

**COMBINED  
NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS AND  
NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**

*April 9, 2020*

State of California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD)  
2020 West El Camino Avenue, Suite 500  
Sacramento, CA 95833  
Contact Patrick Talbott at (916) 263-2297 or e-mail at: [CA-NDRC@hcd.ca.gov](mailto:CA-NDRC@hcd.ca.gov).

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by HCD.

**REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS (RROF)**

On or about **April 25, 2020**, HCD will submit a request to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of Community Development Block Grant -National Disaster Resilience (CDBG-NDR) federal funds under Public Law 113-2 of the Disasters Relief Appropriations Act, 2013, (Appropriations Act). The CDBG-NDR funds will be used to undertake a project known as CDBG-NDR Fuel Breaks (Project). The Project is being undertaken for the purpose of expanding a series of shaded fuel breaks on federal lands (U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Land Management [BLM]- and U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service [USFS]- administered land), private lands, and lands controlled by State and local agencies. The Project would reduce ladder fuels and establish eight 300-foot-wide shaded fuel breaks totaling 22 linear miles (approximately 1,808.4 acres). Seven of the fuel break areas proposed for treatment are expansions of existing fuel breaks. Treatments would begin in 2020 and would be completed in 2021. The total estimated cost of the Project is \$3,200,000.

The Project is in the western Sierra Nevada in Tuolumne County, California. The Project area, consisting of the eight distinct fuel breaks, is located between Wagner Ridge in the south and State Highway 108 in the north (Table 1). The size and location, by Township (T), Range (R) Mount Diablo Meridian, for each fuel break is listed in Table 1.

**Table 1  
Location and Size by Fuel Break**

<b>Fuel Break</b>	<b>Approximate Size (acres)</b>	<b>USGS Quadrangle</b>	<b>Township, Range and Section</b>
Highway 108	125.7	Twain Harte	T03N, R16E, Sections 25, 34-36 and T02N, R16E, Sections 3-4
Contingency North	102.5	Twain Harte	T02N, R16E, Sections 1, 2, 10, 11, 14, 15
Contingency South	85.6	Twain Harte/Tuolumne	T02N, R16E, Sections 21, 28, 33, 34
Paper Cabin	214.9	Tuolumne	T01N, R16E, Section 20, 21, 27-29
Rim Truck East	405.2	Tuolumne/Groveland/Jaw bone Ridge	T01S, R16E, Section 1-4, 12, 25 and T01S, R17E, Sections 7, 17, 18, 20, 28, 33
Corcoran	108	Moccasin	T01S, R15E, Sections 11, 12, 14, 23
Long Shanahan	404.5	Groveland	T01S, R16 E, Section 25, 26, 35, 36 and T01S, R17E, Section 19, 20, 29, 20, 31 and T02 S, R16E, Section 2 and T02S, R17E, Section 5, 6
Wagner Ridge	362	Groveland	T01S, R16E, Section 27, 28, 29, 33, 34, 35, 36 and T02S, R16E, Section 1, 2 and T02 S, R17 E, Section 5-8,

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)**

HCD has determined that the Project will not have a significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional Project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR). Due to COVID-19, HCD will be providing access to the ERR via three (3) methods. A copy of the ERR is available for review at:

- 1) Hard copy at HCD's Office: 2020 West Camino Avenue, Suite 500 in Sacramento CA, 95833 for examination or to have copies made weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday except for State holidays.
- 2) Electronic copy at County of Tuolumne National Disaster Resilience Competition Webpage at : <https://www.tuolumnecounty.ca.gov/951/National-Disaster-Resilience-Competition> Copies of the ERR can be downloaded for review onto personal computers.
- 3) Electronic or hard copy of the ERR can be requested from HCD via e-mail or phone. Provide request to [CA-NDRC@hcd.ca.gov](mailto:CA-NDRC@hcd.ca.gov). or call 916-263-2297 for an electronic or hard copy of the ERR to be sent to you.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to HCD, Attention Patrick Talbott, at 2020 West Camino Avenue, Suite 200 in Sacramento CA, 95833 or via e-mail at [CA-NDRC@hcd.ca.gov](mailto:CA-NDRC@hcd.ca.gov). All comments received by **April 25, 2020** will be considered by HCD prior to authorizing the submission of a Request for Release of Funds to HUD. Comments should specify which of the two Notices they are addressing.

## ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

HCD certifies to HUD that **Janice Waddell** in her capacity as **Federal Programs Branch Chief** consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD's approval of the RROF and certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the HCD to use Project funds.

## OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and HCD RROF and certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date by HCD or the actual receipt of the request (whichever is later). Objections shall be made on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the HCD; (b) the HCD has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to Tennille S. Parker, Director, Disaster Recovery and Special Issues Division, Department of Housing and Urban Development. Due to COVID-19, HUD staff is working remotely so objections should be submitted to Tennille S. Parker electronically at: [disaster\\_recovery@hud.gov](mailto:disaster_recovery@hud.gov). If submitting objections in writing, send to: 451 7<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Room 7282, Washington, D.C. 20410. Potential objectors should contact HUD at e-mail address listed above to verify receipt of objection and the actual last day of the objection period.

Janice Waddell, Federal Programs Branch Chief

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