

**EXHIBIT A**

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

FOR USE BY COUNTY  
CLERK'S OFFICE

TO: [ ] Office of Planning and Research  
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121  
Sacramento, CA 95814

[x] County Clerk  
County of Nevada

FROM: Nevada County Department of Public Works  
950 Maidu Avenue  
Nevada City, CA 95959-8617

\_\_\_\_\_  
Document Number

**Project Title:** Egress/Ingress Fire Safety Project

**Project Applicant:** Nevada County Department of Public Works

**Project Location - Specific:** This project would occur on approximately 200 miles of County-maintained roads in western Nevada County, on the following roads:

- |                         |                          |                         |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Adam Avenue             | Cedar Springs Road       | Gracie Road             |
| Airport Road            | Cedar Way                | Granholm Lane           |
| Allison Ranch Road      | Cement Hill Road         | Harvest Way             |
| Alpha Road              | Champion Road            | Hawke Lane              |
| Alpine Lane             | China Close              | Horton Street           |
| Alta Street             | Conifer Lane             | Hydraulic Ridge Close   |
| American Hill Road      | Cooper Road              | Idaho Maryland Road     |
| Archery Way             | Coyote Street            | Incline Shaft Road      |
| Artic Close             | Crescent Drive           | Indian Flat Road        |
| Auburn Road             | Crystal Wells Road       | Indian Springs Road     |
| Augustine Road          | Deer Park Drive          | James Lane              |
| Aurora Close            | Devonshire Circle        | Jones Bar Road          |
| Autumn Way              | Dow Road                 | Kenwood Drive           |
| Baltic Close            | Dutch Flat Crossing Road | La Sierra Drive         |
| Banner Mountain Trail   | East Drive               | Lake Lane               |
| Banner Quaker Hill Road | Easy Street              | Lake Vera-Purdon Road   |
| Berggren Lane           | Empress Road             | Lasso Loop              |
| Bitney Springs Road     | Engle Street             | Lewis Road              |
| Black Oak Drive         | Evergreen Drive          | Little York Close       |
| Blue Tent School Road   | Fern Lane                | Lowell Hill Road        |
| Boreham Lane            | Forest View Drive        | Manzanita Diggins Drive |
| Boulder Street          | Friar Tuck Road          | Manzanita Drive         |
| Bourbon Hill Road       | Frosty Lane              | Marjon                  |
| Braemar Way             | Garden Bar Road          | Maybert Road            |
| Butler Road             | Gas Canyon Road          | Mayflower Drive         |
| Butte View Dr           | Gaston Drive             | McCourtney Road         |
| Butterfly Drive         | Gautier Drive            | Mills Road              |
| Canyon View Court       | Gayle Lane               | Mooney Flat Road        |
| Carey Drive             | Genasci Road             | Mother Lode Road        |
| Cascade Drive           | Glen Meadow Drive        | Mountain View Drive     |
| Cascade Loop            | Gold Drive               | Murchie Mine Road       |
| Cattle Drive            | Goldbug Road             | New Rome Road           |
| Cedar Avenue            | Golden Star Road         | Newtown Road            |

Northview Drive	Rector Road	Squirrel Creek Road
Nottingham Lane	Red Dog Road	Stagecoach Way
Nugget Street	Relief Hill Road	Streeter Road
Oak Street	Ridge Estates Road	Summit Ridge Drive
Old Downieville Highway	Ridgeview Drive	Sunrise Heights
Old Tunnel Road	Robin Hood Dr	Sunset Avenue
Old Washington Road	Rock Creek Road	Suzanne Way
Paradise Drive	Rough and Ready Highway	Terry Street
Park Avenue Extension	Rough and Ready Road	Valley Drive
Pasquale Road	Sadie D Drive	Via Colina Drive
Penn Valley Drive	Sailor Flat Road	Via Vista
Pine Court	Sargent and Jacobs Drive	Vintage Drive
Pinewoods Road	Scotts Flat Road	Vista Avenue
Pingree Road	Scotts Valley Road	Walker Drive
Pittsburg Mine Road	Shannon Way	Washington Road
Pittsburg Road	Sierra Drive	West Drive
Plover Way	Siesta Drive	Wet Hill Road
Polaris Drive	Slate Creek Road	Willow Valley Road
Purdon Road	South Ponderosa Way	Yuba Close
Quaker Hill Cross Road	Spanish Lane	
Quiet Way	Spenceville Road	

