

State of California – The Natural Resource Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

2015088332

TO: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Department of Parks and Recreation
PO Box 2006
Eureka, CA 95520-2006

PROJECT TITLE: Hamilton Creek Fish Passage Barrier Removal Project

LOCATION: Del Norte Coast Redwoods State Park

COUNTY: Del Norte County

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: Remove a 72' x 40' culvert along Hamilton Creek, a tributary to the West Branch of Mill Creek at Del Norte Coast Redwoods State Park, to restore fish passage. The culvert has been identified as a barrier for fish passage to a high value reach of Hamilton Creek. Picnic Road runs over the culvert, providing access to old timber road networks that are no longer needed. The road prism on either side of the crossing will not be removed, because future access (via a temporary bridge) for work in these areas may be necessary. Work will:

- Install cofferdams 30' upstream and downstream of the culvert to isolate the excavation area.
- Relocate fish and amphibians from the excavation area to undisturbed stream reaches.
- Install pumps to divert water around the excavation area.
- Remove 13 trees greater than 6" and less than 12" in diameter at breast height.
- Remove 700 cubic yards of road crossing and the culvert with an excavator and transport to an established storage site (the excavation cross section will be approximately 90' at the road elevation and 15' at the stream level and approximately 60' along the length of the stream).
- With an excavator, shape the channel to match the upstream and downstream cross sectional shape of the channel and adjacent slopes.
- Mulch slopes adjacent to the crossing with native slash material and revegetate with native plants salvaged from the vicinity.
- Remove cofferdams in a manner that will allow flow to resume with the least disturbance to the substrate.
- Construction will occur during the dry season and last 1-4 days.

PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT: California Department of Parks and Recreation

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: North Coast Redwoods District

EXEMPT STATUS:

Categorical Exemption

Class: 4, 33

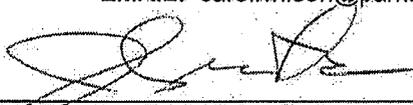
Section: 15304, 15333

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: Project consists of restoration that does not exceed five acres in size of plant and wildlife habitat. There will be no significant adverse impacts on endangered, rare or threatened species or their habitat, and thus is included in the Department of Parks and Recreation's list of exempt activities in accordance with CCR §15300.4.

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Jeff Bomke, Superintendent
North Coast Redwoods District

DATE: 8-24-15

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