



NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	Elk Creek Forest Fire Station - Oak Tree Removal		
PROJECT LOCATION	CAL FIRE's Elk Creek Forest Fire Station 3288 Ivory Mill Road, Elk Creek, CA Section 17, T20N-R6W, MDBM	COUNTY	Glenn
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	Adam Wyman, Forester II	PHONE	(530) 528-5106
ADDRESS	604 Antelope Blvd Red Bluff, CA 96080		

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Removal of one large blue oak tree (approx. 20" in diameter and 90 years old) at Elk Creek Forest Fire Station. The tree is located on the southwest side of the parcel, near Ivory Mill Road on the left side of the driveway (when facing the fire station from the road). It is necessary to remove the tree due to the placement of a new power pole by PG&E to be located directly across the street from the tree and a recommendation by PG&E to place another new pole within a few feet north of the subject oak tree. The placement of these new poles has resulted in the subject oak tree to be directly in the path of the power line, which is not compatible with the utility. Alternatives to removing the tree were deemed too costly. The new power poles and line are necessary to provide electricity to the new barracks facility (Elk Creek Barracks Replacement Project). CAL FIRE inmate crews will remove the tree by hand, and heavy equipment (backhoe) will dig out the stump.

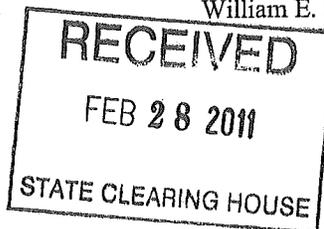
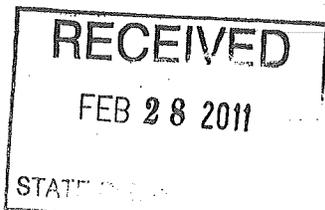
EXEMPTION STATUS

- Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4 §15304 (e) 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 within the Class 4 Categorical Exemption described the CEQA Guidelines (14 CCR Section 15304 - pertaining to Minor Alterations to Land), will not have a significant effect on the environment, and is exempt from the provisions of CEQA. Prior to reaching this conclusion, however, the Department first conducted an environmental impact analysis to confirm that no *Exceptions* exist at the project site which would preclude the use of a Categorical Exemption. The Department's Senior State Archaeologist was consulted on 2/11/2011 to inquire whether or not the oak tree has any historical significance. His review of previous research on the property concluded the tree has no historical significance. There are many other trees of this size and species in the area. No nests of any rare, threatened or endangered species were found. This project will have no appreciable impact on water or the land, or any other public trust resources. 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's findings are that no significant environmental impacts would occur as a result of this project. Documentation on the environmental review completed by CAL FIRE is kept on file at CAL FIRE's Tehama-Glenn Unit Headquarters.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING



William E. Snyder, Deputy Director 2/25/11
Date