



NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	Salt Creek Training Site		
PROJECT LOCATION	640 acres of wildland located adjacent to the Salt Creek Conservation Camp at 10655 Round Valley Road Paskenta, CA Section 35, T23N-R7W MDBM.	COUNTY	Tehama
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	Adam Wyman, Forester II	PHONE	
ADDRESS	604 Antelope Blvd. Red Bluff, CA 96080		(530) 528-5106

Project Description

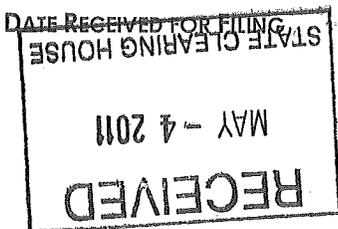
The purpose of the project is to provide a training site for Cal Fire crews from Salt Creek Conservation Camp. The training includes physical fitness hikes and manual cutting of brush. No scalping, scraping or burning is proposed. The only practices allowed are non-ground disturbing activities. All training activities will be conducted by Cal Fire inmate hand crews from Salt Creek Conservation Camp. Brush cutting activities will utilize hand tools and chainsaws. No trees will be felled or removed.

EXEMPTION STATUS

- Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4 §15304 (e) 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

Public Resources Code, Division 13, Chapter 6, Article 19, Section 15304 allows minor alteration of vegetation including fuel management activities to reduce volume of flammable vegetation, provided the activities do not result in the taking of endangered, rare, or threatened plant/animal species, or cause significant erosion and sedimentation of surface waters. No ground disturbance is expected other than would occur from walking on the ground. All work will be done utilizing hand crews. No heavy equipment will be used on the project. A number of watercourses are present within the project area. These along with all springs and wet areas will be protected by not cutting vegetation within 100 feet of these areas. A current CNDDDB search was conducted. Robin Fallscheer of DFG was consulted in early March, 2011 to review the results of the NDDDB search. DFG indicated no species of rare, threatened or endangered plants were listed in the project area. The project as proposed is not expected to result in a negative impact upon any listed species of plant or animal with a potential to be found on the project area. A current Archaeological records check (I.C. W11-19 dated March 9, 2011) was obtained and reviewed by a CAL FIRE Archaeologist. No sites were identified. 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's findings are that no significant environmental impacts would occur as a result of this project. Documentation on the environmental review completed by Cal Fire is kept on file at Cal Fire's Tehama-Glenn Unit Headquarters. This project as proposed is not expected to result in a significant impact on the environment.



William E. Snyder, Deputy Director Date 5/2/11