



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

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

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

**FROM:** California State Parks  
One Capitol Mall, Suite 410  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**PROJECT TITLE:** Mercury Mine Remediation Geotechnical Investigation

**LOCATION:** [Mt. Diablo State Park](#)

**COUNTY:** Contra Costa County

**DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:** Conduct a physical and chemical characterization of a portion of mining waste located at Mount Diablo State Park. The characterization is needed to evaluate and develop cleanup options in compliance with a Cleanup and Abatement Order from the Regional Water Quality Control Board. Work will:

- Conduct three (3) borings to a maximum depth of 35 feet with an 8 inch diameter drill bit;
- Drilling locations will be accessed through existing access roads on the neighboring property;
- Collect discrete mining waste samples approximately every 2 to 5 feet; approximately four (4) samples per boring for analysis;
- Excess soil cuttings will be spread in adjacent undeveloped areas away from waterways.

Work will not adversely affect natural or cultural resources.

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

**NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT:** Northern Service Center

**EXEMPT STATUS:**

Categorical Exemption

*Class:* 4 and 6

*Section:* 15304 and 15306

**REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT:**

Project consists of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees, and consist of basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource, and is listed as "soils and engineering tests" in the Department of Parks and Recreation's list of exempt activities in accordance with CCR §15300.4.

**CONTACT:** Joel Bonilla, Environmental Coordinator  
Northern Service Center

**PHONE NO.:** (858) 876-4801

**EMAIL:** Joel.Bonilla@parks.ca.gov

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*Brian Dewey*  
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5/27/2021

Brian Dewey, Assistant Deputy Director  
Acquisitions and Development

Date