To: Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
1400 10th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

From: Lead Agency
Sierra Nevada Conservancy
11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205
Auburn, CA 95603

To: Madera County Clerk - Recorder
200 W. 4th Street
Madera, CA 93637

Project Title: Goat Mountain Fuel Break Reconstruction (SNC1824)

Project Location – Specific: 4.7-mile long, east-west fuel break, completing the Goat Mountain section of the Joint Chiefs' Fuel Break on Sierra National Forest lands in eastern Madera County. Eastern boundary of the project is the southern end of Bass Lake, Rd 274. Western boundary of the project is Rd 223. Project center at approximately 37.2859, -19.5583

Project Location - City: South of Wishon

Project Location - County: Madera

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:
The Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) would provide funding for the Eastern Madera County Fire Safe Council to partner with the United States Forest Service, Sierra National Forest, to reconstruct a 4.7-mile-long, east-west fuel break on Sierra National Forest lands, just south of Bass Lake. The Goat Mountain Fuel Break Reconstruction project will complete the Goat Mountain section of the Joint Chiefs' Fuel Break, connecting with the eastern end of the Thornberry Fuel Break. Combined with the neighboring Thornberry Fuel Break, there will be a 10-mile stretch of contiguous fuel break within the fuel-break network. Treatments used will include hand treatments, mechanical treatments, and pile burning over approximately 300 acres. All work will be completed compliant with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Categorical Exclusion Decision Memo for the *Joint Chiefs' Fuel Break Project* signed in September 2019. The fuel break will help protect the communities of Oakhurst, Bass Lake, Coarsegold, North Fork, and the North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians. This is a priority project under the Madera County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, as well as the Madera County Community Wildfire Protection plan.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Project Applicant / Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:
Eastern Madera County Fire Safe Council
Ashley Nebeker, Executive Director
50286 Barcus Circle
Coarsegold, CA 93614

559-917-7370
info@easternmaderacountyfiresafecouncil.com

Exempt Status:
Statutory Exemption: Pub. Resources Code, section 4799.05, subd. (d)(1)

Reasons why project is exempt: Public Resources Code, section 4799.05 statutorily exempts from CEQA projects for prescribed fire, reforestation, habitat restoration, thinning, or fuel-reduction projects, or to related activities included in the project description, undertaken, in whole or in part, on federal lands to reduce the risk of high-severity wildfire that have been reviewed under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) if the primary role of a state or local agency is providing funding or staffing for those projects. The SNC has authorized/approved the use of funding for the Eastern Madera County Fire Safe Council to work in partnership with the Sierra National Forest to reconstruct a fuel break on National Forest lands. The project was reviewed in its entirety under NEPA by the Sierra National Forest in the FY*19 Joint Chiefs' Fuel Break Project* Categorical Exclusion Decision Memo signed on September 19, 2019.

Lead Agency
Contact Person: Mary Akens **Area Code/Telephone/Extension**: 530-450-5177

If filed by applicant: N/A

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: DocuSigned by: Angela Avery D382EA80350B496...

Title: Executive Officer

Date: 12/12/2025

Signed by Lead Agency: Yes **Signed by Applicant:** No

Date received for filing at OPR: _____

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