

# Notice of Exemption

Fee Exempt per Government Code Section 6103

To: x Office of Planning and Research  
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121  
Sacramento, CA 95814

x Tulare County Clerk  
Room 105, Courthouse  
221 South Mooney Boulevard  
Visalia, California 93291

Lead Agency: Tulare County c/o Resource Management Agency  
5961 South Mooney Blvd.  
Visalia, Ca 93277  
Attn: [gmills@tularecounty.ca.gov](mailto:gmills@tularecounty.ca.gov) and [jwillis@tularecounty.ca.gov](mailto:jwillis@tularecounty.ca.gov)

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING AT TULARE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE

Applicant(s): County of Tulare c/o Tulare County Fire Department  
835 S. Akers St. Ph: 559-802-9800  
Visalia, CA 93277

**Project Title:** 2024 Rankin Burn

**Project Location - Specific:** The project is located at 20000 Road 140, at the southeast corner of Avenue 200 and Road 140, approximately 5 miles northeast of the City of Tulare, CA, (APN 196-070-013).

**Project Location- Section, Township, Range:** Section 34, Township 20S, Range 25E

**Project Location - City:** near City of Tulare

**Project Location - County:** Tulare

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:** The annual grass will be removed through a controlled burn conducted by Tulare County Fire and CAL FIRE. This project meets the local CAL FIRE plan and will reduce a potential threat to the public and first responders. This project will remove tall annual grass that could potentially be a fire hazard due to the proximity of the shooting range and access to the public. The prescribed fire burn will also be a training opportunity for firefighters. A project area map is included herein at Attachment "A".

**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(c));
- ☐ General Rule: CEQA guidelines 15061 (b)(3)
- ☒ Categorical Exemption: **CEQA Guidelines Class 1 Section 15301 Existing Facilities (c)**
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions:

**Reasons why project/activity is exempt:** The proposed project is excluded or exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) on the grounds that the project is consistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 Class 1, Existing Facilities (c). As noted above, as there is a potential fire threat, this area was selected due to the proximity to the shooting range and access to the public. This burn will also be used for firefighter training. Further, the project is consistent with Tulare County Community Wildfire Protection Plan as well as the Tulare Cal Fire Unit Fire Plan. Therefore, the application of CEQA Section 15301 is applicable and appropriate for this project.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** County of Tulare, Resource Management Agency

**Project Planner/Representative:** Jeffrey McLaughlin, Deputy Fire Chief **Area Code/Telephone:** 559-802-9802

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: Chief Environmental Planner  
Gary A. Mills

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: Environmental Assessment Officer  
Reed Schenke, P.E. RMA Director

X Signed by Lead Agency

Submitted for filing at OPR/SCH on: \_\_\_\_\_

## 2024 Rankin Burn



0 0.03 0.06 0.12 Miles

NS  
Date: 3/14/2024