



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

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE Mountain Communities Fire Safe Council-San Jacinto WUI Fuels Reduction

PROJECT LOCATION	T3S, R1E, Sec. 25, 35, 36; T3S, R2E, Sec. 29-32; T4S, R1E, Sec. 1-3, 10-12; T4S, R2E, Sec. 6-8, 13-14, 26, 35-36; T5S, R2E, Sec. 1-2, 10-14, 23-25, 35-36; T5S, R3E, Sec. 5-8, 17-21, 23, 26-30, 34-35; T6S, R3E, Sec. 3-4, 7-11, 14-16, 22-26, 36; T6S, R4E, Sec. 8-9, 17, 20, 31; T6S, R5E, Sec. 28-29, 33-35; T7S, R3E, Sec. 1; T7S, R4E, Sec. 5-9, 16-17; T7S, R5E, Sec. 1, 3, 9-11, 17; SBBM	COUNTY Riverside
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LEAD AGENCY California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Mountain Rim Fire Safe Council's (MRFSC) Abatement Assistance and Advocacy project will assist homeowners who are cited under state (PRC 4291) and/or local (San Bernardino County Code Section 23.0304) defensible space clearance requirements but who do not possess the fiscal resources to comply with abatement citations. In cooperation with the homeowner, the MRFSC will provide resources to perform the necessary fuel reduction work. The vegetation removed for defensible space or hazard abatement will be cut using chainsaws or hand tools, hand carried to the curbside for onsite chipping or hauled away. All vehicles will remain on existing roads. Project areas are primarily composed of timber and understory shrubs. Vegetation to be removed will mostly be composed of small diameter trees (<12"), branches, and shrubs. Elevation ranges from approximately 5,000 feet to 6,500 feet. The MRFSC will also provide fire safe education and information to participating homeowners and invite them to participate in the MRFSC's public events to share their experience and the benefits of the program with the public. This project will take place within the San Bernardino National Forest from the Crestline to Green Valley Lake areas. It is anticipated that approximately 100 properties (approximately 1/4 acre each) will be treated totaling approximately 25 acres over a two year period.

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

15304 (i): Fuel management activities within 30 feet of structures to reduce the volume of flammable vegetation, provided that the activities will not result in the taking of endangered, rare, or threatened plant or animal species or significant erosion and sedimentation of surface waters. This exemption shall apply to fuel management activities within 100 feet of a structure if the public agency having fire protection responsibility for the area has determined that 100 feet of fuel clearance is required due to extra hazardous fire conditions.



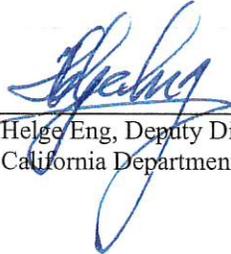
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Field review by Tim Morin, RPF #2505, confirmed that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. The RPF has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and 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 RPF is kept on file at CAL FIRE's RRU Headquarters in Riverside.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

Governor's Office of Planning & Research
OCT 17 2016
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

 10/13/16

Helge Eng, Deputy Director Date
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection