

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: (Public Agency): Sierra Resource Conservation District
P.O. Box 693
Auberry Ca 93602

County Clerk
County of: Fresno
2281 Tulare Street
Fresno CA 93721

(Address)

Project Title: Nature Based Solutions and Fuel Reduction on San Joaquin River Conservancy Properties

Project Applicant: Sierra Resource Conservation District

Project Location - Specific:

S05 T11S R21E, S06 T11S, R21E, S13 T11S R20E, S18T 11S R21E, S24 T11S R20E, S25 T11S R20E, S26 T11S R20E, S36 T11S R20E, S35 T11S R20E, S02 T12S R20E, S03 T12S R20E, S10 T12S R20E, S09 T12S R20E, S15 T12S R20E, S16 T12S R20E, S21 T12S R20E, S20 T12S R20E, S28 T12S R20E, S29 T12S R20E, S32 T12S R20E, S30 T12S R20E, S31 T12S R20E, S25 T12S R19E, S36 T12S R19E, S26 T12S R19E, S35 T12S R19E, S34 T12S R19E, S34 T12S R19E, S33 T12S R19E, S28 T12S R19E, S32 T12S R19E, S31 T12S R19E.

Project Location - City: Fresno Project Location - Fresno

County: Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The project is a fuel reduction and nature-based solutions project for public safety, ecological health, and long-term watershed resilience. Project activities are for access and infrastructure maintenance, fuel and vegetation management, and habitat and stream restoration. Work will include minor grading and maintenance of existing trails, roads, and parking areas. Additional improvements include installation and maintenance of gates, trail boundary markers, wire fencing, and informational signage. Fuel and vegetation management activities include hand and mechanical treatments of felling, cutting, chipping, and masticating dead or hazardous trees, brush, and small diameter trees. Composting, pile burning, prescribed, and cultural burning will be used to manage excess fuel loads while promoting native vegetation regeneration and soil improvements. Habitat and stream restoration work includes stabilizing streambanks, restoring revegetation with native trees, shrubs, and grasses, and invasive species removal. Overall, the project benefits the public by improving recreational access, reducing fire hazards, supporting biodiversity, and protecting natural resources that contribute to clean water, healthy ecosystems, and resilient landscapes.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: San Joaquin River Conservancy

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Sierra 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: 15304
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____


Reasons why project is exempt:

Section 15304: Which exempts minor alterations in the condition of the land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve the removal of healthy, mature scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes.

Lead Agency
Contact Person: Kari Daniska Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 559-287-2650

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:  Date: 2/23/2026 Title: Chief Executive officer

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code. Date Received for filing at OPR: _____
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.