NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

State of California
The Natural Resources Agency
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

PROJECT TITLE	ANDERSON SPRINGS INTERFACE PROJECT		
PROJECT LOCATION	T11N, R8W Sec. 25	**COUNTY**	Lake County
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	Megan Scheeline, Forester I CAL FIRE Sonoma-Lake-Napa Unit HQ 1199 Big Tree Road, St. Helena CA 94574	**PHONE**	707-967-1428

Project Description and Environmental Setting (Describe the project activities, project site and its surroundings, its location, and the environmental setting):

The South Lake Fire Safe Council obtained a State Responsibility Area (SRA) Grant for the construction of a shaded fuel break around the Anderson Springs community. Prior to the initial implementation of the funds for a shaded fuel break, the Valley Fire of 2015 occurred, and most of the Anderson Springs neighborhood burned, as did the surrounding area. This project, although smaller in area, is proposed in a location where fuels can be removed and potentially in the future protect the rebuilt neighborhood from wildfire.

The project area is located south of the Anderson Springs community on a hillside with elevations ranging from 1500'- 1800', and slopes ranging from 0-50%. It is located 400' to 700' south of the southern edge of the Anderson Springs community. The project is 7 acres in size and is a mixed conifer/oak stand. The stand is comprised of Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*), Madrone (*Arbutus menziesii*), and California black oak (*quercus kelloggii*).
Activities for this project shall be the cutting of brush and ladder fuels; this will include fire charred trees less than 8" in diameter. These cut materials will be hand piled and then burned at an appropriate time. All work conducted on this project shall be by hand. No mechanical equipment shall be used.

The purpose of this project is to create a shaded fuel break, which during a future fire event has the potential to help protect the community.

EXEMPTION STATUS

- [x] Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4 §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 portions of Class 4, Minor Alterations to Land Categorical Exemption to CEQA. Field review by CAL FIRE staff and Joe Cinek (consultant, RPF #2128) confirmed that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. The Department has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, 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, or to utilities and service systems. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at CAL FIRE Sonoma-Lake-Napa Unit Headquarters.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

1/11/17

Helge Eng, Deputy Director Date
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

Governor's Office of Planning & Research
JAN 11 2017
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE