

**ATTACHMENT 4**  
**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

TO: Office of Planning and Research  
1400 10th Street, Room 121  
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: California Tahoe Conservancy  
1061 Third Street  
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

**Project Title:**

Rubicon Trail and Emerald Bay Facilities Upgrade Project

**Project Location – Specific:**

The Project is located at Emerald Bay State Park, which is 22 miles south of Tahoe City and 12 miles north of South Lake Tahoe off of State Route 89 at Emerald Bay. (Exhibit A)

**Project Location – City:**

N/A

**Project Location – County:**

El Dorado County

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:**

The Project will enhance the visitor experience and address resource damage at Emerald Bay State Park by improving the Rubicon Trail (Trail) and facilities. The Project will:

- Re-construct approximately 800 linear feet of the Trail, including removing redundant trail features to improve public beach access, re-route a small portion of the Trail out of sensitive land, improve safety, and restore sensitive areas.
- Install two new park benches, directional signage, and fencing to enhance day-use facilities and protect sensitive natural resources.
- Trim trees and remove brush to improve Emerald Bay views. This does not include the removal of trees.
- Install interpretive panels to educate users about the surrounding area and the history.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:**

California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy meeting of 6/25/2020 (Agenda Item 7))

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:**

California Department of Parks and Recreation

**Exempt Status:**

- Ministerial (§ 15268)
- Declared Emergency (§ 15269(a))
- Emergency Project (§ 15269(b)(c))
- Categorical Exemptions § 15302, § 15303, and § 15304

**Reasons Why Project is Exempt:** Each discrete portion of the Project is clearly and completely covered by one of the categorical exemptions listed above. Specifically:

CEQA Guidelines, section 15302 (Replacement or Reconstruction): The Project is exempt because it consists of reconstructing the Trail and rerouting a small portion of the Trail, which will be located in the same site and have substantially the same use and capacity as the current Trail.

CEQA Guidelines, section 15303 (New Construction of Small Structures): The Project is exempt because it consists of installing small structures, including new interpretive panels, two park benches, directional signage, and resource protection fencing, which are considered appurtenant structures to existing Park facilities.

CEQA Guidelines, section 15304 (Minor Alterations to Land): The Project is exempt because it consists of restoring sensitive areas by the Trail and decommissioning portions of the Trail, trimming trees, and removing brush. No removal of healthy, mature, or scenic trees will occur under this Project.

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**Contact Person:**

Robert Larsen

**Telephone Number:**

(916) 402-7508

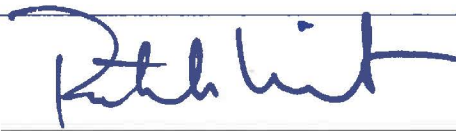
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**Date Received for Filing:**

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

**Jun 30 2020**

**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**



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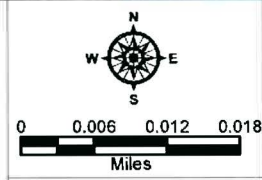
Patrick Wright  
Executive Director

# EXHIBIT A

## Rubicon Trail and Emerald Bay Facilities Upgrade



- Road
  - Trail
- Project Description**
- Trail Removal
  - Trail Reconstruction
  - Trail Re-Route
  - + Resource Protection Fencing



Sources:  
TRPA, CTC, ESRI

California  
Tahoe Conservancy

June 2020

\*Map for reference purposes only.

