

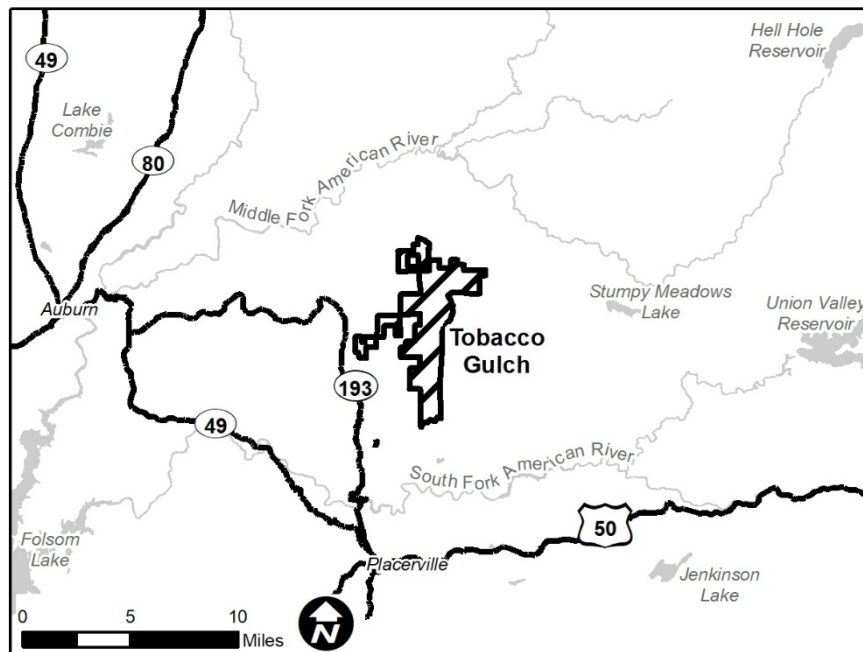
Sierra Nevada Conservancy

NOTICE OF INTENT

Release of an Initial Study and Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Tobacco Gulch Ecological Restoration Project

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) has released for public review the Initial Study and Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the Tobacco Gulch Ecological Restoration Project. The project area has been identified as a very high to extreme fire hazard area due to a high density of trees, high levels of surface and ladder fuels, and proximity to communities. A variety of mechanical thinning, mastication, hand thinning, piling, and prescribed fire would be implemented across 2,791 acres of National Forest lands to reduce fire hazard and restore forest health. The goal of the project is to improve forest health, reduce surface and ladder fuel accumulations, and effectively improve resilience to disturbance.

Project Location: The project is located in the Georgetown Ranger District, El Dorado National Forest, approximately 3 miles east of Georgetown, El Dorado County, California near Darling Ridge, Mace Mill, and Balderston Corral (see map).



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Environmental Effects: SNC has prepared an IS/MND pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Sections 15063 and 15071. SNC has studied the effects the proposed project may have on the environment. Based on the IS, mitigation imposed, and environmental protection measures that have been incorporated into the project before release of the proposed IS/MND for public review, the project would not result in significant environmental impacts. Therefore, an IS/MND is proposed for compliance with the requirements of CEQA.

Where You Come In: As lead agency under CEQA, SNC is releasing the IS/MND for public review and comments. The document is available for a 30-day public review period from April 18, 2018 to May 18, 2018.

Where to Review the Environmental Document and Provide Comments: Formal comments regarding the IS/MND may be submitted in writing via U.S. mail or email any time during the public review period. Written comments regarding the scope and content of information in the IS/MND or any questions regarding the document should be submitted no later than May 18, 2018. Comments may be sent to:

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Grant Program Coordinator
Sierra Nevada Conservancy
11521 Blocker Drive #205
Auburn, CA 95603
Phone: (530) 823-4689
Email: Shannon.Ciotti@sierranevada.ca.gov

Copies of the IS/MND, and the documents referenced therein, are available for public review during regular business hours at the office of SNC identified above.

Digital copies of the IS/MND are available online at: www.sierranevada.ca.gov/other-assistance/prop1-grantprog

Paper copies of the IS/MND are also available for public review at:

Georgetown Library
6680 Orleans Street
Georgetown, CA 95634
Ph. (530) 333-4724

Public Hearing: A public hearing on the proposed project is scheduled during the SNC Governing Board meeting that will begin at 9 a.m. on June 7, 2018 in Bishop. The meeting location will be posted a month prior to the meeting online at: <http://www.sierranevada.ca.gov/our-board/board-meetings>