



## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>	Hazen C-Line Fuel Break		
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>	Approximately 4 miles southeast from the community of Manton, CA along the Sierra Pacific Industries C-Line Road between its junction with Forward Road and a point 9 miles to the southeast within Section 11 T29N R2E MDBM	<b>COUNTY</b>	Tehama
<b>LEAD AGENCY</b>	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
<b>CONTACT</b>	Adam Wyman, Forester II	<b>PHONE</b>	
<b>ADDRESS</b>	604 Antelope Blvd. Red Bluff, CA 96080		(530) 528-5106

### Project Description

The goal of this project is to reduce hazardous fuel profiles within the Wildland/Urban Interface Zone of the Manton community and to improve fire protection to existing timber stands and forest lands. This will be accomplished by Cal Fire inmate hand crews who will use hand tools and chainsaws in the maintenance and further development of a Defensible Fuel Profile Zone along the Sierra Pacific Industries' C-Line Road located southeast of the Manton community within Eastern Tehama County. Project work will entail cutting brush as well as thinning and removing live (10" dbh. and under) and downed trees in order to improve spacing of desired trees and decrease unnatural levels of ladder fuels. Preference for trees to be left within the fuel break will be given to Ponderosa pine, Incense cedar, Douglas fir and Black oak. Trees to be left on site (those with a dbh. of 10" and greater) will have their branches pruned up to 8' above ground level resulting in a minimum live crown cover of 50%. The treatment area will be within 150' along both sides of the C-Line Road right-of-way. The hand cut vegetation will be placed in piles and burned or chipped as appropriate.

### 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

Public Resources Code, Division 13, Chapter 6, Article 19, Section 15304 allows minor alteration of vegetation including fuel management activities to reduce volume of flammable vegetation, provided the activities do not result in the taking of endangered, rare, or threatened plant/animal species, or cause significant erosion and sedimentation of surface waters. Minimal ground disturbance is expected as all work will be done utilizing hand crews. No heavy equipment will be used on the project. Watercourses within the project's impact area will be afforded standard Forest Practice Rules protection measures. A current NDDDB search was conducted. The project as proposed will not have a negative impact upon any listed species of plant or animal with potential to be found on the project area. A current Archaeological records check was obtained and the project area was surveyed by individuals that have completed the Cal Fire Archeological training. Reports provided by these individuals have been accepted after review by a Cal Fire Archaeologist. No sites were identified. Native American Inquiry letters were sent to Tribal Members on the current contact list. This project as proposed will not have a significant impact on the environment. 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 3/2/11  
Date