

Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research
<https://ceqasubmit.opr.ca.gov>

From: (Public Agency) Sierra Co. Planning Dept.
P.O. Box 530
Downieville, CA 95936

County Clerk
County of Sierra



Project Title: Johnson Property Acquisition at Howard Creek/Haskell Peak

Project Location – Specific: T.21N., R12E., Sec 24., M.D.B.&M. and T.12N., R13E., Sec. 19 M.D.B.&M. Sierra County APN 007-100-010 and 012-030-005

Project Location – City: _____ **Project Location – County:** Sierra

Project Description: Acquisition of 160 acres with mineral rights to preserve the property as public open space with the intent of ensuring protection and management of its forest, water quality, recreation, scenic and economic assets.

The property is a Red fir complex forested site at the 7300-7900 foot elevation located near Sierra City just to the east of Haskell Peak and west of Howard Creek Meadow in the Gold Lakes Basin. Howard Creek forms on the western portion of the property, which eventually feeds Howard Creek Meadow and flows to the North Fork of the Yuba River.

Much of the site is moderate to steep sloping. It is within an area that is largely Tahoe National Forest, interspersed with only a few private properties. It is surrounded by the Tahoe National Forest North Yuba Forest Resiliency Project area. The Plumas National Forest lies directly to the north. The Howard Creek/Haskell Peak area is a popular year-round recreational area used by hikers, mountain bikers, 4 wheel drive enthusiasts, and snowmobilers.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: County of Sierra

Name of Person, Address and Phone Number or Agency Carrying Out Project: Sierra County Land Trust
c/o Laurie Oberholtzer
310 Nevada Street
Nevada City, CA 95959
530-265-5433

Exempt Status: (check one):

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: 15313 and 15325
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt: Acquisition of lands for wildlife conservation and transfer of ownership to preserve natural conditions and historic resources.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Tim Beals **Area Code/Telephone:** (530) 289-3251

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: March 20, 2023 Title: Planning Director

- Signed by Lead Agency
- Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR: