

**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: Rancho del Oso Visitor Center Accessibility Improvements Project
LOCATION: Big Basin Redwoods State Park **COUNTY:** Santa Cruz

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: The project improves existing Rancho del Oso Visitor Center facilities and installs new facilities/equipment at Big Basin State Park to meet accessibility requirements as stated in the "California State Parks Accessibility Guidelines." Project components include the following:

- **Restrooms:** Install two new unisex restrooms together measuring approximately 20 feet long by 10 feet wide inside an existing storage building with a concrete pad. Saw cut concrete pad and excavate an approximately 18 inch deep by 25 foot long by 6 inch wide trench and install water and sewer pipes for restroom.
- **Parking:** Install one new accessible van parking stall in the existing unpaved Visitor Center parking area. Excavate an approximately 18-inch deep by 324 square foot area, pour concrete parking pad, and install concrete wheel stop with dowels secured about 24 inches deep into the soil. Paint/stripe concrete surface to identify stall as accessible and install 9-foot high parking sign with an approximately 2-foot deep by 1-foot wide concrete footing.
- **Visitor Center:** Excavate existing dirt and concrete pedestrian path up to 8 inches in depth from the parking area through the Visitor Center breezeway and courtyard to the visitor entrance. Install new concrete path measuring approximately 130 feet long by 5 feet wide along entire path alignment. Replace two picnic tables in courtyard with accessible models. Move mural on wall adjacent to visitor entrance about three feet higher than existing location in order to install new accessible ramp adjacent to wall. Relocate stairs to north side of visitor entrance and install new approximately 1.5 foot high by 15-foot long by 5 foot-wide accessible ramp on south side of visitor entrance. Replace visitor entrance door.

DPR-approved standard project requirements have been incorporated into the Burney Creek Accessibility Improvements Project. A list of project-specific project requirements can be viewed by contacting the environmental coordinator listed below.

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 of new small facilities or structures and the installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures; minor public alterations in the condition of land and vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees; included as "modifications of existing facilities for handicap access," "installation of park facilities such as signs and restrooms," 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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Environmental Coordinator

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Acquisition and Development

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DATE