

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION



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

PROJECT TITLE	Oak Glen Truck Trail Maintenance		
PROJECT LOCATION	Oak Glen Area in Northern Riverside County		COUNTY Riverside
	Portions of Sections 12, 13, and 14 of T2S, R1W, and Portions of Sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 17, 18, 20, 21, 28, and 33 of T2S, R1E		
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	Brandon Rodgers CAL FIRE – Riverside Unit, Mountain Resource Center		PHONE (951) 659-3337
ADDRESS	P.O. Box 2097, Idyllwild, California 92549		

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project involves regular, periodic maintenance of the existing truck trail system surrounding the Oak Glen community for the purpose of maintaining emergency ingress and egress. The project serves to ensure existing truck trails are passable prior to their need during wildfire suppression and emergency response and to maintain drainage structures to prevent erosion and road failure. The roads cross both Federal and Private ownerships. The CAL FIRE Unit will make sure that 719s and/or other appropriate documents are signed which provide approval for CAL FIRE to carry out this work. The actual work will be restricted to actions within the prism of the existing roadway surfaces. These roads will be graded to clear rocks, slough, and to fill-in ruts. Existing drainage structures and run-outs will require minor maintenance to retain their effectiveness. No new construction will occur. The project consists of approximately 18.79 linear miles (combined) within segments of six existing truck trails. The environmental review supporting this regular maintenance is expected to be current for several years. On or before June 1, 2016, the CAL FIRE Unit will re-assess the environmental setting, and complete any additional CEQA work which may be appropriate.

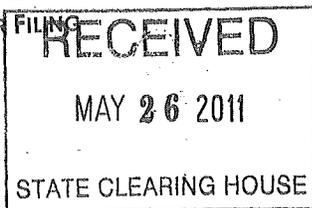
EXEMPTION STATUS

- Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 1 and 4
15301 (c) Existing Facilities
15304 (a) and (f) 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 the two above-listed Categorical Exemptions authorized in the CEQA Guidelines. Class 1 applies to the repair, maintenance and minor alteration of existing public and private roads by road grading for the purpose of public safety. This project will encompass typical tasks associated with recurring road maintenance. This project additionally fits under Class 4 pertaining to minor alterations to land. Project consists of grading on land with a slope of less than 10% slope and minor trenching and backfilling where the road surface is to be restored. All of these activities will remain within the prism of the existing road. After completing an environmental impact analysis, the Department has determined this project will have no significant impact on the environment. This determination is based on field assessments, CNDDDB query and review, consultation with staff archaeologist, and past project assessments. 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 following approval and implementation of this project. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at the Mountain Resource Center in Idyllwild, California.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING



William E. Snyder, Deputy Director Date 5/23/11
 California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection