

Notice of Exemption**Appendix E**

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

County Clerk

County of: Siskiyou

311 Fourth Street, Room 201

Yreka, CA 96097

From: (Public Agency): California Department of Fish and Wildlife
601 Locust Street
Redding, CA 96001

(Address)

Project Title: Big Springs Ranch Wildlife Area Fuel Reduction Project

Project Applicant: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Project Location - Specific:

Big Springs Ranch Wildlife Area, 4415 E Louie Road, Montague, CA 96064

Project Location - City: Montague Project Location - County: Siskiyou

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

CDFW will conduct fuel reduction treatments including prescriptive or cultural fire, mechanical fuels reduction thinning and mastication, and fire containment line creation, to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire. Approximately 700 acres of mechanical fuels reduction and roughly 5,600 acres of prescriptive and/or cultural burning is proposed.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

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: 15304, Class 4, and 15308, Class 8
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project is not expected to result in the taking of rare, endangered, or threatened plant or animal species, or significant erosion or sedimentation to surface waters. The project does not involve construction activities and will not result in environmental degradation.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Teresa Spade Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 530-319-1345

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: Jason Roberts Date: September 10, 2026 Title: Regional Manager

☒ 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: 09/10/2026