

Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: (Public Agency) Feather River Resource Conservation District
PO Box 3562, Quincy CA 95971
(Address)

County Clerk / County of Plumas

520 Main Street

Quincy CA 95971

Project Title: Mohawk Valley Wildfire Resiliency Project – Plumas Eureka CSD

Project Applicant: Feather River Resource Conservation District

Project Location – Specific: T22N, R12E S 4,8,9

Project Location - City: Blairsden, CA

Project Location - County: Plumas

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

This project covers vegetation treatments on Plumas Eureka Community Services District owned 35 acres, and is a portion of the larger Mohawk Valley Forest Resiliency project that aims to restore 762 acres of mixed conifer forest along the Middle Fork Feather River to an improved state of ecosystem health through hand thinning, mechanical thinning, chipping, piling and prescribed fire. These activities aim to control insect and disease infestation and the reduction of hazardous fuels in a wildland urban interface. Other forest health related goals include: the re-introduction of fire as an ecological process; the restoration of mixed conifer forest understory and wildlife habitat; and the improvement of water quality and soil productivity. The project was planned collaboratively and prioritized due to conditions creating increased risk of high severity wildfire, proximity to critical infrastructure including water treatment centers, headwaters benefits, and forest ecosystems impacted by insects and disease. Project implementation will improve forest resilience by addressing undesirable ecological conditions that could lead to or exacerbate a wildfire event.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Feather River Resource Conservation District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Feather River Resource Conservation District

Exempt Status: (check one)

Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268); Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));

Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));

Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: 15304, Minor Alterations to Land (Class 4)

Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

Reasons why project is exempt:

This project fits under portions the following class of Categorical Exemption: 15304 Minor Alterations to Land (Class 4) 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 waters. Trees targeted for removal and pruning of residual trees will be restricted to those that reduce the vertical and horizontal continuity of fuels, and/or provide for improved ingress/egress in the event of wildfire. The proposed project has been designed to protect hydrology and water and soil resources to prevent significant erosion or sedimentation of waters. The project, as designed, is consistent with the use of a Categorical Exemption.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Brad Graeves

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (530) 927-5299

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.

2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project: Yes No

Signature:



Date: 5/3/21

Title:

DISTRICT MANAGER

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by Applicant

I hereby certify that from 5/10/2021 to 6/15/2021 I posted a copy of this Notice of Exemption in the office of the Plumas County Clerk (30 days). By (Signature) on 5/10/2021 (date).

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date received for filing at OPR:

Feather River Resource Conservation District

DOC # 2021-025

Rec # 32-0510 2021-025

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520 Main Street

Quincy CA 95971

Project Title: Mohawk Valley Wildfire Resiliency Project

Project Applicant: Feather River Resource Conservation District

Project Location – Specific:

T22N, R11E S 4,5,9,8,7,12,18, 19 T22N, R12E S 2,3,11,12

Project Location - City: Blairsden, CA

Project Location - County: Plumas

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Mohawk Valley Forest Resiliency project aims to restore 727 acres of mixed conifer forest along the middle fork Feather river to an improved state of ecosystem health through hand thinning, mechanical thinning, and prescribed fire. These activities aim to control insect and disease infestation and the reduction of hazardous fuels in a wildland urban interface. Other forest health related goals include: the re-introduction of fire as an ecological process; the restoration of mixed conifer forest understory and wildlife habitat; and the improvement of water quality and soil productivity. The project was planned collaboratively and prioritized due to conditions creating increased risk of high severity wildfire, proximity to critical infrastructure including water treatment centers, headwaters benefits, and forest ecosystems impacted by insects and disease. Project implementation will improve forest resilience by addressing undesirable ecological conditions that could lead to or exacerbate a wildfire event.

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Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268); Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
 Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
 Categorical Exemption. State type and section number:
 Statutory Exemptions. State code number: Public Resource Code Section 4799.05(d)(1)

Reasons why project is exempt:

CEQA does not apply to prescribed fire, thinning, or fuel reduction projects undertaken on federal lands to reduce the risk of high severity wildfire that have been reviewed under the NEPA if the primary role of a state or local agency is providing funding or staffing for those projects. The proposed project was reviewed in its entirety under NEPA through review of the project Decision Memos and supporting specialist's reports by the Plumas National Forest, Beckwourth Ranger District. The Record of Decision for the Mohawk Vista Forest Health Project was signed June 9th 2017. The Decision Memo for the Plumas Eureka Forest Health Project was signed May 9th, 2018.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Brad Graeves

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (530) 927-5299

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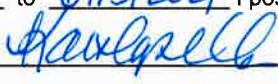
Signature: 

Date: 5/3/21

Title: DISTRICT MANAGER

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by Applicant

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Feather River Resource Conservation District

Notice of Exemption

DOC # 2021-024
REC # 32-05102021-024