

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
 P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044
 County Clerk
 County of: Nevada
950 Maidu Ave.
Nevada City, CA 95959

From: (Public Agency): Truckee Fire Protection District
P.O. Box 2768
Truckee, CA 96160

(Address)

Project Title: Nevada and Placer County Cooperative Landscape Resilience Project (Tahoe Donner)

Project Applicant: Tahoe Donner Association

Project Location - Specific:

Portions of Sec. 1, 2, 11 & 12 T17N R15E ; Sec. 7 & 8 T17N R16E ; Sec. 25, 35 & 36 T18N R15E - MDM

Project Location - City: Truckee Project Location - County: Nevada

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

This review is for the implementation of fuels reduction and reforestation activities in the form of hand thinning, pruning, mastication, and roadside/tracked chipping on an approximately 64-acre footprint, and site preparation in the form of mastication on approximately 235 acres, followed by manual reforestation on approximately 65 of those site prep acres. The project area is located on undeveloped Tahoe Donner Association property.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Truckee Fire Protection District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Tahoe Donner Association (Ben Gwerder)

Exempt Status: (check one):

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: 15304, Class 4
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

The proposed project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15304, Class 4. This exemption applies to minor alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation that do not involve the removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees. The project involves selective removal of suppressed, small-diameter understory trees and brush species through methods including hand thinning, chipping, mastication, and limited mechanical tree removal. These activities are specifically designed to reduce the vertical and horizontal continuity of forest fuels adjacent to the community, significantly lowering wildfire risk. All vegetation treatment will retain the ability for natural regrowth, and the project will not result in the conversion of forestland to non-forest uses. A field review was conducted by the Truckee Fire Protection District Forester, who confirmed that the vegetation targeted for removal is in poor health and does not include any healthy, mature, or scenic trees. The review further determined that fuel reduction in the project area is critical and necessary for public and firefighter safety, particularly given current hazardous fuel loads. The proposed activities do not involve: The taking or disturbance of endangered, rare, or threatened plant or animal species; Sedimentation or adverse impacts to surface waters; or Any action that would trigger an exception to the use of a categorical exemption under CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2. Additionally, the Truckee Fire Protection District Forester has evaluated the project and concluded that it will not result in significant impacts to any environmental resource area, including but not limited to: aesthetics, agricultural or forestland resources, air quality, biological and cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hydrology and water quality, land use, noise, public services, recreation, transportation, utilities, or wildfire risk.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Dillon Sheedy Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 530-536-8020

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature: [Signature] Date: 7/8/2025 Title: Forester

▪ Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____

