

State of California  
Department of Parks and Recreation

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

**TO:** Office of Planning and Research  
1400 Tenth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**FROM:** Department of Parks and Recreation  
1416 Ninth Street  
P.O. Box 942896  
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

**PROJECT TITLE:** Chute Hill Vegetation Management

**LOCATION:** Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park

**COUNTY:** Nevada

**DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:** Project will reduce existing vegetation biomass within the Chute Hill Campground and surrounding area, comprising 9.5 acres in Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park, to reduce risk of a wildland fire. The biomass will be reduced by removing 60%-70% of the brush and young conifers less than six inches diameter at breast height (DBH). Conifers greater than 6.0 DBH will be removed to reduce square foot of basal area of conifers to 120-160 per acre. The primary method of removal will be chain saw cutting, however conifers may be removed by conventional ground based logging systems, including but not limited to tracked feller-bunchers, rubber tired skidders and quadrunners with Linfoot Arch. When using mechanical mastication the material to be shredded will be left on the site to help retard further brush development. A state contract for timber sale or a district owned excavator will be used on the project.

**PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT:** California Department of Parks and Recreation

**NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT:** Sierra District

**EXEMPT STATUS:**

- Declared Emergency (Section 15269(a))
- Emergency Project (Section 15269(b) and (c))
- Statutory Exemption (Section: )
- Categorical Exemption

Class: 4                      Section: 15304

**REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT:** The project consists of minor alterations on the condition of the land, without removing healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry purposes (included as "Resource management projects" in the Department of Parks and Recreation's list of exempt activities, in accordance with CCRS15300.4).

**CONTACT:** Diane Cassano  
Sierra District

**TELEPHONE:** (530) 525-3342  
**EMAIL:** sierradiane@onemain.com

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ray Patton (acting), District Superintendent

DATE \_\_\_\_\_