



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

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>	Mountain Rim Fire Safe Council Chipper Days		
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>	Valley of Enchantment – N1/2 Sec. 21, T2N, R4W. Crestline-W1/2, Sec. 23, T2N, R4W. Twin Peaks-W1/2, Sec. 19, T2N, R3W Running Springs-NE1/4, Sec. 5, T1N, R2W Arrowbear-S1/2, Sec. 34, T2N, R2W Curbside Chipping: Sec. 22, 31-34, T2N, R2W; Sec. 1, 18-20, 26-30, T2N, R3W; Sec. 4-6, T1N, R2W; Sec. 1, T1N, R3W; Sec. 13-28, 34, T2N, R4W; Sec. 2-3, T1N, R4W	<b>COUNTY</b>	San Bernardino
<b>LEAD AGENCY</b>	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
<b>CONTACT</b>	Henry Herrera, Unit Forester		
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**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

This project will assist homeowners participating in the Mountain Rim Fire Safe Council's (MRFSC) Chipper Days Project meet defensible space requirements (PRC 4291) and reduce the fire hazards in their community. The MRFSC will schedule "chipper days" for homeowners to have their vegetation treated or removed for fuels reduction. Homeowners can leave the cut vegetation on the roadside to be chipped onsite or removed. They can also take it to drop off locations to be chipped and hauled away. All ground based equipment will stay on existing roads. The MRFSC will provide fire safety education through informational booths at the five chipping sites, newspaper advertisements, and social media postings. Curbside chipping will take place along the roads within the MRFSC's communities from Crestline to Green Valley Lake and Waterman Canyon. These areas consist of mixed conifer/hardwood forests and brush species. The elevation ranges from approximately 2,000 to 6,000 feet. It is anticipated that approximately 50 cumulative acres spread throughout the communities will be treated. This project will take place through March 15, 2017.

**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**

15304 (i): Fuel management activities within 30 feet of structures to reduce the volume of flammable vegetation, provided that the activities will not result in the taking of endangered, rare, or threatened plant or animal species or significant erosion and sedimentation of surface waters. This exemption shall apply to fuel management activities within 100 feet of a structure if the public agency having fire protection responsibility for the area has determined that 100 feet of fuel clearance is required due to extra hazardous fire conditions.

Field review by Tim Morin, RPF #2505, 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 will 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's BDU Headquarters in San Bernardino.

**DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING**

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

JUL 27 2016

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

*[Signature]*

7/26/16

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