Print Form

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: Trinity

From: (Public Agency): Trinity County Resource Conservation District
30 Horseshoe Lane
Weaverville, CA, 96093
(Address)

Project Title: Red Hill Community Fuels Reduction

Project Applicant: Trinity County Resource Conservation District

Project Location - Specific:

Junction City and Weaverville, Trinity County, CA (Project Map Attached)

Project Location - City: Junction City and Weaverville Project Location - County: Trinity

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Red Hill Community Fuels Reduction Project (project) will implement treatments on up to 190.7 acres around the Red Hill neighborhood in Trinity County. The primary objectives of the project are to 1) create a roadside fuel break along important evacuation routes for the neighborhood and 2) reduce fuel loadings around structures. Treatments will occur within 100 feet of the centerline of a public roadway or within 200 feet of a structure. Treatments will include hand thinning, chipping, lopping and scattering, and/or pile burning brush and trees less than 12" in diameter as measured at chest height.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Trinity County Resource Conservation District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Watershed Resource and Training Center

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:
- ☒ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: Public Resource Code (PRC) 21080.49(b) and PRC 21080.49(d)

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project is statutorily exempt under PRC sections 21080.49(b) and (d) as it includes hazardous fuels reduction around public roads and structures. 99.6 acres of the 190.7 acre project fall under PRC Section 21080(b), as this portion of the project consists of defensible space fire clearance of up to 100 feet, as measured from the center line of the roadway, for a public roadway identified as an egress and evacuation route for a subdivision or community of 30 or more dwelling units, to remove flammable vegetation or trees of less than 12 inches in diameter as measured at chest height. TCRCD has identified that the Red Hill neighborhood contains over 30 dwelling units and that all roads proposed for treatment are public roads that would be used as egress/evacuation routes for this neighborhood. 91.1 acres of the 190.7 acre project fall under PRC section 21080.49(d) as this portion of the project consists of a fuel break that extends up to 200 feet from structures, including the clearance of flammable vegetation and trees less than 12 inches in diameter as measured at chest height.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Skylar Fisher Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 530-623-6004

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: Date: 11/2/2026 Title: Executive Director

▪ 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:

Notice of Exemption

Trinity County Resource Conservation District

Post Office Box 1450 · 30 Horseshoe Lane · Weaverville, CA 96093-1450

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

Trinity County Clerk-Recorder
11 Court St.
Weaverville, CA 96093

From: Trinity County Resource
Conservation District
P.O. Box 1450
Weaverville, CA 96093-1450

Project Title: Red Hill Community Fuels Reduction
Project Location: Junction City and Weaverville, CA **County:** Trinity County
Legal Location: T34N R11W Section 35 MDM; T33N R11W Sections 1, 2, 11, & 12 MDM; T33N R10W Section 10 MDM

Lead Agency: Trinity County Resource Conservation District
Lead Person: Skylar Fisher **Email:** sfisher@tcrcd.net **Telephone:** 530-623-6004

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:
The Red Hill Community Fuels Reduction Project (project) will implement treatments on up to 190.7 acres around the Red Hill neighborhood in Trinity County. The primary objectives of the project are to 1) create a roadside fuel break along important evacuation routes for the neighborhood and 2) reduce fuel loadings around structures. Treatments will occur within 100 feet of the centerline of a public roadway or within 200 feet of a structure. Treatments will include hand thinning, chipping, lopping and scattering, and/or pile burning brush and trees less than 12" in diameter as measured at chest height.

The project area runs adjacent to the Trinity River and has a variety of vegetation types. Vegetation units in the project area include annual grasslands, oak woodlands, mixed hardwood conifer, and areas burned at high severity that now contain extensive snags and brush regeneration. Much of the mixed hardwood conifer unit is overly dense and in need of immediate fuel reduction treatments.

The physical actions in the project consist of:

Thinning: Up to 190.7 acres of the project area will be hand thinned to remove brush and trees less than 12" DBH. Treatments will target dead, dying, burned, suppressed, or diseased vegetation, while retaining healthy trees at approximately 20–30 foot spacing adjusted for site conditions. Residual trees will be pruned to 10–15 feet above ground or one-third of the canopy height, whichever is greater, without compromising tree health or stability. Chipped material will be broadcasted back into the unit to a depth of less than 6 inches. Material that is lopped and scattered will be lopped into lengths less than 10 feet, maintain an average depth of less than 18 inches, arranged to maximize soil contact, and kept away from the base of residual trees. Slash will not be left within 100 feet of structures. Operations will utilize hand tools, chainsaws, brush cutters, weed whackers, and/or chippers.

Prescribed Burning – Pile Burning: Up to 190.7 acres of the project area may be pile burned. Burn piles will not be placed on slopes greater than 50%, will not be placed within tree driplines, will be covered with plastic or wax paper, and will be burned in compliance with applicable burn permits. Pile burning treatments would use hand crews and burn the material using drip torches, propane torches, leaf blowers, water trucks, and hand tools. Pile burning will occur when burn windows permit.

All the vegetation types found within the project area are fire adapted, requiring frequent fire to maintain vigor and health. This project helps actively manage the land in a way that is more consistent with historical disturbance regimes, thus creating a landscape that is more resilient and resistant to high intensity wildfires. Maintenance treatments within the project footprint are estimated to occur approximately every 3-10 years but may occur as needed, depending on vegetative regrowth and the availability of funding and resources to conduct treatment.

Exempt Status: (check one)

☐ Categorical Exemption. State type and section number:

☒ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: Public Resource Code (PRC) 21080.49(b) and PRC 21080.49(d)

☐ Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)

☐ Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))

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Date Received / Posted Through

Kelly D. Sheen 10/27/2026

Kelly Sheen Date

Executive Director

Trinity County Resource Conservation District

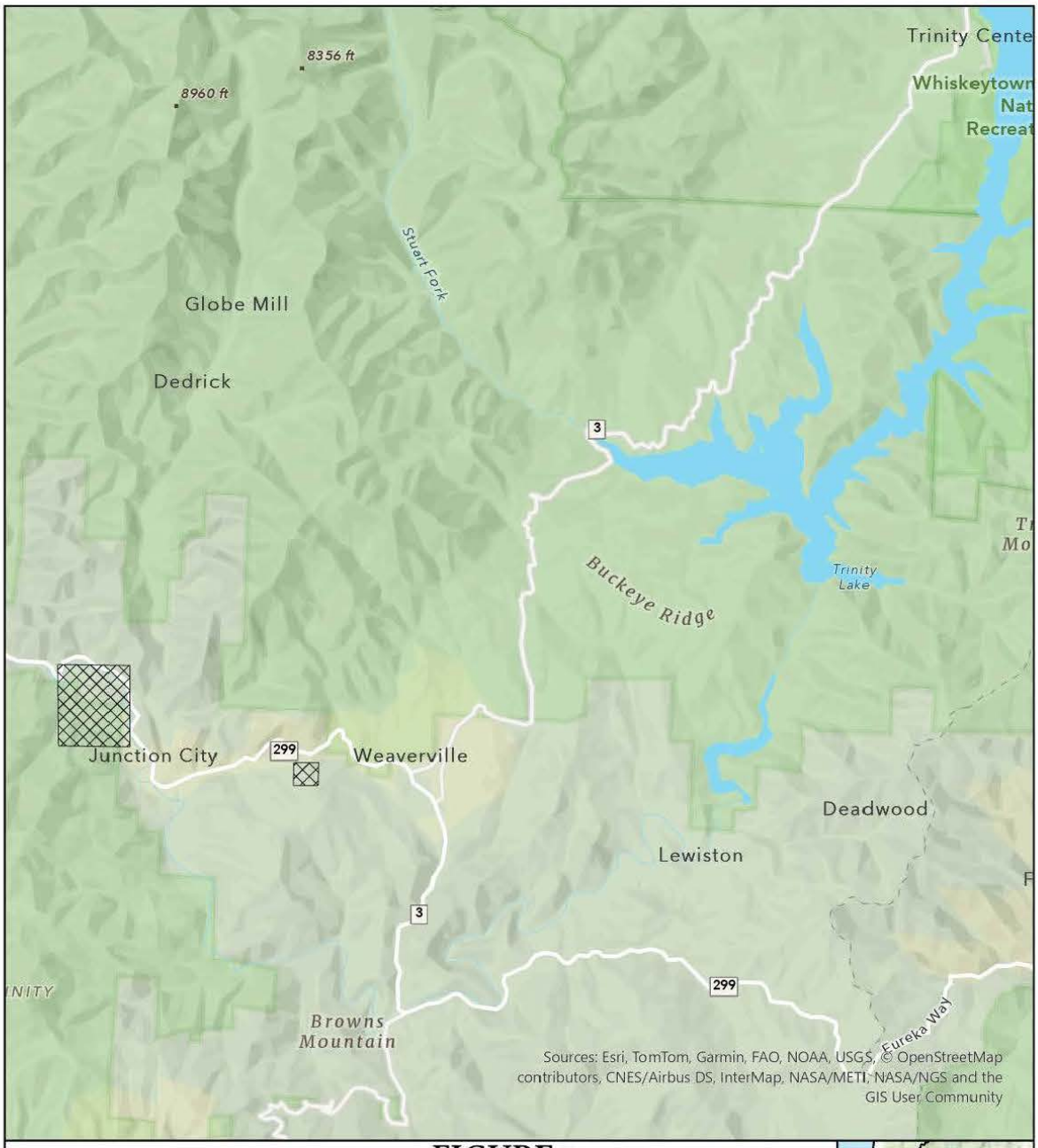

FIGURE 1

Regional Vicinity Map

Project Extent

N

0 1 2 3 Miles

THE WATERSHED CENTER
HAYFORK, CALIFORNIA

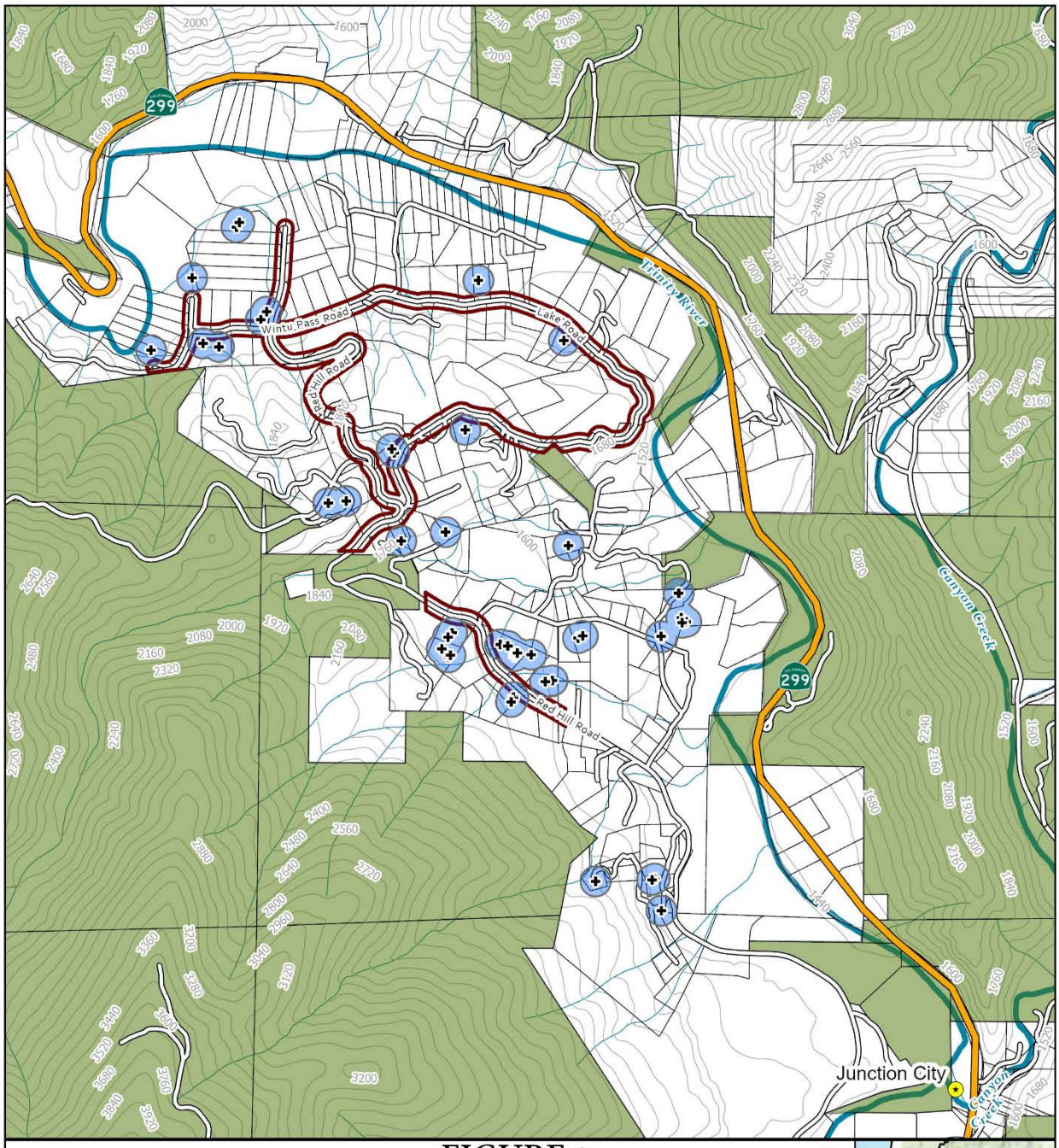

FIGURE 2
Project Map 1

N

- Defensible Space Treatments
- Roadside Treatments
- Federal Land Ownership
- APN Parcels
- Structure

0 800 1,600 Feet

Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS,

THE WATERSHED CENTER
HAYFORK, CALIFORNIA

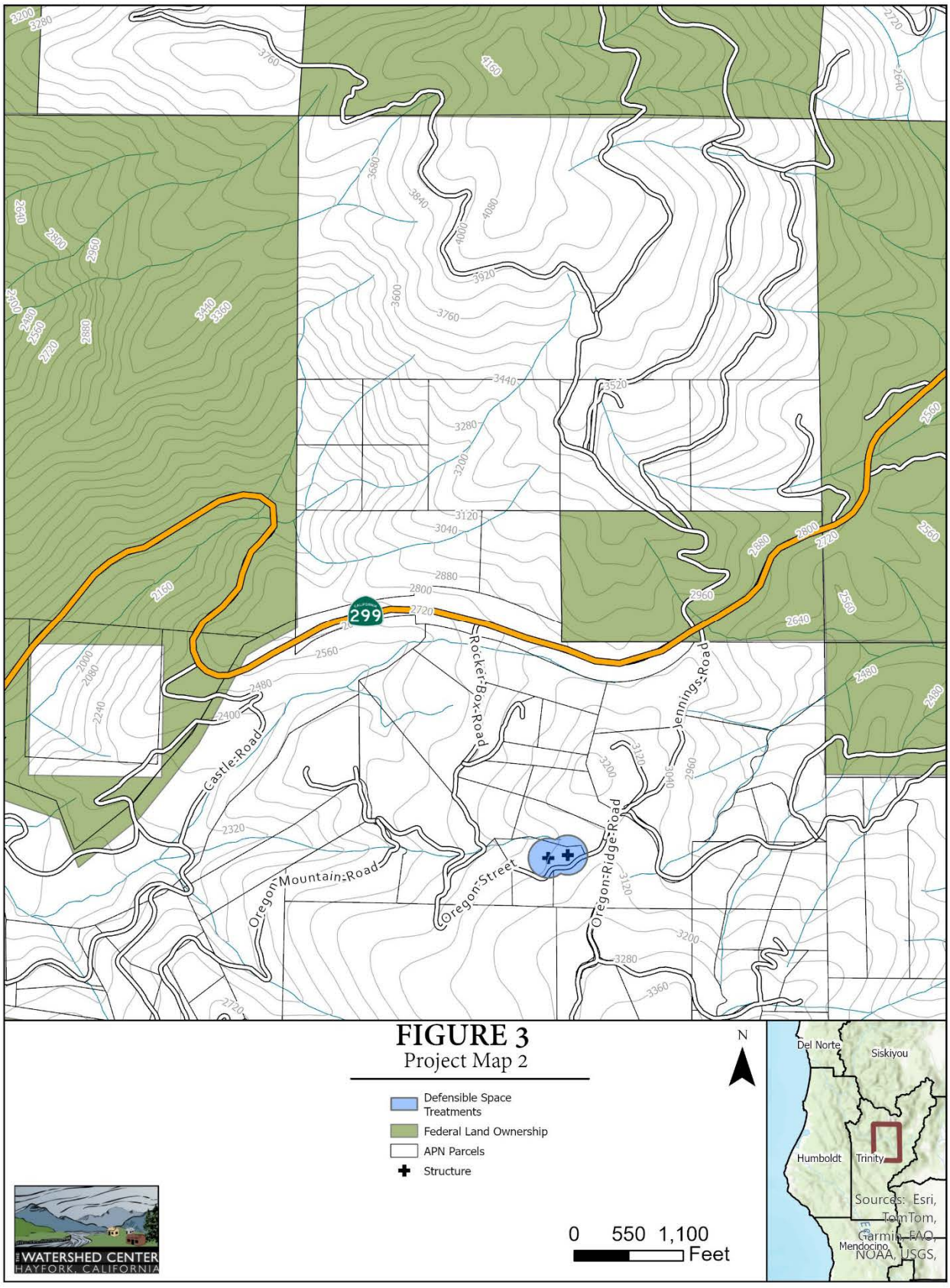

FIGURE 3
Project Map 2