



### NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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

**FROM:** Department of Parks and Recreation  
Santa Cruz District  
303 Big Trees Park Road  
Felton, CA 95018

**PROJECT TITLE:** Backcountry Gate Removal

**LOCATION:** Big Basin Redwoods State Park      **COUNTY:** Santa Cruz

**DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:** Remove unnecessary fire road gates to improve park aesthetic, visitor experience, and emergency responder access, in the backcountry of Big Basin Redwoods State Park. Some gates are still in usable order, two (2) of which will be reused on Tan Bark Loop between Big Basin Redwoods State Park and sub-unit Little Basin.  
Work Will:

- Excavate sixteen (16) post holes 1.5'x3' to remove eight (8) backcountry gates;
- Excavate four (4) post holes 1.5'x5' on Tan Bark Loop;
- Pour concrete and secure four (4) gate posts; and
- Install two (2) reused gates.

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

**NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT:** Santa Cruz District

**EXEMPT STATUS:**

Categorical Exemption  
Class: 1, 3, & 4      Section: 15301, 15303, & 15304

**REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT:** Project consists of the operation, repair, and maintenance of existing public and private structures involving no expansion of use beyond current levels; the construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures included as "fencing and gates" in the Department of Parks and Recreation's list of exempt activities in accordance with CCR §15300.4; and minor alterations in the condition of land and vegetation that will not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees.

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Chris Spohrer  
District Superintendent  
Santa Cruz District

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DATE