

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION



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

PROJECT TITLE	Calforests August Complex Phase II – Tribal Trust Lands		
PROJECT LOCATION	Sections 18 & 31 of Township 24 North, Range 11 West (Mt. Diablo Meridian)	COUNTY	Mendocino
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
LEAD AGENCY CONTACT	Shannon Johnson, Staff Chief PO Box 944246, Sacramento, CA 94244-2460 shannon.johnson@fire.ca.gov	PHONE	530-338-8197
PROJECT PROPONENT	California Forestry Association		
PROJECT PROPONENT CONTACT	Matt Dias, President/CEO 500 Capitol Mall, Ste. 2360, Sacramento, CA 95814 matt@calforests.org	PHONE	916-628-2747

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

CAL FIRE is providing funding to the California Forestry Association to expedite priority restoration measures in high severity burn areas on approximately 155 acres across two parcels of Round Valley Indian Tribe trust land in Mendocino County. Funding supports the broader goal of post fire recovery and forest health and resiliency, and as it relates to ground treatments, will focus entirely on mechanical and manual tree and woody debris removal, prescribed burning, site preparation, including the use of herbicide application, and native conifer and oak tree planting. In addition to the short-term benefit of restoring and reforesting severely burned forested acres, treatment activities will promote resilience in the natural ecosystem services, such as overall watershed improvements through improved regulation of surface runoff and groundwater infiltration, increased uptake of carbon dioxide, provide for slope stabilization, and restoration of lost forest-based habitat for species that rely upon these environments.

EXEMPTION STATUS

- Categorical Exemption Type and Section: Class
- Statutory Exemption (state code section): Public Resources Code Section 4799.05(d)(1)
- Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
- Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
- Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

CEQA does not apply to fuel reduction, reforestation, & habitat restoration projects undertaken, in whole or in part, on federal lands to reduce the risk of high severity wildfire that have been reviewed under the NEPA, if the primary role of a state or local agency is providing funding or staffing for those projects. The proposed project was reviewed in its entirety under the Bureau of Indian Affairs TR-4401-P5 Round Valley FY25 August Complex Wildfire Reforestation NEPA Categorical Exclusion, signed September 15, 2025.

The NEPA record of project approval is available to the General Public at: <https://bianepatracker2.doi.gov/>

DocuSigned by: John Melvin, Assistant Deputy Director Resource Management California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection	10/17/2025 Date
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