



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

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	Miramonte Camp Fuel Reduction		
PROJECT LOCATION	Sections 30 & 31, T14S, R26 & 27E MDB&M. Miramonte, California 7.5-minute quadrangle	COUNTY	Fresno
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection		
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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Miramonte Camp Fuel Reduction Project is planned to broadcast burn approximately 86 acres of annual grasses and brush understory annually with fall and/or spring entries possible. The burn area will be blocked up into many smaller blocks to facilitate hand crew live fire training. Broadcast burning shall be the primary treatment method. Hand piling of brush may occur on a limited basis. Control lines may be installed by hand or rubber tracked skid steer. The objectives of this project include water conservation through increased water yield, ladder fuel elimination, habitat improvement through elimination of non-native grasses, overstocked understory brush species, and increased protection from stand replacing fire. This project was previously under VMP (RX-South-022-FKU) which has since expired. Since control lines are already present and will be used again for upcoming burns, ground disturbance will be minimal primarily consisting of reopening the existing control lines. Hand lines are anticipated to be installed by hand, but a rubber-tracked skid steer may be used as well.

EXEMPTION STATUS

- ☒ Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4 15304, Minor Alteration 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 into a Class 4 Categorical Exemption to CEQA (15304 minor alterations to land). Field review by a CAL FIRE Unit Environmental Scientist and Registered Professional Forester 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, 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, or to utilities and service systems and wildfire following approval and implementation of this project. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at CAL FIRE Fresno-Kings Unit Headquarters at 210 South Academy Avenue, Sanger, CA 93657.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

DocuSigned by:

John Melvin

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8/18/2023

John Melvin, Assistant Deputy Director
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

Date