

## Notice of Exemption

## Appendix E

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

From: Mariposa Resource Conservation District  
PO Box 2403  
Mariposa, CA 95338

**FILED**

FEB 24 2020

**KEITH M. WILLIAMS**  
**MARIPOSA COUNTY CLERK**

*Karen M. Herman*  
**KAREN M. HERMAN**

County Clerk  
County of: Mariposa  
PO Box 247  
Mariposa, CA 95338

Project Title: Yosemite Area Forest Restoration Project

Project Applicant: US Forest Service, Sierra National Forest, Bass Lake Ranger District

## Project Location:

Project is located within the Sierra National Forest along Forest Service Rd 5S206. The project area is bordered by Highway 41 on the east, FS Rd 5S43 on the west, Mt Raymond Rd on the north and White Chief Mountain Rd on the south. It is adjacent to the town of Fish Camp. Fuels reduction is conducted within a 200-foot distance of the road. Staging and storage will take place near the intersection of FS Rd 5S06 and Grizzly Rd in the Sierra National Forest.

Project Location - City: Fish Camp

Project Location - County: Mariposa

## Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The primary goal of the project is to remove hazard trees and biomass up to 200' from the road corridor. Small diameter green trees (<20"DBH) or hazard trees will be fallen. The work is critical to meet the public safety needs and tree disposal needs stemming from widespread tree mortality in the Sierra Nevada. The project increases public safety by removing hazard trees and thinning fuels on critical corridors. It also protects communities the community of Fish Camp in the Wildland Urban Interface and creates a fuel break in the event of wildland fire or if a prescribed fire is to be conducted.

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

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Denise Tolmie, District Ranger, Bass Lake Ranger District

## 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));

## Reasons why project is exempt:

The Fish Camp Ecological Restoration Project EIS/Decision Notice included treatment of hazardous fuels and thinning of forest vegetation to reduce the threat of wildfire associated Wildland Urban Intermix within the project area. Public safety would be addressed by removal of

hazard trees and complete hazard fuels reduction in and around infrastructure that is both inside and outside of communities. Included as part of this project is the reduction of additional fuels to create fuel breaks to be utilized in the event of wildland fire and/or as control line for prescribed fire implementation.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Melinda Barrett

Area Code/Telephone: (559)580-0944

**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: Melinda Barrett Date: 2/20/2020 Title: Program Manager  
Governor's Office of Planning & Research

☒ Signed by Lead Agency ☐ Signed by Applicant

**FEB 25 2020**

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: \_\_\_\_\_  
**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**

POST COURTHOUSE  
POSTED 1/9-2/14/2020

DATE: January 7, 2020

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

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

**FILED**

JAN - 9 2020

**KEITH M. WILLIAMS**  
MARIPOSA COUNTY CLERK

*Karen M. Herman*  
**KAREN M. HERMAN**

FROM: Sierra National Forest, Bass Lake Ranger District  
57003 Road 225  
North Fork, CA 93643

RE: Self-Certification of Limited Suspension of Requirements of the California  
Environmental Quality Act

The following certifies that the "Yosemite Area Forest Restoration Project- #2019250, which is funded by a Wildlife Conservation Board grant, qualifies for the limited suspension of the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to the Governor's October 30, 2015 Proclamation of a State of Emergency ([https://www.gov.ca.gov/docs/10.30.15\\_Tree\\_Mortality\\_State\\_of\\_Emergency.pdf](https://www.gov.ca.gov/docs/10.30.15_Tree_Mortality_State_of_Emergency.pdf)). The emergency proclamation suspends the requirements of CEQA for purposes of carrying out, among other things, Directive 2 of the October 30, 2015 Proclamation of a State of Emergency, where the state agency with primary responsibility for implementing the directive concurs that local action is required. The following criteria apply:

1. The Yosemite Area Forest Restoration Project-2019250 is located in a high hazard zone as designated pursuant to Directive 1 of the October 30, 2015 Proclamation of a State of Emergency.
2. The project is necessary to protect the public health and safety. The project will protect the public health and safety as follows:  
The Fish Camp Ecological Restoration Project EIS/Decision Notice included treatment of hazardous fuels and thinning of forest vegetation to reduce the threat of wildfire to associated Wildland Urban Intermix within the project area. As part of this decision, the forest has implemented the thinning of excess vegetation (thinning of understory fuels) as part of the proposed action listed for the project. Since this time, widespread tree mortality across the Southern Sierra Nevada (including area within this project) has rendered this a High Hazard Fire Area. Public safety would be addressed by removal of hazard trees and complete hazard fuels reduction in and around infrastructure that is both inside and outside of communities; Fish Camp, Wawona and Yosemite West as well as both inside and outside of high visitor use areas such as Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias, FS campgrounds, road systems and recreational sites. Included as part of this project is the reduction of additional fuels to create fuel breaks to be utilized in the event of wildland fire and/or as control line for prescribed fire implementation.
3. The project involves the removal of dead or dying trees that threaten residences, critical community infrastructure, roads and other evacuation corridors. List of these are included in item (2).
4. The work will be conducted in accordance with the most current draft Guidelines for High Hazard Zone Tree Removal



([http://www.fire.ca.gov/treetaskforce/downloads/Draft\\_Tree\\_Removal\\_Guidelines\\_3-1-16.pdf](http://www.fire.ca.gov/treetaskforce/downloads/Draft_Tree_Removal_Guidelines_3-1-16.pdf)).

Maps are included as part of the project proposal and indicates the areas described in (1) and (3) above.

I, the undersigned, as representative of one of the grantees, certify that the preceding is correct:

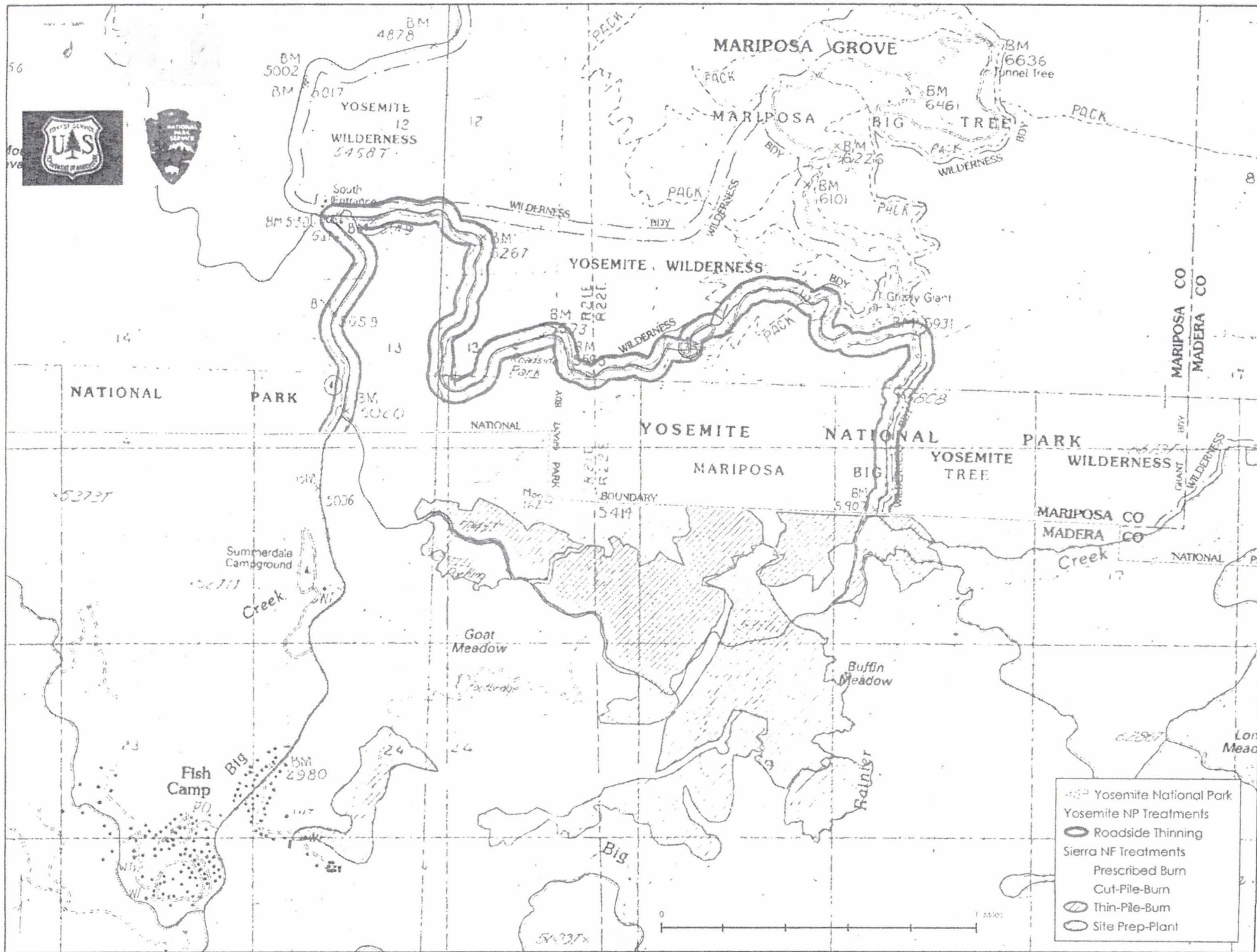
*Denise Tolmie*

*January 7, 2020*

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Denise Tolmie  
District Ranger  
Bass Lake Ranger District  
Sierra National Forest

Date



**2020 ENVIRONMENTAL FILING FEE CASH RECEIPT**

DFW 753.5a (REV. 12/01/19) Previously DFG 753.5a

Print

Start Over

Finalize &amp; Email

RECEIPT NUMBER:

22 — 1/09/2020 — 001

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER (if applicable)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

LEAD AGENCY

Mariposa County Resource Conservation District

LEAD AGENCY EMAIL

mariposacountyrcd@gmail.com

DATE

1/09/2020

COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING

Mariposa

DOCUMENT NUMBER

PROJECT TITLE

**Self-Certification of Limited Suspension of Requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act**

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME

Sierra National Forest, Bass Lake Ranger District

PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL

mariposacountyrcd@gmail.com

PHONE NUMBER

(209) 966-3431

PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS

57003 Road 225

CITY

North Fork

STATE

CA

ZIP CODE

93643

PROJECT APPLICANT (Check appropriate box)

☐ Local Public Agency☐ School District☐ Other Special District☒ State Agency☐ Private Entity**CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:**☐ Environmental Impact Report (EIR)

\$3,343.25

\$ 0.00

☐ Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND)

\$2,406.75

\$ 0.00

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

\$1,136.50

\$ 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: 2020.01.09 13:39:48 -08'00'

AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE

Karen M. Herman, Deputy County Clerk, County of Mariposa





State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife  
**2020 ENVIRONMENTAL FILING FEE CASH RECEIPT**  
DFW 753.5a (REV. 12/01/19) Previously DFG 753.5a

**NOTICE**

Each project applicant shall remit to the county clerk the environmental filing fee before or at the time of filing a Notice of Determination (Pub. Resources Code, § 21152; Fish & G. Code, § 711.4, subdivision (d); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 753.5). Without the appropriate fee, statutory or categorical exemption, or a valid No Effect Determination issued by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), the Notice of Determination is not operative, vested, or final, and shall not be accepted by the county clerk.

**COUNTY DOCUMENTARY HANDLING FEE**

The county clerk may charge a documentary handling fee of fifty dollars (\$50) per filing in addition to the environmental filing fee (Fish & G. Code, § 711.4, subd. (e); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 753.5, subd. (g)(1)). A county board of supervisors shall have the authority to increase or decrease the fee or charge, that is otherwise authorized to be levied by another provision of law, in the amount reasonably necessary to recover the cost of providing any product or service or the cost of enforcing any regulation for which the fee or charge is levied (Gov. Code, § 54985, subd. (a)).

**COLLECTION PROCEDURES FOR COUNTY GOVERNMENTS**

**Filing Notice of Determination (NOD):**

- ☐ Collect environmental filing fee or copy of previously issued cash receipt. *(Do not collect fee if project applicant presents a No Effect Determination signed by CDFW. An additional fee is required for each separate environmental document. An addendum is not considered a separate environmental document. Checks should be made payable to the county.)*
- ☐ Issue cash receipt to project applicant.
- ☐ Attach copy of cash receipt and, if applicable, previously issued cash receipt, to NOD.
- ☐ Mail filing fees for CRP document to CDFW prior to filing the NOD or equivalent final approval (Cal. Code Regs. Tit. 14, § 753.5 (b)(5)). The CRP should request receipt from CDFW to show proof of payment for filing the NOD or equivalent approval. Please mail payment to address below made attention to the Cash Receipts Unit of the Accounting Services Branch.

If the project applicant presents a **No Effect Determination** signed by CDFW, also:

- ☐ Attach No Effect Determination to NOD *(no environmental filing fee is due)*.

**Filing Notice of Exemption (NOE) (Statutorily or categorically exempt project (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §§ 15260-15285, 15300-15333))**

- ☐ Issue cash receipt to project applicant.
- ☐ Attach copy of cash receipt to NOE *(no environmental filing fee is due)*.

Within 30 days after the end of each month in which the environmental filing fees are collected, each county shall summarize and record the amount collected on the monthly State of California Form No. CA25 (TC31) and remit the amount collected to the State Treasurer. Identify the remittance on Form No. CA25 as "Environmental Document Filing Fees" per Fish and Game Code section 711.4.

**The county clerk shall mail the following documents to CDFW on a monthly basis:**

- ✓ A photocopy of the monthly State of California Form No. CA25 (TC31)
- ✓ CDFW/ASB copies of all cash receipts (including all voided receipts)
- ✓ A copy of all CDFW No Effect Determinations filed in lieu of fee payment
- ✓ A copy of all NODs filed with the county during the preceding month
- ✓ A list of the name, address and telephone number of all project applicants for which an NOD has been filed. If this information is contained on the cash receipt filed with CDFW under California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 753.5, subdivision (e)(6), no additional information is required.

**DOCUMENT RETENTION**

The county shall retain two copies of the cash receipt (for lead agency and county clerk) and a copy of all documents described above for at least 12 months.

**RECEIPT NUMBER**

- # The first two digits automatically populate by making the appropriate selection in the County/State Agency of Filing drop down menu.
- # The next eight digits automatically populate when a date is entered.
- # The last three digits correspond with the sequential order of issuance for each calendar year. For example, the first receipt number issued on January 1 should end in 001. If a county issued 252 receipts for the year ending on December 31, the last receipt number should end in 252. CDFW recommends that counties and state agencies 1) save a local copy of this form, and 2) track receipt numbers on a spreadsheet tabbed by month to ensure accuracy.

**DO NOT COMBINE THE ENVIRONMENTAL FEES WITH THE STATE SHARE OF FISH AND WILDLIFE FEES.**

**Mail to:**

California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Accounting Services Branch  
P.O. Box 944209  
Sacramento, California 94244-2090