

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION



State of California
The Natural Resources Agency
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

PROJECT TITLE El Potrero Girls Scout Camp Hazard Reduction

PROJECT LOCATION 36000 Tenaja Truck Trail, Lake Elsinore, 92530 CA
Portions of Sections 33,34 T6SR5W and portions of Sections 3 and 4, **COUNTY** Riverside
T7SR5W, SBBM APN's: 385140019 and 901100002

LEAD AGENCY California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

CONTACT Gregg Bratcher, Forester II

ADDRESS Mountain Resource Center 25380 Franklin Dr. Idyllwild CA **PHONE** (951)-659-5257
P.O Box 2097 Idyllwild California 92549

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project goal is to mitigate large amounts of dead tree branches that were created from an unseasonable snowstorm that impacted the area and has created a heavy fuel loading on El Potrero Girls Scouts Campground (www.girlscoutsla.org) near Lake Elsinore, Riverside County, CA. The campground is used for outdoor training sessions and large primitive camping events by the girl scouts community. Project intent is to reduce fire hazard by chipping existing snow breakages along ingress/egress camp road and around primitive camp structures. The project will also remove dead, dying or diseased trees around the structures to increase defensible space. Project is developed on a privately owned parcel of 390 acres, treatment being scheduled on approximately 10 acres. The onsite vegetation is represented by scattered and/or pockets of oak woodland intermingled with chaparral vegetation. Parcel elevation varies between 4380 and 4480 ft. on various aspects and slopes. Under direct supervision of a CALFIRE Fire Captain, camp crews will perform hazardous fuel reduction work and drag the material to the nearest accessible road to be chipped and spread on site.

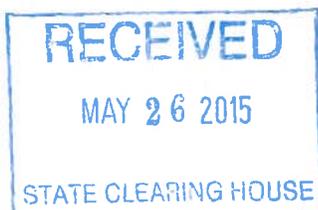
EXEMPTION STATUS

- Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4 § 15304 Minor Alterations to Land
- 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 meets the requirements of a Class 4 Categorical Exemption "15304 Minor Alterations to Land" - "Class 4 consists of minor public or private alterations in the conditions of land, water and/or vegetation which do not involve removal healthy, mature and scenic trees except for forestry and agricultural purposes". Field review by CAL FIRE staff confirmed that no exceptions apply which 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/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/traffic, or to utilities and service systems. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at CALFIRE, Riverside Unit, Mountain Resource Center, 25380 Franklin Dr. Idyllwild, CA 92549.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING



 5/21/15
Duanne Shintaku, Deputy Director Date
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection