

**(k)** The cutting or removal of trees to restore and conserve California black or Oregon white oak woodlands and associated grasslands, if all of the following requirements are met:

**(1)** A registered professional forester shall prepare the notice of exemption and submit it to the director. The notice shall include all of the following:

**(A)** A map of the area of timber operations that complies with the requirements of paragraphs (1), (3), (4), (7) to (11), inclusive, and (14) of subdivision (x) of Section 1034 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations.

**(B)** A certification signed by the registered professional forester that a minimum of 35 square feet of basal area per acre of California black or Oregon white oak, or both, occupy the proposed treatment area at the time the notice is prepared and the timber operation is designed to restore and conserve California black and Oregon white oak woodlands and associated grasslands.

**(C)** A description of the preharvest stand structure and a statement of the postharvest stand stocking levels.

**(2)** No tree larger than 26 inches in diameter at stump height shall be harvested for commercial purposes, which includes use for saw logs, posts and poles, fuel wood, biomass, or other forest products.

**(3)** Only conifers within 300 feet of a California black or Oregon white oak that are at minimum four inches in diameter at breast height may be harvested.

**(4)** The total area exempted pursuant to this subdivision shall not exceed 300 acres per property per five-year period.

**(5)** Conifer shall be reduced to less than 25 percent of the combined hardwood and conifer postharvest stand stocking levels.

**(6)** No more than 20 percent of the total basal area of preexisting oak stock shall be cut or removed during harvest and a minimum of 35 square feet of basal area per acre of California black or Oregon white oak, or both, shall be maintained postharvest.

**(7)** The registered professional forester submitting the notice, upon submission of the notice, shall provide a confidential archaeology letter that includes all the information required by paragraphs (2) and (7) to (11), inclusive, of subdivision (c) of Section 929.1 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, and site records if required pursuant to subdivision (g) of that section or pursuant to Section 929.5 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations.

**(8)** All slash created by the timber operations shall be treated to achieve a maximum postharvest depth of 18 inches above the ground within 24 months of the date of the director receiving the notice. Slash shall be configured so as to minimize the risk of fire mortality to the remaining oak trees.

**(9)** Timber operations shall comply with the requirements of paragraphs (1) to (10), inclusive, of subdivision (b) of Section 1038 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations.

**(10)** On or before January 1, 2018, the board shall adopt regulations to implement this subdivision.

**(11)** This subdivision shall not apply to the Southern Subdistrict of the Coast Forest District, as defined in Section 895.1 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, or the Southern Forest District, as defined in Section 909 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations.

**(12)** This subdivision shall become inoperative on January 1, 2024.