

**State of California
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
7806 Folsom-Auburn Road
Folsom, CA 95630

PROJECT TITLE: Fuel Reduction and Control/Limitation of Historic Eucalyptus Grove

LOCATION: Folsom Lake State Recreation Area

COUNTY: Sacramento

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: Implement fuel reduction and vegetation modification in the historic eucalyptus grove along Folsom Boulevard within Folsom Lake State Recreation Area for the purpose of wildfire risk reduction to protect park resources and adjacent properties, limit and manage the grove, improve ecosystem health, and foster the recovery of native species. Work will use hand crews with chainsaws, pole saws and other power or hand tools in conjunction with tracked chippers and mini excavators (off-trail within the grove) to:

Within the grove:

- Fell the standing dead of any species, while retaining several snags and scattered logs (of native species) as wildlife habitat;
- Thin native understory vegetation, particularly within the drip line of retained trees;
- Selectively fell smaller live eucalypts and prune large eucalyptus with multiple trunks or basal sprouts to a single primary leader;
- Retain large, mature eucalyptus with selective removal of those in poor health or those that pose a threat to public safety;
- Limb up retained mature trees (regardless of species), to a minimum of 10' above ground level or up to one-third of the tree's live canopy, whichever is less;
- In natural openings, lightly thin native vegetation to reduce ladder fuels;
- Chip and spread removed litter to a depth of no more than 4" to protect soil structure and provide cover for wildlife and either use larger rounds in place of bollards or transport offsite for disposal; and
- Use targeted herbicide applications to control non-native invasive species and discourage the regrowth of felled eucalyptus. Cut stump treatments will occur in late summer through winter for greatest efficacy.

Around the perimeter of the grove:

- Preserve native trees along the perimeter and in natural openings to the extent feasible and remove non-native invasive species and an accumulation of downed woody debris.

The project will also develop and install interpretative panels to convey the history and significance of the eucalyptus grove, within the context of area mining operations, and highlight the potential for the reclamation of the land to a native landscape. Work will include excavating holes for interpretive panel sign or stanchion posts.

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

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: Gold Fields District


EXEMPT STATUS:

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

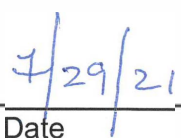
REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: Project consists of the maintenance and minor alteration of existing public or private facilities or topographical features involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond current levels; the construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures;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

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Barry C. Smith, Acting District Superintendent



Date