

**Notice of Exemption**

**To:** Office of Planning and Research  
P.O. Box 3044, Room 212  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

**From:** (Public Agency) Sierra Nevada Conservancy  
11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205  
Auburn, CA 95603

(Address)

County Clerk / County of Plumas

520 Main Street, Room 102

Quincy, CA 95971

Lassen

220 S Lassen St #5th

Susanville, CA 96130

**Project Title:** Improving Landscape and Watershed Health through Restoring Fire Regimes in Lassen Volcanic National Park: Phase 2 (SNC 1210)

**Project**

**Applicant:** Sierra Institute for Community and Environment

**Project Location – Specific:**

Roadways and trails surrounding the northern, western, and eastern sides of Juniper Lake in Lassen Volcanic National Park

**Project Location - City:** 4.3 mi east of Drakesbad **Project Location - County:** Plumas, Lassen counties

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

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy would provide \$874,699 in funding for the continuation of forest thinning, fuel reduction treatments, and fireline preparation along 12 miles of trails and 2 miles of roadways in the Lassen Volcanic National Park. The project is a part of the North Fork Feather River Headwaters Forest Restoration Project and would be carried out in preparation of two proposed prescribed burns in adjacent areas. The treatments would enhance forest health, promote ecosystem resiliency in the event of wildfire, and safeguard watershed and downstream water supply conditions.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Sierra Nevada Conservancy

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Sierra Institute, National Park Service

**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));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: \_\_\_\_\_
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: Public Resources Code Section 4799.05(d)(1)


**Reasons why project is exempt:**

California Environmental Quality Act does not apply to prescribed fire, thinning, or fuel reduction projects undertaken on federal lands to reduce the risk of high-severity wildfire that have been reviewed under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) if the primary role of a state or local agency is providing funding or staffing for those projects. The Sierra Nevada Conservancy would provide funding for 14 miles of linear fuel reduction treatments on federal land within the Lassen Volcanic National Park. The proposed activities were reviewed in their entirety under NEPA in the Lassen Volcanic NP Fire Management Plan Environmental Assessment, approved on 7/12/10. In 2019, the National Park Service reviewed the existing NEPA document for this project and found no substantive differences between the current proposal and its associated environmental impacts and the proposal and impacts as they were described in the existing NEPA document and associated decision document.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Jamie Sammut Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (530) 823-4688

**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: 3/6/2020 Title: Deputy Executive Officer

Governor's Office of Planning &amp; Research

Signed by Applicant  Signed by Lead Agency:

Date received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_

**MAR 10 2020**