

**State of California
Department of Parks and Recreation**

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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

FROM: Department of Parks and Recreation
1416 Ninth Street
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

PROJECT TITLE: Loafer Creek and Visitor Center ADA Improvements
LOCATION: Lake Oroville State Recreation Area **COUNTY:** Butte

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:

Loafer Creek Day Use Area: Modify existing picnic areas to improve accessibility; Create 10 accessible picnic sites, replacing existing barbecues and picnic tables with accessible models; Modify four (4) parking spaces in existing lot for ADA compliance, with slope and curb ramps, cutting through curb and existing planter area as necessary; Pave parking area and route to picnic area, avoiding ground disturbance to the extent feasible. Employ stabilized surface material, such as decomposed granite (DG), over existing surfaces in picnic area, causing no root disturbance to surrounding trees. Avoid excavation and limit surface disturbance of soils within drip line of oak trees.

Campfire Center: Remove existing AC route and walkway fixtures; Modify parking across from the Center, overlay with AC, restripe, and cut curb to improve accessibility; Modify seating, construct new ramp to stage, replace drinking fountain, provide Assisted Listening System (ALS). Convert existing service road to accessible pathway, surfaced with either decomposed granite or compacted aggregate base. Install new electrical walkway fixtures, employing minor trenching as needed; Install posts for seating support at the Center, limiting excavation and avoiding effects to trees. DG or another soil stabilizer will be used in this area.

Visitor Center: Modify three (3) parking spaces for slope and curb ramps. Remove AC and base from existing route from parking; Construct new route to accessible grade, mainly following existing route (approximately 4 feet shorter) connecting to emergency exit stairs; Excavate to a maximum of 3 feet in some locations to improve (variant) pathway grade, removing existing landscape plantings as necessary. Remove one 12-inch diameter oak tree, if determined dead. Limit grading near trees as described in Resource Ecologist's conditions (4 oaks and 2 pines may be affected). Relocate irrigation line and landscape lighting. Construct emergency access ramp, using minor excavation and fill.

Project will improve public safety and visitor access while supporting continued use and maintenance of the park unit.

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

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: Northern Service Center
EXEMPT STATUS:

Categorical Exemption Class: 1,3,4 Sections: 15301,15303,15304

Page 2 of 2: Loafer Creek and Visitor Center ADA Improvements

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT:

Project consists of the repair and minor alteration of existing public facilities and topographical features, involving negligible expansion of use beyond current levels; minor alterations in the condition of land, water, and vegetation which will not involve the removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees; and construction of limited numbers of new, small facilities; included as "trail or road repairs," "trail removal, construction, or realignment," and "new construction of small (appurtenant) structures " in the Department of Parks and Recreation's list of exempt activities, in accordance with CCR § 15300.4.

CONTACT: Susan E. Wilcox
Northern Service Center

TELEPHONE: (916) 445-8933
EMAIL: swilcox@parks.ca.gov

original signed by Gary Waldron for
Kathy Amann, Manager, Northern Service Center

Date