



State of California
The Natural Resources Agency
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	Backbone Road Fuel Break Project		
PROJECT LOCATION	Portions of; T33N, R3W, Sections 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, and 17 MDBM T33N, R2W, Sections 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, and 18 MDBM T34N, R2W, Sections 26, 27, 34, and 35 MDBM	COUNTY	Shasta
PUBLIC AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

CAL FIRE, has assessed approximately 350 acres for fuels reduction. The CAL FIRE project is approximately 275 acres and incorporates 100' from centerline (200' total width) on portions of Backbone Rd. (~11 miles) near the community of Jones Valley, CA. This project is located on several different vegetation types including mixed conifer, oak woodland, and chaparral. Manual and mechanical fuel reduction will include the use of a masticator, bulldozer, chipper, and chainsaws to thin suppressed trees (generally <10" DBH) and shrubs. Cut material will be masticated, crushed, chipped back into the unit, and/or piled and burned. Follow up broadcast burning may be used to maintain the project area. Project activities may be implemented any time of year, however, will not be conducted during saturated soil conditions.

EXEMPTION STATUS

- Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4 § 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

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 project consists of minor treatments to land and vegetation in the form of brush removal and understory thinning via hand crews and mastication. The activities do not result in the taking of endangered, rare, or threatened plant or animal species, or sedimentation to surface waters. This project will not convert forestland to nonforest uses, and all treated vegetation will have the ability to grow back. The Department has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, energy, 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, utilities and service systems or wildfire. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at 875 Cypress Ave., Redding, CA 96001.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

DocuSigned by:

John Melvin

3/17/2022

John Melvin, Assistant Deputy Director Date
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection