

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

|                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |               |              |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| <b>PROJECT TITLE</b>             | "Garden Valley Fuels Reduction Project"                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |               |              |
| <b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>          | The Project is located near Kelsey in central El Dorado County, California at an elevation of approximately 2200 feet MSL (Attachment 1). It is approximately 10 miles north of Placerville, CA and approximately 52 miles east of Sacramento, CA and can be accessed from U.S. Highway 193. | <b>COUNTY</b> | El Dorado    |
| <b>LEAD AGENCY</b>               | Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation District                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |               |              |
| <b>LEAD AGENCY CONTACT</b>       | Mark Egbert, District Manager<br>100 Forni Road, Suite A. Placerville, CA 95667<br>Mark.Egbert@ca.usda.gov                                                                                                                                                                                   | <b>PHONE</b>  | 530-957-3472 |
| <b>PROJECT PROPONENT</b>         | El Dorado County Fire Safe Council                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |               |              |
| <b>PROJECT PROPONENT CONTACT</b> | Tamara Johnson<br>El Dorado County Fire Safe Council<br>515 Main Street, #103<br>Placerville, CA 95667                                                                                                                                                                                       | <b>PHONE</b>  | 415-867-9530 |

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The El Dorado County Fire Safe Council proposes hazardous fuels reduction treatments to remove or modify surface and ladder fuels and establish canopy separation within the dominant overstory through either mechanical, herbicide treatment, or prescribed fire treatments throughout the project area (up to approximately 2300 acres). Additional maintenance treatments to maintain reduced surface fuel loading and canopy separation may occur throughout the life of the project and would also comprise of mechanical and/or prescribed fire treatments. Treatments are intended to increase resilience to wildfires by creating and maintaining an area where wildfire behavior is substantially modified, reducing the risk of high severity wildfire and the resulting tree mortality and loss of assets within developed areas. The proposed action focuses on areas with high fuel load conditions outside the already existing special use authorities within the project area.

### EXEMPTION STATUS

- ☒ Categorical Exemption      Public Resources Code 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

Project involves minor alteration of vegetation, including fuel management activities to reduce the volume of flammable vegetation. The activities do not result in the taking of endangered, rare, or threatened plant or animal species or significant erosion and sedimentation of surface waters. According to the Department of Fish and game's Natural Diversity Database, there are no listed plants or animal species affected by the project. There will be no impact to historic or cultural resources due to lack of ground disturbance.

*Mark Egbert*

Mark Egbert

District Manager, Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation District

6/26/2026

Date