



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

# NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

**PROJECT TITLE** UC Field Station CAL FIRE Training Project - Update

**PROJECT LOCATION** Sections 27, 28, 33 and 34, T17N, R6E, MDBM  
 Sections 3, 4, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21 and 22, T16N, R06E, MDBM COUNTY Yuba  
 Oregon House USGS 7.5' Quadrangle

**LEAD AGENCY** California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

**CONTACT** Elsa Hucks

**ADDRESS** CAL FIRE-NEU Unit Headquarters, 13760 Lincoln Way PHONE (530) 889-0111  
 Auburn, CA 95603

**Project Description**  
 The Sierra Foothills Research and Extension Center is a 5,721 acre research facility owned and managed by the University of California. It is located within the community of Browns Valley, CA. This project will allow for annual training of fire suppression personnel focusing on hand line construction, brush cutting, hazard tree removal and the suppression of vegetation fire. Mobile attack burning operations will be conducted in the grass fuel models, on the flatter more accessible slopes. Prior to burning, hand crews will construct control lines around the burn perimeter to prevent fire escapes. Sufficient fire apparatus will be present during all burning activities to hold and suppress fire as necessary. All tree falling will be non-commercial and in conjunction with a CAL FIRE S-212 class. Generated slash and brush will be chipped or piled and burned. A CAL FIRE dozer will be available to assist with cleanup as needed.

**EXEMPTION STATUS**

Categorical Type/Section: Class 1, 4, and 7 14CCR§15301 (c), (h) Existing Facilities  
 Exemption 14 CCR§15304, Minor Alterations to Land  
 14CCR§15307, Actions by Regulatory Agencies for the Protection of Natural Resources

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))

**RECEIVED**  
 DEC 14 2011  
 STATE CLEARING HOUSE

**REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT**

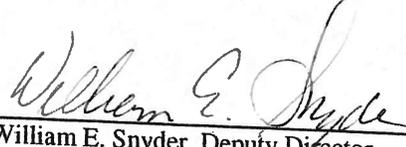
**14CCR§15304, Minor Alteration to Land.** The project involves the removal of vegetation and trees to facilitate CAL FIRE training.

**14CCR§15301(c), Existing Facilities:** maintenance of existing landscaping and native growth. Project implementation will help maintain existing native vegetation and promote a more healthy, fire resistant landscape.

**14CCR§15307, Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of Natural Resources:** The project will facilitate fire control training and help prevent wild fire.

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 NEU Headquarters in Auburn.

**DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING**

  
 William E. Snyder, Deputy Director Date 12/8/11  
 California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection