

To: Governor’s Office of Land Use and
Climate Innovation
1400 10th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

To: California Natural Resources Agency
Via: CRP-NOD@resources.ca.gov

From:
Public Agency:
Sierra Nevada Conservancy
11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205
Auburn, CA 95603
Mary Akens
(530) 450-5177

Lead Agency (if different from above):
California Department of Forestry and
Fire Protection
6105 Airport Road
Redding, CA 96002
Adam Deem (530) 224-2488

SUBJECT: *Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 or 15252, subd. (b) of the Public Resources Code*

State Clearinghouse Number (if submitted to State Clearinghouse): NA

Project Title: Round Mountain Landscape Resilience Project Phase One (SNC1817)

Project Applicant:
Yuba Watershed Institute
PO Box 2198, Nevada City, CA 95959
Chris Friedel, Executive Director
530-955-1822
chris@yubawatershedinstitute.org

Project Location (include county): Approximately three miles north of Nevada City, on the South Rim of the South Yuba River Canyon, on the north side of Round Mountain, along Merrimas Way. MDBM T17N R9E S19.

Project Description: The Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) would provide funding to the Yuba Watershed Institute (YWI) to implement fuels-reduction treatments on 43 acres of private forestland. The purpose of the project is to establish and maintain a continuous 400-ft-wide ridgetop shaded fuel break system to reduce wildfire intensity, protect ingress/egress, and safeguard nearby communities around Nevada City and the South Yuba River canyon. All work will be performed in compliance with the California Forest Practices Act and the adopted Modified Timber Harvest Plan No. 2-23-00126-NEV, Round Mountain MTHP, approved by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection on November 2, 2023, with a Minor Deviation approved on February 6, 2026. Treatments include 43 acres of biomass harvesting with chips removed to a biomass facility and 26 acres of a broadcast understory prescribed burn. Fuels treatments will focus on small-

diameter trees and shrubs up to 10 inches in diameter. This removes ladder fuels and surface fuel continuity while retaining larger, fire-resilient trees to maintain canopy cover and ecological function. Biomass harvest units may also remove selected trees greater than 10 inches in diameter where needed to achieve stand improvement. Mechanical treatments will be completed by a Licensed Timber Operator under the direction of a Registered Professional Forester. The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection will monitor compliance with the terms of the Timber Harvesting Plan.

This is to advise that the **Sierra Nevada Conservancy (Responsible Agency)** has approved the above-described project on **March 5, 2026**, and has made the following determinations regarding the above-described project:

1. The project **will not** have a significant effect on the environment.
2. A Modified Timber Harvesting Plan (Plan No: 2-23-00126-NEV, Round Mountain MTHP) was adopted by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection pursuant to Chapter 8, commencing with section 4511 of Part 2 of Division 4 of the Public Resources Code. The Timber Harvest Plan meets the requirements of a Substitute Document pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15252. The Sierra Nevada Conservancy is using the substitute document in its approval of the project as a Responsible Agency, consistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15253 (a) and (b).
3. Mitigation measures **were** a condition of the approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan **was** adopted for this project.
5. A statement of Overriding Considerations **was not** adopted for this project.
6. Findings **were not** made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

This is to certify that the Modified Timber Harvesting Plan with comments and responses and record of project approval is available to the general public at:

The State of California CALTREES Timber Regulation and Forest Restoration website, records for MTHP 2-23-00126-NEV, at https://aca-prod.accela.com/CALTREES/Cap/CapDetail.aspx?Module=TH_Document&TabName=TH_Document&capID1=REC23&capID2=00000&capID3=007QH&agencyCode=CALTREES&lsToShowInspection=

Signature (Public Agency):  _____
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Title: Executive Officer

Date: 3/5/2026

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____

Authority cited: Sections 21083, Public Resources Code
Reference Section 21000-21174, Public Resources Code