



State of California – The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

CEQA ID # 8881
District ID #22

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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

FROM: Department of Parks and Recreation
845 Casa Grande Road
Petaluma, CA 94954

PROJECT TITLE: John Marsh House Stabilization

LOCATION: Cowell Ranch / John Marsh SHP

COUNTY: Contra Costa

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: Stabilize the John Marsh House at the Cowell Ranch/John Marsh State Historic Park to prevent collapse.

Work will:

- Remove non-functioning braces, shoring, tie rods, and other related bracing elements;
- Build interior frames to secure new shoring to support floor and roof gravity loads;
- Install seismic bracing by anchoring the exterior perimeter walls to the floor diaphragms (framing) and brace the diaphragms to the new temporary shoring;
- Excavate approximately 30 - 2.5 foot square x 1 foot deep holes to install concrete piers in the crawl space;
- Install support columns in the basement on a surface grade beam;
- Remove the failed parts of the interior single-wythe brick wall and install a steel stud wall in its place;
- Remove, label, and store doors, flooring, trim, and other items for future reuse;
- Repoint the exterior masonry where needed;
- Replace the exterior south facing wall with a new stud wall, repair the roof, and attach new gutters and downspouts to provide a weather-tight exterior.
- Paint exterior wood;
- Install temporary lighting and alarm system;
- Excavate an approximately 200-foot long, 12-20 inches wide and up to 18" deep trench around the perimeter of the house, continue the drain away from the house approximately 40-60 feet and excavate an approximately five foot by five foot wide by 1 foot deep cache basin to install a French Drain system;

DPR-approved standard project requirements have been incorporated into the John Marsh House Stabilization Project. A list of project-specific 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: Diablo Vista District

EXEMPT STATUS: Categorical Exemption *Class: 4, 31 Section: 15304, 15331*

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: : Project consists of the minor public alteration in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation that does not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees and the repair and minor alteration of existing public facilities, involving no expansion of use beyond current levels included as maintenance or repair of historical resources, in a manner consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic Buildings (1995), Weeks and Grimmer, and is included as "activities affecting historic resources, consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties" in the Department of Parks and Recreation's list of exempt activities, in accordance with CCR 15300.4.

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Diablo Vista District

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Dave Gould
District Superintendent
Diablo Vista District

DATE