



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

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	Pleasant Valley Escape Route & Fuel Break		
PROJECT LOCATION	The project area is located in the north east corner of the California approximately 2 miles north west of Dorris near the Oregon border.		COUNTY Siskiyou
	Legal Description: Section 15 & 22, T48N, R1W, MDBM		
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	Mike Rosan, Forester I,		
ADDRESS	CALFIRE Siskiyou Unit HQ (SKU)		PHONE Off. 530-842-3516
	1809 Fairlane Road, Yreka, CA 96097		Cell 530-598-2607

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project consists of road side vegetation reduction, within the Pleasant Valley Subdivision, as a means of providing a safe escape route for residences and to provide a defensible space for fire suppression efforts.

The Pleasant Valley Subdivision is a rural residential development located at approximately 4,200 feet of elevation. The concerned area is characterized by relatively flat topography (less than 10% slopes) and a moderately dense stand of mature ponderosa pine with highly scattered juniper trees and black oaks throughout. The understory consists of mature brush species, Ponderosa Pine seedlings and saplings and juniper seedlings occurring individually or in small groups.

The project will entail the use of hand crews to cut, pile and chip seedlings, saplings and brush species located within 70 feet of each side of the road. Mature trees will be pruned to a height of 8 to 10 feet, but no more than 50% of the crowns shall be removed. All mature trees shall be retained. Trees greater than ten inches diameter at breast height will not be removed unless they are a hazard to the road or personnel. The project area will be fully stocked upon completion of the project.

EXEMPTION STATUS

- Categorical Exemption Type/Section: **Class 4** Pursuant to §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 within the above-listed Categorical Exemption listed in the CEQA Guidelines. 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 CALFIRE Siskiyou Unit Headquarters, 1809 Fairlane Road, Yreka, 96067; Attention Environmental Coordinator.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

RECEIVED

FEB 13 2013

STATE CLEARING HOUSE

William E. Snyder, Deputy Director Date 2/12/13
 California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection