

RECORDING REQUESTED BY
AND MAILED TO:

NAME: Mendocino County RCD

STREET: 115 E Smith St.

CITY: Ukiah

2026-E0023

Recorded at the request of:

MENDO CO RSCD

04/23/2026 03:29 PM

Fee: \$50.00 Pgs: 1 of 3

OFFICIAL RECORDS

Katrina Bartolome - Clerk-Recorder

Mendocino County, CA



Notice of Exemption

(TITLE OF DOCUMENT)

POSTED FROM 4/23/26 TO 5/24/26

This page added to provide adequate space for recording information
(Additional recording fee applies)

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044
County Clerk

From: (Public Agency):
Mendocino County Resource Conservation District
115 East Smith Street
Ukiah, CA 95482

County of: Mendocino
501 Low Gap Road
Ukiah, CA 95482

(Address)

Project Title: Ukiah West Hills Lookout Peak Trail Fire-Hardening

Project Applicant: Mendocino County Resource Conservation District

Project Location - Specific: T15N R12W Sec 19, T15N R12W Sec 30, T15N R13W Sec 23, T15N R13W Sec 24, T15N R13W Sec 25, T15N R13W Sec 26, (APNs: 1570300305, 1570501600, 1570700500, 1570600305, 1570501400, 1570300205, 0031901500, 0031901700, 1570500305, 1570501300, 1570501500, 0031901100, 1570501800, 0031901600, 0010410100, 0010408300, 1570600205)

Project Location - City: Ukiah

Project Location - County: Mendocino

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The project involves manual vegetation treatment along approximately 160 acres of the currently developing Lookout Peak Trail in the western hills area of the City of Ukiah. Treatment activities will occur within a corridor extending up to 50 feet on each side of the trail centerline. Proposed activities include the use of hand tools to remove hazardous dead and dying trees, reduce accumulations of downed woody debris, and conduct limited thinning of understory vegetation. Cut material will be treated using lop-and-scatter, hand-piling, or chipping from existing roads. No ground disturbance, grading, or use of heavy mechanized equipment (aside from road-based chippers) is proposed. The purpose of the project is to improve ecosystem resilience and public safety by modifying localized fuel conditions along the trail corridor. Specifically, the project will increase horizontal and vertical separation of fuels immediately adjacent to the trail to reduce wildfire risk, improve emergency responder access and egress, and enhance defensible space, while maintaining overall ecosystem structure, function, and native vegetation composition. The primary beneficiaries of the project include nearby residents, recreational trail users, emergency responders, and the broader Ukiah community through reduced wildfire risk, improved public safety, and the maintenance of healthy and resilient vegetation communities..

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Mendocino County Resource Conservation District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Mendocino County Resource Conservation District

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(b)(c));
Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Class 4 – Minor Alterations to Land (Section 15304)
Statutory Exemptions, State code number:

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project qualifies for a Class 4 Categorical Exemption (CEQA Guidelines Section 15304 – Minor Alterations to Land) because it consists of minor alterations to vegetation that do not involve significant disturbance of land or natural resources. Project activities are limited to manual vegetation management within an existing trail corridor and include the removal of dead and dying trees, reduction of downed woody material, and limited thinning of small-diameter understory vegetation. Treatment methods include hand cutting, lop-and-scatter, hand-piling, and chipping conducted from existing roadways. No grading, excavation, or ground-disturbing activities are proposed, and no heavy mechanized equipment will be used. The project will not result in significant impacts to environmental resources. Vegetation treatment is limited in intensity and extent, avoids removal of mature trees except where necessary for safety, and is designed to maintain native vegetation structure and function. The project will not cause substantial soil disturbance, erosion, or slope instability, and will not adversely affect sensitive habitats due to the limited and selective nature of the work. The project does not contribute to a cumulative impact and does not involve unusual circumstances that would result in a significant effect on the environment. Accordingly, none of the exceptions to the use of categorical exemptions identified in CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 apply.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Ned Formaker

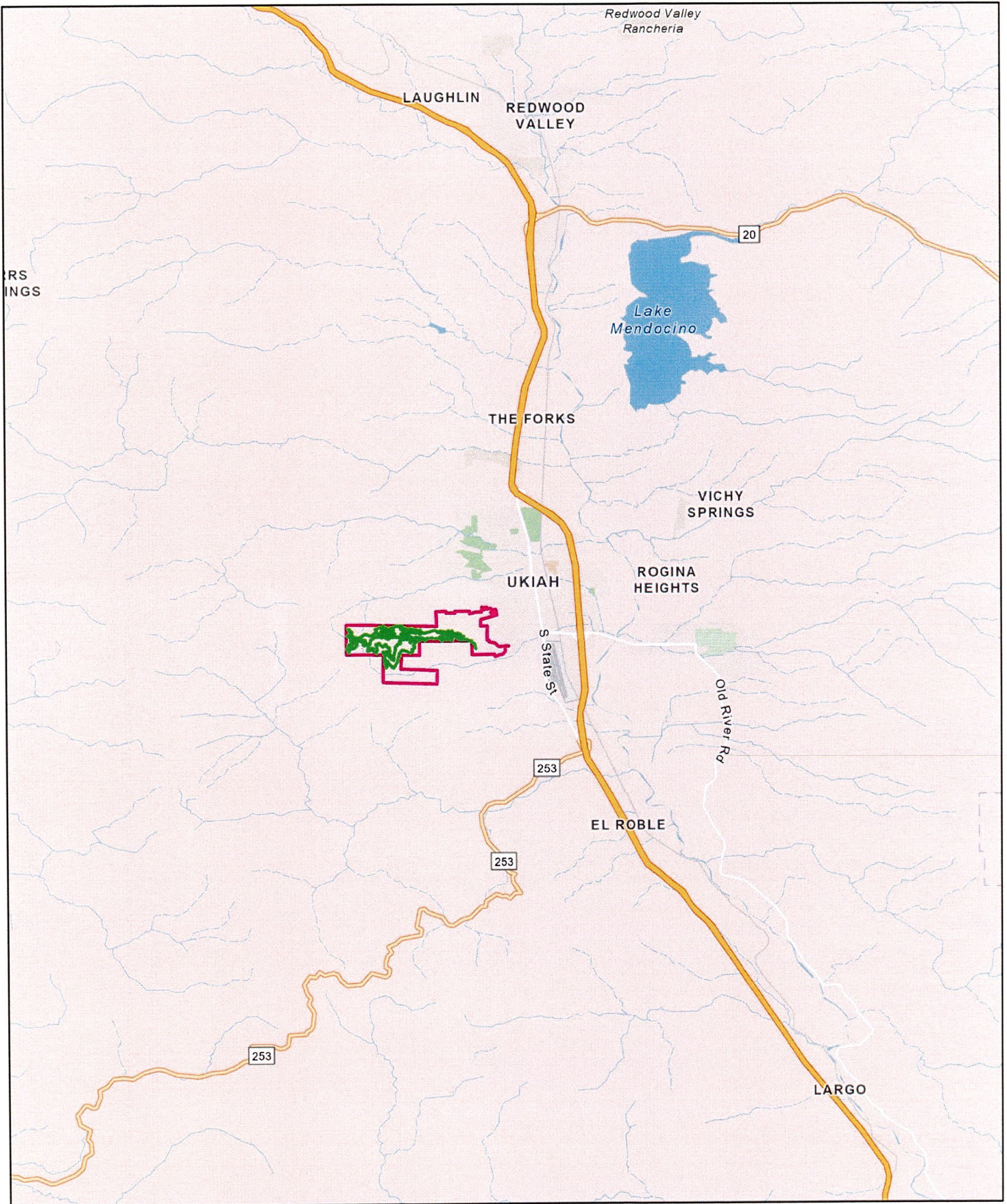
Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 707-472-9970

If filed by applicant:

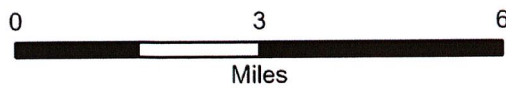
- 1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature: [Handwritten Signature] Date: 4/23/2026 Title: Forestry Project Manager

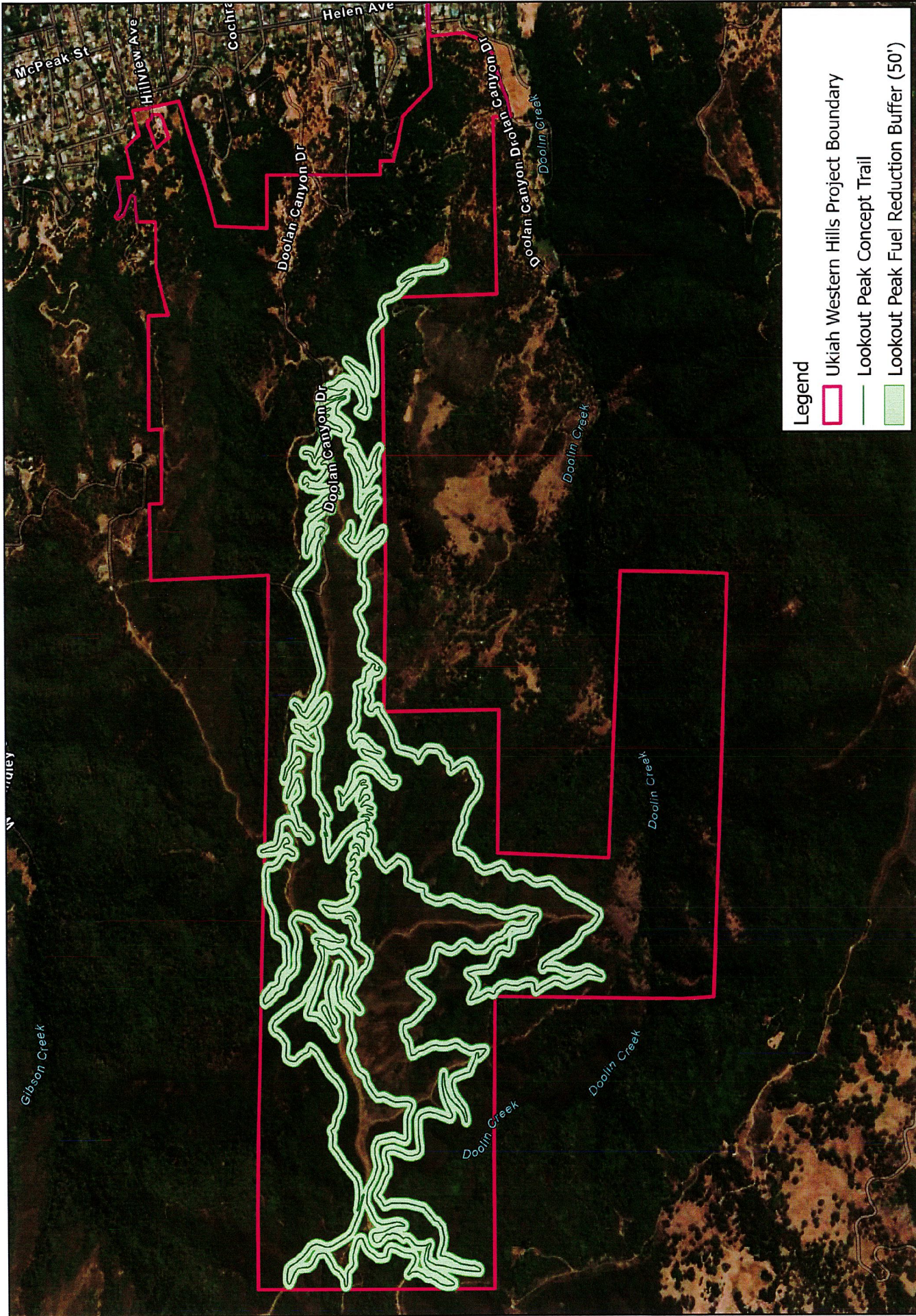
Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant



Disclaimer Language:
 Maps prepared for informational purposes only. Image depicts a combination of publicly available data and observations made of on-the-ground conditions at the time of the site visit. No liability is assumed for the accuracy of the information or data displayed. All lines are approximate.

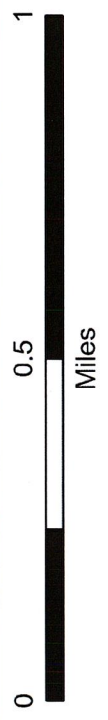


Scale: 1:135,000 1 inch = 2 miles April 22, 2026



Legend

- Ukiah Western Hills Project Boundary
- Lookout Peak Concept Trail
- Lookout Peak Fuel Reduction Buffer (50')



Scale: 1:17,000 1 inch = 0.3 miles 4/22/2026

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