Notice of Exemption

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

From: <u>Sierra Nevada Conservancy</u> <u>11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205</u> <u>Auburn, CA 95603</u>

Project Title: <u>WIP Capacity Program Subgrant – Modoc Resource Conservation District</u> <u>SNC966-RFFCP</u>

Project Location – Specific: <u>Regional planning across the Regional Forest and Fire</u> <u>Capacity Program northeast planning area, including parts of Modoc, Lassen, Shasta,</u> <u>Plumas, and Sierra Counties</u>

Project Location - City: <u>Towns across</u>	Project Location - County: <u>Modoc,</u>	
the planning region	Lassen, Shasta, Plumas, and Sierra	
	Counties	

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy would provide funding for partner coordination, project prioritization, and project planning towards potential future forest health and fire protection projects across the Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program's Northeast Planning Region. This includes engaging local stakeholders in forest health and fire protection project identification and prioritization; assisting local tribes with forest/ecosystem restoration project identification and initial design; working with land management agencies, stakeholders, and consultants to develop countywide environmental compliance documentation aimed at cross-jurisdictional projects that reduce the threat of wildland fire to landscapes and communities; developing potential funding sources towards potential future project implementation; developing local workforce for potential future project implementation.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Modoc Resource Conservation District

Exempt Status:

Categorical Exemption <u>Section 15306</u>, Information Collection (Class 6) Statutory Exemption <u>Section 15262</u>, Feasibility and Planning Studies

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project is Statutorily Exempt under Section 15262, Feasibility and Planning Studies, of the CEQA Guidelines. This project approves only planning studies towards possible future actions which neither the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, nor any other agency, has approved, adopted, or funded. There are no ground disturbing actions which would impact environmental factors. These planning actions do not have a legally binding effect on later activities. The project is also categorically exempt under CEQA Section 15306, Information Collection, because it consists of basic data collection and analysis and resource evaluation activities which do not result in any disturbance to an environmental resource. The project purpose is for information gathering as part of a regional project prioritization and planning exercise leading to a potential future action which has not yet been approved, adopted, or funded.

Lead Agency Contact Person: <u>Mary Akens</u> Area Code/Telephone/Extension: <u>530-450-5177</u>

If filed by applicant: N/A

- 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:	12/12/2022
Chief Deputy Executive Officer Title:		

Signed by Lead Agency: Yes

Signed by Applicant: No

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.Date received for filing at OPR: _____

Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.