

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION



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

PROJECT TITLE	Mountain Rim Fire Safe Council Abatement Assistance and Advocacy		
PROJECT LOCATION	Sec. 22, 31-34, T2N, R2W; Sec. 1, 18-20, 26-30, T2N, R3W; Sec. 4-6, T1N, R2W; Sec. 1, T1N, R3W; Sec. 13-28, T2N, R4W; SBBM	COUNTY	San Bernardino
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	Henry Herrera, Unit Forester		
ADDRESS	3800 N. Sierra Way San Bernardino, CA 92405	PHONE	(909)475-8091

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

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 BDU Headquarters in San Bernardino.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING



Duane Shintaku 7/28/15
Duane Shintaku, Deputy Director Date
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection