

DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

Notice Date: June 13, 2019

**NOTICE OF INTENT
TO ADOPT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION****Project Name: South Park VMP
SCH# 2019069041**

In compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code § 21000 *et seq.*) and Department procedures, notification is hereby given to responsible and trustee agencies, interest groups and the general public, that the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection proposes to adopt a Negative Declaration for the project described below.

Project Location: State Highway 4 at Big Trees Parkway, Tuolumne County

Project Description: The South Park Project area is in Tuolumne County approximately 5 miles southeast of Arnold, California along the southern boundary of Calaveras Big Trees State Park. The proposed project area is on property owned by Sierra Pacific Industries. The project will consist of a series of small, low intensity prescribed burns conducted in cooperation with Sierra Pacific Industries. Individual burns will generally be single day events and less than 30 acres in size. The objectives of the project are to: 1) create a shaded fuelbreak condition along the Big Trees State Park boundary to protect Big Trees State Park, Sierra Pacific Industries timberlands and USFS timberlands from an uncontrolled wildfire; 2) protect the mixed conifer over story by reducing surface fuel loading, and increasing canopy base height; 3) and, enhance wildlife habitat.

The draft Negative Declaration, Initial Study, and supporting documentation are available for review at the following locations:

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
Tuolumne Calaveras Unit Headquarters
785 Mountain Ranch Road
San Andreas, CA 95249

Also available on-line at:

http://www.fire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/resource_mgt_EPRP_PublicNotice.php

The draft Negative Declaration will under go a 30-day public review period during which comments may be submitted. The review period begins on June 13, 2019 and ends on July 13, 2019. Comments in regard to the contents of the Negative Declaration should be sent to:

Contact Person: Gary Whitson, Forester
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
Tuolumne Calaveras Unit Headquarters
785 Mountain Ranch Road
San Andreas, CA 95249

Phone Number: (209) 754-3831

Comments may also be sent via e-mail using the e-mail address provided below:

E-Mail: sacramentopubliccomment@fire.ca.gov

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

JUN 14 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE