

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

JUN 12 2025

To: Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

ASSESSOR / CLERK-RECORDER
BY: CG

Tulare County Clerk
Room 105, Courthouse
221 South Mooney Blvd.
Visalia, CA 93291

Lead Agency: County of Tulare c/o Resource Management Agency
5961 S. Mooney Blvd.
Visalia, CA 93277 (559) 624-7000
Attn: gmills@tularecounty.ca.gov and jwillis@tularecounty.ca.gov

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING AT TULARE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE

Applicant(s): Jess Branson
31174 Sierra Drive
Exeter, CA 93221 (559-805-5130)

Project Title: Tentative Parcel Map No., PPM 25-011 - Branson
Project Location - Specific: 31174 Sierra Drive, on the east side of Highway 198 and approximately 1.25 miles south of Avenue 324, south of Lemon Cove (APN: 113-370-026)
Project Location- Section, Township, Range: Section 15, Township 18S, Range 27E
Project Location - City: N/A Project Location - County: Tulare

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: Tentative Parcel Map No. PPM 25-011 to divide a 13.43-acre property located within the into four (4) parcels (Proposed Parcel 1 = 3-acres, Proposed Parcel 2 = 1.75-acres, Propose Parcel 3 = 2.25-acres and Proposed Parcel 4 = 6.43-acres), with a required final map, on property located in the PD-F-M (Planned Development – Foothill – with Special Mobilehome Combining) and O (Recreational) Zone. The beneficiary of the project is the Applicant.

Exempt Status: (check one)

- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Common Sense Rule Exemption: CEQA Guidelines 15061(b)(3)
- Categorical Exemption: CEQA Guidelines 15303, Class 3, New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures


Reasons why project is exempt: Project is exempt, consistent with the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970 (CEQA) and the State CEQA Guidelines, pursuant to Title 14, Cal. Code Regulations Section 15303, class 3, pertaining New Construction. The use of Section 15303 is applicable and appropriate as each of the newly created parcels would be able to construct at least one (1) residence. Therefore, the lead agency concludes that the proposed project fits under the exemption as the project is consistent with the Tulare County Zoning Ordinance and applicable General Plan Policies

Environmental Assessment Officer: Reed Schenke, P.E., RMA Director/ EAO

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: County of Tulare


Project Planner/Representative: Russell Kashiwa, Project Planner

Telephone: (559) 624-7000

Signature: 
Gary A. Mills

Date: 6/11/2025

Title: Chief Planner
Environmental Planning Division

Signature: 
Michael G. Washam, A.C.E.

Date: 06/11/2025

Title: Associate RMA Director, Designee

Signed by Lead Agency

Date submitted to the LCI/SCH: _____