

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION



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

PROJECT TITLE Sulphur Creek Fuel Reduction

PROJECT LOCATION Approximately 2-miles east of Ukiah, CA
Legal Description: Portion of Un-Sectioned Yokaya Rancho Land Grant; T15N, R12W; Mount Diablo Baseline & Meridian
COUNTY Mendocino

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

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ADDRESS CAL FIRE 802 N. Main St. Ft. Bragg, CA 95437
PHONE 707-391-6750 (Cellular)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project consists of the reduction of hazardous fuels on multiple private property parcels. It will be conducted by the California Conservation Corps under contract with the Vichy Springs Home Owners Association. Hand crews will remove dead material and trim live vegetation for the purpose of reducing fire hazard adjacent to residences in the Vichy Springs Subdivision. The treatment area will be approximately six acres (50-250 feet in width by 2,500 feet in length) located along Sulphur Creek. Vegetation to be treated consists of willows, pine trees, and various shrub species. Willow clumps will be thinned of dead material, shrubs will be removed to break up fuel continuity / decrease ladder fuels, and pine trees will be pruned up to 6-ft above ground level. Work crews will utilize hand tools, power pruners & chainsaws to accomplish work. Woody material generated by this project shall be chipped 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

The proposed project will not have a significant effect on the environment. Minimal ground disturbance is expected as work will be performed by hand crews. The California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDB) was searched and no rare, threatened or endangered plant or animal species were identified that will be negatively impacted by this project. The CAL FIRE Area Archaeologist has been consulted and has determined that this project is exempt from further archaeological review. The CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife (CDFW) was consulted and has determined compliance with CDFW standards.

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 Mendocino Unit, Resource Management, 17501 N. Highway 101, Willits, CA 95490, Attn. Environmental Coordinator.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING



Duane Shintaku 11/3/14
Duane Shintaku, Deputy Director Date
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection