

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION



State of California
The Natural Resources Agency
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

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|-------------------------|--|---------------|--------------|
| PROJECT TITLE | FI-210 Class and Multi-Agency Drill | | |
| PROJECT LOCATION | Township 6N, Range 1W, Section 16 (38° 22.065, -121° 58.469) | COUNTY | Solano |
| LEAD AGENCY | California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) | | |
| CONTACT | Megan Scheeline, Forester I | | |
| ADDRESS | CAL FIRE Sonoma-Lake-Napa Unit Headquarters 1199 Big Tree Road, St. Helena CA 94574 | PHONE | 707-967-1428 |

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) is planning prescribed burning activities on 87 acres of land owned by the City of Vacaville. The project area consists of moderately-sloped grass fields in central Vacaville north of Interstate 80. Roads form the north and east borders of the project area; homes and businesses form the south and west borders.

Two activities will be conducted in the project area. The first is an FI-210 Wildland Fire Cause and Determination Class. In the class, students will work as a team to investigate and document a wildland fire, including determining the fire origin, collecting evidence, conducting interviews, and documenting the case. Small plots up to a quarter acre in size will be burned during the class in order to allow the students to practice determining origins and causes of wildfires. Fire engines will be used to create wet control lines and to extinguish the burn plots.

The second activity will be a Multi-Agency Drill, coordinated by CAL FIRE, which will bring together local fire districts and departments in an opportunity to train together. The goal of the Drill is improved communication, response, and incident management by area-wide emergency partners. Project activities will consist of broadcast burning, dozer line construction, firing operations, and fire suppression activities including mobile attack and hand tool use to control wildland fires.

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 the description for a Class 4, §15304 – Minor Alterations to Land Categorical Exemption to CEQA. 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 project consists of minor treatments to land and vegetation in the form of prescribed fire with associated control lines. The activities will not result in the taking of endangered, rare, or threatened plant or animal species, or sedimentation to surface waters. CAL FIRE staff 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.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING


Duane Shintaku, Deputy Director 6/10/15
Date
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

