



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

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE Winton Training Burn

PROJECT LOCATION T7N, R15E Portion of Sections 25,26,27,34,35,36. **COUNTY** Calaveras

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

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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project area is located in northeastern Calaveras County, approximately 13 miles east of the community of West Point. The project area is approximately 5,400 feet in elevation above sea level. Vegetation consists of a mixed conifer stand over widely scattered brush. The project area had the majority of the understory removed in 2011 under a Fuels Reduction Emergency. The project area is approximately 115 acres in size. The proposed project will consist of a prescribed burn to provide live fire training. The prescribed burn is also intended to maintain the fuel break by removing the forest litter which has accumulated since the 2011 project. Perimeter fire control lines will consist of existing roads, existing dozer line, and new dozer line. Interior lines will be constructed by hand crews using scraping tools.

EXEMPTION STATUS

- Categorical Exemption** Type/Section: Class *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 fits under portions of 15304- Minor Alterations to Land. The project consists of burning light forest litter. A query of the CNDDDB did not reveal the presence of any sensitive species within the project area. A 1992 California Spotted Owl detection is no longer current as verified as surveys in the recent past. DFW was consulted regarding the project. The project boundaries were designed to avoid a Class II watercourse. The project area does not contain any known archaeological sites. A burn permit will be obtained from the Calaveras County Air Pollution Control District, and all burning shall be conducted in accordance with that permit.

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 the CAL FIRE Tuolumne/Calaveras Unit Headquarters in San Andreas.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

RECEIVED

OCT 31 2013

STATE CLEARING HOUSE

William E. Snyder 10/30/13
 William E. Snyder, Deputy Director Date
 California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection