Environmental Assessment Officer: Reed Schenke, P.E., RMA Director/EAO

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: County of Tulare

Project Planner/Representative: Brenda Alcantar, Planner I **Telephone:** (559) 624-7132

Signature: Gary A. Mills Date: Aug 12, 2026 Title: Chief Planner, Environmental Planning Division

Gary A. Mills

Signature: Michael Washam Date: Aug 12, 2026 Title: Associate RMA Director, Designee

Michael G. Washam, A.C.E.

☒ Signed by Lead Agency

Date submitted to the LCI/SCH:

Notice of Exemption

To: ☒ Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

☒ Tulare County Clerk
Room 105, Courthouse
221 South Mooney Blvd.
Visalia, CA 93291

FILED
TULARE COUNTY

AUG 13 2026

ASSESSOR / CLERK-RECORDER
BY:

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING AT TULARE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE

Lead Agency: County of Tulare c/o Resource Management Agency
5961 S. Mooney Blvd.
Visalia, CA 93277 (559) 624-7000

Applicant(s): Bertram Meyer
5961 S. Mooney Blvd.
Visalia, CA 93277 (559) 624-7000

Project Title: Special Use Permit, PSP 26-005
Project Location - Specific: 42177 Hot Springs Rd, California Hot Springs, CA 93207 (APN 327-010-010)
Project Location- Section, Township, Range: Section 31, Township 23S, Range 31E
Project Location - City: California Hot Springs **Project Location - County:** Tulare

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: A Special Use Permit to authorize a temporary campground consisting of up to twenty-five (25) camping sites for guests of the existing California Hot Springs Resort, for a period not to exceed two (2) years unless extended by the Planning Commission, and to authorize six (6) additional hard-sided yurt guest units (Units 13 through 18) associated with the existing resort operation, on approximately 3.0 acres of Proposed Parcel 2 (176.36 acres), in the PD-O (Planned Development – Recreation Overlay) and AF (Foothill Agricultural) Zones, outside Urban Boundaries, within the Mountain Framework Plan, and designated Resource Conservation. The temporary campground would provide lodging accommodations during the phased development of additional resort guest units, while the hard-sided yurts would provide permanent resort lodging accommodations.
Exempt Status: (*check one*)

- ☒ Categorical Exemption: **CEQA Guidelines Class 3 Section 15303 New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures**
- ☒ Categorical Exemption: **CEQA Guidelines Class 1 Section 15301 Existing Facilities (c)**
- ☒ Categorical Exemption: **CEQA Guidelines Class 4 Section 15304 Minor Alterations to Land**

Reasons why project is exempt:

The proposed project consists of a temporary campground containing up to twenty-five (25) camping sites for guests of the existing California Hot Springs Resort and six (6) additional hard-sided yurt guest units (Units 13 through 18) on approximately 3.0 acres of Proposed Parcel 2. The temporary campground is intended to provide interim lodging accommodations during the phased development of additional resort guest accommodations. The proposed yurt units would provide permanent guest lodging accommodations associated with the existing resort operation. The project would utilize existing access roads, parking areas, water and wastewater systems, utility connections, restroom and shower facilities, and fire protection infrastructure. No new public facilities, utility extensions, roadway construction, or major site improvements are proposed.

The project qualifies for Class 3 Categorical Exemption pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15303, New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures, because the project involves the construction of six (6) small hard-sided yurt guest units associated with an existing resort use. The proposed structures are consistent with the existing recreational use of the property and would not result in significant expansion of public infrastructure or services.

The project also qualifies for Class 1 Categorical Exemption pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15301(c), Existing Facilities, because the project would utilize existing resort facilities and infrastructure, including existing access roads, parking areas, water and wastewater systems, utility connections, and fire protection improvements, resulting in limited expansion of the existing use.

Additionally, the project qualifies for Class 4 Categorical Exemption pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15304, Minor Alterations to Land, because the project involves minor site preparation and surface improvements within previously disturbed areas. The project would not require significant grading, removal of mature trees, alteration of natural drainage patterns, or substantial modification of natural landforms. Therefore, the Lead Agency concludes that the project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15303, 15301(c), and 15304.