas. The dead or dying trees included in this project are not healthy, mature or scenic trees based on their current condition. Dead or dying trees will be felled in a controlled manner to reduce hazards. Ladder fuels (brush, small trees) will be hand masticated or mechanically masticated as slopes/accessibility allow.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Mariposa County Resource Conservation District

Name of Person (Applicant) or Agency Carrying Out Project:

Barbara Cone, Executive Director
Mariposa County Fire Safe Council

Exempt Status:

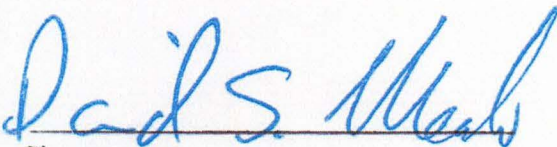
- ☒ Declared Emergency (PRC §21080(b)(3); §15269(a) CEQA Guidelines): Proclamation of a State of Emergency, Executive Order 10-30-2015
- ☒ Emergency Project (PRC §21080(b)(4); §15269(b)(c) CEQA Guidelines)
- ☒ Categorical Exemption (Type and Section No.): Existing Facilities, §15301(c) and §15301(h) CEQA Guidelines
- ☒ Statutory Exemption (State Code No.): PRC Section §21080(b)(4); §15269(c) CEQA Guidelines

Reason Why Project Is Exempt:

The Greeley Hill Community Fuelbreak project is part of the Mariposa County Tree Mortality Hazard Mitigation efforts which are short term tasks necessary to mitigate an emergency. As such, they are exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines, Statutory Exemptions, Section 15269 EMERGENCY PROJECTS, subsection (c): The felling of dead or dying hazard trees along county-maintained roads and within county owned and maintained public parks and near county facilities, is a specific action necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency to public health and emergency access. The abundance of dead or dying hazard trees in these locations is a result of a severe drought in the area and bark beetle-infestation and are not a long-term project.

Mariposa County Tree Mortality Hazard Mitigation Projects are categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines, Categorical Exemptions, Section 15301 EXISTING FACILITIES, including subsections (c) and (h): The felling of dead or dying hazard trees along county-maintained roads and within county owned and maintained public parks, and near County infrastructure is an activity necessary for maintenance of existing public facilities. The removal could also be categorized as maintenance of existing native growth in these areas, which have succumbed to prolonged drought conditions and beetle infestation. There will be no expansion of use resulting from the activity.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Melinda Barrett, Resource Conservation District (RCD) Program Manager
Phone Number: (209) 966-0970



Signature

11/27/2019

Date

MCRCD Board President

Title

☒ Signed by Lead Agency

☐ Signed by Applicant

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Date Received for filing at OPR: **JAN 13 2020**

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE



State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife
2019 ENVIRONMENTAL FILING FEE CASH RECEIPT
DFW 753.5a (REV. 12/01/18) Previously DFG 753.5a

Print

Start Over

Finalize&Email

RECEIPT NUMBER:

22 — 12/02/2019 — 035

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER (If applicable)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

LEAD AGENCY

Mariposa County Resource Conservation District

LEAD AGENCY EMAIL

mariposacountyrccd@gmail.com

DATE

12/02/2019

COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING

Mariposa

DOCUMENT NUMBER

PROJECT TITLE

Greeley Hill Community Fuelbreak

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME

Mariposa County Resource Conservation District

PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL

mariposacountyrccd@gmail.com

PHONE NUMBER

(209) 966-3431

PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS

PO Box 746

CITY

Mariposa

STATE

CA

ZIP CODE

95338

PROJECT APPLICANT (Check appropriate box)

☐ Local Public Agency

☐ School District

☒ Other Special District

☐ State Agency

☐ Private Entity

CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:

☐ Environmental Impact Report (EIR)

\$3,271.00

\$

0.00

☐ Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND)

\$2,354.75

\$

0.00

☐ Certified Regulatory Program (CRP) document - payment due directly to CDFW

\$1,112.00

\$

0.00

☒ Exempt from fee

☒ Notice of Exemption (attach)

☐ CDFW No Effect Determination (attach)

☐ Fee previously paid (attach previously issued cash receipt copy)

☐ Water Right Application or Petition Fee (State Water Resources Control Board only)

\$850.00

\$

0.00

☒ County documentary handling fee

\$

50.00

☐ Other

\$

PAYMENT METHOD:

☒ Cash

☐ Credit

☐ Check

☐ Other

TOTAL RECEIVED \$ 50.00

SIGNATURE

X

Karen M. Herman

Digitally signed by Karen M.
Herman
Date: 2019.12.02 10:52:19 -08'00'

AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE

Karen M Herman, Deputy County Clerk, County Of Mariposa

COUNTY OF MARIPOSA - CASH RECEIPTS
*** CUSTOMER RECEIPT ***

Batch ID: KHERMAN 12/02/19 01 Receipt no: 12798

Type	SvcCd	Description	Amount
DS		CL/FISH & GAME FEES	
	Qty	1.00	\$50.00
			2174455

Trans number:
CIVIL PROCESS SERVI 00101203079002
FISH & WILDLIFE - NOTICE
OF EXEMPTION
22-12.02.2019-035
GREELEY HILL COMMUNITY
FIREBREAK

Total tendered: \$50.00
Total payment: \$50.00

Trans date: 12/02/19 Time: 10:44:39

COUNTY OF MARIPOSA

Greeley Hill Community Fuelbreak

