CEQA # 8838

State of California – The Resources Agency
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
Northern Service Center
One Capitol Mall, Suite 410
Sacramento, CA 95814

PROJECT TITLE: Loop Nature Trail Accessibility Improvements
LOCATION: Caswell Memorial State Park **COUNTY:** San Joaquin

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: This project improves approximately 0.8 linear miles of trail at Caswell Memorial State Park to meet accessibility standards as described in the "California State Parks Accessibility Guidelines." The project includes the following work:

- Trail: Spread and compact up to 660 cubic yards (yrd^3) of aggregate rock and soil on an approximately 1,600 foot (ft) long by 5 ft wide trail, a 2,200 ft long by 8 ft wide road, and a 120 ft^2 viewing area to provide a firm, even surface.
- Boardwalks and Bridge: Construct two new approximately 80 ft long by 5 ft wide elevated boardwalks on the existing trail/road for a firm, even surface. Install boardwalks on approximately 3 ft high piers that are secured with steel pipes driven about 3 ft into the ground. Construct a new approximately 30 ft long by 10 ft wide steel I-beam bridge and two supporting concrete abutments with wing walls to span a seasonal drainage; excavate trenches approximately 2 wide by 2 ft deep to install the abutments and wing walls and place up to 3.5 yrds^3 of soil behind each abutment. Abutments and wing walls will be located within the drainage and will be constructed of 1.2 cubic yards of concrete
- Benches and Signs: Replace approximately three benches along the trail with accessible models. Excavate approximately five 2 ft deep by 1 ft wide holes to install up to twelve post-mounted directional/informational signs measuring up to 6 ft high by 2 ft wide.

DPR-approved standard project requirements have been incorporated into the Loop Trail 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: Acquisition and Development
EXEMPT STATUS:
☒ Categorical Exemption *Classes:* 1, 2, 3, 4, 11 *Sections:* 15301, 15302, 15303, 15304, 15311

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: Project consists of repair, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing public facilities involving negligible expansion of use beyond current levels; replacement of existing structures and 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 a limited number of new small facilities or structures; minor alterations in the condition of land that does not involve removal of healthy, mature scenic trees; and placement of minor structures accessory to (appurtenant to) existing facilities; included as: "modifications of existing facilities for handicap access," "trail or road repairs," and "installation of park facilities such as signs," on the Department of Parks and Recreation's list of exempt activities, in accordance with CCR § 15300.4.

CONTACT: Heidi West
Northern Service Center

PHONE NO.: (916) 445-8783
EMAIL: ceqansc@parks.ca.gov

RECEIVED
OCT 20 2009
STATE CLEARING HOUSE

Jennifer Harris
Accessibility Section Chief

10-20-09
Date