



NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 222
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Department of Parks and Recreation
Tehachapi District
15101 Lancaster Road
Lancaster, CA 93536

PROJECT TITLE: Day Use Area Improvements

LOCATION: Tule Elk SNR

COUNTY: Kern

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:

The project is to upgrade and improvement the facilities within the Day Use area at Tule Elk State Natural Reserve. The District is working in conjunction with the Department's Northern Service Center on the development and implementation of these upgrades. All of the proposed upgrades and improvements are located within previously disturbed and developed Day Use area.

The upgrades and improvements will include the following:

- Two new reservation sites
- One new ADA reservation site
- Four new covered picnic sites
- Three new open picnic sites
- Two picnic pavilions
- Twenty new parking spaces
- Three new ADA parking spaces
- A new access gate for future trail improvement
- Upgrade and refurbish viewing platform

DPR-approved standard project requirements have been incorporated into this project. A copy of these requirements may be obtained by submitting a request to the project Environmental Coordinator listed below.

PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT: California Department of Parks and Recreation

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: Tehachapi

EXEMPT STATUS:

- Declared Emergency (Section 15269(a))
 - Emergency Project (Section 15269(b) and (c))
 - Statutory Exemption (Section)
 - Categorical Exemption
- Class: 1, 3, 4. 11 Section(s): 15301 15303 15304 15311

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT:

No potential for significant impacts to the environment is anticipated in compliance with Section 15300.2. If the project is implemented as indicated within the CDPR Project Evaluation Form including measures provided by CDPR staff, then it is exempt under CEQA §15301 – Existing Facilities, §15303 – New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures, §15304 – Minor Alterations to Land, and §15311 – Accessory Structures. The actions fall under the Departmental List of Exempt activities as established according to CEQA §15300.4 as:

- "Minor upgrades" and "Modifications of existing facilities for handicap access" (Class 1, Section 15301);
- "Construction or installation of park facilities such as... small parking lots... fencing and gates" (Class 3, Section 15303);
- "Grading on land with a slope of less than 10 percent" (Class 4, Section 15304); and
- "Construction of additional public use facilities" (Class 11, Section 15311)

The project does not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees (Class 4).

CONTACT: Russ Dingman, District Environmental Coordinator **PHONE NO.:** (661) 724-2380
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Tehachapi District Headquarters
15101 Lancaster Road
Lancaster, CA 93536

Kathy Weatherman

Kathy Weatherman
District Superintendent, Tehachapi District

5/29/14

Date