Print Form

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: MENDOCINO

501 LOW GAP RD., UKIAH, CA 95482

From: (Public Agency): MENDOCINO COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

115 EAST SMITH ST., UKIAH, CA 95482

(Address)

Project Title: North Bay Forest Improvement Program - Gregory Bondi

Project Applicant: Gregory Bondi

Project Location - Specific:

APN: 147-065-240, T17N, R14W, Section 11

Project Location - City: Willits Project Location - County: Mendocino

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

Approximately 7.2 acres are to be treated split into 3 units. *Project objectives will promote fire-resilient forest structure by retaining dominant and codominant trees with full crowns, reducing inter-crown fuel connectivity, and preserving canopy cover to limit brush encroachment. Additionally, the project will establish a strategic ridgeline control feature to support future prescribed burning efforts across the property.* Units 1 and 2 will include understory thinning, pruning treatment, and follow up slash treatment. A minimum of 70% of trees ≤4" DBH—including California bay, tanoak, coast live oak, and Douglas-fir—shall be removed. At least 50% of trees within the 4–8" DBH cohort from these species shall also be removed to achieve target spacing and reduce ladder fuels. All residual trees ≥20 feet in height shall be pruned from ground level to a height of 8–10 feet, maintaining at least 50% of the live crown to ensure tree vigor is not compromised. Unit 3 will include brush management and follow up slash treatment. Treatments shall focus on removing the majority of brush biomass to achieve substantial fuel reduction and operational access. Brush shall be spaced such that separation between individual shrubs is up to two times the shrub height, with a goal of eliminating ladder fuels and improving firefighter mobility. All slash generated by the project shall be piled by hand or machine in piles approximately 6 feet in diameter and 5 feet high. Larger woody material (≥6 inches in diameter at the small end) may be left on the forest floor if in direct contact with the soil and not adjacent to the boles of residual trees.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: MENDOCINO COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Gregory Bondi

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 Minor Alterations to Land
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

Reasons why project is exempt:

This project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption under CEQA Guidelines Section 15304, Minor Alterations to Land. The exemption applies to fuel management activities including pruning, brush management, slash abatement, and understory thinning to reduce hazardous fuels. The project is exempt because the planned activities meet the definition of "forestry" in Public Resources Code §753, and have been reviewed and approved by a Registered Professional Forester in consultation with experts from other pertinent fields. Project activities will not involve the removal of healthy, mature, or scenic trees, and will not result in a substantial alteration of the current function of the land. The project will reduce hazardous fuels, improve species composition, and promote forest resilience without changing the overall land use or function of the site. Project-specific review has determined that no significant environmental effects will occur, with adequate measures provided for protection of sensitive resources. Project-specific analysis is on file at the Resource Conservation District.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Adam Coleman Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (707) 462-3664 Ext. 102

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: 10/03/2025 Title: Forestry Project Manager

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:

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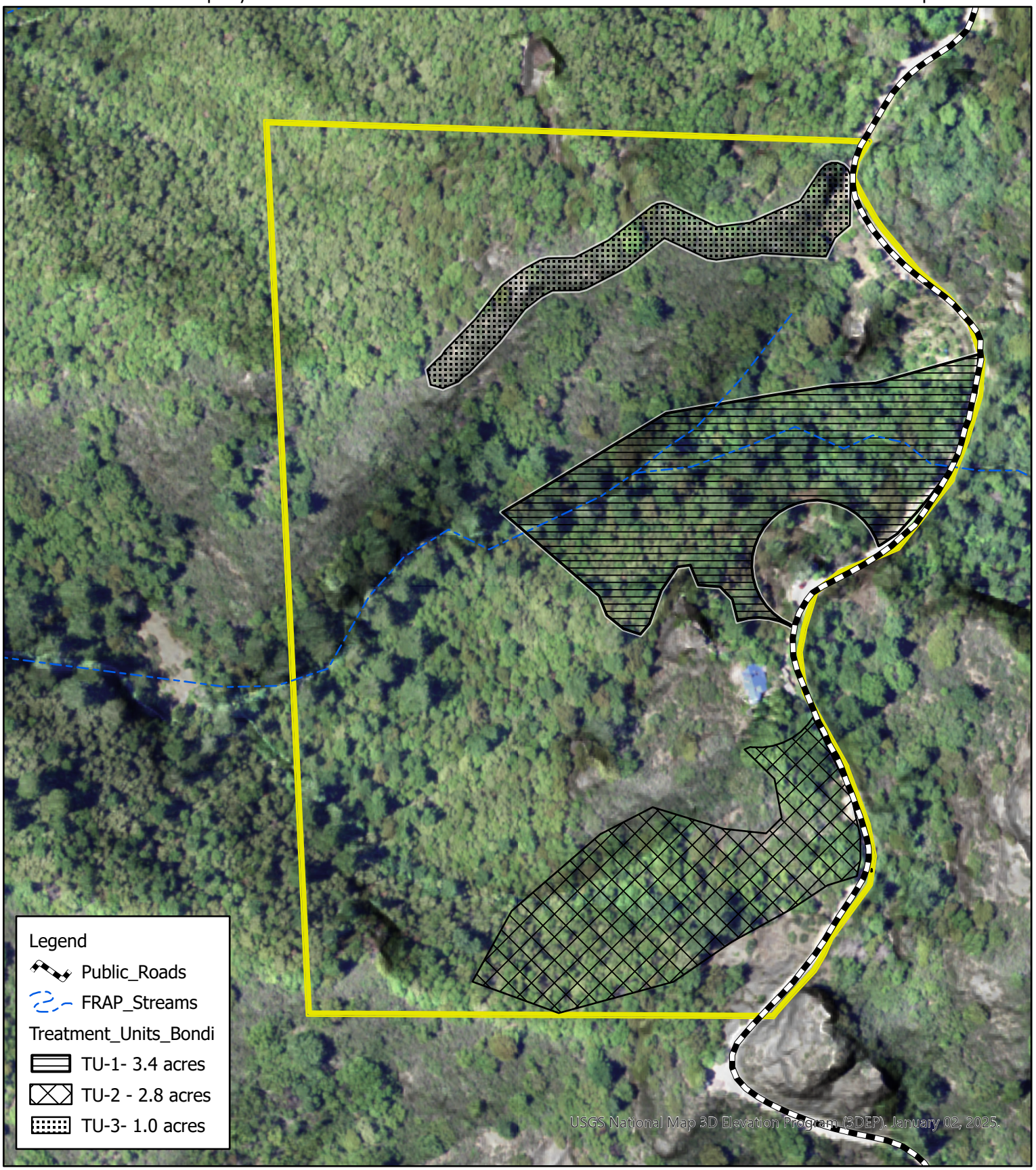
3380 Williams Ranch Road

Client: Bondi | Property Size: 28 acres | Location: Willits | Map: PROPERTY



Resource Conservation District
Mendocino County

Disclaimer Language
Maps prepared for informational purposes only. Image depicts a combination of publicly available data and observations made of on-the-ground conditions at the time of the site visit. No liability is assumed for the accuracy of the information or data displayed. All lines are approximate.

0 100 200 400 600
Feet

N

Scale is 1:2,400 | 1 inch = 200 feet | June 30, 2025