



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

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

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

PROJECT TITLE: Natural Bridges Boardwalk Accessibility Improvements

LOCATION: Natural Bridges State Beach

COUNTY: Santa Cruz

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: Project proposes replacing the existing Monarch Butterfly Boardwalk at Natural Bridges State Beach for accessibility improvements. Work will:

- Improve the paved access route from the visitor center to the boardwalk trailhead;
- Install new concrete and asphalt walkways with truncated domes that connect to the existing accessible parking stalls in the main parking lot;
- Remove the existing boardwalk and observation platform and utilize existing concrete pier foundations, and install new diamond piers to construct a new elevated boardwalk, with proper grades, clearances and safety rail configurations, that descends to the pond area; and
- Remove and replace the bench seating along a portion of the boardwalk and observation platform.

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, 2, 3, & 4 *Section:* 15301, 15302, 15303 & 15304

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: Project consists of the operation, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond current levels; replacement or reconstruction 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 as the structure replaced; construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures, included as "Modifications of existing facilities for disabled access" in the Department of Parks and Recreation's list of exempt activities in accordance with CCR §15300.4"; and minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes.

CONTACT: Linda Hitchcock
Santa Cruz District

PHONE NO.: (831) 227-8390
EMAIL: Linda.Hitchcock@parks.ca.gov

Jordan Burgess

9/28/26

Jordan Burgess
Deputy District Superintendent
Santa Cruz District

DATE