NOTICE OF EXEMPTION



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

PROJECT TITLE	Fricot City Road Fuel Reduction Project		
PROJECT LOCATION	Fricot City Road	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 200-600-foot-wide fuel break along Fricot City Road in Calaveras County. This fuel break will enhance ingress and egress by emergency vehicles and the traveling public during emergencies and provide a staging area for fire suppression forces to effectively fight a wildfire. The project will encompass an area of about 515 acres along nine miles of road.

The objective of the project is to create a fuel break by reducing excessive fuels associated primarily with chaparral other shrub vegetation types. It is anticipated that this fuel break, which had a precursor during the 2015 Butte Fire, will provide protection to several communities in Calaveras County including but not limited to Sheep Ranch, Avery, Hathaway Pines and Arnold from catastrophic fire. The project will utilize mechanical mastication to reduce or remove incompatible vegetation within the fuel break. Surface fuels and brush will be masticated, and small conifer and hardwood trees will be thinned. Property owners included in the project have signed Right-of-Entry agreements to allow project work to be performed on their properties. The project area has been delineated on the ground with flagging. Work will be done outside the required defensible space of 100 feet around homes.

The project may utilize a combination of treatments to reduce or remove incompatible vegetation within the fuel break. These treatments may include mechanical mastication, 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

County of Calaveras Rebecca Turner County Clerk-Recorder

05-2023-042 09/29/2023

ilia Marsili, President

9/27/23

Date

Calaveras County Resource Conservation District

RECEIPT NUMBER: 05-2023-042 STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER (If applicable) SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY. LEAD AGENCY DATE LEADAGENCY EMAIL 09/29/2023 CALAVERAS COUNTY RESOURCE mcole@calaverasrcd.org DOCUMENT NUMBER COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING **CALAVERAS** PROJECT TITLE FRICOT CITY ROAD FUEL REDUCTION PROJECT PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL PHONE NUMBER PROJECT APPLICANT NAME (209) 754-9488 CALAVERAS COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION mcole@calaverasrcd.org PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS STATE ZIP CODE PO BOX 1041 SAN ANDREAS CA 95249 PROJECT APPLICANT (Check appropriate box) ☐ State Agency Private Entity Other Special District X Local Public Agency School District **CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:** \$3,839.25 ☐ Environmental Impact Report (EIR) \$2,764.00 ☐ Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND) ☐ Certified Regulatory Program (CRP) document - payment due directly to CDFW \$1,305.25 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: \$0.00 TOTAL RECEIVED ☐ Cash □ Credit ☐ Check AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE SIGNATURE Beth Cole, Deputy County Clerk-Recorder