State of Californ The Natural Res California Depar			
PROJECT TITLE	DeClerck Tree Planting		
PROJECT LOCATION	T48N R06W Secs 16,17, 19-21, 27-33; T47N R06W Sec 6; T48N R07W Secs 25&36	COUNTY	Siskiyou
Lead Agency	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
Contact Address	Julie Howard 1416 9 <sup>th</sup> Street Sacramento, CA 94244-2460	Phone	831-345-4942

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION** 

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

THE REPORT OF

2018 Klamathon Fire in Siskiyou County destroyed structures and caused significant damage to timber resources. Following the fire an emergency timber harvest was conducted to salvage the damaged timber. This Notice of Exemption is to allow scalping around newly planted seedlings (approx 4' circle) that will increase their survival rate by removing competing vegetation. This project is intended to increase the beneficial uses of the watershed by replanting approximately 120,000 new conifer seedlings. The scalping will not cause a negative environmental impact and is necessary to increase seedling survival rate. This method has been chosen instead of a chemical application for controlling competing vegetation. The watershed has been severely damaged by wildfire and the reforestation of this property will help to improve the overall watershed health.

## **EXEMPTION STATUS**

Categorical Exemption Type and Section: S:15304 Class 4
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 fits under portions the description for a Class 4 Categorical Exemption to CEQA. Staff conducted an environmental review to confirm that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. Field review by RPF 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 CAL FIRE Headquarters in Sacramento.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

Matthew Reischman

9/30/2020

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