



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

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	Uhl Pocket		
PROJECT LOCATION	T24S R30E Sec 1, 2, 11 M.D.B.M. on the Posey Quad Map	COUNTY	Tulare
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	1968 S. Lovers Ln		
ADDRESS	Visalia, CA 93292	PHONE	(559) 557-7077

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Uhl Pocket project involves 103 acres of hazardous fuel reduction work along the Uhl Pocket Fire Control Road as well as the recurring road maintenance of the Uhl Pocket Fire Control Road located within Tulare County, CA. The Uhl Pocket Fire Control Road serves as a point of ingress and egress for fire suppression and emergency response activities. Road maintenance activities will consist of grading, filling of existing ruts, repair of existing water drainage facilities, the cleanout of existing drainage facilities, and the removal of obstructions within the road such as fallen rocks and trees. Road maintenance activities will occur within the prism of the existing road. Fuel reduction activities will occur within a 100 ft buffer, from the roads downslope edge, on the north side of the road and to the prevailing ridge line on the south side of the road, approximately 75-200 ft from the roads upslope edge. Fuel reduction activities will include mastication, limbing, brush cutting, piling, and the subsequent burning of the piles. CAL FIRE staff and contractors will reduce fuel loads through the above mentioned treatment activities to create a shaded fuel break and maintain adequate access for fire suppression resources on the fire control road.

EXEMPTION STATUS

- ☒ Categorical Exemption Type and Section: **Class 1** **15301 (c) Existing Facilities**
Class 4 **15304 (f) 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 Class 1, 15301 (c) – Existing Facilities, and Class 4, 15304 (f) – Minor Alterations to Land Categorical Exemptions to CEQA. The project is consistent with the Tulare County Wildfire Protection Plan as well as the CAL FIRE Tulare Unit Fire Plan.

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:

Mike Van Loben Sels

7/22/2026

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