Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

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

From: (Public Agency): Modoc Resource Conservation District
221 W. 8th Street, Alturas
California 96101
(Address)

County Clerk
County of: Modoc
108 E. Modoc Street
Alturas, CA 96101

FILED
OCT 30 2026
STEPHANIE WELLEMEYER, COUNTY CLERK
BY: Julie Lhuke
DEPUTY

Project Title: Lake City Community Wildfire Protection Project

Lead Agency: Modoc Resource Conservation District

Project Location - Specific: Township 44N, Range 15E, Portions of Sections 11, 12, 13, 14, 23, 24, 25, 26, 35 and 36, MDB&M

USGS 7.5' Quad Map(s): Lake City, Davis Creek

Project Location - City: Lake City Project Location - County: Modoc

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Lake City Community Wildfire Protection Project proposes hazardous fuels reduction and vegetation management on approximately 1,349 acres of private and public land adjacent to the community of Lake City. The purpose of the Project is to reduce hazardous fuel loading and vegetation continuity, improve woodland and forest conditions, and reduce the potential for high-intensity wildfire to threaten the community, residents, homes, roads, and surrounding resources.

Proposed treatments may include mechanical and hand thinning of western juniper and other vegetation, pruning, mastication, piling and burning of cut vegetation, prescribed burning, targeted herbicide application, and removal or utilization of woody material, as specified in the final project description and treatment prescriptions. The Project will be implemented by the Modoc Fire Safe Council, consistent with the approved project scope, applicable environmental protection requirements, and required permits and approvals.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Modoc Resource Conservation District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Modoc Fire Safe Council

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));
- [x] Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Class 4, CCR Section §15304 Minor Alterations to Land
- [ ] Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _

Reasons why project is exempt:
The Modoc Resource Conservation District, as lead agency, has determined that the Lake City Community Wildfire Protection Project is categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15304, Class 4, Minor Alterations to Land. The Project consists of selective vegetation management and hazardous fuels reduction on private and public lands. The proposed activities are intended to modify existing vegetation conditions to reduce wildfire risk while maintaining the existing land uses. The Project does not propose new residential, commercial, or other permanent development. In making this determination, MRCD considered the Project description, the Environmental Review Report prepared for the Project, and the supporting environmental information and technical studies. The Project will be implemented consistent with the treatment prescriptions, applicable resource-protection measures, and required permits and approvals relied upon in making the exemption determination. MRCD has considered the exceptions to categorical exemptions set forth in CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 and has determined, based on the final project scope and supporting environmental record, that no applicable exception precludes use of the Class 4 categorical exemption.

Lead Agency
Contact Person: Michael Colbert Area Code/Telephone: 530-640-2179

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: 10-29-26 Title: District Manager

☒ Signed by Lead Agency ☐ Signed by Applicant

RESOLUTION NO. 12-2026
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MODOC RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MODOC RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT APPROVING THE LAKE CITY COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PROJECT AND AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF A NOTICE OF EXEMPTION UNDER THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the Modoc Resource Conservation District (MRCD) is a public agency authorized to undertake and support natural resource conservation projects, including projects intended to reduce hazardous fuels and improve wildfire resilience; and

WHEREAS, the Lake City Community Wildfire Protection Project (Project) is proposed on approximately 1,349 acres of private and public land adjacent to the community of Lake City in Modoc County, California, with the purpose of reducing hazardous vegetation and wildfire risk to the community, residents, homes, roads, and other nearby resources; and

WHEREAS, the Project is proposed to be implemented by the Modoc Fire Safe Council and may include selective vegetation thinning, pruning, mastication, piling and burning of cut vegetation, prescribed burning, targeted herbicide application, and removal or utilization of woody material, consistent with the final project description, treatment prescriptions, applicable environmental protection requirements, and required permits and approvals; and

WHEREAS, MRCD is the lead agency responsible for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA; Public Resources Code, Section 21000 et seq.) for the Project; and

WHEREAS, MRCD has reviewed the Environmental Review Report for an Exempt Project prepared for the Project, together with the supporting environmental information and technical studies made available to the District, to evaluate the Project's potential environmental effects and eligibility for a categorical exemption; and

WHEREAS, the Project has been evaluated for potential eligibility under CEQA Guidelines Section 15304, Class 4, Minor Alterations to Land, which applies to qualifying minor alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation, subject to the limitations and exceptions established by CEQA; and

WHEREAS, CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(2) provides that a project may be exempt from CEQA pursuant to a categorical exemption where application of the exemption is not barred by any of the exceptions set forth in CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has considered the Project description, the Environmental Review Report, the supporting environmental documentation, and any comments or information presented to the Board, and has determined that the Project qualifies for the categorical exemption under CEQA Guidelines Section 15304, provided that the Project is implemented consistent with the scope and environmental protections relied upon in making that determination; and

WHEREAS, CEQA Guidelines Section 15062 authorizes a lead agency to file a Notice of Exemption after the agency has determined that a project is exempt from CEQA and approved or determined to carry out the project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

The Board of Directors of the Modoc Resource Conservation District hereby resolves as follows:

Section 1. Recitals.
The foregoing recitals are true and correct and are incorporated into this Resolution by reference.

Section 2. Project Approval.
The Board of Directors hereby approves the Lake City Community Wildfire Protection Project, as described in the project materials presented to and considered by the Board, subject to the final project description, treatment prescriptions, applicable environmental protection requirements, and all required permits and approvals.

Section 3. CEQA Determination.
Based on its review of the Project and the environmental record before it, the Board of Directors determines that the Project is categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15304, Class 4, Minor Alterations to Land. This determination is based on the Project's proposed vegetation-management activities and the supporting environmental documentation, and is subject to the limitations of the exemption and the exceptions set forth in CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2. The Project shall be implemented consistent with the scope and environmental protections relied upon for this determination.

Section 4. Authorization to File Notice of Exemption.
The Board of Directors authorizes the MRCD District Manager, or their designee, to complete, execute, and file a Notice of Exemption for the Project in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15062, including filing with the Modoc County Clerk and completing any other applicable filing or notice requirements.

Section 5. Project Implementation.
The MRCD District Manager, or their designee, is authorized to take such administrative actions as are reasonably necessary to carry out this Resolution and support implementation of the approved Project, provided that such actions remain consistent with the Project approved by the Board and the environmental basis for the CEQA determination. Any material change in the Project scope or treatment methods that could affect the exemption determination shall be referred for appropriate environmental review before implementation.

Section 6. Effective Date.
This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Modoc Resource Conservation District this **29th day of October, 2026**, by the following vote:

- AYES: 3 (Dancer, Flournoy, Tims)
- NOES: 0
- ABSENT: 3 (Diven, Forrest, Martinez)
- ABSTAIN: 1 (Hafen)

I, Jess Dancer, the undersigned Vice Chairman of the Modoc Resource Conservation District, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the resolution adopted by the Board of Directors at a meeting held on **October 29, 2026**, at which a quorum was present.

Jess Dancer

Jess Dancer, Vice Chairman,
Modoc Resource Conservation District Board of Directors

ATTEST:

Pearce Flournoy

Pearce Flournoy, Secretary,
Modoc Resource Conservation District Board of Directors