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JUN 10 2025

SEAN HOUGHTBY
TEHAMA COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER

BY



NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To:	County Clerk Tehama County, CA 633 Washington St., Room 111 Red Bluff, CA 96080	FROM:	RCD of Tehama County 202 Walnut Street Red Bluff, CA 96080
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PROJECT TITLE	Manton Fuels Reduction – Tehama County (388-5)
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PROJECT LOCATION	PROJECT LOCATION – Manton, Ca	COUNTY - Tehama
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DESCRIPTION OF NATURE, PURPOSE, AND BENEFICIARIES OF PROJECT

Road Locations: Forward Road & Hazen Road (see attached map)

The project entails roadside vegetation development and maintenance treatments (cutting, chipping, mastication and herbicide applications) along forementioned paved roads within Tehama County.

The RCDTC will manage, operate, and maintain chipper unit along with the masticator with forestry cutter head and mower deck during roadside fuel treatment projects. In addition, the RCDTC will conduct photo monitoring as well as prepare field progress reports and mapping which will be incorporated into project status reports submitted to the funder by the RCDTC Project Manager. Treatment areas will extend up to 75' along both sides of the road edge depending upon terrain type and site conditions. High traffic volumes along the roads proposed for treatments create a significant risk of roadside ignition and fire spread into numerous publicly and privately maintained parcels as well as adjacent healthy mature oak woodlands that contain permanently inhabited structures. Specific treatments to be completed in connection with this project include the cutting and chipping of ground fuels along with shrubs and small, poorly developed trees (oaks < 16" in diameter) that create ladder fuels extending into the crowns of mature oaks. Herbicides approved by the State and the Tehama County Agriculture Department will be applied to treatment areas dependent on funding constraints. The removal and control of target vegetation will reduce roadside ignition risk, reduce the rate of fire spread and intensity as well as removal excess trees and other vegetation thus improving conditions for larger, more mature trees particularly oaks that are currently in good health and continue to sequester Greenhouse Gases (GHGs).

The goal of this project proposal is to reduce the risk of roadside ignitions and rate of fire spread into adjacent grasslands, shrublands and high-quality oak woodlands that contain many permanently inhabited structures. In addition, project work would result in the continued expansion and maintenance of an in-place fuel break network that is used during wildfire events to protect homes and developed parcels and create a space from which backfire operations or future landscape scale vegetation treatments not affiliated with this project can be conducted.

Description: This project will complement and build upon work completed last year as well as a preexisting PG&E shaded fuel break. The aspiration of the project is to enhance the community of Manton's safety and wildfire resilience by mitigating the threat of high severity wildfire.

- The project will treat 31 acres along 3.4 miles of power lines/roadways.

Prescription: Work will be completed utilizing a combination of hand crew and herbicide. Hand crew will be utilized for overgrown areas adjacent to powerlines/county roads for tree removal and limbing.
- All brush and trees under 16" DBH will be removed. Woody debris and brush will be removed and chipped on site. (
- Trees greater than 16" DBH will be limbed 8-10ft from the ground.
- Annual grass and area under powerline will undergo herbicide treatment to guarantee perpetuity/holding of treatments.

LEAD AGENCY	Resource Conservation District of Tehama County		
CONTACT PERSON	Drew Barnhart	PHONE	(916) 525 5510
ADDRESS	202 Walnut Street, Suite D Red Bluff, CA 96080		

NAME OF PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING PROJECT: Resource Conservation District of Tehama County

NAME OF PERSON OR AGENCY CARRYING OUT PROJECT: Resource Conservation District of Tehama County

EXEMPTION STATUS

- ☒ Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4 §15304 (e) Minor Alterations to Land
☐ Statutory Exemption (state code section):
☐ Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
☐ Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
☐ Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

Public Resources Code, Division 13, Chapter 6, Article 19, Section 15304 allows minor alteration of vegetation including fuel management activities to reduce volume of flammable vegetation provided the activities do not result in the taking of endangered, rare, or threatened plant/animal species, or cause significant erosion and sedimentation of surface waters. This project is considered low impact given that the nature of the project work occurs on already disturbed and developed roadsides and biomass chips will be broadcast onsite. A current California Natural Diversity Database search was conducted, and it has been determined that Project activities will have a low impact on the environment and low potential to effect cultural resources. Water Courses will be flagged and/or avoided.

IF FILED BY APPLICANT:

1. Attached certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? x yes

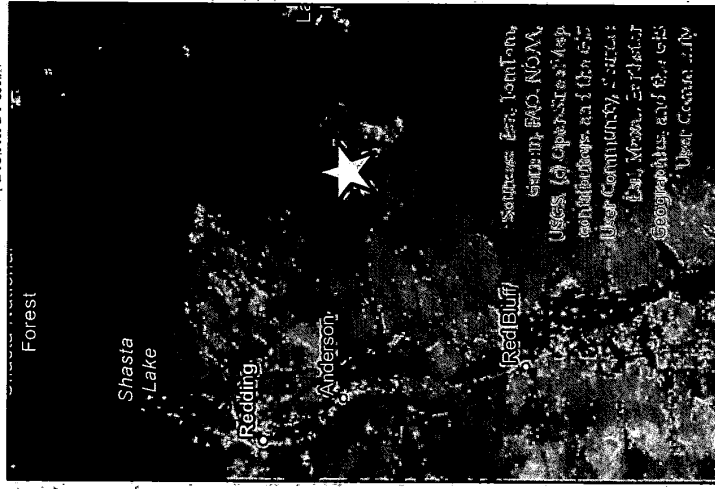
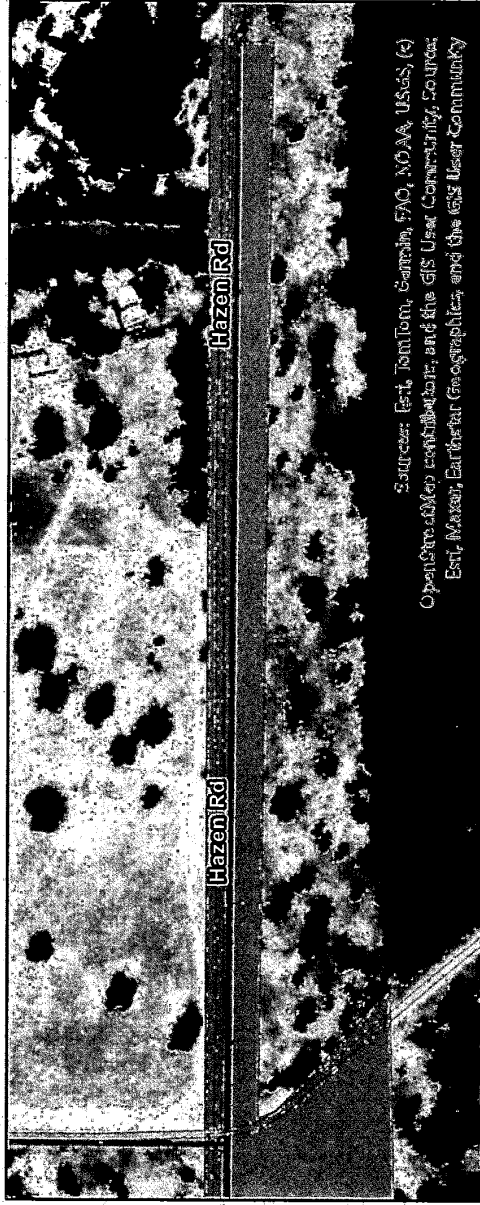
SIGNATURE: Drew Barnhart **DATE:** 5/28/25

TITLE: RCD of Tehama County Project Manager, Drew Barnhart

X Signed by Lead Agency
☐ Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR:

Hazen Road - Project Area



☆ Project Location

— PGE Line Layer 2025

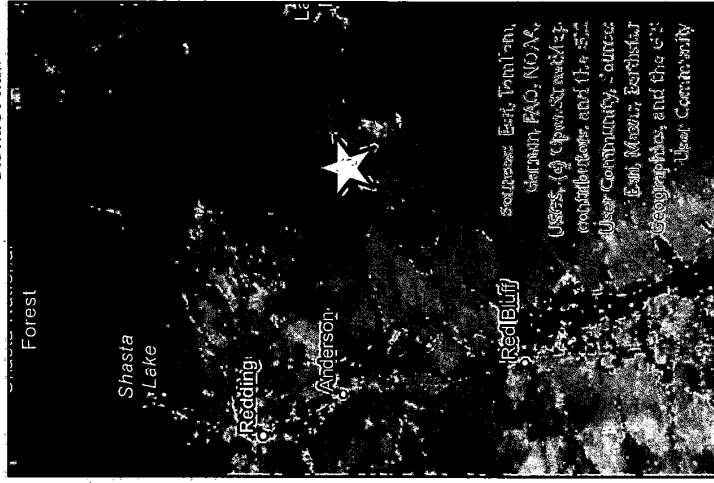
■ Hazen Road Project Area

Scale: 1:9,145



Description: Hazen Rd. Shaded Fuel Break will occur in Northern Tehama County South of Shingletown, Ca and within Manton, Ca. This fuel break Parallels PGE distribution line for over 2.3 miles! This strategic fuel break will extend up to 140 ft. on both sides of the distribution line and total over 11 acres treated! This fuel break will protect the local Manton and Shingletown Communities by enabling a East-West defendable fuel break that could slow the progress of a wildfire. Additionally, the fuel break will protect PGE infrastructure in a densely vegetated and remote area, while lowering perpetual maintenance costs associated with this distribution lines. This particular area has historically been threatened by 2 of California's largest wildfires in the past 5 years alone!

Forward Road - Project Area



- ☆ Project Location
 - PGE Line Layer 2025
 - Forward Road Project Area
- Scale: 1:15,203



Description: Forward Road Shaded Fuel Break will occur in Northern Tehama County South of Shingletown, Ca and within Manton, Ca. This fuel break Parallels PGE distribution line for over 2.4 miles! This strategic fuel break will extend up to 30 ft. on both sides of the distribution line and total over 11 acres treated! This fuel break will protect the local Manton and Shingletown Communities by enabling a East-West defendable fuel break that could slow the progress of a wildfire. Additionally, the fuel break will protect PGE infrastructure in a densely vegetated and remote area, while lowering perpetual maintenance costs associated with this distribution lines. This particular area has historically been threatened by 2 of California's largest wildfires in the past 5 years