

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

Project Title: Mount Crossman Community Fuel Break (SNC1827)

Project Location – Specific: Mount Crossman, on the west side of Highway 88, adjacent to the small community of Barton. Approximately three miles northeast of the town of Pioneer along Highway 88. Treatment center at approximately -120.535, 38.464 degrees.

Project Location - City: Barton

Project Location - County: Amador

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) would provide funding to the Amador Fire Safe Council (AFSC) to create an approximately 85 acre, 1.4mi, 400- to 500 foot-wide shaded fuel break on the Mount Crossman ridge just north of the community of Buckhorn. The objective of the project is to create a shaded fuel break to protect habitable structures directly adjacent to the fuel break from catastrophic fire, protect the communities of Buckhorn and Pioneer, and protect water quality in the Mokelumne River watershed. The project area vegetation composition is made up primarily of ponderosa pines, California black oak, canyon live oak, and Pacific madrone. There is a strong understory dominated by white leaf manzanita. Treatment consists of a mix of mechanical mastication, where slope permits, and hand-thinning on steeper areas and closer to streams. Trees throughout the entire project will be pruned to raise the canopy. A secondary treatment of targeted herbicide application will be applied, once the mechanical thinning has been completed to delay regrowth of sprouting species (e.g., oaks and madrone).

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Project Applicant / Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:

Amador Fire Safe Council
12200 B Airport Rd, Jackson, CA 95642
Amanda Watson, Coordinator
209-217-1090
amanda@amadorrcd.org

Exempt Status:

Categorical Exemption: CEQA Guidelines Section 15304, Minor Alterations to Land

Reasons why project is exempt: The project is categorically exempt from the provisions of CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15304, Class 4, which consists of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation, which do not involve removal of mature, scenic trees except for forestry and agricultural purposes. The minor land alterations proposed by the project consist of forestry treatments to reduce hazardous fuels and improve forest health. The AFSC, in partnership with CAL FIRE, completed ground surveys and database searches for sensitive resources. The SNC reviewed the project, including the Environmental Review Report prepared by the AFSC, and concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to resources.

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:  D382EA80350B496...

Executive Officer

Title:

Date: 3/5/2026

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.