



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

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE Camp Nelson Project

PROJECT LOCATION Camp Nelson
 Portion of Section 32, T7SR4W, SBB&M **COUNTY** Tulare

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

CONTACT David Shy, Division Chief - Pre Fire

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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project will consist of two parts. The first will be a shaded fuel break to protect the community of Camp Nelson. The second part will consist of chipping the vegetation created from the fuel break as well as the material created by Camp Nelson community members while performing hazardous fuel reduction activities on their properties as they complied with PRC 4291. The fuel break will be small in scale and size. The fuel break will consist of approximately 5 ac. of limbing trees and brush. Some trees and brush less than 6" DBH may be removed. An estimated 3-5 tons of material will be removed. At the completion of this project there shall be at a minimum of 150sqft. Basal Area left where it had existed prior to the project. The chipping will be done by CAL FIRE hand crews. All generated chips will be left on site for use by the community. A fire break shall be constructed around the pile to ensure that if the pile was to catch fire it will be contained to the pile with no extension into the wildland. The pile may be spread out and used as dust abatement for the area. The chosen collection location is a flat parcel within the fuel break with existing dirt roads on site. A larger section of bare earth up to half acre will be used as the chipping site. Chipping work will be confined to this area and to the existing roads to minimize ground disturbance. No heavy equipment with the exception of the chipper shall be utilized by crews during treatment of this material. This activity supports the current Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) that is in place. The vegetation that is to be removed will consist of down trees, limbs, blackberries, and various brush species. This fuel break will help protect home within the SRA.

EXEMPTION STATUS

- Categorical Exemption** Type/Section: 15304 Class 4 **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 project meets the Categorical Exemption as described under 14CCR§15304 Minor Alteration to Land. CNDDDB, archeological and field reviews have been conducted for this project. No known species of concern were identified within or adjacent to the project area. The activities will not result in the taking of endangered, rare, or threatened plant or animal species, or sedimentation to surface waters. CAL FIRE staff 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 utilities and service systems.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING



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