

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: Shaded Fuel Break – Castle Creek Road

LOCATION: Castle Crags State Park

COUNTY: Shasta

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:

Create a 170 feet wide and 75 linear feet of shaded fuel break from the park's entrance road to the park's western boundary for 2.4 miles perpendicular from and along Castle Creek Road at Castle Crags State Park for fire suppression (reduced fuel loads), improved vehicle driver line-of-sight and general health and safety. The treated area totals approximately 44 acres.

Work will remove all shrubs and trees beneath leave trees; lower tree limbs of leave trees up to 10 feet from the ground that act as ladder fuels; downed woody material and snags excess to the needs of wildlife. Additional work will remove all trees under the crown of leave trees, any trees showing weakness such as disease, and any trees that may become a hazard to developed facilities. Larger trees will be removed for firewood or lumber. Tree limbs, small woody material on the ground and shrubs will be chipped and scattered over the area for weed control or gathered into piles for burning on site.

Sensitive natural and cultural resource areas will be flagged and avoided during implementation of the project. To protect aquatic resources no treatments will occur within 50 feet of the perennial Indian and Castle Creeks. Water diversion ditches and a railroad grade will be crossed with rubber wheeled equipment only at right angles.

PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT: California Department of Parks and Recreation
NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: Northern Buttes District

EXEMPT STATUS:

Categorical Exemption Class: 1, 4 Section: 15301, 15304

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT:

Project consists of the maintenance of an existing public facility with no expansion of use beyond current levels and the minor alteration in the condition of land and vegetation which does not include the removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry purposes and is included as 'reduce fuel loads and control of exotic species' in the Department of Parks and Recreation's list of exempt activities in accordance with CCR §15300.4.

CONTACT: H. Woody Elliott
District Environmental Coordinator

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Signature on Original Document

Robert K. Foster
DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

9/28/2008
DATE