



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

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	Grizzly Flat Fuel Reduction Project GF 12		
PROJECT LOCATION	Grizzly Flat, CA Township 9N; Range 13E; Sec. 15,16,21 MDBM, Sly Park and Omo Ranch 7.5 Quad	COUNTY	El Dorado
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	Thomas J. Tinsley, Unit Forester - Forester II		
ADDRESS	CAL FIRE's Amador-El Dorado Unit 2840 Mount Danahe Road, Camino, CA 95709	PHONE	530-647-5203

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Grizzly Flat GF12 Fuel Reduction Project Statement of Work

Prescription / Treatment

Mastication 47 acres

The use of rubber tired or tracked vehicles to cut, chip, and scatter all shrubs and small trees up to 10" diameter at breast height (dbh) (4 1/2') above the ground on the uphill side. Trees shall be spaced approximately 20' between tree trunks. Trees in order of importance and to be retained on site if possible: 1) Sugar Pine, 2) Dogwood, 3) Ponderosa Pine, 4) Douglas Fir, 5) Black Oak, 6) Cedar 7) White fir. Retention of these trees is important but meeting the spacing requirements is the more important consideration. All trees not removed in the project area will be limbed up to 8 feet above the ground surface. Brush cover shall be reduced by creating a mosaic of treated and untreated shrubs. Openings between shrubs shall be twice the height of the shrubs and 70%-90% of the shrubs shall be treated. Brush that is treated shall be cut to the maximum of 6 inches in height. No individual pieces of cut material shall be greater than 4 feet long. All masticated stumps shall be cut to within 6 inches of the ground. No debris shall average more than 6 inches in depth over project area. All cut vegetation will be kept within the project boundaries. Any cut vegetation falling into ditches, roads, road banks, trails, or adjacent parcels not within the project boundaries shall be immediately removed.

Hand Thin 11 Acres

The hazard fuels reduction work on the properties fronting on Wooded Glen Drive, Wood View Court, Golden Aspen Drive, and Grizzly Flat Road shall be done with hand crew labor using chainsaws. Hand thinning shall include: Trees, up to 6" diameter at breast height (dbh) or 4 1/2 feet above the ground on the uphill side, shall be cut with 20' spacing between leave trees (trees not cut), unless otherwise designated by the Project Coordinator. All stumps will be cut to within 6" of the ground and with their cup stump tops approximately level. Leave trees shall be limbed up to 8' above the ground, but not more than 1/3 of a tree's total height.; limbed material shall be treated by chipping. No surface debris shall average more than 6" in depth over the entire hand thin Treatment area. Trees in order of importance and to be retained on site if possible: 1) Sugar Pine, 2) Dogwood, 3) Ponderosa Pine, 4) Douglas Fir, 5) Black Oak, 6) Cedar, 7) White Fir. Retention of these trees is important but meeting the spacing requirements is of a greater importance.

Piling Cut Materials

All cut trees, shrubs and trimmings shall be dragged or otherwise moved to the roadside edge and piled for chipping by others.

Chipping

Mechanical chipping redistributes forest vegetation, cut with chainsaws as a part of hand thinning, back into the forest environment. Chips shall be blown back onto the ground and scattered on the project area at a relatively uniform depth not to exceed 3".

The project location is in the Grizzly Flat Subdivision in the southeastern part of El Dorado County. The project is part of a fuel break system that surrounds the community of Grizzly Flat all located on private property. The fuel reduction project also links with previous fuel reduction projects on private property and the Eldorado National Forest adjacent to Grizzly Flat. The project is located on 107 acres (58 will be treated) at approximately 3600 foot elevation is typical low elevation mixed conifer vegetation mixed with brush species and overstocked mixed conifer stands. Much of the project area is near occupied homes and vacant lots.

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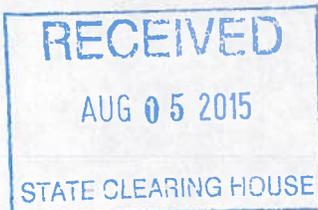
EXEMPTION STATUS

- 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 fits under the description for a Class 4 (Minor Alterations to Land) Categorical Exemption to CEQA. CALFIRE staff conducted an environmental review to confirm that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. This review included an on-the-ground field inspection by Thomas W. Lowry Registered Professional Forester RPF #2092 and consultation with Wildlife Biologist, Sara Paiva Lowry. Neither of these experts expressed any concerns with the proposed project. 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 Thomas Lowry is on file at AEU Unit Headquarters in Camino.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING



Duane Shintaku 8/3/15
Duane Shintaku, Deputy Director Date
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection