



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

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	Public Lands Fuel Reduction Project		
PROJECT LOCATION	Treatment #1-Highway 138 Water Treatment facility, Treatment #2 Perimeter surrounding Lake Gregory, Treatment #3- 24116 Crest Forest Dr. Crestline, CA	COUNTY	San Bernardino
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	Glenn Barley		
ADDRESS	3800 N. Sierra Way San Bernardino, CA 92405	PHONE	(909) 881-6900

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project will reduce fuel loading around the community of Crestline, CA. Two of the treatment areas house vital water treatment facilities as well as water basins. The remaining treatment area is designed to provide an extra fuel break surrounding Lake Gregory. All of these areas are surrounded by structures, small businesses and evacuation routes. The total area to be treated is 47 acres.

The treatment areas have been identified by CAL FIRE, the Crestline Lake Arrowhead Water Agency (CLAWA), and County Parks as being in strategic locations to limit the spread of wildfire and protect watersheds. Vegetation in this project will be removed by hand crews using chainsaws. Brush/shrub species and small diameter trees will be removed to eliminate the horizontal and vertical continuity. Large mature trees will be retained and branches will be pruned to eliminate ladder fuels. Hazardous dead, dying and diseased trees will be removed for safety purposes. All heavy equipment will utilize existing roads. No prescribed fire is planned. All slash generated by this project will be chipped on-site away from existing watercourses and road surfaces. No new roads will be constructed. Healthy, scenic, mature trees will be retained. CAL FIRE Defensible space standards will be followed.

EXEMPTION STATUS

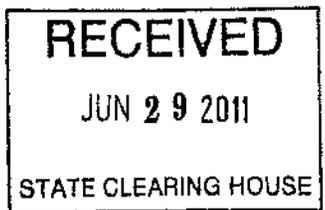
- Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class §15304 Minor Alterations to Land
- Statutory Exemption (state code section):
- Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
- Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
- Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

This project fits under portions of a Class 4 Categorical Exemption, 15304. Minor Alterations to Land. "Class 4 consists of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water and/or vegetation which do not involve the removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes."

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 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 Department is kept on file at the San Bernardino Unit Head Quarters, 3800 N. Sierra Way San Bernardino, CA 92405..

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING



William E. Snyder 6/27/11
 William E. Snyder, Deputy Director Date
 California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection