## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION



| PROJECT TITLE      | Butte County Fire Safe Council: Forest Health and Upper Watershed Resilience Grant – Doe Mill, Upper Ridge, Dean Road Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Projects |        |              |
|--------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------------|
| Project Location   | Paradise & Magalia, CA<br>T24N, R03E, Section 35, T23N, R03E, Section 35, T22N, R04E,<br>Section 06 MDBM                                                       | County | Butte        |
| LEAD AGENCY        | California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)                                                                                               |        |              |
| CONTACT<br>ADDRESS | Jamie Sammut, Staff Counsel PO Box 944246 Sacramento, CA 94244-2460                                                                                            | PHONE  | 916-594-6192 |
|                    |                                                                                                                                                                |        |              |

## **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

CAL FIRE would provide funding to the Butte County Fire Safe Council to conduct fuel reduction treatments, including thinning & piling, mastication, chipping and biomass removal as well as reforestation on BLM lands. These treatments will reduce wildfire risks to local resources and community members, promote native plant and wildlife species, and improve forest resiliency.

| EXEMPTION STATUS |                                                                                       |  |  |  |
|------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|
|                  | Categorical Exemption Type and Section: Class                                         |  |  |  |
| $\boxtimes$      | Statutory Exemption (state code section): Public Resources Code Section 4799.05(d)(1) |  |  |  |
|                  | Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)                                                     |  |  |  |
|                  | Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))                                           |  |  |  |
|                  | Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))                                         |  |  |  |

## **REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT**

CEQA does not apply to fuel reduction, reforestation, & habitat restoration projects undertaken, in whole or in part, 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 proposed project was reviewed in its entirety under three NEPA documents: 1) Butte Forest Thin Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact signed on 5/21/12 (DOI-BLM-CA-N060-2012-017); 2) Magalia Forest Health & Restoration Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact signed on 1/11/18 (DOI-BLM-CA-N060-2017-0008-EA); and 3) Camp Fire Salvage & Reforestation Categorical Exclusion (DOI-BLM-CAN060-2019-0028-CX) Decision Memo signed on 7/8/19.

DocuSigned by

## **DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING**

10/20/2022

Date

John Melvin, Assistant Deputy Director

Resource Management

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection