Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

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

County Clerk
County of: Alpine

PO Box 158

Markleeville, CA 96120

Project Title: West Fork Carson and Monitor Pass Project - SNC 1300

Project Location - Specific:

Four treatment areas centered at approximately 38°45'16.10"N and 119°57'02.50"W; 38°40'09.39"N and 119°36'48.06"W; 38°41'17.98"N and 119°37'52.38"W; 38°41'33.26"N and 119°38'26.15"W

Project Location - City: Markleeville, CA

Project Location - County: Alpine

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy would provide funding for hazardous fuels reduction treatments on at least 494 acres of federal land within the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest. The primary goals of the treatments are to reduce the risk of high severity wildfire, as well as restoring aspen stands and protecting watershed function. The treatments would provide increased resilience to wildfire, protect aspen stand habitat from conversion to conifer forest, and increase carbon sequestration in surrounding trees through the removal of small-diameter conifers.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: <u>The National Forest Foundation and the Humboldt-Toiyabe National</u> Forest

Exempt Status:

Statutory Exemptions. State code number: Public Resources Code Section 4799.05(d)(1)

Reasons why project is exempt:

CEQA 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 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 fuel reduction treatments on at least 494 acres of federal land within the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest. The proposed activities were reviewed in their entirety under NEPA in the West Carson River Habitat Improvement Project Decision Memo signed in September 2019 and the Monitor Pass Habitat Restoration Project Decision Memo signed in March 2016.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Shannon Ciotti Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (530) 906-7345

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: 7/15/2021 Deputy Executive Officer

Signed by Lead Agency: Yes

DocuSigned by:

Signed by Applicant: No

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: