



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

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	Mokelumne Hill Fuel Reduction Project		
PROJECT LOCATION	Portions of Sections: 1, 11, 12 T5N, R11E, MDBM, Portions of Sections: 6, 7 T5N, R12E, MDBM, Mokelumne Hill 7.5 USGS Quad	COUNTY	Calaveras
LEAD AGENCY/ PROJECT APPLICANT	Calaveras County Resource Conservation District (CCRCD)		
CONTACT:	Mary Cole, Interim Executive Director,		
ADDRESS	Calaveras County Resource Conservation District P.O. Box 1041, San Andreas, CA. 95249	PHONE	(209) 754-9488

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project will create a 402-acre fuel break in a semi-circular area of forest and chaparral shrub fields located north and west of the community of Mokelumne Hill in Calaveras County. This fuel break will reduce fuel loads and the risk of catastrophic fire in an area that has a history of destructive wildfires. Treatments along roads will enhance ingress and egress by emergency vehicles and the traveling public during emergencies. The fuel break will provide a staging area for fire suppression forces to effectively fight a wildfire.

The project will utilize a combination of mechanical mastication and hand treatments. In either case, the treatment objectives are the same. Mastication involves the shredding of material in place. Material produced by hand cutting with chainsaws will either be lopped and scattered to a depth not to exceed 12 inches or chipped and spread. In areas dominated by chaparral brush will be reduced to five percent or less ground cover while retaining some patches of older manzanita or other shrubs for visual diversity and as wildlife habitat. Vigorous conifers and some hardwood trees occurring within brush will be targeted for retention and if in dense stands, will be thinned to a spacing of 30 feet between boles. Suppressed and low vigor trees under 12 inches diameter will be targeted for removal.

The project may utilize a combination of other treatments to reduce or remove incompatible vegetation within the fuel break. These treatments may include hand thinning and chipping, piling and burning, pruning, the application of herbicides and/or other treatment methods.

The intent is for this Notice of Exemption to cover ongoing maintenance of the project in perpetuity.

EXEMPTION STATUS

- Categorical Exemption Type/Section: 14CCR§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 under the description for a Class 1 Categorical Exemption to CEQA. CCRCD staff conducted an environmental review to confirm that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. The CCRCD 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 CCRCD staff is kept on file at the CCRCD office in San Andreas, CA.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

**(ENDORSED)
FILED**

County of Calaveras
Rebecca Turner
County Clerk-Recorder
05-2023-043
09/29/2023

Julia Marsili, President
Calaveras County Resource Conservation District

9/27/23

Date

bcole, Deputy Clerk



State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife
2023 ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FILING FEE
CASH RECEIPT
 DFW 753.5a (REV. 01/01/23) Previously DFG 753.5a

RECEIPT NUMBER:
 05-2023-043
 STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER (If applicable)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

LEAD AGENCY CALAVERAS COUNTY RESOURCE	LEAD AGENCY EMAIL mcole@calaverasrcd.org	DATE 09/29/2023
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COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING CALAVERAS	DOCUMENT NUMBER
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PROJECT TITLE
 MOKELUMNE HILL FUEL REDUCTION PROJECT

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME CALAVERAS COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION	PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL mcole@calaverasrcd.org	PHONE NUMBER (209) 754-9488
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PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS PO BOX 1041	CITY SAN ANDREAS	STATE CA	ZIP CODE 95249
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PROJECT APPLICANT (Check appropriate box)

Local Public Agency School District Other Special District State Agency Private Entity

CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:


- Environmental Impact Report (EIR) \$3,839.25 \$ _____
- Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND) \$2,764.00 \$ _____
- Certified Regulatory Program (CRP) document - payment due directly to CDFW \$1,305.25 \$ _____

- Exempt from fee
 - Notice of Exemption (attach)
 - CDFW No Effect Determination (attach)
- Fee previously paid (attach previously issued cash receipt copy)

- Water Right Application or Petition Fee (State Water Resources Control Board only) \$850.00 \$ _____
- County documentary handling fee \$ _____
- Other \$ _____

PAYMENT METHOD:

- Cash Credit Check Other
- TOTAL RECEIVED \$ _____ \$0.00

SIGNATURE X 	AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE Beth Cole, Deputy County Clerk-Recorder
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