

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION



State of California
 The Natural Resources Agency
 California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

PROJECT TITLE	Worth Peak		
PROJECT LOCATION	T21S R28E SEC 34 M.D.B.M. Success Dam Quad	COUNTY	Tulare
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	David Shy		
ADDRESS	1968 S. Lovers Lane Visalia, CA 93292	PHONE	(559)280-5077

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Worth Peak Project will remove noxious weeds and excessive fuel loading near the City of Porterville that poses a threat to life, property, and the environment. This area was selected due to the proximity to private property, proximity to critical infrastructure and public recreation sites, fire history, and the ability to collaborate efforts across interested parties (Tulare County Fire, Porterville City Fire, CAL FIRE, and the Lower Tule River Irrigation District). The project abuts Tulare Counties Bartlett Park to the South and the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers Success Lake Dam to the East. This Project will include the removal of noxious weeds and vegetation through broadcast burn activities. Existing roads and fence lines will be used as boundaries for burn activities. Handlines and/or wetlines will be constructed where existing control lines prove to be inadequate as control lines for burning activities. Broadcast burn activities will reduce fuel loads near the adjacent homes and farmlands providing life safety for residence of the community and first responders in the event of fire activity in the project vicinity.

EXEMPTION STATUS

- Categorical Exemption Type and Section: **CEQA Guidelines Class 4 Section 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

This project fits under portions of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15304 Class 4, Minor Alterations to Land. As noted above, as there is an imminent fire threat, this area was selected due to the proximity to private property, critical infrastructure, and fire history. Furthermore, the project is consistent with the Tulare County Community Wildfire Protection Plan. Therefore, the application of CEQA Section 15304 is applicable and appropriate for this environment.

Field review by CAL FIRE staff confirmed that no exceptions apply that would preclude the use of a notice of exemption for this project. The Department has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, energy, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, populations and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/ traffic, utilities and service systems, or to wildfire. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at CAL FIRE Tulare Unit Headquarters, 1968 South Lovers Lane Visalia, CA 93292.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

DocuSigned by:

 4/1/2026

Mike van Loben Sels, Southern Region Chief Date
 California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection