

Notice of Exemption

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

From: (Public Agency): CA Board of Forestry and Fire Protection
715 P Street, 10th Floor
Sacramento, California 95814

Project Title: 2026 LaTour Demonstration State Forest (LDSF) Management Plan

Project Applicant: CA Board of Forestry and Fire Protection

Project Location (Specific): The LDSF is located in eastern Shasta County in Townships 32 and 33 North, Ranges 2 and 3 East M.D.B.M. It ranges in elevation from 3,800 feet to over 6,700 feet with 80% of LDSF above 5,000 feet. LDSF is situated approximately forty-five (45) miles east of Redding and twenty-one (21) miles south of Burney. Seventeen (17) miles southeast of LDSF is Lassen Volcanic National Park. The nearest community is Whitmore, eleven (11) miles to the west.

Project Location – City: N/A

Project Location – County: Shasta

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of the Project: The 2026 LDSF Management Plan includes overarching goals and general parameters for the activities that may take place in LDSF during the next ten years (pending ongoing review, funding, and approval by CAL FIRE) and a broad vision for silviculture management of the forest through the next century. Public Resources Code section 4631 et. seq. declares it to be in the interest of the state to have productive forest lands and permits CAL FIRE to engage in management, reforestation, and protection of the state forests to that end. The 2026 LDSF Management Plan does not dictate a specific course of action CAL FIRE must take with respect to experimental resource management, data collection, research activities, and resource evaluation activities within LDSF but rather constitutes a study of possible future forest management activities that would be consistent with existing state law and policy and feasible given existing forest conditions. Activities within the plan will only occur subject to CAL FIRE's discretionary approval of such activities, which would be subject to further CEQA review.

Name of Public Agency Approving the Project: Board of Forestry and Fire Protection

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

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: 14 CCR Sections 15306, 15307, 15308, and 1153

Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

Reasons why Project was Exempt: The project is exempt from CEQA under Classes 6, 7 and 8 as follows:

Class 6: The project is exempt under Class 6 because it consists of basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation that will not result in any disturbance to an environmental resource. 14 CCR Section 1153 permits Board approval of State Forest management plans to come under the Class 6 exemption.

Class 7 and 8: Under exemptions Class 7 and 8, the Board is a regulatory agency authorized by Public Resources Code Sections 4645 and 4646 to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of a natural resource—the LDSF forest—and the 2026 LDSF Management Plan does assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of the LDSF forest. Moreover, the 2026 LDSF Management Plan, as well as existing state laws and regulatory processes, involve procedures for protecting the environment should CAL FIRE implement any forest management activities consistent with the 2026 LDSF Management Plan. If CAL FIRE identifies a desirable forest management activity that is consistent with the 2026 LDSF Management Plan and has the resources necessary to carry out such activity, CAL FIRE’s implementation of the activity will be a discretionary project that must undergo further environmental analysis in compliance with CEQA.


None of the exceptions to these Categorical Exemptions are present here.

The common interest exemption also applies because there is no possibility that the approval of the management plan will have a significant effect on the environment.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Executive Officer Tony Andersen (916-653-8007)

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: 4.17.2026 Title: Executive Officer

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____