



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

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

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

**FROM:** Department of Parks and Recreation  
Bay Area District  
845 Casa Grande Road  
Petaluma, CA 94954

**PROJECT TITLE:** Vallejo Home Ground Squirrel Abatement Program

**LOCATION:** Sonoma State Historic Park ([Vallejo Home](#)) **COUNTY:** Sonoma

**DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:** Reduce and control the ground squirrel population around the historic Vallejo Home and surrounding core area at Sonoma State Historic Park to protect cultural resources and reduce damage to the buildings and landscape. Control methods have been selected that avoid the use of baits and poisons. Work will utilize a combination of the following methods over time::

- Utilize enclosed exterior trap boxes and CO2 traps positioned strategically around the property by a licensed pest control company to trap squirrels;
- Treat squirrel tunnels with carbon monoxide.
- Backfill squirrel tunnels with a slurry of dirt and organic material from existing squirrel mounds near the tunnels; and
- Utilize a tractor to rip the soil up to a depth of 20 inches in certain locations to destroy squirrel tunnels.

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

**NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT:** Bay Area District

**EXEMPT STATUS:**

Categorical Exemption

*Class: 1, 4*

*Section: 15301, 15304*

**REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT:** Project consists of maintenance and minor alterations of existing public facilities involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing, and is included as “pest removal” in the Department of Parks and Recreation’s list of exempt activities in accordance with CCR §15300.4; and the minor public alterations in the condition of land which does not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees

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Original Signature on File  
Maria Mowrey, Superintendent, Bay Area District

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DATE