

**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

**To:** Nevada County Clerk-Recorder  
950 Maidu Ave  
Nevada City, CA 95959

**Project Title:** Town of Washington Wildfire Defense (SNC1836)

**Project Location – Specific:** Tahoe National Forest lands adjacent to the town of Washington, about 13 miles northeast of Nevada City, along and near Alpha Road, Alpha Loop, and Washington Road. Treatment center at approximately -120.795, 39.353 degrees.

**Project Location - City:** Washington

**Project Location - County:** Nevada

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:** Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) would provide funding to the Nevada County Office of Emergency Services to partner with the Tahoe National Forest to implement fuels-reduction treatments around the town of Washington. The purpose of the project is to provide defensible opportunities to protect Washington from wildfire, and critical ingress for fire responders and egress for people to escape a fire. Up to 172 acres will be treated through hand-thinning and hand-piling of ladder fuels, dense surface fuels, and trees up to 12 inches in diameter. Approximately 5.5 miles of containment line will be constructed around the treatment units, and 1.4 miles of roadside treatment will help maintain nearly nine miles of evacuation routes along Washington and Alpha roads. All work will be done consistent with Best Management Practices and Management Requirements specified in the Tahoe National Forest NEPA Decisions authorizing the project activities.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Sierra Nevada Conservancy

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

Nevada County Office of Emergency Services  
950 Maidu Avenue, Suite 130, Nevada City, CA 95959  
Alex Keeble-Toll, Director  
530-470-2521  
Alex.Keeble-Toll@nevadacountyca.gov

**Exempt Status:**

**Statutory Exemption:** Pub. Resources Code, section 4799.05, subd. (d)(1)

**Reasons why project is exempt:** Public Resources Code, section 4799.05 statutorily exempts from CEQA projects for prescribed fire, reforestation, habitat restoration, thinning, or fuel-reduction projects, or to related activities included in the project description, undertaken, in whole or in part, on federal lands to reduce the risk of high-severity wildfire that have been reviewed under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) if the primary role of a state or local agency is providing funding or staffing for those projects. The SNC has authorized/approved the use of the funding for the Nevada County Office of Emergency Services to partner with Tahoe National Forest to conduct fuels-reduction treatments on National Forest lands. The project was reviewed in its entirety in the Tahoe National Forest's *South Yuba Roadside Fuel Break Project Categorical Exclusion Decision Memo* signed on May 5, 2015, and the *Environmental Assessment for Washington Fuels Reduction Project with Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact* signed on June 3, 2004 and a *Determination of NEPA Adequacy* signed on January 30, 2026.

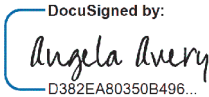
**Lead Agency**

**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...

**Title:** Executive Officer

**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.