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: Trinity

From: (Public Agency): Trinity County Resource Conservation District
30 Horseshoe Lane, PO 1450
Weaverville, CA 96093
(Address)

Project Title: Trinity County Weed Management Area BLM Noxious Weeds

Project Applicant: Trinity County Resource Conservation District

Project Location - Specific:
BLM lands in Trinity County

Project Location - City: _____ Project Location - County: Trinity

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

Trinity County Resource Conservation District (the District) plan to implement noxious weed treatments on BLM lands throughout Trinity County, CA. This work will take place where priority species, as identified by the Trinity County Weed Management Area (TCWMA) and listed within the Redding Field Office Integrated Vegetation Management Environmental Assessment (NEPA DOC#: DOI-BLM-CA-N060-2016-0021-EA), exist on BLM lands in Trinity County. Noxious weed treatment and management will prevent further encroachment of non-native species into native plant communities, thereby protecting natural resources and native habitat. This project is a collaboration between partners of the TCWMA, including the District, Watershed Research and Training Center, Trinity County Agriculture Department, and Native Ecosystems, Inc.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Trinity County Resource Conservation District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Trinity County Resource Conservation District

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: Class 4 § 15304 Minor Alterations to Land
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

It has been determined that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. This project involves the alteration of vegetation by the removal of invasive non-native species and the recolonization of native species through natural processes, and does not involve the removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees. This project is consistent with the requirements stated in CEQA Guidelines Section 15304, and will have no significant environmental impacts to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, or to utilities and service systems.

Lead Agency
Contact Person: Kelly Sheen Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (530) 623-6004

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: Kelly D Sheen Digitally signed by Kelly D Sheen Date: 2025.12.24 12:23:39 -08'00' Date: 12/24/2025 Title: Executive Director

- 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: _____

Notice of Exemption
Trinity County Resource Conservation District

Post Office Box 1450 · 30 Horseshoe Lane · Weaverville, CA 96093-1450

PROJECT TITLE	Trinity County Weed Management Area BLM Noxious Weeds		
PROJECT LOCATION	Throughout BLM lands in Trinity County	**COUNTY**	Trinity
LEAD AGENCY	Trinity County Resource Conservation District		
CONTACT ADDRESS	Dylan Kirkley, Environmental Compliance Program Manager dkirkley@tcrcd.net P.O. Box 1450, Weaverville, CA 96093	**PHONE**	530-623-6004

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Trinity County Resource Conservation District (the District) plan to implement noxious weed treatments on BLM lands throughout Trinity County, CA. This work will take place where priority species, as identified by the Trinity County Weed Management Area (TCWMA) and listed within the Redding Field Office Integrated Vegetation Management Environmental Assessment (NEPA DOC#: DOI-BLM-CA-N060-2016-0021-EA), exist on BLM lands in Trinity County. Noxious weed treatment and management will prevent further encroachment of non-native species into native plant communities, thereby protecting natural resources and native habitat. This project is a collaboration between partners of the TCWMA, including the District, Watershed Research and Training Center, Trinity County Agriculture Department, and Native Ecosystems, Inc.

The District plans to implement manual weed removal treatments on BLM lands in Trinity County where known populations of priority species are known to occur. Current population extents of target species will be mapped during the project period. The estimated project area is approximately 16 acres, with treatment areas to be expanded as needed to account for population growth and identification of new populations of high priority noxious weed species.

The primary goal of this project is to manage or eradicate noxious weed populations to reinforce the long-term effectiveness of vegetation management activities on BLM lands in Trinity County. Early Detection Rapid Response (EDRR) approaches will be utilized to keep new populations from establishing. Risks associated with invasive plant communities replacing native plant communities includes negative impacts to agricultural lands and increased wildfire risks. Target treatments will recur as needed and allow native species to recolonize the affected areas naturally.

Manual treatments will be used to remove target species, including removal by hand and hand tools, such as hori-hori knives, geopicks, weed wrenches, loppers, and shovels, as needed on a limited basis. No mechanical or chemical treatments will be used. Soil disturbance will be limited as much as possible, and standard erosion control BMPs will be utilized when weed removal leaves significant bare ground. Based on species and site conditions, plant materials will either be left on-site or bagged and removed from the site for proper disposal. Personnel participating in noxious weed removal activities will observe BMPs for preventing the spread of noxious weeds from project sites (e.g. cleaning boots, proper disposal). Control methods and timing will be species-dependent to ensure a higher success of treatments. Follow-up treatments will be carried out as necessary throughout the project period, particularly for persistent species requiring repeat treatments. Project activities will occur beginning March 1st, 2026, with the final date to complete field work being June 30th, 2028.

NEPA coverage has been obtained through the Redding Field Office Integrated Vegetation Management Environmental Assessment, NEPA DOC#: DOI-BLM-CA-N060-2016-0021-EA, and a Determination of NEPA Adequacy has been filed with the BLM Redding Field Office

EXEMPTION STATUS

- ☒ Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4 § 15304 Minor Alterations to Land
- ☐ Statutory Exemption (state code section):
- ☐ Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
- ☐ Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))

Notice of Exemption

Trinity County Resource Conservation District

Post Office Box 1450 · 30 Horseshoe Lane · Weaverville, CA 96093-1450

☐ Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

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DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

X Kelly D Sheen

Digitally signed by Kelly D Sheen
Date: 2025.12.24 12:24:17 -08'00'

Kelly Sheen
Executive Director