

Public Resources Code Section 4799.05, subdivision (d), provides that the California Environmental Quality Act does not apply to prescribed fire, thinning, or fuel reduction projects undertaken on federal lands to reduce the risk of high-severity wildfire that have been reviewed under the federal National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, under specified circumstances. That section remains operative only if the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency certifies that the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and other federal laws that affect the management of federal forest lands in California have not been substantially amended on or after August 31, 2018.

While NEPA regulations were amended in 2019, I determined in 2020 that those amendments were not substantial. Having reviewed relevant laws, I hereby certify that, as of January 1, 2022, neither the National Environmental Policy Act nor any other federal laws affecting the management of federal forest lands in California have been substantially amended. The exemption in Public Resources Code Section 4799.05 should therefore remain in effect.



Wade Crowfoot, Secretary
Natural Resources Agency

January 13, 2022
Date

