NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

State of California
The Natural Resources Agency
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

PROJECT TITLE	Hayfork Community and Municipal Watershed Protection Project		
PROJECT LOCATION	Portions of T31N, R11W, Sec. 6, T31N, R12W, Sec 1, 2, & 12, and T32N, R12W, Sec. 28, 35, 36 MDBM.	**COUNTY**	Trinity
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Watershed Research and Training Center (WRTC), in cooperation with several private landowners, is planning a 60 acre fuel reduction project in Hayfork, CA. This 60 acre project is located on several different vegetation types including; mixed conifer, oak woodland, and chaparral. Treatments associated with this project will focus on reducing fuel loading through a combination of practices.

The Hayfork Community and Municipal Watershed Protection Project is located from 0 – 2 miles north of downtown Hayfork along Highway 3, Brady Rd, and Demos Court. Fuel reduction treatments include utilizing hand crews to cut and limb understory trees and shrubs, pile and broadcast burning, chipping, and lop and scatter. Understory vegetation varies throughout the project area, from chaparral to mixed conifer and oak woodland. Understory within the conifer and oak woodlands generally consists of small trees (oak and conifer) (< 6' DBH) and shrubs (manzanita and buckbrush) 2 – 8' tall. As a result of fire exclusion, portions of the project include areas of conifer encroachment into oak woodlands. Encroaching conifers are approximately 50-60 years old.

Several fires have threatened these areas. Winds generally come out of the west (up the Hayfork Creek drainage). This fuel reduction project will help to protect Hayfork as well as Ewing Reservoir, which is the municipal water supply.

EXEMPTION STATUS

- [x] 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

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 CAL FIRE Shasta-Trinity Unit Headquarters.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

Governor's Office of Planning & Research
DEC 06 2017
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

12/1/17

Helge Eng, Deputy Director Date
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection