

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION



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

PROJECT TITLE	Sugarloaf Fuels Reduction - Good Neighbor Authority		
PROJECT LOCATION	Western Divide Ranger District, Sequoia National Forest 32588 Highway 190 Springville, CA 932656	COUNTY	Tulare
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) TULARE Unit		
CONTACT	Austin Law CAL FIRE Tulare Unit	PHONE	(559)280-5077
ADDRESS	1968 S. Lovers Ln. Visalia, CA 93292		

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Under the Good Neighbor Authority (16 U.S.C. § 2113a), The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) will implement fuels reduction activities across 732 acres of the Sequoia National Forest. Fuels reduction treatments for this project will include the thinning and removal of live or dead ladder fuels, surface fuels, pile burning, and the removal of dead trees both manually and mechanically. Project treatments will create a shaded fuel break around communities to reduce wildfire risk to residents. This Good Neighbor Authority project follows the NEPA decision listed below and utilizes CAL FIRE's established contracting and operational procedures to streamline work on federal lands.

EXEMPTION STATUS

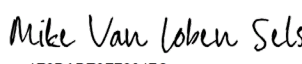
- ☐ Categorical Exemption Type and Section:
☒ Statutory Exemption (state code section): **Public Resources Code Section 4799.05(d)(1)**
☐ Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
☐ Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
☐ Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

The proposed project is statutorily exempt from CEQA under Public Resources Code (PRC) § 4799.05(d)(1). This exemption applies to wildfire and fuel reduction projects on federal lands that have undergone NEPA review, provided a state or local agency is involved through funding, staffing, or a Good Neighbor Authority agreement.

All work planned on the Sequoia National Forest follows the Sugarloaf Fuels Reduction and Hazard Tree Removal Project NEPA decision signed July 29th, 2025. A physical copy is located at 1968 S. Lovers Lane Visalia, CA 93292. The Good Neighbor Authority Agreement is kept on file at CAL FIRE Headquarters in Sacramento (715 P St. Sacramento Headquarters, 715 P St., Sacramento, CA 95814.)

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

DocuSigned by:

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

6/30/2026
 Date