

Notice of Exemption

Form D

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 212
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: (Public Agency) Sierra Nevada Conservancy
11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205
Auburn, CA 95603

County Clerk
County of Placer
2954 Richardson Drive
Auburn, CA 95603

(Address)

Project Title: French Meadows Forest Restoration (SNC #R1833016)

Project Location - Specific:

French Meadows Reservoir and surrounding areas, Tahoe National Forest (TNF), approximatley 40 miles northeast of Foresthill, in unincorporated Placer County, California.

Project Location - City: Approximatley 40 miles northeast of Foresthill Project Location - County: Placer

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy would provide CCI funding in the amount of \$3,500,000 to Placer County to implement restorative treatments for the French Meadows project area using characteristics such as slope, aspect, elevation, soils, and other factors, all based upon the USDA, USFS Pacific Southwest Research Station (PSW) General Technical Report (PSW-GTR-220 (second printing, with addendum) March 2009). Specifically, Placer County will implement thinning, pile burning, and prescribed fire on the French Meadows project area in an effort to reduce fuels for fire.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Placer County in partnership with the Tahoe National Forest

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:
Statutory Exemptions. State code number: Public Resources 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 NEPA if the primary role of a state or local agency is providing funding or staffing for those projects. The Sierra Nevada Conservancy would provide CCI funding to conduct fuel reduction activities on federal lands within the Tahoe National Forest. The actions to be undertaken by this project were reviewed in their entirety pursuant to NEPA through an Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). The Decision Notice and FONSI for the project was signed by the Tahoe National Forest on December 10, 2018.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Andrea Williams Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (530) 823-4682

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: Title:

- Signed by Lead Agency Date received for filing at OPR:
Signed by Applicant

Revised 2005