**Project Location - County:** Nevada County

**Description of Project:** This project consists of removing all vegetation with stems and trunks smaller than six inches in diameter within 15 feet of the edge of the traveled way, on approximately 200 miles of County-maintained roads. The purpose of the project is to provide safer egress routes for emergency evacuation, and to allow firefighters better ingress access to fight fires. The project will also provide a break in fuel continuity to aid in reducing the spread of fire. Selected roads have been chosen based on the confluence of higher density residential neighborhoods with the wildland interface. The project is scheduled for 2021 through 2022. All work will be performed within the County's existing right-of-way.

Using hand and mechanical means, vegetation treatment will consist of a combination of pulling, cutting, trimming, mowing, and spraying. All trees to remain within the work area, regardless of size, will be limbed to a height of at least 15 feet above ground level. Work will be accomplished by both County crews and contract forces. Vegetation treatment specifications include the following:

- All grasses and brush will be cut to under 3 inches.
- Scotch broom will be removed with plant roots intact and transported to a disposal site.
- All manzanita and non-sprouting shrubs will be removed.
- Willows and riparian shrubs will be mowed or cut.
- Sprouting shrubs, including but not limited to buckbrush, deer brush, and toyon, will be cut and sprayed with an approved herbicide.
- Blackberry will be mowed or weed whacked to no more than 3 inches high and then sprayed with an approved herbicide.
- All trees to remain within the work area, regardless of size, will be limbed up to a height of at least 15 feet above ground level.

No clearing will be done within 20 feet of either side of the centerline of a watercourse or wetland. All downed vegetation will be removed from the clearing sites within five days of cutting. Sweeping will be done at the end of each day to remove any loose material from roadways, driveways, ditches and gutters. All disturbed soils will be covered with approved erosion control measures. Advance notification of the project will be provided to the community and traffic control will be provided on all roads during construction.

Searches of the California Natural Diversity Database and the North Central Information Center (NCIC) have been performed for all roads. The supervising Registered Professional Forester (RPF) for the project will also survey

## EXHIBIT A

each project area in person to identify and flag for avoidance any cultural resource sites documented in the database searches or discovered during the survey. The supervising RPF will also be present when work occurs in proximity to ponds or watercourses to determine if special-status frogs and turtles are present. If present, work will be suspended until the animals move out of the area or are relocated by a biologist certified by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to handle special-status species.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Nevada County Board of Supervisors

**Name of Public Agency Carrying Out Project:** Nevada County Department of Public Works

**Exempt Status:**

Ministerial (Section 21080(b)(1); 15268);

Declared Emergency (Section 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));

Emergency Project (Section 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));

Categorical Exemption: 15301(c), Repair and maintenance of existing streets; and 15301(h), Maintenance of existing landscaping and native growth (excluding the use of pesticides, as defined in Section 12753 Division 7, Chapter 2, Food and Agricultural Code); 15304(i), Minor alterations to land – fuel management activities within 30-100 feet of structures

Statutory Exemptions.

**Reasons why project is exempt:** This project consists of vegetation treatment within existing public right of way to maintain fire-safe access on County-maintained roadways. The project will not remove landmark trees, will not work within 20 feet of the centerline of an existing waterway or wetland, will not use herbicides on riparian and wetland vegetation, and will utilize all appropriate erosion control measures. The project will avoid all sensitive historic and pre-historic resources and special-status species.

**Contact Person:** Jessica Hankins

**Telephone:** (530) 265-1254

**Lead Agency:** Nevada County

**Signature:**

**Date:**

**Title:** Public Works Project Manager

Signed by Lead Agency