



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

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	Camp Ronald McDonald - Hazardous Fuel Treatment		
PROJECT LOCATION	56400 Apple Canyon Road, Idyllwild, CA 92349	COUNTY	Riverside
	Portions of NW1/4 & NE1/4 & SW1/4 & SE1/4 of Section 4, T6SR3E, SBBM. APN#568070025		
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	Zsolt Katay, Forester I, CSR SOPS		
ADDRESS	2524 Mulberry Street, Riverside, CA 92501	PHONE	951-320-6126 / 337

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Camp Ronald McDonald in Idyllwild-Mountain Center, CA provides cost-free, medically supported camp experiences for children with cancer and their families since 1982. The project is developed on a parcel of 59.09 acres, treatment being scheduled on ~ 30 acres. Vegetation is represented by scattered and/or pockets of coniferous species intermingled with chaparral and riparian vegetation along the creek. Parcel elevation varies between 4376 and 4460 ft. Treatment is planned on flat and SE facing aspects with slopes between 0-35%. The project goal is to reduce existing chaparral fuel loads to a safe level providing greater defensible space, protecting camp communities and facilities in the event of wildfire. Dead, dying or diseased trees less than 12 inches DBH and those that will be dead within one year from a date of inspection determined by an RPF shall be removed. Tree pruning, cutting/spacing understory brushes shall be performed. Snags in all DBH classes shall be removed if deemed a hazard by the RPF; no commercial operations are planned. Under direct supervision, CALFIRE crews will cut/prune and drag by hand the downed material to an accessible location to be chipped, hauled and stored on site in a place designated by camp administration.

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

This project meets the requirements of a Class 4 Categorical Exemption "15304 Minor Alterations to Land" - "Class 4 consists of minor public or private alterations in the conditions of land, water and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature and scenic trees except for forestry and agricultural purposes". The project is small in size, will increase safety, aesthetic, recreation values of camp, has minimal ground disturbance and will not result in significant effects on biological and archeological resources nor the environment. Field review by CALFIRE 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 CALFIRE, Riverside Unit, Mountain Resource Center, 25380 Franklin Dr. Idyllwild, CA 92549.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

RECEIVED

MAR 11 2013

STATE CLEARING HOUSE

William E. Snyder, Deputy Director 3/8/13
 Date

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection