



RESOLUTION No. 21-007

OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF NEVADA

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE FOR THE EGRESS/INGRESS FIRE SAFETY PROJECT

WHEREAS, the approximately 200 miles of County-maintained roadways listed in Exhibit A require vegetation treatment to provide safer egress routes for emergency evacuation, and to allow firefighters better ingress access to fight fires; and

WHEREAS, the project will provide a break in fuel continuity to aid in reducing the spread of fire; and

WHEREAS, selected roads have been chosen based on road type, dead end status, fire hazard severity zone and the confluence of residential neighborhoods with the wildland interface to provide the most benefit for the community; and

WHEREAS, 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, will utilize all appropriate erosion control measures, will avoid all sensitive historic and pre-historic resources and special-status species, and will employ an Registered Professional Forester to ensure that no work occurs in unauthorized areas; and

WHEREAS, under Section 15301(c) of the State California Code of Regulations, Class 1 projects consisting of repair, maintenance, and minor alteration of existing streets and roadways are categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act; and

WHEREAS, under Section 15301(h) of the State California Code of Regulations, Class 1 projects consisting of maintenance of existing landscaping and native growth are categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act; and

WHEREAS, under Section 15304(i) of the State California Code of Regulations, Class 4 projects consisting of minor alterations to land including fuel management activities are categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Nevada County Board of Supervisors authorizes the Nevada County Department of Public Works to file a Notice of Exemption with the Nevada County Clerk's Office for the Egress/Ingress Fire Safety Project in conformance with Exhibit A attached hereto.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Nevada at a regular meeting of said Board, held on the 12th day of January, 2021, by the following vote of said Board:

Ayes: Supervisors Heidi Hall, Edward Scofield, Dan Miller, Susan K. Hoek and Hardy Bullock.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

Abstain: None.

ATTEST:

JULIE PATTERSON HUNTER
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: 


Dan Miller, Chair

1/12/2021 cc: DPW*
AC*

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

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

EXHIBIT A

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
Lead Agency: Nevada County

Telephone: (530) 265-1254

Signature:

Date:

Title: Public Works Project Manager
 Signed by Lead Agency