

# MARIPOSA COUNTY NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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**TO:** County Clerk, County of Mariposa  
P.O. Box 247  
Mariposa, CA 95338

**FROM:** Mariposa County  
Planning Department  
P.O. Box 2039  
Mariposa, CA 95338

**Project Title:** North Fork Mono Tribe's Cultural Resources Revitalization Project

**Lead Agency:** Mariposa County Planning Department

**Lead Agency Contact:**

Ben Goger, Senior Planner  
bgoger@mariposacounty.gov  
(209) 966-5151

**Applicant Contact:**

Ron Goode  
rwgoode911@hotmail.com  
(559) 355-1774

**FILED**

FEB 06 2026  
COURTNEY PROGNER MORROW  
MARIPOSA COUNTY CLERK



**Project & Applicant Address:**

3998 Buckeye Rd,  
Mariposa, CA 95338

**Project Location:**

The project is located on the Jack Kirk Estate, a private property located within the unincorporated community of Mariposa in Mariposa County, California. The Project is located adjacent to Mariposa Creek and consists of rolling foothill terrain characterized by oak woodland (*Quercus Lombata*, *Quercus Douglasii* and *Quercus Wislinzei*) and gray pine (*Pinus sabiniana*) savanna. The subject property is zoned Agricultural Exclusive and has been managed by the same family for over 50 years with a long history of active land management including fuels reduction, cultural burning and cultural gathering. The size of the project is 110 acres. The APN Numbers for the Project Site are: 017-030-023-000; 017-030-053-000, and 017-030-052-000 All parcels are located within the County of Mariposa.

**Description of Project:**

The project consists of hosting ongoing cultural burn training events at the Jack Kirk Estate open to State, local, and Federal agency representatives, university partners and tribal communities across California and beyond as an ongoing state-wide effort to support Indigenous beneficial cultural fire practices and provide hands-on training in traditional land management. These activities are intended to continue on the property into the future as part of responsible wildfire mitigation maintenance, cultural land management, agriculture and education, consistent with historical use of the property and existing environmental conditions.

The proposed activities consist of associated hand-tool fuel treatments, including small pile burns, light manual thinning of encroaching conifers and competing vegetation, removal of noxious weeds and periodic low-intensity broadcast burning in open meadow areas. Burning of these piles is only done on

permissive burn days as determined by CalFire in cooperation with the Mariposa County Air Pollution Control District. The property owners also apply for and adhere to an air quality burn permit through the Mariposa County Air Pollution Control District. The Project will implement traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) to apply traditional indigenous burning techniques for the revitalization of culturally significant plant species. Cultural burn trainings will be timed to occur in the fall and/or winter, when high-moisture conditions are conducive to low-intensity beneficial fire, and specific weather patterns (including wind speed/direction, temperature, and humidity) will be closely monitored before determining a specific day to conduct burning activities. Mariposa Creek runs through the property; however, no project activities will occur within the FEMA flood plain and creek channel, and no sediment disturbance, mechanical operations, or ground-disturbing activities are proposed within or adjacent to the watercourse or project area. Traditional Indigenous land management practices have been practiced on these lands since time immemorial and recorded by the Kirk family for over 50 years, during which native plant communities and wildlife diversity have been preserved and have thrived.

**Exempt Status:**

Categorical Exemption, Class 4 Categorical Exemption (CEQA Guide 15304) Minor Alterations to Land

**Reason Why Project Is Exempt:**

The proposed activities support agricultural and working landscapes and contribute to the rural character of Mariposa which is priority for the County according to the 2006 General Plan. The project's activities are land stewardship practices necessary to manage the property as an agricultural preserve under the LCA agreement which in turn maintains the property in compliance with the LCA Agreement and thereby in compliance with Land Conservation Act of 1965, as implemented through Mariposa County requirements. On LCA contracted properties, the cultivation of food and fiber is a defined type of agricultural production and compatible use according to Mariposa County Resolution 10-150. The proposed low-intensity cultural burning and hand-thinning will result in minor, non-destructive change to the vegetation that will support the properties' agricultural productivity. As such, the project is an ongoing vegetation management activity to maintain the land in a healthy condition for its ongoing use as an agricultural preserve that produces a variety of food and fiber materials as authorized by the applicable land use, zoning and LCA contract.

The proposed activities do not involve any new structures or new grading activities. No activities are proposed within the Mariposa Creek or FEMA flood plain and creek channel, and no sediment disturbance, mechanical operations, or ground-disturbing activities are proposed within or adjacent to the watercourse or project area. The proposed activities are to maintain the good condition of land, water, and/or vegetation on the site. The proposed activities do not involve the removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees on the site. The proposed activities are allowed by the Agricultural Land Use designation applicable to the site and to maintain the permitted uses on site that are allowed by the applicable Agricultural Exclusive zone.



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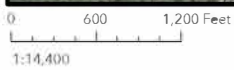
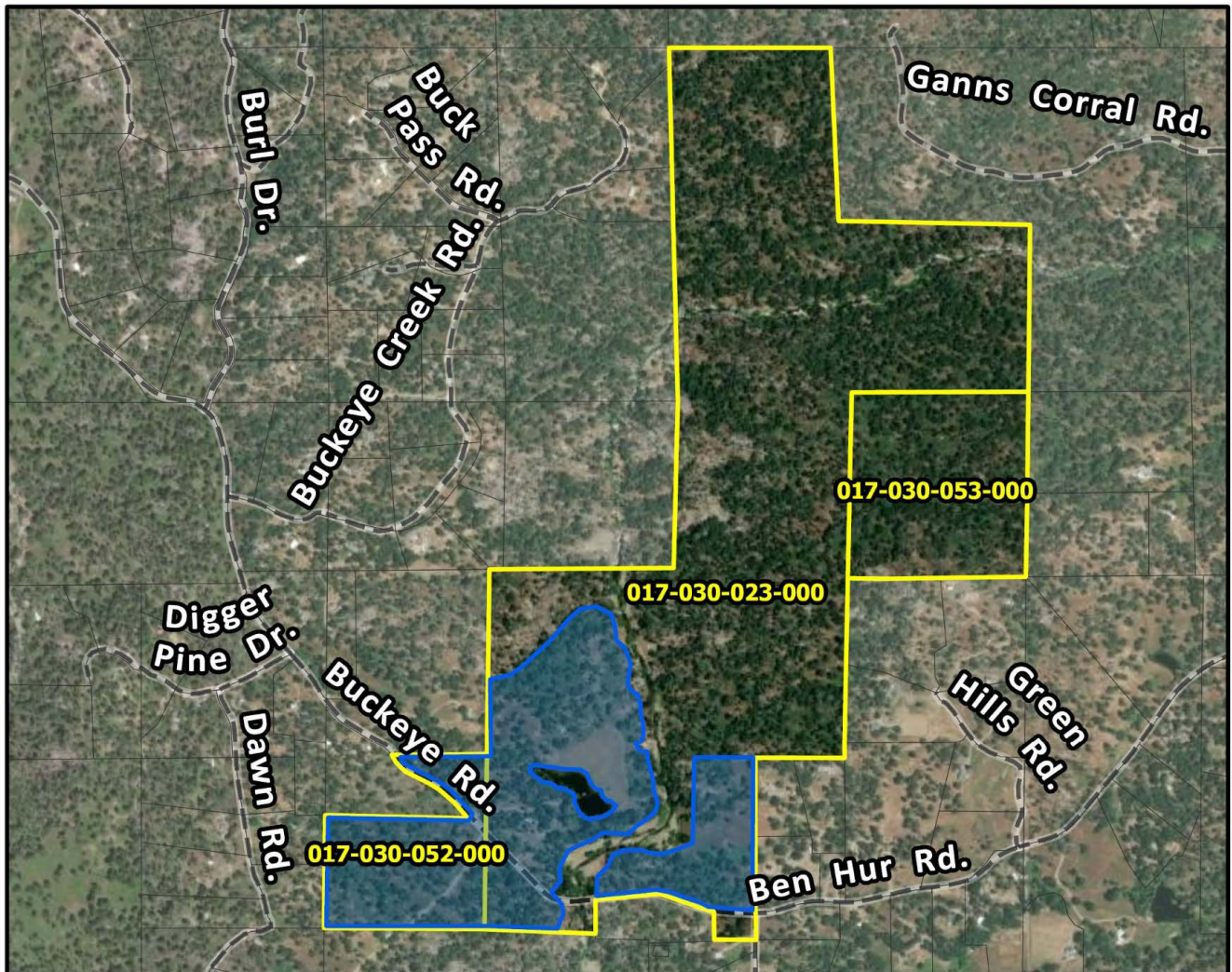
Steve Engfer  
Planning Director

2/6/2026

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Date

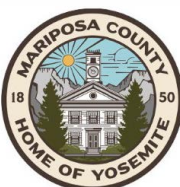
# Mariposa County Planning Department Project Vicinity Map



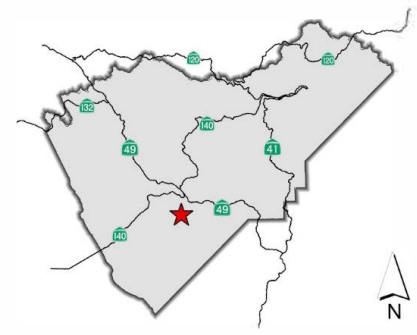
**PROJECT TYPE:** NORTH FORK MONO CULTURAL REVITALIZATION PROJECT 2026-N/A  
**APPLICANT:** RON GOODE  
**APN:** 017-030-023-000,017-030-053-000,017-030-052-000  
**SITE ADDRESS:** 3998 BUCKEYE RD, MARIPOSA, CALIFORNIA 95338

	Site		Approx. Project Area
	Assessor's Parcels		

Coordinate System: NAD 1983 State Plane California III FIPS 0403 Feet  
 Map Date: Wednesday, February 4, 2026  
 Data Source: Mariposa County Planning Department GIS; Assessor's Parcel Map Update: 2/3/2026  
 Map Credit: Ethan Smith, GIS Specialist



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<http://www.mariposacounty.org/planning>



Location in Mariposa County

Mariposa County makes no warranty regarding the accuracy of the GIS or the analysis and conclusions resulting from using our GIS data.