NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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

PROJECT TITLE	Dunsmuir Fuel Reduction Connection 2013–RCD |		
PROJECT LOCATION	T38N, R4W portions of sections 1 and 2 and T39N, R4W portions of sections 13, 24, 35, and 36 MDB&M; T39N, R3W section 7 MDB&M.	**COUNTY**	Siskiyou
LEAD AGENCY	**California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)**		
CONTACT	**Mike Rosan, Forester I,**		
ADDRESS	**CALFIRE Siskiyou Unit HQ (SKU)** **1809 Fairlane Road, Yreka, CA 96097**	**PHONE**	**Off 530-842-3516** **Cell 530-598-2607**

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project will involve vegetation removal within four separate units as a means to provide defensible space around homes, facilitate safe escape routes and develop shaded fuel breaks near the city of Dunsmuir. Treatment units will be established within the Shasta Retreat Area (19 acres), the South Hobo Camp area (16 acres), the Prospect Connector area (2 acres), and the North Power line area (21 acres) for a total of a total of 58 acres. The vegetation within the project areas consist of dense to moderately dense stands of mature Douglas fir, Ponderosa pine, white fir, incense cedar, and black oak with moderate to dense amounts of brush species in the understory.

Within the Shasta Retreat Unit, the South Hobo Camp Unit and the Prospect Connector Unit, treatment will entail the use of hand crews to remove all brush species and thin all trees less than 10" in diameter. Vegetation will either be piled and burned or chipped on site. Chips will be broadcast back into the unit. Chips will not be deposited into watercourses and burn piles will not be established within streams or stream protection zones.

Within the North Power line Unit treatment will entail of the use of a masticator, over approximately 40% of the area, and hand crews to remove all brush species and thin all trees less than 10" in diameter. The masticator will be restricted to slopes less than 45%. Hand crews will cut, chip or burn vegetation on site. Chips will be broadcast back into the unit. Chips will not be deposited into watercourses and burn piles will not be established within streams or stream protection zones.

No healthy mature, scenic trees will be removed pursuant to CEQA 15304.

EXEMPTION STATUS

- [x] Categorical Exemption Type/Section: **Class 4** — **Pursuant to §15304, minor alterations of vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees.**
- [ ] 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 within the above-listed Categorical Exemption listed in the CEQA Guidelines. 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 CALFIRE Siskiyou Unit Headquarters in Yreka, Attention Environmental Coordinator.

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DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

Duane Shintaku 5/30/14

Duane Shintaku, Deputy Director Date
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

RECEIVED
JUN 02 2014
STATE CLEARING HOUSE