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

PO Box 1450 Weaverville, CA 96093

(Address)

Project Title: Ridgeville-Covington Community Protection

Project Applicant: Trinity County Resource Conservation District

Project Location - Specific:

Trinity County, California. Ridgeville and Covington Mill Communities

Project Location - City: Ridgeville, Covington Mill Project Location - County: Trinity

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The purpose of this project is to reduce fuel loading within communities for increased protection against catastrophic wildfire. Fuel Reduction treatments will be strategically implemented in overstocked stands and those suffering from mortality from a combination of drought, excessive tree density, and insect infestation.

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 Section 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 is consistent with the requirements stated in section 15304; Minor Alterations to Land., and will have no significant environmental impacts to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, etc.

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 12:38:42 -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	Ridgeville-Covington Community Protection		
PROJECT LOCATION	Trinity County, California. Ridgeville and Covington Mill Communities Project Portion 1: Along Ridgeville Road and Estrelita Road (post mile 49.12 State Highway 3) - T35N R8W S29 Project Portion 2: APN: 010-430-016-000 - T35N R8W S09	**COUNTY**	Trinity
LEAD AGENCY	Trinity County Resource Conservation District (the District)		
CONTACT	Dylan Kirkley	**PHONE**	530-623-6004
ADDRESS	P.O Box 1450, Weaverville, CA 96093		

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Trinity County Resource Conservation District (TCRCD) and contractors plan to implement the Ridgeville-Covington Community Protection project. The project consists of two portions: Ridgeville Road and Covington Mill Shaded Fuelbreak. This project is an integral part of the District's landscape strategy aimed at protecting Trinity County communities from future catastrophic wildfire events, returning the county's forests to a healthy condition, and reintroducing good fire to the landscape. Fuel Reduction treatments will be strategically implemented in overstocked stands and those suffering from mortality from a combination of drought, excessive tree density, and insect infestation.

The first portion of the project involves 50 acres of roadside manual thinning of small diameter (<10" DBH) and chipping along Ridgeville Road and Estrelita Road. This road is the only path of ingress and egress route for fire suppression in the small Ridgeville wildland-urban interface community. It will include many small land-ownerships, and TCRCD will conduct directed outreach and a community meeting prior to implementation to ensure maximum continuity of treatment. This project portion will be implemented by the TCRCD forest health crews in 2026 and 2027.

The second portion of the project involves implementing a ridgetop shaded fuelbreak in a strategic location for protection of the Covington Mill community. This project portion is located on a single private parcel of 47 acres with a landowner agreement. A contractor will be implementing this project portion in 2026 and 2027. All work will be monitored by TCRCD for adherence to the prescription.

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

REASONS 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 is consistent with the requirements stated in section 15304; Minor Alterations to Land., 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.

Kelly D Sheen

Digitally signed by Kelly D Sheen
Date: 2025.12.24 12:39:31 -08'00'

Kelly Sheen, Executive Director **Date**