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NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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

PROJECT TITLE	National Forest Foundation, "Camp 10 Restoration and Reforestation"		
PROJECT LOCATION	Sierra National Forest, Bass Lake Ranger District; Latitude & Longitude 37.273880, -119.399293	**COUNTY**	Madera
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	National Forest Foundation		
PROJECT PROPONENT CONTACT	Elise Sawa, Southern Sierra Program Manager 27 Fort Missoula Rd., Ste 3, Missoula, MT 59804-7212 esawa@nationalforests.org	**PHONE**	559-760-9854

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

CAL FIRE is providing funding to the National Forest Foundation to implement mechanical and manual hazardous fuels reduction, site preparation, and reforestation activities within the 2020 Creek Fire footprint and Camp 10 treatment area on the Sierra National Forest, Bass Lake Ranger District. Treatments include felling and piling of standing dead trees, downed trees, and other hazardous fuel materials, pile burning, herbicide application, manual tree planting, and manual tree release. In addition to the short-term benefit of restoring and reforesting severely burned forested acres and reducing increased fuel loading for future wildfires, these treatment activities will also 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 Sierra National Forest Creek Fire Restoration Project NEPA Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact and Decision Notice signed, June 23, 2023. NEPA coverage for the Camp 10 treatment area is 6,064 acres, with initial treatments at 1,170 acres.

The NEPA record of project approval is available to the General Public at:
https://www.fs.usda.gov/r05/sierra/projects/archive/60422

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John Melvin
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11/24/2025

John Melvin, Assistant Deputy Director — Date
Resource Management
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection