

**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: Campground and Day Use Accessibility Modifications

LOCATION: Caswell Memorial State Park

COUNTY: San Joaquin

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: This project retrofits existing campground and day use facilities and installs new equipment necessary to meet accessibility requirements as stated in the "California State Parks Accessibility Guidelines." Project components are as follows:

Campground

- Upgrade one existing accessible campsite and retrofit three non-accessible campsites for accessibility by grading, leveling, and compacting soil surface. Replace campsite furniture with accessible models. Install paved, accessible parking.
- Retrofit height of four existing water spigots and install 5'x5' concrete pad at each site for level surface. Replace drains and water hook ups.
- Replace cement pad around interpretive display case for level surface and install toe kick cross beam for two display cases at the restroom building and Salmon Bend Beach. Install accessibility signs on restroom building.

Amphitheater

- Grade route to amphitheater. Extend existing 5' tall wood beam fence approximately 75' along one side of route.
- Remove portions of four existing amphitheater benches for four wheelchair accessible spaces. Grade and level soil surface around fire pit.

Elderberry Day Use Area

- At eight existing picnic sites, grade, level, and compact soil surface. Replace picnic tables with accessible models and tie down with earth anchors.
- Replace existing drinking fountain with accessible Hi/Low fountain. Replace drain and water hook up.

Oak Grove Day Use Area

- Modify three picnic sites of accessibility by grading, leveling, and compacting soil surface. Replace picnic tables with accessible models and tie down with earth anchors. Install new brick with truncated warning surface around barbecue at each site.
- Retrofit height of four existing water spigots and install 5'x5' concrete pad at each site for level surface. Replace drains and water hook ups.
- Retrofit benches for accessibility and grade, level, and compact soil surface around benches.
- Replace existing drinking fountain with accessible Hi/Low fountain and install 5' x 5' concrete pad for level surface. Replace drain and water hook ups.
- Remove existing interpretive display case and rebuild at picnic area entrance.

Willow Beach Day use Area

- Grade route to beach.
- Remove and rebuild existing interpretive display case.

Depth of soil disturbance will range from one to three feet for grading and leveling soil surfaces, installing fence, and replacing water drains and hook ups. Employ Best Management Practices during ground disturbing activities for spill prevention and to avoid soil erosion. Adhere to all state and federal laws and regulations to avoid potential impacts to special-status species, nesting raptors, and migratory birds.

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 Classes: 1, 2, 3, 4 Sections: 15301, 15302, 15303, 15304

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: Project consists of minor alteration of existing public facilities and topographic features involving negligible expansion of use beyond current levels; replacement of existing structures/facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity; construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures; minor public alterations in the condition of land and vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees; included as "utility repairs or minor upgrades," "modifications of existing facilities for handicap access," "installation of park facilities such as signs," and "trail construction or realignment" in the Department of Parks and Recreation list of exempt activities, in accordance with CCR § 15300.4.

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3/5/08

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DATE

